CHURCH NEWS

CHLOE CONNER JOINS FUMC STAFF

We are happy to announce that Chloe Conner, the FUMC staff assistant director of Children’s Ministries, joined our team! Chloe grew up attending some of the services here at First United Methodist Church (FUMC) with her parents — Carrie and Chance Conner. She comes to us with over three years of experience in the early childhood ministry at Tarrytown United Methodist Church and an additional three years of teaching and early childhood experience at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church. Chloe’s Business Administration Degree and work as a realtor and events coordinator will serve her well in the office as she helps to manage the daily administrative tasks that come through our Children’s Ministry. Welcome, Chloe!

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2019-2020

Is your youth interested in becoming a member of the church? All 8th, 9th, and 10th graders are invited to participate on Tuesdays, October 22-April 19. We will meet weekly to learn more about Christianity, Methodism, and faith. It is an exciting opportunity to build community, to formulate our beliefs, and to take personal ownership of one’s faith. Register at fumcaustin.org/confirmation.

FEED MY PEOPLE THANK YOU

The following church members volunteered with Feed My People during the month of September and deserve our thanks: David Ballbach; Kathy Billiot; Stephen Billiot; Sharon Doss; Charles Harrison; Mack Hicks; Julie Nelson; David Nicastro; Sam Ruiz; Lois Steinour; Ann Teich; Randy Teich; and Cecily Wright.

HOSPITALITY HELPERS NEEDED

Want to help provide hospitality during the Lifetouch Photo Sessions on Tuesday-Saturday, October 8-12? Various volunteer opportunities exist assisting with sign-up and as greeters/hosts. Volunteers are essential in order to facilitate this process and volunteering is a great way to meet and learn the names of those you do not yet know. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/lifetouchhelpers.

SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Honor someone you love and remember, a departed loved one, or celebrate special days or events in your life or the life of the church. The cost is $65 and the available dates for the rest of the year are December 1, 22, and 29. To sign up, contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Harrison Adams; Molly Adams; Betty Berkey; Debbie Block; Sandy Bowles; Beverly (Shusher) Burk, former FUMC pastor; Scott Davis; Kathy Morales; Mari Perez; Carol Walker; Weldon Wink; and Dan Wood.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Curt Ashmos’ friend, Elisa Marek; Doyle and Joanna Beavers; Cheryl Bias’ niece, Lauren Stafford; Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan; Fay Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; George Gaston’s friend, Dr. Robert Wootton; Gage Goss’ grandfather; Sydney Head’s aunt, Tara Hershman; Jeff Jackson’s aunt, Joyce Jackson; Jazmin Kent-Loera’s uncle, Richard Kent; Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s mother, Doak Thomac; Delia Peters’ sister, Ruby Frajas; Mimi Raper’s friends, Mel and Celia Barrentino; Cindy Reidland’s friends, Carly and Colton; Nathaniel Saunders’ mother, Heidi Saunders, and uncle, Tim Baumann; Alan Stephens’ father, Carl Stephens; Amy Wink’s friend, Kristi Wright; and Dick Young’s nephew, Doak Thomas.

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 27, SUNDAY

ASP Summer 2020

Informational Meeting 12:15 p.m.; FLC Garrison Chapel

This meeting is for all youth and their families interested in the 2020 Appalachia Service Project (ASP) trip. Join us after worship to learn more about all that the trip and preparation entails and to register for this summer’s mission trip.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

OCTOBER 20, SUNDAY

Mobile Leaves & Fishes (MLF) Third Sunday 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.; SAN MLF Kitchen

MLF serves daily, but this day is 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.

OCTOBER 22, TUESDAY

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast 4:45-7:00 a.m.; FLC Great Hall

Have your portrait taken and be a part of the new FUMC directory. Lifetouch will take photographs in the Education Building on Tuesday-Saturday, October 8-12.

Each family will receive a complimentary 8×10 portrait and a free directory and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits or holiday greeting cards.

Check-in will be on the 1st floor of the Education Building outside of Room 108. The photo session will take place in EDU Room 108 with photo viewing and purchasing in EDU Room 109.

OCTOBER MISSION EMPHASIS

Casa Marianella and World Communion Sunday

Together, we welcome and care for the poor, the stranger, the sojourner, the outcast. Together, we enable national and international graduate students to change the world. This October, our communion rail offering will be split between Casa Marianella and World Communion Sunday.

Casa Marianella welcomes displaced immigrants and promotes self-sufficiency by providing shelter and support services here in Austin. In addition to shelter, Casa offers access to legal and medical resources, food, clothing, English classes, and other resources. First Church was one of the founding congregations of Casa back in 1986. In 29 years, their population has evolved from survivors of the Salvadoran war to asylum seeking refugees and other immigrants from over 40 countries. Casa is the only homeless shelter in Austin dedicated solely to immigrants. 65% of the shelter residents, including children, are asylum seekers, many coming from immigration detention. Their vision is that all immigrants arriving in Austin will have safe housing and access to the services they need to be successful.

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified young adults face financial obstacles that hinder their preparation for their God-given vocations. For ethnic students who will be the first generation to attend college, or for people of color who haven’t historically had access to higher education, the road toward education has often been unwieldy. The World Communion Sunday offering helps provide scholarships through the United Methodist Church for national and international graduate students whom God has called to learn and to serve.

Gifs, marked “World Communion,” may be dropped in the offering plate anytime during October or mailed to or brought by the church office.

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**CALENDAR**

**OCTOBER**

13 Sunday
Sanctuary Worship Services: Enough 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
We Are Blood Donation Drive 9:00-11:30 a.m. Bloodmobile, Parking Lot
Administrative Board Meeting 12:15 p.m. FLC Great Hall

19 Saturday
Family Fall Festival 5:30-7:30 p.m. FLC

20 Commitment Sunday
Sanctuary Worship Services: Enough 9:00 a.m. Murchison Chapel
Manna Bag Sale 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Churchwide Celebration Picnic 12:15 p.m. Capitol Lawn
Mobile Leavles & Fishes (MLF) 3rd Sunday 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. SAN MLF Kitchen

22 Tuesday
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast 4:45-7:00 a.m. FLC
Confirmation Class 2019-2020 Begins fumcaustin.org/confirmation

24 Thursday
Cheers Ministry Painted Churches Trip 9:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m. Schulenburg, Texas

27 Thursday
Contemplative Worship Service 9:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Sanctuary Worship Services 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
United Methodist at the Crossroads 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
ASP Summer 2020 Informational Meeting 12:15 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel

29 Tuesday
Study and Discussion of What is the Bible? Begins 6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 103

**NOVEMBER**

3 All Saints Sunday
Sanctuary Worship Services 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
United Methodist at the Crossroads 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**OCTOBER 8, 15, AND 29, TUESDAYS**
**Mercy & Justice Book Study: Dear Church** 6:30-7:45 p.m. FLC Room 104
Join Pastor Cathy Stone as we read Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U. S. by Lenny Duncan, the unlikeliest of pastors. Formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the U.S.: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, Dear Church offers a bold new vision for the church to take on forces of this world that act against God: whiteness, misogyny, nationalism, homophobia, and economic injustice. Duncan gives a blueprint for the way forward and urges us to follow in the revolutionary path of Jesus. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/bookstudy.

**OCTOBER 13, SUNDAY**
**We Are Blood Donation Drive**
9:00-11:30 a.m. Bloodmobile, Parking Lot
Blood donations have long been considered one of the easiest and simplest acts of kindness. Now is your chance to give and make a difference in the lives of others. In lieu of an admission fee, please bring non-perishable food items. For more information on these events and all church news, please visit fumcaustin.org.

**OCTOBER 24, THURSDAY**
**Cheers Ministry Painted Churches Trip**
9:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m. Schulenburg, Texas
Our Cheers Ministry will travel 80 miles southeast of Austin to Schulenburg, a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.” We will have a guide for the tour of the four painted churches in a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.” We will have a guide for the tour of the four painted churches in a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.” We will have a guide for the tour of the four painted churches in a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.” We will have a guide for the tour of the four painted churches in a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.” We will have a guide for the tour of the four painted churches in a town of less than 3,000 inhabitants considered the “Home of the Painted Churches.”

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

**OCTOBER 27 AND NOVEMBER 3**
**United Methodist at the Crossroads**
Sundays, 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
What does it mean to be a United Methodist Christian today? This series will take a look at where we have been, our distinctive beliefs, emphases, and organization, and where the Methodist movement may be heading. Led by Reverend John Wright, former FUMC pastor and retired District Superintendent. Register at fumcaustin.org/umccrossroads.

**OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 26**
**Study and Discussion of What is the Bible?**
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 103
Author Rob Bell goes deep into the Bible to show how it is more revelatory, revolutionary, and relevant than we ever imagined and offers a compelling argument for why we need to look at it in a fresh, new way. This book provides insights and answers that make clear why the Bible is so revered and what makes it inspiring and essential to our lives. The author addresses the concerns of all those who see the Bible as God’s Word but are troubled by the ethical dilemmas, errors, and inconsistencies in Scripture. Join FUMC member Curt Ashmos for this thought-provoking class. Register at fumcaustin.org/bible.