



Phone: 979-836-2008

Fax: 979-836-6202

[www.fumcbrenham.org](http://www.fumcbrenham.org)

Email: [fumc@fumcbrenham.org](mailto: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](mailto:jon@fumcbrenham.org)

Rev. Kay Reed  
[kay@fumcbrenham.org](mailto:kay@fumcbrenham.org)

# First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

October 5, 2015

### The Sanctuary Cross

You may be wondering when the scaffolding at the west facing doors to our sanctuary might be coming down. We are making much progress so that it will be sooner rather than later and we now have accurate numbers for the final cost. We have received donations to cover the cost for the casting of the cross and its base and temporarily used cash reserve funds to begin the rest of the casting and replacement work. After the new stone is cast it must cure for several weeks before it is installed. We are hoping to have this project completed before Thanksgiving and the beginning of Advent.

In an effort to restore our cash reserves, we are requesting each family in our congregation to consider making a special gift toward this project. We understand our community's economic situation and our need to not affect regular giving, so this would be a gift that is above and beyond our planned giving. If you are able to provide a special gift to help restore our sanctuary to its created state, please note "The Cross Project" on your gift. Whether you are able to give or not, your consideration of this opportunity is very deeply appreciated.

Our Board of Trustees continues to work diligently to oversee this project on our behalf and wish to express their deepest appreciation for your prayers, concern, and partnership in tending to our facilities that afford us the opportunity to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

#### First United Methodist Church

Brenham, Texas

#### Sanctuary Cross & Cast Stone Replacement Project

Removing the Cross & Base	\$ 15,600.00
Removing Cracked Stones & Waterproofing	\$ 4,734.00
Site Engineering Evaluation	\$ 2,275.00
Scaffolding Rental July	\$ 1,272.00
30% Down payment	\$ 4,140.00
Scaffolding Rental August	\$ 1,272.00
Scaffolding Rental September	\$ 1,272.00
Pinning Cracked Stone & Prep Work for New	\$ 13,650.00
<b>Total Paid to Date</b>	<b>\$ 44,215.00</b>

**Remaining Amount Due Upon Completion \$ 34,681.00**

**Anticipated Total Project Cost \$ 78,896.00**

It is possible that we will have 1 or 2 months additional scaffolding rental before the completion of the project.

#### Newsletter Deadline and Other Information

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Monday, October 26, 2015 at 10:00 am**. 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.





## Prayer Concerns

### SUNDAY August 16, 2015

#### Church Attendance:

Nursery	2
Worship 8:15 a.m.	67
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	60
Worship 11:00 a.m.	88
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>217</b>
Sunday School	87
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$4,786.25</b>

### SUNDAY August 23, 2015

#### Church Attendance:

Nursery	7
Worship 8:15 a.m.	83
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	100
Worship 11:00 a.m.	110
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>300</b>
Sunday School	111
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$10,658.10</b>

### SUNDAY August 30, 2015

#### Church Attendance:

Nursery	4
Worship 8:15 a.m.	86
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	68
Worship 11:00 a.m.	113
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>271</b>
Sunday School	112
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$12,968.03</b>

### SUNDAY September 6, 2015

#### Church Attendance:

Nursery	8
Worship 8:15 a.m.	62
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	53
Worship 11:00 a.m.	94
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>217</b>
Sunday School	88
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$16,000.51</b>

### SUNDAY September 13, 2015

#### Church Attendance:

Nursery	3
Worship 8:15 a.m.	74
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	69
Worship 11:00 a.m.	103
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>249</b>
Sunday School	107
<b>Offering:</b>	<b>\$8,770.00</b>

### AUGUST TOTALS

Aug. Income:	\$56,843.20
Aug. Expense:	\$50,935.75
<b>Aug. Total:</b>	<b>\$5,907.45</b>

### YTD TOTALS

YTD. Income:	\$411,080.96
YTD. Expense:	\$412,884.43
<b>YTD. Net Total:</b>	<b>(\$1,803.47)</b>

