

# Benbrook United Methodist Church

MARCH 2020

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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

**Focused on Christ;  
United in Prayer**

Dear Church Family,

When I was in high school, I remember a sermon my pastor preached. He said, "Don't confuse being content with being complacent." To be content is a good thing. As Paul is writing to members at the church at Philippi who are concerned about his imprisonment, he says in Philippians 4:11-12, "Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed, and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need." To be content is to find endurance for life's battles through Jesus Christ.

To be complacent is to become comfortable. And while some scholars argue that Paul's living quarters were pretty posh for prison (under a system that was more akin to house arrest than a bare cell with bars), Paul is certainly far from comfortable. He is far removed from complacency. He would much rather be on the road sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in any number of threatening situations than stuck where he is.

One of the great metaphors of Lent is that of a road. Taken from Luke 9:51, there we read that Jesus "set his face toward Jerusalem". Imagine that this season of Lent you are on a road through the wilderness. How might you describe it? Is it paved, covered in gravel, dusty, or mud-slicked? Is it a smooth road top, littered with potholes, or at times, even, seemingly impassible? Is it windy, straight, or visible only for short stretches? Is it a bicycle lane or a multi-car highway? Does it thrill you to be on it? Does it scare you? Is it just a means to get from one place to another?

As we journey on this Lenten road together, it will likely feel strangely familiar to past roads, but also, unique to this year and this season of our lives. Whether we are ready to face it or not, the road will wind its way to Jerusalem. It will lead us past victory crowds shouting "Hosannah!" and those same crowds in the next breath shouting "Crucify him!" It will lead us to Jesus' cross at Golgotha (an image of death that literally translates as "the place of the skull"). Are we content or complacent as we traverse our own road this Lent?

If we are complacent, then Lent is just another season to get through. If we are content, we may be biding our time before Easter. But if we are content, then we are like Jesus, setting our face toward Jerusalem. And we are like Paul, willing to be well-fed or hungry, willing to have plenty or to be in need. We need not travel an easy road, but one that draws us closer to Christ.



Sunday, March 8

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Don



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 Frances Covington, at 817-249-0084 to reserve your seat for the next breakfast on March 21st.

A Bible Study is held every other Friday at 1:00pm in the home of Frances Covington. They will meet March 6th and 20th. 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.

**“May you have warm words on a cold evening, a full moon on a dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your door.”**  
—Irish blessing

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## What's Your Specialty

As co-chair of the Bereavement Committee, I have a question for you. Do you have a meat, side dish, casserole, dessert or something else that you usually bring to potluck dinners? Perhaps it's something that you always get compliments on or it's become your specialty. Would you be willing to occasionally help provide for family meals following the death of a beloved member of the congregation? It's one of the last things we can do to honor the departed and show our love for their family.

I would love to hear from you if you can help and learn what your specialty is. It doesn't have to be anything complicated; simple comfort foods work best for these occasions and they can be store-bought, if necessary. Please contact me 817-249-5346 or b-lmoore@sbcglobal.net if you are willing to help in the future. Thank you, LaVerne Moore

## Teaming up for the Fight

Cancer has touched all of us in some way. And we want to stop this disease in its tracks. The American Cancer Society helps to save lives by empowering activists; conducting breakthrough research, providing patient services and access to care, and so much more. Since 1991, death rates from cancer have dropped 27%. That translates to more than 2.6 million lives saved.

For the last 16 years BUMC has had a team participating in Relay For Life. It's not too late to join our efforts. Each team participant who raises \$100 in donations by **March 27** will receive a special Relay t-shirt. BUMC needs **YOU** to be on their team. Together, we'll be a part of making a difference in this important cause.

This year's theme is Hope Lights the Way and it will look different from all previous events. All fund raising will be done prior to the event. We will have a catered banquet held at Ventana Amenity Center on Trail Ridge Drive in Benbrook on Friday, April 24 at 6:00pm.

That evening we'll honor the lives lost to cancer, celebrate survivors, support the caregivers who so selflessly help others and celebrate all team participants who have committed to raise funds.

Following opening ceremonies, all cancer survivors are invited to participate in a "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.

Please contact team captain Jane McMillan to participate or if you would like more information concerning the Relay. Office hours are 9am - 3pm Monday thru Thursday. 817.249.1257

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## Ladies time of fellowship

Our next meeting of Mary and Martha Fellowship is Tuesday, March 10 at 7pm in Beavers room. You can join us at any time during the year as our programs are new each month. Time allowed for discussion, light snacks and fellowship.

Please consider bringing donations of toiletries for WestAid families, our monthly project.

## Congratulations on the New Arrival



Terry and Kitty Covington are excited to announce the birth of their granddaughter, Kyra Marie. Kyra, born on February 2, is the daughter of Kaylyn and Seth Stokes.

Frances Covington is her proud great grandmother. We thank God for this blessed baby.

## Preschool registration opens

Benbrook United Methodist Preschool will hold open registration for the 2020-21 school year on Thursday, March 5. Church members and returning students may enroll early - no later than Wednesday, March 4. Please contact Terry Grant for more information. 817 300-4290. You will also find the forms under the preschool tab on our website.

[www.benbrookumc.org](http://www.benbrookumc.org)

Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am to 2:00pm. The program serves children from 2 to four years of age. All classes are for children of the appropriate age by September 1, 2020. Monthly tuition includes weekly chapel, music, Spanish and tumbling. This is a small program with low student-teacher ratio.

Open registration begins March 5 at 9:00am. At that time any available openings will be filled on a first come basis.

## St. Patrick's Day trivia

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.

## Lunch-to-Go

We will be taking orders for sack lunches on Sunday, March 22 and March 29. Your choice of chicken salad or ham and cheese on a tasty croissant, chips and a sweet treat. Adults \$5 – \$3 for children under 12. Proceeds benefit **Benbrook's Relay for Life**. Lunch pick up is Sunday, April 5 in Reed Hall following the traditional service.



## Military birthdays

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

Remember to include all military personnel in your prayers. —Military Care



## Calendar of Special Events

March 6	Prime Timers Bible Study in Frances Covington's home	1:00 pm
March 7	Men's Bible Study	10:00 am
March 8	Daylight Savings Time begins	
March 10	Mary/Martha Fellowship in Beavers Room	7:00 pm
March 17	Trustee meeting	7:00 pm
March 20	Prime Timers Bible Study in Frances Covington's home	1:00 pm
March 21	Prime Timers Breakfast West Side Café Men's Bible Study	8:00 am 10:00am
March 24	Administrative Council Congregation encouraged to attend	6:00 pm
March 29	Church Luncheon	noon

Benbrook United Methodist Church  
1122 Bryant Street  
Benbrook, Texas 76126

Office Hours:

9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday  
Phone: 817/249-1257 Fax: 817/249-0264  
E-mail: [bumc@benbrookumc.org](mailto:bumc@benbrookumc.org)  
Web Site: [www.benbrookumc.org](http://www.benbrookumc.org)



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

Celebrations

Remembrance and Celebration of Life

Ongoing need for prayer

Mardi Zeeb  
Lisa Lamalmi  
Becky Wilson  
Betty Baird  
Jimmy Montgomery  
Febe Nixon  
Greg Gibson  
Angela Zarate  
Patricia Clayton

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

Homebound

Jean & Thurman Hefty

Lolly Pinkston

Assisted Living

Theda Kornegay  
Dell Smith  
Barbara Spears  
Linda Sullivan

Nursing Facilities

Aggie Cassady  
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.**