

The Newsletter

September 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:

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September 2016



Getting ready for FaithLabors!

As has been our habit for the past several years, on the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend, we will be offering ourselves in service.

This year, to mix it up a little bit, we will only have a couple of projects "on site". We will have cards in the sanctuary for you to write your own service opportunity in—it can be onsite or offsite. Suggestions for offsite projects you and your family can do:

Visit a shut-in

Deliver cookies to Fire Stations, Ronald McDonald House and EMS

Explore volunteer opportunities at places like Mobile Loaves and Fishes

Walk dogs or play with cats at the Austin Animal Center (check their website for volunteer information)

During that week, if we have a card for you and your project, we will mail you a very short survey that can help us to tell the stories. Bring that back on Y'all Come Sunday September 11, and we'll celebrate all our ways of service!



News from the Pews

Submitted by **Billie Nixon**
Membership Coordinator

Doyce René Anderson

1958 - 2016



Doyce René Anderson passed away July 29, 2016 in Austin, Texas. He was born July 27, 1958 in Longview, Texas, the son of Audis René and Wanda Cregg Anderson. Doyce graduated from Reagan High School in Austin in 1976, and then went on to graduate from the [University of Texas](#) in 1982 with a business degree in Petroleum Land Management. He married Deborah Lynn Gersch and moved to beautiful Jackson Hole, Wyoming where they built their own home and their children were born. They later returned to Austin and Doyce was hired by the UT Campus Police Department where he was the top cadet academically in their academy. He soon became a Texas Game Warden, and was transferred to Dalhart, Texas for two years. He and his family then moved to acreage in McKinney, Texas where they enjoyed dogs, cats, chickens, and his beloved horses. After retiring as a Game Warden, Doyce moved back to Austin to be closer to his children and family. Doyce enjoyed playing guitar, western films, his animals, visiting Wyoming, Texas football, and his grandson Mason.

Mr. Anderson is preceded in death by his father Audis Rene' Anderson and his nephew Lee Brandon Walker. Mr. Anderson is survived by his wife Deborah; two children, Damon Anderson and Kayla Anderson Fuller, and grandson Mason Fuller of Austin; mother, Wanda Anderson of Austin; sisters, Pam Burnette and husband Tom of Plano; Gail Hughes and husband Robert of Austin; nieces, nephews, and many other family members who loved him dearly. Memorials may be made to the [Leukemia Society](#) or favorite charity.

His memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 2nd at Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705.



Love and concern go out
to Lela Barker and
Wanda Anderson for the
deaths that have
occurred in their
families.

Matthew Alan Barker

August 21, 1991 - August 8, 2016

Matthew Alan Barker, age 24, passed away on Monday, August 8, 2016. He was born on August 21, 1991, the son of Ken and Shara (Babyak) Barker. He graduated from Round Rock High School in 2010. Matthew worked for Casa Mechanical until he went to work

for TNT Field Service, and then as a subcontractor for EOG in the oil industry. Matthew started his own successful business in 2015. Matthew was also a master welder.

Matthew loved anything country. He loved to hunt, fish, ride and rope, and swore by his Ford truck. His southern charm and manners gained him respect by all.

Matthew is survived by his father and stepmother, Ken and Tracey Barker of Round Rock; his mother and stepfather, Shara and Brian Babyak of Florence; his sister and her husband, Kristen and Rustin Feller, and their son Jaxon of Leander; his brother John and his sister Alyssa, both at home. He also leaves his maternal grandparents, Vic and Carol Babyak, and Roze and Monty Strohmeier; and his paternal grandparents, Floyd and Jennie Barker, Lela Barker, and Bob Farrell. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A memorial service celebrating Matthew's life was held at 10:30 am, Saturday, August 13, 2016 at Kingdom Point Church, 1351 FM 1460, Georgetown, TX, 78626.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider donations to the Families For Depression Awareness (FFDA) organization. Donations can be made in Matthew's name on their website: www.familyaware.org or can be mailed to FFDA, 391 Totten Pond Road, Suite 101, Waltham, MA 02451.

HONORS 90 + Member Celebration

The Ice Cream Social held on July 31st to honor our 90+ members was a howling success.

Don Morrison, our newest member to this prestige club was there to be honored.



Lester Bryant, son Gary & beautiful daughter, Debbie Bryant were in attendance.

Katherine Eaker, daughter & Linda came.

Grace Morris & daughter really enjoyed themselves.

Those who contacted us and were unable to come were:

Cleo Wilson- sprained ankle

Kay Allen - just moved further south

Dorothy Burnup - not feeling well

Dorothy Johnson - had a conflict

Betty Samples - had a home care issue

Others members of the 90+ club not in attendance are: Ann Bryant; Jane Shive; Mildred McCullough; Janet Clark & Bill Head.

