



# First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

January 3, 2018

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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—Lead  
pastorbobbie@fumcbrenham.org

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

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! It's hard to beat a fresh start. Learning from the past and deciding to improve ourselves and thereby the world in general is a very good thing. I hate New Year's resolutions however. Sure, I want to kick bad habits and adopt healthy ones but when I sit down to write New Year's resolutions I can't stop. The list grows and grows and grows and grows. I can think of so many things to improve about myself: practice more patience, listen more intently, spend more time with family, minister with more passion, save money, lose weight (that's a regular one!), exercise (ditto), clean the litter boxes more often...You see? I could continue but you get the gist. So instead of the list, I toast in the new year with a promise to God and self that I'll do the very best I can to admit when I'm wrong and move forward by grace.

Moving forward. Change. Continuing to ask God to renew, refresh and restore us to faithful obedience and joyful service. Moving forward.

Sometimes we need help moving forward because we have trouble understanding the past which led to present circumstances and has the potential for making the future dismal. Our congregation has suffered much grief and frustration in the past couple years, sometimes as the result of positive change. Throughout 2017, this congregation bid farewell to two beloved pastors, an organist, and a choir director. You also welcomed two new pastors (thank you; we feel beloved also), a new organist, and a new choir director. That much change in one year isn't devastating but it does require a bit of adjustment time.

When I first arrived I was very excited to enroll our congregation in Vibrant Church Initiative, a United Methodist program designed to help congregations decide their future success in fruitful ministry. When the program came to a vote at our church council meeting, it was approved but not unanimously and after much discussion. My heart was unsettled after that meeting. I prayed for a couple weeks about it, discussed it with trusted colleagues, staff and church members. The result of that prayer was to put VCI on the back burner for the time being because I don't believe we're quite ready for it yet.

In a concerted effort to get ourselves ready for the future God has for us, our church council and Staff-Parish Relations Committee will be working with a congregational coach, Starlet Bell. Starlet is a leader in our West District through leadership training, congregational coaching, and a member of Christ United Methodist Church in College Station. Starlet will meet with our church council, SPR and certain identified persons for four sessions throughout January and February in the hopes that we will ready ourselves for continued and increased fruitful ministry through VCI or another program as our council sees fit.

Please keep all of us in your prayers!

Grace & Peace,

*Pastor Bobbie*





## Prayer Concerns

Luene Harmer  
 Bob Jenkins  
 Steve Haley  
 Mike Kalil  
 Jim Clements  
 Gretchen Nobels  
 Ann Bevers  
 Frank Tyson  
 Jim Oliver  
 Ed & Barbara Baker  
 Clifford & Betty Brisbin  
 Glenn Amerson  
 Joyce Whitehead  
 Kathi Ivy

Alan Williamson  
 Bud Foster  
 Marjorie Reed  
 Edna Rote  
 Bob Purl  
 Mary Burgess  
 Bill Powell  
 Paul Berry  
 Sue Perry  
 Dave Watson  
 Allen Winter

Our homebound members and  
 Those serving in the military.

### Sunday November 12, 2017

#### Church Attendance

Nursery: 5  
 8:15 Worship 68  
 9:00 Celebration: 66  
 11:00 Worship 85  
**Total: 224**  
 Sunday School: 77  
**Offering: \$8,422.00**

### Sunday November 19, 2017

#### Church Attendance

Nursery: 5  
 8:15 Worship 78  
 9:00 Celebration: 71  
 11:00 Worship 81  
**Total: 235**  
 Sunday School: 72  
**Offering: \$7,978.00**

### Sunday November 26, 2017

#### Church Attendance

Nursery: 3  
 8:15 Worship 66  
 9:00 Celebration: 93  
 11:00 Worship 71  
**Total: 233**  
 Sunday School: 63  
**Offering: \$11,513.00**

### Sunday December 3, 2017

#### Church Attendance

Nursery: 3  
 8:15 Worship 84  
 9:00 Celebration: 76  
 11:00 Worship 85  
**Total: 248**  
 Sunday School: 57  
**Offering: \$14,740.00**

### Sunday December 10, 2017

#### Church Attendance

Nursery: 1  
 8:15 Worship 73  
 9:00 Celebration: 61  
 11:00 Worship 92  
**Total: 242**  
 Sunday School: 76  
**Offering: \$13,974.00**

