Advent/Christmas Banner
Help us create a colorful banner by participating in its creation in the Murchison Chapel. Stop by and add color to the banner with materials provided.

Advent Visual Art Collection
An Advent Visual Art Collection is available in the Murchison Chapel and Family Life Center foyer. All are invited to view a collection of 13 visuals inspired by Scripture texts for Advent. Artist statements are provided with theological reflections on the process for creating the artwork.

What Can or Can't Wait?
As we move through this season of Advent, what CAN'T wait in our lives and in our world? What CAN wait, and be set aside for more urgent and important things? All are invited to answer these questions on the back wall of the Sanctuary or in the Family Life Center foyer.

Now-December 22
Cookie and Sock Collections for Feed My People
Collection Bins, Foyers of Sanctuary, FLC, and Chapel
Place cookie and sock donations for our Christmas Eve Breakfast in the collection bins.

Now-January 5
Children's Christmas Giving
Christmas Tree, Sanctuary Foyer
Place toiletry donations for Casa Marianella under the tree.

December Mission Emphasis
Christmas Offering
Our mission is to build a community where all people are invited to know the love of God and sent to join God in transforming the world. Each Christmas, we have an opportunity to provide transformation through our Christmas Offering, a gift to which we contribute, beyond our regular church giving. This year, the transformation we hope for is right at the corner of 13th and Lavaca Street: our Family Life Center Kitchen. For more information, see article inside.

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

What Can't Wait!
10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall
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 riveting conversation, we will have plenty of hot cocoa and cookies to keep everyone’s spirits high!

Erin Scarth
In memory of Cathryne George
In memory of James and Virginia Nickel
In memory of Phillip and Veronica Pohlman

George and Karen Smith
In honor of Barbara Smith
In honor of James Smith
In honor of Jeremy Smith
In honor of Joanne Smith
In honor of Molly Smith

Mark and Pam Steves
In honor of their children, Daniel and Janelle Steves, John and Danielle Steves, and Matt Steves
In honor of their grandchildren, Kaitylyn and Luke Steves and Scarlett and Brandon Steves
In honor of Paul and Jo Rider
In memory of Allen and Carolyn Steves and Laura Steves

Tom and Becky Strandwitz
In honor of their sons, Tom, Will, and Henry Strandwitz
In memory of Susan Russell Martin
In memory of Tom Strandwitz, Sr.

Steve and Pam Tackett
In honor of their daughter, Cara C. Tackett
In honor of their son, Ross J. Tackett, and his family: Melissa, William, Austin, and Ellie
In memory of her parents, Woodrow W. and Christine C. Brandes
In memory of his mother, Christene C. Tackett, and his brother, Richard L. Tackett

Randy and Ann Teich
In honor of the FUMC pastors and staff
In honor of the immigrants to the U. S.

Brenda Tharp
In honor of David and Lillian Tharp

Tucker, Whitney, Haddie, and Charlie Thurman
In memory of Dom and Gloria Monge
In memory of Mel and Jean Thurman
In memory of Tim and Susan Thurman

George and Jackie Vanderhule
In memory of their parents, Jack and Evelyn Miller and George and Juanita Vanderhule

Laura Velez
In honor of her mother, Billye Jean Townes
In memory of her father, Vernon Townes

The Waggoner Family
In honor of Roger and Jane Olson
In honor of David and Alicia Waggoner

Andy and Becky Weary
In honor of their children, Brett and Kathie Weary and family and Dan and Celeste McCarron and family
This Week

**22 Sun**
Manna Bag Sale
Sunday School Classes for All Ages
Wait! That’s Not the Christmas Story!
9:30-11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
Sidewalk
Various Locations
SAN Wesley Hall

**24 Tues**
Church Office Closes
Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast
Feed My People Christmas Eve Service
Christmas Eve Noon Service
Christmas Eve Family Service
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
1:00 p.m.
6:30 a.m.
8:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.
6:00/7:00/11:00 p.m.
Christmas Holiday
FLC
FLC Garrison Chapel
FLC Garrison Chapel
Sanctuary