We have 15 members that are honored to be in this special category!

Oh yes, I cannot leave out that in addition to plenty of ice cream, we had a special treat with Herb & Jan Purtle's homemade peach cream; it won the prize.

God has blessed us with this wonderful group of Christian Witnesses and we appreciate each and every one of them for their service and wonderful examples over the years.



We are so pleased to announce that Renée Wardrum Simmons & Gerry Almquist became members on Sunday August 28, 2016.

Renée Simmons is not a new comer to us. She had been an active member before she and Bill Simmons married. They transferred to Pflugerville United Methodist but since he is now deceased she chose to rejoin us.

Gerry Almquist transferred to us from Asbury United Methodist Church in Austin. She has always been an active member and I'm sure she will be a blessing to us.

We are blessed to receive these new members and if there are others who wish to join, please call the church office or Pastor Cynthia Kepler-Karrer for more information.



Women's News

Submitted by:
Submitted by Alberta Shelton

Although the United Methodist Women took a short break from meetings over the summer, we were still busy.

1. The Executive Committee met in July. They voted to give \$300 to the Montopolis Friendship Community Center scholarship Fund for children attending our pre-school program. Parents pay \$100 and Friendship Center picks up the rest of the cost. The school these children attend after leaving our program has said that these children are some of the best prepared children for school they have seen. Our scholarship program for college students from the area also continues as well as our many other outreaches. Attendees at the Rio Texas UMW Conference will have the opportunity to tour our facility. Donations are happily received for either program.

(continued on Page 4)

Women's News

Continued

2. We were able to pay all of our year's pledge to missions and send extra money to JFON (Justice For Our Neighbors). We hope to send additional money to missions before the year is out. If you haven't paid your pledge, please do so.
3. We will have two Five Star Women this year - Patty Marcum and Alberta Shelton.
4. UMW women worked long and hard along with help from Pat Marcum to clean out the Gore Children's Library Room which had become a trash dump. With the help from the parents of our Girl Scout Group, all the books have been moved to the Anderson Chapel where they will be more accessible to Wesley School. We still must reorganize the books. If you would like to help with this project, let us know.
5. We hosted the Church Women United's Annual Retreat and Planning for the next year.
6. We will attend the Capital District meeting in September.
7. We will host the Rio Texas Conference UMW meeting in October. Help will be needed setting up the breakfast (which will be mostly catered) and the luncheon where we will use the Western decorations from Ya'll Come luncheon. This is also catered. We need hostesses to show people around and see that they are comfortable.
8. BIF met in August at the new home of Stephanie and Larry Lacy in Georgetown. We had a lovely luncheon provided by our hostess and a great time of fellowship. We will meet the Tuesday after Labor Day at the church and view a film biography of Fanny Crosby. Come join us.
9. Wanda Adams, Alberta Shelton, Holly Wright and Kamika Streets attended Mission U in Kerrville at Mt. Wesley. Wanda and Alberta took courses in "The Bible and Human Sexuality" and "Climate Justice". The girls took a course on "Climate Justice" and enjoyed hiking through the hills and watching the deer. They all enjoyed the pool.



Troop 172 Girl Scout News

Our Troop of Girl Scouts was recognized as one of the top troops in our area. We had the top cookie seller, selling more than 2,000 boxes. The Troop has met regularly all summer and recently enjoyed a day at Fiesta Texas on their cookie money. They will be going to the San Antonio Zoo and also camping out at McKinney Falls. Several girls enjoyed a campout at Camp Champions near Marble Falls. We have two groups, Juniors and Brownies and 15 girls.

The parents helped clean out the old Gore Library and move the books to the Anderson Chapel. This room, next to the Boy Scout Room, is now officially the Girl Scout Room. They were so thrilled to have their own space where they could keep their supplies and not have to bring them back and forth and they could set up displays. They really appreciate the hospitality of the church.



Y'ALL COME

YA'LL COME SUNDAY

Invite your Friends and Neighbors
to come celebrate our
Annual Fall Ya'll Come Sunday Dinner
A covered dish luncheon
September 11, 2016
11:45 a.m. (in the gym)
See Billie Nixon to sign up to help



September Birthdays

- 1st Geoffrey Adams
Bob Johnson
John Alan Nixon
- 3rd Sandra Amundson
Nathanial Rodriguez
Hannah Smith
- 4th Hildegarde Kothman Cook
- 7th Charles Waits
- 9th Billy Ray Capps
- 10th Bea Bailey
Kenneth Jourdan
David Rychlik
- 11th Keven McFarland
- 12th Pricilla Bissett
Kristin Shelton
Taylor Elaine Stewart
- 19th Pat Teaney
- 21st Afton Phoenix Petersen
- 22nd Diana Valastro
- 23rd Isabel Shelton
Irene Wright
- 24th Jason Petersen
- 25th Cameron Rodgers
Irene Shelton
- 26th Kathy Weimer Gray
- 27th Marsha Fowler



