



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 1st 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.



Journey to Bethlehem

DECEMBER 8 & 9

We need everyone! Please sign up to be an actor, bring food, help in the kitchen, or be a runner during the Journey.

Please contact Ron or Ginny Jones at (318) 469-3696 for more information about serving in *The Journey to Bethlehem*.

INsight

December 2018

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
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Tuesdays

Intercessory Prayer Team	9:00 AM
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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

Bible Study led by Brad Franklin	10:00 AM
Alcoholics Anonymous	6:00 PM
Choir Practice	6:00 PM

Fridays

Bodies On a Mission	9:00 AM
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A Word From Pastor Brad

Dear Church,

A big part of what helps to usher us into the Christmas season is music. I've noticed that in recent years Christmas music, at least on the radio, comes long before the Thanksgiving holidays. With that being said I'm always drawn to the words of the notable hymns and songs of the season because within each tune there's a message, a mini-sermon if you will about hope, redemption, encouragement and assurance in anticipation of the coming Savior. I listed 25 hymns and notable Christmas hymns/songs that are favorites of mine. Pick 25 of your own and for each day in December sit down with one of the gifts of music and read over it as a daily devotion as we all prepare for the coming of the Lord!!

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!!

Your Preacher,
Brad

1. Silent Night
2. Angels We have Heard On High
3. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
4. Joy To The World
5. Away In The Manger
6. Go Tell It On The Mountain
7. Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
8. Oh, Jerusalem
9. Sussex Carol
10. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
11. O Come, All Ye Faithful
12. O Holy Night
13. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
14. Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
15. What Child is This?
16. The First Noel
17. Good Christian Men, Rejoice
18. O Little Town of Bethlehem
19. We Three Kings
20. Good King Wenceslas
21. For Unto Us a Child is Born
22. Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
23. The Coventry Carol
24. Hallelujah Chorus
25. The Little Drummer Boy



Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." **Matthew 2:1-2**

Monthly & Special Events

- Sunday, December 2**
 United Methodist Men Breakfast.....7:00 AM
 Safety Team Training @ Bodcau.....12:00 PM
 Christmas Party Ladies of Benton UMC.....2:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 4**
 Special Session of the Church Council.....6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 5**
 WOW! Christmas Caroling.....5:30 PM
- Thursday, December 6**
 Security System Meeting.....6:00 PM
 Dinner with Friends.....6:30 PM
- Saturday, December 8**
 Journey to Bethlehem.....6:00 PM
- Sunday, December 9**
 Class Meeting.....11:30 AM
 Journey to Bethlehem.....6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 12**
 Youth Christmas Program.....6:00 PM
- Friday, December 14**
 Sew Crazy Ladies.....10:00 AM
 Daycare Christmas Program.....10:30 AM
- Sunday, December 16**
 United Methodist Men Breakfast.....7:00 AM
- Tuesday, December 18**
 NWLA Food Truck Unloading.....8:00 AM
 NWLA Food Bag Packing.....9:00 AM
 Nightingales @ Ralph & Kacoo's.....6:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 19**
 The Closet @ A Cross Faith.....11:30 AM
 The Table Ministry Lunch & Devotion.....11:30 AM
 The Table Food Distribution.....12:30 PM
 The Toy Shoppe.....12:30 PM
 Wrapped in Love.....12:30 PM
- Monday, December 24**
 Christmas Eve & Candlelight Service.....5:00 PM
- Saturday, December 29**
 Souper Saturday.....7:30 AM
- Monday, December 31**
 Watch Night Service.....5:00 PM



Watch Night: A Covenant Renewal Service

Methodism founder John Wesley originated Watch Night services in the mid-18th century, sometimes calling them Covenant Renewal services. The original services were spontaneous prayer services designed to deepen the spiritual life of Methodists.

The service is loosely constructed with singing, spontaneous prayers and testimonials, and readings, including the Covenant Renewal service from *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (pp. 288-294). In Methodist tradition, "Watch Night was considered a time for recommitment".

Come and join us for a time of prayer, singing, a mini-sermon, and communion as we spend New Year's Eve for a time to recommit our lives to the Lord.



