

Phone: 979-836-2008 Fax: 979-836-6202 www.fumcbrenham.org Email: fumc@fumcbrenham.org



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 10 Cable TV.

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor Rev. Dale Chance PastorDale@FUMCBrenham.org

Associate Pastor Rev. Terry Dougherty PastorTerry@FUMCBrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor * Brenham, Texas 77833-3213

November 15, 2009

A Message from the Pastors

Another holiday season is fast approaching. Every year we say the same thing - "I can't believe it's almost Christmas!" Some of us begin to feel the stress of getting everything done that we believe needs to be done between now and December 25 the moment the Thanksgiving leftovers are put away.

This year, I invite you to approach the day of Christ's birth by embracing all of the joy and peace of the Christmas story. The following thoughts come from the Advent Conspiracy - a resource to help us to reclaim the coming weeks as a time to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

WORSHIP FULLY

What if we anticipated the coming weeks as a season where love wins, peace reigns, and a king is celebrated with each breath. We will then enter the Christmas season with a passion to worship Jesus to the fullest.

SPEND LESS

What if we purchased just ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas? You can use the time and money saved to support a local charity. Looking for some gifts that cost little and mean much? Head to www.RethinkingChristmas.com.

GIVE MORE

What if Christmas became a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible? Time is one gift that cannot be purchased at the mall. Consider taking some time to bake really good cookies or sing really bad Christmas carols with your kids, grandkids, neighbors or friends.

LOVE ALL

What if, by spending less at Christmas, we are able to offer resources to those who need help the most? One less gift. One present offered freely in the name of Christ. The Angel Tree Program and gifts to residents of Brenham State School are just two ways to offer our gifts to others in need.

Be sure to read this newsletter cover to cover and to place the calendar on your refrigerator so you can participate fully in the celebrations of the seasons at FUMC.

Newsletter Deadline:

The next newsletter will be mailed on Wednesday, November 25. Deadline for articles is Monday, November 23 at 11:30 a.m.. Copies will be available in the Church Offices, the Parlor Breezeway, the Narthex and the Activity Center. The newsletter is also posted electronically on our new website, FUMCBrenham.org . Back issues of the newsletter can also be accessed on the Our offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays so please have your website. information in to us as soon as possible.

SUNDAY November 1, 2009 Church Attendance:

Nursery	4				
Worship 8:15 a.m.	80				
Worship 11:00 a.m.	146				
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	57				
Worship Total	287				
Sunday School	123				
Offering:	\$ 11,002.50				

SUNDAY November 8, 2009 Church Attendance:

Nursery	7				
Worship 8:15 a.m.	58				
Worship 11:00 a.m.	119				
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	38				
Worship Total	222				
Sunday School	103				
Offering:	\$ 15,282.66				
-	65,215.00 56,654.00 \$8,561.00				

Loose \$1 bills placed in our collection plates will be used to support Hurricane Ike recovery work in the Texas Annual Conference.

Prayer Concerns



Linda Beard Elmo Davis Eunice Glidden Bob Johnston Alice Limmer Marti McLemore Peggy Robertson Johnnye Van Hook

Also in our prayers are the family of

Jim Tom House who died on November 7.

METHODIST WEEKDAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Carole Horton, Director – 979-830-8661 or Carole@FUMCBrenham.org

Pilgrims, Native Americans, Teepees, and More

This month has begun with a bang! We are learning all sorts of good things about Thanksgiving, the meaning of the feast, the way the Pilgrims and the Native Americans lived, and what they had to eat. We not only study the pumpkin and the seeds, but the apple as well. And let's not forget the carrots, grapes and corn. Since we are working on vegetables, we must be on a farm. A farm has cows and pigs and horses and even ducks and chickens.

Then of course there is a turkey – an odd creature really, but oh so tasty! The children are learning a song about *Albuquerque Turkey* and sing it with gusto!

We seem to have an abundance of scarecrows in out midst, but where is the corn field? Well, never fear - in pre-school land we will have some type of crop for them to guard against the crows. Yes, we learn about crows.