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Thursday, September 1

Friday, September 2

9:30 am Church Women United - Parlor

Saturday, September 3

FaithLabor Projects

Sunday, September 4

8:30 am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, September 5 Labor Day

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, September 6

9:30 am BIF - Pearce

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

Wednesday, September 7

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 8

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

7:00 pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

Friday, September 9

9:00 am D.A.S. Grand Adult Days - Parlor

Saturday, September 10

10:00am-11:30am WPNA - Gym/FHL

1:00pm-6:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Sunday, September 11 Ya'll Come Sunday

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

11:45 am Ya'll Come Luncheon - Gym

Monday, September 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, September 13

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor
6:00 pm Wesley Board - Pearce
7:00 pm- 10:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Wednesday, September 14

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm- 10:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Thursday, September 15

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor
10:00 am Reading and Library
7:00 pm - 10:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Pearce
7:00 pm Bread Church - Gym

Friday, September 16

7:00 pm - 10:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Saturday, September 17

1:00 pm - 6:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Sunday, September 18

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am Worship Service
5:00 pm - 9:00pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Monday, September 19

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, September 20

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor
10:00 am Honeybees - Pearce
3:30pm - 7:00pm I35 Open House - Gym
6:00 pm NAMI Support - Pearce

Wednesday, September 21

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir room

Thursday, September 22

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

Friday, September 23

Saturday, September 24

Sunday, September 25

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am- Worship Service

Monday, September 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, September 27

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

Wednesday, September 28

6:00 pm Reading & Library
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 29

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

Friday, September 30



2016 Calendar for Altar Flowers Posted

Altar flowers may be given in memory or honor of loved ones or for special mission projects .

Fill out a form designating your wish and leave at the office or drop it off in the offering plate on Sunday. Bouquets are \$20.00 each - two maximum per Sunday. Stop and sign up today.



Pastor's Corner

“Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.” -- “Memorial Acclamation”, *United Methodist communion liturgy*

I have been contemplating this line from our communion liturgy now for several months, mostly because I attended two worship services within a couple of months (in other places) where they got the words wrong. They used a past tense instead of a present tense and the line read: “Christ has died, Christ *has* risen, Christ will come again.”

It’s an easy enough mistake to make since *has* and *is* sound similar enough. And doesn’t it make sense to say that Christ has risen?—I mean, there aren’t any stones rolled away today. This event did happen in the past.

But there’s so much more to it than that.

In this world, the headlines mostly seem to be bleaker every time we look. I actually don’t think that’s anything new—I think that we have improved our ability to get information out such that we hear almost instantly of a bomb or an attack or a scandal or an inflammatory speech or a shooting or a natural disaster. We live not only our own experiences but the experiences of the entire rest of the world.

That should be enough to convince us of the reality of sin.

It’s also enough to lead us into despair, to long to “return to the good old days” (before Adam and Eve ate?). We believe that the “good days” are all in the past.

But here’s what our statement says: “Christ IS risen.” Not *has*, IS. It’s a small distinction, but incredibly important. Christ IS risen to be in the midst of the disaster. Christ IS risen to be in the midst of our struggles. Christ IS risen to be with the poor. Christ IS risen to be with those who suffer and mourn. Christ IS risen. Today. Now. Even in the midst of what looks so messed up we don’t know how it can be redeemed.

Rich Mullins, in his last album, wrote:

“Time cannot contain You. You fill eternity.

Death can never stain You. Death has lost its sting.

And I cannot explain how You came to love me, except to say that nothing is beyond You” (“Nothing Is Beyond You”)

If we have this assurance that Christ IS risen and is able to work all of these things in us, we need to say with assurance that Christ IS risen in this world. That nothing is beyond the power of Christ. That death may be our past, but Christ IS our present and our future. This is not just a line in the middle of communion. This is life for those who see only death and Good News for those who have only heard the bad.

Whatever tragedy comes, we can state clearly, “Christ IS risen.” And then we can get to work, being the embodiment of the Risen Christ in the midst of the brokenness. So don’t simply add to the brokenness, thinking that by somehow doing that, you can get back to the past. Christ IS risen. Here. Now. For you. For me. For everyone. Amen.



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 September 15th

7pm Gym

The Newsletter



September is not only Back To School, it has many Holidays, some you know well, others may be less known but interesting.

- Labor Day September 5
- Grandparents Day September 10
- Patriot Day September 11
- Constitution Day September 17
- Talk Like a Pirate Day September 19
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- National Potato Month
- National Chicken Month
- National Piano Month
- National Biscuit Month



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED