



# Pulpit & Pew

January 2011  
Established 1897

**A Monthly Newsletter from Grace United Methodist Church**

205 East Monroe, Austin, Texas 78704 512/442-5944

<http://www.gracemethodistaustin.org>

**Rev. Linda M. Kessie, Pastor**



## ***What's Happening at Grace in January?...***

- ***January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11:00AM***      ***Epiphany Sunday Celebration with covered dish lunch Epiphany Party following worship***
- ***January 13<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 AM***      ***Feed My People, preparing and serving breakfast to the homeless at First UMC Annex Building, 13th and Lavaca Streets***
- ***January 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM***      ***Administrative Council meets***
- ***January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00AM***      ***Rethink Leadership training for all elected church leaders at Westlake UMC, 1460 Red Bud Trail, Austin***
- ***January 30<sup>th</sup>, 11:00AM***      ***Pecan Street Brass Quintet will play during worship and 5th Sunday covered dish lunch following worship***

Please check the church calendar regularly for new or updated activities by using our website calendar. Visit <http://www.gracemethodistaustin.org> and look for the side bar listing **Resources** in bold-faced red. Click on the Grace Events Calendar link.



## Epiphany Party



Epiphany means a sudden, intuitive perception or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something. For the church, Epiphany is a Christian festival, observed on January 6, which remembers and celebrates the revealing of Christ to the gentiles in the persons of the Wise Men. It's a day to celebrate! So Grace Church will celebrate on Sunday January 2, 2011 following worship with a covered dish lunch and Epiphany Party. Bring food to share and come planning to enjoy as we eat and sing and name three kings who will share their king's cake with us!

## Thank You!

We your Church staff thank you for your gracious Christmas love gifts to us! It is a joy to serve God with you here at Grace Church, and we very much appreciate your support of our work.

John Jordan      Stefen Kane      Linda Kessie  
Cas Longo      Cheryl Rader  
Stefanie Flatt      Sara Young  
Les Young



## COMMUNION OFFERING

The **January 2nd Holy Communion special offering** will go to SoCo Ministries, a joint ministry to the homeless which we share with Congress Ave Baptist Church and Christ Lutheran Church. SoCo Ministries churches hand out sack lunches to the homeless This offering provides for the purchase of individual sized lunch foods for sack lunches for the homeless.



## New Year's Resolution: Make a Difference

When making your New Year's resolutions this year, add giving back! Grace Church supports many ministries in and around Austin, including those listed below.

**Caritas** is inviting you to schedule time to volunteer at Caritas in 2011. Ask friends, family or co-workers to help organize a food drive to feed families or donate your skills in Caritas' office.

Want to hear more about how you can make a difference at Caritas in the new year? Join us for the next Volunteer Open House on January 11. Contact Molly Sipe at [msipe@caritasofaustin.org](mailto:msipe@caritasofaustin.org) or call 512.646.1291 to sign up for the morning session from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. or the evening session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. More information about volunteering is available at <http://caritasofaustin.org/volunteers/index.php>.

**Clothing Donations Wanted:** Donations of clean and gently used clothing are greatly desired for the Travis County Offices clothes closet. Clothes can be dropped off at the County office on Post Road, or bring them to the church office, and we will deliver them for you!

## Volunteers Are Needed! Once a week - Once a month - Once a year

Faith in Action Caregivers - South Austin has seen a 29% increase in service requests to date from 2009. They are looking for volunteers in all areas to help meet those needs. Volunteers not only serve as drivers, but are needed to make home visits and social telephone calls; provide office assistance; and make minor home repairs. Board members are also needed. If you or someone you know would enjoy working with older adults, please call: 512.445.5552 or email [sa@fiacaregivers.org](mailto:sa@fiacaregivers.org). (Faith in Action Caregivers - South Austin office is housed in Grace UMC)



**John Wesley's Rules for Christian Living**

"Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can."

**Light the Way, Lord!**



**PRAYER CORNER**

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jean Adams                   | Betty Bratton           |
| Rosemarie Burney             | Leonard Cain            |
| Bernice Caldwell & family    | Charley Holloway        |
| Michael Christelman & family | Dove Family             |
| Wesley & Marie Helgren       | Paul Holman             |
| John DeLaRosa family         | Theresa Jenkins         |
| JR & Melinda Edwards         | Judy Jordan             |
| Katie Kennedy & family       | Kenneth Leenen          |
| Lynn Lefave                  | Family of Dorothy Kelso |
| Gordon Kelso                 | Betty Lusk              |
| Zelma Mills                  | Adah Morris             |
| Zackery Morris               | Pat Newell              |
| Mary Nichols                 | Janice Palm             |
| Valerie Phillips             | Mr & Mrs Resehman       |
| Suzanne & Grant Scott        | Aileen Simms            |
| Ellen Stockberger            | Ella Stone              |
| Karie Strahan                | Charles Turland         |

All men & women in military service  
Grace United Methodist Church

**Children of Grace!**

Family and Friends of Grace,

We volunteered to help a family in need this Christmas. Following is the list of items given to the Gomez family: Gift Cards to HEB = \$275, Gift Card to Walmart = \$50, Gift Card to Target = \$100, 3 Haircuts, CD Boombox, Slippers for John, father of family, Gown and Robe for mother of family Xylia, Chatter Phone, 2 Dolls, Art Kit, Baby Einstein Book, Nail Kit with polish and remove, Diapers, Wipes, Undies. Promised (not yet received): night gown for Xylia, discman, winter coat for Bubba.

Thank you for your generosity! Please contact Cas Longo at [caslongo@yahoo.com](mailto:caslongo@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

-Cas Longo



**Grace Notes Choir**

Hello Grace Family!

It's never too late to join Grace Notes Choir! As we strive to enhance the services at Grace UMC through the gift of music, we invite you to be a part of the glorious sounds that lie ahead. Come Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord! May God bless and keep you well during the winter months.

Musically yours,  
Stefen Kane, Music Director



## Your United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Money at Work...

### HAITI: TWO EMH SCHOOLS TO BE REBUILT

Some 418 students will have a new, safe place to learn and succeed thanks to a grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) that matched another from the Association des Amis d’Haiti (ASAH).

The grants will allow the reconstruction of two schools in the Methodist Church of Haiti education system, Bois Gency and Hyacinthe, which were damaged in the January 12, 2010, earthquake. The schools will be rebuilt according to hurricane- and earthquake-resistance standards.

Learn more about UMCOR’s long-term relief and recovery work in Haiti. Your gift to **Haiti Emergency, UMCOR Advance #418325**, supports UMCOR’s partnership with the people of Haiti as they seek to rebuild their country. One hundred percent of your gift helps the Haitian people.



### CROP Walk

In 2010 Grace Church raised \$800 for CROP Hunger Walk! CROP is an annual nationwide event

sponsored locally by AAIM. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised stay in Austin to support food needs in local agencies. The rest go to more than 80 countries to alleviate hunger worldwide. Austin has consistently ranked among the top 6 cities across the U.S. in CROP Walk fundraising!

The next CROP Walk is March 5 & 6, 2011. Visit [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org) for more information, and to sign up and begin raising dollars to help end hunger.

## Rethink Leadership 2011

A workshop for all elected lay leaders of the church is set for January 22 at Westlake UMC (1460) Redbud Trail, Austin, TX). Doors open at 9 AM for fellowship and registration, followed by the annual address by District Superintendent Bobbi Kaye Jones at 9:30. A number of workshops will follow from 10:30-12:00, including a time for clergy to meet with Bishop Dorff as he shares his agenda for creating a culture of growth in the Southwest Texas Conference. Other workshops include: **Creating a Culture of Generosity**, with Rev. Michael Reeves of University UMC-San Antonio and **Who is Our Neighbor? Hispanic/Latino Culture in Central Texas**, presented by Perla Cavazos, a policy analyst at Texas Legal Services Center, along with **Intro to Finance, Intro to Staff/Pastor parish Relations**, and **Intro to Trustees**.

Following the event, Bishop Dorff will meet with S/PPRC chairs and Lay Leaders to share his agenda for creating a culture of growth with them.

Childcare is available by calling the Austin District Office (444.1983) by January 7.

### January Birthdays

Harry Buckholts, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dita Williams, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Allan Myler, 14<sup>th</sup>  
Mary Nichols, 19<sup>th</sup>  
David Peterman, 22<sup>th</sup>

Geneva Ellis, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Anika Drinovsky, 13<sup>th</sup>  
Vivian Crow, 17<sup>th</sup>  
Diane Gouveia, 21<sup>th</sup>  
Michael Rowley, 25<sup>th</sup>



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



**Les Young,**  
 Pianist/Organist  
**Stefen Kane,**  
 Music Director



**Cas Longo,**  
 Director,  
 Children's Ministry