



First United  
Methodist Church  
A U S T I N

# FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,  
Making a Difference

NOVEMBER 6, 2016

## THIS SUNDAY

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

### CANDY COLLECTON FOR MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES

Collection Bins . Foyer and Family Life Center

Thank you for your candy donations. If you did not bring your candy to church today, you may bring it next Sunday. You may also bring it to the church office or to the Mobile Loaves & Fishes kitchen in Wesley Hall.

### COLD WEATHER SHELTER TRAINING

10:00 a.m. Murchison Chapel

FUMC is a Tuesday night host for Cold Weather Shelter for Women, a program managed by Front Steps at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless. This training includes safety and logistics, how to treat guests, how to deescalate stressful situations, and signup.

### VISIT OUR SUKKAH

10:00-10:30 a.m. Room 110, Sanctuary Building

The fourth and fifth graders are celebrating the Jewish Holiday of Sukkot. This holiday remembers the 40 years the Hebrew people wandered in the wilderness after their escape from Egypt and celebrates the fall harvest.

### FIRST STEPS CLASS

12:15-2:00 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 this church, fill out the First Steps card clipped to the pew and bring it with you to today's class.

### 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. For more information, see pages 4 and 5.

## Extravagant GENEROSITY

We celebrated Commitment Sunday by prayerfully making our financial commitments and by picnicking together on the Capitol lawn. To date we have received 207 commitments totaling \$1,271,089. Commitments are still coming in, but we have already received 21 new commitments and 90 commitments increased over last year. Together, these new and increased commitments total \$109,738 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:

- Pick up a commitment card in the foyer and drop it in the offering plate;
- Email our Business Administrator, Tom Mays, at [tom@fumcaustin.org](mailto:tom@fumcaustin.org);
- Fill out the commitment form at [www.fumcaustin.org/pledge](http://www.fumcaustin.org/pledge); or
- Go to ChurchLife at [www.fumcaustin.org](http://www.fumcaustin.org) and schedule a reoccurring gift.

Let's continue growing in generosity so that we can embody the Beloved Community of God.

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

## 2016 CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference is the church's yearly business meeting with the District Superintendent where lay leadership is elected, lay servant ministers are approved, and clergy salaries are approved for the coming year. We will also consider Adama Brown for recommendation as a candidate for ordained ministry.

All are welcome to attend Charge Conference and participate in the discussion. The voting members of the Charge Conference are members of the Administrative Board and others as specified by The Book of Discipline.

Lunch is available for \$10. Those who plan to eat are asked to RSVP by 12:00 noon on November 10 at [www.fumcaustin.org/charge](http://www.fumcaustin.org/charge) or contact Marcia Houston at [marcia@fumcaustin.org](mailto:marcia@fumcaustin.org) or 512-478-5684 (ext. 200). Childcare available by emailing [childcare@fumcaustin.org](mailto:childcare@fumcaustin.org).

**NOVEMBER 13, SUNDAY  
12:15 P.M., WESLEY HALL**

## NOVEMBER

### 13 Sunday

Candy Collect for

Mobile Loaves & Fishes

Foyer and Family Life Center

Charge Conference

12:15 p.m.

Wesley Hall

Reception for Bishop Schnase

3:30 p.m.

Oak Hill UMC, 7815 Hwy 290 West

Mother/Son Bowling Night

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Westgate Lanes

### 15 Tuesday

Mercy and Justice Book Study

6:30-7:30 p.m.

La Madeline, 5493 Brodie Lane

### 17 Thursday

Weekday UMW Group

10:00 a.m.

Home of Elizabeth Lerner

### 19 Saturday

Family Hike Day

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Wild Basin Preserve

### 20 Sunday

Advent Resources To Go

Advent Devotionals and Resources

Sanctuary Foyer

Manna Bag Sale

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sidewalk

Vital Conversations on Race and Racism

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday

4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

### 21 Monday

Day of Service at Marbridge

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

[www.fumcaustin.org/marbridge](http://www.fumcaustin.org/marbridge)

### 22 Tuesday

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday

4:45-7:00 a.m.

