ENOUGH

Thank you to the 233 of our families who have submitted a Commitment Card for giving in 2020! Are we missing yours? We need your commitment in order to accurately plan for our ministry in 2020.

You can make your Commitment at www.fumcaustin.org/pledge or by placing your Commitment Card in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. Questions? Contact Galen Fischer, Director of Finance, at galen@fumcaustin.org.

FUMC ENDOWMENT FUND
• In memory of Gussie Fallin, given by John Wright and Barbara Ruth.

GIFTS TO FUMC
• To our Children’s Ministry in memory of Weldon Wink, given by Tom and Robbie Ausley.
• To our Memorial Fund in memory of Gussie Fallin, given by Jerry and Pasty Heare.
• To our Memorial Fund in memory of Weldon Wink, given by Pat Rives.
• To our Ministry Plan in memory of Gussie Fallin, given by Tom and Robbie Ausley.

BETWEEN OUR CONGREGATION
Curt Ashmons’ friend, Elissa Marek
Grady Basler’s sister, Tonya Basler Stout
Marilyn Betts’ friends, Whitney and Brandon Cheryl Bias’ niece, Lauren Stafford
Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan
Fay Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Aikenburg
Janet Camps’ sister, Nancy Willet
Janet Camps’ nephew, John Osterhaus
Herb Canadas’ son, Mark Canadas
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, Doak Thomas.
Kelly Mills’ mother, Sandra Mills
Andrew Pyle’s cousin, Lindsey Pyle
Cindy Reddixl’s friends, Carly and Colton
Barbara Rush’s sister, Judy Davis
Cindy Walter’s friend, Sharon Sanders
Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young

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ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

DECEMBER 7, SATURDAY
Decorating and Holiday Stroll Volunteers
4:00-9:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Join us during the Advent season by decorating spaces around the church and then offering hospitality to Austinites of all ages heading to and coming from the Holiday Stroll. We will begin decorating the Sanctuary, Murchison Chapel, Family Life Center, and outdoor spaces. 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.

Decorating and Holiday Stroll Childcare
4:00-6:00 p.m. EDU Room 102 and Room 108
For parents/guardians who are volunteering, childcare for infants-preschool is available in EDU Room 102 with a reservation at fumcaustin.org/stroll. Elementary-aged children (Kindergarten-5th grades) may enjoy activities and crafts in EDU Room 108 led by Lara Greene and Roxie Garza. At 6:00 p.m., parents/guardians can take children to the potluck dinner in Wesley Hall. Some families may choose to then participate in the tree-lighting festivities at the capitol (including cardboard “sledging” on the slopes, BIVOC.

DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY
FUMC Choir Presentation: Carriers of the Light
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
This creative musical is inspired by scriptural passages focusing on Jesus as the Light of Salvation. Through traditional carols and original music, it celebrates the passing of God’s light from Mary to Joseph to the animals in the manger; from the shepherds in the countryside to the Wise Men in the East.

Youth Christmas Party
4:30-7:00 p.m. Family Life Center
All youth are invited to celebrate 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.

FEAST
7:00-8:30 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
FEAST is a monthly dinner gathering for young adults (roughly ages 20-45) to engage with community and faith together. Come join us for a special holiday FEAST and dive into a discussion of your favorite Christmas myths and traditions. We will have some great conversation with a side of ham and mashed potatoes. Crazy holiday attire is encouraged! Registration is encouraged at fumcaustin.org/feast.

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 hope, some feel like the “happy” holidays 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.

DECEMBER 22, SUNDAY
Wait! That’s Not the Christmas Story!
10:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Join Dr. Brad King for a deep dive into the Christmas story that we all know and love. While the popular versions of this story are, in Brad’s words, “a mess of mixed up myths,” he also insists that a more accurate version of the story is just as beautiful and even more relevant to Christian life and love. In addition to its revealing conversations, we will also get to sing Christmas carols and come together to keep everyone’s spirits high! Register at fumcaustin.org/christmasday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 1, SUNDAY
Conversations on Racial Justice
4:30-6:00 p.m. FLC Room 104
Join us as we work to be Christian, seeking to undo racism in ourselves and to recognize and understand our participation in systemic racism. This group meets on first Sundays to discuss and learn more about racial oppression, issues of whiteness and racism, and other topics. Over the next few months, we will listen to and discuss podcasts and articles from “The 1619 Project” from The New York Times. Register at fumcaustin.org/conversations.