Our art projects this month are varied. They range from painting a turkey (it's brown, of course) with feathers, making a collage of all the foods we eat, making Indian headdresses, making scarecrow puppets, and working on cornucopias. Since we love to glue in pre-school, we glue cotton balls on sheep, feathers on a chicken, straw on construction paper, and let's not forget sponge painting the spots on a cow.

Our teachers are working with the children to help them discover what each person is thankful for so that when we do our picture frames for this month they can fill up their *Thanksgiving Tree*.

That wonderful aroma you smell emanates from our little chefs cooking. It must be cookies and pies! Our <u>Thanksgiving Feast</u> will occur on November 25. That is the time of the year that we not only celebrate our thanks for having so much food, but also the parents who lend us their children. The teachers and children will prepare the food for this feast and it will be delicious. The children will even perform for the audience.

Now we must turn our thoughts to Christmas and our bake sale. Barbara Killgore and I have been trying to find out who made the Apple/Banana bread for the Harvest Festival. It was really good and we would like to have the recipe. Bread person, please contact either Barbara or the preschool.

Another piece of business: Our scholarship fund is seriously depleted. Please donate something. It doesn't have to be a large amount, just a little. Those little amounts will add up. Thank you.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Jennifer Patrick, Program Coordinator, <u>Jennifer@FUMCBrenham.org</u>



YOUTH "H.A.L.O" NEWS

Rick Ruiz, Youth Director rcruiz1020@yahoo.com

November Youth Calendar

Sunday, November 15 – Youth in AC, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 22 – Youth in AC, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rick as he recovers from knee surgery.

The evening begins with a light dinner at The Brenham House Then on to Unity Theatre to see *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*

We will meet at the church parking lot at 5:30 p.m. and carpool to The Brenham House (there is limited parking downtown).

The cost of the dinner and the show is \$25 per person. The great fellowship is FREE!

Please register for this event by Tuesday, December 8. Forms will be available in the church office, Sunday School classes and in the Narthex of the Sanctuary.



Thanksgiving & Christmas Happenings *#*

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

NOVEMBER

Sunday 22, 2:00 p.m. Decorating the church for Advent

DECEMBER

Tuesday 1, 10:00 a.m. UMW Christmas Coffee at the home of Cordelia Cummings

Sunday 22, 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving St. John's AME Church

Sunday 6, 6:30 p.m. Children's Musical presented by A.C.T.S "The Solid Rock Café" in the A.C.

Thursday 10, 6:30 p.m. UMM Christmas Dinner in the A.C.

Sunday 13, 8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services Christmas Cantata "The Mystery and the Majesty"

Sunday 13, 4:00 p.m. *Family Caroling for our Nursing Homes*

Thursday 17, 5:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Trip - Dinner at Brenham House & Unity Theatre's "It's a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play"

Sunday 20, 4:00 p.m. "There's a Song in the Air" Piano and vocal concert in the Sanctuary

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



Look in next month's newsletter for special happenings in our Sunday Services.

My Prayer

Jo Powell

I thank God for my family and loved ones, for friends, for inspiring teachers, for competent doctors and nurses, for security of firemen and policemen, for loving ministers, for a safe home, a dependable car, elected leaders, for Christians that paved the way for us. For writers of good literature, for music makers, for poets, for scientists and explorers, for education opportunities, for theologians, for the opportunity to work for a fair wage, freedom to worship and vote, for the privilege to laugh and have fun, for warm clothes and air conditioning, for food, for our military, for courage to stand for the truth, for peace of mind, for a forgiving a merciful God.

Welcome New Member to FUMC

Please be sure to introduce yourself to the newest member of our church family and add her contact information to your directory.