Family Life Center

### 27 Sunday

Intergenerational Advent Event

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Wesley Hall

## WEEK THIS

|         |                                     |                       |  |
|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 6 Sun   | Music Makers Rehearsal              | 9:00 a.m.             | Room 108, Education Building   |
|         | #SingPraise Rehearsal               | 9:00 a.m.             | Murchison Chapel   |
|         | Cold Weather Shelter Training       | 10:00-10:45 a.m.      | Murchison Chapel   |
|         | Visit Our Sukkah                    | 10:00-10:30 a.m.      | Room 110, Sanctuary Building   |
|         | Sunday School Classes for All Ages  | 10:00 a.m.            | Back of Sign In Book and Website   |
|         | Called Administrative Board Meeting | 12:15 p.m.            | Sanctuary  |
| 7 Mon   | Making Sense of the Bible           | 4:00-5:30 p.m.        | Room 102, Family Life Center   |
|         | English as a Second Language (ESL)  | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Family Life Center   |
| 8 Tue   | Prodigal Sons Men's Group           | 6:30-8:30 p.m.        | Room 103, Family Life Center   |
|         | Feed My People Breakfast            | 4:45-7:00 a.m.        | Great Hall, Family Life Center   |
| 9 Wed   | Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews  | 10:00 a.m.            | <a href="http://fumcaustin.org/submissions">fumcaustin.org/submissions</a> |
|         | Wednesday Morning Bible Study       | 10:00 a.m.            | Room 213, Sanctuary Building   |
|         | Handbell Choir Rehearsal            | 6:00-7:00 p.m.        | Sanctuary Balcony  |
|         | FUMC Choir Rehearsal                | 7:00-8:30 p.m.        | Choir Room, Sanctuary Building   |
| 10 Thur | Feed My People Breakfast            | 4:45-7:00 a.m.        | Great Hall, Family Life Center   |
|         | Feed My People Breakfast Worship    | 6:30 a.m.             | Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center  |
|         | English as a Second Language (ESL)  | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Family Life Center   |
| 11 Fri  | Kids' Night Out                     | 5:30-9:00 p.m.        | Education Building   |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER 11, FRIDAY

#### **Kids' Night Out . 5:30-9:00 p.m. Education Building**

While parents enjoy an 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 at [childcare@fumcaustin.org](mailto:childcare@fumcaustin.org) by November 7.

### NOVEMBER 13, SUNDAY

#### **Mother/Son Bowling Night . 5:00-7:00 p.m. Westgate Lanes**

Moms, save the date for a fellowship-fun night with your son, hosted by our Children's Team. Cost is \$10 per person, which includes shoe rentals and a lane. Go to [www.fumcaustin.org/bowling](http://www.fumcaustin.org/bowling) and RSVP for your spot.

#### **Reception for Bishop Schnase . 3:30 p.m. Oak Hill UMC**

All are welcome to an Austin area welcome reception for Bishop Robert Schnase, and his wife, Esther. There will be a short meet-and-greet followed by an informal welcome ceremony where the bishop will share his vision for our work as a conference.

### NOVEMBER 17, THURSDAYS

#### **Weekday UMW Group . 10:00 a.m. Home of Elizabeth Lerner**

If you are interested in finding out about the United Methodist Women Joy Circle, which meets the third Thursday each month, come to the November meeting. To RSVP, for directions, or for more information, contact Elizabeth at [earendlerner@yahoo.com](mailto:earendlerner@yahoo.com) or 512-328-0545.

### NOVEMBER 19, SATURDAY

#### **Family Hike Day . 9:00-11:00 a.m. Wild Basin Preserve**

Our Children's Ministries Team is hosting a Family Hike Day. Come join us for this fellowship and fun! Wild Basin Preserve is great for little and big hikers, alike.

### NOVEMBER 20, SUNDAY

#### **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. On November 20, we will 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.

### NOVEMBER 21, MONDAY

#### **Service Day at Marbridge . 9:00-11:00 a.m. 2310 Bliss Spillar Road**

Come interact with residents by playing games, making crafts, and other activities planned by the staff of Marbridge, a non-profit residential community that offers transitional and lifetime care to adults with a wide range of cognitive abilities. Sign up is required at [www.fumcaustin.org/marbridge](http://www.fumcaustin.org/marbridge).

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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

### THOUGHTS FROM THE

### TUESDAY/THURSDAY BREAKFAST

#### **By Randy Teich**

*Looking behind the labels, Randy Teich offers us a different way of seeing each other when we look through the eyes of faith in action.*

There are many truths in our society's perception of our homeless and near homeless populations. Many suffer from alcohol and drug addiction. Many have mental illness. Many have not held a steady job during the last 10 years. Many have served time in our prison systems. Of course these same traits can be found in our more affluent and housed populations.

There are other traits that are commonly found in Austin's homeless population. Many are students in our schools, trying to learn while experiencing frightening uncertainties. Many work one or more low paying jobs, working odd hours which makes sharing time with loved ones difficult. Many have job related injuries that prevent them from working. Most have lots of free time with few options to fill that time productively. Most have families who cannot afford to help them. None of these traits help in the development of self-esteem. Many homeless have a college education. Many talk to the police when they see a crime and they see more than most because they are on the streets.

The volunteer leaders at the Feed My People breakfast encourage guests to help keep the FUMC property clean. Most of our guests applaud our announcements and comment on those who do not cooperate. A few guests receive stipends for sweeping, mopping, cleaning outside our building and the bathrooms. They appreciate the opportunity to make a difference for us.

The truth is: homeless and near homeless aren't that different from us.

# HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH AT FUMC

## NOVEMBER 20, SUNDAY Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Sunday

Pastor Cathy Stone will preach on these issues in worship.

## NOVEMBER 20, SUNDAY Manna Bag Sale

Our fourth and fifth graders show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. These bags are filled with a nutritious meal, a new pair of socks, and a note asking for God's blessing on the recipient. You can purchase a bag for \$5, with proceeds going to purchase more supplies.

## Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday

Teams prepare sandwiches in our kitchen and take them to hungry people in Austin. Each third Sunday, we have a team open to first-timers of all ages to give this ministry a try. Volunteers may serve on the Make-Ready Team (4:00 to 5:00 p.m.), the Truck Team (5:00 to 6:30 p.m.), or both! Sign up on our website.

## NOVEMBER 22, TUESDAY Feed My People Breakfast

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.

## WHEN NEEDED Cold Weather Shelter for Women

During the winter months, First Church provides shelter for up to 25 women on Tuesday nights 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 our guests, provide/serve dinner, and act as overnight hosts. Sign up on our website.

## 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 families moving toward stability.

We are collecting some of their most needed items throughout November:

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

Donations may be left in the collection bins located in the foyers of the chapel, sanctuary, and Family Life Center.

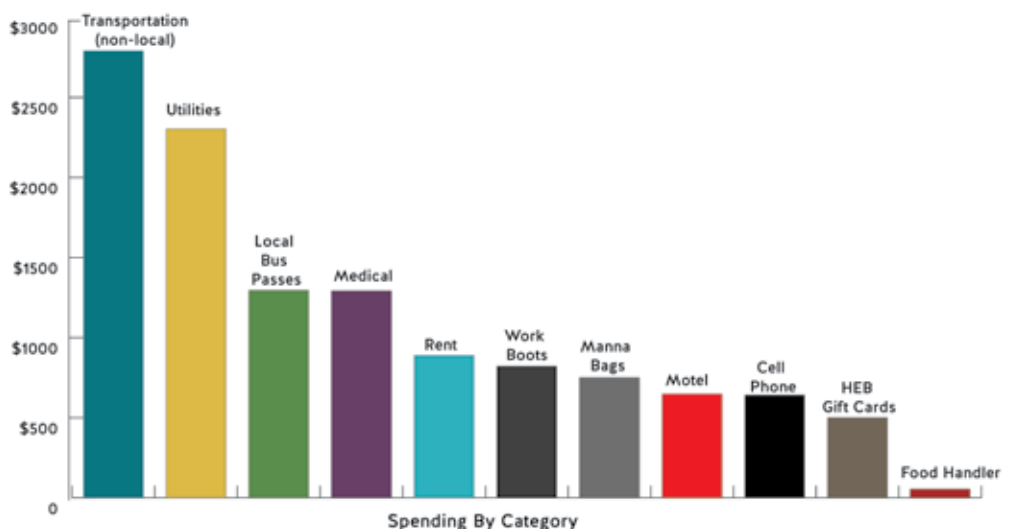
## MISSION EMPHASIS: EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

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.

Because of the generosity of this congregation, our Care Coordinator has been able to meet, talk, and walk with people in need. Your giving has enabled us to: provide a few nights of safe shelter to a woman and her children when SafePlace was full; provide the opportunity for multiple individuals to take the Texas Food Handler test and receive a certificate needed to start a job; provide work boots and/or work pants, which are required to begin many jobs; and assist with prescriptions, rent, utilities, and other needs that have made a true difference in the struggles of so many.

