

INsight

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
JANUARY 2016

From the Pastor

Grace and peace to you in the Name and Spirit of Jesus Christ!

Happy New Year! 2016 is poised to be the best year of our lives! Do we believe that? There are certainly challenges that arise to overcome the demons of our past. What demons are you suffering with? What demons negatively affect your life, physically-emotionally-spiritually? I define a demon as anything that stands between, separates from, and is in the way of Life in the Kingdom of God. The Life that I speak of is the Life that Jesus came and showed us how to live – The Life that He taught us how to live – The Life that He gave as He died our death on Calvary – The Life that is resurrected in Him through the empty tomb.

Jesus has power over the demons and He gave us (His disciples) the same power. He said: “As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’”⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons.” – Matthew 10:7-8; “And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to proclaim the message,¹⁵ and to have authority to cast out demons.” – Mark 3:14-15; “They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.” – Mark 6:13; “And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.¹⁶ The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned.¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;¹⁸ they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.” – Mark 16:15-18; “The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!”¹⁸ He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.¹⁹ See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” – Luke 10:17-20

Paul writes concerning the problems with demons: “Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will renounce the faith by paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,² through the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared with a hot iron.” – 1 Timothy 4:1-2; “I do not want you to be partners with demons.²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.” – 1 Corinthians 10:20b-21. I don’t think that Paul is advocating a “closed table” but is pointing out the seriousness of living a dual life of being a Christian and listening to our demons.

Will 2016 be another year of listening to our demons? Or will this year finally be the year that we claim the power in the Name of Jesus to stand against the demons that keep us from being the full, new creation that Christ is making us to be? Remember, we believe in a God of grace (second, third, fourth, etc...opportunities) and resurrection (new life in deadly situations)! My prayer for us this New Year is that we will strive to Live the Life that Jesus died for us to Live!

Happy New Year! And Happy New You!!

Grace and peace,
Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason
Senior Pastor



ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Advent Conspiracy Totals To Date:

Heifer	\$1,811.75
Providence House	\$783.50
Teen Challenge	\$473.75
Shreveport~Bossier Rescue Mission	\$753.75

Thank you for all you do to support the mission and ministry
of Benton United Methodist Church!



Mark Your Calendar—January 2016

Tuesday, January 5

Intercessory Prayer9:00 AM
 Women's Study Group 11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 6

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 The Closet Clothes Ministry 11:30 AM
 Wednesday Night Live Dinner5:30 PM
 Small Groups & Classes6:15 PM

Thursday, January 7

Dinner with Friends.....6:30 PM

Friday, January 8

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM

Sunday, January 10

Sunday School9:00 AM
 Worship 10:15 AM

Monday, January 11

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 First Place 4 Health Orientation.....6:00 PM
 Outreach Mission Meeting6:00 PM

Tuesday, January 12

Intercessory Prayer9:00 AM
 Women's Study Group 11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 13

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 The Closet Clothes Ministry 11:30 AM
 Wednesday Night Live Dinner5:30 PM
 Small Groups & Classes6:15 PM

Thursday, January 14

Morning Glories9:30 AM
 Legacy Elementary Father-Daughter Dance5:00 PM

Friday, January 15

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM

Sunday, January 17

United Methodist Men Breakfast, Devotion & Business7:30 AM
 Sunday School9:00 AM
 Worship 10:15 AM

Monday, January 18

Church Office Closed

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM

Tuesday, January 19

Intercessory Prayer9:00 AM
 NWLA Truck Unloading9:00 AM
 The Table Food Ministries Bag Packing10:00 AM
 Women's Study Group 11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 20

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 The Closet Clothes Ministry 11:30 AM
 The Table Food Ministries Distribution12:30 PM
 Wednesday Night Live Dinner5:30 PM
 Small Groups & Classes6:15 PM

Friday, January 22

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM

Saturday, January 23

United Methodist Men's Dinner Auction6:00 PM

Sunday, January 24

Sunday School9:00 AM
 Worship 10:15 AM

Monday, January 25

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 First Place 4 Health Orientation.....6:00 PM
 Outreach Mission Meeting6:00 PM

Tuesday, January 26

Intercessory Prayer9:00 AM
 Women's Study Group 11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 27

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
 The Closet Clothes Ministry 11:30 AM
 Wednesday Night Live Dinner5:30 PM
 Small Groups & Classes6:15 PM

Friday, January 29-31

DNOW5:00 PM

Saturday, January 30

Souper Saturday.....7:30 AM

Donor Recognition Tree

New Leaves

Placed in memory of:

Jason Chandler

Love, Mark & Rita Crosby

Donation amount: \$100.00

Jeremy Chapman

Love, Mark & Rita Crosby

Donation amount: \$100.00

Donor leaves are available for a minimum donation of \$100 in the church office in memory or in honor of your loved one .

