

**Holy Communion  
Sundays**

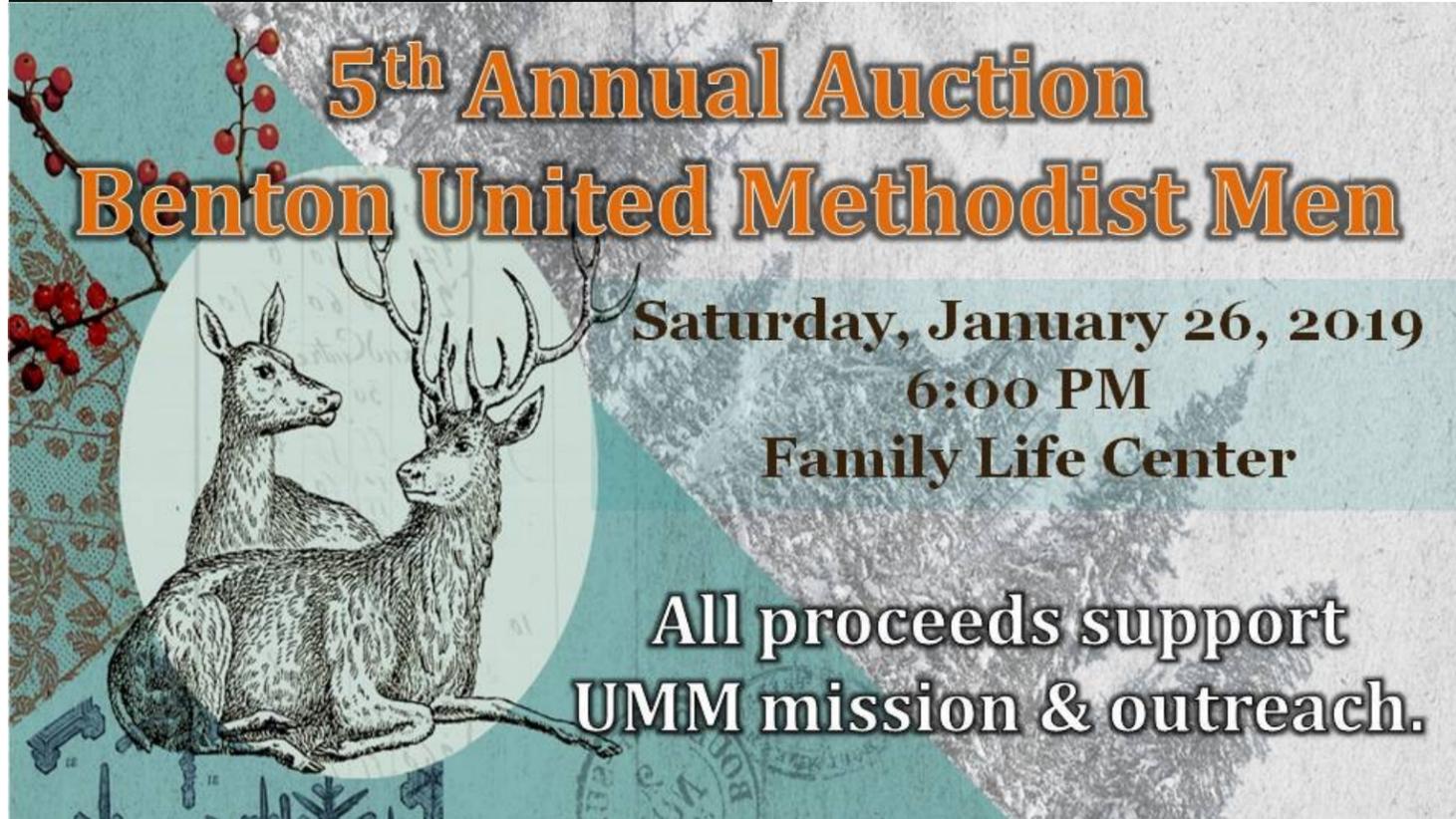
Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month in both worship services. And every other Sunday in the month, it is offered in the Ed DeBusk Prayer Chapel on the second floor (directly across from the elevator) between 10:10 AM and 10:25 AM.

Pastor Cheryl invites all who would like to receive Holy Communion more often, or who may miss 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, to join her there immediately after Sunday School, which ends at 10:15 AM, and before the 10:30 AM worship service.

**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.



**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction**  
**Benton United Methodist Men**  
Saturday, January 26, 2019  
6:00 PM  
Family Life Center  
All proceeds support  
UMM mission & outreach.