> Eloise Carmen 116 Greenway Drive Brenham, TX 77833 979-830-1986

In Memorium

Earl Wiesepape by Larry and Mary Embry of Brenham, TX Earl Wiesepape by Lucille Kelm and Family of Brenham, TX **Earl Wiesepape** by Bobby and Clarice Bredthauer of Bryan, TX Jim Tom House by Tom and Carol Ann Post of Brenham, TX **Jim Tom House** by Art and Smitty Hinners of Brenham, TX Jim Tom House by Frank and Louise Goodrich of Brenham, TX **Jim Tom House** by Sam and Beverly Duree of Brenham, TX Jim Tom House by Wesley Sunday School Class **Jim Tom House** by Judge Oliver S. Kitzman of Brookshire, TX Jim Tom House by James and Erin Sanders of Brookshire, TX **Jim Tom House** by Sue and William Perry of Brenham, TX **Jim Tom House** by Sue and Don Wilhelm of Brenham, TX Jim Tom House by Buddy and Elaine Dorow of Brenham, TX **Jim Tom House** by Gale and Tommy Horlen of Brenham, TX Jim Tom House by Clifford and Betty Brisbin of Brenham, TX Jim Tom House by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kitzman of Pattison, TX **Jim Tom House** by Curtis and Kathy Buck of Burton, TX

Angel Tree Christmas Program

Have you begun to make a Christmas list yet? This year our church is once again participating in Angel Tree. The Angel Tree Christmas program connects parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts to them. Members of FUMC will have the opportunity on Sunday, November 29, to pick an ornament with the name of a child from special Christmas trees in our sanctuary and activity center and purchase gifts for this child. Information will be available to everyone who offers to take an ornament, such as the name, age and sex of the child and suggestions for what type of gifts to purchase.

We will also be given names of some residents at the Brenham State School and their names will also be on the special Christmas trees on November 29.

If you need additional information, please contact Pat Clark at 979-830-1950 or email at pclark6629@gmail.com.

Thank You

Harvest Festival was again a wonderful success this year and I can't say thank you enough to everyone who helped make it so successful. I am so thankful and very much appreciate each person who helped in anyway to once again make Harvest Festival a great accomplishment. Watching things come together and everyone pitching in to do their part, small or large, to keep our Harvest Festival tradition alive is my inspiration and motivation to continue each year to do my part in keeping this wonderful church tradition going for sometime to come.

I would like to thank Donald Spiess on behalf of UMW, for purchasing our tickets each year. We greatly appreciate your generosity and continued support. I would like to thank everyone who sold tickets, baked an item, helped with the set up, helped prepare the dinner, serve the dinner or take-outs, or cleaned up, for all your help and hard work. Everyone did such an AWESOME job, what great team work!! I would like to give special thanks and appreciation to the following people: Dena Miller and Joyce Morris for the great job organizing, preparing and serving the dressing and to all the women who helped make our dressing. It was so delicious!!! Thank you, thank you to all the UMM who helped carve and bag turkeys, set up and clean up, served the drinks and especially helped where ever needed in the kitchen. Y'all are the best and I sincerely thank you for your help every year. Special thanks to those who worked in the kitchen heating up turkey and dressing, it was big job getting that done and you did it so well. Thank you Robert and Michelle Smith for taking charge of the drive-thru and doing a great job. The drive-thru went so well this year and I thank everyone who helped make that possible. Thank you to my church family for coming out and supporting Harvest Festival and for your love and support. Most of all I sincerely want to thank the UMW circle members. I could not do this without all of your support and willingness to help when I ask for help. I so appreciate each one of you, your love and support is something I cherish and it is my motivation to strive to be the best I can be for you and my church. I love you all.

The *Silent Auction and Country Store* committees would like to thank everyone for their part in making each one of these venues a wonderful success as well. Thank you for all the great items donated and your help in making the Silent Auction and Country Store a big part of Harvest Festival success each year. Each committee puts in a lot of time and work and it is greatly appreciated by all. -- Thank you all again and God Bless. Kim Limmer

THANK YOU to all who returned pledge cards on Commitment Sunday, November 1, and to several more persons who took the time to bring completed ones to the church office. We hope to receive responses from all of the active members by the end of the month. Pledge cards are available in the church office. Please call the church office if you want one to be mailed to you.

