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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 6, 2013

Old Canoes and Empty Tombs

Workmen in a Kemigawa, Japan farmyard, twenty-five miles southwest of Tokyo, were digging in a peat bog and found something they were not looking for. They called in the experts and they investigated. Inside the fossilized remains of a canoe eighteen feet under the ground, they made an incredible discovery, never before found in all the history of Japan.

Their find was removed to the safety of a laboratory. Scientists kept a round-the-clock vigil, and in four days, under laboratory created-climatic conditions, there was perceptive movement! Camera men were summoned to record the happenings. Japan's scientific community was alerted to the surprise that life was coming forth from the canoe that had been buried some twenty centuries before.

A living thing had survived from prehistoric Japan. From the discovery in a peat deposit, eighteen feet below the earth, cradled in the fossilized remains of a canoe, a two thousand year old un-germinated, dormant, apparently lifeless SEED had come to life. After four days, a sprout came forth and after fourteen months, a delicate pink lotus flower blossomed. The seed that went to sleep when Jesus did...was awake! The message of the resurrection is that there is always hope. The Jewish leaders thought Jesus was dead. The Roman authorities thought Jesus was dead. Even the disciples thought Jesus was dead. But God was not finished! As long as God is God, there is always hope.

Are you in a situation that looks hopeless? Does life seem worthless and empty of purpose? God can still bring life to you. Do you wonder if there is any hope for tomorrow? In the message of Easter, God says He will be in all our tomorrows. If God can design a seed that comes to life after two thousand years and can raise Jesus Christ from the dead, then surely He can take care of your tomorrow.

"Through Christ you have come to trust in God.

And because God raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory, your faith and hope can be placed confidently in God."

1 Peter 1:21

The New Living Translation

See you Sunday,
Kay

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.

METHODIST WEEKDAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Tami Stevens, Director – 979-830-8661

SUNDAY February 3, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	68
Worship 11:00 a.m.	104
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	59
Worship Total	237
Sunday School	102
Offering:	\$14,294.00

SUNDAY February 10, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	7
Worship 8:15 a.m.	77
Worship 11:00 a.m.	117
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	69
Worship Total	270
Sunday School	110
Offering:	\$16,299.00

SUNDAY February 17, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	7
Worship 8:15 a.m.	76
Worship 11:00 a.m.	111
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	62
Worship Total	256
Sunday School	138
Offering:	\$8,640.00

SUNDAY February 24, 2013 Church Attendance:

Nursery	8
Worship 8:15 a.m.	80
Worship 11:00 a.m.	112
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	85
Worship Total	285
Sunday School	112
Offering:	\$5,668.57

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



The kids were excited and amazed by the animals that the Zoo Man, from the Capital Zoo in Austin, Texas brought for them to see.



March's Up Coming Events

March

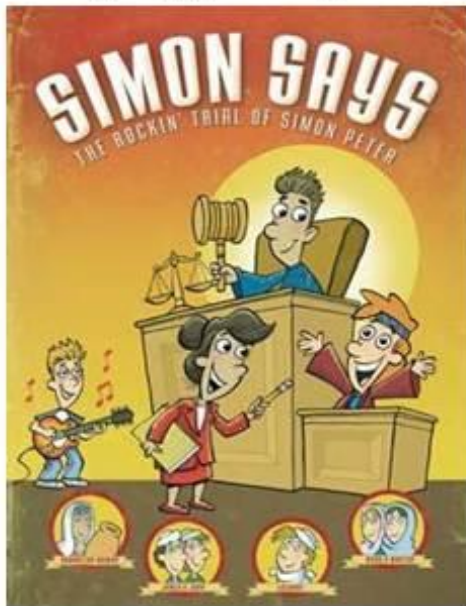
- Pre-K and 3's go to the library every Monday at 10:45 to see Ms. Lou Lou
- Pre-K and 3's will go to Fireman's Park to play and have a picnic
- We will start Resurrection Eggs in Chapel

March 21st- We will hold an Easter Egg Hunt

A.C.T.S.

Begins Sunday, February 17 at 5:00 – 6:30 pm in Room 139 (enter at the door next to the playground). Bring a folder

and \$2 for a listening CD. This musical is a "rockin" good time!



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

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



YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTRIES

Jennifer Patrick, Program Director, Jennifer@FUMCBrenham.org

We had a great time at our Ice Cream Social/ Planning Session last Sunday. We have a GREAT bunch of youth and they have a TON of good ideas for our youth group. I want to thank all the parents that attended and shared so many of their ideas too. I look forward to our time together getting "rooted" in Christ!!

In Him,
Jenn



UPCOMING CALENDAR of EVENTS for MARCH

Sunday, Mar 10

No UMYF -Spring Break!

Sunday, Mar 17

6:30-8:00pm UMYF

Sunday, Mar 24

6:30-8:00pm UMYF

(help fill Easter Eggs☺)

Sunday, Mar 31

No UMYF - EASTER!!



LENTEN MISSION PROJECT

The Children's Ministry of FUMC invite you to help us collect essentials and goodies for our troops in Afghanistan. There are collection baskets in the church office, Activity Center and outside the Parlor. Please help us share the joy of Easter with our deployed troops. The collection drive ends on March 20.



- Travel sized toiletries, such as: toothpaste, shaving cream, deodorant
- Razors
- Baby Wipes
- Candy (Any food or candy should be packaged in individual servings.)
- Beef jerky
- Protein or breakfast bars
- Granola Bars
- Nuts/Trail Mix
- Powdered drink mixes (individual serving packages that can be added to a bottle of water)
- Entertainment items such as magazines, books, puzzle books

Bishop Huie's Challenge to Texas Methodists

At last summer's conference sessions, Bishop Janice Huie issued challenges to the congregation and pastors. First the whole conference agreed to adopt three key focus areas for 2013-2016:

- More fruitful, missional, growing congregations
- Lay and clergy leadership development
- Focus on the young

One of the exciting things about being a Texas United Methodist is that our churches are challenged to engage in their communities. We are not simply called to "recruit new people" into our ministries. Rather we are challenged to "GO OUT" and serve and make a difference in the communities around us. This is right in line with the heart of the BUMC church family, as we seek to be a light to the darkness around us!

Bishop Janice Riggle Huie has challenged every one of our church families to partner with our local public schools. This could mean mentoring. This could mean tutoring. This could mean involvement in existing programs. This could mean creating new programs. Churches are challenged to be creative!

Recently, in his sermon at the Inaugural Prayer Service at the National Cathedral, the Rev. Adam Hamilton lifted up a similar theme as he shared words about his congregation's ministry in suburban Kansas City. He acknowledged that there were many and diverse opinions about various social issues within his large congregation. But even amid those diverse opinions, those church members found it possible to pull together with a heart for children who lived in at-risk environments.

The Reverend Adam Hamilton, noted Methodist pastor and author, gave the sermon at the Inaugural Prayer Service at the Washington National Cathedral on January 22. As part of his sermon, he spoke about ways in which his congregation- Church of the Resurrection in the Kansas City area - engaged with public schools. These were his words:

One of our visions at the church is to address the root causes of poverty in Kansas City so that our city might look more like the kingdom of God that Jesus preached about. We began to ask - *"How do you address the root causes of poverty?"* We learned that everyone agrees upon early childhood education. We had a vision that we would work together with the public schools in Kansas City, to find a way to give the 2,284 children in six elementary schools (where 90% of those children are on the free or reduced lunch program) a chance for a better future. We partnered with these schools. We came and we said, *"We don't have the answers, we just offer ourselves as servants. What do you need? How can we help?"*

Last year, 2,500 of our members volunteered at those schools. We built playgrounds at all six of those schools where they didn't have playgrounds before. We repainted the insides of the schools where they didn't have money to fix the schools. Our members volunteered as tutors to read to the children. We purchased 20K books and gave them to the children so that they may read at home. When we found out that 1,400 children were coming to school hungry on Monday, we started providing backpacks for children with nutritious snacks every Friday- 1,400 of them- that our members pack and deliver, so that the children come back to school Monday fed. When we learned that 300 children sleep on the floor at home or on the couch in their home, we provided 300 beds. We delivered them; we provided sheets, blankets and pajamas for these children.

On Christmas Eve, the biggest night of the year at our church, we voted a number of years ago to give away the entire Christmas offering to projects benefiting children and poverty. And we challenged our members- would you consider giving an equal amount to what you spend on your own children at Christmas in this offering? We give half to projects benefiting a thousand orphans in Malawi, and half to projects benefiting the 2,284 children in Kansas City. And on Christmas Eve, our folks in one evening gave \$1.235 million to these projects.

I mention that not to brag, though I'm very proud of our congregation. But to say that's one congregation with one vision and that unifies us as a church. We're Democrats and Republicans in our congregation, we're left and right, conservative and liberal, but somehow these kinds of visions pull us tighter into the future. They excite and they help change the world.

Very soon let's look at how we can respond to Bishop Huie's challenge. There will be a way for YOU to be involved!!

Pastor Dale

Dear Church Friends

What a blessing you all have been during this latest *unexpected* bout with the knee surgeon.

The cards have been so encouraging and uplifting. The flowers, food, visits and prayers have truly been appreciated.

FUMC has a very warm place in our hearts. Thank you for all you do.

With love,
Susan Ebel

Prayer Concerns

Robert Wright
Kathy Revenaugh
Melissa Hale
Susie Kelly
Ann Talley
Bob Baker
Jim Hickey
Kathy Rote
Justin Davis
Nick Johnson
Marnie Whitmarsh
Marilynn Wrigley
Kathy Rote
Elaine Walberg
Elaine Dorow
Jim Forsythe
Susan Ebel
Bob Perry
Jim Miller
Chester D'Olive
Charles Lacy
Floyd Chapman
Glen and Judy Pendergrass
Barbara Moran
Robert Wright
Jacque Ketcham

Our homebound members
and those serving in the military



To my FUMC Brenham Church Family,

As most of you know, I am no longer the youth minister at FUMC Brenham. After extensive prayer, thought, and discussion, I decided to close a chapter in my life and open another one. It was a thought that had developed over several months, and was one of the most difficult ones of my life.

I appreciate the opportunity and blessing to have worked here for the last five years. I have enjoyed leading the youth and college ministries and hope to have inspired them in their walk with Christ, as they have inspired me.

I thank all of my church family for the support they have given to the youth ministries. The chaperones, financial support, and positive feedback I will always be thankful for. The love and care you all showed me, the youth and college students and my family... blessings. My hope and prayer is that I will always strive to return that kindness and generosity to people my entire life.

I leave you with a prayer for the youth and college students "May you always remember to strive to serve others without expectation of a return, strive to love people even when you don't want to, strive to respect all others for being God's creations as they are and not who you want them to be, strive to take time to pray in good times and bad, strive to be genuine, and always strive to be good examples of your church and Christ."

With Love, Sincerity, and Honor,
Rick



Our J.O.Y. group had a fantastic time together. We had a great lunch at the Blinn cafeteria and saw the Blinn theatre department's production of *Biloxi Blues*.

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!

Donations Received

In memory of
Otis Davis
 By
 Don and Mary Wilhelm
 Art & Smitty Hinners

In honor of
Michael Brown and the Ushers
 By
 Susan Manchester

CHURCH-GOERS!

Don't experience the horror of arriving to church as everyone else is leaving!

Set your clocks

AHEAD

1 hour before going to bed March 9th!

DST begins March 10th!

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 here 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!

Practicing Kindness

The entire congregation of FUMC, adults, youth, and children are invited to participate in *INTENTIONAL ACTS OF KINDNESS MONTH*, which will be observed April 1-30. Kindness is inspiring, powerful, courageous, and wise. Any person can participate, at any stage of life. You can have an opportunity to practice kindness anywhere you go—home, church, store, ball game, swimming pool, etc. Look forward to more information in the church newsletter, bulletins, and church services. Plan now to have a life-changing experience during the month of April, not only for you, but for others as well.



2013 BLINN BLITZ

Friday, April 12, 2013 is our 4th annual Blinn Blitz, when FUMC Brenham partners with Blinn and the students provide the labor for various projects in and around Brenham. Each year the Blitz gets bigger and last year we had well over a hundred students (see picture) show up to work. We were excited about that, and we think this year we'll probably have as many student helpers.

If you (or someone you know) could benefit from students coming to work at your house, doing yard work or other chores, please let me know. This can include cleaning up all the branches from a dead tree, cleaning flower beds piled high with leaves, etc. This type work can be really tiring for some folks, and this work day provides an opportunity for you to get the work done, while allowing the students to learn the benefits of "paying it forward."

Please give me a call if you'd like to be on the project list. We need lots of projects this year.

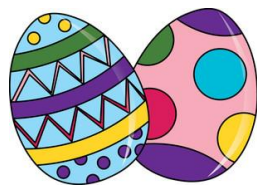
Pat Clark
979-830-1950
pclark6629@gmail.com

Newsletter Deadline and Other Information



Your next newsletter deadline will be **Monday, March 11, 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 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 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

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



Lenten Lunches



Wednesdays
11:45am in the AC

March 6
Reverend Larry Embry

March 13
Reverend Kay Reed

March 20
Jennifer Patrick

