Thank you to the 230 of our families who have submitted a Commitment Card for giving in 2020! Are you missing yours? We need your commitment in order to accurately plan for our ministry in 2020. You can make your Commitment at the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. Questions? Contact Galen Fischer, Director of Finance, at galen@fumcaustin.org.

**Christmas Choir Opportunity**

**7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**FUMC Choir Room**

**Colorado 3 Street Entrance**

Have you thought about singing with our FUMC Choir but were not sure how to get started? Join us for our Christmas music program. Come to two rehearsals on Wednesdays, December 4 and 11, and then sing at our 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services on Sunday, December 15. To participate in this music program, you must attend both rehearsals and sing at both services.

**Beyond Our Congregation**

Curt Ashman’s friend, Elissa Marek
Grady Basler’s sister, Tonya Basler Stout
Cheryl Bias’ niece, Lauren Stafford
Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan
Fay Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Ahenburg
Janet Camps’ sister, Nancy Willet
Janet Camp’s nephew, John Osterhaus
Herb Canada’s son, Mark Canada
Pamela Craig’s cousin, Patrick Kennedy
George Gaston’s friend, Dr. Robert Wootton
Keri Hicks’ sister, Kim Rogers
Melanie Miller’s friend, Brady Reardon
Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s father, Dosk Thomas
Andrew Pyle’s cousin, Lindsey Pyle
Cindy Reidland’s friends, Carly and Colton
Kent Schuster’s uncle, Edmond Schuster
David Strong’s cousin, Sam Stephens
Cindy Walter’s friend, Sharon Sanders
Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young

**Church Life**

Church Life allows members to review their contact information, access a church directory, schedule one-time or recurring giving, view giving history and pledge commitment, and access the church calendar. Plus, the Church Life mobile app—conveniently at your fingertips—provides similar information, access to church information using your same Church Life login. Visit fumcaustin.org/churchlife.

**For help or more information, contact Mary Heckmann at mary@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 214).**

**Church Office**

*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.*

**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.

**First United Methodist Church Austin Transformation Happens Here**

**Christmas Eve Breakfast**

For 21 years, FUMC has sponsored a Christmas Eve Breakfast. Each year, we provide a hot breakfast and gift bags for our guests. You may leave gifts, marked “Christmas Eve Breakfast,” at the communion rail or you may send them to or bring them by the church office.

**2020 Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

Attention families and volunteers! Winter is coming to next year’s VBS with Knights of North Castle. Mark Monday-Thursday, July 20-25, on your calendars now so you can join the fun! Our kick-off party will be available on Sunday, July 19. Registration and volunteer sign-up will be available in January.

**Prayer**

Within Our Congregation

Stephanie Benold
Bety Berkey
Sandy Bosles
Elizabeth Lerner
Katherine Lerner
Kathy Morales
Mari Perez
Mimi Raper
Dan Wood

**This Sunday**

A complete schedule of today’s events is in “This Week” section on Calendar page.

**Collection for Caritas of Austin**

Collection Bins . Sanctuary Foyer, FLC Lobby, and Church Office

Thank you for your donations. If you did not bring food or toiletry items today, you may bring them any Sunday in November. See insert for needed items.

**Manna Bag Sale**

9:30–11:00 a.m. Sidewalk

Our 4th and 5th graders show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. You may purchase a bag for $5.

**At the Well Ministry**

10:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel

Inspired by God’s Spirit, At the Well welcomes Austin-area women experiencing homelessness by providing hospitality, supportive services, and some of life’s basic necessities in a caring, safe, and accepting environment that affirms self-worth and dignity. This new ministry is blessing everyone involved. It is growing and our greatest need is for additional volunteers! Come hear stories of love, acceptance, and transformation from our dedicated volunteers.

**First Steps Class**

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 register, fill out the Connections Card during worship and bring it with you to class.

**Manna Bag Sale**

9:30–11:00 a.m. Sidewalk

Our 4th and 5th graders show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. You may purchase a bag for $5.

**Mission Emphasis**

**Feed My People**

Christmas Eve Breakfast

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**40th Anniversary Event**

1:00–3:00 p.m. EDU Preschool Hallway

Our preschool is celebrating its 40th Anniversary. Join us for a come-and-go celebration with refreshments, photo displays, and a stroll through the campus. Come see old friends, tour the renovated preschool, and see fun photos from every decade.

