



Pulpit & Pew

July 2009
Established 1897

A Monthly Newsletter from Grace United Methodist Church

205 East Monroe, Austin, Texas

512/442-5944

<http://www.graceumcaustx.org>

Rev. Linda M. Kessie, Pastor



Grace at a Glance ***What's happening this month...***

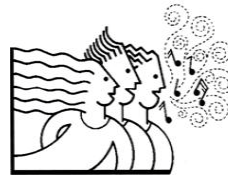
- July 3rd, Church Office Closed
- July 4th, Travis Heights Fourth of July Parade and Picnic (see page 3 for details)
- July 9th, 5am-7am, Feed the Homeless at First UMC Family Life Center
- July 16th, 7pm, Administrative Council Meeting in Fellowship Hall
- No Summer Sing-A-Long Services during the month of July (details on page 2)

Please check the church calendar regularly on our website calendar (www.graceumcaustx.org/calendar.htm) for new or updated activities



July Birthdays

Nancy Lindsay, July 7 th	Katie Marrs, July 16 th
Aileen Simms, July 8 th	Cecelia Jones, July 17 th
Betsy Pirie, July 18 th	



Summer Sing-Along Service

There will be no Summer Sing-A-Long Services during the month of July. Stefen

Kane, Grace Music Director, states that the heat is stifling and the expense for air conditioning is just a bit too much during these economically challenging times.



PRAYER CORNER

Aileen Simms	Paul Holman
Rosemarie Burney	Joe & Josie Reschman
Zackery Morris	Theresa Jenkins
Ann Everitt	Ellen Stockberger
David Baker	Sylvia Villada
Darwin Dunson	Karie Strahan
Katie Kennedy & family	Patricia Mitschelen
Chick Shellhase	Maggie Vaden
Pat Newell	Jerry Maksymowicz
Paul Gammill	Kaelie Douglass
Janice Palm	Carolyn Minter
Randy Peters	All in US military service

July Worship Service Volunteers

Michael Rowley will be our reader for July. Nancy Lindsay and Michael Rowley will serve as volunteer ushers.

COMMUNION OFFERING

South Austin Assistance Ministry (SAAM)



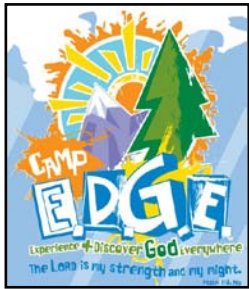
July 5th Holy Communion Service
Your communion offerings will go to SAAM. SAAM is a partnership between churches in south Austin and Travis County Health and Human Services and assists with rent, utilities, prescriptions, and clothing for those in need.

Southwest Texas Conference Report

Each June, Methodists from across the Southwest Texas Conference gather in Corpus Christi for fellowship, worship, education, and business meetings. This year Rev. Linda Kessie, David Mitschelen, and Vanessa De La Rosa represented Grace.

Four focal areas of ministry have been identified by the United Methodist Church: Developing Principled Christian Leaders for the Church and World, Stamping Out Killer Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally, Creating New Places for New People and Renewing Existing Congregations, and Engaging in Ministry with the Poor. In keeping with these areas we are encouraged to Rethink Church – to view church as something we do, not somewhere we go. This includes making welcoming and accommodating growth a congregational cultural characteristic, participating in the Nothing but Nets campaign to benefit the Sierra Leone region of Africa, engaging the youth of our church and community, encouraging youth who may feel called to enter ministry, and reaching out to the poverty stricken in our community and globally through outreach programs and by addressing the root causes of poverty. The leadership of Grace will be working to incorporate these focal areas in the coming year.

- Vanessa De La Rosa and David Mitschelen



Vacation Bible School Update

VBS this year was held in the evening in hopes that more parents would bring their children and participate in the adult study offerings themselves. Although we had

only 8 children at VBS, all involved, children and adults, had a blast. Camp Edge taught the participants how to Experience & Discover God Everywhere. The fellowship hall was transformed into a forest campsite and the kids loved to hear the stories with Blaze the Camp Guide and Sparks the Handsome Fox. We hope that next year will be another successful year.

