



First United
Methodist Church
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

FEBRUARY 19, 2017

THIS SUNDAY

A complete schedule of today's events is in "This Week" section on Calendar page.

SIGN UP FOR 2017 CROP HUNGER WALK

Table . Outside Near Sanctuary Steps

Sign up for this mission tradition with Howard Hartman or sign up in your Sunday School class or online at fumcaustin.org/cropwalk.

MANNA BAG SALE

9:00-11:00 a.m. Sidewalk

Our fourth and fifth grade children show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. You can purchase a bag for \$5, with proceeds going to purchase more supplies.

EGG FESTIVAL PREPARATION

During Sunday School Hour

Classes are invited to help stuff eggs for our Easter Egg Festival and Picnic on April 15. For supplies and more information, contact Cassie Gresham at cwillif@hotmail.com.

HUMAN SEXUALITY STUDY

10:00 a.m. Murchison Chapel

We are sexual beings. God made us that way. Sexuality can be celebrated, and it can be exploited. It can draw us closer to the one we love, or it can divide whole communities of faith. Regardless, we are called to be the beloved community of healing, wholeness, reconciliation, and love. The purpose of this 2016 UMW Mission University Study is to provide a framework for developing a healthy sexual ethic for our time. Come hear former Associate Pastor Jen Stuart present a short introduction to Ellen Brubaker's book study, "Human Sexuality: Claiming God's Good Gift."

ENGAGE FOR YOUTH

4:00-6:00 p.m. Family Life Center

Middle school and high school youth are invited to engage their whole selves in discussion, prayer, worship and a lot of fun!

MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES THIRD SUNDAY

4:00-5:00 p.m. and 5:00-6:00 MLF Kitchen . Wesley Hall

An opportunity for first timers of all ages to give this ministry a try. Join the Make-Ready Team at 4:00 p.m. (preparing food and loading truck) or the Truck Team at 5:00 p.m. (delivering food to our hungry neighbors).

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 5 FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING



Servant hearts are needed to help with Family Promise, a shelter program of Foundation for the Homeless that provides transitional shelter for families experiencing homelessness. Foundation for the Homeless assists families in this transitional shelter program through case management to find stable housing and employment.

People of all ages provide meals, serve as overnight hosts, and host in other ways. This is a great way for individuals, small groups, or families with children to serve together. Sign up fumcaustin.org/familypromise.

VARIOUS TIMES
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

1201 Lavaca Street | Austin, Texas, 78701 | 512-478-5684 | www.fumcaustin.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; and Sundays, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Pastors are on call after office hours and during holidays. Call 512-478-5684, press 213, and leave message for return call.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

26 Sunday

2017 CROP Hunger Walk

2:00 p.m. / 2:30 p.m.

Camp Mabry, 2200 West 35th Street

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

27 Monday

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

28 Tuesday

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday

4:45-7:00 a.m.

Family Life Center

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

MARCH

1 Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Services

7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Ashes To Go

8:00 a.m.

Church Parking Lot

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

2 Thursday

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

3 Friday

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

4 Saturday

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

5 Sunday

Family Promise Hosting

5:00 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/familypromise

UMW Luncheon

12:00-2:00 p.m.

Wesley Hall

10 Friday

Kids' Night Out

5:30-9:00 p.m.

Education Building

11 Saturday

One Human Race Conversations

12:30-3:30 p.m.

Garrison Chapel

18 Saturday

One Human Race Conversations

12:30-3:30 p.m.

Garrison Chapel

19 Sunday

Manna Bag Sale

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sidewalk

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday

4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

25 Saturday

One Human Race Conversations

12:30-3:30 p.m.

Garrison Chapel

28 Tuesday

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday

4:45-7:00 a.m.

Family Life Center

LENTEN WORSHIP:
Sermon on the Mount

CHURCH-WIDE STUDY:
The Cost of Discipleship

For more informaton,
please see the insert.

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19 Sun

Manna Bag Sale

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sidewalk

Sign Up for 2017 CROP Hunger Walk

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sidewalk

New Young Couples Class

9:45 a.m.

Room 109, Family Life Center

Human Sexuality Study

10:00 a.m.

Murchison Chapel

Sunday School Classes for All Ages

10:00 a.m.

Various Locations

Engage for Youth

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday

4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

20 Mon

English as a Second Language (ESL)

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Prodigal Sons Men's Group

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Room 103, Family Life Center

21 Tue

Feed My People Breakfast

4:45-7:00 a.m.

