

INsight

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
BENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2017

Weekly Events at Benton UMC

Sundays

Sunday School9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM
Youth Small Groups5:00 PM
Bible Study (*Hearne Home*)6:00 PM

Mondays

Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
First Place 4 Health6:00 PM

Tuesdays

Intercessory Prayer Team9:00 AM
Bodies On A Mission6:00 PM
Men's Basketball7:00 PM

Wednesdays

Donuts & Scriptures (*MS*)6:45 AM
Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM
The Closet Workday (*2nd & 4th*) 10:30 AM
WOW!(*Wide Open Wednesdays*)5:30 PM

Thursdays

Donuts & Scripture (*6th girls*)6:45 AM
Spiritual Formation Group 11:00 AM
Choir Practice5:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous6:00 PM
Bodies On A Mission6:00 PM
Spiritual Formation Group6:00 PM

Fridays

Donuts & Scripture (*HS*)6:45 AM
Bodies On a Mission9:00 AM

A Word From Pastor Brad

Dear Church,

I wanted to offer to you my pastoral vision for 2017. Listed below are three areas of ministry where we can spiritually connect and grow as a body of Christ for the glory of God. I would much appreciate your prayers.

Tending Our Soul (Ongoing)

- Bible Study
- Spiritual Formation
- Lenten Prayer Focus
- Grief Support
- Ministry with our two group homes

Telling Our Story

Congregational testimonies in worship that highlight how we're living out our membership vows...sharing our gifts, prayers, presence, service, and witness in Jesus name.

Building Our Future

Growing our two worship services. Launch date for our two worship services: Easter Sunday April 16, 2017

On another note-

As we search the scriptures there are many different traits that are attributed to God. If you had to finish this sentence "God is...." what would be the defining trait that speaks most personally to you about God? Here are some examples. God is....present, loving, victorious, listening, all powerful. In the month of February we will be exploring the many different traits of our Lord. Come and join us!

Blessings to you,
Your Preacher-Brad

*^s And **God is able** to provide you with every blessing in **abundance**, so that by always having **enough** of **everything**, you may share **abundantly** in every **good work**.*

~2 Corinthians 9:8

Monthly & Special Events

Saturday, February 4

Early Response Team Training (FUMC)..... 8:00 AM

Sunday, February 5

United Methodist Men's

Breakfast & Devotion 7:30 AM

LifeShare Blood Drive 9:30 AM

Wednesday, February 8

Breakfast & Devotion 7:00 AM

Thursday, February 9

Morning Glories 9:30 AM

Friday, February 10

Sew Crazy Ladies 10:00 AM

Sunday, February 12

Cookie Stroll—United Methodist Women 8:30 AM

Tuesday, February 14

NWLA Food Truck Unloading 9:00 AM

NWLA Food Bag Packing 10:00 AM

Wednesday, February 15

A Cross Faith Advocacy Center 11:30 AM

The Table Food Distribution 12:30 PM

Tuesday, February 21

Connecting Professionals To Those In Need:

A Cross Faith (at St. Jude Catholic Church) 6:00 PM

Nightingales..... 6:30 PM

Friday, February 24

Sew Crazy Ladies 10:00 AM

Saturday, February 25

Souper Saturday 7:30 AM

Monday, February 27

Worship Team Meeting..... 5:30 PM

Tuesday, February 28

OPALS (Older People with Active Life Styles)..... 11:30 AM

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday Service..... 6:00 PM

For more information about these and other events, please contact the church office at (318) 965-2273.

Regularly scheduled events are listed on page 1.



March 17-19, 2017
Cost: \$125 per person
Contact:
Cheryl Nelson (318) 422-0914

FUNdamentals of Forgiveness March 17-19, 2017

Cheryl Fell and Cheryl Nelson are once again facilitating a Women's Weekend Retreat at the Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA, focusing on "forgiveness." As always, Cheryl N. will offer times of reflection and sharing our spiritual journeys, while Cheryl F. will lead interactive and fun activities. The cost of the retreat will still be \$125 for double occupancy, and \$165 for single occupancy; this includes five meals in the dining hall. There will be a snack supper Friday in the DeColores Building at 5:30 PM, and retreat activities will begin at 7:00 PM. We will walk the woodland labyrinth Saturday, have worship in the Chapel on Sunday morning, and the retreat will end around 2:00 p.m. In the evenings, there are games, snacking, singing, resting. You are encouraged to bring any devotions, poems, scriptures, etc. that inspire you – especially ones that center on forgiveness.

The two Cheryls have been leading these events for the past 16 years – they make a great team and the retreats are always a blessing. The Wesley Center is a treat in itself, with very comfortable accommodations, lots of hiking trails in the woods around the lake, a beautiful campus, and all just 2 ½ hours away! Women come from several different churches and denominations, bringing a spirit of fun and togetherness. All women are invited to join us – registration forms will soon be in the church office which you mail directly to the Wesley Center with your full payment before March 8, 2017. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Cheryl at (318) 422-0914.