All donations go to the Building Fund.



2nd Annual

Dinner Auction

UMM
 UNITED METHODIST MEN

United Methodist Men

2nd Annual BUMM Dinner Auction

Saturday, January 23 at 6:00 PM

Family Life Worship Center

Tickets on sale now - \$10 per person

The 2nd Annual BUMM Dinner Auction is coming soon! Last year was a blast and a huge success. To make it bigger and better this year we encourage you to invite family and friends from outside the church as we truly want this to become a community event. The proceeds from last year went to charities such as the Methodist Children's Home, Operation Blessing and the Gingerbread House just to name a few. Brent and Jeanne Hine (Red River Catering/Sweetie Cakes) will be preparing the meal again, and Robert Adley and Jackie Nelson have volunteered to be the entertaining auctioneers again. There will be several door prizes.

We will be asking in Dec/Jan for reservations for places and tables and also to prepay if possible as to make the door entry a bit easier. For those of you who would like to provide an item or service to auction please let me know as I will keep a running list.

For more information, please contact:

John White
jwhite@gjs.md

4 first place health

discover a new way to healthy living

Orientation:

Monday, January 11 at 6:00 PM
Pairs & Spares Classroom

Based on proven techniques and more than 25 years of experience, First Place 4 Health invites you to try the most complete Christ-centered healthy living program available. First Place 4 Health will help you create balance in the four core areas of your life --- emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical. The results? Weight loss and total health from the inside out!

In addition to nutrition and fitness information, we will complete a 12-week Bible study entitled God's Purpose for You. In God's Purpose for You, First Place 4 Health participants discover and evaluate the qualities and behaviors that produce growth—and ultimately, success—in their lives. Full and abundant life begins with seeking God's dream for our lives. Having discovered His plan and purpose, we are challenged to commit to it, put on God's armor and use the keys He gives us in His Word to develop clear thinking and to stay on the right path.

For more information, please contact:

Katherine Ashley @ 464-3798 or
Nancy Grant @ 455-4350.

- Bible Study books for returning participants are \$20.
- Member Kits for those new to FP4H will be an additional \$100.00, bringing the total to \$120.

Classes for the winter session will begin
Monday, January 18. We hope to see you there!

O.P.A.L.S.
(Older People with Active Life Styles)

Tuesday, January 26 at 11:30 AM
Family Life Worship Center
Cost: \$5.00

Those Older People with Active Life Styles (OPALS) wish everyone a **Happy New Year!** We will begin the year with Bingo and a delicious meal. We meet on the 4th Tuesdays of each month. The cost of all this good food, fun and fellowship is \$5.

Please R.S.V.P. to
Peggy Rumbaugh
(318) 349-1465

Everyone is welcome and invited to attend!

Benton United Methodist Women

The Benton United Methodist Women invites all women in our church family to join us as we begin a new year. The United Methodist Women (UMW) is a community of women whose purpose is to know God, have creative and supportive fellowship, and to attempt to meet the physical, educational, and spiritual needs of women, youth, and children in both local mission and foreign mission settings.

Circles (Small Groups)

We currently have two small groups (aka Circles) that meet monthly from September through May.

- **The Morning Glories** circle meets on the second Thursday of the month – meeting on January 14, 2016, at 9:30 am in the Breakfast Club classroom.
- **The Nightingales** circle meets the third Tuesday of each month, January 19, at 6:30 pm in the Eva Smith classroom.

Each circle enjoys refreshments, fellowship, and a short program.

Spiritual Growth Study—Created For Happiness

Haughton First UMC United Methodist Women will host this study on Saturday, January 18, 2016. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Lunch will be served.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Benton UMW will have its first quarterly meeting on Monday, January 25 at noon in the Breakfast Club Classroom.

