



First United  
Methodist Church  
A U S T I N

# FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,  
Making a Difference

DECEMBER 18, 2016

## THIS SUNDAY

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

### COOKIE AND SOCK COLLECTION

Place donations for our Christmas Eve Breakfast in the collection bins located in the foyer and Family Life Center.

### FUMC CHOIR CHRISTMAS CD FOR SALE

A CD recorded by our FUMC Choir in 2009 is available for purchase in the foyer. Cost is \$15 or two for \$25. Cash and checks accepted.

### 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.

### ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

We 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 lead this study using Mike Slaughter's book, *Down to Earth*.

### MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES THIRD SUNDAY

4:00 and 5:00 p.m. 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 the food and loading the truck) or the Truck Team at 5:00 p.m. (delivering the food to our hungry neighbors).

### 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.

### YOUTH PARENT AND VOLUNTEER MEETING

4:00 p.m. Garrison Chapel

When will we hire a new youth director? What is the status of program plans for the spring? What help do the youth need during the transition? Pastor Taylor and leaders from the youth ministry team will meet with youth parents and volunteers to answer these and more questions.

### FAMILY PROMISE WEEK BEGINS

Today-December 25

The gift of serving will be lived out the week before Christmas by many of our servant hearts helping 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. Thank you to everyone who has signed up – almost all roles are filled! Volunteers of all ages provide meals, serve as overnight hosts, and host in other ways. Sign up at [fumcaustin.org/familypromise](http://fumcaustin.org/familypromise).

## End of Year Giving Reminder

Our church office will be closed December 22-January 2, but Tom Mays and Laurie Barr will be available to accept year end gifts on December 27, 28, and 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and on December 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Ring the bell at the preschool entrance to let them know you are in the parking lot. **Please note that IRS regulations require that contributions for 2016 must be mailed and postmarked no later than 12/31/16.**

Contributions received on January 1 or in the mail and postmarked in 2017 will be considered 2017 gifts regardless of the date on the check.

## December Mission Emphasis

The Mobile Loaves & Fishes' downtown Austin truck, based at FUMC, goes out nearly every day of the year to provide meals, clothing, and hygiene products to the homeless and working poor in our community. Last year, we provided over 26,000 hearty meals with the help of more than 350 dedicated volunteers. It will cost over \$67,000 to fund this ministry for 2017. You may leave gifts (marked "Mobile Loaves & Fishes") at the communion rail or you may send them to or bring them by the church office.

1201 Lavaca Street | Austin, Texas, 78701 | 512-478-5684 | [www.fumcaustin.org](http://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



## DECEMBER

**25 Sunday**  
**Christmas Day Service**  
 11:00 a.m.  
 Sanctuary

**26-2 Monday-Monday**  
**Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday**  
 Reopen on January 3

**27 Tuesday**  
**Feed My People Fourth Tuesday**  
 4:45-7:00 a.m.  
 Family Life Center

## JANUARY

**1 Sunday**  
**New Year's Day Services**  
 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
 Sanctuary

**5 Thursday**  
**Greater Austin Emmaus Community**  
 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
 Family Life Center

**8 Sunday**  
**Epiphany Party**  
 10:00-10:45 a.m.  
 Family Life Center

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

**COLD WEATHER SHELTER FOR WOMEN**

FUMC provides shelter for women when the predicted overnight low is expected to be 35 degrees and wet or 32 degrees and dry. We have shifts to welcome and greet, provide/serve dinner, and serve as overnight hosts. To volunteer, sign up on our website.

**TUESDAY NIGHTS WHEN FREEZING**

<b>THIS WEEK</b>	<b>18 Sun</b>	<b>Cookie and Sock Collection</b> <b>FUMC Choir Christmas CD Sale</b> <b>Manna Bag Sale</b> Advent Sunday School Series Sunday School Classes for All Ages Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday Youth Engage Christmas Party Youth Parent and Volunteer Meeting Family Promise	9:00-11:00 a.m. 9:00-11:00 a.m. 9:00-11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Foyer Foyer Sidewalk Wesley Hall Various Locations MLF Kitchen, Wesley Hall Family Life Center Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center Family Life Center
	<b>19 Mon</b>	<b>Family Promise</b> <b>Prodigal Sons Men's Group</b>	5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.	Family Life Center Room 103, Family Life Center
	<b>20 Tue</b>	<b>Feed My People Breakfast</b> <b>Family Promise</b>	4:45-7:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center Family Life Center
	<b>21 Wed</b>	<b>Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews</b> Church Office Closes Family Promise Handbell Choir Rehearsal Blue Christmas Service FUMC Choir Rehearsal	10:00 a.m. 12:00 noon 5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. 6:00-7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00-8:30 p.m.	fumcaustin.org/submissions Merry Christmas! Family Life Center Sanctuary Balcony Murchison Chapel Choir Room, Sanctuary Building
	<b>22 Thur</b>	<b>Feed My People Breakfast</b> <b>Feed My People Breakfast Worship</b> Family Promise	4:45-7:00 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center Family Life Center
	<b>23 Fri</b>	<b>Family Promise</b>	5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.	Family Life Center
	<b>24 Sat</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Breakfast</b> <b>Christmas Eve Breakfast Service</b> <b>Christmas Eve Noon Service</b> <b>Christmas Eve Family Service</b> <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services</b> Family Promise	6:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 8:00 and 11:00 p.m. All Day	Great Hall, Family Life Center Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center Murchison Chapel Sanctuary Sanctuary Family Life Center