We need your help replenishing this fund for 2017. Gifts may be left at the communion rail, dropped in the offering plate any time during November, or mailed to or brought by the church office.

Here is how your donations to this fund were used January-October 2016:



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## HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK IN AUSTIN

### NOVEMBER 12-20

#### Diaper Drive for the Salvation Army Shelter for Women and Children

Homelessness is not always what you think. Seventy-three percent of those sheltered by The Salvation Army last year were women and children. Salvation Army is seeing an increase in the number of very young children and babies with their families in emergency shelter. Your donation of diapers helps ensure that each child and each family has the resources and care they need while in shelter. Sizes most needed are diaper sizes 3 and 4 and pull-ups of any size. Diapers may be delivered to the Downtown Shelter at 501 East 8th Street; Austin Shelter for Women and Children at 4523 Tannehill Lane; and The Salvation Army Austin Area Command at 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 231 (in the BBVA Compass Bank Building).

### NOVEMBER 12, SATURDAY

#### Positive Sounds. 5:00-10:00 p.m. Independence Brewing

Come join Project Transitions for an evening of artists and musicians sharing life stories celebrating PT and those living with HIV/AIDS. A \$5 suggested donation at the door or an item from our wish list ([www.projecttransitions.org/wish-list](http://www.projecttransitions.org/wish-list)) is appreciated. For more information, contact Blythe Plunkett at [bplunkett@projecttransitions.org](mailto:bplunkett@projecttransitions.org) or go to [www.projecttransitions.org](http://www.projecttransitions.org).

### NOVEMBER 13, SUNDAY

#### 24th Annual House the Homeless Memorial Sunrise Service . 6:57 a.m. Auditorium Shores at Butler Park

House the Homeless offers the 24th Homeless Memorial Sunrise Service as an opportunity for community members to honor the men, women, and children who died in Austin over the past year. First Baptist Church Pastor Griff Martin is this year's keynote speaker. The service begins at sunrise and takes place 75 yards east of the Stevie Ray Vaughn statue and 75 yards west of the Fannie Davis Gazebo. A breakfast reception will follow at the Fannie Davis Gazebo. For more information, contact Blythe Plunkett at [blytheplunkett@aol.com](mailto:blytheplunkett@aol.com) or go to <http://www.housethehomeless.org/>.

#### Red, White, and Blues 512 . 4:00-8:00 p.m. Stubbs Waller Creek Ampitheater

Join us for House Our Heroes, a blues music festival presented by Red, White, and Blues 512 to raise awareness and funds for Austin's homeless Veterans. The men and women who have served our country and fought for our freedom should never find themselves homeless. Under the leadership of Mayor Adler and Ending Community Homelessness Organization, and through the unified teamwork of the public, nonprofit, and private sectors of our community who are dedicated to working together, Austin has been able to achieve great progress in helping our homeless veterans find their way off of the streets and into a place they can call home. This collaboration of community partners has built the infrastructures that can ensure any identified homeless veterans in Austin will be placed in permanent housing quickly and efficiently, and then given the support services needed to allow our veterans to live sustainable lives. For tickets and more information, go to [www.redwhiteandblues512.com](http://www.redwhiteandblues512.com).

### NOVEMBER 15, TUESDAY

#### A Community Approach to Tackling Homelessness . 7:30-10:00 a.m. Crail Hall, St. David's Episcopal Church

We invite you to participate in a special interactive community forum at the fall meeting of Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) Fall meeting. Join elected officials and key community leaders to provide your input to how we can better address homelessness. Presenters and facilitators include representatives from Downtown Austin Alliance, ECHO, the City of Austin Innovation Office, and Upstream, a local social innovation consultancy. 7:30-8:00 a.m. Breakfast and 8:00-10:00 a.m. Interactive Forum. This event is free and open to the public. If you plan to attend, RSVP to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-community-approach-to-tackling-homelessness-tickets-29029864105?aff=efbreg>.

### NOVEMBER 17, THURSDAY

#### Humanize Me . 5:30-8:00 p.m. The Mohawk, 912 Red River Street

Humanize Me is passionate about changing the public's perception of the homeless community. By featuring photographs and stories of members of Austin's homeless community, Humanize Me hopes to put a face to this diverse population. Come celebrate the Second Annual Awareness Event and support this cause and the brave individuals willing to share their stories with us! Music provided by Zula Montez and Sons of Santos, along with guest speaker, Roland W. For more information, contact Casey Cork at [caseycork@austinecho.org](mailto:caseycork@austinecho.org) or go to [www.facebook.com/HumanizeMeAustin](http://www.facebook.com/HumanizeMeAustin).

