

Benbrook United Methodist Church

MARCH 2017

The Spirit...

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Vision Statement: Our vision is for Benbrook UMC to be Benbrook's vibrant, loving, Christ-centered fellowship for worship and witness, united in mission and service to our neighbors.

BUMC Staff

Rev. C. Mike Redd
Senior Pastor

Cindy Merworth
Music Worship Leader

Glenn Ecker
Director of Music

Teri Houston-Martin
Director of Student Ministries

Terry Grant, Director
Benbrook UMC Preschool

Jane McMillan
Administrative Assistant
Director of Children's Ministry

Felicia Albin
Nursery Attendant

**Focused on Christ;
United in Prayer**

I Will Never Leave You Nor Forsake You John 20:19-23

Robert Strand, in his book, *Especially for the Hurting Heart*, has a wonderful discussion of Hebrews 13:5 in which we read these encouraging words: "God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you!"

Strand asks, "What ever does never mean?" And he notes that in the original language "never" is really a compounding of five negatives. Not that each negative is added to another. Rather, each negative is multiplied by the other. According to Strand, it really should read, "I will never, no, not ever, no never leave you or forsake you!" It is a synergistic compounding negative. It's a forever never which has no exceptions! Then he asks, "What does 'leave' mean?" He says that in the original Greek it means "to leave behind, to abandon, to give up on, to send back." Well then, so far our verse will read: "I will never, no not ever, no never leave you behind, abandon you, give up on you, or send you back!"

Finally he asks, "What does 'forsake' mean?" In the Greek it means, "to leave one in a helpless state, to disregard." It also can be further expanded to include "not relaxing my watchfulness over you." To this point, then, says Strand, our verse, in the full, amplified version reads: "I will never, no not ever, no never give up on you, abandon you, leave you behind, cause you not to survive, leave you helpless, nor shall I ever relax concerning keeping my presence with you!" In other words, we can relax. God will always be there for us.

No matter what is going on in your life, no matter what pain you go through God is with you and will take care of you.

Friend in Christ - Pastor Mike

Wednesday service

In order to prepare our hearts and minds for the Lenten season there will be a service of imposition of ashes at 6:30pm, March 1. The minister will make a small cross on your forehead with ashes. The ashes remind us of our mortality and sin, while the cross reminds us of Jesus' resurrection (life after death) and forgiveness.

Lent is a time of prayer, self-examination, and penitence for Christians as we prepare to celebrate Easter. It's a time to re-focus our lives to be more in line with Jesus.

We hope you will come join with us in this meaningful service as we remember that from God we come and to God we go.



MARCH 12



Prime Timer events are open to those 50+.

The Prime Timers enjoy breakfast and fellowship on the third Saturday of each month at Westside Café. Please contact Linda Sullivan, at 817 249-5145 to reserve your seat for the next breakfast on March 18th.

A Bible Study is held every other Friday at 1:00pm in the home of Frances Covington. They will meet March 10th and 24th. Feel free to contact Frances for more information at 817 249-0084.

Remember our home bound members and those in the nursing homes. Please consider sending them a note or making a call to brighten their day. Missed someone in church for a few weeks? Please call to check on them.

Help us welcome our newest members by introducing yourself and encouraging them to share in our small group activities.



Jim and Febe Nixon

Please contact church office for their address and phone number.

Ladies meet for fun and fellowship

Our next meeting of the Mary and Martha Fellowship will be on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 in Beavers room.

We will have a guest speaker. Our program promises to be entertaining and informative.

Consider bringing a donation of toiletries for WestAid, our monthly project.

Our group is open to women of all ages. Join us for fun, food, and inspiration. Hope to see you there!

Teaming up for the Fight

Cancer has touched all of us in some way. And we want to stop this disease in its tracks. We'll spend the next few months fundraising for the American Cancer Society. Then, on the day of the event, we'll honor the lives lost to cancer, celebrate survivors, and support the caregivers who so selflessly help others. **Relay For Life** is a unique fundraising festive atmosphere with entertainment, food, activities, and camaraderie.

Research is at the heart of our mission. For more than 65 years, the American Cancer Society has been finding answers that save lives - from changes in lifestyle to new approaches in therapies to improving cancer patients' quality-of-life. In fact, no single nongovernmental, not-for-profit organization in the US has invested more to find the causes and cures of cancer. The funds **YOU** raise truly make a difference in the fight against cancer – just ask one of the nearly 14 million cancer survivors who will celebrate another birthday this year!

