We hope you will go online to check•••of LGBTQ+ people, both in the•••we devoted 10% of our assigned•••voted to withhold a portion of our•••to perform weddings prohibited•••equality in our Sanctuary and to•••further harms LGBTQ people. In•••has sought to make a prayerful,•••Since General Conference in•••giving and your pledge to continue•••cost of over $300,000, and we•••$100,000 toward the full renovation•••other events. Our goal was to raise•••be voted on at Annual•••about the state of the United•••Baptism Class 12:15 p.m. EDU Room 108

FUMC seeks to hire a new•••Director of Finance as soon as possible. If you or someone you know is interested in this full-time position, visit fumcaustin.org/hiring or contact Dave Ballbach, Director of Operations, at dave@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 202).

CHURCH NEWS
2019 CHRISTMAS OFFERING
Our Christmas Offering in 2019 was a great effort in supporting
renovations to our kitchen, which feeds 250+ hungry people twice
each week, as well as providing for youth ministry, leadership gatherings, new member lunches, and many other events. Our goal was to raise $100,000 toward the full renovation cost of over $300,000, and we
surprised that, raising over $123,000! Thank you for your generosity!

YEAR-END FINANCIALS AND 2020 PLEDGES
FUMC ended the year in healthy financial standing, thanks to your
generosity! A strong November and December helped us finish the year $18,000 ahead of our expenses, and within 1% of our budget. Full Financial Reports are available at fumcaustin.org/financialstatements.

We had a strong response in Pledge Commitments to the 2020 Ministry Plan, with a 10% increase in pledges, bringing our total pledges to $1,700,722. These pledges make it possible to sustain and grow our ministry with confidence in the coming year. Pledges also give each of us the opportunity to exercise our faith, relying on God's generosity and sacrificially offering what we have for God's work of changing
lives. Thank you for your generous giving and your pledge to continue that generosity in 2020.

REDIRECTED APPOINTMENTS
Since General Conference in February of last year, FUMC Austin has sought to make a prayerful, thoughtful response to the passage of the Traditional Plan, which further harms LGBTQ people. In July, we voted to practice marriage equality in our Sanctuary and to fully support our clergy who choose to perform weddings prohibited by the UMC. Additionally, this fall our Administrative Board voted to withhold a portion of our Apportionments as a protest against the current policy. Instead of giving those funds to the denomination, we devoted 10% of our assigned apportionments to organizations that support and advance the well-being of LGBTQ+ people, both in the church and beyond:

- $1800 to allogo
- $1800 to Qwell Foundation
- $4500 to Strong Family Alliance
- $1800 to TENT (Transgender Education Network of Texas)
- $4500 to Thrive Youth Center
- $3600 to UMC Queer Clergy Caucus

We hope you will go online to check out these incredible organizations!

FOR ALTAR FLOWERS
Honor someone you love and appreciate, remember a departed loved one, or celebrate special events in your life or the life of the church. The arrangement cost is $65 and available dates for the next few months are February 16; March 1, 8, and 29; April 5, 19, and 26; and May 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. To sign up, contact Tampa Killberg at tamifumcaustin@gmail.com or 512-478-5684 (ext. 225).

FEBRUARY 23, SUNDAY
General Conference Briefing 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Pastor Taylor will lead a briefing about the state of the United Methodist Church and the proposals likely to be voted on at Annual Conference in May.

Baptism Class 12:15 p.m. EGU Room 108

Are you ready to have your child Baptized? Pastor Taylor Fayer and Lara Greene host this class to learn about our beliefs about Baptism, logistical information about scheduling and service preparation, 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 Connections Card during worship or online at fumcaustin.org/baptismclass.

PRAYER
WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION
Stephanie Benold; Sandy Bowles; Marla Loucks; Mari Perez; Debbie Rippeto; Karen Smith; and Dan Wood

Conduledences to the families and friends of Melba Cox and Janelle Hadbell on their deaths.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION
Curt Ashmos’ friend, Elisa Marek; Kim Battle’s grandmother, Nana; Grady Badger’s sister, Tonya Badger Stout; Cheryl Bias’ niece, Lauren Stafford; Bob Block’s friend, Tim Sullivan; Faye Brown’s sister, Jo Rene Atenburg; Bob Garrett’s nephew, Michael Garrett; George Gaston’s friend, Dr. Robert Woolton; Gina Harper’s nephew, Bradley Boze; Howard Hartman’s step-niece, Jamie Georges; Mary Heckmann’s sister-in-law, Susi Tyler; Sammy Huflaker’s friends, the Graham Jones family; Charlene Loera’s and Jazmin Kent-Loera’s friend, Wilma; Charlene Loera’s and Jazmin Kent-Loera’s sister, Jullin; Melanie Miller’s and Jen Kent-Loera’s friend, Wilma; Stuart’s father, Doak Thomas; Melanie Miller’s and Jen Kent-Loera’s sister, Joulin; Mary Geddes’ grandmother, Nana; Grady Marek; Melissa and friends of Melba Cox and Dan Wood.

