

The Newsletter

December 2016

Memorial United Methodist Church

6100 Berkman Drive Austin TX 78723

Rev. Cynthia Kepler-Karrer - Pastor

**Feeding Northeast Austin, body, mind,
and spirit in the name of Jesus.**

Sunday Schedule

Sunday School 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Web site:

www.memorialumcaustin.com

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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December

2016

Sunday Dec. 4th



Sunday Dec. 11th



Saturday Dec. 24th



Sunday Dec. 25th

Bell Ringing in Worship

10:30am



By **Billie Nixon**

Membership Coordinator

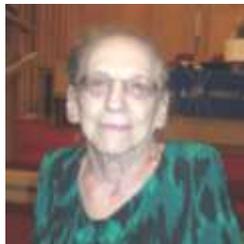


It is Poinsettia Time!

Deadline to order is Friday December 16th.

Please fill out the the order form insert or pick it up in the Narthex or bulletin . The cost is \$10 for each Christmas Poinsettia.

ORDER NOW! They will be placed in the Chancel on Dec. 22nd.



Once again were delighted to receive Dorothy Langston into membership on Sunday November 13,2016. She came to us by Profession of Faith and has attended Shettles /Hyde Park Methodist most of her life.

Dorothy is a lifetime “Austinite”, and she and her family own and have owned for years the Brown Florist. Therefore Dorothy is talented and an expert in arrangement, computer, crossword puzzles, cooking for her nephew and enjoying her sweet dog. As you can tell she has stayed busy all of her life.

We are so happy to receive her in membership and look forward to many years of fellowship and worship together.



In Memory of

Mildred Cecilia Tackett McCullough

February 12, 1925 - November 19, 2016
Obituary

Mildred Cecilia Tackett McCullough, aka Mema, at age 91, went home to the Lord on November 19, 2016.

Born February 12, 1925, in Ft. Worth, Texas, she attended Handley High School before working for Montgomery Ward as a "professional" roller-skater fulfilling mail orders. She married Vann Allen McCullough on March 19, 1948, and moved to Austin, Texas, in 1959. She retired as a certified Histologist for Clinical Pathology Laboratories and lived in Austin for 54 years before moving to New Hope Manor in Cedar Park, Texas.

Mildred was known for her smile and thoughtfulness. She enjoyed sewing, knitting, birthday cake making, and was a 2nd generation Girl Scout Leader for her daughters. She loved her family and always found ways to make memories that will be treasured forever. Her love for fun was exemplified in her status as Queen Mum of the Red Hat Sassie Lassies - where she truly enjoyed the ride!

Mildred is preceded in death by her parents, Chester Oswald Tackett, Sr. and Cecilia Gertrude Foster Tackett from Ft. Worth, Texas; brother Chester Oswald Tackett Jr., from Ft. Worth, Texas; sister Minnie Louise Hawkins from Houston, Texas; and husband Vann McCullough from Austin, Texas.

She is survived by three daughters and their spouses, Carolyn J. Vaterlaus (Tom), Toni D. Dunne (TK Ivie), Leslea K. McReynolds (Tim); and her grandchildren, Drew Alexander (Jeanette Ortiz) and family of Chicago, Illinois, Steven Alexander (Jennifer) and family of McKinney, Texas, Shelley Alexander Cornia (Reed) and family of Madison, Wisconsin, Jennifer K. Dunne Adams (Tim) and family of Kyle, Texas, Ryan Dunne of Eastern Europe, Sean Dunne of Austin, Texas, Kelli Beals Rigal (Andrew) and family of Kyle, Texas, Brady Beals of Kyle, Texas, Braydin McReynolds of San Marcos, Texas and Cauree McReynolds of Cedar Park, Texas.

Visitation was held Friday, November 25, 2016, 2:00P.M. to 3:30 P.M., followed a Celebration of Life at Cook-Walden/Forest Oaks Funeral Home. Interment followed at Cook-Walden/Forest Oaks Memorial Park.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the [Alzheimer's Association](#) .



UMW Accepting
Toy Donations
for
Brown Santa
December 4th &
December 11th

United Methodist Women will be collecting toys and money for Brown Santa. Please drop off any toy donations in the box in back of the sanctuary or come to our First Sunday Breakfast and in lieu of a money donation for your breakfast, drop off a toy. Money donations may be given to Patty Marcum or Alberta Shelton.

