



# First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213  
November 15, 2012

## The Choice of Thanksgiving

John Claypool, noted author and pastor, has stated, *"Of all the forces that enable one to cope with life, gratitude is the most potent."* I believe he is right.

You see, we do not always have a choice regarding the circumstances of life that come our way. But we always have a choice regarding how we will respond to those circumstances. That choice is always ours. Choosing gratitude in response to life can make all the difference.

In his book, *The Light Within You*, Claypool says this is what our pilgrim ancestors did back in 1621. Their first winter was much worse than they anticipated, and by April only fifty of the original one hundred and two had survived. A serious discussion arose as to whether those remaining should give up and go back to the Old World, but they finally decided to stay on and plant a few acres of corn and barley.

When the time of the first anniversary of their landing rolled around, discussion arose as to how it should be observed. Some proposed a day of mourning, when attention should be focused on all those who lay in unmarked graves in foreign soil. The others said, *"No, a day of thanksgiving would be more appropriate. After all, fifty of us have survived. We have gathered in a good harvest. The Indians have been our friends. Let's focus on what we have going for us...not on what we have going against us."*

I wonder what would have happened if these pilgrims had chosen to mourn rather than give thanks. Certainly they had every reason to mourn. Instead THEY CHOSE TO GIVE THANKS and their response made all the difference in the world.

Have you ever thought about it that way? This Thanksgiving you and I have no choice when it comes to the circumstances that life brings our way. But we do have a choice in how we respond to those circumstances. That choice is always ours.

When the pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving, the children were given plates with five kernels of corn to remind them of the difficult year they had endured. It was only after prayers of gratitude for the Lord's providence that the full meal was served.

This might not be a bad custom for the first course of our Thanksgiving meal. What about asking each person around the table to talk about five things for which he or she is most thankful? What would you say? As you can see, five kernels of corn are not enough to cover all our blessings and gratitude.

I'm going to have a good Thanksgiving and I hope you will too.

Kay

*"Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise. Give thanks and bless God's name."*

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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](mailto:pastordale@fumcbrenham.org)

Associate Pastor  
Rev. Kay Reed  
[pastorkay@fumcbrenham.org](mailto:pastorkay@fumcbrenham.org)

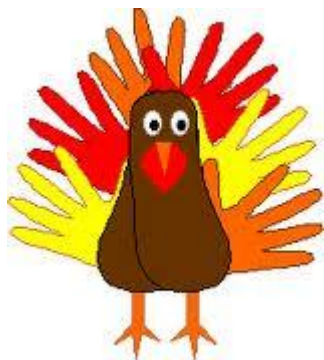


## 2012 Angel Tree & Brenham State Supported Living Center

This gift-giving ministry begins on Sunday, November 25. Look for the the Christmas trees in the parlor and in the Activity Center to pick out your name. Please consider picking out a name this year and give a gift to those in need.

# METHODIST WEEKDAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Tami Stevens, Director – 979-830-8661

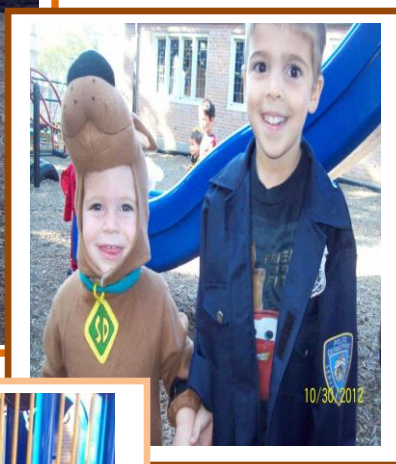


## SUNDAY November 4, 2012 Church Attendance:

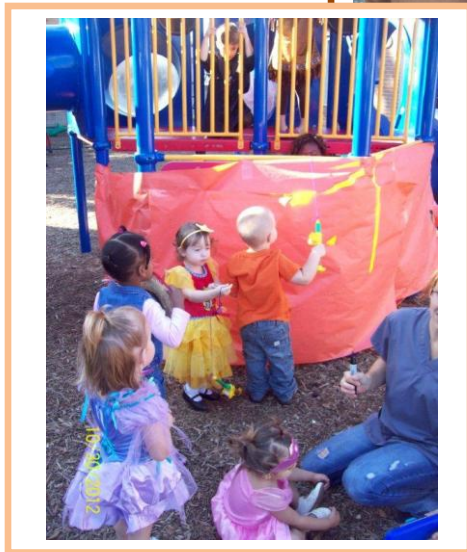
Nursery	4
Worship 8:15 a.m.	76
Worship 11:00 a.m.	116
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	65
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>261</b>
Sunday School	115
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$12,557.33</b>

# November

## Halloween Pictures!!!!



Marrisa and Piper went all out for their costumes. We even had Scooby Doo come by!!



