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Open Hearts . . .

Open Minds . . .

Open Doors . . .

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FUMC

8:15 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

8:30 a.m.

Breakfast in the **Activity Center**

8:45 a.m.

Refreshments in the

Parlor

9:00 a.m.

Celebration Service in the Activity Center

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

classes for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship in the

Sanctuary

Nursery care provided

The 11:00 a.m. service is broadcast each Sunday on Brenham radio KWHI/AM 1280 and Channel 10 Cable TV.

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor Rev. Dale Chance PastorDale@FUMCBrenham.org

Associate Pastor Rev. Kay Reed PastorKay@FUMCBrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213 April 2, 2012

"It Was Still Dark "

Sunday is the greatest worship day in the year. More church members attend worship on Easter Sunday than any other single Sunday in the year, and more people who are looking for a new church home attend worship on Easter. It is always a great day with great singing, great special music, and a great spirit of life and hope and excitement.

Easter Sunday is special because over 2000 years ago Jesus turned darkness into light, despair into hope, and death into life. The scripture says that the women went to the tomb "while it was still dark." There are times in our lives when we feel like we are living in darkness. Financial pressures, vocational pressures, marital or family pressures, health concerns, retirement concerns, personal disappointments or discouragement and depression. There are a thousand things that bring darkness and loneliness.

But the story of Easter says there is hope in the midst of darkness. The women, filled with despair and disappointment, went to the tomb to anoint the lifeless body of Jesus. They worried about the heavy stone over the entrance and who would move it for them. And like any of us who have experienced the death of a close family member or friend, they were still struggling with grief and the unreality of tragedy. Sometimes it is in the darkest hours of our lives that God is able to do the most important work in our souls.

Easter gives us the promise that things will work out. Regardless of the reason for the darkness, whether it is the result of personal failures or outward circumstances, there is hope and we are not alone. God is with us and He can move the biggest stone and raise us from the darkest tomb.

Nothing in our world symbolizes God more completely than Easter Sunday morning. Out of the darkest hour came the greatest light, and as John wrote, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Where else can we find that kind of hope and love and life? See you Sunday as we worship and celebrate the risen Christ and His promise of life.

> He is Risen! Kav



Newsletter Deadline and Other Information

Your next newsletter deadline will be Tues. April 10, 2012 at 10:00 am.

If you have a submission for the newsletter, please email your written article to fumc@fumcbrenham.org or please submit a handwritten article to the church office. This is the best way to make sure that all the information for your article is accurate. Thank you.

SUNDAY March 4, 2012 Church Attendance:

Nursery	9
Worship 8:15 a.m.	65
Worship 11:00 a.m.	139
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	41
Worship Total	254
Sunday School	112
Offering:	\$ 19,821.63

SUNDAY March 11, 2012 Church Attendance:

Offering:	\$ 5,903.00
Sunday School	84
Worship Total	162
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	23
Worship 11:00 a.m.	72
Worship 8:15 a.m.	64
Nursery	3

SUNDAY March 18, 2012 Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	78
Worship 11:00 a.m.	106
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	43
Worship Total	233
Sunday School	129
Offering:	\$ 13,909.00

SUNDAY March 25, 2012 Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	78
Worship 11:00 a.m.	147
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	55
Worship Total	286
Sunday School	96
Offering:	\$ 8,365.00

FEB. YTD TOTALS

YTD Income: \$118,649.42 YTD Expense: \$105,008.92 YTD Net Total: \$13,640.50

METHODIST WEEKDAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Ashley Abbey, Director - 979-830-8661



April 2012

The CDC is ready to welcome spring. If you drive by you are going to see the children out and about exploring the world around them. We will be setting up centers for outdoor activities and planning outdoor field trips.

We will be hosting our annual Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude's on April 20th. The children will spend a week learning about bike safety and how they can help sick children.



Easter Egg Hunt!!!

Easter egg hunts for the CDC children will be on April 5th. We will start the morning with a special chapel and go on to hunt eggs on the front lawn and playground.

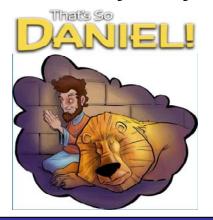
CDC will be closed Friday, April 6th

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Jennifer Patrick, Program Coordinator, Jennifer@FUMCBrenham.org

ACTS

Rehearsals are Sundays, 5:00- 6:30pm Spring Performance Date: Sunday, May 13



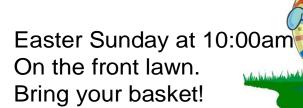


If you would like to help us with some of our supplies for VBS here are some of the things we need for donations so far:

- fun noodles (water noodles)
- old CDs
- · cans of Great Stuff insulation foam
- plastic bath poofs

We are also looking for someone to make us small wooden crosses out of thin wood approx. 8"x4".

V.B.S. is the week of June 4 -8





Thank you for purchasing beads! We have raised almost \$3000 for the women & children of Uganda. We will have another bead sale after the ACTS musical on Sunday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.





