



Phone: 979-836-2008

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www.fumcbrenham.org

Email: fumc@fumcbrenham.org



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 96 Cable TV.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Jon Stouffer
jon@fumcbrenham.org

Rev. Kay Reed
kay@fumcbrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

January 9, 2015

Thank You for a Great 2014

As I write this first column for 2015, I cannot keep from saying once again how great you are as a congregation of deeply committed and faithful Christians. This is a great church! Great churches don't just happen. They are the result of great people who have a deep faith in Jesus Christ and a strong commitment to the work of God's kingdom in the local church.

It is a privilege and honor to stand in your pulpits on Sunday and preach God's Word, to lead you in worship, in singing, and in praying. I believe the best is yet to come. God has great things for us to do and good experiences that will enrich our lives and strengthen our faith. Let us continue the work that God has started in us as we begin 2015!

I want to thank everyone for the gifts and cards I received over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. I want you to know that your love and friendship have blessed me more than I can tell you. There is no greater feeling than to know you are appreciated. And you have shown your support and appreciation in many, many ways.

I wish I knew the right words to say so you would know how much I love you and appreciate all that you do for me, but it's hard to put it down on paper. So I will continue to do my best to show my appreciation as I serve this great church and all of you. May God continue to reward your faithfulness, bless each of you with His peace and presence and fill your life with good things as we begin the New Year together.

See you Sunday,
Kay



The 49th Annual Methodist Men Pancake Supper

Friday, January 23, 2013

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Activity Center

Tickets are \$8.00 and available from any Methodist Men member or in the church office. All the pancakes and sausage you can eat!

Newsletter Deadline and Other Information

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 10:00 am.** If you have a submission for the newsletter, please email your written article to fumc@fumcbrenham.org or 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 November 30, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	11
Worship 8:15 a.m.	79
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	72
Worship 11:00 a.m.	95
Worship Total	257
Sunday School	102
Offering:	\$8,858.75

SUNDAY December 7, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	5
Worship 8:15 a.m.	86
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	95
Worship 11:00 a.m.	117
Worship Total	303
Sunday School	112
Offering:	\$20,449.00

SUNDAY December 14, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	8
Worship 8:15 a.m.	86
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	87
Worship 11:00 a.m.	140
Worship Total	321
Sunday School	99
Offering:	\$11,812.03

SUNDAY December 21, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	10
Worship 8:15 a.m.	66
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	69
Worship 11:00 a.m.	102
Worship Total	247
Sunday School	81
Offering:	\$12,151.50

SUNDAY December 24, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Worship 6:00 p.m.	114
Worship 8:00 p.m.	164
Worship Total	278
Offering:	\$10,335.00

SUNDAY December 28, 2014**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	3
Worship 11:00 a.m.	115
Worship Total	118
Offering:	\$14,793.95

NOVEMBER TOTALS

Nov. Income:	\$69,453.63
Nov. Expense:	\$47,284.64
Nov. Total:	\$13,168.99

DECEMBER TOTALS

Dec. Income:	\$69,541.48
Dec. Expense:	\$66,522.70
Dec. Total:	\$3,018.78

YTD TOTALS 2014

YTD. Income:	\$649,155.87
YTD. Expense:	\$649,155.87
YTD. Net Total:	\$0.00

Thanks FUMC!

Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank all our "church family" for all the get well cards during Joe's illness and all the sympathy cards after his passing on. I would like to say a big "Thank You" for all the hugs and prayers that I have received.

This church is without a doubt the most caring and thoughtful I have ever attended.

Love to all of You-**Danna Edwards**

Art and I wish to thank everyone for the cards, calls, food and good wishes sent our way. This thank you is well over do, we are still "in the woods" on several issues and if we can get his legs strong all will be better. The kindness and concern you have shown is and was overwhelming and our thanks and gratitude is hard to measure.

In Christ's Love- **Art and Smitty Hinnert**

We want to thank our church members for all their prayers while we were in the hospital. All our prayers were answered. God is good all the time. You our members, our friends, are living in our hearts with love for all your calls and cards. Your concern for us was amazing! As we walk through this journey this year, know that you are all appreciated. What a great church family we have!

Ken and Ann Pieper

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for the love and concern you've shown during my recent surgery. The week after the surgery was rough, but I improved daily.