The children fished at our school Halloween parties. Wow, Halloween was fun and the kids looked great!

## OCTOBER TOTALS

Oct. Income:	\$48,263.76
Oct. Expense:	\$63,781.11
<b>Oct. Total:</b>	<b>(\$15,517.35)</b>

## YTD TOTALS

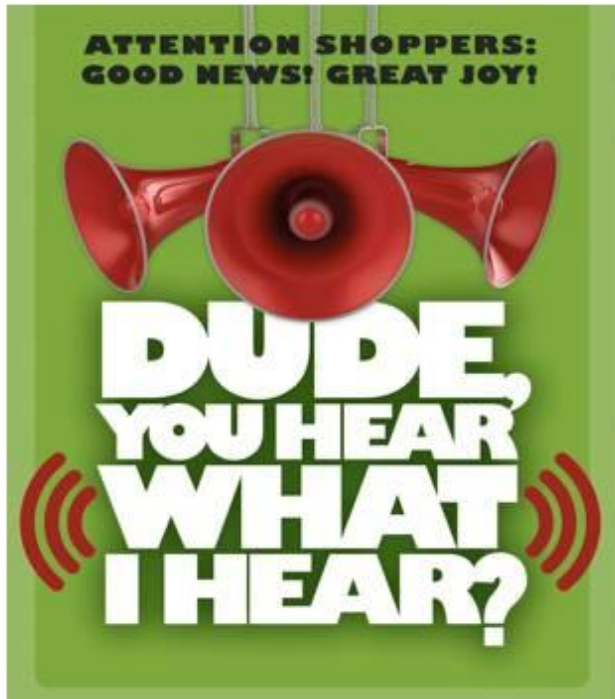
YTD Income:	\$523,192.98
YTD Expense:	\$538,019.36
<b>YTD Net Total:</b>	<b>(\$14,826.38)</b>

## November's Up Coming Events

\*Nov. - Pre-k and 3's go to the library every Mon. @ 10:30

Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Feast and Children's Program  
6:00 -7:30 in the A/C

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Closed for Thanksgiving



# A.C.T.S. Christmas Show



Performance Date

Sunday, December 2, 2012

6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center

Cookie Stroll Fundraiser after the show

## THANKS GIRLS!!



The girls of ACTS did a wonderful job singing at the Candlelit Christmas event for Faith Mission.

# YOUTH NEWS

Rick Ruiz, Youth Director [rick@fumcbrenham.org](mailto:rick@fumcbrenham.org)

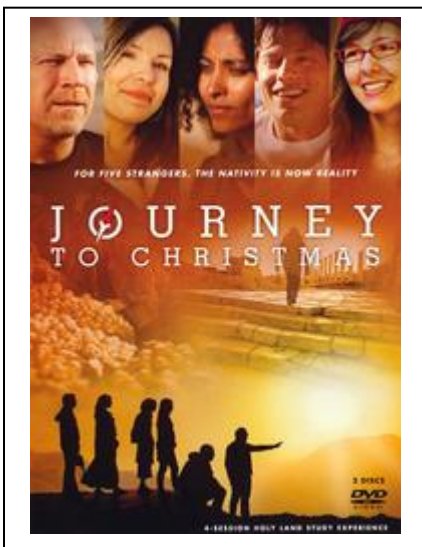
## November/December Youth Calendar

\*subject to change\*

- Sun., Nov. 18** – Chili Pickup after all services until 12:30 p.m.  
**AND** Youth 5-8 p.m. – Dinner & travel to Hay Maze
- Wed., Nov. 25** – Thanksgiving weekend, No youth
- Wed., Nov. 28** – Youth 6-8 p.m. in the AC
- Sun., Dec. 2** – Youth 7:30-9 p.m. in the AC
- Sun., Dec. 9** – Youth 5-8 p.m. in the AC
- Sat., Dec. 15** – Youth Christmas Party, time tba
- Sun., Dec. 23** – Christmas weekend, No youth
- Sun., Dec. 30** – Youth 5-8 p.m. in the AC