Richard Coghlan  
Gene Moss  
Delmer McAdow  
Glenn and Luene Harmer  
Art Hanners  
Buddy & Elaine Dorow  
Henry Kuecker  
Frances Sidebottom  
Jeremy Duree  
Kathyrine Jones  
Alan Williamson  
Jim Hickey  
Marge Foelber  
Rev. Jim Foster  
Mike Kalil  
Velma Fathauer

Ed Baker  
Cameron Winchell  
Hugh and Aniela Pitts  
Marilyn Gravett  
Jeffery Janner  
Ryan Vandersommen  
Ernestine Moore  
Candy Smith  
Connie Waggoner  
John Haddock  
William Lee  
Renie Francis  
The Family and Friends  
of Lorraine Teufel

Our homebound members and  
those serving in the military

## Donations Received

### *In memory of*

Marnie Whitmarsh

By

Gary and Kay Ivy  
Tom and Carol Ann Post  
Donna Elwood

### *In memory of*

Michele Stavrino

By

Edna Rote

### *In memory of*

John Vavroch

By

Red and Jo Powell  
Tom and Carol Ann Post

## Thanks FUMC!

Many thanks for all the cards, calls, visits, thoughts, kindness, care, and prayers during the recent months of recovery. William is back at work and continuing to improve.

We appreciate everything so much. God be Praised!

**Martha & William Lee**

Thanks so very much for the cards, prayers and concern; we are blessed to belong to such an amazing church family!

Thanks again,  
**Buddy Dorow**



# Youth activities

Chris Tomlin Concert  
Thursday, October 22 in College Station  
(for those that have pre-reserved tickets with me)

## UMYF Meals

Oct 4 – Lewman & Henkhaus  
Oct 11 – Zelenka & Schwartz  
Oct 18 – Jones & Saunders

## TEEN TALK

October 11<sup>th</sup>  
5-6pm upstairs in the youth room

# KID Stuff!

NEW!

## SUPER SUNDAYS

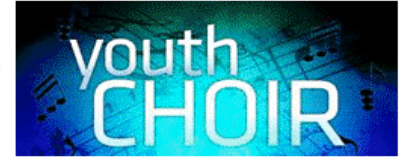
@FUMC

If you love VBS @FUMC you will **love** Super Sundays @FUMC. Starting **Oct 4**, Super Sundays will happen on the **FIRST & THIRD** Sunday of the month. Our meeting time will be from **4-5pm** starting in the Activity Center. We will have 3 rotations each Sunday just like at VBS – recreation, baking, science, bible, music & crafts. This is a **GREAT** event to invite friends to come.

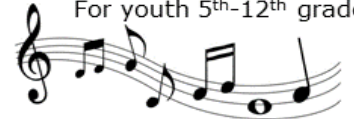
Something for **EVERYONE!**



All youth, children & parents are invited to have a Family Fun Day at Dewberry Farms on Sunday, Oct 25. We will meet at the church at 1pm and caravan together to the farm. The cost is \$20 a person (this includes a lot of extras \$12 for the basic entrance). I'll be sending an email later with more details.



Sundays 5-6pm  
in the choir room  
(no choir on Oct 11)  
For youth 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade



# Trunk or Treat



**PARENTS PLEASE BRING A BAG OF CHIPS and DESSERT TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE!**

Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

6:00 p.m. Activity Center Parking Lot

Everyone come in costume, decorate your car trunk & pass out goodies to the kids! Youth & youth parents will be providing the meal. Kids will get to walk the red carpet and show off their costumes! Remember awards go out to the most creative trunks! This year we want everyone to **bring a small to medium size pumpkin**. We will have tables set up with sticky faces for them to decorate their pumpkins.

See you there!



# CHURCH-WIDE EVENT



## **Do Not Rob God**

*“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven for you and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10*

This passage in Malachi holds both a challenge and a promise. The challenge for us is to bring our full tithe into the church so that we can fulfill our mission and calling of transforming lives and helping people grow in their faith. The promise is that when we do, God will pour out a blessing on us.

