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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 96 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

March 15, 2013

A Vision of the Cross

"May I never boast in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Galatians 6:14

"But the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18

I was visiting with someone several years ago and they shared an experience they had when they were about nine or ten years old. They said they vividly remember a statue hanging on a wall. It scared them. It was a person with big nails stuck in his hands and feet. He had something resting on his head and he was bleeding from his hands, feet, and head. He was hurting. As a young child they didn't know who this man was. They wanted to know why he was hurting. They wanted to know why he was nailed to two boards which were hanging on the wall.

While we have tried, we and countless Christians have never escaped the shock of the statement, *"He was crucified!"* On a Roman cross, an instrument of execution reserved for murderers and traitors, Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, was put to death, thorns jammed down on his head, hands and feet nailed to the wood, hanging there suspended between heaven and earth.

Crucifixion was not a pleasant way to die. Victims suffered great pain and humiliation as they hung before jeering crowds. A Roman writer called crucifixion *"that most cruel and terrifying punishment."* A Roman citizen could not be crucified in this way. It was too horrible.

"But Jesus Christ, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant being born in human likeness....He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross." Philippians 2:5-8

Think of it! For over 2000 years people all over the world place the same sign in the center of their worship space. What a mark it has left upon the world! What a place it holds in the Christian heart and mind! We may not know all of the theological details of Christianity, but we know that Jesus Christ was crucified. We would have long since forgotten about this event were it not for the cross. The cross means that He died for us. The cross means that He died for me.

Christ was crucified on our behalf that we might be awakened to God's love – to forgiveness – to eternal life. Whatever we read or hear about God, the cross remains the center of our theology and our belief. The bottom line is this – ***"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."***

That battered and bleeding man hanging that day was Jesus the Christ. He was killed by sinful men that we might know the love, mercy, and salvation of the living God. Jesus died for me. Jesus died for us. Our suffering is bound up in His suffering. Our pains become His pain. And His love covers all.

See you Sunday,
Kay

METHODIST WEEKDAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Tami Stevens, Director – 979-830-8661

SUNDAY March 3, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	73
Worship 11:00 a.m.	101
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	51
Worship Total	231
Sunday School	98

SUNDAY March 10, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	68
Worship 11:00 a.m.	103
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	51
Worship Total	228
Sunday School	99

FEBRUARY TOTALS

Feb. Income:	\$45,659.91
Feb. Expense:	\$53,234.19
Feb. Total:	(\$7,574.28)

YTD TOTALS

YTD Income:	\$102,182.27
YTD Expense:	\$104,089.93
YTD Net Total:	(\$1,907.66)



March



Upcoming Events

- Pre-K and 3's go to the library every Monday at 10:45 to see Ms. Lou Lou
- **15th-28th** We will make Resurrection Eggs in Chapel
- **26th** We will hold an Easter Egg Hunt
- **29th** We will be closed for Good Friday

Finding Our Church Volunteers

We are trying to find out how many of our church family are volunteers. Members who volunteer for places like Bread Partners, Higgins Branch, etc., please call the church office and give us your name and where you volunteer. We want to have a more accurate count for our church reports and this is the best way we know. Thank you so much for all you do! Church Office 836-2008.

Donations Received

In memory of
Bonnie Perry
By
Art & Smitty Hinners

EASTER CANDY NEEDED

Please help out the Children's Ministry in donating wrapped Easter candy. There will be a box in the church office for donations. We have been very good recyclers over the last couple of years so we do not need any plastic eggs. We will be collecting candy up until Sunday, March 24. Thank you for your donations!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

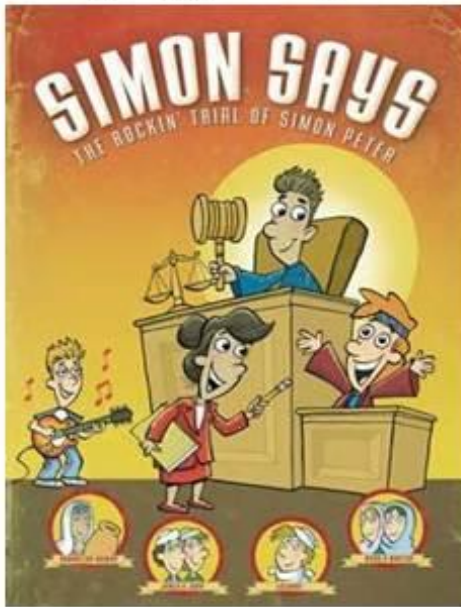
Jennifer Patrick, Program Director, Jennifer@FUMCBrenham.org

A.C.T.S.