Mark Your Calendar

Please look for upcoming events:

Sunday, February 7, 2016

United Methodist Women's Sunday

The United Methodist Women are excited to feature Rev. Cheryl Nelson as UMW Sunday's guest speaker.

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Annual Style Show and Luncheon

Please contact Pat Mosher if you are willing to be a model, or if you would like to be a table hostess.

For more information on
Benton United Methodist Women, please contact:
Pat Mosher at onthelake8@bellsouth.net

Happy
New Year



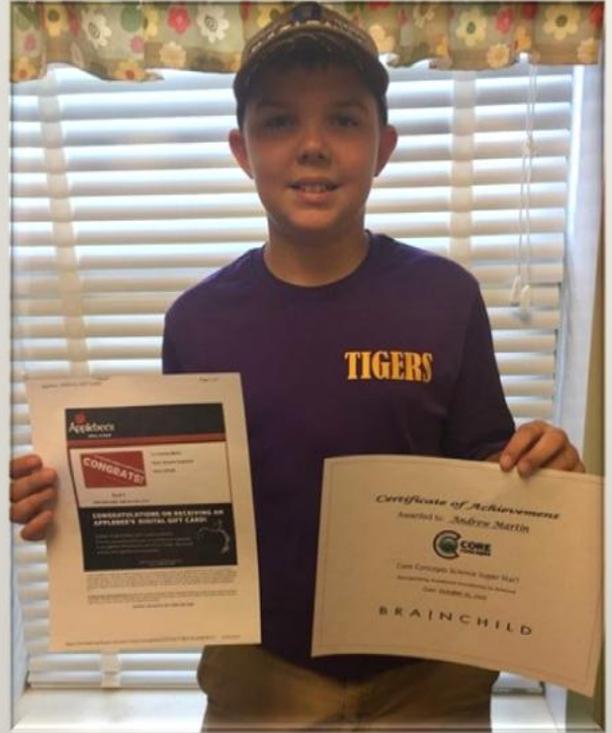
Spotlight



Matthew Gleason

Dragons
BPAR Champions 2015
(4th year in a row!)

*Congratulations, Matthew,
we are so proud of you!!!*



Megan Cox

District VIII Wind
Ensemble
& Qualified for 2nd Round
All State in Lafayette
*Congratulations, Megan,
we are so proud of you!!!*



Madison White

Finalist for
Benton Elementary
School
Student of the Year
*Congratulations,
Madison,
we are so proud of you!!!*

Drew Martin

Benton Elementary School Student of the Year
Congratulations, Drew, we are so proud of you!!!



Emily Cox

2015-2016 Honor Band
Congratulations, Emily, we are so proud of you!!!

Spotlight



Mary Francis Valentine

Kingston Elementary Student of the Year
Congratulations, Mary Francis, we are so proud of you!!!



Brooke Smith

Brooke Smith, a member of the Benton High School Tiger Girls dance line will be among parade performers from all over the world. Cheerleaders, dancers, marching bands, acrobats and more will make up the 8,500 performers representing 20 countries worldwide in the 2016 parade. Established as one of London's biggest events, the parade is seen by nearly 600 million people around the world. In addition to performing in the parade, All-Americans will celebrate the holiday's European style with the chance to tour some of London's most historic sites during their seven-day stay.

Congratulations, Brooke, we are so proud of you!!!



Abbie Rutledge

Finalist for Benton Middle School Student of the Year
Congratulations, Abbie, we are so proud of you!!!

Spotlight

Help us encourage our children and youth—send us news about their accomplishments. Academics, sports, arts, and any other accomplishments to keep them lifted up.

Send articles and pictures to:
Rachel Stoneman
rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org

Benton United Methodist Church 2016 Church Council

John White, Chair
Ron Jones, Lay Leader
Tanya White & Ron Jones, Lay Delegates to Annual Conference
Jenny Cox, Reserve Delegate to Annual Conference
Buddy Hearne, Chair, Finance Committee
Dick Mosher, Chair, Staff/Parish Relations Committee
Dana Cherry, Chair, Daycare Board
Pat Mosher, Congregational Care Ministries Coordinator
Sue Shadow & Ginny Jones, Serving Ministries Coordinator
Reba Hearne, Inviting Ministries Coordinator
Robert Hauser, President,
Benton United Methodist Men
Pat Mosher,
President, Benton United Methodist Women

Committee on Lay Leadership

Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor Co-Chair
Ron Jones, Lay Leader Co-Chair

