



Phone: 979-836-2008

Fax: 979-836-6202

www.fumcbrenham.org

Email: fumc@fumcbrenham.org



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

Rev. Jon Stouffer
jon@fumcbrenham.org

Rev. Kay Reed
kay@fumcbrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

January 7, 2016

It's Confirmation Time!

It's Confirmation Class time again! Do you have a 5th or 6th grade young man or lady in your home that has not yet joined the church and would be willing to go through a church membership class? Beginning Sunday, January 24th Pastor Jon and I will be offering our annual Confirmation class on Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m. When I say 5th or 6th grade I do not really put an upper age limit on this. If a Junior High youth wants to go through the class, I would love to have them be a part, too. Some of the kids have been baptized as infants, some may wish to be baptized, and others will be confirmed.

Baptism is the sign of "Christian initiation" into the family of God and Confirmation is a way of giving knowledge to the young person so that they may confirm or accept their baptism before the Lord. In the classes we will talk about the Bible, religious beliefs of the Church, our own congregation, and answer questions the young people may have about God and the church. We will also learn about worship, the sacraments, prayer, and what it means to serve Jesus Christ in our lives. When the class is completed, those who so choose will proceed with the steps that lead to church membership.

Confirmation Sunday is Sunday, May 15th. If you would like your child to be a part of this class, please give me a call at 836-2008.

Pastor Kay



The 50th Annual Methodist Men Pancake Supper

Friday, January 22, 2016

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Activity Center

Tickets are \$8.00 and available from any Methodist Men member or in the church office. All the pancakes and sausage you can eat!



Newsletter Deadline and Other Information

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Monday, January 25, 2016 at 10:00 am**. 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.

SUNDAY December 6, 2015**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	8
Worship 8:15 a.m.	70
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	82
Worship 11:00 a.m.	108
Worship Total	268
Sunday School	107
Offering:	\$16,297.00

SUNDAY December 13, 2015**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	3
Worship 8:15 a.m.	107
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	100
Worship 11:00 a.m.	122
Worship Total	332
Sunday School	74
Offering:	\$19,870.50

SUNDAY December 20, 2015**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	4
Worship 8:15 a.m.	82
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	53
Worship 11:00 a.m.	97
Worship Total	236
Sunday School	81
Offering:	\$14,138.52

SUNDAY December 24, 2015**Christmas Eve****Church Attendance:**

Worship 5:30 p.m.	168
Worship 7:30 p.m.	104
Worship Total	272
Offering:	\$1,045.00

SUNDAY December 27, 2015**Church Attendance:**

Nursery	2
Worship 11:00 a.m.	60
Worship Total	62
Offering:	\$12,500.00

DECEMBER TOTALS

Dec. Income:	\$66,410.81
Dec. Expense:	\$61,477.19
Dec. Total:	\$4,933.62

YTD TOTALS

YTD. Income:	\$631,074.78
YTD. Expense:	\$631,074.78
YTD. Net Total:	0

**Prayer Concerns**

Richard Coghlan
Gene Moss
Delmer McAdow
Luene Harmer
Buddy & Elaine Dorow
Henry Kuecker
Frances Sidebottom
Jeremy Duree
Kathyrine Jones
Alan Williamson
Jim Celments
Marge Foelber
Tom & Chris Rogers

Cameron Winchell
Marilyn Gravett
Ryan Vandersommen
Candy Smith
Paul McIntyre
Bob Juroska
Rev. Jim Foster
Mike Kalil
Sylveria Gonzales
Billy Odem
Edna Rote