## THE POINSETTIAS ARE PLACED BY...

### **Galen, David, Jessie, and Damon Adams**

In memory of Marie Adams

### **John and Ann Adams**

In honor of Mack Adams

In memory of Martha Adams

### **Mack Adams**

In memory of Martha Adams

### **Frances Allen**

In memory of Lonnie Logan

### **Mary Lee Ausley**

In honor of Tom and Robbie Ausley

### **Tom and Robbie Ausley**

In honor of Mary Lee Ausley

In honor of their four children and spouses: Kelly and Joe, Greg and Jade, Amber and Kevin, and Amy and Casey

In honor of their ten grandchildren: Jenae, Hunter, Parker, Peyton, Grace, Austin, Palmer, Brandon, Cole, and Gralyn

In appreciation of the FUMC pastors: Rev. Taylor Fuerst, Rev. Michael Mumme, and Rev. Cathy Stone

In appreciation of the FUMC staff

In appreciation of the FUMC Choir

### **Grady Basler and Terry Cornwell**

In memory of late parents, Frank and Maxine Basler and Jack and Iona Cornwell

In honor of Donna Cortez and in memory of her loving mother, Marilyn Ford

### **Ed and Jan Berger**

In honor of their parents, Bill and Jerry Berger, and in memory of their parents, Walter and Kathryn Cherry

In honor of their children: Greg and Jennelle Berger, Emily and Brad Buchanan, and Meredith and Spencer Chambers

In honor of their grandchildren: Carson and Trent Berger; Abby, Will, and Ava Buchanan; and Phillip and

Braden Chambers

### **Bryan and Suzanne Black**

In honor of their sons, Hart and Breck

### **Bob and Debbie Block**

In memory of their parents, Robert and Frances Block, Nancy Loscocco, and William Page

### **Tom and Fay Brown**

In honor of the FUMC pastors and staff

### **Stan, Bergan, and Peyton Casey**

In memory of their grandparents, the Andersons, the Caseys, and the Pickles

In honor of the FUMC staff who work so hard

### **Doug and Judy Chambers**

In honor of our children and grandchildren: Jennifer Chambers; Spencer, Meredith, Phillip and Braden Chambers; and Stacey, Jacob, Jack, and Clive Pearson

In memory of Stan and Laura Chambers

In memory of Vicky Johnson-Arthur

In memory of Robert Johnson

### **Jyl Cole**

In memory of Bob and Donna Flowers



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In memory of Bob and Donna Flowers



**Pamela Craig**

In memory of Charles Craig  
In memory of Norma McNutt

**Brandon and Kaycee Crisp**

In memory of Grams (Claudia Taylor)  
In memory of Pops (Jim Crisp)

**Clay and Laura Lee Daigle**

In honor of Edward Lee Daigle  
In honor of Henry Hollis Daigle  
In honor of John Clayton Daigle

**Peggy Davis**

In memory of Ollie and Margaret Davis

**Molly Drazic**

In honor of her "4" boys: George, Alexander, Evan, and Miles

**Teresa Edwards**

In memory of her father, Wayne Edwards

**Ann Fields**

In memory of her husband, Charles Fields

**Joe, Kelly, Jenae, and Hunter Flores**

In honor of Mary Lee Ausley  
In honor of Tom and Robbie Ausley

**Bob Garrett and Tina Hester**

In memory of Billie Hester, Carl Hester, and Melvin Laman  
In honor of Myrta Ann Garrett

**Homer and Anne Garrison**

In honor of Monroe, Alicia, Thomas, and Charles Garrison  
In honor of Rick, Tiffany, and Richard Parker  
In memory of Homer and Mary Nell Garrison  
In memory of Alton and Fay Toombs

**George and Merianne Gaston**

In honor of Katherine Blanton  
In honor of Linda Gothia  
In honor of Robyn Riojas  
In memory of Louise Reaves

**Mary Heckmann**

In honor of Kris Heckmann

**Ross and Ann Hemphill**

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ross S. Hemphill  
In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Tillery

**Ken and Susan Hensley**

In honor of the families of Jamie Hensley and Wes Hensley  
In honor of the teachers and leaders of the Cross Section Sunday School Class  
In memory of Lewis and Lonita Hensley and Billy and Geneva Willard