For more information, please contact:  
Henry Simons  
(318) 751-7083 or henrybfd@bellsouth.net



# INsight

January 2019

Monthly Newsletter of Benton United Methodist Church

**Weekly Events**

**Sundays**

Worship ..... 8:15 AM  
Sunday School ..... 9:15 AM  
Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Boy Scouts ..... 2:00 PM

**Mondays**

Bodies On a Mission ..... 9:00 AM

**Tuesdays**

Intercessory Prayer Team ..... 9:00 AM

**Wednesdays**

Bodies On a Mission ..... 9:00 AM  
The Closet @ BUMC ..... 9:30 AM  
The Closet @ Chapel ..... 11:30 AM  
WOW! Dinner ..... 5:30 PM  
WOW! Studies ..... 6:10 PM

**Thursdays**

Alcoholics Anonymous ..... 6:00 PM  
Choir Practice ..... 6:00 PM

**Fridays**

Bodies On a Mission ..... 9:00 AM

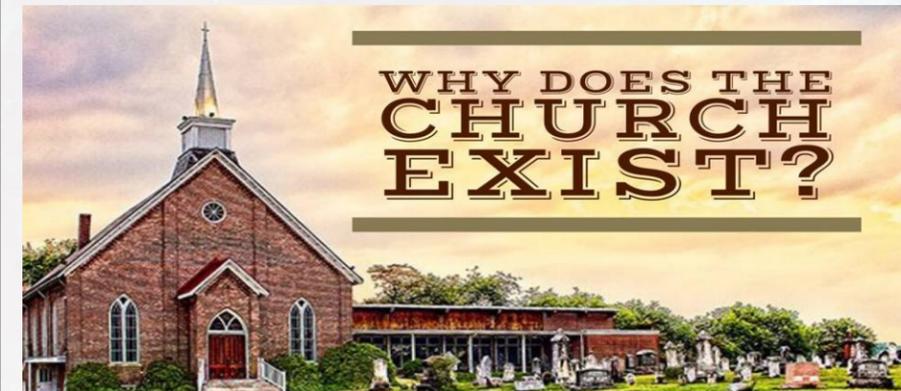
**A Word From Pastor Brad**

Dear Church,

I was reading recently that there is a festival of Rereading Your Christmas cards that takes place on January 18<sup>th</sup> of every year. Which got me thinking before you store them or throw them away, take time to once again read the messages of love and friendship that you received during the Christmas season and may it be a blessing to you in the New Year.

I'm blessed to be your pastor!! Have a happy New Year.

Your Preacher,  
Brad



**Series Begins January 13, 2019**

**Why Does the Church Exist?**

Why does the church exist?

The apostle Paul gives an excellent illustration of why the church exists to the believers in Corinth, 1 Corinthians 12:12-30. The church is God's hands, mouth, and feet in the world-the body of Christ. The church is to equip believers in Christ through biblical teaching, Christian fellowship and worship, prayer and through observing the sacrament of Holy Communion. Come and join us Sunday January the 13<sup>th</sup> as we explore Why the church exists.