Our homebound members and those serving in the military

Donations Received***In memory of*****Art Hinners**

By

Glenn & Jenifer Amerson
Walter & Joyce Fortune
Gilbert & Jane Bonse
Eileen Raschke
Juanita Hickey
Andrew & Susan Ebel
Milton & Twila Tate
Janet Roth
Paula Burnley
Russell & Audrey Boney
Keith & Carolyn Hale
Ronnie & Susan Manchester
Gary & Nancy Simpson
Pat & Bobby Clark
Glen & Jetta Goodman
Henry & Blondean Kuecker
Harold & Jean Pool
Francina Kim Laughon
Donna Griffin Grehn
Donna Sprenger
Lydia House
Rose Mary Moseley
A.W. & Virginia Hodde Jr.
Card Croup
Marilyn Whitmarsh
E.M. Crawford
M. Schilder
Don & Mary Wilhelm

Bill & Doris Mays

Bill & Jo Powell

Men's Coffee Group

Faithbuilders SS Class

Bill & Nelda Snow

Donald & Gwen Spiess

Clarence & Mary Jane Jean

Nick & Marianne Nelms

In memory of**Al Newman**

By

Tom & Carol Ann Post

In memory of**Glenn Harmer**

By

Wesley SS Class

Tom & Carol Ann Post

In memory of**Marti McLemore**

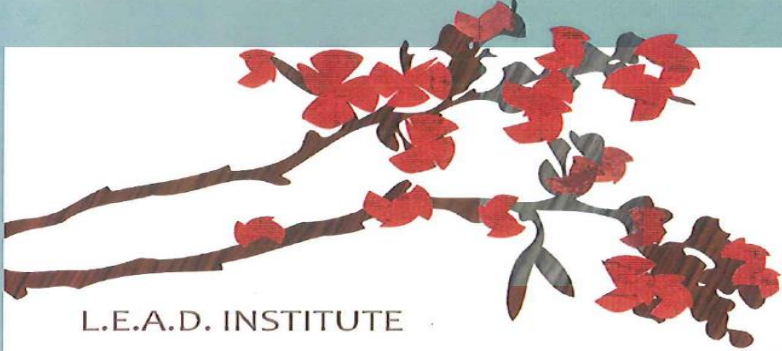
By

Wayde & Cynthia Hamrick

In honor of**Milton & Twila Tate**

By

Wayde & Cynthia Hamrick




L.E.A.D. INSTITUTE

NEXT GENERATION: LEADING THE WAY

JOHN 16:13

KEYNOTE: DORIS CHILDRESS

The Spirit will lead the next generation into all truth...



Doris Childress has been a part of the Houston television scene since 1993. As a journalist and TV host, she has won several national and international awards. Doris has served as host for the Emmy Award Winning **WeekDay Show and Connections** on Houston PBS. She is now the Director of Children's Ministry and Communications Department at Covenant Glen UMC.

BREAKOUTS:

REPAIRER OF THE BREACH: BRIDGING THE GENERATIONAL GAP
 THE POWER IN GENERATIONAL UNITY
 ONE HOLY GENERATION – NO MATTER WHAT AGE WE LIVE IN

JANUARY 30TH - 9:30 AM

LOCATION: ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 COLLEGE STATION, TX CHILDCARE PROVIDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: dkeim@txcumc.org OR 979-690-5627

January 6, 2016

Epiphany – the celebration of the arrival of the Magi to visit and worship Jesus

It seems a little late to say “Happy New Year” being that our church year began with the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2015, and it is already four days past our first Sunday of the new calendar year. As I write I am listening to Christmas music for the last day this season and will move on to other play lists looking forward to the coming seasons of the year. The song playing now repeats these words before each refrain,

“Be with me now.”

For me, the Joy of Christmas that remains though the seasons change through the year is that God is with us, Emmanuel. As the Gospel writer John proclaims,

**“And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
 and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son,
 full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)**

I hope and pray that this new calendar year brings us an ever increasing awareness of God’s presence among us so that we may be singularly focused on building God’s Kingdom here upon the earth. It remains my joy to continue to serve Christ with you!

May Christ be our sufficiency.

Jon

Thanks FUMC!

Thank you very much to the United Methodist Women for honoring me with the “Special Mission Recognition” and pin. The gift for ministries with women, children, and youth to the UMW National Office is greatly appreciated. I was shocked and humbled to receive this honor.