The ministries of FUMC Brenham are possible only through your continuing prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. 100 pledge cards have been received with \$377,588 pledged to date.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to place a red poinsettia on the altar for Christmas services, please complete and return this form to the church office along with your **check payable to FUMC by Sunday, December 13, 2009.** The cost is \$12.00 per plant. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary and Activity Center. They may be picked up after the 7:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.

I wish to	purchase	poinsettia(s).
(please pri	nt)	
In Honor	of:	
or:		
In Loving	Memory of:	
Placed by	y:	
The cost	of each plant is \$1	2.00. My payment of \$ is enclosed.
Name		
Phone #_		
	I will pick up my	poinsettia(s).
	I will not pick up delivered to a sh	my poinsettia(s) and would be happy for it/them to be ut-in.





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 12:00 pm New Member Luncheon/AC 1:00 pm Confirmation Class / FH 2:30 pm Brenham Rest Home 3:30 pm Kruse Village 5:00 pm Youth Game	2 9:00 am Bible Study / FH 7:00 pm Administrative Council Mtg/FR	3 9:00 am UMW Exec Mtg/ Library 9:30 am UMW Gen Meeting/AC 11:30 am Yoga/ AC	4 1:00 pm CARE / Library 5:30 pm Soul Feast / AC 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	5 8:00 am Missions Trip to Waco / Meet at AC	6 9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library	7 10:00 am Emmaus / Library 4:00 pm Emmaus Gathering / AC and Sanctuary 5:00 pm Youth Baby Sitting / AC
Night / AC 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 5:00 pm Youth / AC	9:00 am Bible Study / FH 1:00 pm CDC Ad Board Meeting / Library 1:00 pm BVCOG Interfaith Preparedness Workshop/AC	8:30 am Yoga / AC 9:00 am Card Group/ Mission House 5:30 pm Mission Brenham	5:30 pm Soul Feast / AC 6:00 pm A.C.T.S. /AC 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	8:00 am CDC Pie Bake/AC 6:30 pm UMM/AC	9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library	
15 2:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 3:30 pm Charge	16 9:00 am Bible Study / FH	17 8:30 am Yoga / AC Circle Meetings 9:30am Smith/Newman Post/Cummings	18 3:00pm Olan Mills - Picture Makeup Day 5:30 pm Soul Feast / AC	19	20 9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library	21
Conference/AC 5:00 pm Youth / AC		Murphey/House 12:00 pm Susanna/Summerour 6:30 pm Wesleyan/FH	6:00 pm A.C.T.S. /AC 7:00 pm -Choir NO BAND TONIGHT			
22 12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 5:00 pm Youth / AC	23 9:00 am Bible Study / FH 3:00 pm 42 / MH	24 8:00 am CDC Pie Bake/AC 8:30 am Yoga / AC 9:00 am Card Group/MH 6:00 p.m. Evangelism/FR 6:30pm Trustees/FR	25 11:30 am CDC Thanksgiving Feast / AC 7:00 pm Choir NO BAND TONIGHT	26 Church Office Closed 7:00am Layman's Prayer Breakfast/ AC	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH	30			Dicaniast Au		





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Dec. 1 10:00 am UMW Christmas Coffee / Cordelia Cumming's Home	Dec. 2 1:00 pm CARE / Library 6:00 pm Handbells/Sanct. 6:00 pm A.C.T.S. /AC 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	Dec. 3	Dec. 4 9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library	Dec. 5 1:00 pm A.C.T.S. Rehearsal / AC
6 Christmas Music by Brass Ensemble AM Services 12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 1:00 pm A.C.T.S. Rehearsal/AC 6:30 pm A.C.T.S. Musical – Rock Solid Café / AC	7 7:00 pm Council on Ministries Mtg/FR	8 8:30 am Yoga / AC 9:00 am Card Group/ Mission House 5:30 pm Mission Brenham	9 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	10 6:30 pm UMM Christmas Dinner/AC	11 9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library 9:00 am CDC Caroling	12
13 The Mystery and the Majesty Cantata - 8:15 and 11:00 am Services Handbells before 8:15 and 11 am Services 12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 4:00 pm Caroling @ Nursing Homes	14 1:00 pm CDC Ad Board Mtg/Library	15 8:30 am Yoga / AC Circle Meetings 9:30am Smith/Tate Post/Amerson Murphey/Chance 12:00 pm Susanna/Muckleroy 6:30 pm Wesleyan/Ketchem	16 8:00 am CDC Christmas Program / AC 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	17 5:30 pm JOY Theatre and Dinner / Brenham House & Unity Theatre	18 9:00 am Emmaus Meeting/Library	19
20 12:30 pm Confirmation Class / FH 4:00 pm There's A Song in the Air – Piano & Vocal Concert/Sanct.	21	22 8:30 am Yoga / AC 9:00 am Card Group/MH 6:30pm Trustees/FR	23 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Celebration Band	24 Church Office Closes at Noon Family Christmas Eve Service – 5:30 P.M. Communion Service – 7:00 pm	25 Church Office Closed	26
27	28 3:00 pm 42 / MH	29	30	31	JANUARY	2