### NOVEMBER 19 AND 20, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

#### Art From the Streets: 24th Annual Show and Sale . 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Austin Convention Center

Art From the Streets is a free and open studio in Austin that serves the homeless community. It was founded in 1991 to provide a safe and encouraging space for the positive spirit of artistic expression of those who need it most. For the past 23 years AFTS has been a place for creating amazing works while providing insight into the human beings who brought them to life. Original pieces are sold online and at their annual Show and Sale, with proceeds going to the artists. To learn about the artists and to get more information, go to [www.artfromthestreets.org](http://www.artfromthestreets.org).

# Advent WONDER

*Advent is a season of possibility...  
a season of wonder in which we are awake  
and aware of the darkness in which we live,  
but on the lookout for a glimpse of hope.*

**NOVEMBER 27, SUNDAY**  
**Intergenerational Advent Event**  
9:45-10:45 a.m., Wesley Hall

**DECEMBER 3, SATURDAY**  
**Decorating and Holiday Stroll**  
4:00 p.m., Wesley Hall

**DECEMBER 4, 11, AND 18, SUNDAYS**  
**Advent Sunday School Series**  
10:00 a.m., Wesley Hall

**DECEMBER 10, SATURDAY**  
**Kids Day Out**  
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., FUMC

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

**DECEMBER 11, SUNDAY**  
**Lessons and Carols**  
9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

**DECEMBER 18, SUNDAY**  
**Children and Youth Choirs Present**  
**"Messiah for Young Voices"**  
9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

**DECEMBER 25, SUNDAY**  
**Christmas Day Service**  
11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
No Sunday School

**DECEMBER 21, WEDNESDAY**  
**Blue Christmas Service**  
7:00 p.m., Murchison Chapel

**DECEMBER 24, SATURDAY**  
**Christmas Eve Breakfast**  
6:30 a.m., Great Hall

**Christmas Eve Breakfast Service**  
8:00 a.m., Garrison Chapel

**Christmas Eve Noon Service**  
12:15 p.m., Murchison Chapel

**Christmas Eve Family Service**  
4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Services**  
8:00 and 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary

*Experience the Wonder of Christmas with Us*

## ADVENT WONDER OPPORTUNITIES

### NOVEMBER 20, SUNDAY

#### Advent Resources To Go

Beginning today, Advent devotionals and “Advent To-Go” boxes designed for families with children and youth will be available in the foyer.

### NOVEMBER 27, SUNDAY

#### 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 with people of all ages in new and fun ways. Pre-registration requested online at [fumcaustin.org/adventworkshop](http://fumcaustin.org/adventworkshop).

### DECEMBER 3, SATURDAY

#### Decorating and Holiday Stroll . 4:00 p.m. Wesley Hall

Kick off your 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. Shifts run between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. Sign up on our website.

### DECEMBER 4, 11, & 18, SUNDAYS

#### Advent Sunday School Series . 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.

### 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 [childcarefumc@yahoo.com](mailto:childcarefumc@yahoo.com) 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 11, SUNDAY

#### Lessons and Carols Services . 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

As we await the great festival of Christmas, this Sunday morning service helps us to prepare to receive its true meaning. With the rhythm of alternating scripture readings, music, and prayers, we are guided to see the light that is coming into the world—and into our hearts. Music will include a mix of Advent hymns and anthems offered by our musicians. Musical leadership is provided by an ensemble of singers and instruments at 9:00 a.m. and the FUMC Choir at 11:00 a.m.

### DECEMBER 18, SUNDAY

#### Messiah for Young Voices . 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

Come be blessed by our children and youth choirs singing this wonderful classic piece. All children are welcome to join in this telling of the advent story.

### DECEMBER 21, WEDNESDAY

#### Blue Christmas Service . 7:00 p.m. Murchison Chapel

How come I don’t feel it? In the midst of the wonder and expectation of Advent, many of us might feel out of step with the joy and excitement of Christmas. Some of us have lost loved ones or face the “happy” holidays feeling blue with grief or depression. Come to this special worship service on the “longest night” to acknowledge our grief and longing for hope.