BUMC is organizing a team to participate in the **Relay For Life** held at Benbrook Lake on **April 28** from 7pm – midnight. Each participant is asked to raise a minimum of \$100 in donations prior to the event. A Relay-t-shirt will be given to each participant raising \$100 or more by mid March. BUMC needs **YOU** to be on their team. Together, we'll be a part of making a difference in this important cause

We are also asked to have a person walking or running in shifts for the entire Relay. A sign up sheet will be located in the narthex soon.

Survivor Celebration

Following opening ceremonies, all cancer survivors are invited to lead the lap to officially start the Relay with their "Victory Lap." Whether you are a cancer survivor for 20 years or 2 days you are invited to take part in this celebration. Your strength and courage help the community see that cancer survivorship is real—that we are making progress in the battle against cancer. A dinner will be held in your honor **Thursday March 2** at Benbrook Senior Center. Contact Jane McMillan to register.

Please contact team captain Jane McMillan to participate or if you would like more information concerning the Relay. Office hours are 8:30am - 4:30pm Monday thru Thursday. 817.249.1257

“Faith is permitting ourselves to be seized by the things we do not see.” —Martin Luther



March 26

Following the 11am service

Plan to stay, visit and share a meal with your friends at BUMC.

Upcoming Sermon Series

Sunday, March 5 is the first Sunday of Lent. During the Lenten season Pastor Mike will be preaching a sermon series entitled Address the Mess. Hopefully you will be able to attend each week to experience the entire series of sermons.

Youth update

Come join us for food and fun as we play board games on Wednesday nights. Eat before you come, or bring food with you. Be sure to bring a friend.

Wednesday Board Game Nights 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in Reed Hall on March 1st, 8th, 22nd, 29th

No Youth night March 15th - Spring Break

Please keep our Youth in your prayers and in your hearts. Call / Text Teri Houston-Martin 817-675-9479 Email: tahmtahm@charter.net

Military birthdays

Please send a card, extend a hand or hug to Lorren Runion to celebrate his birthday March 16.

Remember to include all military personnel who are defending or have defended our country in your prayers. - Military Care

Job well done

Each year Ft. Worth campuses recognize outstanding classroom teachers whose efforts & examples have inspired their students, colleagues and the communities they serve. Congratulations to Teri Houston-Martin who was recently awarded Teacher of the Year at McLean Middle School where she teaches 8th grade Social Studies.

Calendar of Special Events

March 1	Ash Wednesday Service	6:30 pm
March 3	Movie Night	7:00 pm
March 10	Prime Timers Bible Study in Frances Covington's home	1:00 pm
March 12	Daylight Saving Time begins Sack Lunch pick up in Reed Hall	
March 14	Mary/Martha Fellowship in Beavers Room	7:00 pm
March 18	Prime Timers Breakfast West Side Café	8:00 am
March 21	Trustee Meeting open to congregation	7:00 pm
March 24	Prime Timers Bible Study in Frances Covington's home	1:00 pm
March 26	Church Luncheon	noon
March 28	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm



Friday, March 3

**Concessions: 6:00pm in Reed Hall
Movie: 7:00pm in the Sanctuary**

**Heaven is for Real
(based on a true story)**

Benbrook United Methodist Church
1122 Bryant Street
Benbrook, Texas 76126

Office Hours:

8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday thru Thursday
Phone: 817/249-1257 Fax: 817/249-0264
E-mail: bumc@benbrookumc.org
Web Site: www.benbrookumc.org



JOYS AND CONCERNS - Please use this list during private prayer.

Celebrations

Remembrance and Celebration of Life

Ongoing need for prayer

Bob Plummer
Bill Moore
Charlotte Welch
Christopher Warhurst
Michael Brittain
Janice Holland

Pastor Mike Redd and family
Church Staff and Lay Leadership
Police Officers and Firefighters

Homebound

John Adams
Jean & Thurman Hefty
Wanda Ort

Pat Fuchshuber
Erma Miller
Nadaline Thomas

Assisted Living

Pat Ashburn
Aggie Cassidy
Joan Lamb-Hardin

Nursing Facilities

Joyce Kimberlin
Theda Kornegay

**Remember to keep members of our military
and our nation's leaders in your daily prayers.**

Please inform the Church office of any changes to this list.