UMW Christmas Coffee Tuesday, December 1, 2009 - 10:00 a.m.

The UMW is invited to Cordelia Cummings home for an enjoyable brunch on Tuesday, December 1, at 10:00 a.m. Cordelia's home is at: 1897 Rau Road. Take Hwy 105 toward Navasota, pass Hwy 50, the Brenham Country Club, Toll Upholstery and when you see Vernon Antiques on the left, begin to apply your breaks and move to the center lane. Just before you reach the bottom of the hill, turn left on Rau Road, first gate on the left will be open. Come on in and join us!

Last Night for SoulFeast

Wednesday, November 18 Dinner at 5:30 p.m. In the Activity Center donations appreciated

Classes at 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Please join us for this last night of SoulFeast.



The church offices will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after so that our church staff can enjoy a day with their loved ones.

FUMC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Church office <u>will be closed</u> during the lunch hour each day.

MONDAYS Church office hours 8:00 – 5:00

TUESDAYS Church office hours 8:00 – 5:00

WEDNESDAYS Church office hours 8:00 – 5:00 Celebration Band Practice at 7:00 / AC Choir Practice at 7:00

THURSDAYS Church office hours 8:00 – 5:00

FRIDAYS Church office hours 8:00 – 5:00 Ladies Emmaus Reunion Group 9:00 – Library



MONTHLY CALENDAR <u>1st MONDAY of MONTH</u>

Admin. Board (odd months) Council on Ministries (even months) 7 p.m. 1st Wednesday of MONTH CARE Team Meeting 1:00 p.m. in the Library

2nd MONDAY of MONTH CDC Advisory Board 1 p.m.

<u>**1st TUESDAY of MONTH**</u> United Methodist Women General Meeting 9:30 a.m.

<u>3rd MONDAY of MONTH</u> Finance Meetings (even months except Dec.)

> <u>3rd TUESDAY of MONTH</u> UMW Circle Meetings 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

2nd/4th TUESDAY of Month Card Group 9 a.m.

2nd THURSDAY of MONTH United Methodist Men 6:30 p.m.

4th TUESDAY of MONTH

Evangelism Team Meets 5:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meets 6:30 p.m.



The story of Christ's birth is a story of promise, hope, and a revolutionary love.

So, what happened? What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a Savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it's all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of missed purpose. Is this what we really want out of Christmas? What if Christmas became a world-changing event again?

Welcome to Advent Conspiracy, a movement calling us to proclaim Christ in how we celebrate Christmas.

The Revolution begins on November 29 at the 9:00 a.m. Celebration Service

Advent Conspiracy was started in 2006 by five pastors who decided to make Christmas a revolutionary event by encouraging their faith communities to Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More and Love All. The response was overwhelming and the Conspiracy was born. The vision for this project is a collaboration between Rick McKinley of Imago Dei Community in Portland, OR; Greg Holder from Windsor Crossing in St. Louis, MO; and Chris Seay of Ecclesia in Houston, TX. For more information be sure to visit <u>www.AdventConspiracy.org.</u>

	Click on the link on the EUMCBrenham.org homepage to be a FUMC Brenham Facebook Fan	i
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