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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. Bill Taylor- Interim Lead
pastorbill@fumcbrenham.org

Rev. Kay Reed- Associate
kay@fumcbrenham.org

First United Methodist Church

408 North Baylor St. Brenham, Texas 77833-3213
February 24, 2017



A Lenten Pilgrimage: From Death to Life

First United Methodist Church is offering an abundant variety of opportunities to experience, "A Lenten Pilgrimage" and move "from death to life." You are invited to the regular weekly worship and Sunday school, as well as the special Lenten offerings for study, meditation, and spiritual growth,

Shrove Tuesday – Mardi Gras February 28th – 5:00 p.m. – Activity Center

Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday" is the traditional time when European Christians would get rid of all the fat in their cupboards, so there would be no temptation to cheat during the fasting of Lent. Of course, the best way to get rid of fattening foods is to eat. And, the best way to eat is to throw a big party! Everyone is invited to a Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras party with gumbo, entertainment, and cakes.

Ash Wednesday March 1st – 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday. This day goes back hundreds of years in Christian tradition as the time each year for the person of faith to begin examining in depth his or her relationship to God. After a brief worship experience, everyone who desires to express their penitence will be invited to receive a symbolic cross of ashes.

Wednesday Lenten Book Study March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 5:00 p.m. – light meal followed by study

Each Wednesday during Lent Pastor Bill and Pastor Kay will be leading "The Creed, What Christians Believe and Why" by Adam Hamilton. For Christians, the beliefs expressed in the Apostles' Creed are foundational. In this book we'll consider those beliefs and begin a conversation about what Christians believe, why they believe it, and why it matters. Cost of the book is \$14.00.

Holy Week April 9th-16th

The Christian faith takes time seriously because God takes time seriously. God incarnated the Word into a real time and place as Jesus Christ. Marking the important "times" of Jesus' life helps us mark God's time in our daily lives. With Holy Week comes the observance of climactic events of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. By remembering these events in special ways, we participate again in the basic beliefs of the faith.



Prayer Concerns

SUNDAY February 5, 2017

Church Attendance:

Nursery	2
Worship 8:15 a.m.	72
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	48
Worship 11:00 a.m.	101
Worship Total	223
Sunday School	99
Offering:	\$17,458.00

SUNDAY February 12, 2017

Church Attendance:

Nursery	6
Worship 8:15 a.m.	70
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	74
Worship 11:00 a.m.	99
Worship Total	249
Sunday School	99
Offering:	\$7,487.00

SUNDAY February 19, 2017

Church Attendance:

Nursery	2
Worship 8:15 a.m.	71
Celebration 9:00 a.m.	47
Worship 11:00 a.m.	82
Worship Total	202
Sunday School	88
Offering:	\$11,630.00

January TOTALS

Jan. Income:	\$58,881.00
Jan. Expense:	\$49,961.00
Jan. Net Total:	\$8,920.00

Luene Harmer
 Frances Sidebottom
 Bob & Susan Jenkins
 Roberial & Dorothy Boenker
 Mike Kalil
 Ronnie Ochoa
 Eloise Carmen
 Jim & Linda Clements
 Kathy Revenaugh
 Katie Windham
 Jim & Linda Clements
 Vivian Janes
 Marshia Foster
 Rev. Lanai Rousseai

Jeffery Janner
 Norman Kitzman
 Sam & Beverly Duree
 Steve Ritchie
 Ivan Wubbenhorst
 Hugh & Aniela Pitts
 Ed & Barbara Baker
 Jenifer Amerson
 Alan Williamson
 Rev. Max Grubb
 Lillian Healy

Our homebound members and those serving in the military

Donations Received

In memory of
Mark Satterwhite
 By
 The Chancel Choir
 Richard & Sandra Glomski
 Sheran Riley
 Carla Pope
 Greg & Karen Mitchell
 The Sinton High School-
 Class of 1965
 Denton & Lindsay Cothren
 Jeremy & Jerry Gaston
 James & Allyson Butler
 Sherryl Wine
 Buzz & Katy Pruitt
 Larry & Konnie Thomas

Louise Goodrich
 Nick & Marianne Nelms
 Tom & Carol Ann Post

In Memory of
Jane Ciddings
 By
 Elizabeth Steele
 Hugh & Aniela Pitts
 Sue Johnston
 Brenham Country Club-
 Ladies Golf Association
 Henry & Theodora Boehm
 David & Marlene Martin



Newsletter Deadline



Your next newsletter deadline will be **Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** 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.

KID Stuff!

VBS planning meeting coming in March. Interested in helping in a leadership role? Contact Jennifer Campbell: jennpencecamp@gmail.com

Mark your calendars:

VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL
June 26- 29



A.C.T.S.