### DECEMBER 24, SATURDAY

#### Christmas Eve

##### Breakfast

##### 6:30 a.m., Great Hall

This year’s breakfast will be held from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Our guests will enjoy coffee upstairs with Christmas music beginning at 6:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m., and a worship service will begin at 8:00 a.m. in the Garrison Chapel. Many in our church family have made this a significant part of their Christmas season. Sign up on our website.

##### Christmas Eve

##### Breakfast Service

##### 8:00 a.m., Garrison Chapel

A service that is interactive and reflective on the Christmas message. It is a time of fellowship, music, and prayer with our guests and each other.

##### Christmas Eve

##### Noon Service

##### 12:15 p.m., Murchison Chapel

We will sing and pray our thanksgiving to God for the birth of Jesus. This service is for those who do not want to drive at night and for those whose plans make it impossible to participate in our later services.

##### Christmas Eve

##### Family Service

##### 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

For the young and young at heart, this 45 minute service is a wonderful way for families with young children to worship together and enjoy the holiness and excitement of the Christ child’s arrival.

##### Christmas Eve

##### Candlelight Services

##### 8:00 and 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary

These traditional services will feature carols, choral offerings, scripture, Holy Communion, and candle lighting to celebrate Christ’s birth.

### DECEMBER 25, SUNDAY

#### Christmas Day Service

##### 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Come celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas morning with your First Church family. Kids are welcome in their pajamas and we will have a casual, come-as-you-are service, complete with all the carols you can muster! With one service at 11am, it’s a great way to begin the twelve days of Christmas.

# What We Believe

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

*We believe that each human being 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 13**  
**Hunger and Homelessness Awareness**  
Cathy Stone, Preaching



**November 20**  
**Christ the King Sunday**  
Taylor Fuerst, Preaching



**November 27**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
Taylor Fuerst, Preaching

## PRAYER

**WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION**  
Congratulations to Bill and Shirley Derryberry on the birth of great-niece, Penelope Rose, and to Josh and Carrie Houston on the birth of their daughter, Ella Elizabeth.  
Health: Betty Berkey; Adama Brown; Arnold and Ruth Buss; Cate George and family; Ivan and Glenna Marks; Andrea Peck and Wilton Stone.  
Condolences to the families and friends of Lloyd Gorney and Jinks Rector on their deaths.  
Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda.

**BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION**  
Laurie Barr's sister, Karen, and niece, Emma; Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Reverend Tina Carter; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Cindy Gunderson's friend, Ray; Howard Hartman's mother, Annabel Hartman; Cassie Helton's mother, Betty Helton; Judy Kostura's friend, Joanne Crawford; 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

### REMINDER

We are not accepting donations for the FreeStore at this time.

### GIFTS TO FUMC

•To our Ministry Plan in memory of Louise Bettis, given by Rex and Janice Carey.

•To our Knit Wits in memory of Mary Mullinax, given by Tom and Fay Brown.

### CONSTRUCTION OF NEW WELCOME CENTER

Please pardon our mess beginning early November through early December as we begin 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.

### WHAT IS CHURCH LIFE?

*Church Life* is a secure cloud-based church management software system that allows members to access the church calendar, review their contact information, schedule one-time or recurring giving, view giving history and pledge commitment, and access a church directory. *Church Life* is also available in a mobile app so you can have this information at your fingertips. To sign up, go to [fumcaustin.org/churchlife](http://fumcaustin.org/churchlife) and click "Need a login?"

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 24, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will reopen on Monday, November 28, at 9:00 a.m. Have a safe and blessed holiday. Our pastors are on call during holidays. Call 512-478-5684, press 213, and leave a message for a return call.

### STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministers care for people dealing with convalescence, divorce, financial struggles, grief, hospitalization, job loss, loneliness, terminal illness, and other life difficulties. If you are dealing with some type of crisis or difficulty in life, email [stephenministry@fumcaustin.org](mailto:stephenministry@fumcaustin.org) and ask about speaking with a Stephen Minister. All contacts are completely confidential.

### RECEIVING FUMC ENEWS?

Church news and events are published weekly in both our printed FUMC Weekly and digital FUMC eNews. It is easy to sign up for FUMC eNews at [www.fumcaustin.org/emailsingup](http://www.fumcaustin.org/emailsingup) where you have the option to subscribe to our FUMC eNews and/or our Family Updates for families with children (infants-11 years).