

SIGN UP FOR TOWN HALL MEETINGS



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 in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center on May 7, May 21, or June 4. 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.

EVENT REGISTRATION



MAY 5-6, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Pre-teen Retreat

Deadline: April 30

Calling all 4th, 5th, and 6th graders! It's time for our annual retreat. During *Love In Action*, we will reflect on and live out words from Micah 6:8, "...to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." On Friday, we spend the night at church playing games, participating in small groups, cooking dinner, and preparing to serve and love our neighbors. On Saturday, we go out and spend the day in mission, sharing God's love with others! The retreat begins at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and ends at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. Drop-off and pick-up will be at the Family Life Center. The cost is \$40. Register at fumcaustin.org/loveinaction.



JUNE 26-30

Sons Days Camp

Deadline: May 1

Sign up today for a summer overnight church camp at Cross Roads Retreat in Caldwell, Texas, for children entering 3rd-5th grade. This camp, hosted by the Capital District of the UMC, provides an atmosphere of inclusiveness and loving guidance to learn the lessons of God's Son, Jesus, in a serene and nurturing setting. Lara Greene is going as a counselor and music team leader. The cost is \$290 if you register before May 1 and \$310 if you register after May 1. Register at www.capitaldistrictumc.org/son-days-camp-registration/. Camp scholarships are available on a need basis. For more information, email cdchildren@capitaldistrictumc.org.



JULY 31-AUGUST 4

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 VBS 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.

ORDER ALTERNATIVE GIFTS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 8



On Mother's Day, May 14, you are invited to honor your Mother, and other women who are important to you, by making an alternate gift that helps a mother and family in need.

Get started now by selecting the gifts you wish to symbolically present, using the form printed below. Note how many of each you wish to purchase, complete the recognition section as to whether your gift is in "honor of" or in "memory of," and then write your check payable to FUMC, with "Mother's Day" on the memo line. Place the check and the order form in the offering plate or deliver to the church office.

The deadline for "Alternative Gifts for Mother's Day" is 12:00 noon on Monday, May 8. Recognition of your gift(s) will be in the bulletin on Mother's Day.

___ \$10 - A blanket is equivalent to a loving hug.

___ \$15 - Lightweight, 5-gallon water jugs.

___ \$25 - Literacy class for one woman.

___ \$35 - Birthing Kit with sterile supplies, soap, bandages, etc.

___ \$50 - Fabric and sewing supplies for women gaining new skills for a start up business.

___ \$100 - Micro-enterprise loan to start a business that supports the family.

___ \$110 - Family food package will see a family of five through disaster for one month.

If you would like to offer mothers across the globe hope for a better tomorrow, fill out the form below or contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

Name of Donor

Phone Number (In case of questions)

Amount Enclosed (Make check payable to FUMC)

In honor of _____

In memory of _____
