

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

NOVEMBER 27, 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.

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT EVENT

9:45-10:45 a.m. Wesley Hall

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.

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.

NEXT SUNDAY

ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES BEGINS

10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

We will look for the wonder of God in the world around us as we prepare our hearts for the birth of the Christ child. Pastor Cathy Stone and Fancy Mills will lead this study using Mike Slaughter's book, *Down to Earth*. Come explore ways to be on the lookout for God's Christmas surprise to us and how it changed everything.

DECORATING AND HOLIDAY STROLL

DECEMBER 3, SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. Wesley Hall

Kick off the holiday by decorating the chapel, sanctuary, and Family Life Center. The fun begins at 4:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. After the decorating, volunteers will share a meal and then have the opportunity to help Austin discover FUMC and to make us home for the holidays at the annual Holiday Stroll. Austin rings in the Christmas season with a sing-along and Christmas Tree lighting at the Capitol, followed by a stroll down Congress Avenue for booth visiting, music, and general holiday cheer. FUMC greets event attendees with music on the front steps, hot chocolate and cookies, and a family-friendly restroom stop. Be part of this hospitality team that chats with visitors, serves drinks, bakes cookies, sets up, and tears down. We need more volunteers! Shifts run between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/stroll.

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

4 Sunday Advent Sunday School Series 10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall	21 Wednesday Blue Christmas Service 7:00 p.m. Murchison Chapel
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	22 Sunday Church Office Closes for Christmas Holiday Merry Christmas!
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	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
16 Friday Pickle Elementary Book Sale Shifts from 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. fumcaustin.org/pickle	25 Sunday Christmas Day Service 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
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	26-29 Monday-Thursday Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday Reopen on January 3

SIGN UP FOR
BLOOD DONATION DRIVE



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.

9:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
MURCHISON CHAPEL

WEEK	27 Sun	Music Makers Rehearsal #SingPraise Rehearsal Intergenerational Advent Event Sunday School Classes for All Ages	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:45-10:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Room 108, Education Building Murchison Chapel Wesley Hall Various Locations	
	28 Mon	English as a Second Language (ESL) Prodigal Sons Men's Group	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.	Family Life Center Room 103, Family Life Center	
		29 Tue	Feed My People Fourth Tuesday	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
	THURS	30 Wed	Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews Handbell Choir Rehearsal FUMC Choir Rehearsal	10:00 a.m. 6:00-7:00 p.m. 7:00-8:30 p.m.	fumcaustin.org/submissions Sanctuary Balcony Choir Room, Sanctuary Building
1 Thur			Feed My People Breakfast Feed My People Breakfast Worship English as a Second Language (ESL)	4:45-7:00 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center Family Life Center
			3 Sat	Decorating and Holiday Stroll	4:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 10, SATURDAY

Kids Day Out . 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Children's Wing

While parents enjoy a morning out, children play, eat pizza, make holiday crafts and decorate gingerbread houses, and watch a movie with our trained childcare staff. We accept infants through fourth graders on a first-come basis. The cost is \$25 for the first child and \$8 for siblings. Make reservations at childcare@fumcaustin.org no later than December 7.

Youth Service Day . 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. University UMC

Our youth will team up with Saint John's UMC and University UMC to serve breakfast to the community at Open Door and then share lunch together and have some fellowship time which will end at 12:00 p.m. All youth are invited to come and serve.

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

DECEMBER 10, SATURDAY
Kids Day Out and Youth Service Day

DONATION DAYS: DECEMBER 4, 11, AND 18
Shop for Socks for Christmas Eve Breakfast

DONATION DAYS: DECEMBER 11 AND 18
Bake Cookies for Christmas Eve Breakfast

DECEMBER 18, SUNDAY
Messiah for Young Voices

DECEMBER 18-25
Volunteer with Family Promise

DECEMBER 21, WEDNESDAY
Blue Christmas Service

For information about opportunities and ways to serve,
see our *Advent Wonder* insert.

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

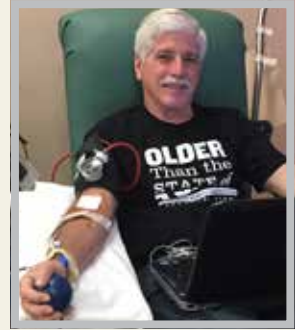
Submit content for FUMC Weekly / eNews
using submission form at fumcaustin.org/submissions.

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

FAITH IN ACTION

BLOOD DONATION

By Randy Teich



In 1972, I made a decision to make my first blood donation. I tolerated the procedure easily and was assured that my donation would make a difference in someone else's life. I soon became a regular donor at what is now "We Are Blood."

I frequently call blood donations my cheapest and easiest charity. Where else can you do a good deed that doesn't affect your wallet, requires you to relax on a couch for a while, and then rewards you with juice and cookies? There is one aspect of blood donation that some may find unsatisfying. Donors never meet or interact with their recipients. I once did learn about a recipient. I had a voice mail from a blood bank supervisor when I got home asking me to call her that evening on her cell phone. My first reaction was they had discovered an issue with my last donation. Instead, the supervisor explained that there was a woman in a local hospital who had rejected platelets from all other donors, but flourished with mine. I was asked to donate for her again the next day. Another donor was located who closely matched my blood characteristics and the two of us were able to supply her with platelets until she could leave the hospital. I was fully humbled by how such a small effort on my part could have such a major impact on someone else's life.

I hope you will consider making a donation during our Blood Drive on December 11. There will be recipients who will forever be thankful for your gift.

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.

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.

December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

I Wonder How We Will Know...

Matthew 11:2-11

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching

In Advent, we turn our eyes toward the coming of Christ. What does it look like for Christ to be in our midst? How will we know He is with us? We will ask these questions alongside John the Baptist on this special Sunday as we worship through the service of Advent Lessons and Carols.

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Congratulations to Curtis and Mary Higgs on the birth of their great-grandson, Noah James. Health: Betty Berkey; Adama Brown; Arnold and Ruth Buss; Lydia Clay and Barrett Chenevert; Cate George and family; Andrea Peck; Wilton Stone; and Olivia Weldon. Condolences to the family and friends of Jean Richardson on her death. 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; Chris Cato's friend, Jon Beskon; 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 Hargraves; Charlotte Lyerly's niece, Tonya Harris; Kelly Mills' mother, Sandra Mills; Delia Peters' mother, Ruby Ybarra; Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen; Virginia Wattering's friend, Nathan Smith; 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.

NEW MEMBERS

November 20



Anthony and Sarah Gutierrez

Anthony joined by transfer from another denomination and Sarah joined by transfer from another Methodist church.



Michael and Diane Render

Joined by transfer from another Methodist church.

Extravagant GENEROSITY

We celebrated Commitment Sunday by prayerfully making our financial commitments. To date, we have received 231 commitments totaling \$1,336,302. Commitments are still coming in. New and increased commitments total 113,033 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.