



Pulpit & Pew

June 2011
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...?

- June 2. 6 pm. Summer Seasonal Planning Team meeting in church library.
- June 5. 12:30 pm. Confirmation Class meeting.
- June 9. 5-7 am. Feed My People at FUMC.
- June 8-11. Annual Conference in Corpus Christi. Adam Fambrough and Rev. Linda Kessie attend as delegates from Grace UMC. Please keep the conference in your prayers as we elect delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences, and conduct the work of the church.
- June 12. 11 am. Pentecost. Celebration of the birth of the Christian church.
- June 19. 7 pm. Administrative Council meets in fellowship hall.
- June 19. 11 am. Peace with Justice Sunday in worship.
- June 26. 11 am. Church Camp Sunday. In the tradition of church camps everywhere, our most informal worship of the year.
- June 28. 7 pm. Disciple III Bible Study class will resume after a 3 week hiatus. (Disciple class will not meet on June 7, 14, or 21)

Please check the church calendar regularly on our website calendar (<http://www.graceumcaustx.org>) for new or updated activities. You will find the link for the calendar under the Resources heading on the right hand side of the home page, or you can click on the calendar tab at the top of the home page.



Administrative Council Meeting

Cindy Anderson, current Fulmore Middle School PTA president, and Gloria Lee, parent of former and current Fulmore students, made a presentation to the council about Fulmore's current situation and needs. As well as being a predominantly low income student population, Fulmore is losing 12 teachers and one asst. principal due to budget cuts and will have to share their parental support person with another school. The students are in need of basic school supplies as well as backpacks, clothes for their clothing closet, shoes, coats, hats & gloves. Reverend Kessie appointed Cas Long as liaison with Fulmore. Kathy Calnan would like to help coordinate a backpack drive.

The Trustees reported minor flooding in the Fellowship Hall after the recent rain. PPR is getting started on finding a new music director. Memorials given in honor of Bernice Caldwell will be used to revamp the Fellowship Hall and a formal task force made up of Sharon Howell, Kathy Calnan, and Elaine Chaney was appointed. Memorials given in honor of Stanley Peterman will be used to plant crepe myrtles and dedicate a bench in the courtyard.

The Reconciling Ministries Network project at Grace Committee has met, and it was decided that the best way to reach our congregation is during Sunday worship, possibly on Peace with Justice Sunday - June 19 and the Shower of Stoles on the 5th Sunday in July. Linda requested an article be written for the Pulpit and Pew regarding what being a reconciling ministry means.

Homeowners on Nickerson between Monroe & Milton want parking restrictions on their street. There will be a neighborhood meeting with a representative from the Austin Transportation Department on May 31 in the Fellowship hall.

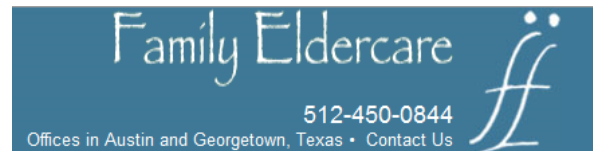
It was decided that when no one has signed up to provide flowers for the sanctuary during Sunday worship we will not have flowers. In the past, the church has paid for flowers when no one has signed up for them, but this cost is not in our budget.



Communion Offering

Holy Communion *June 5 Holy Communion Service*

The June special communion offering will go to Elder Care Fan Drive. The Summer Fan Drive serves low-income seniors, adults with disabilities and families with children. Family Eldercare's Summer Fan Drive meets a critical basic need: relief from life-threatening heat for those who do not have or cannot afford a fan or air-conditioning. The Summer Fan Drive also provides an opportunity to identify other unmet basic needs these individuals have, such as food, housing or medical care, and connect them to community resources to address these needs. For more information on Family Elder Care and its services, please visit <http://www.familyeldercare.org/>.



Disaster Relief Training

Hurricane Season is here. Now is the time to get trained, equipped, and certified to respond. To prepare the Body of Christ in the event of disaster, The Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN) has put together an extensive Training Conference with nationally recognized experts and renowned guest speakers. ADRN's goal is to train, equip and certify participants. Choose from a variety of disaster readiness workshops. Listen to experts as they give advice in the areas of Personal & Family Preparedness, Community Emergency Response, Emotional Readiness, Biblical Readiness, medical Preparedness, and much more!

ADRN will hold their 2011 ADRN Training Conference on Friday, June 10th &* Saturday, June 11th at First Evangelical Free Church, 4220 Monterey oaks Blvd, Austin, 78749. All participantys must pre-register online before attending the training conference: www.adrntx.org. Online registration after May 20th is \$70 per person for both days, and \$40 per day per person.



