



**First United
Methodist Church**
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

MAY 7, 2017

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

THIS SUNDAY

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

STOCK SALES FOR APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT (ASP)

9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sidewalk

FUMC's Appalachia Service Project (ASP) team is raising funds for this year's mission trip to Knox County, Kentucky, June 16-27. Stop by to learn about ASP, meet team members, and purchase stock in our trip and our youth.

TOWN HALL MEETING ON MARRIAGE EQUALITY

10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Murchison Chapel

This meeting is for those who have registered. If you have not registered for a two-part Town Hall Meeting, visit fumcaustin.org/townhall. For more information about these meetings, see the article under "Upcoming Events."

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) WORK DAY

12:15 p.m. Wesley Hall

Volunteers are needed to assemble decorations for this year's Hero Central VBS. Lunch provided.

MAY MISSION EMPHASIS

FreeStore The FreeStore is back and we are excited to restart our support of this ministry at its new home, Memorial UMC, through our giving and serving. The FreeStore is more than a place to share clothing and household goods. It is a place where people from all walks of life have an opportunity to build relationships. The foundations of this intentionally cross-cultural, multi-racial community lie in the affirmation of God's love for all people. You are invited to support this ministry by donating funds to help with its operation, by donating gently used or new clothing and household items, or by serving anytime it is open. FUMC members are invited to serve together each third Saturday beginning this month. We hope to see you on May 20! Serving opportunities include: assisting shoppers; bagging items; providing hospitality; sorting, organizing, and shelving donated items; and sharing stories over a cup of coffee. There is something for everyone—children, youth, individuals, and families. The FreeStore is open for shopping on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Donations are received Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Monetary donations, marked "FreeStore" may be left at the communion rail or placed in the offering plate on any Sunday in May. You may also send them to or bring them by the church office. To find out more about the FreeStore, visit freestoreaustin.org or contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

MAY 3, SATURDAY FAMILY HIKE DAY

Join us for a hike on Turkey Creek Trail. This shady trail is about 2.8 miles long and crosses the creek repeatedly. Great for nature enthusiasts and dog lovers (off-leash). There are quite a few creek crossings, so wear some hiking sandals/breathing shoes that you can get wet, but give your feet good protection. There is a small parking lot that can get crowded on weekends.

EMMA LONG PARK
1600 CITY PARK ROAD

MAY 14, SUNDAY FINDING YOUR FIT

Pastor Cathy Stone is beginning a conversation about new ways of connection at First Church. Have you found your place to connect? Do the current Sunday School offerings not quite fit you? Have your needs changed and you are looking for a new place to fit? Let's talk and explore new ideas for places and ways to fit and connect here at First Church.

10:00 A.M.
WESLEY HALL

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

MAY

14 Sunday

Finding Your Fit
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall

16 Tuesday

Book Study: Compassion
6:30-7:30 p.m.
La Madeline, 5493 Brodie Lane

19 Friday

Kids' Night Out
5:30-9:00 p.m.
Education Building
Connect for Tweens
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Family Life Center

20 Saturday

3rd Saturday at the FreeStore
8:30-11:30 a.m.
Memorial UMC, 6100 Berkman

21 Sunday

Manna Bag Sale
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Sidewalk
Immigration Law Presentation
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall

Town Hall Meeting Part 1

10:00-10:45 a.m.
Great Hall, Family Life Center

Town Hall Meeting Part 2

12:15-2:00 p.m.
Great Hall, Family Life Center

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday

4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

23 Tuesday

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday

4:45-7:00 a.m.
Family Life Center

Book Study: Compassion

6:30-7:30 p.m.
La Madeline, 5493 Brodie Lane

28 Sunday

UMW Unit Meeting

12:15 p.m.
Wesley Hall

29 Monday

Church Office Closed
for Memorial Day Holiday
Have a safe and blessed holiday

**REGISTER FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
DEADLINE: JULY 7**



Discover your strength in God at Hero Central Vacation Bible School (VBS). Kids aged 4 years to entering sixth grade will meet from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day to take awesome adventures alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God. Hero Central features crafty crafts, epic music, fantastic Bible stories, heroic recreation, and spectacular science. Registration is now open at \$35 per child and closes July 7. Aftercare is available until 5:30 p.m. for \$25 a day. Register today at fumcaustin.org/registervbs.

