**Summer Days of Service**

United Methodists believe each of us is called to participate in the outreaching ministry of Jesus Christ. John Wesley described this work in simple, practical terms: “Do all the good you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can.” Here are ways you can do good, in a variety of places, with many different people this summer. All are family friendly, except when otherwise noted. Sign up is required for all events at fumcaustin.org/summer.

**JULY**

**JULY 19** 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
**Vacation Bible School (VBS) Workday**  
Help us transform our Sanctuary and hallways for VBS: Mars and Beyond! We gather to paint, cut, and assemble decorations. Whether or not you consider yourself creative, we have a job for you! Childcare available.

**JULY 20** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
**Vacation Bible School (VBS) Workday**  
Help us transform our Sanctuary and hallways for VBS: Mars and Beyond! We gather to paint, cut, and assemble decorations. Whether or not you consider yourself creative, we have a job for you! Childcare available.

**JULY 21** 4:00-6:30 p.m.  
**Mobile Loaves & Fishes (MLF) 3rd Sunday**  
MLF serves daily, but this monthly third Sunday is for first-time families and individuals who want to try face-to-face service with experienced volunteers.

**JULY 23** 4:45-7:00 a.m.  
**Feed My People 4th Tuesday Breakfast (Adults, College, Youth)**  
FUMC serves at this twice weekly breakfast on the 4th Tuesday. Prepare and serve breakfast to 300 of our homeless neighbors working in shifts starting at 4:45 a.m. and ending by 7:00 a.m. Without our regular supply of UT student volunteers, we need extra help during the summer. Training provided.

**JULY 26** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
**Vacation Bible School (VBS) Workday**  
Help take down decorations from VBS. Childcare provided and we will to lunch at Central Market on Lamar and 38th Street afterwards.

**AUGUST**

**AUGUST 7** 8:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
**Caritas Community Kitchen**  
FUMC adults and youth (12+) are invited to serve in the Community Kitchen at Caritas.

**AUGUST 18** 4:00-6:30 p.m.  
**Mobile Loaves & Fishes (MLF) 3rd Sunday**  
MLF serves daily, but this monthly third Sunday is for first-time families and individuals who want to try face-to-face service with experienced volunteers.

**AUGUST 27** 4:45-7:00 a.m.  
**Feed My People 4th Tuesday Breakfast (Adults, College, Youth)**  
FUMC serves at this twice weekly breakfast on the 4th Tuesday. Prepare and serve breakfast to 300 of our homeless neighbors working in shifts starting at 4:45 a.m. and ending by 7:00 a.m. Without our regular supply of UT student volunteers, we need extra help during the summer. Training provided.

**MERCY & JUSTICE 5TH SUNDAY PRESENTATION**  
10:00 a.m.  
**San Wesley Hall**  
We welcome Judith Knotts as our speaker. Dr. Knotts is an educator, consultant, and author who has delved deep into the world of homelessness in Austin. Her book, *You Are My Brother: Lessons Learned Embracing a Homeless Community,* is a collection of true stories about her encounters with homeless people and the lessons she learned from them. Join us as Dr. Knotts shares her wisdom and experiences with us.

**JUNE MISSION EMPHASIS: JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS**

**JUNE 30**

**9:00 and 11:00 a.m.**  
**Sanctuary**  
Moved by Christ’s love to pursue reconciliation and peace, The United Methodist Church honors the dignity of every individual made in God’s image and is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice. This offering supports the peace and justice work of Austin Region Justice for Our Neighbors (ARJON), a United Methodist-affiliated immigration ministry that welcomes refugees and immigrants into our communities by providing free, high-quality immigration legal services, education, and advocacy. A part of this nationwide effort, ARJON hosts regular legal clinics to provide affordable immigration legal services to those with limited income. ARJON’s services are focused on family-based and humanitarian immigration law. Monetary donations may be left at our communion rail or mailed to our church office. Postcards can be sent to or brought by the church office during the month of June.

**RECOGNITION**

**JULY 14**  
**San Wesley Hall**  
On July 14, will recognize members and visitors who have retired this past year. If you would like to recognize someone, email Dick Young at ryoung@ustin.rr.com with their name, retirement date, and organization name by Sunday, July 7.

**9:00 and 11:00 a.m.**  
**Sanctuary**  
Retirement is a relatively recent phenomenon in human history. Life expectancy used to be so short that most workers didn’t quit work until they died. And without a reliable pension system, retirement was a luxury reserved for the wealthy until almost the 20th Century. Things are much different now, and retirement is widely accepted as the norm.