PERFORMANCE DATE:

SUNDAY, MAY 12

at 6:30 PM in the Activity Center
A Sundae Bar to follow the performance.



Mark your calendars now!

Vacation Bible School is July 22-26
this year. Please note this is a later
date so please make plans to
attend and help out. This is gonna
be HUGE!



All kids are encouraged to come to all services
on **Palm Sunday, March 24** to wave palms.
Please mark your calendars and plan to be
there on this special Sunday.

WE NEED CANDY!!



Please bring
individually wrapped
candy to the church
office. The youth will
be filling the eggs on
Palm Sunday!

A.C.T.S. will be singing in
the Celebration Service on
Easter Sunday.







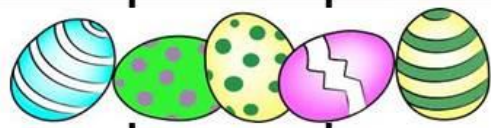

EASTER EGG HUNT

10:00 am On the front lawn. Bring your basket!



YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTRIES

Jennifer Patrick, Program Director, Jennifer@FUMCBrenham.org

MARCH 2013 U. M. Y. F. @FUMC						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 UMYF 6:30-8pm Ice Cream Social	4	5	6	7	8	9 
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SPRING BREAK!!!						
17 UMYF 6:30-8:00pm Walking in His Footsteps Part 1	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 UMYF 6:30-8:00pm Walking in His Footsteps Part 2  	25	26	27	Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm 		29
31 Happy Easter 						

MEALS for UMYF

March 17 – Trostle's
March 24 – Jurden's
March 31 – No UMYF



This Sunday we begin our interactive study called, *Walking in His Footsteps*. Invite a friend to come join you Sunday for food, fun and fellowship! See you Sunday!

In Him,
Jenn



Lakeview Summer 2013 Program Staff

Summer is quickly approaching and we are searching for our 2013 program staff members! We are looking for Christ-centered team members with a heart for the camping ministry. Ideal candidates are Lakeview summer camp veterans with a love for Lakeview and our programs.

Applicants should be at least 18 years of age and have completed at least one year of college. Go to programs@lakeviewmcc.org to view the job descriptions and application process. Contact Caleb Esrtada with questions at the same web address.

Help us find the best program staff yet!

Pre-Conference Orientation

April 29, 2013

Local church pastors and Annual Conference delegates are asked to attend the Pre-Conference briefing and orientation meeting **Monday the 29th at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at **College Station FUMC, 1125 Wellborn Rd.** The Rev. B.T. Williamson, Assistant to the Bishop, will conduct this vital session. Annual Conference in 2013 will take place May 26th-29th at the Hilton Americas in downtown Houston. The orientation will discuss key events and discussions at Conference, as well as basic information about the site, meals, etc. Please plan to attend this important connectional meeting in our district.

Prayer Concerns

Tom Brazzel
Kathy Revenaugh
Melissa Hale
Pete Robinson
Ann Talley
Bob Baker
Jim Hickey
Kathy Rote
Justin Davis
Nick Johnson
Marnie Whitmarsh
Kathy Rote
Elaine Walberg
Elaine Dorow
Jim Forsythe
Bob Perry
Jim Miller
Chester D'Olive
Floyd Chapman
Barbara Moran
Robert Wright
Jacque Ketcham

Our homebound members
and those serving in the military

INTENTIONAL ACTS OF KINDNESS MONTH

We are blessed to have a congregation of caring and generous people who share their time and talents in the church and the community. Members are being offered another opportunity to serve. April 1-30 is International Acts of Kindness Month at FUMC and every one from Methodist Child Development Center age and above can participate.

On March 24, you will hear about this month of kindness at all three services. Suggestion sheets and strips of paper will be distributed at all three services; these sheets will also be available on March 31st and in the church office. The strips of paper are to be used to record your acts of kindness; they will be used to make a paper chain to reach around the church. These strips need to be turned in by May 5th. They may be turned into baskets at the doors of the sanctuary, the celebration, and at the church office.

