



First United
Methodist Church
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

DECEMBER 3, 2017

THIS SUNDAY

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

SOCK COLLECTION

Foyer and Family Life Center

Place sock donations for our Christmas Breakfast for the Homeless in the collection bins. We are collecting socks through December 17.

ADVENT STUDY: LISTENING WITH HOPE

10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

Moving toward the longest night of the year, the light diminishes and we enter the season of waiting. We must listen in the darkness as we hope for a sign of the returning light and joy. Join Pastor Cathy Stone and Amy Wink in exploring the season of Advent through song and conversation as we listen with hope for the sounds of God with us.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER STUDY

12:15-2:00 p.m. Room 212, Sanctuary Building

Does the holiday season leave you frazzled and longing for some quiet space to connect with God's Spirit? Come learn about and "practice" contemplative prayer and explore Richard Rohr's *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer*. This study is led by Reverend Mimi Raper, retired clergy and former associate pastor at FUMC.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Lydia Patterson Institute

Each year we remember that Advent is a season of anticipation. We anticipate the coming celebration of Christ's birth, and we anticipate Christ's return—the time when God will restore all things through God's own loving presence. In Christmas, we remember that God chooses to be with us, and that God's presence truly changes lives. We get to join God in changing lives each year through our Christmas Offering. This year, led by Bishop Robert Schnase and joining with the Rio Texas Conference, we have chosen to change the lives of young people in one of the poorest regions of our state by giving to the Lydia Patterson Institute (LPI). Your gifts, marked "Christmas Offering," may be left at the communion rail, dropped in the offering plate, mailed to or brought by the church office, made online at fumcaustin.org/christmasoffering, or text FUMCAUSTIN to 73256.

SIGN UP FOR "WE ARE BLOOD" DONATION DRIVE



Blood donations have long been considered one of the easiest volunteer actions a person could make. Where else can you lay back for a few minutes and make a huge difference for others 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.

Schedule an appointment at fumcaustin.org/blood or call Craig at 512-206-1316.

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
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

DECEMBER

10 Sunday

Weekly Worship Services

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

"We Are Blood" Donation Drive

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Advent Study: Listening with Hope

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Audio/Visual Team Meeting

12:15 p.m.

Sanctuary Balcony

Contemplative Prayer Study

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Room 212, Sanctuary Building

Advent Study: Listening with Hope

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Children's Choir Presentation

10:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Contemplative Prayer Study

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Room 212, Sanctuary Building

21 Thursday

Church Office Closes for

Christmas Holiday

1:00 p.m.

Blue Christmas Service

7:00 p.m.

Murchison Chapel

26 Tuesday

Christmas Breakfast for the Homeless

6:30 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

27 Wednesday

End of Year Giving Hours

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Ring bell at preschool entrance

28 Thursday

End of Year Giving Hours

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Ring bell at preschool entrance

16 Saturday

Christmas Caroling at Brookdale

1:00 p.m.

4401 Spicewood Springs

Lynching Remembrance Project

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Wesley UMC, 1164 San Bernard Street

24 Sunday

Christmas Eve Morning Service

11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Family Service

4:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

8:00 and 11:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

29 Friday

End of Year Giving Hours

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Ring bell at preschool entrance

31 Sunday

Service Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

17 Sunday

Chapel Service

9:00 a.m.

Murchison Chapel

Carols and Lullabies of the Southwest

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

25-1 Monday-Monday

Church Office Closed for

Christmas Holiday

Reopen on January 2

K
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3 Sun

Advent Study: Listening with Hope

10:00 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Sunday School Classes for All Ages

10:00 a.m.

Various Locations

Children's Choir Rehearsal

12:15 p.m.

Choir Room, Sanctuary Building

Contemplative Prayer Study

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Room 212, Sanctuary Building

Engage for Youth

4:30-7:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

4 Mon

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

6 Wed

Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews

10:00 a.m.

fumcaustin.org/submissions

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Room 213, Sanctuary Building

Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:15-7:15 p.m.

Sanctuary Balcony

FUMC Choir Rehearsal

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Choir Room, Sanctuary Building

7 Thur

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

Order Deadline for Poinsettia Sale

3:00 p.m.

tami@fumcaustin.org

9 Sat

Kids Day Out

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

Children's Wing

Community First! Village of Lights

5:00-9:00 p.m.

9301 Hog Eye Road

UPCOMING EVENTS

ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

DECEMBER 9, SATURDAY

Kid's Day Out
Community First! Village of Lights

DECEMBER 10, SUNDAY

Cookie Collection Begins for Christmas Breakfast

DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY

Christmas Caroling at Brookdale

DECEMBER 17, SUNDAY

Carols and Lullabies of the Southwest
Children's Choir Present: Come to the Manger
Youth Engage: Christmas Party

For more about these and other Advent opportunities, see the insert.

NOW - DECEMBER 10

Book Drive and Sale for Pickle Elementary School

As you are cleaning or doing 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 work at the Book Sale on December 15. Sign up online at fumcaustin.org/pickle.

DECEMBER 9, SATURDAY

Kids Day Out . 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Education Building

While parents enjoy a morning out, children play, eat pizza, make holiday crafts and gingerbread houses, 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 at childcare@fumcaustin.org no later than December 6.

DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY

Lynching Remembrance Project . 1:00-3:00 p.m. Wesley UMC

Lynching Remembrance Project for Travis County will hold an unveiling of a historical marker and a Ceremony as a part of a larger Remembrance Project sponsored by the Equal Justice Initiative. This marker honors the unnamed victims of racial terror lynchings here in Travis County and acknowledges the horrors of racial injustice, the awareness of their legacy, and begins the necessary conversation to confront the ongoing challenges of racial inequality. The ceremony includes music, speakers, and a presentation of the winners of a high school essay contest. A reception will follow.

DECEMBER 31, SUNDAY

Service Sunday . 10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

Let us end the year caring for our neighbors! All ages and stages are invited to gather for conversation and projects that will make a difference in the world.

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

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

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...

AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM

Help lead worship by serving on this team. Learn how to run the slide presentation and sound for worship. Familiarity with PowerPoint and experience with sound systems or setting up microphones is helpful. We will teach you. Come for training on Sunday, December 10, at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary Balcony. Email Kim Block at kpblock@austin.rr.com to RSVP or for more information.



CHURCH OFFICE

Data Entry

Duties for this position require coming in once a week either on Tuesdays or Wednesdays for 1 to 1 ½ hours.

Front Desk Receptionist

Duties for this position include answering the phone, greeting members and clients to make them feel welcome, providing information, and some light office work. We are looking for someone who is friendly and approachable. Shifts are Monday-Wednesday from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00-5:00 p.m. and Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering in the church office, contact Marcia Houston at marcia@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 200) or Laurie Barr at laurie@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 202).



CIVILIAN AV TEAM

Calling all tech savvy adults, youth, and children - or those who want to learn - to join this team. We want to capture more fun, short videos and vines of the people and happenings of our church. We can train you to use iMovie and then set you free to document FUMC. Flexible time requirement. Interested? Contact Mary Heckmann at mary@fumcaustin.org.

CHURCH NEWS

FUMC ENDOWMENT FUND

- In memory of Gwen Becker, given by Ken and Susan Hensley.

GIFTS TO FUMC

- To our Mercy & Justice Ministry Team in memory of Gwen Becker, given by Sally Watkins.
- To our Mercy & Justice Ministry Team in memory of Laura Hathaway, given by Sally Watkins.

FEED MY PEOPLE

THANK YOU

Many thanks to those who bought and prepared food and set up and cleaned up for the Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast on November 28: Sharon Doss; Judy Funke; Charles Harrison; Julie Nelson; David Nicastro; Ann Teich; Randy Teich; and Cecily Wright. Judy Funke also provided a sewing ministry for our guests.

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Congratulations: to Josh and Doise Miers on the birth of their son, Joseph Delcamere Miers.

Health: Bill and Jerry Berger; Debbie Block; David Bonner; Michael Crowe; Karen Flournoy; Tom and Pam Jackson; Gene and Charlotte Lyerly; Connie Payne; Andrea Peck; Ruth Randolph; Gris and George Anne Rogers; Anna Sneed; Irma Dean Soward; and Bill Thurman.

Condolences: to Connie Payne on the death of her stepmother, Rosetta Bellinghausen.

Other: Pastors and Deacons.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Reverend Tina Carter; Robbie Cripe's brother-in-law, Terry Proctor; Molly Drazic's cousin, Dorothy Butler; Bennett and Meisa Ezekiel's friend, Dev Reddy; George and Marianne Gaston's daughter, Robyn Riojas; Cindy Gunderson's father; Sammy Huffaker's friends, the Graves family; Ron Hall; Caroline Jones' friends, the Nina Toosi family; Mary Ann Nations' friends, Sharron Bailey, Maureen Guerke, and Val Sundell; Angee Navarro's brother, Jeff Hartsfield; Margaret McNeil's friends, the Don Lilljedahl family; Jan Morris' parents, Lane and Marian Moore; Donald John Popp; Karen Roe's uncle, Norman Roe; Justin and Erin Scarth's friend, Lisa Whatley; Alan Stephens' father, Carl Stephens; Ann Venno's niece, Stacy Workman; Kevin Waggoner's brother-in-law, Mike Gerber; Amy Wink's brother and sister-in-law, Marc and Dulcie Wink; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

END OF YEAR

GIVING REMINDER

Our church office will be closed December 22-January 1, but Tom Mays and Laurie Barr are available to accept year-end gifts on December 26, 27, and 28 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and on December 29 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ring the bell at the preschool entrance to let them know you are in the parking lot.

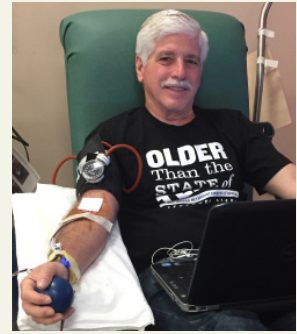
Please note that IRS regulations require that contributions for 2017 must be mailed and postmarked no later than December 31, 2017.

Contributions received on January 1 or in the mail and postmarked in 2018 will be considered 2018 gifts regardless.

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 10. There will be recipients who will forever be thankful for your gift.