



First United
Methodist Church
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

NOVEMBER 20, 2016

THIS SUNDAY

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

ADVENT RESOURCES TO GO

Devotional materials and home worship resources are available in the foyer.

HEALTH JUSTICE SABBATH

FUMC joins congregations and other faith groups throughout Texas to lift up the faith community's core concerns for the health of all God's children.

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.

VITAL CONVERSATIONS ON RACE AND RACISM

10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

The General Commission on Race and Religion of The United Methodist Church created a series of *Vital Conversations on Realities of Race and Racism*, featuring contemporary theologians, sociologists, laity, clergy, and other thought-leaders dealing with challenges of race, culture, and oppression in the Church and world. Today we continue these vital conversations with a video and discussion of "Church: Building the Beloved Community" with Rev. Dr. Miguel De la Torre, professor of Social Ethics and Latino Studies at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. Discussion will be led by Dr. Adama Brown and Pastor Cathy Stone.

MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES THIRD SUNDAY

Mobile Loaves & Fishes 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).

NOVEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS



The FUMC Emergency Assistance Fund enables our Care Coordinator and clergy to provide emergency assistance each week. This fund is able to provide assistance to individuals and families in crisis due to poverty, domestic violence, unemployment, and/or homelessness. We need your help replenishing this fund for 2017. Gifts may be left at the communion rail, dropped in the offering plate anytime during November, or mailed to or brought by the church office.

CARITAS FOOD DRIVE

FUMC is hosting a food drive benefiting Caritas, a non-profit organization that helps prevent homelessness, hunger, and poverty, in Central Texas. Caritas provides take-home groceries to its clients, this year providing enough groceries for 43,000 meals. When you are struggling to make ends meet and must choose between putting food on the table and paying the electric bill, weekly groceries from the Caritas Pantry bring great relief to those moving toward stability.

We are collecting some of their most needed items:

- Canned beets
- Canned chicken
- Canned fruit cocktail
- Canned garbanzo beans
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Canned pineapple
- Cereal
- Dried beans (northern/black)
- Small containers of cooking oil
- Soups (cream of chicken, cream of mushroom, cream of tomato, and beef stew)

Thank you for your food donations. If you did not bring food to church today, you may bring it next Sunday, the last day to make donations. Food may be left in the collection bins located in the foyers of the chapel, sanctuary, and 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

NOVEMBER

27 Sunday

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT EVENT

Come share and explore the meaning of Advent with your church family. We will begin with food and conversations and then we will respond at stations providing take-and-make crafts, advent ideas, prayer and reflection. This is a great opportunity to bridge generational lines and connect people of all ages in new and fun ways. Pre-registration requested at fumcaustin.org/adventworkshop.

9:45-10:45 A.M.
WESLEY HALL

DECEMBER

3 Saturday

Decorating and Holiday Stroll

4:00 p.m.

Wesley Hall

4 Sunday

Advent Sunday School Series

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

10 Saturday

Youth Service Day

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

University UMC

Kids Day Out

10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Children's Wing

11 Sunday

Blood Donation Drive

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Murchison Chapel

Lessons and Carols Services

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Advent Sunday School Series

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

16 Friday

Pickle Elementary Book Sale

Shifts from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

fumcaustin.org/pickle

18 Sunday

Messiah for Young Voices

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Advent Sunday School Series

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Family Promise Week Begins

5:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

21 Wednesday

Blue Christmas Service

7:00 p.m.

Murchison Chapel

22 Sunday

Church Office Closes for

Christmas Holiday

Merry Christmas!

24 Saturday

Christmas Eve Breakfast

6:30 a.m.

Great Hall, Family Life Center

Christmas Eve Breakfast Service

8:00 a.m.

Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center

Christmas Eve Noon Service

12:15 p.m.

Murchison Chapel

Christmas Eve Family Service

4:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

8:00 and 11:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

25 Sunday

Christmas Day Service

11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

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20 Sun	Manna Bag Sale	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Sidewalk
	Music Makers Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Room 108, Education Building
	#SingPraise Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Murchison Chapel
	Sunday School Classes for All Ages	10:00 a.m.	Back of Sign In Book and Website
	Vital Conversations on Race and Racism	10:00 a.m.	Wesley Hall
	Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday	4:00 p.m./5:00 p.m.	Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen
21 Mon	Day of Service at Marbridge	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	www.fumcaustin.org/marbridge
	English as a Second Language (ESL)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Family Life Center
	Prodigal Sons Men's Group	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Room 103, Family Life Center
22 Tue	Feed My People Fourth Tuesday	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
	Mercy and Justice Book Study	6:30-7:30 p.m.	La Madeline, 5493 Brodie Lane
23 Wed	Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews	10:00 a.m.	fumcaustin.org/submissions
	Church Office Closes	12:00 p.m.	Happy Thanksgiving
24 Thur	Thanksgiving Day	Church Office Closed	Have a Safe and Happy Holiday
	<i>We will reopen on November 28 at 9:00 a.m. Our pastors are on call during holidays. Call 512-478-5684, press 213, and leave a message for a return call.</i>		

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 22, TUESDAY

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast . Family Life Center

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 at 6:00 a.m.; and clean-up begins at 7:00 a.m. You may arrive and leave to meet your schedule. On-the-job training is available.

DECEMBER 11, SUNDAY

Blood Donation Drive . 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Murchison Chapel



WE ARE BLOOD

FUMC will host a blood drive for the Central Texas Blood Center, recently rebranded as We Are Blood. Blood donations have long

been considered one of the easiest volunteer actions a person can take. Where else can you lay back for a few minutes and make a huge difference for others within the community and receive juice and cookies for your efforts? The holiday season is a critical time for blood donations and it would be great to get a big response from our church family. To schedule an appointment, call Craig at 512-206-1316 or online at fumcaustin.org/blood-drive.