**FUMCAUSTIN.ORG**

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.
Help by purchasing items from our Amazon wish list at fumcaustin.org/vbs.

Help by doing take-home/ work-from-home VBS projects. Fun the family can enjoy inside on a hot day! You can find these projects outside EDU Room 108.

Help by donating the following supplies (travel size except if noted otherwise) so our campers can create 200 hygiene kits for our Feed My People Breakfast guests:
- comb - full size
- deodorant - full size
- food coloring (all colors)
- lip balm
- lotion
- razor
- shampoo
- soap - full size
- toothbrush
- toothpaste
- wood beads (at Michaels)
- paint brushes
- paper clips
- silver glitter
- toothpicks
- wood beads (at Michaels)

Thank you for helping make VBS a huge success. All projects and donation items can be left outside EDU Room 108.

Volunteers Needed

**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.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00-5:00 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).

Greeters and Ushers
Want to be a greeter or usher? Join our team that continues to make FUMC one of the most welcoming congregations in Austin. Serving as an usher or greeter is an excellent opportunity to meet other members, make new friends, and welcome visitors to FUMC. Your commitment would only be one Sunday a month at either the 9:00 or 11:00 a.m. worship service from July-December, 2019. If you are interested, contact Richard Bettis by calling 512-543-2361, emailing richard.bettis44@gmail.com, or texting 512-657-7641. He will send you all of the information. Won’t you please consider joining us? We guarantee you will find it most rewarding.

Sunday School Teachers
Prayerfully consider how you can support our children and youth. We offer regular teachers the summer off, which gives parents and other members a wonderful opportunity to teach and build relationships with these young disciples. Curriculum is provided and classrooms are prepared. Caution: the more you serve, the more fun you have! Sign up at fumcaustin.org/teachers.

Vacation Bible School
For a safe and fun VBS, we need over 50 adult and youth volunteers! To sign up, you will first need to fill out a one-time profile form in our volunteer management platform at fumcaustin.org/vsp. Once submitted, you will receive a login and then you can view available job opportunities. You volunteers! To sign up, you will first need to fill out a one-time profile form in our volunteer management platform at fumcaustin.org/vsp. Once submitted, you will receive a login and then you can view available job opportunities. You have already created your profile, you can access it at fumcaustin.org/vhsupplies.
PRAYER
WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION
Stephanie Benold, Sandy Bowles; Gussie Fallon; Reverend Earle Lewis; Kathy Morales; Keely Nugent; Mari Perez; Jo Sanders; Weldon Wink; and Dan Wood.

Remembrance
Ava Buchanan in remembrance of her great-grandmother, Betsy, in heaven.

CHURCH NEWS
GIFTS TO FUMC
• To our Ministry Plan in memory of Bob Tyndall, given by Tom and Robbie Ausley.
• To our Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry in honor of Denise Foster, given by Curtis and Mary Higgs.
• To our Pastor’s Fund in memory of Reverend Earle Lewis’ sister, Mary Best, given by Sally Watkins.
• To our Pickle Elementary School Book Fund in memory of Robert Tyndall, given by Jan Tyndall and Sally Watkins.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
The church office will be closed on Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. We will reopen on Monday, July 8, at 9:00 a.m. Have a safe and blessed holiday! Our pastors are on call during holidays. Please call 512-478-5684, press 213, and leave a message for a return call.

SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS
Honor someone you love and appreciate, remember a departed loved one, or celebrate special days or events in your life or the life of the church. The arrangement cost is $65 and the available dates for the rest of the year are July 14 and 28; August 11; September 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; October 6, 13, 20, and 27; November 10, 17, and 24; and December 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. To sign up, contact Tami Bellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

SEPTEMBER 8, SUNDAY
12:15 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
Are you interested in joining FUMC?
Prior to joining, we ask all to come to this class to learn about United Methodist beliefs and the ministry of FUMC, meet the pastors and other members, and ask questions. To sign up, fill out the Connections Card and place it in the offering plate, go online at fumcaustin.org/firststeps, or email Trevor Harper at trevor@fumcaustin.org.

BAPTISM
Catherine Neeley Cardwell, daughter of Chase and Jessica Cardwell, was baptized into Christian discipleship on June 23.