**25 Wed**
Church Office Closes
All Day
Christmas Holiday
FLC Garrison Chapel
FLC Great Hall
FLC

**26 Thur**
Church Office Closes
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast
Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast Worship
At the Well Ministry
All Day
4:45-7:00 a.m.
6:30 a.m.
6:00-11:00 a.m.
Christmas Holiday
FLC Great Hall
FLC Garrison Chapel
FLC

**27 Fri**
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast
Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast Worship
4:45-7:00 a.m.
6:30 a.m.
6:00-11:00 a.m.
Christmas Holiday
FLC Great Hall
FLC Garrison Chapel
FLC

**28 Sat**
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast
4:45-7:00 a.m.
FLC

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**January 1**
Wednesday
Church Office Closed
Happy New Year!

**January 2**
Wednesday
Book Study: Shameless Begins
6:30-7:45 p.m.
FLC Room 104

**January 8**
Wednesday
Invitation to Genesis Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m.
FLC 103

**January 11**
Saturday
Becoming a Better LGBTQ Ally
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
SAN Wesley Hall

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**December 29**
Sunday
Sanctuary Services: Carol and Jammies Sunday
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Service Project Sunday
10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

**December 30**
Monday
Church Office Closed
Christmas Holiday
End-of-Year Giving Hours
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church Office

**January 1**
Tuesday
Church Office Closed
Christmas Holiday
End-of-Year Giving Hours
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church Office

**January 5**
Sunday
Sanctuary Services
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Epiphany Party
10:00 a.m. FLC Great Hall
Epiphany Sunday Cleanup
12:00 p.m. Sanctuary
Financial Peace University Information Session
12:15 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
Conversations on Racial Justice
12:30 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel

**January 7**
Tuesday
Book Study: Shameless Begins
6:30-7:45 p.m.
FLC Room 104

**January 8**
Wednesday
Invitation to Genesis Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m.
FLC 103

**January 11**
Saturday
Becoming a Better LGBTQ Ally
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
SAN Wesley Hall

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**December 26**
Sunday
Sanctuary Services
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Baby Brunch
10:00-11:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

**December 27**
Monday
Church Office Closed
Christmas Holiday
End-of-Year Giving Hours
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church Office

**December 28**
Tuesday
Financial Peace University Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m.
FLC Garrison Chapel

**December 29**
Wednesday
Disciple 1 Fast Track: New Testament Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m.
FLC Room 104

**December 30**
Friday
Connect for Teens
6:00-9:00 p.m.
FLC Great Hall
Kids’ Club
6:00-9:00 p.m.
EDU Room 108
Kids’ Night Out
6:00-9:00 p.m.
EDU Room 102

**December 31**
Saturday
Chapel Worship Service
9:00 a.m.
FLC Garrison Chapel
Sanctuary Services
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Manna Bag Sale
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Mobile Loaves & Fishes (MLF) 3rd Sunday
4:00 p.m.
and 5:00 p.m.
SAN MLF Kitchen
Movie Night: Loving
5:00-8:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

**January 1**
Monday
MLK Day Community March
9:00 a.m.
MLK Statue, UT Campus

**January 2**
Tuesday
Coffee with the Pastors
9:00 a.m.
SAN Wesley Hall

**January 3**
Wednesday
FEAST
9:00 a.m.
SAN Wesley Hall

**January 4**
Thursday
Manna Bag Sale
9:00 a.m.
SAN Wesley Hall
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday Breakfast
4:45-7:00 a.m.
FLC

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**The Kaighin Family**
In memory of Cate George

**Tami Kellberg**
In honor of Mary Heckmann
In honor of Olivia Weldon

**Kathleen Malaspina**
In honor of the Krell Family
In honor of the Malaspina Family
In honor of the Peña Family

**Lydia Shook McMahan**
In honor of George and Jackie Vanderhule

**Pete and Jerri Meeker**
In honor of Austin and Alexandra Meeker
In honor of Garrett, Courtney, Rebecca, and John Meeker
In honor of Tanita Snyder
In memory of Bob and Barbara Meeker
In memory of Peggy Meeker Boltz
In memory of Gerald Snyder