Treat yourself to a fun and spirit-filled weekend with the Girls!





OPALS

Tuesday, February 28 at 11:30 AM

Family Life Worship Center

Cost: \$5.00

The Older People with Active Life Styles will meet Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 11:30 in the Family Life Worship Center. The "fun & fellowship" this month will revolve around *BINGO*, with a Valentine theme. The food will be provided by our Dynamic Kitchen Duo, and will cost \$5. Everyone is invited!

Make your reservation with

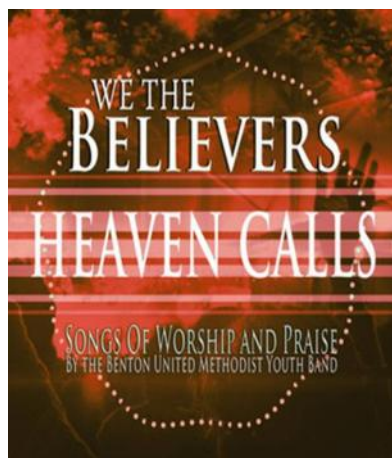
Peggy Rumbaugh by calling her at (318) 349-1465.



The **Cookie Stroll** is on **Feb 12**. *Please* sign up to bake cookies. We have many cards already turned in, **Thank you!** We need hundreds – so you can fill the boxes. Win-win situation and, of course, you do not have to bake to participate. Please bring them to the kitchen on Friday the 11th or to church early on Sunday.

You purchase an empty box, small (\$6) or large (\$10), and fill it up with as many cookies as you can as long as it closes tight. This is fun for adults and especially the children. No "tasting" as you move through the line.

Contact Patsy Burnes at (318) 658-5554 for more information.



Support the Youth Band

CDs On Sale Today \$10



Benton United Methodist Women President, Pat Mosher

onthelake8@bellsouth.net
(318) 572-3447

Circles meet:

February 9 – Morning Glories, 9:30 AM, Breakfast Club Room

February 21 – Nightingales, 6:30 PM, Breakfast Club Room

THANK YOU ALL for supporting our UMW Sunday, Jan 22. I think Rachel Scott did a great program and made us all think "about our call". Special thanks go to Pastor Brad, Pastor Cheryl, Rachel Stoneman, Mary Beth West, Jennifer Hable, and Ann Thomson for their part in making the service so special.



Valentine Basket Silent Auction

Also, on **Feb 12th** we will be giving away our 4 silent auction gift baskets. Make sure you bid to get the one you want – winners will be announced at the end of church that Sunday.

We still have Screamin' Owl salsa \$6 and pepper jelly \$7 for sale made at the LA Methodist Children's Home in Ruston.

STYLE SHOW AND LUNCHEON

**Saturday, March 11, 2017
11:00 AM-1:00 PM**

We need **table hostesses, and models.**

Please call or text Pat at 572-3447 or email onthelake8@bellsouth.net.

Tickets will be available on February 9th.



From the Lay Leadership Team

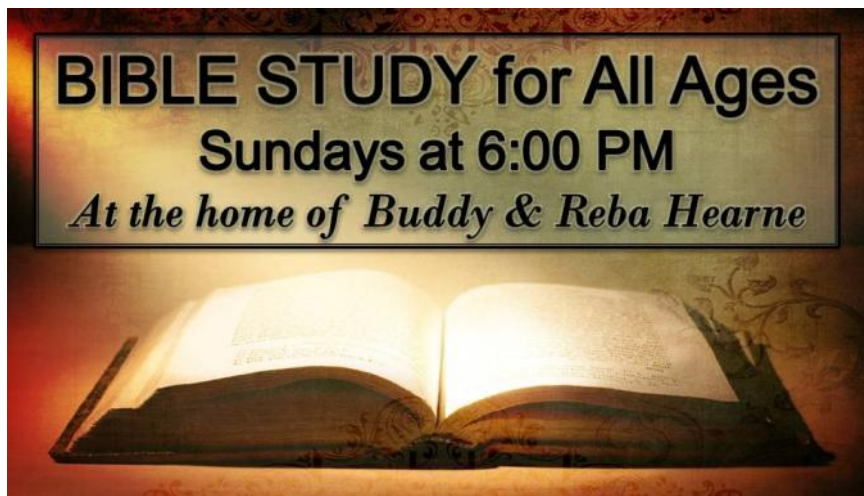
Your Lay Leadership Team wants to sincerely thank the following congregation members who completed their time of service to Benton UMC and our Lord and Savior on Jan 1, 2017: David Denmon, Debbie Filler, Francis Edwards, Louise Grisham, Robert Moncrief, Leslie Cram, Holly Doyal, Dick Mosher, Brenda LeChien, Jeff Duke, George Rumbaugh, Reba Hearne, Pat Moncrief, Tanya White, and Teresa Sessions. You all contributed greatly to the turn around and growth that have occurred at Benton UMC. You all are a blessing to the church and to Jesus Christ.