Easter Egg









April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Palm Sunday Contata 12:00 Confirmation/ FH 5:00 Youth/AC ACTS/ Rm. 139	12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 2:00 Staff Meeting/Lib 6:00 Council on Ministries/FR	9:30 UMW/ AC 5:00 Trustees/FR	5:30 Handbells 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9:00 Yoga/ AC 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service/Sanctuary	Good Friday Church Office Closed	
8 EASTER	9	10	11	12	13	14
7:00 Sunrise Service Regular Service Times 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 Fellowship Study Group/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 1:30 CDC Board/ Library 5:30 Finance / FR	9:00 Card/ MH 6:00 Evangelism/FR 10:00 Newsletter Deadline	6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM/ AC	9:00 Emmaus/ Library 5:00 Girl Scouts Lock-In	Girl Scouts Lock- In/AC Until 10:00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12:00 Confirmation/ FH 5:00 Youth/AC ACTS/ Rm. 139	10:00 Fellowship Study Group/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 5:30 Prayer Team/FR	9:30 Rogers Circle/ Duree Hinners Circle/ FH Cummings Circle/ Stratton 6:30 Wesleyan/ FH	12:00 Susanna Circle/DeSalvo 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9:00 Yoga/ AC	9:00 Emmaus/ Library	Youth/ Camping Trip to Somerville
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
12:00 Confirmation/FH 2:00 Girl Scouts/AC 2:30 Care Center 3:30 Bluebonnet Hills 5:00 Youth /Somerville ACTS/ Rm.139	10:00 Fellowship Study Group/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 2:30 42/MH	9:00 Card/ MH 10:00 Newsletter Deadline	1:00 Care Team/Lib. 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9:00 Yoga/ AC	9:00 Emmaus/ Library	
29	30					
12:00 Confirmation/FH 5:00 Youth /AC ACTS/ Rm.139	10:00 Fellowship Study Group/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

Donations Received

In memory of
Betty Averitt
By
Mr. David Thomas

In memory of
Jeannie Draehn
By
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brumbelow

Prayer Concerns

Jacque Ketcham Marti McLemore Elizabeth Muckleroy Bonnie Perry Peggy Robertson Alyce Super Alan Williamson

Our homebound members Those serving in the military

I want to thank my church family for all the prayers, cards, memorials, and kind words given to us in condolence for my mom. Jim and I feel blessed to be part of such a caring congregation, and we are grateful for each of you.

Marilyn Gravett

Thank You! To everyone at FUMC for all the prayers, cards, calls and concerns during my recovery from surgery. I appreciate all of the kind words and caring thoughts.

God's blessings to you all!

Joycine Hanath

My husband Derek and I would love to thank all the members of FUMC for all the well wishes, cards, support, advice, prayers, and especially all the wonderful gifts! Your care and concern has been amazing, there are not enough words to express our gratitude. I can't wait to introduce you all to our little girl when she finally decides to make her appearance! Thanks again to you all, it has meant so much!

God Bless You All,

Derek and Meagan Hargrave

YOUTH NEWS

Rick Ruiz, Youth Director rick@fumcbrenham.org

April Youth Calendar

Sun. April 1st - 5-8pm, Youth in AC Sun. April 8th - Easter, No Youth Sun. April 15th - 5-8pm, Youth in AC Sat. & Sun. April 21st & 22nd - Lake Somerville Camping Trip Sun. April 29th - 5-8pm, Youth in AC

Know Anyone we can help?

July 12-15th FUMC Brenham will be hosting Big House. Several work groups of junior high students will be here in town to do small mission projects such as landscaping, painting, cleanup etc. If vou know someone locally Washington County who has difficulty doing some maintenance on their home or property and may benefit from some volunteers helping out, please call Rick or the church office by March 21st so that we may consider them for this special opportunity. Thank you!!!

BLINN STUDENTS WILL DO THE WORK

April 27th is our 3rd annual Blinn Blitz. Students from Blinn assemble on an afternoon when there are no classes and are assigned projects around Brenham. What we need is projects for them to work on, mainly yard clean-up projects (raking flower beds, piling up fallen branches, etc.) Often these jobs are exhausting to homeowners, but not to these students. And, they get credit for volunteering, so they're willing and eager.

This is your chance to sign up your project with the Blinn Blitz crew and have it done in one afternoon.

Please don't hesitate to contact me and tell me what work you'd like done.

Pat Clark, Missions and Outreach 830-1950

Attention Ladies

A resale of ladies accessories will be held May 1st at the General Meeting in the AC. The money collected will go through UMCOR to benefit a mission in South Africa. The program is a book review of "Beaded Hope" about a South African mission. Please donate your jewelry, belts, purses, accessories, and collectables to Jo Powell, the church office, or to circle or general meetings. Thanks!

BEEN A METHODIST LONG?

A new study will begin on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship House on April 9. The title of the study is *A Disciple's Path* by James a Harnish. This 7-week study is an engaging approach to discipleship from a distinctly Wesleyan perspective. The study combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with the time-tested practices of spiritual discipline expressed in the membership vows to uphold the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

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First United Methodist Church 408 North Baylor Brenham, TX 77833