**Steve and Dixie Houston**

In memory of their fathers and mothers



**Maitland and Pepper Huffman**

In honor of their grandchildren: Hannah, Emily, Georgia, and Maitland Huffman and Erin, Seth, Nick, and Avery Murchison

**Terry and Margaret Kahn**

In memory of Max and Floy Kahn and Bowman and Beverly Snider  
In memory of Jinks Rector  
In honor of Arnold and Ruth Buss

**Tami Kellberg**

In honor of Nell Broadbent  
In honor of Olivia Weldon

**Pete and Jerri Meeker**

In honor of Tanua Snyder  
In memory of Peggy Meeker Boltz  
In memory of Bob and Barbara Meeker  
In memory of Gerald Snyder

**Kelly and Daphne Mills**

In memory of their father, Jerry Mills  
In memory of their mother, Thelma Hinds

**Mark Morris and Kathy Tullos**

In honor of Jane and Mary Morris  
In memory of Dick Francis and Lewis McCarroll

**Andrea Peck**

In memory of her parents, Herbert and Nora Hargis

**Arthur and Chloe Potts**

In memory of Dorothy Potts and Georgia Turner

**Mary Faye Randolph**

In honor of her aunt, Bess Gerst  
In honor of her mother, Ruth Randolph  
In honor of Cheryl Etie  
In honor of Nancy Haines  
In honor of Kathy Morales  
In honor of Sherry Renick  
In honor of Pat Rives  
In honor of Rebecca Yohe  
In honor of First Sunday Mobile Loaves & Fishes Team led by Dick Young  
In honor of the FUMC Handbell Choir directed by Shirley Derryberry  
In memory of her father, George Randolph  
In memory of her uncle, Jim Gerst

**Miranda Reinhard**

In memory of Doris Freeman, Ethel Reinhard, and Robert (Bob) Reinhard

**Justin, Erin, James, and Nicholas Scarth**

In memory of James and Virginia Nickel  
In memory of Elvis Parker  
In memory of Phillip and Veronica Pohlman  
In memory of Ruth Scarth  
In memory of Shanna Scarth

**Anita Sigler**

In memory of her father, Kelley Sigler



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DECEMBER 22, THURSDAY-JANUARY 2, MONDAY**

### **Church Office Closing for Christmas and New Year's Holidays**

The church office will close at 12:00 noon on December 22, in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. We will reopen on January 3, at 9:00 a.m. Have a safe and blessed Christmas and New Year!

**DECEMBER 27, TUESDAY**

### **Feed My People Fourth Tuesday . 4:45-7:00 a.m. 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 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.

**JANUARY 5, THURSDAY**

### **Greater Austin Emmaus Community . 6:00-8:00 p.m. Family Life Center**

This gathering gives those in our congregation who have been pilgrims on a Walk to Emmaus an opportunity to extend hospitality to our brothers and sisters in Christ. There will be a potluck from 6:00-7:10 p.m., followed by worship from 7:15-8:00 p.m. If you are available to help with this event, contact Chris or Judy Funke at [emmaus-funke@austin.rr.com](mailto:emmaus-funke@austin.rr.com).

**JANUARY 8, SUNDAY**

### **Epiphany Party . 10:00-10:45 a.m. Family Life Center**

Start the new year with joy by celebrating Christ's light in the world with your church family—all ages and stages! Children and youth will not have regular Sunday School classes that day, so bring the whole family to the party. Want to get more involved? Bring some breakfast food items to share or bake special Epiphany muffins. Sign up at [fumcaustin.org/epiphany](http://fumcaustin.org/epiphany). For questions, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at [cathy@fumcaustin.org](mailto:cathy@fumcaustin.org) or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

**JANUARY 13, 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 fourth 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](mailto: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.

**JANUARY 22, SUNDAY**

### **First Steps Class . 12:00 p.m. Room 104 . Family Life Center**

Worship leads us to make commitments to God. If your response involves taking a first step to become a follower of Christ and/or a member of First Church, fill out the Communication Card in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND ALL CHURCH NEWS,  
PLEASE VISIT [www.fumcaustin.org](http://www.fumcaustin.org).**

**Submit content for FUMC Weekly / eNews  
using submission form at [fumcaustin.org/submissions](http://fumcaustin.org/submissions).**

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

## FAITH IN ACTION

### **CHRISTMAS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS**

**By Kathy Tullos**



Christmas is serious business at our house. Follow us home from the tree lot the day after Thanksgiving and you'll see our usual nine-foot tree hanging out the back of our Prius. Frosty and Santa, here we come!

At the same time, we all know that Christmas is serious in a different way. Many folks, including our neighbors downtown, are hungry and lonely. Our country has endured a bruising election cycle. Many areas of the world know only war and devastation. Sometimes Christmas seems very serious – very dark – indeed.