On the other side of the coin, the Team wants to welcome the following: Jake Duddy, Dianne Wilkinson, Gary Wyche, Lindsey Salter, Derek Reynolds, Mark Crosby, Lorie Watson, Doris Wilhite, Megan Cox, Scott Boas, Monica Arredondo, Robert Adley, Jeremy Moore, Mike Valentine, Margie Covington, Myra Sobral, Denise Karamales, and Mary Jo Duddy. All of these members have volunteered and were selected to carry Benton UMC into the "BRIGHT" future we have embarked toward. May God bless you all and direct your efforts to advancing the Church of Jesus Christ in the direction of Love He wants. Please pray for them throughout the year.

Finally, your Lay Leadership Team has launched into "SPACE", a Space Search Team who will go where no man or woman has gone before to search out new frontiers that will solve our immediate space needs and venture into the future to plan for our needs 3-5 years down the road. The following congregation members have been selected and agreed to serve: George Rumbaugh, Ann Sellers, Kenny Watson, Henry Simon, Albert Pitts, Randy Martin, Kelly Denmon, Debbie Filler, Ginny Jones, and Jeff Duke. As you read this, this group with a yet-to-be-assigned Trustees member will have begun their venture to find ways to get more space for storage, additional classrooms for Sunday school, daycare and other expansions Benton UMC needs now. These folks will need your input, advice and assistance. Please pray for them and assist them in any way you can.

2017 has started out as a fantastic year with a new roof on the daycare building and a budget that shows more projected income than expenses, the Lay Leadership Team will begin every meeting with a prayer that Jesus will guide us and the church to continuing the path He has set before us all. We challenge you all to pray daily for your church and its leadership.

Blessings to all,
Ron Jones



This Bible study for all ages will start with an introduction to the Bible and how to use it. It is open to join anytime!

The Home of Buddy and Reba Hearne
3408 Shirley Court, Benton, LA 71006



Beautiful Already
Women's Study Led by Jennifer Hable
Monday, March 6 at 7:00 PM

At the Home of Ann Sellers
4126 Periwinkle Lane, Benton, LA 71006

Explore God's truth about beauty throughout the Scriptures.

During this six-week Bible study, women will unpack the beliefs or experiences that are holding them hostage. Together they will explore God's truth about beauty throughout the Scriptures, digging into passages in both the Old and New Testaments and applying the truths in their lives. They will move away from over-focusing on unrealistic expectations and perceived flaws toward God's viewpoint of their hearts, minds, bodies and souls. As women make this journey, they will:

- Be set free from the trap of comparison and self-ridicule
- Become comfortable in their own skin
- Reach beyond themselves to encourage and support other women

To register, contact the Church Office at (318) 965-2273.

**For more information, contact:
Jennifer Hable at (318) 294-5644**

Sowing Seeds



of Love

Style Show & Luncheon

Sowing Seeds of Love ~ Style Show & Luncheon

Saturday, March 11, 2017

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Tickets: \$20 per person

Come to our annual Style Show and Luncheon: *Sowing Seeds of Love!* Ladies decorate tables in any manner they like, from simple to elegant. It is so much fun to walk around and look at the creative and unique tables before we start the lunch and fashion show. Various vendors from the local area will feature spring fashions. *All proceeds support local, national and international missions.*

Nursery will be available for children 0–2 years.

Please call church office at (318) 965-2273 to reserve your child's spot.

**Tickets available online at:
www.bentonumc.org/StyleShow**

**Tickets may also be purchased in the church office
or from United Methodist Women Members.**

**For more information, contact:
Pat Mosher (318) 572-3447**

Serving Our Community

Give the gift of **LIFE!**
Donate
Sunday, February 5!

For more information on
blood donation, go to:

www.lifeshare.org



**LifeShare
Blood Drive**

**Sunday, February 5, 2017
9:30 AM-12:30 PM**



The Table Food Ministry

Tuesday, February 14
9:00 AM
Truck Unloading
10:00 AM Bag Packing

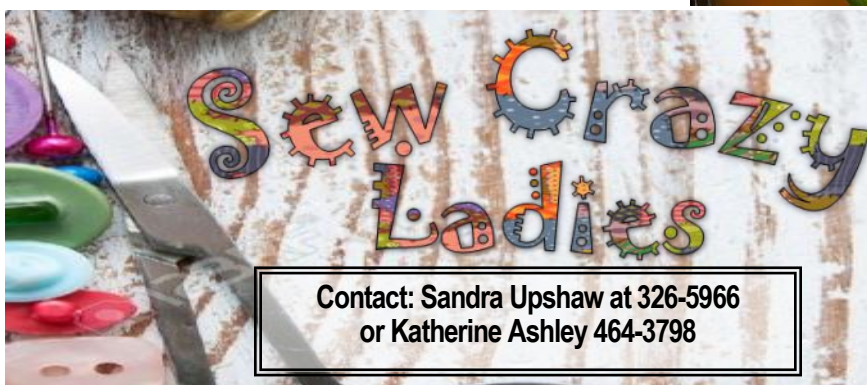
Wednesday, February 15
12:30 PM
Food & School Supply
Distribution