Grief Ministry

Pastor Cheryl Nelson will begin a Grief Support group Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Citizens' Center in Benton (202 Sibley St.). This class is open to the public and is designed especially for those who have suffered a loss of any kind in the last year, or someone who can't seem to move on from a grief in the past. Grief comes in many forms for many reasons and isn't something one ever gets over – it's something we learn to live with. There will be seven sessions of the class, meeting through January; there is always a spiritual element involved, and everything is treated with strictest confidence.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the Grief Support group, please contact Pastor Cheryl at 422-0914.

11/8/18

Dear Members of Benton United Methodist Church,

As the sponsor of the Human Relations Club at David Wade Correctional Center, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your very generous donation.

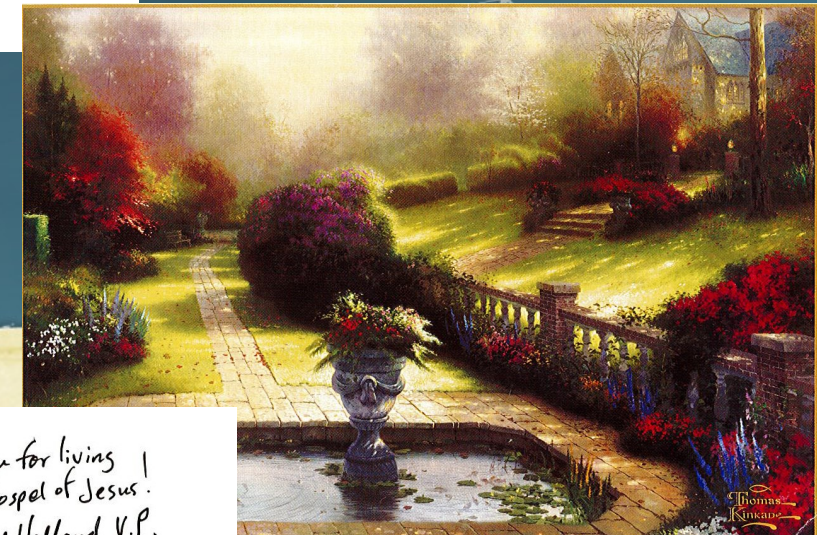
The Human Relations Club makes donations to Toys for Tots. This year we purchased school supplies for a project called "Kits for Kids". The kits filled with school supplies and were passed out to the children of offenders. Buying school supplies can be such a hardship for some of these families and especially if there is more than one child. We make donations to other worthy causes, so you can be assured your money will be put to good use.

Again, thank you! And May God Richly Bless each of you!

Auva Rawson

VBS Pennies Thank You

grateful



*Jerry Drayton
 chaplain
 THANKS AND GOD
 BLESS YOU ALL!
 B. VASQUEZ
 PRESIDENT*

*Thank you for living
 out The Gospel of Jesus!
 Paul Holland V.P.*

*Auva Rawson
 Sponsor*

Your kindness in a special way brought God's blessing to my day.

Thank You

*Thanks For your
 Out going support!
 "Tyone Pickson"
 Set 3 Arms*

*Thank you for
 being an amazing
 example of Jesus
 Love towards
 us! Love
 Cheryl Plot
 Secretary*

Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth.
 PSALM 115:15 KJV

Jesus
 loves.

Christmas at Benton UMC

WOW!

Christmas Caroling & Chili Dinner

Join us for a chili dinner and a hayride with caroling.
Wednesday, December 5
5:30 PM—7:00 PM

Journey To Bethlehem

Join us for the Journey to Bethlehem drive-through live nativity—a gift from Benton UMC to the community.
Saturday, December 8
6:00 PM—8:30 PM

Sunday, December 9
6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Youth Christmas Program

Celebrate with our youth at their annual Christmas program. Desserts will be served immediately following program.
Wednesday, December 12
6:00 PM—7:00 PM

Daycare Christmas Program

Continue the celebration with our daycare children at their annual Christmas program.
Friday, December 14
10:30 AM