I have heard some say that it is impossible to give a tenth of our income. If we did that, we might not be able to pay our other bills. Still others have said that giving a tenth of what we earn could leave us without a cushion in case there is an emergency. How can God ask us to give so much, especially when the economy is so bad? We never know when we might lose our job or when a drought will wipe out our anticipated yields from crops or livestock.

While we may argue about the need to hold on to what we have in case we run into tough times, we are called to give. Giving is not optional with God. The people of Israel were told through the prophet Malachi that they were robbing God because they failed to give a tenth of what they had as they had been directed to. They were to give of the “first fruits” of their labor: a tenth of the crop yields each year; a tenth of the livestock that had been born. When we fail to give our tenth, we, too, are robbing God.

God has already given us so much. We have the gift of forgiveness for our sins and eternal life. We have God’s presence with us and the Holy Spirit to guide us. God meets our needs each and every day, whether it is strength in our times of weakness or comfort when our hearts are heavy.

Because of all God does for us, we are called to give to the needs of others. Our giving supports the mission of the church to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We offer Vacation Bible School for our children. We send our young people to camp and mission trips. We provide Sunday school curriculum to help us grow in our faith. Our giving supports both local and foreign missions.

God calls us to the test. “Put me first in even the smallest things and see if I do not bless you more than when you had everything for yourself.” Are you willing to put God to such a test? Are you willing to trust God even in the smallest matters? It might just be that the place to start is with your money. And don’t forget your prayers, presence, service, and witness. Test God in one of these things and see if He does not pour out His blessings upon you. Who knows? Maybe you will become willing to trust Him in everything if you will just begin to trust God in one thing, no matter how small.

See you Sunday,  
Kay





THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
PRESENT



Our **ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
COUNTRY STORE & SILENT AUCTION

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

In six weeks our church will once again be celebrating our annual Harvest Festival, our 50<sup>th</sup> year, complete with tables loaded with homemade goodies, some edible, some handy household items, and even a huge table of gently used collectibles.

For the event to be a success, we are counting on all members of the church to help by donating the goodies, crafty items, gently used treasures and items for the silent auction. Items for the country store and auction will need to be dropped off on Sunday or Monday, October 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>, in order for us to make sure there is sufficient room to display them.

Please contact either Debi Meshwitz or Pat Clark if you have items to donate to either the country store (Debi) or the silent auction (Pat). Auction items should have a value of more than \$25. This year's auction will close at 6 p.m., rather than 7, as in previous years.

Please help make our Festival a huge success. Our ability to be generous in mission and outreach projects depends upon the success of Harvest Festival.

Pat Clark  
830-1950

Debi Meschwitz  
203-9482

**Harvest Festival News**

Fall is fast approaching and so is our annual Harvest Festival on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival!!! It is such a blessing to have such a wonderful church tradition still going strong.

Preparations and planning are well underway with much more to be done. The October UMW meeting on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> will be an important one for all who can attend as we will go over dates and scheduling. If you are not a member of UMW but would like to help with the festival please come to our meeting in the activity center on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. There are many ways to help before, during and after the festival and I would love to have your help.

Tickets are now available in the church office and I HIGHLY recommend all church members to get your tickets early because we sell out every year a week before the festival.

Now is a good time to be thinking about items for our Silent Auction and Country Store. These venues are very important to our festival and we can always use items for each. We are asking for items of \$25.00 or more in value for the Silent Auction and homemade baked goods and items for the Country Store.

The following is a list of some of the important upcoming dates and times for preparing for the festival:

Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> – Clean kitchen – 9:30

Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday October 14<sup>th</sup> – make cornbread dressing in activity center at 9:30

Sunday October 25 - Set up tables in activity center after 11:00 worship service and begin decorating tables for dinner and Country Store

If you have any questions regarding dates, schedules or ways to help please call me at work 836-1249 or cell 277-2494. Looking forward to another great time of fellowship and celebrating this great church tradition with you all!!!