### Sunday December 17, 2017

#### Church Attendance

#### For the Christmas Extravaganza

**Total: 350**  
**Offering: \$13,570.00**

#### November Totals

Income: \$46,069.00  
 Expense: \$55,912.00  
**Total: (\$9,843.00)**

#### NOV. YTD Totals

Income: \$540,798.00  
 Expense: \$595,269.00  
**Total: (\$54,471.00)**



**One of our members has lost a diamond and sapphire tennis bracelet, possible in the sanctuary or somewhere else on the church grounds. There is a reward offered. Please call the church office if you should find it, thanks.**

### Newsletter Deadline

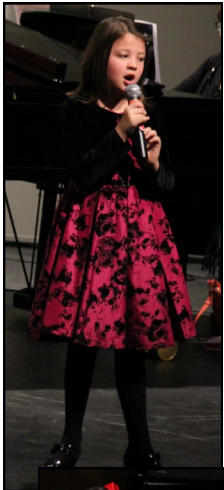
Your next newsletter deadline will be **Tuesday, January 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** If you have a submission for the newsletter, please email your written article to [fumc@fumcbrenham.org](mailto:fumc@fumcbrenham.org) or submit a handwritten article to the church office. This is the best way to make sure that all the information for your article is accurate. Thank you.







# Christmas Extravaganza



A little Christmas caroling afterwards!





**Donations Received**

In memory of  
**Jeffrey Janner**  
By  
John & Sherry Barkman  
Kathy Nordt  
Beverly Burt  
Marilyn Whitmarsh  
Chuck & Marvalyn Van Eman  
Blondean Kuecker  
Theodora Boehm  
Pierre & Sarah Roberts  
Dorothy Ann Rothermel

In memory of  
**Velda Maltas**  
By  
The Susanna Circle  
Don & Mary Wilhelm

In memory of  
**Frances Sidebottom**  
By  
Gary & Kay Ivy  
Smitty Hinners  
Donald & Gwen Spiess  
James & Emily Henkhaus  
FUMC Card Group  
Glen & Jetta Goodman  
The Susanna Circle  
Don & Mary Wilhelm  
Tom & Carol Ann Post  
FUMC UMW

**Donations Received**

In memory of  
**Frances Parker**  
By  
James Baker  
In memory of  
**Sandy Delgado**  
By  
James & Emily Henkhaus

In memory of  
**Rev. Sam Duree**  
By  
Smitty Hinners  
Bobby & Pat Clark  
Sally Jones  
D.W. Austin  
Marilyn Ullrich  
Lanella Gray  
Ron & Nynvia Mills  
James Baker  
Melissa Brigman  
Beverly Burt  
Guston Browning  
Donna Sprenger  
Louis & Joycine Hanath  
Marilyn Wadkins  
Carol Cangelosi  
Chuck & Marvalyn Van Eman  
Florence Ahrens  
Michael Shoup  
Pierre & Sarah Roberts  
Milton & Twila Tate  
Donald Meador  
Rebecca Flowers

**Donations Received**

In memory of  
**Rev. Sam Duree...Continued**  
By  
Dena Miller  
Dan and Ann Jurden  
Danna Edwards  
Sharon Kuebler  
Cordelia Cummings  
Winston Kile  
Floyd & Sue Flanagan  
Betty Fortner  
Darnell Walker  
Clarence & Mary Jane Jean  
Howard Kruse  
John & Sherry Barkman  
Marlin Fenn  
Sonny McCasland  
James & Emily Henkhaus  
Glenn & Jenifer Amerson  
Tom & Janet Kennedy  
Glen & Jetta Goodman  
The Susanna Circle  
Marilyn Whitmarsh  
Heartspring Methodist Foundation  
Ann Fancher  
Patricia Daugherty  
Carolyn Adams-Polumbo  
Nick & Marianne Nelms  
Theodora Boehm  
Gary & Sandra Appelt  
The Faithbuilders Class  
Mary DeSalvo  
Barbara Powell  
Sharon Gammell



***A Joyous and Merry Christmas Thank You***

***from the gift recipients of the Angel Tree Ministry and the State Living Center.***

This year 104 gifts were purchased by the many kind and generous people of our congregation. My profound "thank you's." I would also like to give a special "thank you" to Greg Carlson at our local GameStop. When asked for help in choosing items for three Angel Tree children and one Living Center resident whose tags had not been taken from the tree, he not only carefully made the selection but then would not accept payment. Obviously, the true Spirit of Christmas is alive and well.

FUMC is now pleased to offer a new giving solution. In order to make giving easier and accommodate user preferences and technology, we would like to introduce, **Giving BY APP**. This is a great way to get your end of year giving in, right up to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Instructions are listed below...

