



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2016

From the Pastor

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

On family trips I would hear from my parents “We are closer than we were.” This response would be the answer to me incessantly asking “Are we there yet?” As a child, I didn’t see the beauty of the journey because I was too fixed upon the destination. As an adult I enjoy the journey just as much as the destination.

Sometimes I think we miss the season of Lent because we are too fixed upon getting through it to make it to Easter. The journey of the Lenten season is a ride in itself. Lent is a season of allowing the grace of God to shower us and stretch us; to bless us and bolster us; to search us and to invite us to trust and know God more deeply. Lent is a journey and not a destination.

During the Ash Wednesday Worship service we all planted a sunflower seed in a Styrofoam cup (just like it was Vacation Bible School) to remind us of the nurture that is needed to grow our faith. Each of us gave up something that keeps us from God and together we burned it. We then took on a new spiritual discipline to help us to grow in our faith. The growing sunflower symbolizes the care, nurture and attention we need to give our spiritual life. So how is your sunflower growing?

Holy Week Worship begins with Palm Sunday (March 20th) as the children lead a processional with the palm branches. Maundy or Holy Thursday worship (March 24th) will focus upon the holy gift of the Last Supper. This worship experience will delight the senses as we commune with Jesus. Good Friday service of Tenebrae will focus upon the last hours of Jesus’ life and the sacrifice that He offered for us. These worship experiences are meant to assist us in understanding the height, depth and width of God’s amazing love. I hope you will make time to worship on these important holy days.

Easter Sunday (March 27th) will begin with a sunrise service at the home of Robert and Claudia Adley at 6:30 AM. It is beautiful setting to worship the risen Son as the sun is rising in the eastern sky. Because of an expected increase in Easter Sunday worship attendance there will be two worship services (8:30 & 10:50 AM) on Sunday to better accommodate the crowds. Sunday school will be from 9:40-10:40 AM.

It is real easy to rush through Lent looking for Easter and miss what God can teach us along the journey. It is real easy to jump from singing “Hosanna!” on Palm Sunday to “Alleluia!” on Easter Sunday and miss the struggle and sacrifice Jesus went through that gave this week its name “holy”.

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

Mark Your Calendar

Monthly & Special Events

Tuesday, March 1	
United Methodist Women General Meeting	6:30 PM
Saturday, March 5	
Human Trafficking Travel	5:30 AM
Sunday, March 6	
United Methodist Men Breakfast & Devotion	7:30 AM
Tuesday, March 8	
Community Garden Meeting	9:00 AM
Committee On Lay Leadership Meeting	6:30 PM
Thursday, March 10	
Morning Glories	9:30 AM
Saturday, March 12	
Tables of Love Style Show	11:00 AM
Monday, March 14	
Outreach Team Meeting	6:00 PM
Tuesday, March 15	
Truck Unloading	9:00 AM
Food Bag Packing	10:00 AM
Nightingales Circle	6:30 PM
Getting Help Through the System	7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 16	
The Table Food Distribution	12:30 PM
Saturday, March 19	
Easter Egg Hunt	2:00 PM
Sunday, March 20	
United Methodist Men Breakfast & Devotion	7:30 AM
Monday, March 21	
Finance Committee Meeting	6:30 PM
Tuesday, March 22	
O.P.A.L.S.	11:30 AM
Wednesday, March 23	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	1:30 PM
Thursday, March 24	
Maundy Thursday Holy Communion	6:30 PM
Friday, March 25	
Good Friday Tenebrae Service	6:30 PM
Sunday, March 27	
Easter Sunrise	6:30 AM
Resurrection Traditional Worship	8:30 AM
Sunday School	9:40 AM
Resurrection Contemporary Worship	10:50 AM
Monday, March 28	
<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
Youth Fun in the Gym	3:00 PM
Wednesday, March 30	
Youth Fun in the Gym	9:00 AM
Thursday, March 31	
Daycare Board Meeting	6:30 PM

Weekly Events

Sundays

Sunday School	9:00 AM
Worship	10:15 AM

Mondays

Bodies On a Mission	9:00 AM
First Place 4 Health	6:00 PM

Tuesdays

Intercessory Prayer Team	9:00 AM
Women's Study Group	11:30 AM
Men's Basketball	7:00 PM

Wednesdays

Bodies On a Mission	9:00 AM
The Closet Clothes Ministry	11:30 AM
Wednesday Night Live	

Dinner	5:30 PM
Small Groups & Classes	6:15 PM

Thursdays

Choir Practice	5:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous	6:00 PM

Fridays

Bodies On a Mission	9:00 AM
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"Tables of Love"

March 12, 2016
11:00 - 1:00 p.m.

