

Benbrook United Methodist Church

MAY 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**

Healing and Wholeness to Many

Please note that this is an urban legend, but a pretty good yarn, and probably has no basis in fact: At the University of Chicago Divinity School each year they have what is called "Baptist Day." On this day each one is to bring a lunch to be eaten outdoors in a grassy picnic area. Every "Baptist Day" the school would invite one of the greatest minds to lecture in the theological education center. One year they invited Dr. Sam Mix, who spoke for two and one-half hours proving that the resurrection of Jesus was false. He quoted scholar after scholar and book after book. He concluded that since there was no such thing as the historical resurrection the religious tradition of the church was groundless, emotional mumbo-jumbo, because it was based on a relationship with a risen Jesus, who, in fact, never rose from the dead in any literal sense. He then asked if there were any questions.

After about 30 seconds, an old, dark skinned preacher with a head of short-cropped, woolly white hair stood up in the back of the auditorium. "Docta Mix, I got one question," he said as all eyes turned toward him. He reached into his sack lunch and pulled out an apple and began eating it.

"Docta Mix.. CRUNCH, MUNCH "My question is a simple question, ..CRUNCH, MUNCH..."Now, I ain't never read them books you read ..CRUNCH, MUNCH..."and I can't recite the Scriptures in the original Greek ...CRUNCH, MUNCH ..." I don't know nothin' about Niebuhr and Heidegger ...CRUNCH, MUNCH...He finished the apple. "All I wanna know is: This apple I just ate, was it bitter or sweet?"

Dr. Mix paused for a moment and answered in exemplary scholarly fashion: "I cannot possibly answer that question, for I haven't tasted your apple." The white-haired preacher dropped the core of his apple into his crumpled paper bag, looked up at Dr. Mix and said calmly, "Neither have you tasted my Jesus." The 1,000 plus in attendance could not contain themselves. The auditorium erupted with applause and cheers. Dr. Mix thanked his audience and promptly left the platform.

Have you tasted Jesus this Easter season...He brings healing and wholeness to all those who taste Him...and he invites you to taste of His love and goodness Jesus has risen... and he's coming back one day! Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him. If you have, rejoice in the hope of the resurrection that your faith in Him brings. Psalm 34:8

Friend in Christ,

Mike





Prime Timer events are open to those 50+.

A Bible Study is held every other Friday at 1:00pm in the home of Frances Covington. They will meet May 5 and May 19. Feel free to contact Frances for more information at 817 249-0084.

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 May 20.

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.

More than a name

When the late CBS correspondent Ed Bradley visited the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., he found a letter propped against the black wall. It read:

“I wanted to come back and say hello. You know, I went ahead and married Dick, and we have a beautiful little girl. Her favorite color is purple, the color of this stationery. I went to Arlington to see your grave, and on it, it said you got a Purple Heart for dying. Well, this is your purple heart for having lived. I hope that our daughter finds as wonderful and as beautiful a first love as you were for me. Good-bye. Hello. Nancy.”

That’s a strong reminder that those we honor on Memorial Day are more than simply names. They were living people who loved and were loved - and are still loved.

—Adapted from *Homiletics*

Words of thanks

Many thanks to everyone who comforted me after my fall with the many acts of kindness. I am so thankful to be a member of BUMC that has such a wonderful church family. God’s blessings to all.

Frances Covington

Many thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, food, visits and well wishes following Bill’s surgeries. Also, thanks to everyone who picked up the slack in our absence. Things are progressing slowly, but surely, and we hope to be back with our church family and friends soon.

Bill and LaVerne Moore

As the choir at First UMC in Azle grew they needed to acquire robes for their new members. When attempting to order they found their robes were discontinued which forced them to purchase another style for the entire choir. Many thanks to First UMC in Azle for the gift of our beautiful “new” choir robes.

Intense love does not measure, it just gives.

Restoring the balance

In *Springs in the Valley* (Zondervan), pioneer missionary Lettie Cowman tells of a traveler making a trek through an African jungle. Native tribesmen who helped carry loads walked rapidly on day one, covering a great distance. Yet the next morning they refused to move. When the frustrated traveler asked the tribesmen why they were just sitting, they said they’d gone too fast on the first day and “were now waiting for their souls to catch up to their bodies.”

Cowman writes, “This whirling rushing life which so many of us live does for us what that march did for those tribesmen. The difference: They knew they needed to restore life’s balance; too often we do not.”

God promises rest for our soul and body, so don’t overlook the importance of physical restoration. Only by taking time to recharge can you be an effective laborer in God’s kingdom.



Prayer bears spread God's love

Every year the Pastoral Care Department of Cook Children's Medical Center gives out nearly 12,000 Prayer Bears to their young patients, but it's during the summer months that supplies tend to get low.

During the month of May we invite you to bring new cuddly, soft bears to fill this need. **Their only rules are they must be new and bears** (no kittens, dogs, rabbits or other friendly critters please).

We will bless the bears during a worship service, commissioning them as ministers of God's love, and deliver them to the hospital in June.

Summer will be here soon

With summer fast approaching, WestAid is getting ready by trying to fill the shelves with more kid friendly items. In order to do this though they need our help! They are in need of the following items:

applesauce	canned fruit
mac'n'cheese	peanut butter
jelly/jam	canned meats
canned pasta	cereal

Ladies Luncheon invitation

Mary and Martha Fellowship, our ladies' group, meets once a month September through May.

Our final gathering before our summer break will be on Saturday, May 6th. Join us at 11:30am at The Rose Garden Tea Room in the Historic Camp Bowie Mercantile on the traffic circle. Contact Frances Covington at 817-249-0084 for reservations no later than May 4th. This venue is very popular with our group. Hope to see you there.

“Do not be afraid of tomorrow, for God is already there.” —Unknown

Youth update

Join the Youth for fun and games each Wednesday night in Reed Hall. 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 May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31st.

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

Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were big things.
—Robert Brault



Calendar of Special Events

May 5	Prime Timers Bible Study	1:00 pm
May 6	Men's Bible Study	10:00 am
	Mary & Martha Luncheon	11:30 am
	Rose Garden Tea Room	
May 16	Trustee Meeting open to congregation	7:00 pm
May 19	Prime Timers Bible Study	1:00 pm
May 20	Men's Bible Study	10:00 am
	Prime Timers Breakfast	8:00 am
	West Side Café	
May 23	Church Council Meeting Congregation encouraged to attend	7:00 pm
May 28	Church Luncheon	noon
May 29	Office closed in observance of Memorial Day	

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
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Web Site: www.benbrookumc.org



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

Celebrations

Remembrance and Celebration of Life

Frances Robertson - church member

Ongoing need for prayer

Angela Fletcher
Ben Huebner
The Robertson famly
Cindy Ellis
Frances Covington
Bill Moore

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.