CHILI PICKUP IS THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>!!!  
COME BY THE AC KITCHEN OR JUST DRIVE UP AFTER ANY  
SERVICE & WE WILL GIVE YOU YOUR ORDER!!!  
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!



### Monday Morning Advent Study

Join us for a 4 week study during the season of Advent. We will meet on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship House. The first Monday is November 25. This is a DVD series entitled *Journey to Christmas*. If you would like to see a trailer about the study go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "Journey to Christmas".

# JOY — *Just Older Youth*

We have only 3 tickets left for the Church Basement Ladies show presented at Blinn College. The reservations are for Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your ticket money to the church office. The tickets are \$20 each. Your tickets are reserved once I get the ticket money.

## *Donations Received*

### *In memory of*

**Mr. Wright**  
(Kitty Dippel's father)

By  
Mr. and Mrs. Odell Lueckemeyer

### *In memory of*

**Elverda Kiecke**  
(Val Kiecke's mother)

By  
Gary and Kay Ivy

### *In memory of*

**A.B. Smith**  
(Carolyn Baker's father)

By  
Gary and Kay Ivy  
Tom and Carol Ann Post

## **ATTENTION ALL COOKIE MAKERS!!**

The A.C.T.S. Musical Troupe is looking for some help in making our Cookie Stroll a great success. We would like our generous FUMC "baking elves" to help by donating 3 dozen homemade cookies. You can bring them to the Activity Center on Sunday morning, December 2 (or any time after 3:30 p.m.). We will have the stroll that evening after the ACTS' production. The money will go towards the ministry and missions of the Children's Ministry at FUMC.



## **Harvest Festival 2012**



## ***Prayer Concerns***

Kris Weinschenk  
Larry Tyrell  
Jacque Ketcham  
Bonnie Perry  
Kathy Revenaugh  
Yvonne Moore  
Grant Cook  
Lane Buban  
Ann Talley  
Joyce Morris  
Leroy Polk  
Floyd Chapman  
Linda Pipes  
Vicki Jordan  
Kathy Rote  
Alan Williamson  
Gladys Vollert  
Jim Hale  
Sue Perry  
Justin Davis  
Glen Morris  
Bob Sprenger  
Charlie Reigh Evanicky  
Ederett Kerfer  
Linda Daugherty  
Marilynn Wrigley  
Jim Forsythe  
Pastor Kay Reed  
Jan Pledger  
Sandy Delgado  
Weylin & Jenny Oden

Our homebound members  
Those serving in the military

## **Save the Date**

The presiding bishop over the Texas Annual Conference, Janice Riggle Huie, will give a special presentation to the district laity and clergy on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at A&M UMC.

**\*\*\*Note that the date, time and location have changed.**

## **Thanks FUMC**

Thank you for your prayers and many kindnesses as I recover from surgery. My eye is almost completely healed and I'm looking forward to soon "getting on the road" again!

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. -Romans 12:12

Shared joy is a double joy; shared sorrow is half a sorrow. - Swedish Proverb

Again, thank you!

Mary Wilhelm

Dear Church Family

To say we were overwhelmed when we got home from our fathers (A.B. Smith) memorial service this past weekend is an understatement. Words cannot express how comforting the many cards, memorial gifts and expressions of sympathy were. They were so unexpected, but so very appreciated. Thank you all so very much for your expressions of caring for our loss.

Sincerely,

Mike and Carolyn Baker

Thanks all of you for your prayers, cards and calls during Ed's recovery from surgery.

Ed and Barbara Baker



## **Newsletter Deadline and Other Information**

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Wednesday, November 28, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.**

If you have a submission for the newsletter, please email your written article to [fumc@fumcbrenham.org](mailto: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.