**Amy Monkman**
In honor of Rodney Land and Nancy Haines

**Open Door Sunday School Class**
In memory of Roselyn Bustin
In memory of Andrea Peck
In memory of Hellen Sullivan

**Ellis and Lisa Pittman**
In memory of Joel Heppington
In memory of Beatrice Oros
In memory of Laurence Pittman
In memory of Bill Schaller

**Tom Polk and Judy Kostura**
In honor of Scott Davis, in thanks for his gifts of music
In honor of Shirley Derreyberry, in thanks for her gifts of music

**Arthur and Chloe Potts**
In honor Adeline Day Potts
In memory of Arthur Neale and Dorothy Jane Potts
In memory of David and Sheila Potts
In memory of Georgia Sue Turner

**Mary Fay Randolph**
In memory of her parents, George and Ruth Randolph, and the parents of all members of the Whole Susannah United Methodist Women Circle
In honor of the members of the Whole Susannah United Methodist Women Circle

**Mary Rogers**
In memory of David Rogerson

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**FLC Great Hall**

**FLC Garrison Chapel**

**Sanctuary**
Our mission is to build a community where all people are invited to know the love of God and sent to join God in transforming the world. Each Christmas, we have an opportunity to provide transformation through our Christmas Offering, a gift to which we contribute, beyond our regular church giving. This year, the transformation we hope for is right at the corner of 13th and Lavaca Street: our Family Life Center Kitchen.

Our kitchen is a workhorse. For nearly 20 years, every Tuesday and Thursday, volunteers have used this kitchen to prepare a hot breakfast for 250-300 people who are hungry in Austin. They crack eggs, bake biscuits, and wash dishes to do our part to ensure that no one is left hungry in this city. Many of you volunteer regularly at the Feed My People (FMP) Breakfast, and you know what a difference it makes. In partnership with Foundation for the Homeless (FFH), this breakfast is one of our anchor ministries—a point through which many people connect to FUMC, and a starting point for many other ministries of our church, including our Thursday morning worship service and At the Well, our new ministry for women experiencing homelessness.

Beyond the Feed My People Breakfast, our kitchen is used for youth ministry, First Steps, a variety of leadership meetings, and by other groups renting our facility. The kitchen is a crucial part of our ministry.

In order for these ministries to continue, our kitchen needs a full renovation. The air conditioning no longer works, causing volunteers to become overheated while serving. Several critical components of the kitchen are non-functioning or out of code. Our large freezer is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. Our dishwasher is unreliable, requiring frequent maintenance. Beyond appliances, the flooring is separating in several places, causing a tripping hazard.

Working with architects and designers, we estimate the cost of renovation to be $315,000. While this is a major project, it is not insurmountable. With participation from other congregations who care about the FMP Breakfast, as well as grant funding, we will have help, but the congregation of FUMC will be responsible for the greatest portion of the project funding—after all, it is OUR kitchen!

With that in mind, we set an ambitious goal to raise the first $100,000 for the kitchen through our Christmas Offering. We need these funds urgently to get work started on air conditioning repair and other immediate needs. Our large freezer is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. Our dishwasher is unreliable, requiring frequent maintenance. Beyond appliances, the flooring is separating in several places, causing a tripping hazard.

I am delighted to report that we have raised over $105,000! What incredible generosity!! Even though we have met our initial goal, we still need your help to meet the full need of $315,000 to make this new kitchen a reality. I pray that you will join the many who have donated to this effort of transformation this Christmas.

You can make your gift anytime between now and the end of the year by returning a giving envelope in the pew to the church office, or by simply marking your check “Christmas Offering” and dropping it in the offering plate. You can also give online at fumcaustin.org/christmasoffering.

With great love,

Pastor Taylor

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**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

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Jeff and Carol Fegan  
In memory of James and Margaret Sunderland  
In memory of Harold and Eva Lou Fegan

Joe, Kelly, Jenea, and Hunter Flores  
In memory of Tom and Robbie Ausley  
In memory of Mary Lee Ausley

Bob Garrett and Tina Hester  
In honor of Dr. James Leo Garrett  
In memory of David Hester

George and Merianne Gaston  
In honor of Katherine Blanton  
In honor of Linda Gothia  
In honor of Robyn Rios  
In memory of Ellis ‘Bubba’ Gaston  
In memory of Louise Reaves

Jon, Emily, Jake, and Sally George  
In memory of Cathryn Grace George

Ross and Ann Hemphill  
In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hemphill  
In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tillery

Mack Hicks and Julie Nelson  
In memory of their parents, R. R. and Maurnie Hicks and Glen and Mary Nelson

Mary Higgs  
In memory of Curtis Higgs

Steve and Dixie Houston  
In honor of their children: Chris, Emily, and Kate

Maitland and Pepper Huffman  
In honor of their grandchildren, Hannah, Emily, Georgia, and Maitland Huffman and Erin, Seth, Nick, and Avery Murchison and great-grandchildren, Kate, Cole, and Matt Cernosec

Kyle Johnston, Beth Rider, and Doug Hageman  
In honor of Rosalie Broussard

Kathleen Jones  
In honor of Tom and Robbie Ausley  
In honor of Sharon Doss  
In honor of Dixie Fulp  
In honor of Sue Hatch  
In honor of Pepper Huffman  
In honor of Nancy McCoy  
In honor of Donna Poole  
In honor of Kay Sterling

Terry and Maggie Kahn  
In memory of Max and Floy Kahn, Bowman and Beverly Snider, and Patty Snider Hyden

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**FUMCAUSTIN.ORG**
UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 24, TUESDAY

Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast
6:30 a.m.
FLC Great Hall

Our guests enjoy coffee and Christmas music beginning at 6:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. Many in our congregation have made this volunteer opportunity a significant part of their Christmas season.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 25, WEDNESDAY

Feed My People Christmas Eve Service
8:00 a.m.
FLC Garrison Chapel

All are welcome to gather to church.

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! Sign up to bring cupcakes and other food items at funcaustin.org/epiphany.

Financial Peace University Information Session
12:15 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel

Come learn about Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, watch an introductory video, and pick up your materials for class beginning on Tuesday, January 14. Register at funcaustin.org/university.

CONVERSATIONS ON RACIAL JUSTICE
3:40-6:00 p.m. FLC Room 104

Join us as we work to be anti-racists, 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. We will conclude listening to The New York Times podcast, "The 1619 Project." No prep or prior listening required. Register at funcaustin.org/conversations.

JANUARY 7, 14, 21, AND 28, TUESDAYS

Book Study: Shameless
6:30-7:45 p.m. FLC Room 104

Join Pastor Cathy Stone as we read and discuss this book by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Raw and intimate, Shameless offers a full-blown overhaul of our harmful and antiquated ideas about sex, gender, and our bodies. If you have been mistreated, confused, angered, and/or wounded by the shaming sexual messages so prevalent in religion, this one is for you. Register at funcaustin.org/shameless.

JANUARY 8-FEBRUARY 19, WEDNESDAYS

Invitation to Genesis
6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 103

What does it mean that God began the world by creating? What does it mean that we originate in goodness? How did we lose sight of this world and what can we do to reconcile ourselves and others to God's creative vision? What do we really know about the stories we think we remember? Come explore these questions and more in a 7-week study of Genesis with Amy Wink. This study is designed to engage participants with the Living Word and to help us understand the challenges we face in creating the world God imagines. Cost is $15. Register at funcaustin.org/genesis.

JANUARY 11, SATURDAY

Becoming A Better LGBTQ+ Ally
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall

Ally 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 you learn how to be a better neighbor within the FUMC community and beyond. A $15 donation at registration is requested. Register at funcaustin.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 to partner with you as you begin this incredible journey with your child. Please RSVP to children@fumcaustin.org.

JANUARY 24, TUESDAY

Feed My People Christmas Eve Breakfast
6:30 a.m.
FLC Great Hall

Our guests enjoy coffee and Christmas music beginning at 6:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. Many in our congregation have made this volunteer opportunity a significant part of their Christmas season.