PRAYER CORNER

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jean Adams | Betty Bratton |
| Rosemarie Burney | Leonard Cain |
| Raul Candias | Michael Christelman & family |
| Andrea Davis & family | Dove family |
| Michael Dudash | Wesley & Marie Helgren |
| Charley Holloway | Paul Holman |
| Mitch Howell | Bonnye Ivy |
| Theresa Jenkins | Gloria Jimenez |
| Judy Jordan | Doris Kalina |
| Katie Kennedy & family | Kenneth Leenen |
| Lynn Lefave | Betty Lusk |
| Adah Morris | Zackery Morris |
| Amy Mueller | Pat Newell |
| Mary Nichols | Valerie Phillips |
| Joe Rychoff | Suzanne & Grant Scott |
| Aileen Simms | Ellen Stockberger |
| Bill Stone | Ella Stone |
| Karie Strahan | Tornado Victims |

All who are struggling with addiction and those who love them

All men & women in military service
Grace United Methodist Church

Delegates to Annual Conference

Candidates for delegate to General Conference



Reconciling Ministry at Grace

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

II Corinthians 5:18

A Reconciling Taskforce was recently formed to initiate and facilitate discussions around GUMC publicly declaring itself a Reconciling Congregation and joining the national Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). RMN is working for the removal of discriminatory language against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) persons from the Book of Discipline with the goal of recognizing the

promise of full participation in the church given to **all** in the same book.

The Reconciling Taskforce will sponsor several events in the coming months to help our church prayerfully consider this important decision. In particular, please look for special presentations during worship on Peace with Justice Sunday June 19th and on July 31st. The Fifth Sunday lunch on July 31st will also provide an opportunity for education and discussion to supplement the usual fellowship and good food.

The members of the Reconciling Taskforce are Vanessa De La Rosa, Adam Fambrough, David Jester, Stephen Kane, Bill Stone, and Elaine Chaney. The Taskforce welcomes input from the entire congregation during this process and requests that comments and questions be sent to reconciling@gracemethodistaustin.org.

When I Say That I'm a Christian

When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that 'I am clean living. **I'm whispering 'I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven.'**

When I say 'I am a Christian', I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian', I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian', I'm not bragging of success. **I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.**

When I say 'I am a Christian', I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian', I still feel the sting of pain. **I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.**

When I say 'I am a Christian', I'm not holier than thou; I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!



June Birthdays

David Arnold	June 10
Kay Burrough	June 12
Kevin Wall	June 24
Jason Flenniken	June 26
Dorothy Bos	June 28
Donna Peterman	June 30



Vacation Bible School

This summer Grace UMC and Parker Lane UMC will be working together to offer **Jesus Truth Seekers Mission Possible VBS**.

VBS will be held at Parker Lane UMC, July 18, 19, and 20. Dinner will be served at 5:00p.m. Breakout sessions will begin at 6:00p.m. and last until 8:00p.m.

For more information, please contact Cas Longo, Director of Children's Ministries. caslongo@yahoo.com or 512-589-1046.



Grace UMC
+ Fulmore Middle School
= Hope

Grace UMC and Fulmore Middle School are teaming up to help build a brighter tomorrow for the future leaders of our neighborhood, city, state, nation, and world.

We don't even have to wait until the new school year to start our work. We can begin by using the Fulmore School numbers for local programs that donate back to the school.

- Target REDcard (Take Charge of Education): **96087**
- Office Depot 5% Back to Schools: **70094559**
- Randalls Good Neighbor Program: **12037**
- SchoolPAX: **969J**
 - (Foot Locker, 1-800 Flowers, Verizon, Travelocity)
 - www.schoolpax.org
- My Coke Rewards - select Fulmore Middle School
 - www.mycokerewards.com
- Amazon School Rewards: use this link to make purchases
 - <http://www.amazon.com/?encoding=UTF8&tag=fulmmidscho-20>

We will begin collecting school supplies in early August. The students are going to need backpacks to carry those school supplies. So, over the summer, feel free to pick up new or gently used backpacks for us to fill.

There are many more ways that we can help. More information about those opportunities will be coming soon!

Please contact Cas Longo at caslongo@yahoo.com or 512-589-1046 if you have any questions.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1 5:30pm - 1313 AA	2 6pm - Summer Worship 7:30pm - PPR Meeting	3 5:30pm - 1313 AA	4
5 9:15am - Choir 9:30am - Children's 9:50am - Susanna's 11am - Sunday Worship 2:30pm - Pecan Street	6 5:30pm - 1313 AA 7:15pm - SRCC	7	8 5:30pm - 1313 AA	9 5am - Feed My People	10 5:30pm - 1313 AA	11
12 Pentecost Sunday 9:15am - Choir 9:30am - Children's 9:50am - Susanna's 11am - Sunday Worship 2:30pm - Pecan Street	13 5:30pm - 1313 AA 7pm - Reconciling Task	14	15 12pm - SAAM Board 5:30pm - 1313 AA	16 7pm - Administrative	17 5:30pm - 1313 AA	18 11am - Scrapbooking
19 9:15am - Choir 9:30am - Children's 9:50am - Susanna's 11am - Sunday Worship 2:30pm - Pecan Street	20 5:30pm - 1313 AA 6pm - SRCC Exec.	21	22 5:30pm - 1313 AA	23	24 5:30pm - 1313 AA	25
26 9:15am - Choir 9:30am - Children's 9:50am - Susanna's 11am - Church Camp 2:30pm - Pecan Street	27 5:30pm - 1313 AA	28 7pm - Disciple Bible	29 5:30pm - 1313 AA	30	1	2



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