**GIVING BY APP:**

Go to the **APP store** on your mobile phone  
Search **Give Plus Church**, by Vanco Services, LLC  
Select **GET** to download the app

**OPEN** the new app

Search for our church by zip code (**77833**)

Select **First United Methodist Church, 408 N Baylor St., Brenham, TX 77833**

Create account and **SUBMIT**

Follow prompts to complete giving and registration and complete donation.



You will receive an email confirmation of your donation and gifts will be entered to your church giving account and appear on your quarterly and year end statements. Via the app menu options you may; give now, review giving history, and enter reoccurring donations.

Attached to this email you will find a **quick reference guide** to this new mobile solution which is a visual representation of the instructions given above.

We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity, and we thank you for supporting the church. As always, if you have any questions please call me at 979-836-2008.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Church Leadership Orientation Scheduled**

**For all committee and board chairpersons, committee and board members,  
church council, lay leader, and staff**

**Saturday, January 13, 2018**

9:00 a.m. – Noon

**Our Schedule**

**9:00 – Gathering**

**9:15 – Roll Call of Boards and Committees**

Welcome & Devotion

**9:45 – First meetings of the year for the following ministry areas:**


Board of Trustees, Staff Parish Relations Committee,  
Stewardship, Missions, Worship, Evangelism,  
Nominations and Leadership Development

**10:30 – Break**

**10:45 – Communications Session Number 1 of 4**  
Starlet Bell, Keynote Speaker, Congregational Coach

**Noon – Lunch will be provided**

# JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> <i>Offices Closed</i> 	<b>2</b> <i>Offices Closed</i> <b>9:30</b> UMW/ AC	<b>3</b> <b>7:00</b> Chancel Choir/ CR <b>7:30</b> Praise Band/AC	<b>4</b> <b>9:00</b> Yoga/AC <b>5:30</b> Exercise Class/ FH	<b>5</b> <b>9:00</b> Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>10:00</b> Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH <b>1:30</b> CDC Board/ Library <b>6:00</b> Missions/ FR	<b>9</b> <b>9:00</b> Card Group/ MH	<b>10</b> <b>6:45</b> DISCIPLE Bible Study I/ FR <b>7:00</b> Chancel Choir/ CR <b>7:30</b> Praise Band/AC	<b>11</b> <b>9:00</b> Yoga/AC <b>5:30</b> Exercise Class/ FH <b>6:30</b> UMM/ AC	<b>12</b> <b>9:00</b> Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	<b>13</b> <b>9:00</b> Church Leadership Orientation/ Sanctuary
<b>14</b> <i>Lay Leadership            Installation @            All three services</i>	<b>15</b> <b>10:00</b> Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH	<b>16</b> <b>9:30</b> Hewitt Circle / AC Murphey Circle/ FH Tate Circle/ MH <b>12:00</b> Susanna Circle/ FH <b>6:30</b> Wesleyan Circle/ FH	<b>17</b> <b>6:45</b> DISCIPLE Bible Study I/ FR <b>7:00</b> Chancel Choir/ CR <b>7:30</b> Praise Band/AC	<b>18</b> <b>9:00</b> Yoga/AC <b>5:30</b> Exercise Class/ FH	<b>19</b> <b>9:00</b> Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	<b>20</b> <b>8:00</b> Epiphany/ AC
<b>21</b> <b>6:00</b> UMYF/ AC	<b>22</b> <b>10:00</b> Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH	<b>23</b> <b>9:00</b> Card Group/ MH	<b>24</b> <b>6:45</b> DISCIPLE Bible Study I/ FR <b>7:00</b> Chancel Choir/ CR <b>7:30</b> Praise Band/AC	<b>25</b> <b>9:00</b> Yoga/AC <b>5:30</b> Exercise Class/ FH	<b>26</b> <b>9:00</b> Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor <b>5:00</b> UMM Pancake Supper/ AC	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>3:00</b> LEAD/ Christ UMC <b>6:00</b> UMYF/ AC	<b>29</b> <b>10:00</b> Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH <b>12:00</b> Wesley/ Blinn	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>1:00</b> Care Team/ FR <b>6:45</b> DISCIPLE Bible Study I/ FR <b>7:00</b> Chancel Choir/ CR <b>7:30</b> Praise Band/AC			



Each round table of donations shows you what each family received



Youth sorting through donations

**Thank You!!**

A big thank to everyone that helped our youth group give a merrier Christmas to 8 families this year. The generosity of our church members was overwhelming. The youth worked hard sorting and shopping for all the goodies.

*Merry Christmas from the Youth Group*

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Brenham, TX 77833

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