**JULY 31-AUGUST 4
MONDAY-FRIDAY**

K E E W S I T H	7 Sun	ASP Stock Sales	9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Sidewalk
		Sunday School Classes for All Ages	9:45 a.m.	Various Locations
		Town Hall Meeting Part 1	10:00-10:45 a.m.	Murchison Chapel, Education Building
		Town Hall Meeting Part 2	12:15-2:00 p.m.	Murchison Chapel, Education Building
		Vacation Bible School Work Day	12:15 p.m.	Wesley Hall, Sanctuary Building
		Engage for Youth	4:00-6:00 p.m.	Family Life Center
		8 Mon	English as a Second Language (ESL)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
		Prodigal Sons Men's Group	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Room 103, Family Life Center
	9 Tues	Book Study: Compassion	6:30-7:30 p.m.	La Madeline, 5493 Brodie Lane
	10 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
		Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6:00-7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Balcony
		FUMC Choir Rehearsal	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Choir Room, Sanctuary Building
	11 Thur	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
	13 Sat	Family Hike Day	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Emma Long Park, 1600 City Park Road

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 9, 16, AND 23, TUESDAYS

Book Study: Compassion . 6:30-7:30 p.m. La Madeline, 5493 Brodie

You are invited to read and discuss *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life* by Henri Nouwen, Donald McNeill, and Douglas Morrison. In this provocative essay on that least understood virtue, compassion, the authors challenge themselves and us with these questions: Where do we place compassion in our lives? Is it enough to live a life in which we hurt one another as little as possible? Is our guiding ideal a life of maximum pleasure and minimum pain? *Compassion* says no. There is a Facebook group for online discussion as well as meeting in person. For more information, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

MAY 19, FRIDAY

Kids' Night Out . 5:30-9:00 p.m. Education Building

While parents enjoy a grown-up evening out, children play, eat pizza, and watch a movie with our trained childcare staff. We accept infants through 4th graders on a first-come basis. Cost is \$25 for the first child and \$8 for siblings. Make reservations with Pam Coronado, our childcare coordinator, at childcare@fumcaustin.org no later than the Wednesday prior to the event.

Connect for Tweens . 6:00-9:00 p.m. Family Life Center

All 5th, 6th, and 7th graders are invited to a night of fellowship and fun! Connect for Tweens bridges children and youth ministries through building relationships, serving, and helping youth connect with one another and with God during the transitional pre-teen years.

MAY 21, SUNDAY

Manna Bag Sale . 9:00-11:00 a.m. Sidewalk

Our 4th and 5th grade children show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. Bags contain nutritious snacks, a pair of socks, and a note with God's blessing. You can purchase a bag for \$5, with proceeds going to purchase more supplies.

Immigration Law Presentation . 10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

Join speaker Paul Parsons, FUMC member and leading immigration attorney, to hear about immigration laws as they have been for many years, especially affecting people in Texas. Paul will relate calls from employers wanting to help workers become citizens and the very complex answers to what they want to do. You will understand much more about "Why don't they just become citizens?"

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday . MLF Kitchen . Wesley Hall

This is an opportunity for first timers of all ages to give this ministry a try. Join the Make-Ready Team from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. (preparing the food and loading the truck) or the Truck Team from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. (delivering the food to our hungry neighbors around Austin). Sign up at fumcaustin.org/mlf.

MAY 23, 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.

MAY 28, SUNDAY

United Methodist Women Unit Meeting . 12:15 p.m. Wesley Hall

This meeting will include a potluck lunch, brief unit business, and a round-table discussion of action steps available to individuals and UMW circles. All members and friends of United Methodist Women are welcome.

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

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

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

MAY 21 OR JUNE 4, SUNDAYS

Town Hall Meetings

Part 1: 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Part 2: 12:15-2:00 p.m.

This spring, FUMC has been discerning the call to provide an inclusive ministry to all couples preparing for marriage. After months of informal conversation, learning, and prayer, we have come to the discussion phase of this process.

All First Church members are invited to participate in one two-part Town Hall Meeting. All three meetings will cover the same information and materials.

Part One takes place during the Sunday School hour from 10:00-10:45 a.m. This part consists of an overall briefing about issues that arise when UMC congregations strive for marriage equality. Part Two follows the 11:00 a.m. worship service from 12:15-2:00 p.m. This part is a discussion open to questions, comments, and conversations that takes place after lunch is served.