Great Hall, Family Life Center

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

A Disciple's Heart

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Home of Karen Vannoy

22 Wed

Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews

10:00 a.m.

fumcaustin.org/submissions

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Room 213, Sanctuary Building

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary Balcony

FUMC Choir Rehearsal

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Choir Room, Sanctuary Building

23 Thur

Feed My People Breakfast

4:45-7:00 a.m.

Great Hall, Family Life Center

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Feed My People Breakfast Worship

6:30 a.m.

Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center

English as a Second Language (ESL)

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

24 Fri

Family Promise

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

25 Sat

Family Promise

All Day

Family Life Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 28, TUESDAY

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday . 4:45-7:00 a.m. Great Hall

Come experience this ministry that serves breakfast to 300 of our homeless guests. To volunteer, preparing, cooking, and setting up begins at 4:45 a.m.; serving begins by 5:45 a.m.; and clean-up begins by 7:00 a.m. You may arrive and leave to meet your schedule. On-the-job training is available.

MARCH 5, SUNDAY

UMW Luncheon . 12:00-2:00 p.m. Wesley Hall

Are you passionate about missions serving our world's women, children, and youth? Do you feel called to advocate for justice? Are you seeking opportunities for growth in knowledge and spirit? Current and prospective UMW (United Methodist Women) members are invited to share lunch, fellowship, and the vision for a revitalized UMW unit at FUMC. Registration is requested by February 26 at fumcaustin.org/umwluncheon. Childcare is available with reservation at childcare@fumcaustin.org.

MARCH 11, 18, AND 25, SATURDAYS

One Human Race Conversations . 12:30-3:30 p.m. Garrison Chapel

All are invited to participate in a three-session Saturday workshop to examine the American concept of race, share feelings and experiences, and engage in discussions in a safe, open, and productive environment. Come be encouraged, inspired, and transformed by others in this community workshop. The One Human Race Initiative is a ministry of the Union of Black Episcopalians, Myra McDaniel Chapter. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/one-human-race.

MARCH 1, ASH WEDNESDAY

Worship Services

7:00 a.m. and 12:10 and 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary

We begin our Lenten journey by confronting our own sin and mortality. Ashes remind us that we are going to die; however, they are marked on us in the sign of the cross to assure us of God's love for us.

Ashes to Go

8:00-9:30 a.m. Sidewalk by Church

For those whose schedule prevents them from attending the later services, and as a public witness to passers-by, pastors will be outside of the church marking people with ashes.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND ALL CHURCH NEWS,
PLEASE VISIT www.fumcaustin.org.

Submit content for FUMC Weekly / eNews
using submission form at fumcaustin.org/submissions.

Reserve meeting space and AV equipment by contacting Marilyn Good
at marilyn@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 204).

FAITH IN ACTION

**PERSPECTIVE FROM A
COUPLE MARRIED AT FUMC**

By Kaycee Crisp

Seven years ago, my husband Brandon and I were married in the FUMC sanctuary. It was one of the most joyful days of my life. As time has passed, that joy has continued to grow. Attending worship, celebrating Christmas and Easter services, baptizing our children, and returning each week to the place where our marriage began is a beautiful reminder to us of the role this church has played in the story of our family.

Yet, the memory of our ceremony has also started to make me feel a little sad. As I remember what a joyful day it was for us, I cannot help but think of those FUMC members who are prevented from having their wedding ceremonies in our sanctuary as well. These are members who have enriched my spiritual life in countless ways, from studying with me in classes, to taking an active role in the development of my children's faith, to selflessly serving each week in many of the church's ministries, to being a beloved part of our Sunday School class. I look at these members and see amazing examples of faith and love. The fact I am afforded rights they are not simply because I am straight has begun to feel uncomfortably unfair to me.

It is true, the church's policies on marriage do not directly affect me. Yet, am I silently participating in unfair discrimination by choosing to do and say nothing? This question weighs heavily on my heart. I'd ask that you prayerfully consider it as well.

This article is one of a series of periodic information items about FUMC's discernment on marriage equality. Additional resources are available at fumcaustin.org/discernment. For questions, email discernment@fumcaustin.org.

CHURCH BUSINESS

GIFT TO FUMC

To our Children's Ministry in honor of Leslie Story, given by Elaine Ward.