With love to each of you,

Twila Tate

Methodist friends are great! You know who you are if you sent cards, baked, or visited me when I had my surgery. Baking for me was an unbelievable thoughtful task; and those of you who took time out of your busy schedules to visit goes way beyond imagination. Thanks again for all the support, God bless each of you!

Fondly,

Ann Pieper

How can we thank you for all the kindness this church has shown us; Art so enjoyed his cards, visits and other forms of care and concern. Art’s body just gave out and the Lord called him home from his labor of life here on earth. Thank you everyone again for the wonderful support and love you have shown us the past months and especially helping us celebrate his life. This church is so unbelievable in helping others. May God bless all of us as we try to do His work here on earth.

Smitty Hinnners & Family

Epiphany: Welcoming God’s Light

In much of the world, Christmas is celebrated on January 6, the day that we call Epiphany on our Western, Christian calendar. Epiphany is the traditional celebration of the coming of the Magi to worship the baby Jesus. It is also a symbol of light coming into darkness and of the baptism of Jesus.

Much has been written about the Magi. They were a cast of scholars and mathematicians from ancient Persia – what is now Iran.

There have been so many traditions built around the coming of the Magi that it is impossible to dig back to its origins. We know from Matthew they came from the East. Nowhere is the number three mentioned. Perhaps the hymn writers decided that since there were three gifts, each must have been carried by one of the Magi.

The Magi were not kings. Yet, Psalms 68 and 75 speak of kings bearing gifts to God; so legends and traditions were born.

By the tenth century, they were given names – Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. Stories were still being written about these wonderful wanderers from the East.

And what about the star that they followed? Skeptics raise sound questions: Why did no other source record the star if it were so bright? Why did the Magi see it? How did it stand over a stable? But even the most skeptical place a major astronomical event in the year 7 B.C., the year Jesus was probably born. Jupiter and Saturn came close together three times that year. Indeed the heavens were ablaze for those trained in observing.

But to analyze the star and scrutinize the Magi completely misses the point of the Epiphany. Who they were and what the star was are really secondary to the story.

We are about the lofty business of faith, not astronomical fact. It is important to note that the story of the Magi is really a story of the pilgrimage of faith that each of us takes, one that hopefully leads to the manger.

Second, the star is a powerful symbol that Jesus’ birth was not just an event to reconcile history, but also an event to reconcile all of nature.

Third, the Magi reminds us that the gospel is not narrowly sectarian but truth for all humankind.

Finally, the star and the manger point to the location where life really begins. The beginning is Jesus who is the bright and morning star, the source of all light, the giver of all life. Epiphany is a time to recommit ourselves to follow Him.

See you Sunday,

Kay

Goodbye dear December

Wesley Party



Caroling



Youth Bowling



Youth Choir



Hello January



Will resume in February! This is for all kids 4yrs to 6th grade. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 4-5pm.

Youth to Jumping World
SUNDAY, Jan 10 2-6pm
Bring money for a fast food dinner



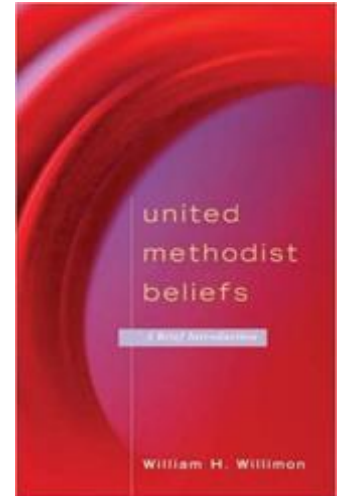
NO UMYF
Jan 17

UMYF &
Confirmation
will begin
Sun, Jan 24
@6pm in the
Act. Center

February 21 – April 24, 2016
Sunday Evenings 6:00 pm
(No Meeting Easter Day, March 27)
United Methodist Beliefs: A Brief Introduction by William H. Willimon

(The book is available on Kindle or we will place an order through Cokesbury the week of February 1.)