DECEMBER 4 AND 11, WEDNESDAYS
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 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.

DECEMBER 8, SUNDAY
United Methodist Women: Calling All Women
1:00-2:30 p.m., EDU Murchison Chapel
Join the United Methodist Women of FUMC for a Holiday Round-Up Meeting. Not an “official” United Methodist Woman? No worries! We will introduce ourselves and share resources who we are and what we do, so you can find a circle that fits—or maybe even create your own circle. The UMW has been advocating for women and children for 150 years. You can help make the next 150 even better. We will have a light lunch. Children (and men!) welcome!

DECEMBER 14, SATURDAY
Kids’ Day Out
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. EDU Room 102
While parents enjoy a morning out, children play, eat pizza, make holiday crafts, decorate gingerbread houses, and watch a movie with our trained childcare staff. We accept infants through children on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost is $25 for the first child and $10 for siblings. Make reservations at fumcaustin.org/kids-day-out no later than December 11.

DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY
Civil Rights Pilgrimage Meeting
12:15 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Our Civil Rights Pilgrimage is set for March 15–20, 2020. This seven-day trip for adults, youth, and families will take us through Jackson, Selma, Montgomery, Birmingham, and Memphis. Those interested in participating should attend this meeting to hear final details and participate in logistics. Register for the trip through fumcaustin.org/pilgrimage. A $250 deposit per person is due January 1. For more information, Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org.

DECEMBER 29, SUNDAY
Service Project Sunday
10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Let’s end the year caring for our neighbors! All ages and stages are invited to gather for community action projects that will make a difference in the world. All Sunday School classes are invited to participate. There will be no regular Sunday School for children or youth.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND ALL CHURCH NEWS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.FUMCAUSTIN.ORG.

JANUARY 5, SUNDAY
Epiphany Party
10:00 a.m. FLC Great Hall
Start your new year with joy by celebrating Christ’s light in the world with your church family. Families, individuals, children, and adults all are welcome! Children and youth will not have regular Sunday School class that day, so bring the whole family to the party!

JANUARY 11, SATURDAY
Becoming a Better LGBTQ+ Ally
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Allergy training provides a basic framework of understanding lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) persons and the unique challenges they often face. This training is designed to create dialogue regarding what it means to be an effective ally. Participants are encouraged to explore their own biases, build their knowledge and understanding, and develop empathy. Whether you already consider yourself an ally, or want to become one, this training can help each of us learn how to be a better neighbor to those within the FUMC community and beyond. A $15 donation at registration is requested. Register at fumcaustin.org/ally.

JANUARY 12, SUNDAY
Baby Brunch
10:00-11:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
Have a newborn or child under 18 months old? Our Children’s Ministry invites you to come enjoy this fun event filled with fellowship and food. We are excited about this new event as you as you begin this incredible journey with your child. Please RSVP at childrens@fumcaustin.org.
“Christmas Eve Breakfast,” to the church office.

Breakfast. Please send or bring your donations, marked November to help support and prepare for this year’s communion rail and any time during the month of December. You are encouraged to give what you can at the church. Other toiletry items can be purchased.

Ensure that enough food, drinks, hats, gloves, and other toiletry items are available. 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).

When needed
Cold Weather Shelter for Women
Family Life Center

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 vital 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.

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.

Items Needed

- **Toilet paper**
- **Conditioner**
- **Body wash**
- **Shampoo**
- **Soap**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Tissues**
- **Oatmeal**
- **Cereal**
- **Pasta**
- **Soda**
- **Coffee**
- **Tea**
- **Canned fruits and vegetables**
- **Canned soups**
- **Pasta sauce**
- **Pasta**
- **Salsa**
- **Ham**
- **Cheese**
- **Butter**
- **Yogurt**
- **Birdseed**
- **Pet food**

Help those in need by bringing canned goods and full-size toiletries 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
- 2 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 Sanctuary foyer, Family Life Center lobby, and church office.