JANUARY 29, SUNDAY

Carols and Jammies
9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

With the season of Christmas in full swing, it’s time to celebrate! Both services will be chock-full of Christmas carols and children (and children-at-heart) are invited to wear their pajamas (and children-at-heart) are invited to wear their pajamas.

SERVICE PROJECT SUNDAY
10:00 a.m.
San Wesley Hall

Let’s end the year caring for our neighbors! All are invited to gather for conversation and 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.

FUMCAUSTIN.ORG
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 a greeter or usher 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. service from January through June. To sign up, contact Richard Betis at richard.betis44@gmail.com or 512-652-7641 and he will send you all the information.

COLD WEATHER SHELTER FOR WOMEN
When Needed
Family Life Center

During the winter months, we provide shelter for women on Tuesday nights when the predicted overnight low is expected to be 35 degrees and wet or 22 degrees and dry. We need shifts to welcome and greet guests, provide/serve dinner, and act as overnight hosts. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/shelter.

AUDIO/VISUAL (AV) TEAM
We all enjoy the seamless use of media in our worship services—be it visuals, video, music, and sound we can hear. This team needs two volunteers at the media center in the balcony each week one to run worship slides and one to adjust audio. No experience is necessary and training is provided. Commitment is one Sunday per month from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. with a break from 10:00-10:15 a.m. A list of the slides are provided and your role is to operate the slideshow and/or audio. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, contact Dave Ballbach at dave@fumcaustin.org.

MANNA BAG MINISTRY
If you like the idea of helping our children and church members care for our neighbors, but do not see yourself as a teacher, we have a job for you! Twice a month we need adults to help set up and make sure the food and supplies are on hand. Send us an email at lara@fumcaustin.org. We need more volunteers! Come help serve breakfast to 300 of our homeless neighbors. Cost is $50. To register, contact Lara Greene at lara@fumcaustin.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES
As we swing back into the school year this January, our children and youth ministries have many opportunities to teach and lead with our programs! We are specifically in need of volunteers to help teach our seventh weekly Sunday School classes (each of which requires 2-3 Safe Gatherings certified volunteers). It is not too late to complete your Safe Gatherings certification before the price goes up on January 20th. Visit fumcaustin.org/children/youth for more information and complete Step 1 at safegatherings.com by the end of the year to help the church save costs. Then, contact Director of Children’s Ministries Lara Greene (lara@fumcaustin.org) or Director of Youth Ministries Devon Bailey (devon@fumcaustin.org) to sign up to teach or find other ways to get involved.

COLD WEATHER SHELTER FOR WOMEN
When Needed
Family Life Center

During the winter months, we provide shelter for women on Tuesday nights when the predicted overnight low is expected to be 35 degrees and wet or 22 degrees and dry. We need shifts to welcome and greet guests, provide/serve dinner, and act as overnight hosts. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/shelter.

JANUARY 5, SUNDAY
Epiphany Sunday Clean-Up 12:00 p.m. Sanctuary
After worship, we will return our beautiful Christmas decorations to their resting places until Advent 2020. To help us make the task efficient, you can register at fumcaustin.org/epiphanycleanup to be assigned to a team or just show up and you will be welcomed. All ages are welcome. Many hands make light work.

JANUARY 10, SATURDAY
Across Austin/Travis County 4:00-5:00 p.m. PERK Headquarters
MLF serves daily, but this day is for those who want to try face-to-face service working with experienced volunteers. You will go from 4:00-5:00 p.m. (preparing food and loading truck) and/or the Truck Team from 5:006:30 p.m. (delivering food around Austin). Sign up at fumcaustin.org/mlf.

JANUARY 12, MONDAY
MLK Day Community March 9:00 a.m. MLF Kitchen
This annual March celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s legacy with lifting up diversity and multi-culturalism in our city. Following a short program at the MLK Statue, a march to the historic Huston-Tillotson University, where exciting activities are planned. We can arrange carpools. Contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org.