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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 jails and all of them crafted during the tumultuous years of the Civil Rights struggle, Dr. King articulated his commitment to justice and to the intellectual, moral, and spiritual conversion that makes his work as much a blueprint today for Christian discipleship as it was then. Register at fumcaustin.org/bookstudy.

CALENDAR FEBRUARY

4 Tuesday
Mercy & Justice Book Study: Strength to Love Begins 6:30-7:45 p.m. FLC Room 104

14-16 Sunday
10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Services 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

22 Saturday
One Human Race Workshop 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
Sweetheart Dance 6:00-9:00 p.m. FLC Great Hall

23 Sunday
Contemplative Worship Service 9:00 a.m. EDU Murchison Chapel
Sanctuary Worship Services 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

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

31 Friday
Registration Deadline for Middle School Mission Trip fumcaustin.org/reachbeyond

FEBRUARY 14-16, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
High School Retreat: Mo Ranch FEBRUARY 8, SATURDAY
Scripture Readers Practice 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
Are you looking for ways to participate in worship? We are in need of scripture readers and will provide training. Come practice reading from the pulpit and review responsibilities of serving as a reader. Register at fumcaustin.org/scripture. If you are interested but cannot make this practice, contact Daviss King at daviss@fumcaustin.org or Cathy Stone at cathys@fumcaustin.org.

FEBRUARY 7, FRIDAY
Kids’ Night Out 6:00-9:00 p.m. EDU 102
While parents enjoy an evening out, children play, eat pizza, and watch a movie with our trained childcare staff. We accept infants through 4th graders. Cost is $25 for the first child and $10 for siblings. Register at fumcaustin.org/know the Wednesday prior to the event.

FEBRUARY 8, 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 evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the types, as well as the interpersonal challenges of each number. The workshop is led by the Reverend Georgiana Blanton, a retired elder of the North Texas Conference. Cost for FUMC members and guests is $40 and for community members is $60. Lunch provided. Register at fumcaustin.org/enneagram.

FEBRUARY 9, SUNDAY
Scripture Readers Practice 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary

FEBRUARY 14-16, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
High School Retreat: Mo Ranch Register by February 1
Our High School students are invited to a weekend of adventure and fun at Mo Ranch! Cost is $50 and spaces are limited. Register at fumcaustin.org/highschoolretreat.

FEBRUARY 14, SATURDAY
Civil Rights Speaker: Jim Harrington 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

FEBRUARY 15, SUNDAY
Sanctuary Worship Service 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

FEBRUARY 22, SATURDAY
One Human Race Workshop 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. FLC Garrison Chapel
This free one-day workshop provides a safe, open, and productive environment to learn and share about race. We will watch “Race: The Power of an Illusion,” examine concepts from Eric Law’s *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb* and Robin DiAngelo’s *White Fragility*, and share in small groups. This workshop is appropriate for people aged 14 and older. Snacks and lunch provided. Registration is required at onehumanraceaustin.org. Questions? Contact Davis King at daviss@fumcaustin.org or Cathy Stone at cathys@fumcaustin.org.

Sweetheart Dance 6:00-8:00 p.m. FLC Great Hall
Celebrate the loving relationships in your life with a fun evening of dancing and fellowship. DJ, door prizes, selfie photo booth, snacks, and memory-making included. All are welcome—children, friends, spouses, parents/grandparents, and partners and partners-in-crisme. Special prizes for most years together, best-dressed couple/group, and more. Cost is $5 per person, with a $20 maximum per family. Proceeds will benefit this year’s Austin CROP Hunger Walk. For more information, contact Lara Greene at lara@fumcaustin.org.

JULY 11-18
Middle School Mission Trip: Reach Beyond Mission Register by January 31
Our Middle School students will travel to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a week of learning and serving. Cost is $550, plus additional fundraising. Register at fumcaustin.org/reachbeyond.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 6, THURSDAY
Cheers Ministry Potluck 6:00-9:00 p.m., FLC Garrison Chapel
Our Cheers Ministry, a community for those young-at-heart recently retired or thinking about retiring, invite you to an old-fashioned potluck. The theme is “Show Your Stuff” where you can show your art, crafts, hobbies, photography, or other ways you spend your retirement space time. If you plan to bring your ‘stuff,’ contact Dick Young at rtyoung@austin.rr.com or 512-789-8480. Cheers will provide the meat dishes, tea, and water. Register at fumcaustin.org/cheers.

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Civil Rights Speaker: Jim Harrington 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

All are invited to come hear human rights attorney Jim Harrington, founder and Director Emeritus of the Texas Civil Rights Project. Harrington has handled a wide array of civil rights cases, some precedent-setting, involving capital punishment, grand jury discrimination, immigration, police misconduct, racial and ethnic discrimination, voting rights, and the rights of persons with disabilities. Since retiring, Jim has established Proyecto Santiago at St. James’ Episcopal Church in east Austin, which advocates for the Latino community. He was ordained an Episcopal priest on January 17, 2020.

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