

# Benbrook United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 2019

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## *The Spirit...*

**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. Don Petty  
Senior Pastor

Cindy Merworth  
Director of Music

Quanzhou Yan  
Pianist

Terry Grant  
Preschool Director

Jane McMillan  
Administrative Assistant  
Director of Children's Ministry

**Focused on Christ;  
United in Prayer**

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for all of your participation in our faith-sharing rocks project out in the Narthex. It's an extension of the wonderful baby Jesus rocks we paint every year around Christmas time. We are somewhere between one third and one half of the way to our goal now, so keep it up!

The goal is to be able to place enough stones in the fountain so that everyone, especially children, will want to participate by taking one of ours or leaving one of their own. More than just having rocks in a collection, I like to view them as a way into holy communication and conversation. The images we send are as much a representative of who we are in Jesus as the words we share. These rocks allow for that. And we hope and pray that everyone who sees them will be inspired to paint their own and share their faith through these rocks with us.

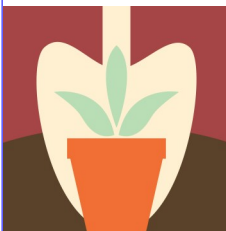
Luke 19:40 says, "If they kept quiet, the stones would cry out!" It's a powerful scripture, showing how Creation itself will not keep silent about Jesus' arrival in our lives. It's also a great reminder that neither should we! We now can help the stones to cry out, and send the words and images that convey Jesus' love and hope to a world in need.

Thank you again for all your help, and help us continue to get the word out, to take stones home to decorate, and bring them back so we can place them in our fountain to share with others.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Don

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### **Just plant it**



As the church year wraps up, many Bible readings address the end times and Jesus' return at an unknown date (unknown to all but God the Father, that is). Specific beliefs about the Second Coming vary throughout Christendom, but our attitude about that momentous event affects how we live right now.

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces," Martin Luther reportedly said, "I would still plant my apple tree." Instead of constantly despairing about this broken-down world, we can remain determined to serve God and our neighbors, planting seeds of life and hope in the process.



Prime Timer events are open to those 50+.

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.

A Bible Study is held every other Friday at 1:00pm in the home of Frances Covington. They will meet September 6th and 20th. 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 Frances Covington, at 817 249-0084 to reserve your seat for the next breakfast on September 21st.

### All ladies invited

Summer is winding down and our ladies' group will resume meetings in September.

We hope you have had a summer of rest, relaxation, and inspiration.

Join us as we start our year on Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00pm in Beavers room.

We look forward to seeing our returning members and hope to see many new faces as well.

Ladies of all ages are welcome. Our programs are new each month so you can join us at any time.

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**Lord, we your people, the sheep of your pasture, enter your gates with thanksgiving and your courts with praise, for your goodness, love and faithfulness are everlasting. Amen**

### **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Tami Ellis is hosting a:  
**"Safety Awareness & Scam Prevention Seminar"**

**SPEAKER: Michael Kuzenka**  
Fort Worth Police Officer  
Homelessness & Community  
Relations Liaison Officer

**Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
immediately after 2<sup>nd</sup>  
worship service in the CLC**

Subway sandwiches, chips,  
& a drink will be provided

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**"The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent."**

**—Sam Levenson**

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### Labors of love

Thomas Merton, an American monk, writer and social activist, said, "It is in the ordinary duties and labors of life that the Christian can and should develop his spiritual union with God." As the United States observes Labor Day, may we find meaning not simply in marking summer's end but in celebrating the ways nearly all "duties and labors of life" can empower ministry and faith.

Whether as a dentist, parent, artist, teacher, mechanic, gardener, city councilor, farmer, day laborer, attorney or anything else, a Christian can begin each workday or shift by praying for opportunities to serve whoever they'll encounter. We also can pray for and seek ways to grow in "spiritual union with God": cultivating spiritual fruits; actively loving God and neighbor; seeing Jesus in the vulnerable; practicing humility, gratitude and praise.

In Labor Day, may we find inspiration to make all our labors loving and faithful!

## Words of thanks

BUMC has recently received a new refrigerator for the Reed Hall kitchen and a new riding lawnmower. We are very grateful for the generosity of the anonymous donors.

## Address update

Julie Martin has a new address. Contact the church office or check the church online directory.

## Military Care update

Please send a card, extend a hand or hug to celebrate the following birthdays.

September 5	Jimmy Montgomery
September 17	Dick Hardin
September 27	Matt Martin
September 29	James Nixon

Remember to include all military personnel in your prayers. They make great sacrifices to protect our freedom.

## Remembering WestAid

The standard peanut butter, mac & cheese, pork & beans and cereal are always appreciated.

The services of this outreach ministry are ongoing and your monetary donations are greatly appreciated as well. Please make checks payable to BUMC and write WestAid on the memo line.

## Everyday heroes

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

—Helen Keller

## Every one counts!

I'm an avid player of Yahtzee, in which you roll five dice to collect different number combinations. It's a game of both chance and strategy. Because it seems less problematic to accept a roll that's short by one point rather than a roll that's short by, say, six, every so often I'm disappointed to discover I've missed winning by only one point.

We do something similar in church and other parts of life: dismiss a child's idea as less important than an adult's; worry more about pleasing the "big givers" at church than the ones who contribute less; check in on the longtime member who misses worship once but forget about the newcomer who attended twice, then didn't return.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leaves 99 sheep in order to go after just one who is lost. May we learn from his example that everyone — every *one* — counts.

—Heidi Mann

## Calendar of Special Events

Sept. 2	Office closed in observance of Labor Day
Sept. 3	First day of BUMC Preschool 9:00 am
Sept. 6	Prime Timbers Bible Study 1:00 pm
Sept. 7	Men's Bible Study 10:00 am
Sept. 10	Mary & Martha Fellowship 7:00 pm
Sept. 15	Safety Awareness/Scam Prevention Seminar - CLC noon
Sept. 17	Trustee meeting 7:00 pm
Sept. 20	Prime Timers Bible Study 1:00 pm
Sept. 21	Prime Timers Breakfast 8:00 am West Side Café Men's Bible Study 10:00 am
Sept. 24	Church Council 7:00 pm

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Office Hours:

9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday

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

**Celebrations**

**Remembrance and Celebration of Life**

Linda Creed

**Ongoing need for prayer**

Linda Sullivan  
Elsie Runion  
Wanda Owens  
Dale Ruckle  
Martha Hoffman

Pastor Don Petty and family  
Church Staff and Lay Leadership  
Police Officers and Firefighters

**Homebound**

Jean & Thurman Hefty

Lolly Pinkston

**Assisted Living**

Aggie Cassady  
Theda Kornegay  
Dell Smith  
Barbara Spears  
Linda Sullivan

**Nursing Facilities**

Joan Lamb-Hardin  
Jane Johnson  
Joyce Kimberlin

**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.**