

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

World Council of Churches, Indonesia

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people;
in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us, and to free us from all forms of oppression;
in the Spirit of God, who works through all who are turned toward the truth;
in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people;
in God's promise to establish the kingdom of justice and peace for all humankind.
We do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor the force of arms,
nor the power of oppression.

We believe in human rights, in the solidarity of all people,
in the power of non-violence.

We do not believe in racism, in the power that comes from wealth and privilege,
or in any established order that enslaves.

We believe that all men and women are equally human, that order based on violence
and injustice is not order.

We do not believe that war and hunger are inevitable,
and peace unobtainable.

We believe in the beauty of simplicity, in love with open hands,
in peace on earth.

We do not believe that suffering need be in vain, or that the disfigurement of our
world is what God intended.

We dare to believe, always and in spite of everything, in God's power to transform
and transfigure, fulfilling the promise of a new heaven and a new earth where
justice and peace will flourish.

RECEIVING A WORSHIP GIFT

Joy Penticuff

PRAYING FOR OURSELVES, ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD

REFLECTING SILENTLY UPON OUR LIVES

In silence and stillness, reflect on who has arrived for worship this morning.
What thoughts and feelings, joys and concerns, have you brought with you?

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

If the Spirit is moving you to share a thought or feeling, joy or concern,
please do so now, so we may lift it together in prayer.

PRAYING TOGETHER AS JESUS PRAYED

debts and debtors

READING AND REFLECTING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Job 24: 1-12

REFLECTING

The home is the center of life. It is the refuge from the grind of work, the
pressure of school, and the menace of the streets. We say that at home we
can "be ourselves." Everywhere else, we are someone else. At home, we
can remove our masks.

The home is the wellspring of personhood. It is where our identity takes
root and blossoms, where as children, we imagine, play, and question, and
as adolescents, we retreat and try. As we grow older, we hope to settle into
a place to raise a family or pursue work. When we try to understand
ourselves, we often begin by considering the kind of home in which we were
raised.

Matthew Desmond

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio "Allemanda" from *Sonata Op.4, No.9*

Vitali

*PRAISING GOD

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

*DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD

DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*SINGING A HYMN *Let Us Build A House*

Red Hymnal 301

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

Red Hymnal 541

*PARTING WITH A SONG *Bring Many Names*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom VandeStadt has a new church e-mail address:
pastorccaucc@gmail.com

Today after worship, we will gather for a discussion of the book, *Evicted, Poverty and Profit in the American City*, by Matthew Desmond.

On **Thursday, October 3**, the **Equal Justice Center** will host its **Mini-Golf Fundraiser** at **Peter Pan Mini-Golf** on 1207 Barton Springs Road, from **6:30 to 8:30 pm**. There will be Franklin BBQ, Ethiopian vegetarian fare, locally-brewed beer, and yes, mini-golf. Our church has for years sponsored one of the golf holes as a "Champion of Justice." If you would like to help our church support a hole, please make a contribution to our church and designate it: **EJC Fundraiser**.

On **Sunday, October 13**, we will lift up Back Bay Mission's long history and ministry to Mississippi's Gulf Coast community. **Back Bay Mission**, located in Biloxi, is a ministry of the South Central Conference of the United Church of Christ, and people from our church have been very active in its ministry, serving on its Board of Directors and in other capacities. The ministry has a long history of struggling for racial justice, lifting people from poverty, and helping people rebuild their lives after storms. Liz Nash will speak about Back Bay, we will take a special offering to support the ministry, and enjoy shrimp during Fellowship Time.

The **Texas Freedom Network**, **Just Texas**, and **More Light Presbyterians** will host a workshop at the Congregational Church of Austin on Thursday, October 17, from 9 am to 2 pm. The workshop is entitled Austin Connecting the Dots: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

On **Sunday, October 20**, we will have **Getting Ready for the Family** work hour after worship. Those of us willing and able will roll up our sleeves and move the archives and other items from the upstairs to the downstairs. Please lend a hand if you're able.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Trustees: Wed, Oct 2, 7:15 pm, at Reuel Nashes
Deacons: Wed, Oct 9, 7:15 pm, Slack Meeting

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Debby Khort and Andrea Low
Nursery Assistant Rachel Dietz

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Adult Christian Education Group meets Sundays at 10:00 am on the 2nd floor.

The Youth Group meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) after church with the youth from University Christian and University Baptist, to go out for lunch and enjoy a program. Middle and High Schoolers welcome. If you would like to be on the email list for more details, please see Reuel Nash.

Middle School and High School Students remain in the service the first Sunday of each month; other Sundays their Sunday School begins after the Choral Anthem.

Elementary Sunday School is held during the 11:00 am service, immediately following "Time with Children." The children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to the 2nd floor Christian Education room, and can be picked up from there after the service.

Infant and Toddler Care is available throughout the service in the Nursery. Child care begins at 9:15 am for the parents of children attending choir practice or the Adult Christian Education Group.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

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Rev. Tom VandeStadt Pastor
Nodie Murphy Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright Labyrinth Student Ministry
Karen White Piano
Amy Harris Violin
Tony Rogers Cello
Amy Kent Sunday School Teacher
Sam Clubb Nursery Attendant
Donna Cravens Office Manager
Victor Cardenas Custodian

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

An Open and Affirming Church
Of The United Church of Christ



September 29, 2019

Season of Pentecost

Lovers of God
Lovers of Humanity

GATHERING TOGETHER

To love God is to love humanity so intimately that the realm
of God is known to be here and now among lovers of humanity.

Carter Heyward

ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio "Sarabanda" from *Sonata Op.4, No.9*

Vitali

*GATHERING AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

May our hearts burn
with flames of love
for God
who is closer to us
here and now
than we are
to ourselves

*May our hearts burn
with flames of love
for one another
drawing us closer
here and now
than we were
before we arrived.*

*SINGING A HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Red Hymnal 475