David Denmon, Class of 2016
Debbie Filler, Class of 2016
Francis Edwards, Class of 2016

Mona Bartage, Class of 2017
Joann Horton, Class of 2017
Gordon Bartage, Class of 2017

Andy Holley, Class of 2018
Katherine Ashley, Class of 2018

Board of Trustees

Pat Emerson, Class of 2016
Louise Grisham, Class of 2016
Robert Moncrief, Class of 2016

Brent Hine, Class of 2017
Bob McGowan, Class of 2017
Kim Cox, Class of 2017

Karla Horton, Class of 2018
Jason Sellers, Class of 2018
Dave Thomson, Class of 2018

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor (Ex-Officio Member)
Millie Crites, Church Administrator (Ex-Officio Member)
Ron Jones, Lay Leader & Lay Delegate to Annual Conference (Ex-Officio Member)
Dick Mosher, Chair

Leslie Cram, Class of 2016
Holly Doyal, Class of 2016
Dick Mosher, Class of 2016

Amy Duke, Class of 2017
Rachel Valentine, Class of 2017
Chris Sessions, Class of 2017

Robert Hauser, Class of 2018
Danny Etter, Class of 2018
Martha Grisso, Class of 2018

Finance Committee

Buddy Hearne, Chair
John White, Church Council Chair
Ron Jones, Lay Leader
Millie Crites, Church Administrator
Carolyn Collins, Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper
Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor

Brenda LeChien, Class of 2016
Jeff Duke, Class of 2016
George Rumbaugh, Class of 2016

Buddy Hearne, Class of 2017
Belinda Kennedy, Class of 2017
Doug Filler, Class of 2017

Rob Salter, Class of 2018
Jacob Randall, Class of 2018
Lillian Holley, Class of 2018

Benton United Methodist Church 2016 Church Council, Staff & Support Ministries

Daycare / Pre-School Board

Dana Cherry, Chair
 Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor
 Buddy Hearne, Finance Chair
 John White, Church Council Chair
 Julie Broussard, Daycare Director
 Ron Jones, Lay Leader

Pat Moncrief, Class of 2016
 Tanya White, Class of 2016
 Teresa Sessions, Class of 2016

Andy Holley, Class of 2017
 Debbie Filler, Class of 2017
 Dana Cherry, Class of 2017

Mandie Rhymes, Class of 2018
 Donna Dayries, Class of 2018

Inviting In Team

Reba Hearne, Chair
 Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor
 Dick Mosher & Ron Jones, Director of Greeters
 Mark Crosby & Jake Duddy, Director of Ushers
 Team Members:

Gordon Bartage
 David J. Doyal
 Robert Hauser

Kim Hauser
 Buddy Hearne
 Andy Holley

Lillian Holley
 Ginny Jones
 Ron Jones

Pat Mosher
 Rev. Cheryl Nelson
 Ann Thomson

Congregational Care

Pat Mosher, Chair
 Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Cheryl Nelson, Associate Pastor
 Team Members:

Mona Bartage, Eucharistic Ministry
 Pam DeBusk, Prayer Team
 Nancy Grant, Prayer Chain

Virginia Lewis, Hospitality/Bereavement
 Catherine Long, Stephen Ministry
 Pat Moncrief, Shepherd Ministry

Outreach Team

Sue Shadow & Ginny Jones, Chairs
 Rachel Stoneman, Director of Missions
 Pam DeBusk, Secretary
 Lola Bednarke, Treasurer
 Jen Boone, National & International Mission
 Amy Duke & Amy Randall, Fundraising
 Ministry Leaders:

Kenneth Ashley, Alcoholics Anonymous
 Guy "Fuzzy" Bradford, Fire Recovery Ministry
 Carolyn Collins
 Millie Crites, Toy Shoppe
 Ginny Jones, Emergency Food Pantry
 Ron Jones, Joseph Ministry & Ecumenical

Katherine Kavanaugh, Souper Saturday
 Betty Russell, Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Lynnse Terhune, Stand Up 2 Hunger
 John White, Education and Ecumenical Ministries
 Cheryl Zey, Community Garden
 Rachel Stoneman, The Table Food Ministry

Thank You Benton UMC!

The love that gave us Christmas
was a blessing from a child
A precious little baby boy,
so humble, meek, and mild...