**Kim Limmer**



## Stacy Jenkins joins First UMC Staff as Interim Choir Director

When Joel Plaag announced his resignation, through mutual contacts, we agreed to welcome Stacy Jenkins aboard as interim choir director. Though he will be away from his home church (St. Peter's Episcopal, Brenham) for a while, we are certain that Stacy's gifts, talent, and experience as an interim choir director will help sustain our music ministry while the Staff-Parish Relations Committee conducts a search to find a permanent choir director. We have placed advertisements and have begun receiving resumes and look forward to following God's direction.

Here is a bit about Stacy so that we might know him better. Please take time to visit with him following worship.

My entire family is very musical so there was no escaping the lure of that very special sound. I began singing in the children's choir at St. James Episcopal Church in Jackson, MS at a very early age. I sang in the church choir until my voice changed and then I spent my teen years playing clarinet and oboe in the school band. When I began college I went back to singing and since that time I have sung not only in church choirs but in large choral ensembles and small chamber groups, both in MS and TX. I came to Houston in 1980 and in 1983 met my wife of 31 years after joining the choir of St. John the Divine. Singing in a church choir has always been a huge part of our marriage and our church life.

During my years of singing I have always been interested in conducting and I have been fortunate to sing under the direction of some very fine conductors. I have been able to hone my conducting skills by assisting my choir directors when they needed an "extra" hand. During my 20 years as a choir member at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Houston I acted as interim choir director on at least 3 occasions.

About 5 years ago my wife and I bought a small place outside of Somerville and since we were spending almost every weekend there we needed a new church home, which we found at St. Peter's Episcopal in Brenham. Even after we sold our property earlier this year we have continued to sing in the St. Peter's choir. The St. Peter's and First United Methodist choirs have sung together on a couple of occasions. I feel that God has blessed me with musical talents and I am called to help. I understand the impact of the loss of a choir director and am thankful I am able to serve as a bridge until another choir director is called. Working with this wonderful choir will be a great joy. I ask for your prayers and support.



The CDC wants to send a huge THANK YOU to our Helping Hands ministry team and Adult Teen Challenge for working tirelessly on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> spreading 30 yards of mulch! The group also did a laundry list of other items for the playground such installing a new sandbox, digging up old concrete, cleaning out planters and lots of etc. Thanks to the hard work of this dedicated group, the school saved approximately \$1000 and our playground looks great. Thanks for your support.

### First UMC

Riley Macmanus, Steve Haley, Aaron and Rachel Sedlar, Tom Hook, Jody Carlile, Aaron Campbell, and Rev. Jon Stouffer

### Men from Adult Teen Challenge

Alex, Matt, Branden S, Adam, Wyatt, Gary H, Dusty R, and Ray C.



# OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9:00 Yoga/ AC	2 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	3
4 2:30 Argent Court Service 3:30 Gazebo Terrace 4:00 Supper Sundays/ AC 6:00 UMYF/ AC	5 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 5:00 MWDCD Parents Dinner/ AC 6:00 Nominations/ FR	6 9:30 UMW/ AC 10:30 First Tuesday's Together/ On Deck	7 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	8 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM/ AC	9	10
11 5:00 Teen Talk/ AC 6:00 UMYF/ AC	12 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 6:00 Nominations/ FR	13 9:00 Card Group/ MH	14 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	15 9:00 Yoga/ AC	16 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	17
18 4:00 Supper Sundays/ AC 5:00 Youth Choir/ Choir Room 6:00 UMYF/ AC	19 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 7:00 Charge Conference/ FR	20 9:30 Tate Circle/ Parlor Rogers Circle/ FH Cumming Circle/ MH 12:00 Susanna Circle/ FH 6:30 Finance/ FR Wesleyan Circle/ FH	21 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	22 9:00 Yoga/ AC	23 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	24
25 5:00 Youth Choir/ Choir Room 6:00 UMYF/ AC	26 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	27 8:00 UMW Harvest Festival/ AC 	28 1:00 Care Team / FR 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	29 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:00  In AC	30 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	31 



# Third Grade Bible Presentation



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

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