-Claudia Drinovsky

From the Pastor...

Wisdom of the Cherokee

An elder Cherokee Native American was teaching his grandchildren about life. He said to them, "A fight is going on inside me. It is a terrible fight, and it is between two wolves. One wolf represents fear, anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, pride and superiority. The other wolf stands for joy, peace, love, hope, sharing, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, friendship, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. This same fight is going on inside of you and every other person, too."

They thought about it for a minute and then one child asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?" The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one I feed."

-Linda Kessie



Grace Continues To Go Green!

In partnership with the City of Austin, all of the lighting fixtures (with the

exception of special lighting in the sanctuary) have been replaced with new energy efficient lighting fixtures.



Travis Heights Fourth of July Parade and Picnic

This event, sponsored by the South River City Citizens neighborhood association, is a Travis Heights tradition and great fun for the whole family. The parade begins at St. Edward's University at 11 am. It's an informal family parade with decorated bikes, wagons, motor scooters, etc. and processes down Eastside Drive to Little Stacy Park, where there are more festivities including music, games, and swimming (wading pool), and usually a speech or two. You can join the parade (be at St. Ed's at 10:45) or just watch from anywhere along Eastside. It's a potluck picnic this year, so please bring your favorite dish to share! As in years past, Grace will have a tent giving away plants and providing information on the church and events like the Blessing of the Animals to be held on September 16th. We hope to see everyone there! Help with the booth or just drop by for a visit.



Event to Raise Money for Nothing But Nets

Bishop Jim Dorff and other United Methodists will join with the San Antonio Silver Stars July 17 to raise money for Nothing But Nets. The event will begin at 7 pm at the AT&T Center in San Antonio. Your \$20 ticket will get you a great lower level seat, a hot dog, chips and a drink. But most importantly, the Silver Stars will donate \$5 from every ticket you buy toward the purchase of a \$10 Nothing But Nets bed net that could protect a young child from malaria and other insect-borne illnesses.

Nothing But Nets is a global, grass-roots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. *Sports Illustrated* columnist Rick Reilly challenged his readers to donate \$10 for the purchase of an anti-malaria bed net, and thousands of people have joined the campaign. The people of The United Methodist Church, along with *Sports Illustrated*, NBA Cares, the United Nations Foundation and several other groups, are raising funds to purchase bed nets to end malaria.

To purchase tickets, contact Cynthia Bedford at the United Methodist Center offices, 210-408-4527 or cynthia@umcswtx.org.

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	2 9 AM Quilters, Fellowship Hall	3 Office closed – July 4 th holiday 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	4  4 th July Travis Heights 4 th of July Parade and Picnic – Little Stacy Park
5	6 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	7 9:00 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study in Fellowship Hall	8 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	9 5 - 7 AM Grace UMC volunteers prepare & serve breakfast at 1st UMC Family Life Center 9 AM Quilters, Fellowship Hall	10 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	11
12	13 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	14 9:00 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study in Fellowship Hall	15 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	16 9:00 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Administrative Council Meeting in Fellowship Hall	17 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	18
19	20 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous 6:00 PM SRCC Executive Committee Meetings in Conference Room	21 9:00 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM SRCC Historic District Project-- Conference Room	22 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous	23 9 AM Quilters, Fellowship Hall	24 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	25
26	27 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	28 9:00 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall 7 PM DISCIPLE II Bible Study in Fellowship Hall	29 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	30 9 AM Quilters in Fellowship Hall	31 5:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	



Grace United Methodist Church
205 E Monroe St
Austin TX 78704-2424



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE



Our Vision Statement: Grace United Methodist Church invites all, welcomes all, and includes all in the Faith, Hope, and Love of God through Jesus Christ.

Our Mission Statement: We seek to include all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, gender, physical ability or sexual orientation in the journey of becoming disciples of Jesus Christ.

YOUR STAFF AT GRACE UMC



Linda Kessie, Pastor



Cheryl Rader,
Administrative Assistant



John Jordan,
Facilities Caretaker



Stefen Kane, Music Director
Les Young, Pianist/Organist