*Creative Hostess
Tables*

**Benton United
Methodist Women**

Fashions

Style Show & Luncheon

Benton United Methodist Church
4615 Palmetto Road, Benton ♦ (318) 965-2273

Models ♦ Food ♦ Entertainment
Daycare available with advance registration.

Tickets \$20.00

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

Tickets can also be purchased in church office
or from UMW members.

Contact Pat Mosher at (318) 572-3447 for information



Benton United Methodist Women

President, Pat Mosher

Small Groups (Circles)

Morning Glories

Thursday, March 10 at 9:30 AM in the Breakfast Club classroom

Nightingales

Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 PM in the Eva Smith classroom

United Methodist Women General Meeting

Tuesday, March 1 at 6:30 PM

The Easter Program will be presented by the Morning Glories and refreshments provided by the Nightingales in the Family Life Center.

Social Action Event

Saturday, March 5 in Pineville, LA 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

This is sponsored by *UMW, UMM and Board of Church and Society.*

We are taking the church bus and leaving the church at 5:30 AM. If you would like to ride with the group, please contact Pat Mosher at (318) 572-3447.

Fellowship Snacks for Sunday

Sunday, March 6—provided by the Nightingales

Tables of Love Style Show and Luncheon

Saturday, March 12 from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

We need table hostesses, and models. *Please call or text Pat at (318) 572-3447. \$20 Tickets are available and you can buy on line. Nursery by reservation only. Please plan to come and enjoy. See flyer to left.*

UMW Sunday

United Methodist Women Sunday was a success. Rev. Cheryl highlighted our purpose and what we can learn from the UMW. Special recognition pins went to Kim Cox, Sally Carroway, Jeanne Hine and Pat Moncrief for their support of our church and UMW. The Valentine Baskets were won by Dianne Wilkinson and Jackie Nelson. A total of **\$490** was made for missions. Thank you all for making the day a success!

Sewing Days

Sewing days were very successful and many book bags were made for children for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) throughout the world. We will take them with us April 10-15.

Fundraisers:

Style Show and Luncheon – **March 12**

Fall Craft Sale – **October 15**

Frozen Casserole Sale – **November 13**

Activities:

UMCOR Trip – Baldwin, LA – to work in Depot **April 10 -15**

UMW District Cluster Study – Latin American Mission Study at Benton **April 23**

Benton Car Show and Market – **May 14**

UMW State “Mission u” –Wesley Center - Woodruff, LA **July 20-23**

UMW District “Mini Mission u” **August 20** at Shady Grove UMC, Mansfield, LA

Raise the Roof!!

I really want to thank everyone who has shown interest and is donating at the present to the RAISE THE ROOF campaign. Just a reminder that this campaign is to replace the roof (shingles and paper) on the roof of the old sanctuary/daycare building. The roof is the original from 1999 and was covered with 10-year shingles (now there for going on 17 years). The goal is to begin replacing the roof at the beginning of May 2016. If the \$35,000 has not been collected by then, I am hoping we can at least start since it can be done in sections and work can only occur on Saturdays, Sunday afternoons or after 6:30 PM on weekdays (can't work with children present). Since January 2016 we have collected over \$4200, but the campaign wasn't kicked off until February 7, 2016 and most of the money collected has come in since February. All things considered, we are doing very well and have over 57% of the goal. So keep on praying and keep those donations coming in no matter how small or large. Thank you for helping us achieve this goal.

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

Tuesday, March 22 at 11:30 AM
Family Life Worship Center
Cost: \$5.00

The OPALS (Older People with Active Life Styles) meet on the 4th Tuesday for a delicious meal and a very interesting program. Col. Warren Ward will be our guest and recount his experience with the Secret Squirrel Mission during Desert Storm, which flew out of Barksdale Air Force Base. OPALS is designed for the 55+ bunch, but it is always open to anyone interested in the program or who just wants to enjoy some good fellowship. Hope to see you there!

The cost of the meal is \$5 and you will need to RSVP by Friday, March 18. Everyone is welcome!

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

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

Committee Summaries

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.
Romans 8:28

The following are summaries of the church committees, boards, and teams that met during the month of January. Each future Insight will contain a summary of the meetings that occurred the preceding month. It is hoped that you will read these and if you have any questions, ask the board, committee, or team member or chair.

**For more information about our council, boards, or committees, please contact:
Ron Jones
ronald.r.jones@att.net**



Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees met February 8 at 6:30 PM. Rev. Dr. Danny Gleason opened the meeting with prayer. Gary Wyche and Andy Holley, who lead the security team, presented security options for the church and daycare. Karla Horton volunteered as the daycare security liaison and Dave Thomson volunteered for church security liaison. Millie Crites serves as staff liaison for the security team. Millie Crites presented the financial report. Pastor Danny discussed sound and lighting concerns with suggestions for upgrading or repairing. No further business was discussed. Ron Jones closed the meeting with prayer.

Lay Leadership

The Benton Lay Leadership Team met at Johnny's Pizza on February 8, 2016 at 6 PM for a meeting and supper. The meeting was opened with a prayer and a review of the minutes of the January meeting. New business was to vote on two congregation members to fill some position vacancies. Kay Etter for daycare board class of 2018 and D Silliman for the Church Council recording secretary class of 2018. These two were voted into those positions with no dissents and will be presented at the next Church Council meeting.

The old business item was to go over the Pentecost Blowout that is in the planning for Saturday, May 14, 2016. The official name will be announced in March 2016, so watch for it. This is the idea of Earnest Covington and as of now will consist of an LSU-style tailgate, all day event on the church grounds. It will include, but not be limited to a 5-K run (that will start at 9 AM), car show, live music, bouncies for the kids, food and craft booths (UMW), fields open for those who would like to tailgate and cook (just like at football games), some Pentecost Revival messages, special recognition of our new confirmands and newest members of the last year and a possible rally-type bonfire. The Benton UMM may even cook. If you have any ideas or would like to participate in any way to help set up this celebration of the BIRTH OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, please contact Earnest, a member of the Lay Leadership Team or the church office. Flyers and news releases will be coming out no later than the end of March, This is open to everyone.

Our last new business item was to remind all members of the team to bring names of 7-10 members to the March 8th meeting that they have spoken with that would like to be considered to be a ground roots BUILDING STUDY COMMITTEE to be named in April 2016. This committee will begin looking into the future and setting out a plan as we grow bigger and bigger. Again, if you are interested, contact one of the Lay Leadership Team members. Those members are Danny Gleason, Ron Jones, David Denmon, Debbie Filler, Francis Edwards, Mona and Gordon Bartage, Joann Horton, Andy Holley and Katherine Ashley. Our meeting was closed at about 6:45 with a prayer."

Chair: Ron Jones, ronald.r.jones@att.net



Summary of Daycare Board Meeting

The Daycare Board met on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Old Business: the previous yearly budget did not meet the needs of daycare operations as it lacked key components to run daily operations of the daycare.

New Business: We discussed the possibility of adding more security to our daycare building, employee salaries and creating a cap for salaries, food and nutrition, ensuring the Pre-K teachers have access to the internet and creative ways to purposely use our funds. Julie researched the cost of groceries between our current food company, Sysco and Sam's Club. For two weeks' worth of groceries, Sysco charged us approx. \$1100.00 and Julie was able to get the same amount of food at Sam's Club for approx \$500.00. The Daycare Board voted to not order from Sysco anymore and to purchase needed groceries from SAM'S CLUB. There were no deficiencies found by the State Health Department during their annual inspection on 01/26/2016. We created subcommittees: Handbook Committee, Security Committee, and a Finance Committee.

Next Meeting Date: March 31, 2016 @ 6:30pm

Chair: Dana Cherry, sewcherry@aol.com

FUNdamentals of Contentment coming April 8-10, 2016

Cheryl Fell and Cheryl Nelson are once again facilitating a Women's Weekend Retreat at the Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA, focusing on "contentment" in fun activities and spiritual experiences. Cheryl Fell has added a surprise to our Saturday agenda which will make this weekend quite memorable. The cost of the retreat will still be \$125 for double occupancy and \$150 for a room (IF available) of your own. This includes five meals in the dining hall. There will be a snack supper Friday, in the East Lodge at 5:30 PM and retreat activities will begin at 7:00 PM. We will experience the woodland labyrinth Saturday morning and our surprise activity will be that afternoon in the DeColores Building. We will worship in the Chapel on Sunday morning and the retreat will end around 2:00 PM. In the evenings, there are games, snacking, singing, and resting.

This will be the tenth retreat the two Cheryls have led in the past 15 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 are in the church office which you mail directly to the Wesley Center with your full payment before March 25, 2016.

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

For more information, contact:

Pastor Cheryl

(318) 422-0914

cheryl.nelson@bentonumc.org

Greeters Team

The greeter's team is a wonderful group of people who welcome our members and guests to Benton United Methodist Church. More volunteers are needed to support this ministry. If you are interested in serving, please contact:

**Dick Mosher
(318) 965-2373**



Saturday, March 19

2:00-4:00 PM

Student Ministries

**For more information on
Student Ministries, contact:**

Todd Hable, Director of Student Ministries
(318) 372-1168 or todd.hable@bentonumc.org



We had a great time @ Ringgold, La (Southland Christian ministries) during our Disciple Now (DNOW) retreat late January. Our students met other Christians from other churches and learned how to better disciple as Christians. This is our 3rd year that we have combined with other denominations. This year the Korean Baptist Church in Bossier participated. We plan on adding next year which may send us to another bigger location.



Sunday, March 6, 2016 Winter Jam Main Show: 5:45 Century Link Center-Bossier City, La (10 Bands for \$10)

Warning: This concert has been known to go late and usually is on Saturday. One may want to pick their child up early from the concert. We will discuss.

Spring Break is March 27- March 31. We will meet together as a group to play games like basketball and indoor soccer. We will go on a scavenger hunt as well. Trying to find a good date that everyone is in town for the scavenger hunt. We will meet in the gym Monday evening (March 28) to shoot basketball and Wednesday evening (Mar 30) to play around with our new soccer balls.

**We plan on "Feeding the Homeless" once a month.
Please look out for the updates.**

**Please let me know if you need to be added on to our
email list or through our "Group Me" app.**

We welcome all (6th grade through 12 grades)



DNOW Fun 2016



**Feeding the Homeless
and their pets!**

Donor Leaves

New Leaves placed on the
Donor Recognition Tree in memory of:

Bill DeBusk

by Eva Smith Sunday School Class

Bill DeBusk

by Gary & Alyce Wyche

Ed Berridge

by Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class

Elsie Whittington

by Larry & Dianne Walls

Elsie Whittington

by Eva Smith Sunday School Class

Elsie Whittington

by Gary & Alyce Wyche

Margaret Langlois

by Wayne Vollman

Nellie Wyche

by Fellowship Class

Nellie Wyche

by Doris Wilhite

Nellie Wyche

by Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class

Nellie Wyche

by James & Barbara Reeves

Nellie Wyche

by Mike Merritt & Trey Allen

Nellie Wyche

by Lewis P. Conger

Norma Jean Corbin

by Bob & Marilyn McGowen

Peggy Burdine

by Eva Smith Sunday School Class

Rudy Crain

by Erma Crain

Steve Lowe

by Jerry & Nancy Edwards

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.

Memorials

Ben Gleason by Pam DeBusk

Ben Gleason by Pat Emerson

Ben Gleason by the Arledge Family

Ben Gleason by the Lennard Family

Bernard Duddy by Louise Grisham

Bernard Duddy by the McClain Family

Betty Conner by Gary & Alyce Wyche

Bill DeBusk by Adcock & Associates

Bill DeBusk by Peggy Rumbaugh

Carolyn Lewis Locke by Louise Grisham

Carolyn Lewis Locke by Gary & Alyce Wyche

Dollie Harrington by Henry and Barbara Cantrell

Dollie Harrington by Gary & Alyce Wyche

Ed Berridge by Louise Grisham

Ed Berridge by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Parlier

Ed Berridge by Mary and Elvin Ervin

Ed Berridge by Rowena E. Jones

Ed Berridge by Elvin Geisselbrecht

Edith Darrington by Ann Braswell

Edward Berridge by Meme Harper

Elsie Whittington by First National Bank of Benton

Elsie Whittington by Betty Wilmarth

Elsie Whittington by Marcille Hollis, Phyllis & Greg
Vaughn, and Cissy & Mark Crouch

Elsie Whittington by A. E. Marsh, Jr. & Maurice Marsh

Elsie Whittington by Sandra and H. W. King

Elsie Whittington by Jeanene & Tom Clark

Elsie Whittington by Carol Jean Johnston

Elsie Whittington by Ralph & Elizabeth Jordan

Elsie Whittington by Don Whittington

Elsie Whittington by Georgia DeMoss

Elsie Whittington by Bonnie Vos

Louise Grisham's Sisters by Pat Emerson

Louise Grisham's Sisters by Dean Jimmerson

Margaret Langlois by Mike & Suzanne Western

Margaret Langlois by Stephen Smith

Margaret Langlois by Louise Grisham

Margaret Langlois by George Horton

Nellie Wyche by Clyde & Lillian McQuillin

Nellie Wyche by Earl and Natalie Haynes

Nellie Wyche by Jeanene & Tom Clark

Nellie Wyche by Bill & Diann Wilson

Nellie Wyche by Bossier Restoration Foundation

Nellie Wyche by Carol Jean Johnston

Nellie Wyche by Johnston Chiropractic Clinic

Nellie Wyche by Barbara Cantrell

Nellie Wyche by Betty Wilmarth

Nellie Wyche by Melba Miller

Nellie Wyche by Louise Grisham

Nellie Wyche by Carolyn Whittington

Norma Jean Corbin by Norma & A. G. Murphy

Norma Jean Corbin by Bettye Barnette

Norma Jean Corbin by Margie Dupree & Martha Rogers

Norma Jean Corbin by John & Patsy McFerren

Norma Jean Corbin by Bossier Parish School Bus

Norma Jean Corbin by Dr. Steven Pettey's

Sunday School Class

Rev. DeBusk by Betty Wilmarth

Norma Jean Corbin by George & Pat Winham

Norma Jean Corbin by Louise Grisham

Spotlight



Georgia Carroway (left) is the daughter of Scott and Sally Carroway and a freshman at Benton High School. She is currently playing basketball and soccer. This Spring she will be participating in track and field pole vaulting and running as a sprinter. Georgia also loves drama and participates in the Theater Arts Program (TAP) at school. Benton Lady Tigers freshman team finished undefeated! Geaux Lady Tigers!

Thank You, Benton UMC, for all you do for our community!



February 15, 2016

BUMC Methodist Women,

Benton United Methodist Church Daycare and Preschool would like to express a heartfelt "thank you" for the donations that were provided. We understand those funds could have been donated elsewhere and we are extremely grateful that you chose to give to the daycare. As a result of your gifts, we were able to purchase the following needed items:

-A mini-refrigerator and thermometer for our Creeper's Room. This has allowed us to store and maintain milk, breast milk, and juices at the appropriate temperature. This has drastically reduced the amount of time it takes for teachers to store, retrieve, and distribute all refrigerated items.

-A new radio/cd player combo for the infant Room. The combination radio/cd player has been a blessing for our Infant Room. Teachers have reported they are now able to play lullabies and Christian music, which has significantly aided in calming our infants and helping them fall asleep.

-Baby Sign Language Curriculum for our infants and young toddlers. This new curriculum has enabled us to begin teaching sign language to our infants and young toddlers. This has served to help young children develop communication skills, even before they learn to speak. Teachers have reported a significant reduction in the frustration children demonstrate, as they are able to more effectively communicate their wants and needs.

Thank you once again for your donations. Our staff, parents, and children are appreciative of the help you have provided, as they have already made a huge impact on the lives of our precious children.

Blessings,

Julie Broussard, Daycare Director



February 10, 2016

Dear OCC Friends:

First of all let me say a very heartfelt Thank You for your service as a Project Leader and your church's, group or community's involvement in Operation Christmas Child. The impact of simple shoe box gifts is being felt around the globe. Please know the tremendous results of your investment of time and energy. It remains a great blessing to serve alongside you and we, as the OCC volunteer team, are here to support you in any way that we can.

Thanks to you and volunteers like you for this past collection season was the best so far. First Baptist Bossier is the Collection Center for this area and 21,118 shoeboxes were delivered to the church. This is a 9.80% increase.