# November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9:00 Yoga/ AC	2 9:00 Emmaus/ Library	3 3:00 Emmaus Gathering/ Sanctuary & AC
4 4:00 Charge Conference/ Chappell Hill 5:00 Youth/ AC ACTS/ Rm. 139  Daylight Savings Ends!	5 10:00 FSG/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	6 8:45 UMW/ Library 9:00 UMW/ AC	7 6:00 Stewardship/ FR 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	8 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM/ AC	9 9:00 Emmaus/ Library	10
11 Veterans Day 5:00 Youth/ AC ACTS/ Rm. 139	12 10:00 FSG/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	13 9:00 Card Group/ MH 12:00 Susanna Circle/ Buller 5:00 Trustees/ Library	14 1:30 CDC Board/ Library 2:00 Staff Meeting/ FR 5:00 Evangelism/ FR 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	15 9:00 Yoga/ AC 1:00 Mission & Outreach/ Library 6:00 CDC Thanksgiving/ AC	16 9:00 Emmaus/ Library 5:00 Stewart-Miller Rehearsal/ Sanctuary	17 5:00 Stewart-Miller Wedding/ Sanctuary
18 5:00 ACTS/ Rm. 139 5:30 Youth to Hay Maze	19 10:00 FSG/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	20 9:30 Hinners Circle- VanEman/ FH Cummings Circle/ Dorow Rogers Circle- Morris/ MH 6:30 Wesleyan/ FH	21 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	22 Happy  Thanksgiving Offices Closed	23 Offices Closed	24
25 5:00 ACTS/ Rm. 139	26 10:00 FSG/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 2:00 42/ MH	27 9:00 Card Group/ MH	28 1:00 Care Team/ Library 6:30 Celebration Band/ AC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Choir Room	29 9:00 Yoga/ AC	30 9:00 Emmaus/ Library	

# Thanksgiving & Christmas Happenings



*More details on all these events will be in upcoming newsletters and on the website at [www.FUMCBrenham.org](http://www.FUMCBrenham.org).*

## NOVEMBER

Sunday 25, 2:00 p.m.  
*Decorating the church for Advent*

Sunday 25, 6:00 p.m.  
*Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving at Mt. Rose Mission Baptist Church*

Sunday 25  
*Beginning of our Angel Tree & State School gift ministry*



## DECEMBER

Sunday 2, 6:30 p.m.  
*Children's Musical presented by A.C.T.S "Dude, You Hear What I Hear" in the A.C. Followed by a Cookie Stroll Fundraiser*

Tuesday 4, 10:00 a.m.  
*UMW Christmas Coffee at the home of Debi Meschwitz*

Tuesday 4, 7:00 p.m.  
*J.O.Y. Trip – Church Basement Ladies at Blinn College*

Sunday 9, 9:00 a.m. *Celebration! Service "The Sounds of Christmas". A service filled with music from our children, youth & adults*

Thursday 13, 6:30 p.m.  
*UMM Christmas Dinner in the A.C.*

Sunday 16, 8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Services  
*Christmas Cantata "Majesty of Heaven"*

Sunday 16, 3:00 p.m.  
*Family Caroling for our Nursing Homes & State School. Dinner and decorating cookies afterwards*

Monday 24  
*5:30 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service  
7:00 p.m. Communion Christmas Eve Service*



# A.C.T.S.



# Christmas



# Show

**ATTENTION SHOPPERS:  
GOOD NEWS! GREAT JOY!**



**DUDE,  
YOU HEAR  
WHAT  
I HEAR?**

*Christmas time is filled with sound!  
Sometimes, so much sound and noise that we  
can hardly hear the real message of  
Christmas.*

*Imagine all you know about Christmas is  
what you hear over the store PA system! This  
show is a funny and touching tale about how  
Christmas can be "heard" in many different  
ways. What have you heard about  
Christmas?*

**PERFORMANCE DATE:**  
**Sunday, December 2, 2012**  
**6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center**  
**A Cookie Stroll Fundraiser after the show**

Permit 270  
US Postage PAID  
Non-Profit  
Organization  
Brenham, TX 77833

First United Methodist Church  
408 North Baylor  
Brenham, TX 77833  
Return Service Requested