Some of Brown Santa's suggested gifts for 3-9 year olds: soccer balls, basket balls, footballs, and Barbie dolls

For 10-14 year olds: Handheld games, wallets, purses, hair dryers, flat irons or curling irons

Or board games and card games for all ages.



2016 Contributions

If you wish for any contributions to

Memorial UMC to "count" for tax year 2016, they must be in to our office by December 30.

If the office is not open, they may be placed in the mail slot under the portico at the office entrance. Mail and messages will be collected daily during the last week of the year. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE WE ARE
CHANGING TO 2ND
SUNDAY!



**Come join your
church family
for a pancake
breakfast every
2nd Sunday.**

**January 8th
8:30am Gym**



Girl Scout Troop

172

The troop has just complete their fall

candy sales. Thanks to all of you who bought candy. They are planning a trip with their profits. In December they will be doing a service project of trash clean up at a park, caroling, celebrating our investiture and getting ready for cookie sales.

It was 2 years ago when Memorial UMC provided office space to Church World Service.

Please know of my personal appreciation for your hospitality since December, 2014. It's fun to be part of Memorial UMC's wider family!



On Saturday, January 7th, Memorial will be one site for the Austin CROP Hunger Walk's Packet Pick-up. Area churches will send a recruiter to pick up materials for the 2017 CROP Hunger Walk, which will take place on Sunday afternoon, February 26th, beginning at 2 pm, at Camp Mabry. I hope to see some of my MUMC friends at Mabry on the 26th!

Kevin Murphy,



Community Engagement Specialist
Church World Service 512-553-1671

Christmas Choral Concert

A community tradition since 1995

Sunday December 18 @ 6:30pm

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

3201 Sunrise Road, Round Rock TX

Holiday Music, Christmas carols, and the Hallelujah Chorus performed by churches from Round Rock and Pflugerville.

No Charge—
Donations
Appreciated
benefitting:



Special thanks to our Title Sponsor St.

David's Round Rock Medical Center

For more information, call 512-310-1060 or email: admin@driveasenior.org

Drive a Senior provides services that enhance the independence and quality of life for senior adults in the Austin area. Services include free transportation, telephone re-assurance phone calls, in home visits, light handy man services, and a medical loan closet.

Looking for a place to volunteer? Drive a Senior needs you. Opportunities include driving clients to appointments, handyman work, friendly visits and phone calls. Training is provided. Children are welcome to go with you. Drive at your convenience. Assign your drives yourself via a computer or by calling the office. Volunteering with us is easy! Call us at 510-310-1060 or email at





DECEMBER

CALENDAR

Thursday, December 1

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

Friday, December 2

Saturday, December 3

Sunday, December 4 Communion Sunday

8:30 am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service –Hanging of the Greens

Monday, December 5

6:30 am Morning Prayer - Chapel

6:00 pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30 pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

7:00 pm Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, December 6

9:30 am BIF - Pearce

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

Wednesday, December 7

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 8

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

Friday, December 9

Saturday, December 10

Sunday, December 11 Christmas Cantata

Deadline for Brown Santa Donations and Toys

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Christmas Cantata Worship Service

11:30 am Trustees

11:30am Called Charge Conference

Monday, December 12

6:30 am Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30 pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

7:00 pm Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, December 13

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

6:00 pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday, December 14

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir room

Thursday, December 15

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

10:00 am Reading and Library

7:00 pm Bread Church - Gym

Friday, December 16

6:00pm Wesley School Christmas Program

Saturday, December 17

12:00 pm-3:00 pm Girl Scout Area Meeting

Sunday, December 18

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am- Worship Service

Monday, December 19

January Newsletter Content Deadline

6:30 am Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30 pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

6:30 pm-8:30pm Undoing Racism - Parlor

7:00 pm Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, December 20

10:00 am Honeybees - Pearce

6:00 pm NAMI Support - Pearce

Wednesday, December 21

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 22

Friday, December 23

Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve

7:00pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, December 26

6:30 am Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00 pm Girl Scouts - Gym area
6:30 pm Austin Harmony - Choir room
7:00 pm Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, December 27

Wednesday, December 28

Thursday, December 29

Friday, December 30

Saturday, December 31 New Year's Eve



December Birthdays

2nd Laura Ruth Kozelsky

Sandra Bissett

Ron Frederick

Normal Hauser

Charlyne Schmidt

3rd Caitlyn Dennig

5th Drianna Gonzales

Sharon Owens

7th Don Mohler

Paula Garner

Harry Pomerleau

12th Evelyn Capps

13th Michael Moore

15th Susan Froebel

17th Michael Shelton Jr.