International Acts of Kindness Month is so easy to do and will not take much of your time but the recipient will greatly appreciate it.

An Open Letter to Your Congregation of
The Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Crucified and Risen Savior Jesus Christ.

St. Paul reminds the Corinthians and us that one practice of extravagant generosity is part of a Christian's growth to spiritual maturity. God gives generously to us. In turn, we become more and more like God as we give to others. In 2 Corinthians he writes "This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way..."

Those words seem a fitting description of you, pastors and congregations who paid your apportionments in full during this past year. Your full commitment to connectional ministry of our church helped keep both the Texas Annual Conference and The United Methodist Church strong. You have embodied Jesus' message that "Giving, not getting, is the way." I am deeply grateful for what you have done.

Your generosity undergirds the ministries of the Texas Conference, including starting new congregations and transforming congregations that are declining, developing clergy and lay leaders, underwriting local missions and working with youth. Beyond the annual conference, you support higher education and theological education in the United States and around the world. You underwrite ministries of mission, discipleship and service.

On behalf of the Texas Annual Conference, I celebrate your outstanding accomplishment for 2012 and encourage you to continue your benevolent support for 2013.

Grace and Peace,
Bishop Janice Riggle Huie

Brazos Valley Hospice will hold
Loss of a Child

A 4-week series for parents who have lost a child of any age, Wednesdays in April.
April 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: 302 E. Blue Bell Road, Brenham

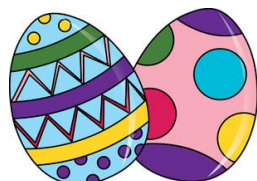
Join other grieving parents and learn healthy skills to cope with the unique difficulties parents face.

Newsletter Deadline and Other Information





Your next newsletter deadline will be **Tuesday, March 26, 2013 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.



March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 9:00 Emmaus/ Parlor	2
3 3:00 Confirmation/ FH 5:00 ACTS/ Rm. 139	4 10:00 FSG Lenten Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	5 8:45 UMW Exec./ Library 9:30 UMW/ AC 5:00 Trustees/ FR	6 11:00 Susanna Circle/ Lenten Luncheon 11:45 Lenten Lunch Rev. Larry Embry/ AC 1:00 Care Team/ Library 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	7 9:00 Yoga/ AC	8 9:00 Emmaus/ Parlor	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins	11 10:00 FSG Lenten Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 1:00 CDC Board/ Library	12 9:00 Card Group/ MH 6:00 Evangelism/ FR	13 11:45 Lenten Luncheon Rev. Kay Reed/ AC 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	14 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM/ AC	15 9:00 Emmaus/ Parlor	16 8:00 Women's Emmaus Walk Meeting/AC
17 3:00 Confirmation/ FH 5:00 Youth/ AC ACTS/ Rm. 139  St. Patrick's Day	18 10:00 FSG Lenten Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 6:00 Missions & Outreach/ Library 7:00 Ad Board/FR	19 9:30 Post Circle--Leyer/ FH Goodman Circle / Duree Reiland Circle - Edwards-Harmer/ MH 6:30 Wesleyan Circle- Ivy & Gravett/ FH	20 11:45 Lenten Luncheon Jennifer Patrick/ AC 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	21 9:00 Yoga/ AC	22 9:00 Emmaus/ Parlor	23
24 Palm Sunday Chancel Choir Special Music 3:00 Confirmation/ FH 5:00 ACTS/ Rm. 139	25 10:00 FSG Lenten Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	26 9:00 Card Group/ MH	27 1:00 Care Team/ Library 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	28 9:00 Yoga 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service/ Sanctuary	29 9:00 Emmaus/ Parlor	30
31 Easter Sunday 						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

Palm
Sunday

Sunday, March 24

*Procession of Palms by our Children at all
three services*

Special Music in all our services

Easter Sunday March 31

8:15 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary
 8:30am Potluck Breakfast in the Activity Center
 9:00am Celebration! Service in the Activity Center
 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt on the Front Lawn
 11:00am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary



Maundy Thursday & Tenebrae Service
March 28 7:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary

**Service includes Holy Communion and a
 drama performed by
 Blinn Theatre Students**



Return Service Requested

First United Methodist Church
 408 North Baylor
 Brenham, TX 77833



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