For more information on The Table, contact:
Rachel Stoneman at (318) 965-2273

Souper Saturday Needs You!

We need people to sub for delivery drivers and sandwich makers. 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



Join this sewing ministry to work on mission projects (like book bags for UMCOR), update costumes for the Journey, or work on our own unfinished objects (aka UFO's). At the same time, we will be spending time with others in Christian fellowship. Also, anyone who wants to learn to sew is welcome, as we will be happy to help new crazy sewers!!! We will meet in the Bible Bayou on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of each month from 10 AM until 2 PM. Any and all are invited to join us.

Meeting dates are Friday, February 10 & 24, 2017

Connecting Professionals Serving Those in Need

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 6:00 PM

St. Jude Catholic Church
4700 Palmetto Road, Benton, LA • (318) 746-2508



We invite professionals who would like to serve by reaching out to those in need of services and support in the areas of behavioral health, developmental disabilities, addictions, and support. We would like to create a network of assistance for the North Bossier area and find ways of supporting families in need.

- Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Autism
(Children & Adults)
- Mental and Physical Health
- Addiction Counseling
- Housing
- Job Placement

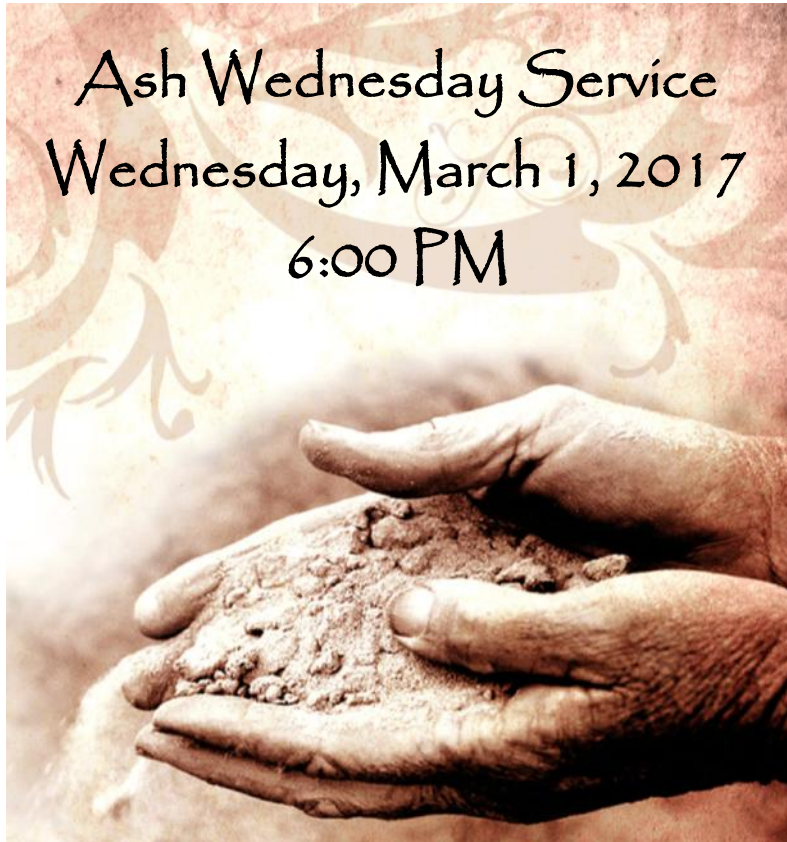
**For more information, please contact:
Zac Burson (318) 426-4683**

**St. Jude Catholic Church • Elizabeth Baptist Church • Benton United Methodist Church
Northwest Resource Center on Developmental Disabilities • St. Vincent De Paul**



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

Benton United Methodist Church
4615 Palmetto Road, Benton, Louisiana 71006
Office: (318) 965-2273 Fax: (318) 935-8516
Email: bentonumc@bellsouth.net
Website: www.bentonumc.org



Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 1, 2017
6:00 PM

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.

Wide Open Wednesdays are inter-generational events designed to be fun for the whole church family: singles, couples, families, friends, youth, and children are all invited and encouraged to come!

Contact the church office at (318) 965-2273 to make your reservations!

WOW!

Wednesdays at 5:30 PM