JANUARY 14-MARCH 10, TUESDAYS
Enneagram 101 6:00-6:30 p.m. FLC Great Hall
Enneagram 101 is part of being free to follow Christ. Join members Ellis and Lisa Pittman for an introduction to the Enneagram, a personality theory that can help us best integrate the Bible’s teachings into our most intimate lives. Register at fumcaustin.org/enneagram.

JANUARY 15-APRIL 1, WEDNESDAYS
Disciple I Fast Track: New Testament 6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 104
This 12-week study, led by Dr. Brad King, is the New Testament portion of the class begun last fall. Spots are available for anyone who is ready to commit and serve deeper. Registration opens January 15. Numbers have already purchased their class study manuals. New participants will be asked for $15 to cover the cost. Register at fumcaustin.org/disciple.

JANUARY 19, SUNDAY
Movie Night: Loving 5:00-8:00 p.m. Sanctuary
Our Mercy & Justice Team and youth invite you to watch Loving, the story of Mildred and Richard Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1966 in Virginia began a legal battle that ended with the Supreme Court’s historic 1967 decision. A short discussion will follow the movie. In support of the MLK Community March the following day, we will collect canned goods and non-perishable items (to be donated) to the Central Texas Food Bank. Register at fumcaustin.org/movienight.

JANUARY 20, MONDAY
MLK Day Community March 9:00 a.m. MLF Kitchen
This annual March celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s legacy with lifting up diversity and multi-culturalism in our city. Following a short program at the MLK Statue, a march to the historic Huston-Tillotson University, where exciting activities are planned. We can arrange carpools. Contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org.

JANUARY 25, SATURDAY
Point in Time Count 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Community Kitchen
Across Austin/Travis County
This count is necessary and training is available. We need more volunteers! Come help serve breakfast to 300 of our homeless neighbors. Cost is $50. To register, contact Lara Greene at lara@fumcaustin.org.

JANUARY 26, SUNDAY
Coffee with the Pastors 10:00-10:45 a.m. SAN Parlor
Want to connect deeper in our FUMC community? Come visit with the pastors and lay leaders in this periodic series of coffee and conversation. New and long-time members are welcome. Register at fumcaustin.org/coffee.

JANUARY 27, THURSDAY
Feast 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. FLC Great Hall
Feast is a monthly dinner gathering for young adults (roughly ages 20–45) and lay leaders in this periodic series of coffee and conversation. New and long-time members are welcome. Register at fumcaustin.org/coffee.

JANUARY 31, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Pre-Teen Sexuality Workshop: Wonderfully Made FLC Great Hall
Pre-teens and their parents. Changes are happening to bodies, minds, and emotions which make it hard to know exactly what is going on. Wonderfully Made provides 5th and 6th graders the opportunity to ask questions about growing up, but in a faith-filled and developmentally appropriate context. It delves into the Bible and spiritual connection while helping pre-teens improve communication with parents. Cost is $50. To register, contact Lara Greene at lara@fumcaustin.org.

FEBRUARY 2-23, SUNDAYS
Not Safe for Church: Sexuality and the Bible 12:15-1:15 p.m. Wesley Hall
The Bible plays an important role in helping us to understand and feel about intimacy and human sexuality, but the nature of its teachings can be difficult to read and interpret Scripture. Join Dr. Brad King to learn how the Bible has been used to understand human sexuality and to discuss how we can best integrate Bible’s teachings into our most intimate lives. Register at fumcaustin.org/sexuality.

FEBRUARY 6-18, TUESDAYS
Mercy & Justice Book Study: Strength to Love 6:30-7:45 p.m. FLC Room 104
Join Pastor Cathy Stone as we read and discuss this book by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In these short meditative and sermonic pieces, some of them composed in 1968 while King was incarcerated during the tumultuous years of the Civil Rights struggle, Dr. King argues for using the power of love to achieve justice and to the intellectual, moral, and spiritual conversion that makes his work as much a blueprint today for Christian discipleship as it then was. Register at fumcaustin.org/bookstudy.

