



Phone: 979-836-2008

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www.fumcbrenham.org

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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

Rev. Jon Stouffer
jon@fumcbrenham.org

Rev. Kay Reed
kay@fumcbrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

December 9, 2015

Advent & Christmas Happenings

More details on all these events will be in upcoming newsletters and on the website at www.FUMCBrenham.org.

DECEMBER

Sunday 13, 8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
"Noel & Alleluia! Jesus is Born"

A Christmas Cantata from the Chancel Choir

Sunday 13, 9:00 a.m. Worship in the AC
A Christmas Music Celebration with Voices & Instruments

Sunday 13, 3:00 p.m.
Family Caroling Hayride with dinner and a movie to follow

Wednesday 24
5:30 & 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve services with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary

Sunday 27
One worship service at 11am in the Sanctuary



2015 Angel Tree

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. Return wrapped gifts to the office by December 13. Please attach the ornament to the gift.



Newsletter Deadline and Other Information

Your next newsletter deadline will be **Wednesday, December 30, 2015 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.



Prayer Concerns

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

Cameron Winchell
 Marilyn Gravett
 Ryan Vandersommen
 Candy Smith
 Connie Waggoner
 Paul McIntyre
 Susan Davenport
 Lydia Nichols
 Lillian Healy
 Gerald & Pam Cox
 Bob Juroska

Our homebound members and those serving in the military

SUNDAY October 25, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	5
Worship 8:15 a.m.	64
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	69
Worship 11:00 a.m.	72
Worship Total	210
Sunday School	102
Offering:	\$6,213.00

SUNDAY November 1, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	80
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	72
Worship 11:00 a.m.	97
Worship Total	255
Sunday School	100
Offering:	\$20,227.45

SUNDAY November 8, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	4
Worship 8:15 a.m.	72
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	74
Worship 11:00 a.m.	116
Worship Total	266
Sunday School	115
Offering:	\$10,524.00

SUNDAY November 15, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	3
Worship 8:15 a.m.	79
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	75
Worship 11:00 a.m.	119
Worship Total	276
Sunday School	105
Offering:	\$6,380.00

SUNDAY November 22, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	88
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	85
Worship 11:00 a.m.	103
Worship Total	282
Sunday School	92
Offering:	\$8,657.00

SUNDAY November 29, 2015

Church Attendance:

Nursery	3
Worship 8:15 a.m.	69
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	61
Worship 11:00 a.m.	77
Worship Total	210
Sunday School	91
Offering:	\$12,576.08

OCTOBER TOTALS

Oct. Income:	\$47,795.09
Oct. Expense:	\$58,033.43
Oct. Total:	(\$10,238.34)

NOVEMBER TOTALS

Nov. Income:	\$59,802.97
Nov. Expense:	\$49,321.25
Nov. Total:	\$10,481.72

YTD TOTALS

YTD. Income:	\$564,663.97
YTD. Expense:	\$569,597.59
YTD. Net Total:	(\$4,933.62)

Donations Received

In memory of
Marnie Whitmarsh
 By
 Twain & Frances Tharp
 &Family

In memory of
Art Hinners
 By
 Gary & Kay Ivy
 Clifford & Betty Brisbin
 Frances Sidebottom
 Tom & Carol Ann Post
 Louis & Joycine Hanath

In memory of
**Dwight & Aris Brodhead/
 Bernie & Janet Morse**
 By
 David & Lee Brodhead



A Celebration of Music



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
AT 9:00 AM
IN THE *CELEBRATION!*
SERVICE**

Join us as our children, youth and adults help us celebrate the season in music and song. If you or your child/youth would like to participate please contact Jennifer Patrick.



CHURCH FAMILY CAROLING
Sunday, December 13
Meet at 3:00pm in Activity Center

Join us as we share in fellowship and outreach to those homebound members and sing carols on a hayride thru Kruse neighborhood. Bring your friends and family and make this your family's tradition.

After the caroling we will share in a meal & watch a Christmas classic movie in the AC.



Christmas Eve Service

5:30p.m. & 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Stouffer's Food For Thought . . .

'Tis the Season . . . of Advent, Christmas, and the "holidays"

Every year it seems to me that the pace of life continues to increase – and some have kindly mentioned that is one thing that comes with age. And in the midst of the troubling news of the last several days and the continued anticipation of political races, the ceaseless barrage of information seems to push aside the simplicity and joy of the celebration of Christ's birth. Yet, throughout the city, lights are going up on houses and businesses all around. The courthouse lighted tower remains visible from well outside the city limits. There also remains the world-wide delivery of Operation Christmas Child boxes and the Angel Tree gifts, both of which indicate the real need of our neighbors far and near. (not more gifts, but of hope and necessity)

I know that I am not always practical in my thinking, but I hope that I am not being naïve when I return to the hymns of Christmas and of faith. For me, the song the congregation sang when I joined the church restores such hope and grants such peace. Here are the first and last stanzas of "O Little Town of Bethlehem." May they ring true in our lives today as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus and anticipate Christ's return in glory at the fulfillment of all creation.

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

...
*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*



In Need of Another Christmas?