We learned from Operation Christmas Child Headquarters that as of 2015, the USA had collected 8,765,637 which is a 10% increase. International shoeboxes of 11,213,010 have been collected. This is a 7% increase. Every goal has been met and surpassed. The Texas/Louisiana region collected 720,000 shoeboxes which is a 13.5% increase. Praise the Lord! We are also seeing more quality boxes packed with a Wow item for each child.

It could not have happened without each and every one of you who gave time, talents and love. Thank you so very much. Blessings to you all.

And now as we begin again for 2016...God is so good...wonder what He has in store for us this coming collection season!

This year our theme verse is Psalm 100:1-5

Remember: one child, one heart, one soul. May each Gospel opportunity become a redeemed soul...immeasurable! From the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of the Son!!

Have a very blessed year and see you in November.

In Christ

Tricia Adcox (Church Relations Coordinator)



Welcome!



Connor Jameson Lloyd Bullock (left) was born February 10, 2016, weighing in at 7 pounds 15 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. Connor's BUMC great-grandparents are Lloyd and Elke Bullock! Congratulations to the family!



Kendall Brooke Kavanaugh (right) arrived February 11, 2016 at 1:30 PM weighing 6 pounds 4 ounces and 19 inches long. Kendall is the daughter of Kyle and Meghan Kavanaugh, and the granddaughter of Lee and Katharine Kavanaugh. Welcome Kendall, and congratulations to the family!



Jax Edward Lee Martin (left) arrived February 19, 2016, weighing 8 pounds 8 ounces and 20 inches long. Jax is the son of Rachael Broussard and Cody Martin, the grandson of Al and Karrie Irwin, and BUMC great grandmother is Pam DeBusk. Welcome Jax, and congratulations to the family!

Patrice Waddell & LaDhanah Anderson baptized and joined by Profession of Faith!! (right)

Comis Patrice Clarke Waddell and her daughter, LaDhanah Challet Anderson, were baptized on January 24, 2016. They also joined our church family by Profession of Faith. Patrice and LaDhanah are originally from Jamaica. We welcome them to the Benton United Methodist Church Family!



Serving Opportunities

Seeds For the Harvest Community Garden Planting Day!

Saturday, April 2 at 9:00 AM

JOIN US!

The community garden has been busy building raised beds for their garden ministry, which exists to educate and empower the community to produce, prepare, and preserve so that people have access to healthy fruits and vegetables and learn about nutrition and sustainability.

The garden is offering three 5'x10' raised beds for your individual use on a first come, first serve basis. You can share the bed, work and duties with another family or go it on your own. Please contact John Carter for more information on having a bed.



John Carter
(318) 326-7349
john.carter364@yahoo.com

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This is a crucial Sunday for us because it is the day we come together to empower our disaster relief arm of Global Ministries, UMCOR, for an entire year. If you remember,

- When tornadoes hit Mississippi, UMCOR was there.
- When fires ravaged thousands of homes, UMCOR was there.
- When Syrian refugees needed help, UMCOR was there.
- When a typhoon in the Philippines displaced tens of thousands of people, UMCOR was there.
- When an earthquake and a tsunami decimated villages in Japan, UMCOR was there.

They were there because of One Great Hour of Sharing. This One Great Hour of Sharing covers the operating costs of UMCOR, which allows UMCOR to be where it needs to be, when it needs to be there, for as long as it needs to be there and allows UMCOR to funnel earmarked donations directly to the designated project.

*Celebrate One Great Hour of Sharing
with us on*

March 6, 2016

Together, we can make One Great Hour of Sharing a phenomenal success. Together, we can make sure that UMCOR can go wherever people are in critical need.

Daycare Food Drive

Our Daycare and Preschool is proud to announce we launched a week-long canned food drive in hopes to restock the shelves at Benton United Methodist Church's Food Pantry. Our goal was 100 cans to commemorate the 100th Day of School. We far surpassed our goal, bringing in 283 canned goods; nearly tripling our stated goal. We would like to say thank you to everyone who participated and we look forward to next year!

A Note From the Missions Office:

Thank you, Daycare and Preschool children, parents and staff! The canned goods brought in will help fill 21 emergency boxes that feed up to 21 families for a few days!