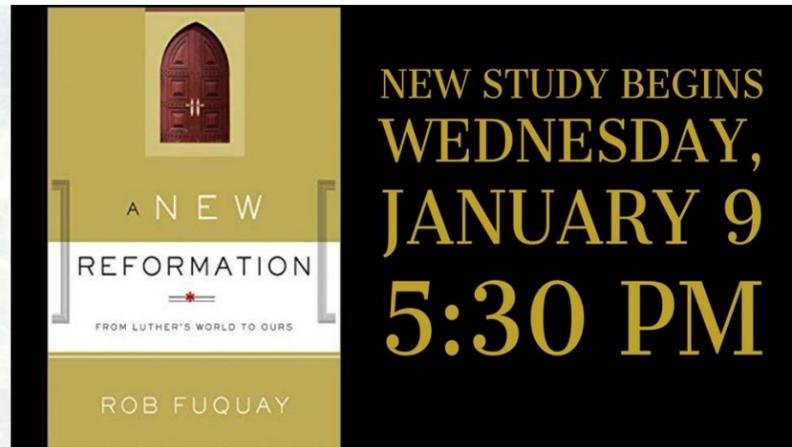
God Bless!  
Your Preacher,  
Brad



# Monthly & Special Events

- Tuesday, January 1**  
Church Office Closed
- Wednesday, January 2**  
Church Office Closed
- Thursday, January 3**  
Church Office Closed  
Worship Team Decoration Removal.....9:00 AM
- Sunday, January 6**  
United Methodist Men Breakfast.....7:00 AM
- Wednesday, January 9**  
WOW! Begins.....5:30 PM  
WOW! Study.....6:00 PM
- Friday, January 11**  
Sew Crazy Ladies .....10:00 AM
- Sunday, January 13**  
Volunteer Luncheon .....11:30 AM  
Journey to Bethlehem .....6:00 PM
- Tuesday, January 15**  
NWLA Food Truck Unloading .....8:00 AM  
NWLA Food Bag Packing .....9:00 AM
- Wednesday, January 16**  
The Closet @ A Cross Faith .....11:30 AM  
The Table Ministry Lunch & Devotion.....11:30 AM  
The Table Food Distribution.....12:30 PM
- Friday, January 18**  
Just a Bunch of Lit Wits @ Panera Bread ...7:15 AM
- Sunday, January 20**  
United Methodist Men Breakfast.....7:00 AM  
District Training Event .....2:30 PM
- Monday, January 21**  
Church Office Closed
- Saturday, January 26**  
Souper Saturday.....7:30 AM  
Benton UMM Dinner Auction .....6:00 PM

**Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**  
**Sunday, January 13 at 11:30 AM**  
**We love our volunteers!**



**NEW STUDY BEGINS**  
**WEDNESDAY,**  
**JANUARY 9**  
**5:30 PM**

**NEW STUDY FOR WOW!**  
**Begins Wednesday, January 9**  
**Led by Rev. Brad Franklin**

Justified by faith. We are accustomed to this theology today, but when Martin Luther shared his belief in this concept during the sixteenth century, it was anything but typical—it sparked the Reformation. Author Rob Fuquay says that although “justified by faith” is not a new idea, the message is as revolutionary today as ever. In *A New Reformation*, Fuquay helps you take a close look into the life of Martin Luther and teaches you how to embrace reformation in your church and in your life today.

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

**Tuesday, January 22, 2019**  
**11:30 AM**

**Family Life/Worship Center**  
**\$5 per person**

The Older People with Active Life Styles will meet for their first gathering of the New Year. Abigail McAlister RD, LDN, a general nutrition specialist from the LSU Ag Center, will be our speaker. She will give us tips on healthy foods – how to choose them and cook them. Lunch is \$5 and you'll need to make a reservation with Peggy Rumbaugh by January 20. Our donation to Common Ground this month for their neighborhood pantry is small containers of fruit juice. So come for our nutrition lesson and bring a nutritional drink for the kids. Hope to see YOU there!

**For reservations, please contact:**  
**Peggy Rumbaugh (318) 349-1465**



**Food Bank Thanks You!**

*Good Morning,*

*I wanted to say how thankful I am for the wonderful volunteers involved with the senior box program and the backpack produce program!*

*Also, we are also incredibly thankful for all of our food pantries, soup kitchens, mobile delivery locations, shelters, senior box agencies, backpack programs, CACFP programs, summer Feeding programs, school pantry programs, snack programs, and residential facilities for all of the hard work they do and for feeding families across our 7 parish region. Thank you for your hard work, volunteerism, kindness and compassion!*

*We appreciate you more than you know! These programs would not run without you and we thank you for your dedication to serving those in need in Northwest Louisiana!*

*Happy New Year!*

*Sincerely,*  
*Marleah Walker*  
*Agency Relations & Program Manager*

**Thank you,**  
**Katherine Duncan!**

*Katherine,*

*Thank you so much for your donation (pictured left) to the Benton UMC Emergency Food Pantry. Having your friends bring food instead of gifts for your birthday was a selfless act of kindness. Seeing a servant heart in such a young lady is a testament to your family, church family, and the God you serve. We appreciate all you do!*

**Jesus**  
**loves**



**Packing NWLA Food for Distribution**

# Journey to Bethlehem



Dear Benton UMC Congregation,

Ginny and I wish to tell you how much of a blessing you are to both of us and how this was never more evident than during the preparation/set-up for, actual drive-through performance and the cleaning up/tear down/storage of the Journey to Bethlehem. Our church's gift to the Benton/North Bossier area. So many of you were there for all phases and deserve a special blessing. That blessing was never more felt than at the exit where families' comments of how the drive through touched them and really set the tone for the season.

Even after mother nature intervened Saturday, you all came out to restore the manger scene and get the final decorations and preparations for the 6 PM beginning. A special thanks and blessing to the members of the Joseph Ministry who carried a heavy load. Our wish for next year is that even more of our members will get into the spirit and help to make next year's gift even better.

Plans for 2019 Journey have already began and we will be tentatively scheduling Journey for Saturday, Dec 7 from 6 to 9 PM with Sunday, Dec 8 as a weather back up (only used if weather cancelled Sat) from 6 to 8 PM. During next Fall we will attempt to redo the Manger scene and the Herod's Castle scene. We will need more people to help behind the scenes in 2019. Consider your God given talents and make it your goal to be involved next year (sounds like a GOOD New Years resolution to me).