19th Kel Pomerleau Bills

22nd Lilia Gail Mohler

James Rhoades

26th Mark Corry

Laurie Dennig

27th Wanda Anderson

Thomas Bissett

28th George Berglund

If you would be interested in caroling to shut ins in December, please contact Pastor Cynthia to discuss possible dates.



Wesley School Annual
Christmas Program
Dec. 16th 6:00pm



Pastor Cynthia would like to gather groups of people who are interested in Bible study or in studies on discipleship in the United Methodist church in the New Year. If you are interested in either a 6-9 week Bible study or a 6 session (meeting every other week) discipleship study, please contact the office with your name and which night/day times are available for you. 512-452-5796

“Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.” (Matthew 1:18a)

I have a few books that I love to keep around at Christmas and read through again. Two of my favorites are WH Auden’s *For the Time Being*, which is really a long-form poem, and Walt Wangerin’s *The Manger Is Empty*. I love Wangerin’s especially right now for this passage:

“Parents, if you haven’t already told your children the story, who has? What sort of Gabriel brought it to them? Don’t you know that the teller shapes the tale?”

Grandparents, are you satisfied to let mumbling Rumor garble this marvelous story for your grandchildren? Should they piece it together themselves, from Christmas carols and that dead set, that mercenary invasion, that box of empty sentiment and silliness, the television? ‘The true meaning of Christmas’—indeed!

No, but faith should tell the tale. And love should serve it to the children lovingly. For it recounts no less than the beginning of the child’s salvation.

Then you should tell it to the little ones whom you love, whose spirits you are responsible for. You tell it. You.

Fathers, make a holy time in which nothing distracts you and nothing delights your children except this story. Mothers, prepare a holy space in a corner of your home. Time and space will prove the story important. Grandma, Grandpa, present a holy attitude. You reach to an ancient bedrock for this story. Both the age in your face and the love in your eye will convince the child of that, and of its truth.

Then tell the story whole, beginning to end, all of a piece, and seamless.

Say, ‘Child I want to tell you a story beautiful and true. I actually happened; it happened for you.’”

I love this passage because I believe it’s not just for parents and grandparents but all people who find those who don’t know the Story or who only know it from the perspective of mass media. Can you tell this story? Can you tell it, not just laying the pieces from end to end, but with wonder and power and awe and love in your voice?

In this season, ponder how you first heard the



Christmas story—the story from the Bible, not just the stories of Frosty and Santa and their kin. What about this story captivated you? From whom did you hear it?

Practice this story. While waiting in line, think through the different pieces of it: Gabriel coming to Mary, Elizabeth celebrating with

Mary, Joseph finding out but refusing to divorce Mary, the call for the census, Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem, trying to find a room but only finding the stable, the birth, the announcement of the angels to the shepherds and their visit to the manger. And of course, the way that a jealous Herod caused Joseph and Mary to flee as refugees to Egypt until it was safe to come home.

This story is the one in which God chooses to become one of us. It shows that God was willing to become vulnerable on behalf of us. The story itself will teach you how wondrous it is when we contemplate how to live in the current day and age, 2000+ years later.

It teaches us how to welcome, how to trust, how to celebrate, how God speaks. If you practice it, telling it at all different moments of the day, you might find yourself living in a different way (for we are all in need of repentance). And that will be Good News of glad tidings all over again.



Do you enjoy making bread from scratch? Have you always wanted to learn how to make your own, but are just a little intimidated by the process? Want to hang out, learn some new recipes and think about the way that God works on your spirit?

Bread Church

Thursday December 15

7pm Gym

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED