



First United
Methodist Church
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

DECEMBER 25, 2016

Christmas Offering: WE'RE GOING TO BUY AN RV!



WHAT?!

We've been growing our partnership with Mobile Loaves & Fishes' innovative residential program called Community First! Village. This 27-acre master-planned community provides affordable, permanent housing and a supportive community for disabled, chronically homeless persons in Central Texas. The village provides a place for our homeless brothers and sisters to heal, to rediscover hope, renew their purpose, and restore their dignity. Most importantly, it's a place they can call home.

WHY AN RV?

For 17 years, Mobile Loaves & Fishes has been lifting up the chronically homeless into gently used RVs located in RV park communities throughout Austin. Today, these homes are now nestled in the Community First! Village, with plans to lift up 250 friends by the end of 2017. Housing at Community First! Village is provided through an innovative mix of affordable housing options in Tiny Houses and RVs. When we asked our partners at Mobile Loaves & Fishes what they need most, they didn't hesitate: "We need RVs." Other housing options at the village do not include indoor plumbing. In contrast, RVs are fully refurbished and outfitted to provide an all-in-one home with a bathroom and kitchen, especially convenient for those with more serious disabilities, as well as those who are older and have greater health challenges as a result of living for years on the streets. While Community First! Village has fully funded all other types of housing, they still need many more RVs to provide homes for those in greatest need.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

The cost of an RV is \$25,000. This Christmas, you are invited to do what we do best—turn outward to our community, bind together, and do something that will change someone's life forever. Join us in this partnership with Community First! Village to house some of our most vulnerable neighbors. Your gifts, marked "Christmas Offering," may be placed in the offering plate, brought by or sent to the church office, or made online at fumcaustin.org/rv. Funds received in excess of our goal will help support our Emergency Assistance Fund, which is necessary to serve our neighbors in 2017. *One of our members has challenged us to meet our \$25,000 RV goal by matching your gifts now through December 27, up to our goal. To date, \$14,954 has been raised toward our goal, with \$10,046 remaining. Help provide permanent housing for a disabled, chronically homeless person by going beyond your church offering to give a Christmas gift with a match!*

End of Year Giving Reminder

Our church office will be closed December 26-January 2, however 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.

Thank you for fulfilling your commitment to give generously to support FUMC. Your generosity fuels ministry and transformation in the lives of many in our congregation and beyond. May you be blessed as you bless others this Christmas Season.

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

JANUARY 8, SUNDAY
EPIPHANY PARTY



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 involved? Bring some breakfast food items to share or bake special Epiphany muffins. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/epiphany.

For questions, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

10:00-10:45 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

15 Sunday
Manna Bag Sale
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Sidewalk
Spirituality and Racial Justice
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall
Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday
4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

16 Monday
MLK Day Community March
9:30 a.m.
Family Life Center

20 Friday
Registration Deadline for
Created by God Workshop
lara@fumcaustin.org

22 Sunday
Spirituality and Racial Justice
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall
First Steps
12:15 p.m.
Room 104, Family Life Center

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

29 Sunday
Fifth Sunday Social Justice Presentation
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall

W E E K	26 Mon	Church Office Closed		
	27 Tue	Church Office Closed		
		Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
		End of Year Giving Hours	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Ring Bell at Preschool Entrance
	28 Wed	Church Office Closed		
End of Year Giving Hours		10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Ring Bell at Preschool Entrance	
S H I S	29 Thur	Church Office Closed		
		Feed My People Breakfast	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
		End of Year Giving Hours	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Ring Bell at Preschool Entrance
T	30 Fri	Church Office Closed		
		End of Year Giving Hours	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Ring Bell at Preschool Entrance

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



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

Virginia McCarroll

In memory of Lewis McCarroll

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

Mark and Pam Steves

In honor of their children: Daniel and Janelle Steves; John and Danielle Steves; and Matt Steves

In honor of their grandchildren: Kaitlyn and Luke Steves and Scarlett Steves

In honor of their parents, Paul and Jo Rider, and in memory of their parents, Allen and Carolyn Steves

Cathy Stone

In memory of her mother, Billye Stone

Steve and Pam Tackett

In honor of their daughter, Cara C. Tackett

In honor of their son, Ross J. Tackett, and his family: Melissa, William, Austin, and Ellie

In memory of her parents, Woodrow W. and Christine C. Brandes

In memory of his brother, Richard L. Tackett

In memory of his mother, Christene C. Tackett

Randy and Ann Teich

In honor of the impending birth of their grandson to Lilly and Miles Whitten

In honor of the marriage of Alex Teich and Tina Thomas

George and Jackie Vanderhule

In memory of George and Juanita Vanderhule

Kevin and Catherine Waggoner

In honor of Marie Gillen

In memory of Choc Gillen

In memory of Catherine Warner

Sally Watkins

In honor of Susan Lorenson, Adam, Jack and David Watkins

In honor of FUMC clergy and lay staff

Chuck and Debbie Watt

In memory of Dorothy Black

In memory of Horace Black

In memory of Mary Grace Black

In memory of Florence Watt

In memory of John H. Watt

Mark and Christie Wilson

In honor of Josephine Wilson

In honor of Thomas Wilson

Willie and Jessica Wisko

In memory of Wallace and Dorothy Graves and Dorothy Graves Gallaway

In memory of Willie and Ruth Wisko

Women's Open Door Sunday School Class

In memory of Roselyn Bustin

In memory of Hellen Sullivan

John C. Woodward

In honor of Frank Woodward, Sr.

