**Love Offering**” on your gift or online giving. Support this quiet but powerful ministry. You can contribute on the altar rail, drop your gift in the offering plate, or send or bring your contribution stating that your contribution is for “ESL.”

**AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS AND COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING**

English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry

FUMC began its ESL Ministry as an initiative by a pastor for whom English was a second language, one who thought he knew English until he arrived in this country and faced a myriad of challenges with communication. Add to this dilemma the cultural differences in medical care, the condition of women in society, how to go to the grocery store, how to take a bus, and how to navigate the educational system for one’s children. And then there is the loneliness of being the “other.”

For over a decade, individuals who find themselves in these situations have come to our ESL classes. Attendees say the difference between these classes and those offered by educational institutions is the feeling of community, the creation of a place to belong. The social hours of ESL classes are a safe place to practice a language, but also a place to feel at home. One of the unique things about our ESL Ministry is providing childcare for mothers or fathers who care for the family can concentrate on improving their language skills.

Although the teachers are volunteers, materials, childcare, utilities for the church office. Make checks payable to FUMC and include a note for “ESL.”

**PRAYER**

**WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION**

Grady Basler; Stephanie Benold; Sandy Bowles; Michael Croose; Gussie Fallon; Kathy Morales; Mari Perez; Andrew Pyle; Olivia Weldon; Weldon Wink; Carol Walker; and Dan Wood.

Congratulations to Jon and Emily George and Lucia and Lynn Bunton on the birth of daughter and granddaughter, Sally Lynn George.

**BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION**

Curt Ashmos’ friend, Elissa Marek; Kim Battle’s aunt, Bunny Christie; Cheryl Bax’s niece, Lauren; Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan; Fay Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Daviss King’s father, Hugh King, Sr.; Rev. Earle Lewis’ husband, Russ Hummel-Lewis, and nephew, Robert Boost; Nadine McDowell’s fiancé, Joe Macklund; Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s father, Doak Thomas; Arthur Potts’ father, David Potts; Charlie Ray’s mother, Aramell; Cindy Reisland’s friends, Carly and Colton; Dianne Rende’s sister-in-law, Penny Burns; Kent Schuster’s friends; Scott and Coltn; Alan Stephens’ father, Carl Stephens; Amy Wink’s friend, Kristi Wright; and Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young.

Prayers for the victims of recent gun violence and their families.
UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 18, SUNDAY
Fall Class Preview
10:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Are you interested in a short-term class to grow further into your faith? We are offering a preview of this fall’s adult discipleship class lineup. Join the fall teachers for an overview of the classes to be offered and an opportunity to ask questions before registering.

AUGUST 19, MONDAY
Prodigals Men’s Group Fall Book Study Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 103
In the overlooked moments and routines of our day, we can become aware of God’s presence in surprising ways. How do we embrace the sacred in the ordinary and the ordinary in the sacred? Framed around one ordinary day, Liturgies of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life by Tish Harrison Warren explores daily life through the lens of liturgy, small practices, and habits that form us. Join us as we explore how ordinary moments can serve as liturgy.

AUGUST 25, SUNDAY
Administrative Board Meeting
12:15-2:00 p.m. FLC Great Hall
This is an opportunity for individuals and families who want to try face-to-face service working with experienced volunteers. Join the Make-Ready Team from 4:00-5:00 p.m. (preparing food and loading truck) and/or the Truck Team from 5:00-6:30 p.m. (delivering food around Austin). Sign up at fumcaustin.org/mlf.

AUGUST 27, TUESDAY
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast
4:45-7:00 a.m. FLC Great Hall
We need more volunteers! Come help serve breakfast to 300 of our homeless neighbors. Preparing, cooking, and setting up begins at 4:45 a.m.; serving begins by 6:00 a.m.; and clean-up is finished by 7:00 a.m. You may arrive and leave to meet your schedule. On-the-job training is available.

OCTOBER 13-16
Courts & Ports: Faithful Witness on the Texas-Mexico Border
The Texas Interfaith Center invites you to participate in this two-day immersion experience that engages people of faith to witness first-hand the legal and law enforcement processes related to immigration, detention, and deportation occurring in South Texas. FUMC will send a team Sunday evening, October 13. Register by Sunday, October 16. Register by Sunday, October 15, with Pastor Cathy Stone at cath@fumcaustin.org or 512-477-1294. Learn more about Courts & Ports at texasimpact.org/courts-ports.