And yet in the midst of this darkness, we experience light. On Christmas Eve, our family attends the 11:00 service. We've had a big meal by then, and it's typically been a long day. Honestly, there are years when the sermon sails right over my weary head. (Sorry!) But I always know that the best part, the light part, is coming at the end.

If you've been to this service, you know what I'm talking about: the lights in the sanctuary dim, the congregation begins to sing "Silent Night," and we raise the candles we were given when we walked in. One small flame passes and multiplies from taper to taper in the pews. Light blooms.

As we sing about silent nights and being calm and bright and radiant beams bringing in dawns of grace, the words of John 1:5 are, at least in that moment, true. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

# What We Believe

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

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

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

## WORSHIP

11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY

December 25

Christmas Day

*What Child is This?*

John 1:1-14

Cathy Stone, Preaching

*Come as you are to celebrate the birth of Christ! On this most joyous of days, we will sing familiar carols as we reflect on God incarnate, God with us, Emmanuel. Children are welcome to come just as they are when they tumble out of bed! Appropriate pajamas, bath robes, and slippers are welcome. After the hustle and bustle of the holidays, all are welcome to relax and come casual to church.*

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

January 1

First Sunday after Christmas

*The Flight to Egypt*

Matthew 2:13-23

Michael Mumme, Preaching

*The pastoral scene of the manger is quickly shattered by the quick escape to Egypt and the horror of Herod's treachery. Come worship God, giving thanks that because of Christ, the light of the world, you don't have to live like a refugee.*

## CHURCH BUSINESS

### GIFTS TO FUMC

To our Christmas Offering in honor of Vicki Baldwin, Sue Bock, Nancy Lewis, Kay Sterling, Sally Watkins, and Nancy Williams, given by Jan Demetri.

To our Epiphany Sunday School Class in memory of Doug Fraser, given by Bob Garrett and Tina Hester.

To our Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry in honor of Ann Young's Retirement, given by Joe, Kelly, Jenae, and Hunter Flores.

To our Reconciling Ministries in memory of Dick Francis, given by Andrew Jackson and M. Diane Dwight.

### 2017 MINISTRY PLAN

We celebrated Commitment Sunday by prayerfully making our financial commitments. You can add your commitment to support our ministries:

- Fill out a commitment card in the foyer;
- Email Tom Mays at [tom@fumcaustin.org](mailto:tom@fumcaustin.org);
- Fill out the commitment form at [fumcaustin.org/pledge](http://fumcaustin.org/pledge); or
- Go to ChurchLife at [fumcaustin.org](http://fumcaustin.org) and schedule a recurring gift.

### YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Michelle Cato shared with the youth and their parents that she is making a career change and pursuing teacher certification to teach in the fall. Michelle has been a faithful shepherd of our youth for the last 18 months. We are sad to see her leave the youth ministry staff position, but we are excited to see her live out a new calling while also remaining a beloved member of First Church.

This means the spring will serve as a period of transition for the youth ministry. This transition is an opportunity for our church to take a step back and re-envision the direction of our Youth Ministry before we hire a new director. The pastors will look to the whole congregation to step in and fill the gap this spring while the position is vacant. This is the time when our youth need the congregation's support more than ever! Begin praying now about how you might answer the call to volunteer in youth ministry this spring.

Pastor Taylor will lead a special meeting for parents and volunteers on December 18 at 4:00 p.m. in Garrison Chapel.

## PRAYER

### WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Betty Berkey; Pat Freeman; Terrell Gates; Cate George and family; Andrea Peck; Gris and George Anne Rogers; D. Orval Strong; Tim Walter; and Virginia Wattinger.

Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda and Mac Burney for Fred Matthys and Suzanne Wesley classes.

Condolences to Tina Hester on the death of her brother, Melvin Laman.

### BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Nancy Arnold's father, Allen Arnold; Laurie Barr's sister, Karen, and niece, Emma; Bill and Phyllis Bennatt; Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Kent Blacks' parents, Edgar and Norma Black; Nell Broadbent's great-grandson, Cody Myers; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Reverend Tina Carter; Peggy Davis' friend, Mary Mood; Cheryl Etie's sister, Janice Hansen; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Judy Funke for Karen Staub; Nancy Gillett's mother, Joyce and brother, Ted; Howard Hartman's mother, Annabel Hartman; Cassie Helton's mother, Betty Helton; Ken and Susan Hensley's friend, Davis Roberts; Lauren Jackson's grandmother, Diedre Johnson; Daviss King for Nancy Prideaux; Charlotte Lyerly's niece, Tonya Harris; Kelly Mills' mother, Sandra Mills; Riley Nix's grandmother; Delia Peters' mother, Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

◆  
*Cast all your cares on God, because God cares for you. (I Peter 5:7)*