FEBRUARY 9, SATURDAY
Learning Your Number: Enneagram 101 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
This one-day class provides a primer to introduce this ancient tool for understanding individual differences and spiritual growth, and for promoting compassion. It will include an exploration of the strengths and weaknesses of the types, as well as the interpersonal challenges of each number. The workshop is led by the Reverend Geoffrey Llanon, a retired pastor with the Texas Conference. Cost for FUMC members and guests is $40 and for non-members $60. Lunch provided. Register at fumcaustin.org/enneagram.
**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**SERVICE TIMES**
- **EDU Murchison Chapel**
  - **12:00 p.m.**
  - **6:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m.**
  - **Children’s Christmas Giving**
  - **Sanctuary**
  - **12:00 p.m.**
  - **4:00 p.m.**
- **FLC Garrison Chapel**
  - **12:15 p.m.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Family Service**
4:00 p.m.

*Sanctuary*

Experience the traditions of Christmas cards, 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 of the service for children to enjoy a special treat in Wesley Hall while parents experience time for quiet reflection.

*Childcare provided.*

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**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.*

**DECEMBER 25, WEDNESDAY**

**END-OF-YEAR GIVING REMINDER**

Our church office will be closed December 24-January 1, but we will be open 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on December 30 and 31, to accept year-end gifts. Ring the bell at the preschool entrance to let us know you are here. Please note that IRS regulations require that contributions for 2019 must be mailed and postmarked no later than December 31, 2019. Contributions received after January 1 or in the mail and postmarked in 2020 will be considered 2020 gifts.

**SAFE GATHERINGS CERTIFICATION**

Do you still need to be safety certified? If you are not already, but you want to work in ministry with children, youth, or vulnerable adults, then the answer is YES! This includes Sunday School, mission trips, care ministries, and chaperoning/driving. Parents of children and youth are HIGHLY encouraged to get the certification. The church covers the cost, but our cost is going up 50% in January, so now is the time to get started. Only step 1 must be completed in December to qualify for the lower rate. To find out how to get certified, visit fumcaustin.org/ministries/conference-safety-training or contact Emily Buchanan, Safety Policy Administrator, at emily@fumcaustin.org.

**DECEMBER 24, TUESDAY**

**Christmas Tree Lighting**

Sanctuary

December 1, at 6:30 p.m., the Christmas Tree Lighting with Christmas carols, choral offerings, Scripture, and a special performance by the Children’s Christmas Giving Team in the Sanctuary Foyer.

**Worship Series**

**JANUARY 5—FEBRUARY 16**

*The Most Important Things*

Your life is filled with messages—advertisements, letters, e-mails, meetings, texts, and phone calls. 数数你要给谁发短信或打电话。Believe that Church is the place where we are meant to talk about the most important things in the world. So, we are beginning 2020 with just that: *The Most Important Things* you need to hear from the Bible. These are the essentials. If you do not remember anything else all year, hold on to these messages as you enter what is sure to be a momentous year.

*Hold on to these messages as you enter what is sure to be a momentous year.*

**FEBRUARY 2, SUNDAY**

**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 First Church, 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.

**FEBRUARY 23, SUNDAY**

**Baptism Class**
12:15 p.m.

*EDU 108*

Are you ready to have your child Baptized? Pastor Taylor Fuerst and Lara Greene host this class to learn about our beliefs about Baptism, logistical preparation for the day, and ways to help your child live the Baptized life. This class is required for those preparing for a child’s Baptism. To register, indicate your interest on the Baptism Card during worship or online at fumcaustin.org/baptismclass.

**DOWNLOAD 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 secure remote access to church information using your same Church Life login. Visit fumcaustin.org/churchlife.