Sunday School classes are encouraged to consider attending one of the meetings as a group. For both classes and individuals, we ask that you register for the meeting you plan to attend so that we may obtain an accurate count for food. Register at fumcaustin.org/townhall.

Following the Town Hall meetings, the Discernment Committee will review feedback and develop recommendations for the Administrative Board to consider at its August meeting. Should the Board approve further church action, a Church Conference for all FUMC members will take place on Sunday, September 25, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. A 75% majority vote will be required to proceed with any recommendation.

Discernment articles and materials may be viewed at www.fumcaustin.org/discernment. For comments or questions, email discernment@fumcaustin.org.

CHURCH BUSINESS

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIORS

Graduation is an exciting milestone—at any age! We want to recognize all graduating seniors—high school, college, or graduate school—in our FUMC Weekly on May 21. Please provide as soon as possible a picture of the graduate, name, school graduated from, degree(s) received, and future plans. Please email information by May 12 to Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org.

NEW MEMBERS

April 30



Elizabeth and Lisa Pittman

Elizabeth and Lisa joined by transfer from a Methodist church in San Francisco.

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Suzanne Karisch; Elizabeth Lerner; Rick Ortiz; and Andrea Peck.
Condolences to T. J. Turner on the death of his father, Tommy Turner.
Other: Lucio Gonzales and Michael Mumme's walk on the Camino de Santiago.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Kevin Black's parents, Edgar and Norma Jean Black; Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Carol Brady's daughter, Juliet Pierson; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Reverend Tina Carter; Cindy Gunderson's friend, Sharon Ligget; Susan Hensley's family in Canton, Texas; Curtis and Mary Higgs' son, Jimmy Higgs; Jan Higgs' friend, Betty Kurio; Brenda Hostler's friends, Dave, Levi, Remi, and Terry; Caroline Jones' friends, Anne and Emily Woster and Penny Schrek; Larry Peters' friends, Peter Houghtaling, Ethanie Kokosa, and Charles Roper; Justin and Erin Scarth's friends, Wayne McCloud and Lisa Whatley; Heather Schuelke's mother, Darrellyn Smith; Alan Stephens' father and mother, Carl and Genevieve Stephens; Kay Sterling's grandson; Pam Steves for Cayden; David Strong's niece and fiancé, Lisa Hoge and Andrew Oer; Debra Taylor's friend, Cathy Barclay Ben Thoma's sister, Hedi Thoma; Nancy White's brother, Don Beard; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

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.

BAPTISM

April 30



Amelia and Jonas Crane

Amelia and Jonas, children of Earl and Sarah Crane, were baptized into Christian discipleship.

SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Placing flowers on the altar is a wonderful way to 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. Available dates for the next two months are: May 28 and June 11 and 18. Other dates are also available. Arrangement cost is \$65. Contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

FAITH IN ACTION

ASP: LOVE IN ACTION
By Cathy Stone

Each summer our high school youth travel to Appalachia to serve through the Appalachia Service Project (ASP). This is the 38th year FUMC has sent one or more teams. ASP repairs homes for low-income families in rural areas of Central Appalachia. The goal is to make homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need, while offering transformational experiences for families, volunteers, and staff.

This year we have ten youth and six adults going to Knox County, Kentucky, June 16th-27th. This group is preparing through team meetings, selling stock, learning and practicing building skills, decorating boxes to pack in, and prayer. This trip is funded entirely through the generous giving of this congregation with the purchase of ASP Stock, as well as donations from family and friends of our youth.

We appreciate any monetary gifts to support this mission opportunity. We also ask for support through prayers. Please pray for safe travel; for supportive and harmonious relationships among team members; for warm and loving relationships with the families served; for team members to grow in their relationship with Christ and their understanding of the world God loves; and that God will be glorified in every word and action during the trip.

Youth:

ASP is important to me because I really enjoy helping people. We create a special bond with the families we help when we are in Kentucky. I also enjoy traveling with my church friends and I enjoy making stops in fun places along the way to our destination.

Adult:

ASP is the Methodist church to me. I was fortunate to go in my home church as a youth, at FUMC Austin as a youth sponsor, and now as a more mature adult member of the team. In that sense, it represents my Methodist life. It also represents the church in another way to me—people coming together to do God's work by bringing our gifts and graces to the table, finding the best in ourselves and each other. I am so excited to be part of this great undertaking again this year.