MARRIAGE EQUALITY RESOLUTION CHURCHWIDE VOTE
The congregation will vote on the marriage equality resolution on the right. July 14, 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary Main Floor

STATEMENT FROM THE PASTORS
Over the last two months, the “Moving Forward” Task Force has developed a resolution to welcome all couples for marriage at FUMC. On Sunday, May 19, the Administrative Board unanimously recommended the resolution to the congregation for a churchwide vote.

When FUMC took on a marriage discernment process in 2017, we were hopeful that a policy change would come through the work of the Commission on the Way Forward and the called session of General Conference in February 2019; we thought it was only a matter of time, and so we supported a policy that would treat all couples equally without violating The Book of Discipline.

We remained hopeful for change in the denomination; while the One Church Plan did not match our full hopes for an inclusive church, it was a significant step in the right direction that would have allowed us to proceed with the ministry of weddings for all couples.

Unfortunately, the One Church Plan failed, and the Traditional Plan passed at General Conference in February. The Traditional Plan is meant to use draconian enforcement to discourage clergy from violating church rules against same-sex marriage; instead, it has served to clarify our call to stand up for what we believe is right, even—especially—in the face of that enforcement. For the clergy at FUMC, this moment in our denominational life has helped us identify our privilege: we serve a congregation that supports full inclusion, where we can proclaim loud and clear that God calls us to celebrate the marriages and ministries of LGBTQ people. It is incumbent on us to use our privilege to create change, even though it comes with risk. The risk to us pales in comparison to the harm that the church has inflicted upon generations of LGBTQ persons.

As we move forward, a few points of clarity: First, the passage of a resolution is the work of the congregation; not the Pastors. This resolution marks the commitment of FUMC to provide space and support for all weddings; it does not bind the Pastors to perform all weddings. Because of this, the resolution itself does not violate The Book of Discipline. If the pastors choose to allow or perform a same-sex wedding, we could face a complaint that could lead to charges. Those charges will be a result of our decision to allow/perform the wedding, not a result of FUMC’s resolution. We understand this risk and its potential consequences, but we believe it is time to face those head-on.

Finally, our greatest hope is to minister faithfully to all we serve. Any wedding we perform should be about the couple, not about the clergy. We simply intend and hope to go about our work faithfully and serve God by serving those with whom we are in ministry.

We will spend the next few weeks preparing and discerning as we make this decision together. We invite you to be a part of this process during Town Hall Meetings provided in June and at the churchwide vote on July 14.

With great love,
Pastor Taylor and Pastor Cathy

MARRIAGE EQUALITY RESOLUTION
The marriage subcommittee of the Task Force quickly found consensus on the following points, which it and the full Task Force recommend to the Administrative Board and members of First United Methodist Church of Austin:
• That First United Methodist Church of Austin affirm its commitment to treat all couples, whether opposite-sex or same-sex, seeking the blessing of marriage equally;
• That the Sanctuary and facilities of First United Methodist Church of Austin thus be available to all couples on an equal basis for weddings, regardless of the sexual orientation of the couple;
• That the Sanctuary and facilities of First United Methodist Church of Austin retain their traditional authority to determine the fitness of any couple to enter into marriage and to discern whether to officiate any marriage; and
• That the members of First United Methodist Church of Austin affirm their intent to support any of our pastors who are suspended for responding to a call to officiate a marriage ceremony for a same-sex couple, including continuing to provide their then-current salaries and related benefits for the period of any suspension and to pay costs attendant to any church trial for a charge of violating The Book of Discipline by performing that marriage ceremony.

To view the full Marriage Equality Resolution visit, fumcaustin.org/marriageequality.
UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 7, SUNDAY
The Bible and Progressive Christianity Begins
10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Many progressive Christians struggle with how to read and interpret the New Testament in the face of its apparent contradictions and challenges to our modern values. In this five-week series, Dr. Brad King will lead this collection of lectures and discussions designed to promote a better understanding of the Bible’s place in progressive Christianity and to provide you with the tools and knowledge to pursue a deeper, personal relationship with these ancient texts. To view details on the topics each week, go to fumcaustin.org/bibleclass.

Second Chance VBS Volunteer Training and Luncheon
12:15-3:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall
If you missed the June 2 training, come to this second chance training and orientation for all adult volunteers—new and returning—for VBS 2019. Come learn everything you need to know so you are ready to serve July 21-25. We will reflect on the scripture, explain roles and expectations, get a sneak peak at the special plans our area leaders are working on, and see the changes we have made to the schedule (4 days) and kick-off party. Lunch is provided with registration at fumcaustin.org/vbs/volunteer-training.