Because He LIVES

Performance Date:
Sunday, April 23
Time:TBA

Rehearsals:
Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm
Mar 8, 22, 29 &
Apr 5, 12, 19

Youth Stuff

Join us for UMYF each
Sunday @6pm for more...

lessons from MOVIES

The youth will be helping to
lead the Maundy Thursday
Service on April 13.
Mark your calendars now.

UMYF MEALS

Feb 26	Rettig, Anderson, & Schwartz
Mar 5	Trostle & Carlile
Mar 12	NO UMYF
Mar 19	TBA

YOUTH SMALL GROUPS

During the Lenten season, the church will be offering a dinner each Wednesday from 5-5:30pm. After the meal we will have a small group time for boys and one for girls until 6:30pm. Each group will do there own thing. I will be working with adult volunteers to develop what that looks like. The dates for the small group times are:
March 8, 22, 29 & Apr 5, 12

A Lenten Pilgrimage: Continued

Maundy Thursday Communion

April 13th – 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

“Maundy” is Latin for mandate, referring to Jesus’ new commandment in John 13:34-35. This commandment was given during the Last Supper as Jesus shared the sacrament of Holy Communion with his disciples for the first time. The context for that significant meal was the Jewish Passover, a meal which is still observed in synagogues and Jewish homes as the Seder. The youth will be leading this service.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 14th – 7:00 p.m.- Sanctuary

The service of Tenebrae or “shadows” grew out of a combination night and early morning prayer. The word “Tenebrae” is from the Latin for darkness. This night we remember the darkness that fell upon the world between the crucifixion and Easter morning. This service is designed to create an atmosphere of somber contemplation and pensive reflection. The sanctuary choir will give leadership to this service.

Easter Morning Worship Services

April 16th – Sunrise Service-6:55 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

The Sunrise Service will be held in the amphitheater at Hohlt Park.

Christians have always gathered on Easter Sunday to recall the overwhelming experience of the women and men who first saw the empty tomb. There is no holier day on the Christian calendar as Easter Sunday’s celebration of the Resurrection. The Lenten Pilgrimage: From Death to Life” will bring new life and meaning in Jesus Christ.



A NEW PLAN FOR LENT THIS YEAR

This year our church is going to try something new for our Lenten Season. In the past, for many years, we have had Lenten Lunches every Wednesday with guest speakers. This year we're changing it up a bit. On Wednesday, March 8th, we'll have the first get together in the evening. These will continue every Wednesday evening through April 5th. It will start at 5 P.M. in the activity center. We'll have a nice dinner ready for you. There is no charge for these dinners, but a love offering is gladly accepted. We'll have some of the best cooks in our church hard at work. You won't want to miss these good meals.

The plan is to eat from 5- 5:45pm. After that either Pastor Bill or Pastor Kay will present a 30-45 minute study. For those of you that don't like to drive at night, daylight savings starts March 12th, so it will be light longer.

Please plan on joining in on this great time of learning, fellowship, and sharing a meal together. If you have any questions, please call Michele Smith, 979 251-9840.

Notes from the Choir Loft

Dr. Nancy Taylor Ginsburg

This coming Sunday is the last Sunday of February...and it's Transfiguration Sunday! Can you envision our Savior, with his face radiantly shining like the sun, talking with Moses and Elijah?! It was a convergence of the great prophets! For me, it's a powerful worship experience.

Glorious Transfiguration Sunday is always the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday ... and the beginning of Lent.

As time leads up to Lent, I hope you are able to worship with us – and envision! And then join us on Tuesday, February 28th as we share a meal and listen to some jazz! The Blinn ensemble has been working hard on this presentation; it's going to be very special.

On Wednesday, March 1st, at 7:00 p.m. FUMC's congregation will gather and enter into Lent. There are 40 days in Lent; do you know that Sundays are not part of those 40 days? (I only learned this a few years ago....) That is why we call them the Sundays in Lent and not the Sundays of Lent!

Please come sing with us! Lenten anthems are pretty low key.... We are quietly preparing for Palm Sunday (a wonderful cantata), a service of Tenebrae on Good Friday (more about this in the next newsletter), and celebrations of the resurrection on Easter morning.

Blessings & Joy! ... Nancy



MAKE UP PICTURES FOR CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our new church directory is coming along and we need to try to include as many of our members and longtime visitors as we can. . If you missed your scheduled photo time in February, were out of town, never signed up, or had other reasons for not getting your picture taken, now is the last chance to be in the new directory.

MAKE UP PICTURE DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 21ST 2:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Please contact Michele Smith 979 251-9840 or 979 530-2485
or michelestamps@sbcglobal.net

We want this to be the best directory for our church, and we want you in it. Please call and get signed up as soon as possible.