The love that gave us Christmas
is within the heart of you
Because the love of Christ
is such a special part of you!



For God so loved
the world
that he gave
his one and only Son...
John 3:16

*Blessings to you
at Christmas and Always*

*Thank you so
much for your
help during
our time of need
Kevin + Martha*



Dear Ladies of the Benton
UMC Prayer Shawl Ministry,
I want to thank you
very much for the beautiful
shawl which you made
for me during my ill-
ness. The colors in the
shawl are gorgeous &
the work is so lovely!
I feel the love which
went into the crocheting
of this warm and
cozy piece. Kim Haua
presented it to me and
I feel so blessed to be
given such a sweet cozy

12/10/15

May the blessings of the season
be with you at Christmas and always

God Bless You All,

Judy Hubbard

*gift. Thank you again and
I wish you see a Merry Christmas!*

*Staff wishes to thank the congregation for the Christmas Bonus
and all the gifts and goodies received throughout to holiday season.
It was so nice of you to show your appreciation to us in these ways.*

*We wish you all a very Happy 2016!
It will be the best year yet for Benton UMC.
Join with us to make this a reality.*

Thank You Benton UMC!



Benton United Methodist Church

4615 Palmetto Road, Benton, LA 71006 • Office: (318) 965-2273 Fax: (318) 965-5360

Pastor, Rev. Danny Gleason

December 2, 2015

Dear BUMC Members,

I would like to thank everyone for their support and help in making our 1st "OPERATION NORTHSTAR" a success! Our military men and women at Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, Africa will receive more than 260 gift bags this Christmas! Wow! That is amazing! I am proud to be a part of BUMC!

IT IS FOR FREEDOM THAT CHRIST HAS SET US FREE.

Galatians 5:1

Through "OPERATION NORTHSTAR", we at BUMC have given honor to the sacrifice and service of our military men + women. Thank you again! God bless the U.S.A.!

Kelly Novak



May the spirit born on that holy night remain close to your heart the whole year through.

Thank you for all the many prayers and thoughts. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Dorheim Hines

Dec 2015



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

~ ROMANS 15:13

Dear BUMC Staff,

MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE A JOYOUS CELEBRATION OF PRAISE FOR OUR GLORIOUS SAVIOR AND KING.

Thank you for all of the wonderful food that made my thanksgiving bright. Thank you for all of your help and hard work in our time of need

Kathy Ellis

Stampede Hunger 2015



1st Place—Jason Bobo (24:49)
2nd Place—Jason Sellers (25:55)
3rd Place—Jacob Randall (26:30)



1st Place—Leesa Ward (25:48)
2nd Place—Tate Sellers (25:54)
3rd Place—Rachel Basco (30:51)



Fun Run Participants (Left to Right)
Ty Duke, Nicholas Randall,
Isabelle Randall, and Matthew Gleason



Stampede Hunger 2015

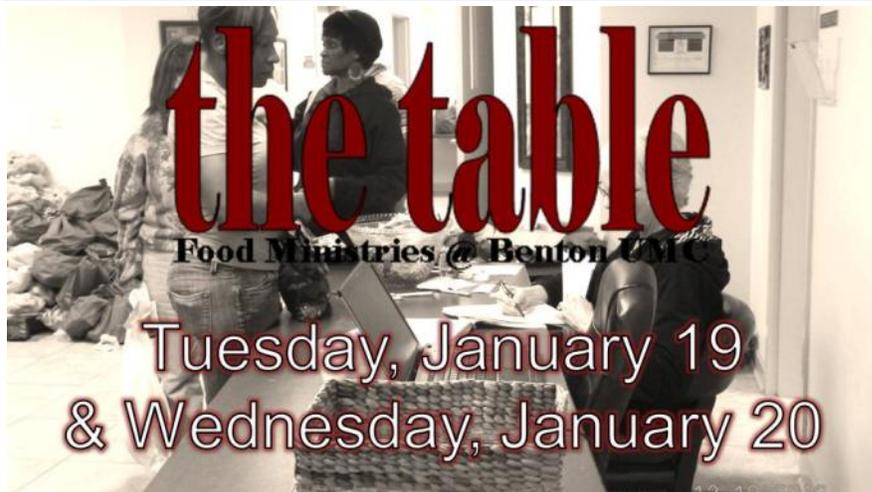
Thank you to all who made 2015's Stampede the best yet! You all are winners for supporting a wonderful ministry led by Lynnse Terhune. Lynnse was able to raise \$3,184 with \$636 (20%) being donated to the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana. **Funds raised supports The Table Food Ministries which include: emergency and monthly pantries, Souper Saturday, Back Packs for Benton Middle School, and our Seeds for the Harvest Community Garden.**