In memory of Mae Woodward

Dick and Ann Young

In honor of their children and grandchildren: Clair, True, and Jaclyn Cannon and Taylor and Grace Young

In memory of his parents, Fred and Myrl Young



UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

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 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 15 & 22 AND FEBRUARY 5 & 12, SUNDAYS

Spirituality and Racial Justice . 10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

Join us for a video series with Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, as he discusses ways Christians can work toward racial justice. The Most Rev. Michael Curry focuses on the spiritual elements of the problem: spiritual failings that lead to racism and the ways spiritual tools are necessary to help build a more just world. He discusses racism as one of the many results of the pride that separates people from God and fighting racism as a first step toward reconciling all of humanity. Discussion will be led by Dr. Adama Brown and Pastor Cathy Stone. For more information or questions, contact Cathy at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

JANUARY 16, MONDAY

MLK Day Community March . 9:30 a.m. Family Life Center and Capitol

Grab a breakfast taco in the Family Life Center before we gather at the Capitol for the city's annual march and celebration honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will join the march at 10:00 a.m. on the south steps of the Capitol for a short program and then march to Huston-Tillotson University for the Community Festival. We can arrange carpools or ride CapMetro back to the church. For more information or to participate in a carpool, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

JANUARY 20, FRIDAY

Registration Deadline for *Created by God* Seminar

This two-day sexuality seminar for 5th and 6th graders offers families an opportunity to learn, grow, and celebrate the fact that we have each been wonderfully created by God and are called to responsible living as sexual beings. Mail or bring completed registration and payment of \$50 to the church office. Scholarships available upon request.

JANUARY 22, SUNDAY

First Steps Class . 12:15 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.

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

ADVENT MEMORIES

By Leslie Ivey



The season of Advent has always been my favorite time of year. Two things that make this season the most meaningful to me are my church and my family. I grew up in this church, sitting in the exact same pew every Sunday between my parents and my grandparents. Now a generation later, my children sit right between my parents and me.

I have 40 years of Advent memories from the very same perspective – from “our” pew. Memories: all of the families who have bravely marched their children up to help light the Advent candles, the Lessons and Carols services highlighting the musical gifts of the members of our church, the same scripture readings every year that help us to remember what this season is really about. But, my absolute favorite church tradition is the Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Seeing all of the families, gathered together wearing their holiday best, in the dark sanctuary, singing Silent Night, and watching the candlelight slowly spread across the congregation just warms my heart in a way that nothing else does.

Some years were a little more stressful than others with hot wax and fire in the hands of little ones, but that same feeling of awe and wonder that I felt when I was a child always fills my heart. I am grateful for this church and I am grateful for my family. I never take for granted that I get to experience both in this very same place.

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

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.



January 8

Epiphany Sunday

Search Diligently

Matthew 2:1-12

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching

King Herod sees this newborn king as a threat. Meanwhile, the wise men approach him with curiosity. How do we approach Jesus? Do we bring gifts or demands, seek blessing or power?

CHURCH BUSINESS

GIFTS TO FUMC

To our Christmas Offering in honor of Tom and Robbie Ausley, given by Dick and Ann Young.

To our Christmas Offering in honor of Clair, True, and Jacyn Cannon, given by Dick and Ann Young

To our Christmas Offering in honor of Taylor and Grace Young, given by Dick and Ann Young.

To our Emergency Assistance Fund in honor of Penny Appleby, given by Judy Rutledge.

To our English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry in honor of Jim Davis, given by Jan Dementri.

To our Ministry Plan in honor of Mary Fay Randolph, given by Bess Gerst.

To our Ministry Plan in honor of Ruth Randolph, given by Bess Gerst.

To our Ministry Plan in memory of Albert and Janice Gore, given by Bess Gerst.

To our Ministry Plan in memory of Maggie Taylor, given by Charles and Margaret Standifer.

To our Ministry Plan in memory of Clark Rector, given by Terry and Maggie Kahn.

To our Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry in memory of George Weldon, given by Olivia Weldon.

To our Reconciling Ministries in memory of Dick Francis, given by Noble and Sharon Doss.

DECEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS

Mobile Loaves & Fishes

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, our Downtown truck 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 the next 365 days. Please give generously as we try to make a difference for our friends living on the streets during 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. For more information, contact Scott Wilder at swilder21@gmail.com or 512-971-152

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Clo Bains; Betty Berkey; Pat Freeman; Cate George and family; Lila Matthys; Andrea Peck; Gris and George Anne Rogers; D. Orval Strong; and Virginia Wattinger.

Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda.

Condolences to Molly Drazic and family on the death of David Bruce Heacock III; to Caroline Jones on the death of Joan Collins; to Terri Purdy on the death of Carla Bischoff; and to George Vanderhule, Jr. on the death of Donald Bond.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Nancy Arnold's father, Allen Arnold; Laurie Barr's sister, Karen, and niece, Emma; Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Reverend Tina Carter; Peggy Davis' friend, Mary Mood; Michael DeVilbiss' friend, Marilyn Leigh; Cheryl Etie's sister, Janice Hansen; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Cindy Gunderson's friends, John, Phyllis, and Ray; Howard Hartman's mother, Annabel Hartman; Marijo Hartman's father, Joe Rector; Cassie Helton's mother, Betty Helton; Mack Hicks' friend, Richard Resham; Judy Kostura's friend, Rick Spencer; Charlotte Lyerly's niece, Tonya Harris; Kelly Mills' mother, Sandra Mills; Riley Nix's grandmother; Andrea Peck for Charlie and Cindy Brown; Delia Peters' mother, Ruby Ybarra; Larry Peters' friends, Tony Johnson and Charles Roper; Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen; Tabatha Stephens' friend, Rachael; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.