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*Open Hearts. . .
 Open Minds. . .
 Open Doors. . .*

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FUMC

- 7:30 a.m. Refreshments in the Parlor (all morning)
- 8:15 A.M. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Activity Center
- 9:00 a.m. Celebration Service In the Activity Center
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Nursery care provided

The 11:00 service is Broadcast each Sunday on Brenham radio KWHI/AM 1280 and Channel 96 Cable TV.

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Bobbie Maltas—Senior
 pastorbobbie@fumcbrenham.org

Rev. T.J. Gabelman—Associate
 pastortj@fumcbrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

June 2019

New Sunday Activities Schedule

Begins Sunday, July 7

- Breakfast 8:45 A.M. in the Activity Center
- Community Song & Prayer 9:15 A.M. in the Activity Center
- Traditional Worship 9:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary
- Celebration Worship 9:30 A.M. in the Activity Center
- Sunday School for All Ages 10:45

WHY DO THIS???

As a congregation we'll have more time for fellowship together, all generations, all families.

For the worship guest/visitor, the hope is they will experience a warm welcome at breakfast or worship and be invited to Sunday school – for adult, youth and children alike.

These are comments are not uncommon amongst us:

I never see the people who worship at 8:15/9:00/11:00.
 I miss seeing the children.

We need to do more things together as a congregation.

There are more people in the choir loft than in the pews!

Why are we so segregated on Sunday mornings?

I'd take my grandkids to Sunday school but we're still in worship.

We'd go to Sunday school because that's when we're in worship.

Why do Sunday morning activities overlap?

This schedule will be observed during July, August and September.

Let's give it a chance!

Please plan to celebrate Pastor T.J.'s ministry for and among the people of our congregation at a reception in his honor. On his last Sunday, June 23, after the conclusion of the third worship service, we'll gather in the Activity Center for cake and a warm farewell to The Gabelman's.

You're invited to express your gratitude and love for them with a greeting card and/or gift card that will help pave the way on their new journey as they make their new home in Rusk.

Grace & Peace,
 Pastor Bobbie

**Our Cub Scout pack advanced from the rank of Lion to Bobcat.
Our very own Charlie Pauler advanced two ranks to Bear.**




Congratulations

**William Bill Hardt was presented with
the Archivist Award for his work
to establish and maintain the archive
records of the Texas Annual Conference.**

**Congratulations Bill! We're proud of
you!**

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Church Attendance

Nursery:	5
8:15 Worship	58
9:00 Celebration	63
11:00 Worship	65
Total: 191	
Sunday School:	53
Offering:	\$9,779.22

Sunday, May 12, 2019

Church Attendance

Nursery:	2
8:15 Worship	38
9:00 Celebration	66
11:00 Worship	83
Total: 189	
Sunday School:	53
Offering:	\$11,503.49

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Church Attendance

Nursery:	4
8:15 Worship	42
9:00 Celebration	51
11:00 Worship	105
Total: 202	
Sunday School:	43
Offering:	\$10,153.42

Sunday, May 26, 2019

Church Attendance

Nursery:	6
8:15 Worship	52
9:00 Celebration	47
11:00 Worship	69
Total: 174	
Sunday School:	58
Offering:	\$9,826.39

April Totals

Income:	\$42,407.25
Expense:	\$58,802.81
Total:	(\$16,395.56)

YTD Totals

Income:	\$234,586.47
Expense:	\$209,933.57
Total:	\$24,652.90

Missions Corner

Update from the Couch Family



I wanted to share this with you from the Couch Family, especially since when they were with us last year we gave toward this project.

It's official!!! Our gathering and office space is open as of Friday night. The stage was set but in true Kosovar fashion as of 3:00 pm we had no idea if more than a handful of students would come.

To our great surprise, before the 5 pm start time we had a roomful with 25 students in addition to a family who lives in the building, a local business owner, an outdoor enthusiast, and the Kosovo Hope staff. The night included a cake to celebrate a birthday, lots of food and drinks, nonstop competition on the climbing wall (a hit for all ages from 4 to 60), games, and conversing. But, the biggest surprise of the night was yet to come.

Earlier in the day, we met as a team to worship together, pray for the opening of the space, and continue searching for God's direction in scripture. We left with the challenge of sharing the passage with others. As the party began to wind down into a more intimate gathering and about 12 students and leaders crowded around our conference table in discussion, one of our local teammates took the challenge to heart and before we knew it, the whole group was going through the same passage of scripture (Mark 1:21-45) talking about what it could mean for their lives. These were students from different cities, backgrounds, and religious contexts coming to the table together to seek God. What can I say except God is good and desiring for us to join in growing his Kingdom.

We ask you to join us in prayer for this space and for those who will walk through the doors to experience Jesus in a way that it draws them into relationship and obedience with the one true God. Also, these next three months will be full of trainings, camps, and short term teams and I ask you to pray for God's spirit to fall full on Kosovo and for this to become a place of hope where God is known for all his goodness evidenced by transformed lives. Pray for peace in the midst of the busyness and for the reminder that it is God at work in the midst. Blessings!!!

Dollars for Missions

Have you ever noticed in the bulletin by the offertory something called Dollars for Missions? When the offering is collected, all the loose, not designated \$1 bills go into the Dollars for Missions account. With this money we have funded giving water to new students as they moved into Blinn College, provided over 600 hand sanitizer bottles for teachers at the beginning of the year to tell them they are appreciated, giving special gifts to the Couch family and much more! Thank you for giving to Dollar for Missions so that the love of Jesus can be spread to our community.

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't even have to make your subject and your verb agree... You only need a heart full of grace...a soul generated by love."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

UMYF



Thank you so much to Jennifer Campbell, Kim Ratcliff, the Bogans and the youth group for all their hard work to make the Senior Dinner such a special evening.



Class of 2019



Check out all of the FUN youth activities for June on our church website's youth page. FUMCBrenham.org

Confirmation Class of 2019

Brett Aaron Campbell,

son of Jennifer and Aaron, Mentor Casey Henly

Grady Lane Gee,

son of Kirsten and Joey, Mentor Lisa Hook

Sarah Louise Moser,

daughter of Suzette and Jim, Mentor Jennifer Campbell

Maeleigh Jane Pauler,

daughter of Debbie and Justin, Mentor Susan Pauler

Brayden Chase Rosenbaum,

son of Stephanie and Kyle, Mentor Karen Rosenbaum

Rachel Claire Sedlar,

daughter of Angela and Aaron, Mentor Matt Hulon



Since the children's
SS teachers will be on a
mission trip, there is

**NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

June 9th and 16th



**We will kick off
Kids' Summer SS
on June 23 with
games outside**

We have an exciting week planned for our VBS. Please spread the word via social media, emails or word of mouth. If you would like to volunteer please register online as well!



**spread
the
word**

June 24 - 27

ON LINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:

coesburyvbs.com/fumcbrenham



Music Ministry Notes:

All music ministries will take time off from rehearsal for the summer months. Rehearsals will begin again later this year.

Starting in August, the Chancel Choir will begin preparing a Master Choral work to present to the church in December.

If you are interested in joining any of the music ensembles that make up our music ministry please contact Matt.

Matthewhulon@gmail.com

Coda: I enjoy the handbells so much BUT I don't read music so I can't join. I used to sing in the church choir at our old church BUT I don't have the time. I love to sing BUT my voice isn't nice enough for the choir. I'd love to join the music ministry BUT I'm completely tone-deaf.

When I took introduction to music education in college I learned a lot. Firstly, I learned that teaching elementary music was not for me. But one thing that stuck with me was the difference between REAL reasons and GOOD reasons. A good reason is the logical or socially acceptable reason you give for doing or not doing something. A real reason is just that, the real reason you do or don't do something, and they aren't always the same thing. So when I hear the various GOOD reasons people give for not joining the music ministry, even though they want to, I find myself wondering what the REAL reason is. Often what I think is going on is a bit of fear. I would love to join the choir BUT I'm afraid I'm not good enough to join. BUT church music ministries are made up of people of ALL different skill levels and levels of experience. That's what makes them so unique, everyone is learning, growing, and helping each other. That sense of community as you prepare for a worship service becomes another act of worship I think. Helping your neighbor better express their love for God IS loving your neighbor after all. So while the music ministries are on hiatus from rehearsal for the summer, if you've been considering joining the music ministries but have held yourself back for whatever GOOD reason, ask yourself what the REAL reason is.

Memorials Received

In memory of
Edith Peterson
By
Kaye and James Baker

Do you or someone you love need help with addiction? Here's where you can find resources:
<http://www.rehab.help.org>



PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Glen Amerson	Lydia House
Barbara and Ed Baker	Beverly Leyrer
Marie & Calvin Beckendorf	Sue Perry
Mary Burgess	Jean & Harold Pool
Aaron Collier	Red Powell
Wanda Curbo	Marjorie Reed
Ellen Ellison	Chris Rogers
Joyce & Walter Fortune	Edna Rote
Marshia & Bud Foster	Billie Schmidt
Miriam Gillis	Milton Tate
Joycine & Louis Hannath	Jody Tyson
Luene Harmer	Linda Winstanley

Others

Patricia Alex	Ray Neuse
Rick Fitzgerald	Christ Newman
Donna Gore	Lloyd Pieper
Carol & John Haarmeyer	Marge Roberts
Melissa Hale	Annie Schultz
Donna Jacobson	Marissa Spangler
Kathi Ivy	Cheryl Williamson
Cindy Mullins	

A Word from our Lay Reader

Tom Scanio, Lay Leader

A subject has been on my mind and heart for some time so I finally decided to share it. First, however, there are some disclaimers. These thoughts are mine solely - not anyone else's. This is not meant to alarm but to offer ideas for consideration and to educate. This is not meant to cast aspersions on anyone.

For many years, the church has operated under a financial deficit. We have spent more than we take in. Only one year in recent history produced a financial credit and that was due to a one-time unusual donation. Without the donation, that year would also have produced a deficit. As things stand now, this year is projected to show a deficit. As lay leader, I felt that I had to bring up this subject with you.

When this happens, the church pulls from a reserve fund to cover the deficit. However, that reserve fund is finite. It won't run out this year or the next but, if things don't change, it eventually must and will run out. Should that happen, the results would be severe. Again, this is not meant to provoke panic. It's meant to provoke personal thought and action.

The first thought may be that the church simply needs to cut spending. The reality is that mostly all spending goes to staffing and facilities. Cuts in programs won't have any significant impact. It's hard to imagine cutting our existing staffing or facilities as these contribute significantly to the fruitfulness of our ministries. Also, unusual expenses, such as an air conditioning unit replacement, can occur that don't have adequate budgeting to start with.

The only practical answer is a greater influx in giving to the church. This can be accomplished by either growing the church membership or having existing members contribute more - or both.

The church is embarking on a program called Benchmark which is designed to help grow membership and strengthen the church. There will be more information on it in the coming months. However, results from it will take at least one or two years to come to pass assuming it is successful.

So, all of us, as church members, need to consider our financial contributions to the church. I discuss three possibilities that I think can help stem the tide. I don't mean that we adopt one in favor of the others. Some combination of all three would undoubtedly be necessary.

The step chart given out in the last stewardship drive shows that many attending members do not give anything to the church - according to our records. Since we cannot track cash contributions to a specific giver, some people in that group who give in cash are not accurately counted. However, if you are in that group and contribute nothing or very little, please prayerfully consider starting to give or giving more. Just this group giving an additional \$10 a week could go a long way to erasing the deficit. If you can't do that, then God bless you and I pray for you.

For those of us who do give significantly, we need to sincerely consider whether we can help more. Susan and I have increased our giving this year and are considering upping yet again. Please prayerfully consider doing the same. Again, if you can't, then God bless you also.

Another issue is the "summer swoon". We usually approach summer in a reasonable financial position but funding really drops during this period. We then get into a deficit situation from which we can't climb out. Another tremendous help would be to simply continue giving to the church throughout this period at the same rate as other times.

We are all members of this church so it must mean something to each of us on some level. We are Christians commanded to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and we need a healthy church to do that. We need a church that doesn't merely survive but actually grows to offer more mission and evangelism efforts to this local community and the world at large.

I've told you that the church has an issue. I also hope that I've shown that it is a solveable one. Let's solve it as a church. There are many people in the church who can come up with ideas equal to or better than mine. The bar is pretty low there! Let's talk with each other. If you can come up with other suggestions or ways to implement the ideas discussed here, talk to members of the Stewardship Committee, me or Pastor Bobbie.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and please give these thoughts some consideration. If I have offended anyone, it was not my intent.

Tom

J.O.Y.

JUST OLDER YOUTH

Let's celebrate Independence Day a little early, **Saturday, June 30th**, and ride the bus to Round Top. We will enjoy lunch there, do some strolling around town and shop. Then we will top off the day with a patriotic concert that starts around 3:00 PM. What a great way

to celebrate with our friends. Call the church office at 836-2008 to reserve your spot on the bus!!! The bus will leave the church at 12:15 PM.

Come ride the bus with us, **Tuesday, July 9th**, to Neal's Berry Farm in Waller and pick your own berries. We will enjoy lunch at the Hedge Hog Grill. The bus will leave at 8:30 AM. Call the church office at 836-2008 to reserve your spot on the bus!!!

Newsletter Deadline

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Thursday, June 20th by 4:00 PM.** 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.



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