Thanks to our many sponsors:
EDKO, Peggy Dempsey, Graf Orthodontics, Benton High School Cheerleaders, Benton UMC Clothes Ministry, Benton UMC Table Food Ministries, The Joint, Dr. Julie LeCour, AJ Weller, Jimmie & Frank Zey, Gary Wyche, SADD, Coca-Cola, Sonic of Benton, Z Integrative Therapy, Bossier Power, Serenity Spa, Keith & Beth Prater



Serving Opportunities



The Table Food Ministry

Tuesday, January 19

9:00 AM Truck Unloading

10:00 AM Bag Packing

Wednesday, January 20

11:00 AM The Closet Clothes Ministry

12:30 PM NWLA Monthly Food Distribution



Substitute Drivers and Driver Assistants Needed

There are many ways to serve at Souper Saturday and we need YOU! Find out if this is your serving spot by riding along with a driver and trying it out. See if you like the winding roads and conversation as you ride to the next house on the list.

For more information on Souper Saturday,
please contact:

Katherine Kavanaugh
(318) 218-7730

katherine.kavanaugh@cookyancey.com



**During the month of December
our congregation was able to:**

- Helped families give Christmas gifts to over 80 children
- Wrapped gifts from the Toy Shoppe to make children's Christmas magical
- Fed and clothed over 300 families with our Table Food Ministries and The Closet Clothes Ministry
- Distributed hams to each family on the NWLA Food Bank Program
- Deliver 78 meals through Souper Saturday with all the Christmas trimmings



INVITING IN...
GROWING UP...
SENDING OUT...

Benton United Methodist Church
4615 Palmetto Road, Benton, Louisiana 71006
Office: (318) 965-2273 Fax: (318) 965-5360
Email: bentonumc@bellsouth.net
Website: www.bentonumc.org

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PAID
U.S. POSTAGE
BENTON, LA

**JESUS
AND THE FORCE**
*The Epic Stories
of Redemption and
Good Overcoming Evil*

The Message for January 2015

January 10th – The Force Awakens
Luke 6:27-36 & 10:25-37

January 17th – The Force In Us
John 1:1-17

January 24th – Using The Force
John 14:6-17

January 31st – The Force is With Us Always
Matthew 28:16-20 & Luke 21:25-28

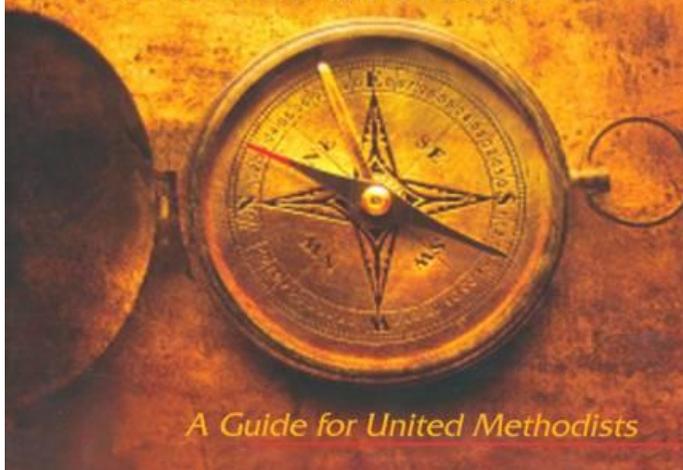
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please e-mail all newsletter articles to:
rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org

All articles are due by the 20th of each month
for the next month's newsletter.

JAMES A. HARNISH
with JUSTIN LAROSA
DAILY WORKBOOK

**A Disciple's
Path**
DEEPENING YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST
AND THE CHURCH



A Guide for United Methodists

Wednesday Night Live Pastor's Class Beginning January 13

*A Disciple's Path:
Deepening Your Relationship
with Christ and the Church*

Register online at:
[www.bentonumc.org/
disciplepathway](http://www.bentonumc.org/disciplepathway)



Like Benton UMC on Facebook, scan here: