

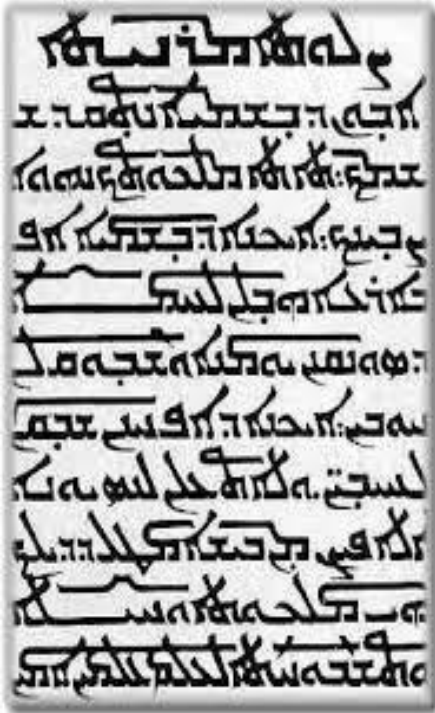
THE VISITOR

The Congregational Church of Austin United Church of Christ

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E-mail: ucausti@swbell.net Web site: congregationalchurchofaustin.org

Rev. Thomas J. VandeStadt

Rev. John Towery, Pastor Emeritus



For a variety of reasons and scheduling conflicts, I had to cancel the study of The Lord's Prayer that I had planned for last Fall. The Deacons and the Coordinating Council asked me to reschedule the study, so I have. On the last Sunday of October and the first two Sundays of November, I'll be preaching on The Lord's Prayer and meeting with anyone after worship who would like to further explore the prayer. I've included in this newsletter three different versions of The Lord's Prayer (with some of Jesus' introductory remarks), four if you count the side-bar picture of The Lord's Prayer in Aramaic. I look forward to the discussion, and hope to see many of you there.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly, I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“Pray then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
 as we have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
 but rescue us from the evil one.”

Matthew 6: 5-13, New Revised Standard Version

“And when you pray before God, don't turn that into a theatrical production either. All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for stardom! Do you think God sits in a box seat?

“Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.

“The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They’re full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don’t fall for their nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

Our Father in heaven,
Reveal who you are.
Set the world right;
Do what’s best—
 as above, so below.
Keep us alive with three square meals.
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.
Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.
You’re in charge!
You can do anything you want!
You’re ablaze in beauty!
Yes. Yes. Yes.”

Matthew 6: 5-13, from Eugene Peterson’s *The Message*

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the people of the earth!
With the bread we need today,
 feed us.
For the hurts we inflict on one another,
 forgive us.
In the time of temptation and test,
 strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure,
 spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil,
 free us.
For your reign is in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen!

Prayer Book of New Zealand

TOM

Church Leadership

Trustees Chair	John Goff
Deacons Chair	Jaime Hadley
Outreach Team	Reuel Nash & Warinda Harris
Moderator	Barbara Burnham & Bill Beardall
Treasurer	Gail Christeson
Financial Secretary	Pam Tucker
Christian Education	Rachel Dietz
Coordinators	Van Herd
Clerk	Betty Bodman
Historian	Pat Oakes
Web mistress	Sara Ross

The **Equal Justice Center** is celebrating its 13th Anniversary with its **Annual Golf Tournament**. The event, featuring world-famous Franklin BBQ, draft beer from South Austin’s Whip-In, and vegetarian curry from Cazamance African Fusion restaurant, will be held at Peter Pan Mini-Golf on **Thursday, October 16, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm** (to avoid the ACL festival-sized crowd, get there early!) If you would like to **sponsor a hole** with other members of our church, see Bill Beardall. Support EJC’s advocacy for the legal rights and just working conditions of low-wage workers by teeing up on Peter Pan’s expertly manicured green plastic grass. It’s the most fun you’ll ever have for a good cause.

Personals by Pat Oakes

Robin Chapman had a serious bicycle accident on **Labor Day**. She and Tom were riding their bikes with a group and Tom scooted across the intersection when the light turned orange--Robin jammed on her brakes and went sailing head over heels over the handlebars and landed hard on the street. She broke almost all the ribs on her right side, punctured her right lung, and separated her shoulder--plus scrapes and bruises. Thankfully, she got prompt and good medical care, was in the hospital for almost a week, and was able come to church on the 14th. She says, "I wanted to thank everyone for the many ways you have extended your love, care, support, assistance, and generosity to both me and Tom since my bicycle accident. Whether through thoughts and prayers in response to emails or joys and concerns about the accident, through cards, emails, and/or cards, and/or through food, flowers, and the like, I have been humbled and overwhelmed by the steady influx of healing thoughts, calls, messages, and actions, all of which have created a huge silver lining within this whole experience, and have had a tremendously healing and uplifting impact on me. I can't begin to express the depth of my gratitude toward all of you and how fortunate I feel both to know you and to have been, and to continue to be, the recipient of your discipleship and loving-kindness practices."