Nancy Dugan was nearly four as Christmas drew near. Her parents and four older brothers and sisters all had tried to prepare Nancy for Christmas by talking with her about the real meaning of Christmas and why the family celebrated. Nancy had a wonderful Christmas with a lot of presents and toys. A few days later, Nancy was talking with her older sister about what a great Christmas she had and said, "I sure hope Mary and Joseph have another baby."

Nancy might have missed the point her family was trying to teach her, but she had a good idea. If the birth of Jesus brought such great joy, then why not do it again?

We do need another Christmas. Not like the ones we have today. We have enough glimmer and glitz. We have more than enough fuss and frustration. We need another Christmas like that first one; the one when God became flesh and lived among us. We need another Christmas when suddenly we are surprised by angels and joy and we worship the newborn King.

We don't want Mary and Joseph to have another baby. We just need the child born that first Christmas to be born again in our hearts this one.

I want to wish all of you a blessed Christmas. The greatest and most memorable gifts are those which come from the heart. The love you have shown throughout the year has filled my life with rich and lasting blessings. Your kind words, faithful prayers, encouraging support, and wonderful friendships have blessed me richly, and words cannot adequately express my thanks to you. My prayer and wish is for Christ to fill your hearts and lives with His peace during the Advent and Christmas seasons and all of the days of the New Year.

See you Sunday,
Kay



UMYF Bonfire
at the Carliles
Sunday, Dec 6
@6pm

Meet at the church if you need a ride



Youth Christmas Party at Lights of Tejas

Dec 12 @4pm
RSVP by the 11th
Bring some extra spending \$\$



I cant's wait to hear all of you sing and/or play your instruments at the **Music Celebration at the Celebration! Service on Dec. 13.** It is such a special way for each of you to use the gifts the Lord has given you to share with others to the glory of God!

Remember as part of or Christmas party for ourselves to serve others as well. At 3pm on Dec. 13, we will participate in the **Family Hayride Christmas Caroling.** It will be such a blessing not only to others but to you as well.

Grace & Peace,
Jennifer



Dec 20 - No UMYF
Dec 27 – No UMYF
Jan 3 – NO regular UMYF

Jan. 3-4 – High School "Special" Retreat
Jan. 10 - TBA

Merry Christmas and Happy New year!!!



From the Staff of FUMC Brenham

Rev. Jon Stouffer, Rev. Kay Reed, Kris Trevino, Meagan Hargrave, Raemona Burks, Cindy Mathis, JenniferPatrick, Jennifer Campbell, Mark Satterwhite, Ann Jurden and Stacy Jenkins

Harvest Festival was a huge success again this year and that makes my heart so happy. It is a wonderful thing to watch everyone and everything come together and continue this church tradition. I want to thank each person who contributed in any way to the success of our Harvest Festival. From preparing the dressing and cooking it, donating items for the Country Store or Silent Auction, making desserts for the meals, serving the drinks, serving the meals, set up and clean up afterwards, and all the little things in between. I am so very grateful for all your help and continued support. I am especially thankful to those faithful helpers who are there from start to finish and those there all day for putting in such a long and tiring day to help me, it means so much.

Thank you again and I look forward to next year!!!

God's blessings to you all,

Kim Limmer



December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 UMW Christmas Tea/ Ann Wackman's 6:30 SPRC/ FR	2 5:30 Handbell Choir/ Sanctuary 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	3 9:00 Yoga/ AC	4 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	5 9:00 Emmaus/ AC
6 6:00 UMYF/ Carlile's	7 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	8 9:00 Card Group/ MH	9 5:30 Handbell Choir/ Sanctuary 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	10 9:00 Yoga/ AC 6:30 UMM-Ladies' Night/ AC	11 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor 12:00 Hinners Service Lunch/ AC 2:00 Art Hinners Memorial Service/Sanctuary 7:00 Joy Trip-Play/ Blinn	12 4:00 Youth Trip-Lights of Tejas/ AC
13 Music Sunday 8:15 & 11:00 Choir Christmas Canta during worship services with Bells of Praise 3:00 Christmas Caroling/ AC	14 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 1:30 CDC Board/ Library 6:00	15 6:30 Wesleyan Circle/ FH	16 5:30 Handbell Choir/ FH 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Celebration Band/AC	17 9:00 Yoga/ AC	18 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	19
20	21 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	22	23	24 <i>Offices Closed</i> 5:30 Christmas Eve Service/ Sanctuary 7:30 Christmas Eve Service/ Sanctuary	25 <i>Offices Closed</i> 	26
27 11:00 One Worship Service	<i>Offices Closed</i>	29	30	31 <i>Offices Close at Noon</i> 		



Capital Campaign Update

As you may have noticed, the scaffolding is FINALLY gone and a beautiful new cross is now in place along with some new coping stones. The project was complemented with a new lightening rod system for protection from future strikes. Please thank Gerald Muckleroy when you see him for his dedication to this very complicated and custom project. Gerald spent many months working on this project with support of the trustees, pastors, and staff. Thank you to those that have supported the Capital Campaign through prayer or prayerful giving. We have raised \$65,236 of the now \$86,500 needed to pay for this project. We have almost completed our goal with your generous help and support. Please remember this campaign in your prayers and consider giving if you are able to support this endeavor over and above your regular offerings.

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First United Methodist Church