This brief introduction to the United Methodist Church spells out the major beliefs of the Church in a clear, nontechnical style. William Willimon, the beloved United Methodist author, preacher, teacher, and bishop, discusses the great theological themes that United Methodists share in common with all Christians as well as the particular accents and emphases that characterize United Methodist understandings of Christian doctrines.



In his engaging style, Willimon opens the door for further study, challenging the readers to move toward a continuing reflection on their faith. This guide will be of great value to those who are beginning their study of United Methodist beliefs as well as those who have long been in the church and want a helpful way to refresh their understandings of the distinctiveness of United Methodist doctrine.

Will Willimon is a prominent author, preacher, professor at Duke Divinity School, and a retired bishop of the United Methodist Church.

“Sure-footed, reliable, readable, authoritative, companion to United Methodist theology (as delineated in the official presentation in the *Discipline*) by a teacher-guide intent on instructing, reproving, coaching and encouraging those who would walk a Wesleyan road of discipleship and who therefore need to grasp its orienting and empowering doctrines. A wonderful exercise of the episcopal teaching office.”

Russell E. Richey
Dean and Professor of Church History
Candler School of Theology, Emory University

Donations Continued

In honor of
John & Sherry Barkman
By
Milton & Twila Tate

In honor of
Andrew & Susan Ebel
By
Milton & Twila Tate

In honor of
Rev. Kay Reed
By
Milton & Twila Tate

In honor of
Rev. Jon & Holly Stouffer
By
Milton & Twila Tate

In honor of
Rev. Sam & Beverly Duree
By
Milton & Twila Tate

January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Offices Closed 	2
3 2:00 High School Retreat/ FH & MH 2:30 Brenham Rest Home Service 3:30 Kruse Village Service	4	5 8:45 UMW Exec./ FR 9:30 UMW/ AC 12:00 First Tuesdays Together/ FH	6 5:30 Handbell Choir/ Sanctuary 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	7 9:00 Yoga/ AC	8 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	9
10 2:00 Youth-Jump World/ AC	11 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 1:30 CDC Board/ Library 6:00 Missions/ FR	12 9:00 Card Group/ MH	13 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	14 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM/ AC	15 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	16
17	18 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH	19 9:30 Hickey Circle/ FH Goodman Circle/ MH Amerson Circle/ Cummings 12:00 Susanna Circle/ Hyatt 6:30 Wesley Circle/ FH	20 5:30 Handbell Choir/ Sanctuary 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	21 9:00 Yoga/ AC	22 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor 5:00 UMM Pancake Supper/ AC	23 8:00 Epiphany/ AC
24 6:00 UMYF & Confirmation/ AC	25 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	26 9:00 Card Group/ MH	27 1:00 Care Team/ FR 5:30 Handbell Choir/ Sanctuary 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	28 9:00 Yoga/ AC	29 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	30
31 6:00 UMYF & Confirmation/ AC						

Focusing Families Gala

WHAT- A GALA FEATURING SUSIE MCINTIRE, A GOSPEL AND COUNTRY SINGER

WHEN- FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016 @ 6:30 P.M.

WHERE- AUSTIN COUNTY CONVENTION AND EXPO CENTER

THEME- "ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE"

INCLUDES- DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, AND A LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION

All funds will support Focusing Families (an organization that helps families of domestic violence and abuse) which includes both the Battered Women's Shelter and Crisis Center and Outreach Program. It serves Austin, Waller, Washington, Grimes, and northern Harris Counties.

TICKETS- \$40 FOR ONE OR A TABLE OF 8 FOR \$320

CONTACTS- FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION CALL LINDA HERRMANN 979-451-1900 OR LINDA COOK 713-299-2963

Capital Campaign Update

To date the church body generously donated \$72,176.00 of the now completely tallied expenses of \$88,567.00 for the Capital Campaign Cross Project. The current deficit is (\$16,391.00). Thanks for your continued support of this restoration project.

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

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