Former church violinist **Andy Streitlmeier** opened his e-mail request for news for the Visitor while he was at the hospital--with very good news to report. He and his wife **Denita** were at the hospital as they had just become parents that morning. **Charlotte Joan Strietlmeier** was born at 10:51 a.m. on **September 17th**. She weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and was 20 3/4 in. long. Andy noted, "For what it's worth, she seems pretty darned healthy as far as we can tell." Congratulations, Andy and Denita!!

Pastor emeritus **John Towery** remains about the same at the nursing home Round Rock where he is in hospice care. **Mary Towery Masters** says her dad has good days and days that are not as good, but that his condition has remained fairly stable since his dramatic downturn in mid-July. He enjoys receiving notes and cards which Mary will be glad to deliver. Her address is 109 D.B.Wood Road, Georgetown, TX 78628.

Liz Nash flew to **Israel** on **Sept. 8th** and returned home on the 17th. She was with *Christians for a Fair Witness*, the same trip Tom took awhile ago. It was led by **Sister Ruth Lantt**, a Dominican sister. Liz was very impressed with all of the speakers, and found it to be quite an opportunity and education about the many narratives and experiences of the Palestinians and Israelis. Daughter **Becky** has been in **Turkey** for the first leg of a journey through Tur-

key, India, and Taiwan on a **Religion and Culture** semester through **Global College of Long Island University**. **Ellie** has started graduate school at the **University of Montreal** in **Sustainable International Development**. **Annie** is in **Vermont** with her boyfriend, **Sooner Dawsen**. And **Reuel** monitors all of them and travels to **Mountain View, California**, from time to time for work.

Greg Futch sent some "catch-up" news about his family. Over the long Memorial Day weekend, Greg and Margaret Futch's son **Matt**, daughter-in-law **Cyndi**, and two grandchildren **Alex** (3 in November) and new baby **Riley**, came to Austin for a visit. A real high point was the opportunity for Greg's mom to have a chance to meet Riley. In mid-August, Matt had business in **Malaysia** and **Indonesia**, so Greg and Margaret went to **Denver** to help Cyndi with the kids. Greg came home after a week and Margaret waited until Cyndi's mother arrived from Long Island to help out. Cyndi was delighted with the help and is so glad she has a really good support system in place! Greg notes that they had a wonderful time but that they came home thoroughly winded.



Greg Futch with his mother Ferry, and Greg's new grandchild Riley when son Matt and his family came to visit over Memorial Day weekend.

George Hetrick has also been off bicycling (of course) in **Prince Edward Island**, seeing all the lighthouses and eating all the lobster rolls he could. (See a complete trip report online at <http://www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/georgePEI2014>). George got more than his share of rain, but that seems to be par for the course for his travels. George is glad to be back and resting up for ski trips.

Victoria Li, Director, Watershed Protection Department, represented the City of Austin to receive a **Sustainability Excellence Award** by ICMA (International City

Brazos Association News

October

by Liz Nash

On **Saturday, September 20th**, we held our Association forum on the possible merger of the **Brazos Association** with the **South Texas Association (STA)** at **St. Peter's Church of Coupland**. **Scott Martin**, pastor of **Faith UCC** in **New Braunfels**, and **Frank Dietz**, recent interim pastor at St. Peter's, represented the STA. We heard the STA proposed resolution to merge and their possible timeline. We discussed needs to change bylaws, meeting locations, association minister job responsibilities, and other relevant items. The discussion, led by our moderator, **Marianne Muehr**, was positive, open, and done with an uplifting and welcoming spirit. STA will consider a merger resolution at its **October 11th** fall meeting at **Bethany UCC** in San Antonio. If that is well received, they would have to meet a second time (as required by their bylaws) for approval of the merger on their end. If the October 11th reception is positive, the Brazos Association Executive Board will consider at its October 18th meeting whether to bring a resolution to allow the merger to go forward to our October 25th Association meeting. The possible merger, if both Associations are in agreement, would then be celebrated at our spring Association meeting. Whatever happens, I want to express my appreciation for the positive, open spirit we experienced at the forum and for the hospitality of St. Peter's, so in keeping with the "extravagant welcome" in Christ that the UCC encourages.