**283
Canned
Goods**

Serving Opportunities



The Table Food Ministry

Tuesday, March 15

9:00 AM Truck Unloading

10:00 AM Bag Packing

Wednesday, March 16

11:00 AM The Closet Clothes Ministry

12:30 PM NWLA Monthly Food Distribution

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



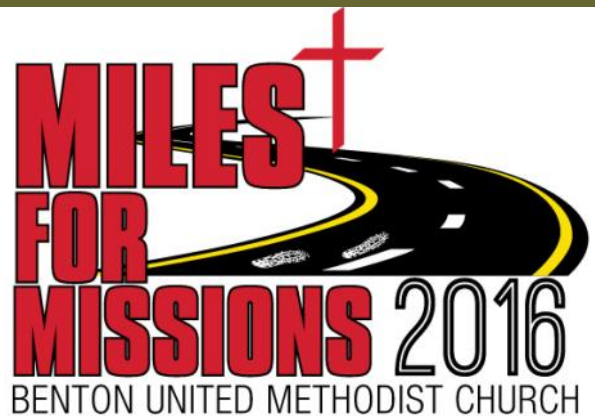
Substitute Drivers and Driver Assistants Needed

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



Saturday, April 16, 2016

Registraton: 7:30 AM Race Start: 8:30 AM

Complimentary Breakfast: 9:30 AM

Childcare available with advance registration.

Our Spring Missions 5K will raise money to support homeless ministries in our area:

- Shreveport-Bossier Rescue Mission
- The Hub
- Feed the Homeless
- Bossier Parish School Board-Homeless Liaison

Please support these and other ministries of our church and community. Contact Rachel Stoneman to find where you connect in mission at (318) 935-8515.



Our congregation has been very generous in their donations to our Clothes Closet. The season is changing and our needs have changed. We need:

- Spring and summer clothing
- Children's and men's clothing (low stock)
- Hangers

Please consider donating your child's outgrown, gently used clothing to our ministry. All sizes are needed. And men, I know you don't like to part with those "favorite" items, but please consider looking in your closet for shirts and trousers you haven't worn in a while. We can put them to good use. Thanks to all of you who have contributed. Our Closet Clothes Ministry is a great success, thanks to your generosity.

**For more information, please contact:
Sue Shadow at (318) 965-2496**



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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The Message for March 2016

Sunday, March 6

"Tough Love: First and Last—Great and Small"
Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 12:28-34 & Luke 10:25-37

Sunday, March 13

"Tough Love: Losing Life to Love"
John 12:23-26

Sunday, March 20

"Tough Love: The Cross"
John 19:16-30; 10:9-18; 15:9-17

Thursday, March 24

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service at 6:30 PM

Friday, March 25

Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 6:30 PM

Sunday, March 27

"Tough Love: The Empty Tomb"
Matthew 10:32-42

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.

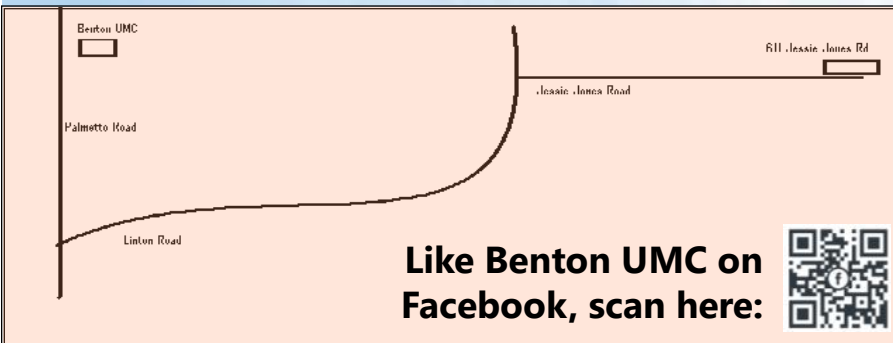
SUNRISE SERVICE, MARCH 27 AT 6:30 A.M.

at the home of
Robert & Claudia Adley
611 Jesse Jones Drive,
Benton, LA 71006

Bring your outdoor chairs, family, and friends for this extraordinary worship time with our church family and neighbors.

Refreshments will be served.

Like Benton UMC on Facebook, scan here:



Please contact the church office at (318) 965-2273 for more information.