**PRAYER**

**WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION**

Stephanie Benold
Sandy Bowles
Bill Derryberry
Kathy Morales
Mari Perez
Ken Santos
Sally Watkins
Dan Wood

**BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION**

Gurt Ashmos’ friend, Elissa Marek
Grady Basler’s sister, Tonya Basler Stout
Cheryl Blalack’s niece, Lauren Stafford
Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan
Debbie Block’s cousin-in-law, David Schieve
Jan Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Altenburg
Melba Cox’s daughter, Sandra Helton
Melanie Dow’s nephew, Jonas Ehlenburger
Michelle Gallman’s cousin, Gary Galman
Roxie Garza’s father, George Gaston’s friend, Dr. Robert Gaston
Nancy Gillett’s mother, Joyce Lester
Victoria Grogan’s mother, Robbie Wheat
Sammie Huffaker’s friend, Sue Ann Boren
Patty and Mary Katherine Kane’s friends, John and Barb Andersen
Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s father, Dock Thomas
Connie Payne’s brother-in-law and sister, Gary and Nancy Tibbitts
Cindy Reidland’s friends, Carly and Colton
Rider family’s friend and caregiver, Rosalie Broussard
Debbie Rippetoe’s cousin, Tucker Wheat
Barbara Ruth’s mother, Jesel Ruth
Jill Barker-Standish’s mother, Linda Standish
Alan Stephens’ brother, Millard Stephens
Danielle Thomas’s cousin, Brighton Mansour
Jason and Jennifer Veltri Curiel
Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young

Condolesences to Dick and Ann Young’s friend, Lisa Jackson, on the death of her sister, Sheri.

**JANUARY 5—FEBRUARY 16**

**Worship Series**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS**

Your life is filled with messages—advertisements, letters, e-mails, meetings, texts, and phone calls. Number two on your list of priorities is to understand that Church is the place where we are meant to talk about the most important things in the world. So, we are beginning 2020 with just that: *The Most Important Things* you need to hear from the Bible. These are the essentials. If you do not remember anything else all year, hold on to these messages as you enter what is sure to be a momentous year.

**SIGN UP FOR 2020 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. Arrangement cost is $50 and available dates for the first part of the year are January 5 and 12; February 2, 9, and 16; and March 1, 8, and 29. To sign up, contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS GIVING**

In the spirit of Christmas giving, our Children’s Ministry Team invites children to bring toy/essentials items for the children and their families living at Casa Marianella. This is the only homeless shelter in Austin dedicated solely to immigrants. 65% of shelter residents, including children, are asylum seekers, many coming from immigration detention. Full size items needed for children: toothbrushes, toothpaste and tearless shampoo and for adults: shampoo, conditioner, razors, and soap. Donations can be placed at the Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary Foyer.

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**CONDOLENCES**

**Dick Young’s nephew**

Sue Ann Boren
Patty and Mary Katherine Kane’s friends, John and Barb Andersen
Melanie Miller’s and Jen Stuart’s father, Dock Thomas
Connie Payne’s brother-in-law and sister, Gary and Nancy Tibbitts
Cindy Reidland’s friends, Carly and Colton
Rider family’s friend and caregiver, Rosalie Broussard
Debbie Rippetoe’s cousin, Tucker Wheat
Barbara Ruth’s mother, Jesel Ruth
Jill Barker-Standish’s mother, Linda Standish
Alan Stephens’ brother, Millard Stephens
Danielle Thomas’s cousin, Brighton Mansour
Jason and Jennifer Veltri Curiel
Dick Young’s nephew, Jeff Young

**CONDOLENCES**

**Dick and Ann Young’s friend, Lisa Jackson, on the death of her sister, Sheri.**

**BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION**

Gurt Ashmos’ friend, Elissa Marek
Grady Basler’s sister, Tonya Basler Stout
Cheryl Blalack’s niece, Lauren Stafford
Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan
Debbie Block’s cousin-in-law, David Schieve
Jan Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Altenburg
Melba Cox’s daughter, Sandra Helton
Melanie Dow’s nephew, Jonas Ehlenburger
Michelle Gallman’s cousin, Gary Galman
Roxie Garza’s father, George Gaston’s friend, Dr. Robert Gaston
Nancy Gillett’s mother, Joyce Lester
Victoria Grogan’s mother, Robbie Wheat
Sammie Huffaker’s friend, Sue Ann Boren
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**Dick and Ann Young’s friend, Lisa Jackson, on the death of her sister, Sheri.**

**Merry Christmas!**

*Have a safe and merry holiday!*