

Benbrook United Methodist Church

AUGUST 2024

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. Don Petty
Senior Pastor

Cindy Merworth
Director of Music

Terry Grant
Preschool Director

Jane McMillan
Administrative Assistant
Director of Children's Ministry

**Focused on Christ;
United in Prayer**

As the sun sets on July and August appears on the horizon, we find the mention of school around every corner. Grocery stores have back to school sales. Classroom supply lists are posted at big box and discount store entrances. A Tax Free Weekend for certain education-related items will be arriving in just a couple of weeks. And teachers throughout various ISDs have begun setting up classroom layouts, have thoroughly mapped lesson plans, and are waiting in the wings with sharpened pencils at the ready!

One of the concerns I often hear from teachers is how much time is typically spent at the start of every school year on re-learning what had already been taught from the previous year. If this is true for school children, then how much more does that apply to life? For every bike that we learn and then know how to ride for the rest of our life, how many more subjects are like learning Algebra or Greek instead?

How sharp is our brain when it comes to a good biblical education? Are we engaging it daily with some form of study? Everyone has different learning styles. Some are auditory, while others are visual. Some prefer to type notes out, while others write them by hand. As we see the world around us head back to school, how are you preparing to re-learn what's in the Bible?

Here are a few possibilities worth considering:

1. Listening to the Bible on CD from the library.
2. Sermon podcasts from your smart phone
3. Youtube videos of anthems and sermons from our worship services (Check out the Benbrook UMC channel, our Facebook page, or even our church website)
4. Sunday School
5. Bible Study
6. Daily Devotionals (we have free bi-monthly copies of The Upper Room available, but there are also many free online devotionals available if you google them)

Once you've selected which of these resources you want to use, the harder decision is setting aside the time. It is often easier to group it with a routine you currently do, such as a morning walk or sitting down for lunch at noon every day, than trying to make a separate time altogether. Like any good practice, it takes repetition, so don't be discouraged if you forget. The pattern is set by continuing more than by occasional faltering.

Finally, pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit. Lest you think this education is all on you, remember that it was the Holy Spirit that equipped the disciples on the Day of Pentecost. It was the Holy Spirit that equipped the Church throughout the Book of Acts. And it is the Holy Spirit that will lead each of us. Trust in the wisdom that comes from above. Happy Back to Schooling!

Grace, Wisdom, and Peace,
Pastor Don





Prime Timer events are open to those 50+.

Frances Covington hosts a Bible Study in her home every other Friday at 1:00pm. They will meet August 2nd, 16th and 30th. Feel free to contact Frances for more information at 817 475-4684.

Remember our home bound members and those in assisted living. 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.



The first day of school for Fort Worth ISD is Monday, August 13th.

BUMC Preschool Meet the Teacher Night is Thursday, August 29th. Their first day of school is Tuesday, September 2nd.

You are invited to meet in Reed Hall at 10:00am on Tuesday, August 27 to pray for our teachers, staff, volunteers, children and their parents as their new school year begins.

Someone is grateful right now for the blessing you are to them.

WestAid ministry

The following items are needed this month:

Cereal, cereal bars, peanut butter, jelly/jam, juice boxes

Pop top cans of: fruit , ravioli, soups, meats

Individual cups of: mac"n"cheese, oatmeal, applesauce, fruit

Military care

Consider extending a hand or sending a card to celebrate the following birthday:

Greg Akin - August 3

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

Painting Party

Everyone is invited to participate in a very special painting event on Saturday, August 3 at 8:00am.

Our building is not only a place of worship on Sundays, but also a multi-purpose building that serves the congregation and community throughout the week.

Most classrooms have been painted. Now it's time to refresh the halls. Plan now to bring your painting supplies to do what you are able to help make our education wing welcoming to our church family and guests.

The Master Puzzler

In *Laughing in the Dark* (Howard Books), Christian comedian Chonda Pierce calls God the Master Puzzler, because "in him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:17). In his infinite wisdom, God "can organize the colors better than anyone (Have you seen a sunset lately?) He knows where to fit every shape and size (Have you seen a mountain range?)."

Until God places the last piece, the final picture is a mystery to us. But in the meantime, God offers order and purpose, providing his law as the puzzle's edges.

Pierce encourages people to let the "Master Puzzler" take over when life gets messy. Like the prophet Jeremiah, we can cry, "GOD, pick up the pieces. Put me back together again. You are my praise!" (17:14, *The Message*).

Crafting Guild

Join our ongoing workshops every Monday from 10 am to 12 pm in Reed Hall. We will be creating faith inspired crafts to sell at our booth at Benbrook Farmers and Artisans Market.

No crafting experience is necessary! All crafting supplies will be provided. For more details, contact Jean Kievlan at 817 797-4707 or jeankievlan@mac.com

Peace by Piece Quilters

If you can sew and are interested in quilting be sure to join the group as they create items to sell at our booth at Benbrook Farmers and Artisans Market. They meet at 1pm each Wednesday in Reed Hall. Donations of 100% cotton fabric, blue jeans, plastic storage tubs, and shelving units or a bookcase to store fabric are appreciated. Contact Shelly Melton for more information at 260 668-5475

The moments when it's most difficult to be kind are the moments that matter the most. May God bless you with timely kindness.

Game Day

Come join the group in Reed Hall for a fun morning of games at 10:00am every other Wednesday. This month's dates are August 7th and 21st.

Join us for breakfast

All are invited to meet for breakfast at Westside Café at 8am Saturday, August 10th. Please contact Frances Covington by Thursday, August 8th to let her know if you plan to attend so tables can be reserved. 817 475-4684

Welcome to the family

Jan Wohlschlag

Her contact information is available in our Online Directory.

Friday Feast with Scouts August 2 6:00 pm

Make plans to join us for fellowship and food as we celebrate our many years of connection with the Boy Scouts and their families. BUMC has been proud to sponsor Troop 95 since 1963.

The Scouts will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and fruit cobbler **Please RSVP to church office by Wednesday, July 31. 817 249-1257** Plan to bring a picnic side dish or dessert to share with the crowd.

We're Back

All women are invited to join us for Mary Martha Fellowship. The purpose of this group is to provide a place for women to lift one another up, make new friends, build relationships and simply enjoy visiting. They will meet at 7:00pm on the second Tuesdays of each month beginning September 10th.

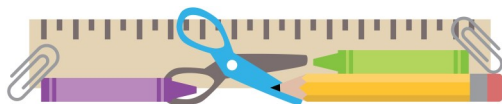
"And God called the light daytime, and the darkness he called primetime."



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
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

The Faulkner family	<u>Homebound</u>	
Pastor Don Petty and family	Donna Davis	Jane Wilson
Our Country's Leaders	Charlotte Welch	Karen Witchley
Church Staff and Lay Leadership	<u>Care Facilities</u>	
First Responders	Don Clark	Jane Houdek

Remember to keep members of our military in your daily prayers.

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