The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love

Wednesday, December 19
12:30 PM—4:00 PM

Children's Christmas Program

Rejoice with our children at their annual Christmas program. Desserts will be served immediately following program.
Wednesday, December 19
6:00 PM—7:00 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Observe Christmas Eve with Holy Communion, beautiful music and candle lighting.
Monday, December 24
5:00 PM—6:00 PM

Souper Saturday Christmas Meal Delivery

Saturday, December 29
7:30 AM

Watch Night Service

Come and join us for a time of prayer, singing, a mini-sermon, and communion as we spend New Year's Eve for a time to recommit our lives to the Lord.
Monday, December 31
5:00 PM—6:00 PM



Are you a woman who loves God? Do you want to have fun and fellowship with other women? If you answered yes to these questions, you definitely belong in Tapestry! Tapestry is the overarching women's ministry of Benton UMC that brings together small groups of women. We have United Methodist Women, study groups, and other small groups. Any group who is made for women by women is welcome to any of our bigger events. Our mission is to love and serve God, support United Methodist projects, and enjoy the company of each other regularly.

Right now there are two groups: Morning Glories meets in the morning on the 2nd Thursday of each month, and the Nightingales meet in the evening on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. However, if you do not feel that either of these groups is a good "fit" for you, then it's easy to form a new group – just express an interest and see who else from the congregation wants to join you. Are you a mother with small children? A working woman in her 30s and 40s? These could be new groups for Tapestry!

Join us for our year-end Christmas Fellowship!

Sunday, December 2 @ 2:00 PM

Christmas Fellowship

If you have any questions, please email Monica Arredondo at monicadea@aol.com and put "Tapestry" in the subject line.

I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself.

~Colossians 2:2~



Benton United Methodist Women
President, Pat Mosher
onthelake8@bellsouth.net
(318) 572-3447

Mark your calendars:

Christmas Fellowship
Saturday, December 2 at 2:00 PM
in the Family Life Center
All Ladies are invited!!!

Circle Meetings

Morning Glories Circle
Thursday, December 13 at 11:30 AM
Olive Garden

Nightingales Circle

Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30 PM
Ralph & Kacoo's

A love offering will be taken for Providence House.

Sharing:

I want to thank everyone for their participation in the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes and UMW Casserole Sale.

Methodist Women in the Kitchen #2
Our Cookbook is still available in the church office at \$20 each or 6 for \$100.

They make great gifts for Christmas!!
Proceeds go to United Methodist Women supported missions.

Also, as Benton UMW President, I thank everyone for their support. I have enjoyed serving and wish all the best for our new Ladies Ministry, Tapestry. ~ Pat Mosher



Jesus

The True Gift Of Christmas

The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love

The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love Set-Up TBA
Please contact Ashley Stinson if you want to help at (318) 349-5913

Wednesday, December 19—We Need YOU!!
12:30 PM—Helping Shoppers, Wrapping Gifts, & Distributing Food

Toys needed for ages 0-12 (\$15-20 in value)
Gift cards needed for teens
(\$20 in value from Bass Pro, Academy, etc.)

Wrapping Accessories needed (Bows, gift boxes, ribbon, etc.)

To serve, please contact:
Ashley Stinson (318) 349-5913

Serving Our Community



Tuesday, December 18 & Wednesday, December 19

The Table Food Ministry

Tuesday, December 18
8:00 AM Truck Unloading
9:00 AM Bag Packing

Wednesday, December 19
12:30 PM
Food Distribution

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

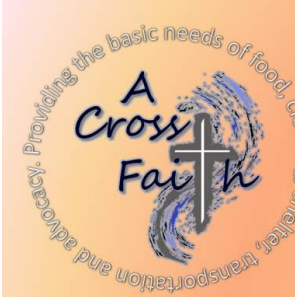
The Closet Clothes Ministry

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:

3rd Wednesdays 11:30 AM-4:00 PM

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



A Cross Faith Advocacy Center

HOURS:
Wednesday, December 19
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



Souper Saturday
Saturday
December 29
7:30 AM

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

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