Thanks for all the cards! Karen had to read them to me since I had double vision. Hopefully that changes soon. Thanks again, we both wish you all a blessed and Happy New Year!

Love,

Dale and Karen Chance

Donations Received***In memory of***

Rube McBride

By

Kenneth Schwenke and Sallie Gordon

In memory of

Jacque Ketcham

By

John and Sherry Barkman

Al and Janet Newman

Donna Sprenger

Glenn and Jenifer Amerson

Glen and Jetta Goodman

In memory of

Joe Edwards

By

Bill and Joan Powell

Glen and Jetta Goodman

Floyd and Sue Flanagan

Gary and Kay Ivy

Cordelia Cummings

Nick and Marianne Nelms

UMYF

NEWSFLASH

Youth Christmas Party

Supporting the family that lost their home in a fire.

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Wrapping



DELIVERY!



Thank you ALL for supporting this party and all the ministries of our UMYF.

Hello PARENTS

Parents are invited to join us for UMYF on **Jan 11 @6pm.** I will be supplying dinner for everyone. We will be planning out the next few months and learning more about each other. I would love to see all moms & dads and/or grandparents there. We will be done by 8pm.,

Tim Hawkins

Christian Comedian In Concert

Join us for a night of laughs on Sun. Jan 25th. The concert is in Houston at 6pm. If you would like to go with the youth group tickets are \$10. You must RSVP to Jennifer@fumcbrenham.org by Jan 11th if you want to go. We will meet at the church at 3:30pm. Bring \$\$ for a quick dinner.

Happy New Year!!!

As we begin 2015 together I pray for all of us this way,

I lift my heart in thanksgiving for the faith, courage, friendship, service, and joy among our family, congregation, the larger church, and community. May we find God's provision to be sufficient. May we fulfill our role in God's provision for the world, especially those with unmet needs. May the love of Christ envelop us in his mercy and grace even as the Spirit nurtures and fills us anew. Amen.

I'm just back from my trip to the Abbey of Gethsemani. (www.monks.org) Here's a thought I had:

This year at the monastery I was reminded how wonderful I find it is to worship with the monks chanting the psalms throughout the day. Now that I make this pilgrimage a week closer to Christmas, I am there in one of two weeks in the year that the monks sing "Hymn A" at the 7:30 pm office (Compline) instead of "Hymn B." This year, I finally allowed myself to come to love "Hymn A" as much as I do "Hymn B."

Hymn A

*O Christ, though art our Light and Day
Who drive night's terror far away!
We know thee as the Light of Light,
Illuminating mortal sight.*

*And while our eyes there slumber take,
Still be the heart to thee awake;
Be thy right hand upheld above
Thy servants resting in thy love.*

*O Father, this we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who, with the Paraclete¹ and thee,
Now lives and reigns eternally. Amen.*

One of the songs in Compline that is the same all year long is the antiphon for the Song of Simeon (Luke 2:28-32). This is the first musical setting that I remember memorizing from my trips to Gethsemani. It remains one of my favorites.

The Song of Simeon, antiphon

*Lord, save us!
Save us while we are awake,
protect us while we are asleep,
that we may keep our watch with Christ,
and when we sleep, rest in his peace.*

It's funny to me how a simple change in a shared schedule opens up opportunities to find something new, different, and equally beautiful. As the New Year dawns, we will find much remains the same and we will encounter the changes that are sure to come. I hope and pray that we will remain open to the discoveries of all that God has for us in all that remains constant and in the changes we encounter. One of the constants that I see in our congregation is the strength and power of God's presence in all of us and in our relationships with each other. It is my joy to begin 2015 with First United Methodist Church of Brenham!

Jon "P.J."

Need a Support Group?

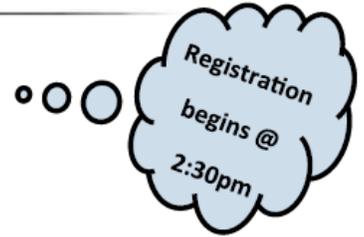
2014 has been an especially difficult year for many in our church. Some have asked about offering a place to share and ask questions with others who are going through similar grief and loss experiences. Our church would like to provide such an opportunity to help anyone coping with grief following the death of a loved one. Grief can feel very lonely. Sharing your loss often makes the burden easier to carry. Our prayer is that this group will be a place to find encouragement, help and healing. The first meeting will be Tuesday, February 23rd at noon. We will meet in the Fellowship house (aka the Gray House) and a wonderful lunch with dessert will be provided. Please RSVP to the church office, so we can make sure to have plenty to eat. Thanks and see you there!