Lent



Lent is composed of the 40 days between Ash Wednesday (March 1) and Easter (April 16), not including the Sundays of those six weeks. It has long been the practice of the church to understand Sundays as mini-Easters anticipating the Day of Resurrection. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon meaning “*spring*” and is traditionally understood as a time of fasting and penance in preparation for Easter.

The Great Three Days, sometimes called Triduum or Pasch, beginning with sunset on Maundy Thursday through sunset on Easter, conclude Lent and declare the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection. Each year, we travel with Jesus through the Last Supper, the prayers and betrayal in the garden, the Crucifixion, and the empty tomb. We rejoice with alleluias on Easter morning for the gifts of salvation and life that overcomes death.

Lent has also been understood as a time of preparation for the renewal of our baptismal covenant. In the early church, candidates for baptism spent as long as three years preparing to be baptized. Later, Lent became that time when all Christians were invited to consider their need for spiritual renewal. This was common practice by the time of the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D.



According to *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, “*Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. . . . The service focus is on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God’s redeeming love in Jesus Christ.*” Ash Wednesday then is a time to reflect on our nature as finite, sinful people and on God’s nature as forgiving and redeeming. On Sunday morning, many of us confess our sins and declare that we are sinners. Ash Wednesday gives us the occasion to stop – or at least to slow down – and to reflect on what exactly it means for us to acknowledge that we are sinners and that we will die. Recognizing these realities gives depth to our gratitude for God’s love and grace.

Many are in the habit of “*giving something up for Lent,*” often an item like chocolate or sweets. While calories are fewer for the faithful, such discipline does little to transform lives. Besides, “*giving up*” these things often leave us dour and cranky. Instead of “*giving up*” sweets, let me invite you to “*take up*” the daily reading of scripture, involvement in a weekly small group study, and participation in weekly worship. By infusing our lives with reading the Bible, Christian conversation, and six consecutive weeks of worship, we can honor Christ and seek a deeper faith experience during Lent.

Please read Pastor Kay’s article in the newsletter to discover all of the things we are doing at Brenham First United Methodist Church to observe Lent.

Peace,
Bill Taylor
Intentional Interim Pastor

March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5:00 Bells of Praise/ FH 7:00 Ask Wednesday Service/ Sanctuary 8:00 Choir/ Choir Room	2 9:00 Yoga/ AC 5:30 Exercise Class/ FH	3 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	
5 6:00 UMYF & Confirmation/ AC	6 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 6:00 Trustees/ FR	7 8:45 UMW Exec./ FR 9:30 UMW/ AC 11:30 First Tuesdays Together/ FH	8 5:00 Bells of Praise/ FH Lenten Dinner/ AC Youth Small Group/ AC 5:30 ACTS/ AC 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Praise Band/ AC	9 9:00 Yoga/ AC 5:30 Exercise Class/ FH 6:30 UMM/ AC	10 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	11 2:00 Frances Sidebottom's Birthday Party/ AC
 Time to Spring Ahead	13 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 1:30 CDC Board/ Library	14 9:00 Card Group/ MH	15 5:00 Bells of Praise/ FH Lenten Dinner/ AC 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Praise Band/ AC	16 9:00 Yoga/ AC 5:30 Exercise Class/ FH	17 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor 	18
19 6:00 UMYF & Confirmation/ AC	20 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn 6:00 Missions/ FR 7:00 Admin. Board/ FR	21 9:00 Hinners Circle/ Cummings Healy Circle/ AC Amerson Circle/ House 6:30 Wesleyan Circle/ FH	22 5:00 Bells of Praise/ FH Lenten Dinner/ AC Youth Small Group/ AC 5:30 ACTS/ AC 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Praise Band/ AC	23 9:00 Yoga/ AC 5:30 Exercise Class/ FH	24 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	25
26 6:00 UMYF & Confirmation/ AC	27 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study/ FH 12:00 Wesley/ Blinn	28 9:00 Card Group/ MH	29 1:00 Care Team/ FR 5:00 Bells of Praise/ FH Lenten Dinner/ AC Youth Small Group/ AC 5:30 ACTS/ AC 7:00 Choir/ Choir Room Praise Band/ AC	30 9:00 Yoga/ AC 5:30 Exercise Class/ FH	31 9:00 Ladies' Emmaus/ Parlor	



Frances Sidebottom is celebrating her 90th birthday this March 12th! Come help us celebrate on March 11th, in the Activity Center from 2:00p.m.-4:00 p.m. All her friend's at church are invited to wish her well and visit with friends and family. Birthday cake and other refreshments will be served. Frances' daughters are hosting the party, and sincerely invite the church to share in this day!

Thanks FUMC!

On behalf of Focusing Families and Washington County Healthy Living, I want to thank you so much for all your donations of kindness. You continue to give freely as a congregation and I am thankful for your generosity!

God's Blessing,
Linda Herrmann

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Return Service Requested

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408 North Baylor
Brenham, TX 77833