Conversations on Racial Justice
4:30-6:00 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
Join us as we work together on racial justice, seeking to undo racism in ourselves and recognize systemic racism, while working for and supporting work being done to end racial oppression. This group meets on first Sundays to discuss and learn about racial oppression, issues of whiteness and racism, and other topics through videos, podcasts, and articles. Register at fumcaustin.org/conversations.

All-Church Bowling Night
5:00-7:00 p.m. Westgate Lanes, 2701 West William Cannon
Join us for a fun night of bowling! The cost is $10 per person. For questions or more information, contact Liz Kilday at law1301@yahoo.com.

JULY 11, THURSDAY
Cheers Ministry Movie Night: The Sting
6:30 p.m. Reception and 7:30 p.m. Movie
Mark your calendars! Our Cheers Ministry, a community for those young-at-heart who are recently retired, semi-retired, or thinking about setting a date to retire, is planning a movie night at the Stateside Theater at the Paramount. Hollywood movies of the 1970s have a very distinct style, but George Roy Hill went for something a bit more old-fashioned in this cunning caper, using ragtime music and other artistic flourishes to take us back to the Great Depression. Newman and Redford are at it again, this time plotting a big con against a wealthy mob boss. Will they pull it off? Join us to find out! Register by July 7 at fumcaustin.org/cheers.

JULY 21, SUNDAY
Vacation Bible School School Launch Party
12:15-2:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Lunch and launch! Start the Mars and Beyond adventure early with our VBS party. Come enjoy lunch and activities to get ready to GO BEYOND during a fun week of exploring God’s power. Free registration at fumcaustin.org/vbs helps us plan for food and games.

JULY 28, SUNDAY
Appalacchia Service Project (ASP) Slideshow
12:15 p.m., FLC Garrison Chapel
All are invited to a slide show of this year’s Appalachia Service Project trip. Come hear stories from our high school youth about the trip, the people they met, and the experiences shared in Harlan County. Register at fumcaustin.org/asp-slideshow.

AUGUST 11, SUNDAY
Civil Rights Pilgrimage Information Session
12:15 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Mark your calendars for March 13-20, 2020. This eight-day trip for adults, youth, and families will include visits to Birmingham, Jackson, Little Rock, Montgomery, Memphis, and Selma. As we begin planning this summer, it will be helpful to have an idea of interest. If you are interested in this trip, register for the Information Session at fumcaustin.org/civilrightspilgrimage. For more information, contact Devon Bailey at devon@fumcaustin.org or Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org.

A Fun Way to Connect with People from First Church!

Our first season of Table for 8 went really well. It is time to shake things up and sign up for new groups! Table for 8 is a fun way to connect in a casual and relaxed atmosphere. Singles, couples, and families of all ages are welcome.

Sign up in July in the foyer or online. This time, you may select whether you want to be grouped by geography or schedule availability. Then you will be placed with others in a dining group. From this group, an initial “lead host” will contact all other members to decide the date and time of your first gathering. Tables are encouraged to meet three times in the fall and three in the spring. The group can meet at a home, restaurant, park...it is up to you!

Questions? Read our FAQ at fumcaustin.org/tablefor8 or email Emily Buchanan at emily@fumcaustin.org.

For more information on these events and all church news, please visit www.fumcaustin.org.

Event Registration
JULY 22-25
Vacation Bible School
9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. SAN
The Starship Galaxion needs our help. Children four years-completed 5th grade are invited on a journey to Mars and Beyond this summer! It is going to be an out-of-this-world adventure as we explore where God’s power can take us. The cost is $40 until the registration cut-off on July 10. Spots are limited and fill up quickly, so register at fumcaustin.org/vbs.

JULY 22-25
Post VBS Sports Camp
12:30-4:30 p.m. FLC
A multi-sport camp for ages 5-12 consisting of games like capture the flag, dodgeball, kickball, and other games revolving around sports like basketball, flag football, and soccer. The cost is $85.

JULY 29-AUGUST 1
Rookies Camp
8:30-10:30 a.m. FLC
Calling all younger children ages 2-5 years. Come learn the basics of tennis, indoor soccer, and other fun and goofy games. The cost is $85.

Register for both of these camps through Triumph Sports at TriumphSports.com/FUMCAustin.