DECEMBER 16, FRIDAY

Pickle Elementary Book Drive and Sale . Pickle Elementary School

As you are cleaning or out holiday shopping, pick out a book or two to donate. Place gently-used or new books in the collection bin off the foyer. Volunteers are needed to help sort books on December 4 and 11 and/or work at the Book Sale. Sign up online at fumcaustin.org/pickle.

DECEMBER 18-25

Family Promise Week this Christmas . Family Life Center

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. FUMC provides a place for families to live in our Family Life Center. Volunteers of all ages provide meals, serve as overnight hosts, and host in other ways. This year we will host families the week before Christmas. We will have some special activities planned during the week and hope you and your family will give the gift of time this Christmas. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/familypromise.

DECEMBER 18, SUNDAY

Youth Engage Christmas Party . 4:00-6:00 p.m. Family Life Center

All youth are invited to come and celebrate together at our last Engage of the year. There will be food, games, and music. We will also have a white elephant exchange, so bring a gift that cost \$10 or less.

Advent Wonder

NOVEMBER 27, SUNDAY
Intergenerational Advent Event

DECEMBER 3, SATURDAY
Decorating and Holiday Stroll

DECEMBER 4, 11, & 18, SUNDAYS
Advent Sunday School Series

For information about these and other opportunities,
see our *Advent Wonder* insert.

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

FAMILY PROMISE

By Penny Appleby



Looking at their faces, I would wonder about their lives and what led them to this place. The faces were white, black, brown, young and old. At times I would be taken aback—a young teenage girl all alone. Other times, watching the young kids playing ball or shooting hoops, I forgot for a while that this was not just a usual family gathering.

Over the last several years that I have participated in Family Promise, I remember seeing the same families—mother and children, father and children, or a whole family—and it was good to see the progress that they were making.

There is something about sharing a meal that is a great leveler. Each person is granted dignity and conversation can be very natural. Sometimes, because of their work schedule, we were only able to eat with some of the participants but we would leave plates for the others to eat when they could. In any case, the ones who came were very appreciative.

I can only imagine how many others are out there that the Family Promise program would benefit, but I'm humbled by being able to participate in First Church's faithfulness to those who can come.

What We Believe

We believe that every person is a beloved child of God.

We believe every person is on a journey toward God, with God.

We freely admit that we do not have all the answers, but we believe that Jesus points the way.

WORSHIP

9:00 AND 11:00 A.M.

November 27

First Sunday of Advent

I Wonder If the World Can Be Healed...

Matthew 24:36-44

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching

Sometimes the darkness of the world seems so thick that we wonder if it can be healed at all. We get discouraged in our own work toward justice and providing for those who don't have enough, and yet the problems seem to multiply. It leaves us to wonder, "Is it really possible?" Come this Sunday, ready to enter the darkness and seek the persistent, unwavering light of Christ.

December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

I Wonder If I Can Really Change...

Matthew 3:1-12

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching

Like the Old Testament prophets, John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way for the Lord. How do we prepare the way in our own lives? Are we capable of the change that God calls us to make? On this second Sunday of Advent, come find the grace of God at work in you.

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Betty Berkey; Adama Brown; Arnold and Ruth Buss; Lydia Clay and Barrett Chenevert; Cate George and family; Andrea Peck; and Wilton Stone.

Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Laurie Barr's sister, Karen, and niece, Emma; Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Richard and Marilyn Bettis' friend, Ronney Reynolds; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Herb Canada; Reverend Tina Carter; Peggy Davis' friend, Mary Mood; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Howard Hartman's mother, Annabel Hartman; Cassie Helton's mother, Betty Helton; Chris and Jan Higgs' friend, Jimmy Hargrave; Charlotte Lyerly's niece, Tonya Harris; Kelly Mills' mother, Sandra Mills; Delia Peters' mother, Ruby Ybarra; Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

CHURCH BUSINESS

Join Our Team!
WE'RE HIRING

Do you have an outgoing, welcoming personality? Are you gifted at leading and inspiring volunteers to show hospitality to visitors? Are you interested in a part-time position at FUMC?

We are looking for a part-time Director of Connections to lead our ministry of inviting and incorporating visitors into the life of First Church!

See the job description at www.fumcaustin.org/apply. and submit resume by December 1.

FUMC ENDOWMENT FUND

- In memory of Gazelle Sump, given by Sally Watkins.
- In memory of Jinks Rector, given by Tom and Robbie Ausley.

GIFTS TO FUMC

- To our Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry in memory of Gazelle Sump, given by Olivia Weldon.
- To our Music Ministry in memory of Jinks Rector, given by Curtis and Mary Higgs.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW WELCOME CENTER

Please pardon our mess now through early December as we continue construction of a new Welcome Center on the south wall of our sanctuary foyer. The Welcome Center will include custom-built cabinets, brochure holders, three fabric-covered bulletin boards with lighting, and relocation of our TV used for digital signage. We are excited to transform this space to help educate our visitors and to keep our congregation informed.

Extravagant GENEROSITY

We celebrated Commitment Sunday by prayerfully making our financial commitments. To date, we have received 230 commitments totaling \$1,334,742. Commitments are still coming in. New and increased commitments total 112,973 in new funding to Do Justice, Love Kindness, and Walk Humbly with God in 2017!

You can add your commitment to generously support our ministries in several ways:

- Fill out a commitment card in the foyer and drop it in the offering plate;
- Email Tom Mays at tom@fumcaustin.org;
- Fill out the commitment form at fumcaustin.org/pledge; or
- Go to ChurchLife at www.fumcaustin.org and schedule a recurring gift.