We have celebrations, past and about to come, in the Brazos Association. On **Sunday, September 22nd**, the Bra-

zos Association installed **Martin Garrison** as pastor of **St. Peter's** in a busy and joyful weekend at the church with **Charlotte Albert** as the preacher. On **Saturday, September 21st**, all of the Austin area UCC churches were present at the **Pride Celebration** in Austin to share their commitment to being Open and Affirming congregations. On **Sunday, October 5th**, St. Peter's will honor **Pastor Emeritus Paul Mohr** at the 10:15 am worship service, celebrating Paul's **65th** ordination anniversary and **Paul's and Anna Belle's** 50th wedding anniversary. On **Saturday, October 11th**, the Brazos Association will install **John Gage** as Senior Pastor of **United Christian Church** in Austin at 4 pm, with a picnic to follow. **Jo Hudson**, former Pastor at **Friends Congregational**, former Senior Pastor of **Cathedral of Hope**, **Gathering Pastor of Extravagance UCC**, and friend to many of us in the Brazos Association, will be preaching. As always, we encourage members from all of our churches to come to the installation service.

Our **Fall Association Meeting** will be held on **Saturday, October 25th** at **United Christian Church** in Austin, with registration at 9:30 am and the meeting at 10 am, followed by lunch. Because of the possible merger vote, this meeting may be of great importance to our Association's future. I hope as many of you as possible will join us.

Blessings in Christ,

Liz Nash

Brazos Association Minister

Micah 6 Volunteer Appreciation and Fellowship

Have you volunteered with Micah 6 in the past?
Want to visit and have fun with your fellow volunteers?
This event is for YOU!
(And please bring a friend or your family)

Save the date:

Saturday, October 25

3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**First English Lutheran Church (just north of U.T. at
Whitis and 30th Street)**

A Night Under One Sky

Interfaith Action of Central Texas will present its annual event, A Night Under One Sky, on October 7, 2014, 6:30-9:00 PM, at the **Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum**. There are a few tickets left so you may **Purchase Individual Tickets** while seating is still available.

With the weather cooling, an evening on the beautiful grounds promises to be delightful. With guest speaker is **Dan Bullock**, a talented writer, musician, and consultant and the classical interpretations of Color of Sound, you will enjoy an evening of dinner and dialogue strengthening the relationships you already have and building new ones.

County Management Association) at the **2014 International Sustainability Summit** in **Yang Zhou, China**, in May, 2014. Victoria also represented Austin to sign a partnership agreement with **Yi Zheng**, another city, so we can learn from each other of our successes and failures. After the summit, Victoria gave a lecture on air pollution control at **School of Public Health at Nanjing Medical School**. At the summit, Victoria gave a speech on sustainability efforts in Austin. She gave as examples **Barton Springs Pool** and the **Waller Creek Tunnel** project. Barton Springs Pool is a beloved swimming place and at the same time maintains superb water quality so the endangered salamanders can be protected. The Waller Creek Tunnel project relieves flood hazards in the downtown area, creates a constant flow in the creek to benefit the natural habitats, and attracts economic development all at the same time. Victoria also shared Austin's public stakeholders process with Yang Zhou and Yi Zheng city staff. A delegate team from our partner city is scheduled to arrive in Austin some time in December or early next year.



Victoria Li speaking at a sustainability conference in Yang Zhou, China--note the slide of Barton Springs Pool

Emily Howicz is happily ensconced at **Dobie Center** near the UT classes and finding it very convenient for her to walk to her classes at ACC on the Rio Grande campus. She is taking English, math, history, and a class on how to succeed in college.

Beth Placek had a wonderful time on her annual trek to England which always includes time in **Shrewsbury** (think **Cadfael**) and with friends in **London**. The nine days flew by and she filled every minute with interesting things to see and people to talk to.



Former church choir director (for 25+ years) **Marie Scheel** is all set to turn **100** years old on **October 4th**. Plans are underway to celebrate with Marie at church on Sunday, the **5th of October**. If you would like to send her a card, her address is 1908 Oak Hill Lane, Austin, TX 78744-6710.

Christie Kuhner has made her move to the **Bay Area** in good style. For the moment she is living with her nephew and his family in Oakland while she looks for a place to live closer to her two sons who are in **San Francisco**. Several weeks ago she made a trip from San Francisco to Indianapolis to visit her youngest son **Cameron**. Her nephew and his wife had a recent weekend out of town, so Christie and her 15-year-old great-nephew **Ciaran** embarked on his personalized thumbnail tour of San Francisco. Christie points out that her e-mail and cell phone number are the same, so asked that everyone stay in touch.

Kathleen Strong reports that no news is good news from her neck of the woods.

It was good to see **Priscilla Perkins Grew** at church on Sept. 14th. Priscilla is **Director of the University of Nebraska State Museum**, and also **Professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences**. She was in town for a meeting, not having been here for seven years. She was astounded at all of the new growth in Austin. Her parents, **Dr. James and Evangeline Perkins**, were members of the church in the late 1950s and through the 1970s. Dr. Perkins was on the religion faculty at **Huston-Tillotson** for a number of years. Priscilla and Pat Oakes laugh that they are 7th cousins—both descended from **John and Priscilla Alden** (It should be noted that there are many, many Alden descendants as John and Priscilla had 11 children.).

Continued on page 6



Priscila Perkiins Grew at coffee hour.

Oldtimers at church were surprised and pleased on Sept. 21st when **Zona and Omer Galle** arrived at church just as the congregational meeting was ending after the service. Coffee hour was a perfect time to get caught up with them. They were in town from **Newton, Kansas**, to attend the 100th anniversary of the UT sociology department (actually the 100th anniversary of the first sociology course being taught, with the department being established a few years later.). Omer retired from the UT sociology department some years ago. They report that their daughter **Kristin** is finishing up an interim appointment at a church in **Geronimo** and that her husband Brent is still at the Presbyterian church in **Brenham**. Kristin's daughters are doing well—**Kaitlyn** starting her second year of **Teach for America** in Tulsa and **Mariah** starting her senior year at **TCU**. The Galles' son **Karl** and his wife **Sylvia** are still in **Cairo, Egypt**. Karl is teaching at American University and Sylvia works with **USAID** in the restora-

tion of antiquities. They are trying very hard to get her U.S. citizenship established which will make it much easier for them to travel. Omer and Zona are loving being in Newton, just across the street from **Bethel College**, a Mennonite school, where Omer and Zona met. Zona is an avid gardener and enjoys gardening with her brother who also lives there.



We were pleasantly surprised when Omer and Zona Galle, former members, stopped by to visit—shown here with Doyal Pinkard.

Mel and Pat Oakes with Pat's sister **Nancy Hatch** had a marvelous two week vacation in several of the Maritime provinces of **Canada—New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia**. The original impetus for the trip was several years ago when Pat contacted her third cousin and his wife in **Boiestown, New Brunswick**. While they had never met, Pat called **Bill and Faye Griffin** and she



Pat and Mel at the Green Gables Heritage Center, Cavendish, Prince Edward Island.

and Mel found out that the Griffins were as interested—if not more so—in genealogy as Pat and Mel are. Pat and Nancy's great-grandmother was a **Griffin** who was a sib-

ling to Bill's great-grandfather—and they learned that the Griffins first arrived in New Brunswick from **Dutchess County, New York** in **1783**—having been on the **Loyalist** side in the American Revolution. In addition to a wonderful three days in the **Boiestown** area with Bill and Faye, taking them to churchyard after churchyard and home site after home site, they also saw the **Bay of Fundy** at low tide from the **Hopewell Rocks** (Dick Jackson made that suggestion), the **Green Gables Heritage Centre** in **Cavendish, Prince Edward Island**, where **Lucy Maud Montgomery** wrote the first *Anne of Green Gables* book, and toured **Halifax** and **Peggy's Cove** in Nova Scotia. They also made a very brief stop in **Wrentham, Massachusetts**, Pat's family's home town. Pat and Mel looked in vain for **George Hetrick** while on Prince Edward Island, to no avail—but they also enjoyed lots of lobster! It's a long way to the **Maritimes** from **Cortland, New York**, but they covered more than 2,500 miles of beautiful scenery without mishap.

History Corner

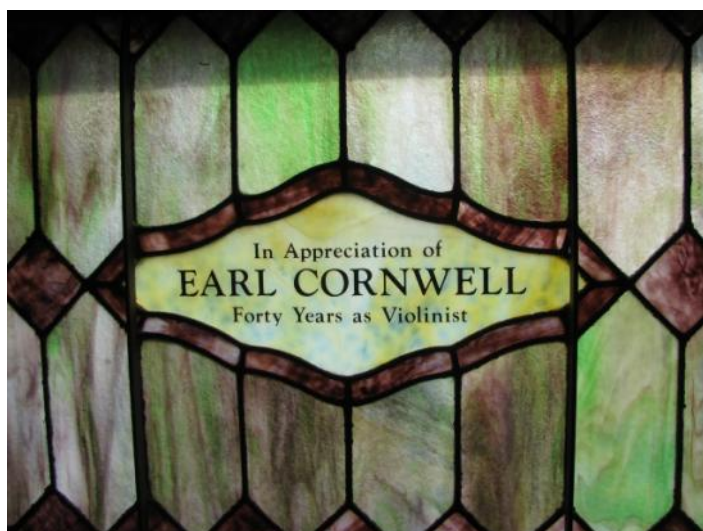
It is time to get acquainted with some of the folks whose names are featured on the medallions of our stained glass windows in our beautiful sanctuary. The first one to look at is the one closest to the front on the choir side of the church. **Earl Cornwell**, our church violinist for 40 years (with some gaps, but it added up to 40), was born in Austin in 1913. He died at age 92 in **2005**. He was still playing at the church into his 80s. He grew up on Rio Grande St. and attended **Pease Elementary School** and **Austin High School** (now the Rio Grande campus of ACC). He was the eldest of 3 children and music ran in the family. His dad sang in the **Methodist Church** choir and his mother played the piano by ear.



John Towery, pastor, and Earl Cornwell, violinist celebrating Earl Cornwell's 40 years as violinist at the church on Jan. 31, 1989. Flo Chiles, Mel Oakes, Rollin Russell's mother in the background.

Earl started violin lessons early with a **Mrs. Gadkey** and studied with her for nine or ten years. Earl, called Sonny by his family, was delighted to have the opportunity to hear the great violinist **Fritz Kreisler** play in the Austin High School auditorium when he was a teen. After the concert, Earl followed Kreisler out, hoping to get an autograph. The great man turned to him and said, "No time for autographs, Sonny." Earl was elated and went home and told his family that Kreisler knew his name!

During **WWII**, Earl was playing with the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** in England when the group learned that Miller's plane had gone down over the **English Channel**. He also met **Gertrude Stein** and **Alice B. Toklas** in France when they came to hear the Glenn Miller Orchestra play there. In 1950-51, he toured with **Stan Kenton**. He played with the **Austin Symphony** for many years—and recalled seeing the **UT Tower** being built (it was completed in 1937). In the early years, the trio was comprised of **Mrs. Mick** on the cello (she was also the arranger), **Earl** on violin, and **Florence Castle** on the piano. Earl always wore a cravat instead of a tie.



This medallion in appreciation of Earl Cornwell is located near the piano, the first window on the east side of the sanctuary,

Return Service Requested

Deadline for November Visitor — Oct. 21st

CCA Green Team Report

As I announced a few Sundays ago, recycle and compost receptacles are located in the fellowship hall, and outside at the bottom of the stairs on main floor, with signs above indicating what should go in each bin. **Basically, smelly, hazardous and/or rotting stuff goes outside, clean non-smelly stuff goes inside.**

After fellowship, soiled napkins paper towels, and food remnants can be put in one of the cute little white gallon-sized containers that Jaimie so generously provided.

There's been a little confusion about flourescent vs non-flourescent light bulbs: **FLOURESCENT** light bulbs are to be placed in an outside bin marked accordingly; **non-flourescent bulbs** go in a bin in the fellowship hall.

Also, please don't forget to contact me if you're leaving **rotting organics**. If you're collecting compostables over a week's time, instead of a leaky plastic bag, it might be better to collect in a reusable, lid-covered container. If you put your name on it, I'll be sure to return it the following week (which means you have to have 2). If you bring rotting compostables and I'm not at church, you can take them to the **Sunshine Community Gardens** compost pile at 4814 Sunshine Drive. The main entrance is either on North Lamar or Sunshine, but you drive in and curve to

the left and voila! Compost piles galore, each marked to indicate what kind of stuff should be dumped thereon. One more note: Sunday school children and/or teacher need to be informed about our recycling program. Sunday school breakfast waste was all tossed into one large bag. Instead, soiled plates and napkins should have been placed in one bag, the recyclable plastic cups and empty aluminum foil (sans breakfast taco) in another bag, and taco remnants and other foodstuffs in another bag. The wrapped cookies needed to be unwrapped or tossed in with the stuff that can't be recycled.

Thanks, fellow recyclers! And special thanks to Steve for helping haul the stuff in his usually pristine, non-smelly, carbon-friendly Prius!

Norma