Again a very heart-felt THANK YOU to all of the congregation members who were a very big part of showing all "The Reason for the Season" to our community. Bless all of you and we hope your Christmas was great. I know ours was because of you all.

Blessings to all,  
Ginny and Ron Jones

# Sounds of Benton

with the Matt Harris Quintet

Join us for a night of music and dancing in support of the Benton United Methodist Church praise band.

*Dress Code: Formal Attire*

**Friday, February 15, 2019**

**Dinner at 6:00 PM**

**Jazz at 7:00 PM**

**\$25 per ticket**



**For tickets and information, please contact:  
Jennifer Hable at [hablesheros5@gmail.com](mailto:hablesheros5@gmail.com)  
or Benton United Methodist Church at (318) 965-2273**

# Jesus The True Gift Of Christmas



## The Toy Shoppe 2018



Thank you to everyone who helped out at The Toy Shoppe (pictured above and right), Wrapped in Love, The Closet Clothes Ministry and The Table Food Distribution at the most special and busiest time of the year! Our friends were blessed with nutritious food from NWLA Food Bank, a huge Christmas ham from Benton UMC, Christmas gifts for their children donated by our Benton UMC family, a free gift wrap station for each gift they picked, and an opportunity to shop at the Closet.

We had the blessing of serving and praying with our friends and neighbors, seeing excited parents find just the right gift, and finding the Christmas Spirit in the most unexpected places. It was a spirit-filled mission right here at Benton UMC!

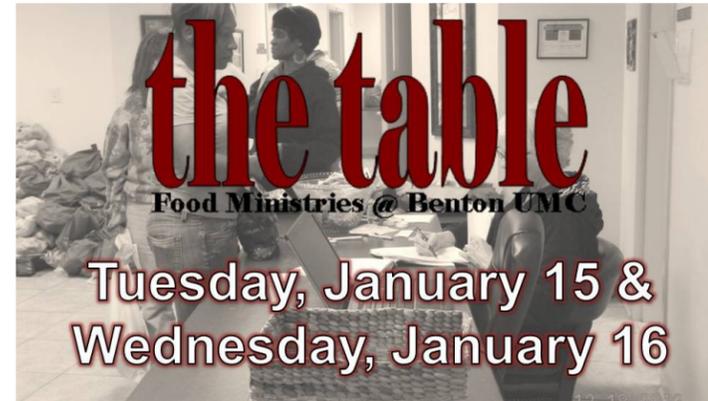
After all the chaos and joy, we were able to donate the unpicked toys to Benton Fire District #4. Assistant Chief Tim Turner (pictured right) came to Benton UMC to pick up the toys. He was amazed at the amount of toys and said, "This comes at just the right time. Our stock of toys would not have made it through the 54 families on our list this year and we only have about \$300 left in our budget. You don't know how much we appreciate this."

Thank you, Benton UMC, for being a light in this community!



**Thank you to all who served in the Toy Shoppe, Wrapped in Love, The Closet, and The Table this year!!**

# Serving Our Community



**Tuesday, January 15 & Wednesday, January 16**

## The Table Food Ministry

**Tuesday, January 15**  
8:00 AM Truck Unloading  
9:00 AM Bag Packing

**Wednesday, January 16**  
12:30 PM  
Food Distribution

For more information on The Table, contact:  
Kim Hauser [kimdenise1996@gmail.com](mailto:kimdenise1996@gmail.com) or Rachel Stoneman [rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org](mailto:rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org)

## The Closet Clothes Ministry

We need your help at our bustling clothes closet at A Cross Faith Advocacy Center (1659 Palmetto Road in Benton) and at Benton UMC.

**Hours at Benton UMC & A Cross Faith:**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays ..... 11:30 AM-4:00 PM**

**All Other Wednesdays..... 11:30 AM-1:30 PM**

**A Cross Faith Advocacy Center**

**HOURS:**  
**Wednesday, January 16**  
**11:30 AM-4:00 PM**

Benton United Methodist Church • Elizabeth Baptist Church • St. Jude Catholic Church  
*Transforming the community...*

For more information on The Closet Clothes Ministry, please contact:

**Sue Shadow**  
**318.965.2496**  
[shadow781@bellsouth.net](mailto:shadow781@bellsouth.net)



## Souper Saturday Needs You!

We need people to ride along with drivers for deliveries, substitute drivers, soup cooks, and sandwich makers. We have very dedicated volunteers—a family of Christ's servants! We serve on the last Saturday of each month. Please join us to see if this is where you connect in service.

For more information on Souper Saturday, contact:

**Katherine Kavanaugh**  
**318.218.7730**  
[katkavanaugh@bellsouth.net](mailto:katkavanaugh@bellsouth.net)

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. ~ 1 Peter 4:10