**Opportunity**

Dick Young’s nephew
Sharon Sanders
Cindy Walter’s friend,
Sam Stephens
David Strong’s cousin,
Edmond Schuster
Carly and Colton
Cindy Reidland’s friends,
Lindsey Pyle
Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s
Brad Reardon
Dr. Robert Wootton
Kim Rogers
Melanie Miller’s friend, Randy Reardon
Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s father, Dosk Thomas
Andrew Pyle’s cousin, Lindsey Pyle
Cindy Reidland’s friends, Carly and Colton
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**7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**FUMC Choir Room**

**Colorado 3 Street Entrance**

Have you thought about singing with our FUMC Choir but were not sure how to get started? Join us for our Christmas music program. Come to two rehearsals on Wednesdays, December 4 and 11, and then sing at our 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services on Sunday, December 15. To participate in this music program, you must attend both rehearsals and sing at both services.

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David Strong’s cousin, Sam Stephens
Cindy Walter’s friend, Sharon Sanders
Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young

**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 cost is $65. Sign up now for those important dates in 2020. Contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).
**CALENDAR**

**NOVEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kids' Day Out</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. FLC Room 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cookie and Sock Collections</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Collection Bins, Chapel, Sanctuary, and FLC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapel Service</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sanctuary Services with FUMC Choir Presentation</td>
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<td>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Manna Bag Sale</td>
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<td>9:56-11:00 a.m. Sidewalk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Advent Sunday School Study</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Children's Choir Presentation</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mobile Loaves &amp; Fishes (MLF) Third Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. SAN MLF Kitchen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Youth Christmas Party</td>
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<td>4:36-7:00 p.m. FLC</td>
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<td>FEAST</td>
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<td>7:00-9:30 p.m. FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Blue Christmas Service</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Cookie and Sock Collections</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Advent Sunday School Study</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast</td>
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<td>6:30 a.m. FLC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feed My People Christmas Eve Service</td>
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<td>8:00 a.m. FLC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Eve Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel</td>
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<td>Church Office Class for Christmas Holiday</td>
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<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve Family Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00 p.m. Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services</td>
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<td>6:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m.</td>
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**DECEMBER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contemplative Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sanctuary Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Intergenerational Advent Party</td>
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<td>10:00-10:45 a.m. FLC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Interfaith Day of Thanks Service and Celebration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00-4:30 p.m. Riverbend Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast</td>
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<td>4:45-7:00 a.m. FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:00 p.m. Church Office Closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td>Church Office Closes</td>
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**DECEMBER 24, TUESDAY**

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<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noon Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For those who are ready to celebrate the birth of Christ early in the day, this traditional service features carols, scripture reading, and Holy Communion. 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.

**Family Service**

4:00 p.m. Sanctuary

Experience the traditions of Christmas carols, the Nativity story, Holy Communion, and a candlelit Silent Night in this 45-minute worship service especially designed for families with young children. Includes an invitation at the end for children to enjoy a special treat in Wesley Hall while parents experience time for quiet reflection. Childcare provided.

**Candlelight Services**

6:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m. Sanctuary

These traditional services feature carols, choral offerings, Scripture, Holy Communion, and candle lighting to celebrate Christ’s birth. Childcare provided at the 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. services only.
Advent Opportunites

December 7, Saturday
- Decorating and Holiday Stroll Volunteers
  4:00-9:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall
  Kick off your holiday by decorating spaces around the church and then offering hospitality to Austinites of all ages and adults, but parents could invite children to the potluck dinner in Wesley Hall. Afterward, volunteers share a meal and then welcome event attendees with hot chocolate and cookies, and a welcome family-friendly pit stop. Sign up for our decorating team and/or hospitality team at fumcaustin.org/stroll.

December 14, Saturday
- Advent Sunday School Study
  10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
  Viso Divina, Latin for “divine seeing,” is a method of visual meditation, reflection, and prayer that arises from a practice of intentional seeing. Viso Divina extends the 6th century Benedictine practice of Lectio Divina by the use of visual imagery. Traditionally, Viso Divina was accompanied by Benedictine iconography and illuminations, however, different faith traditions have adapted the process over time, utilizing both secular and nonsecular images. This class will blend the “visual meditation with group discussion and Bible study.  

December 21, Sunday
- FUMC Choir Presentation
  9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
  Come sing praise to God and celebrate through the gifts of others with a special musical offering by our FUMC choir during worship.

Children’s Choir Presentation: Carriers of the Light
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary
Through dramatic role playing and traditional Christmas carols, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Youth Christmas Party
4:30-7:00 p.m. Family Life Center
During Engage, all youth are invited to come and celebrate together for our last Engage of the year. There will be food, games, music, and a white elephant exchange. Bring a gift that cost $10 or less.

December 19, Thursday
- Blue Christmas Service
  7:00 p.m. EDU 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 the spiritual formation at last Christmas feeling blue with grief or depression. Senior Pastor Taylor Fuerst leads this special service on the longest night to acknowledge our grief and longing for hope.

Upcoming Events

December 20, Wednesday
- iACT Square One Thanksgiving Luncheon
  9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Central Presbyterian Church, 200 E 8th Street
  iACT (the Refugee Services of Central Texas) will host their annual Thanksgiving Luncheon for ESL students, with help from FUMC and Saint John’s UMC. You are invited to join us to set up tables/decorations, provide desserts, plates, utensils, and cups; and serve a delicious turkey luncheon to students. Volunteers are needed from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and donations can be dropped off before the luncheon. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/thanksgivingluncheon.

December 24, Sunday
- Contemplative Worship Service
  9:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
  Contemplative prayer can provide a welcome respite, a place to find the inner resources of peace and strength and power. This 30-40 minute service is offered to beginners and experienced practitioners of mindfulness meditation.

Intergenerational Advent Party
10:00-10:45 a.m. FLC Great Hall
Deepen your experience of Advent and enjoy a fun morning with your church family. Bring your family staying at home, too. We will have a potluck breakfast and games and activities designed to prepare our hearts for the holy season of Advent. This is a great opportunity to bridge generational lines and connect with people of all ages in new and fun ways. Pick up some spiritual practices and aids service opportunities you can do at home. Help us provide food for party. Sign up to bring breakfast items at fumcaustin.org/adventparty.

Interfaith Day of Thanks Service and Celebration
3:00-4:30 p.m. Riverbend Church, 4214 N Capital of Texas Hwy
For the past 34 years, iACT has had the great joy and privilege of bringing this service to the Austin community. This is a unique opportunity for Austinites of all faith backgrounds to come together to give thanks as one community. Free, family friendly, and all are welcome! A reception follows the service. For more information, visit fumcaustin.org/thanksgivingservice.

December 1, Sunday
- Interfaith Day of Thanks Service and Celebration
  3:00-4:30 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
  Deepen your experience of Advent and enjoy a fun morning with your church family. Bring your family staying at home, too. We will have a potluck breakfast and games and activities designed to prepare our hearts for the holy season of Advent. This is a great opportunity to bridge generational lines and connect with people of all ages in new and fun ways. Pick up some spiritual practices and aids service opportunities you can do at home. Help us provide food for party. Sign up to bring breakfast items at fumcaustin.org/adventparty.

FEAST

FUMCAUSTIN.ORG
breakfast. Please send or bring your donations, marked "donations," to church. All contributions will be donated to Caritas of Austin, a local nonprofit working toward preventing and ending homelessness in Austin. With your help, the Caritas Pantry provides take-home groceries to families as people are transitioning out of homelessness. Together with their other services, assistance with basic necessities builds a strong foundation as people work toward their life goals. When you are struggling to make ends meet, weekly groceries bring great relief to families. We are collecting some of their most needed items:

- 5 ounce salmon cans
- 5 ounce sardines cans
- 10 ounce cooking oil
- Any kind of pasta in a bag
- Hamburger Helper
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Salt
- Body wash
- Conditioner
- Shampoo
- Toilet paper

Donations may be left in the collection bins located in the Family Life Center lobby, and church office.

For 21 years, FUMC has sponsored a Christmas Breakfast in the Family Life Center. Each year, we provide a hot breakfast served restaurant style with hosts and smiling waitstaff. After breakfast, guests receive hats, gloves, socks, lip balm, a one-day bus pass, and homemade cookies.

Many thanks to the over 100 volunteers who help make this breakfast an event that provides our neighbors who are homeless or the working poor with a vivid reminder that they are loved. Your generous donations ensure that enough food, drinks, hats, gloves, and other toiletry items can be purchased.

You are encouraged to give what you can at the communion rail and any time during the month of November to help support and prepare for this year’s breakfast. Please send or bring your donations, marked “Christmas Eve Breakfast,” to the church office.

We need more volunteers! Come help serve breakfast to 500 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.

WHEN NEEDED
Cold Weather Shelter for Women
Family Life Center

During the winter months, FUMC 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 guests, provide/serve dinner, and act as overnight hosts. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/shelter.

NOVEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS
Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast
Family Life Center

Many thanks to the over 100 volunteers who help make this breakfast an event that provides our neighbors who are homeless or the working poor with a vivid reminder that they are loved. Your generous donations ensure that enough food, drinks, hats, gloves, and other toiletry items can be purchased.

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NOVEMBER 26, TUESDAY
Feed My People 4th Tuesday Breakfast
4:45-7:00 a.m. FLC Great Hall

We need more volunteers! Come help serve breakfast to 500 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.

WHEN NEEDED
Cold Weather Shelter for Women
Family Life Center

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NOVEMBER 28, THURSDAY
ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot
The Long Center for the Performing Arts
Join ThunderCloud Subs and thousands of participants for Austin’s favorite Thanksgiving tradition. The ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot features a five-mile run, one-mile walk, and a Kids K. One hundred percent of the proceeds are donated to Caritas of Austin. Sign up to participate or volunteer at caritasonaustin.org/events/turkey-trot.

JANUARY 25, SATURDAY
Point in Time Count
Each year, the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) plans and leads the Point in Time Count, an annual census of people experiencing homelessness. Early in the morning, hundreds of volunteers will head out across Austin/Travis County to count every person experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Volunteers will count people sleeping in cars, tents, parks, under bridges, and on the streets. The information from this count is used to guide public policy and is vital for securing resources to help end homelessness in our community. ECHO is a coalition of stakeholders that plans, develops, prioritizes, and implements systemic, community-wide strategies to end homelessness in Austin and Travis County. Let’s join ECHO in this critical activity for understanding and planning homeless services in Austin and Travis County. Together, we can end homelessness in our community!

Learn more and register at austinecho.org/pit. For more information, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

#WEDEOXIST: YOUTH HOMELESSNESS
The #WeDoExist campaign is a joint effort of LifeWorks and Texas Appleseed to raise awareness about youth experiencing homelessness in the state of Texas and offer ways to get involved. An estimated 60,000 unaccompanied 13- to 17-year-olds and nearly 300,000 unaccompanied 18- to 25-year-olds experience homelessness in Texas over the course of a year. Youth experiencing homelessness tend to hide and “fly under the radar” because of the stigma or fear of being placed in foster care or returned to abusive home environments. They often hide by staying with friends or relatives, moving often from place to place (known as couch surfing), and working to avoid being identified as “homeless.” Visit wedoexist.org to learn more about youth homelessness and ways to get involved.

AROUND AUSTIN
ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot
The Long Center for the Performing Arts
Join ThunderCloud Subs and thousands of participants for Austin’s favorite Thanksgiving tradition. The ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot features a five-mile run, one-mile walk, and a Kids K. One hundred percent of the proceeds are donated to Caritas of Austin. Sign up to participate or volunteer at caritasonaustin.org/events/turkey-trot.

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ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot
The Long Center for the Performing Arts
Join ThunderCloud Subs and thousands of participants for Austin’s favorite Thanksgiving tradition. The ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot features a five-mile run, one-mile walk, and a Kids K. One hundred percent of the proceeds are donated to Caritas of Austin. Sign up to participate or volunteer at caritasonaustin.org/events/turkey-trot.

JANUARY 25, SATURDAY
Point in Time Count
Each year, the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) plans and leads the Point in Time Count, an annual census of people experiencing homelessness. Early in the morning, hundreds of volunteers will head out across Austin/Travis County to count every person experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Volunteers will count people sleeping in cars, tents, parks, under bridges, and on the streets. The information from this count is used to guide public policy and is vital for securing resources to help end homelessness in our community. ECHO is a coalition of stakeholders that plans, develops, prioritizes, and implements systemic, community-wide strategies to end homelessness in Austin and Travis County. Let’s join ECHO in this critical activity for understanding and planning homeless services in Austin and Travis County. Together, we can end homelessness in our community!

Learn more and register at austinecho.org/pit. For more information, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

#WEDOEXIST: YOUTH HOMELESSNESS
The #WeDoExist campaign is a joint effort of LifeWorks and Texas Appleseed to raise awareness about youth experiencing homelessness in the state of Texas and offer ways to get involved. An estimated 60,000 unaccompanied 13- to 17-year-olds and nearly 300,000 unaccompanied 18- to 25-year-olds experience homelessness in Texas over the course of a year. Youth experiencing homelessness tend to hide and “fly under the radar” because of the stigma or fear of being placed in foster care or returned to abusive home environments. They often hide by staying with friends or relatives, moving often from place to place (known as couch surfing), and working to avoid being identified as “homeless.” Visit wedoexist.org to learn more about youth homelessness and ways to get involved.