L.E.A.D. Institute

“Gearing up our laity and leadership for ministry, now!”



January 18, 2015 at **3:00 p.m.**
A&M United Methodist Church
417 University Drive
College Station, TX 77840



For more information call (979) 690-5627 or email
dkeim@txcumc.org or hcantu@txcumc.org

Key Note Speaker

Mark “Mister Mark” Burrows is Director of Children’s Ministry at First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth. Representing a highly interactive technique, Mark has insight and a vast expertise for children’s ministry.

Mark will provide insight and hands on training for leaders in churches who have a desire to get children and young people active in their church but are not sure where to start. Mark’s insight will help you get started and thrive!

Additional Informational Seminars: Send your committee members and leaders.

-  How the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee operates
-  How to be an effective Board of Trustees
-  How the Finance Committee should operate
-  How the Administrative Board brings everything together.
-  How To Help You Do Missions Better

Come and grow at this hands-on workshop experience designed for laity.

Brought to you by the L.E.A.D. INSTITUTE: Leadership, Education and Development

New Year Resolutions

Maybe one of your resolutions for 2015 was to get back to church or to get involved in a Bible study. Everyone is welcome at any of our three worship services and a Bible study is offered on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. I read this article in another church newsletter and thought you might enjoy.

Pastor Kay

THE SAFEST PLACE How to Stay Safe in the World Today

1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So, above all else, avoid hospitals.

BUT

You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!

AND BIBLE STUDY IS SAFE TOO. The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

So, attend church and read your Bible. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!



Prayer Concerns

Marnie Whitmarsh
Richard Coghlan
Gene Moss
Ron Walberg
Marti McLemore
Audrey Simpson
Delmer McAdow
Glenn and Luene Harmer
Steve Biggers
Dot Yawn

Glenn Amerson
Art Hinners
Buddy and Elaine Dorow
Henry Kuecker
Boyce Weiman
Bennie Waggoner
Charles Schulte
Cameron Winchell
Janet and Al Newman
Denny Wells
Curtis Namken

Charles Sander's niece Sophia
Kathy Revenaugh
Susan Ebel
Harold Pool
Leonard Cloud
Jeff McCoy
Jim and Linda Clements
Yvonne Moore
Ann Northworthy
Our homebound members and
those serving in the military



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3
4 6:00 UMYF/ AC	5	6 8:45 UMW Exc./ Library 9:30 UMW/ AC	7 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	8 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:00 UMM/ AC	9 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	10
11 6:00 UMYF/ AC	12 10:00 Monday Bible Study/ FH 1:30 CDC Board/ Library 6:00 Missions & Outreach/ FR	13 9:00 Card Group/ MH	14 5:30 Handbells/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	15 9:00 Yoga/ AC	16 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	17
18	19 10:00 Monday Bible Study/ FH	20 9:30 Rogers Circle/ FH Tate Circle/ Duree Cummings Circle/ Cummings 12:00 Susanna Circle/ Hyatt 6:30 Wesleyan Circle/ FH	21 5:30 Handbells/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	22 9:00 Yoga/ AC	23 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor 5:00 UMM Pancake Supper	24 8:00 Epiphany/ FH
25 3:30 UMYF/ AC	26 10:00 Monday Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	27 9:00 Card Group/ MH	28 1:00 Care Team/ Library 5:30 Handbells/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	29 9:00 Yoga/ AC	30 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	31
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

News From the Card Group

The Card Group Ladies have had a busy year and would like to thank all who have helped especially the faithful customers as well as those who pass on cards received for recycling. The ladies in this group meet on the second and fourth Tuesday each month in the Mission House (aka the Brown House) for work as well as fellowship and sharing our joys and concerns. Profits from the sale of cards are only used for donations to missions of local organizations. This group was started over ten years ago and cards for all occasions were sold for 25 cents and that price remains in effect today. The door is always open to anyone interested; don't think needing to be a "crafty" person is required. Our very talented leader, Audrey Boney can put you to work immediately! She has E.S.P and can determine your talent in a moment. Hope to see you soon!

***Attention FUMC!
VBS will be held the week of June 29th to July 2nd
Mark your calendars!***

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