FEBRUARY MISSION EMPHASIS

FUMC currently supports two shelter programs – Family Promise and Cold Weather Shelter. Family Promise, a program of Foundation for the Homeless, provides transitional shelter for families experiencing homelessness. FUMC provides a place for families to live in our Family Life Center. Cold Weather Shelter, a program through Front Steps at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, provides temporary overnight shelter on freezing nights for those experiencing homelessness. FUMC provides shelter for up to 25 women on Tuesday nights when the predicted overnight low is expected to be 35 degrees and wet or 32 degrees and dry. Donations, marked "Shelter Ministries," may be left at the communion rail or placed in the offering plate any Sunday in February. You may also send them to or bring them by the church office.

WORSHIP

9:00 AND 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY

February 26

Michael Mumme, Preaching
Matthew 17:1-9

"Taste of the Kingdom"

When there's a tough road ahead, sometimes just a taste of the glory to come can whet the appetite for keeping faithful. The road ahead is worth it when you have glimpsed where it leads.

March 5

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching
Matthew 5:1-12

"#blessed"

We begin our lenten series right at the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, with the poetic teaching of the Beatitudes. For Jesus, blessing is not all about how good or easy life is; rather, blessing reflects the location of God.

ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN UP

Honor someone you love and appreciate, remember a departed loved one, or celebrate special days or events in your life or the life of the church. Arrangement cost is \$65. Contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

UMW WOMEN'S MARCH POSTER PARTY



On Saturday, January 21, an estimated five million people in 82 countries (and all seven continents!) participated in Women's Marches to advocate for women's rights as well as numerous other issues such as racial equality, LGBTQ rights, religious freedom, climate justice, immigration, healthcare, and so much more. FUMC's UMW hosted a poster-making party prior to the Austin march, where members, friends, and newcomers gathered to make signs and learn about the UMW. Additionally, over \$1000 in donations were collected for The Refuge for DMST, a local organization that serves sex trafficking victims aged 13-17. A heartfelt thank you to all who supported us that day, especially our amazing volunteers!

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Francis Allen; Gabriel Baker; Bill and Jerry Berger; Mary Higgs; Ruth Nicks; Dr. Dorinda Noble; and Andrea Peck.

Condolences to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. D. Orval Strong on his death.

Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Richard and Marilyn Bettis' brother-in-law, A. P. Patschke; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Rev. Tina Carter; Molly Drazic's neighbor, Yulah Sister; Teresa Edward's brother, Gary Edwards; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Sammy Huffaker's friend, Bill Shults; Judy Kostura's friends, Frank and Kathy Paris; Virginia McCarroll's friend, B. J. Wolf; Kathy Morales' sister, Kim Hockensmith; Delia Peters' mother, Ruby Ybarra; Larry Peters' friend, Tony Johnson; Terri Purdy's friend, Simone Laurent; Pat Rives' cousins, Glenda Hardin and Karen Stafford, and friend, Susan Tyler; Erin Scarth's friend, Lisa Whatley; Curt and Debbie Shaw's friends, the Mike Haynes family; Jen Stuart's aunt, Juli Thomas; Ben Thoma's cousin, Brighton Mansour; Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen, and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

Condolences to the families and friends of Sheri Jones and Trevor Taylor on their deaths.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministers care for people dealing with convalescence, divorce, financial struggles, grief, hospitalization, job loss, loneliness, terminal illness, and other life difficulties. If you are dealing with some type of crisis or difficulty in life, email stephenministry@fumcaustin.org and ask about speaking with a Stephen Minister. All contacts are completely confidential.

EASTER BUNNY NEEDS HELP

We are accepting donations to ensure there are plenty of treats for the children at our Easter Egg Festival and Picnic on April 15. Most helpful are monetary donations to help buy candy and toys for the eggs and new plastic egg donations. If you want to buy candy, the recommended choices are individually wrapped Lifesavers, small Nerds boxes, Starbursts, and small wrapped bubble gum. (These candies protect kids from allergy and choking hazards and fit inside the eggs.) Place donations in the bunny barrels found near the entrances of the children's Sunday School wing, sanctuary, preschool, and Family Life Center. To volunteer for the Egg Festival, sign up on our website or contact Lara Greene at lara@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 211).

2017 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars and get your hero capes ready for this year's Vacation Bible School the week of July 31-August 4. Registration and sign up open mid-March.