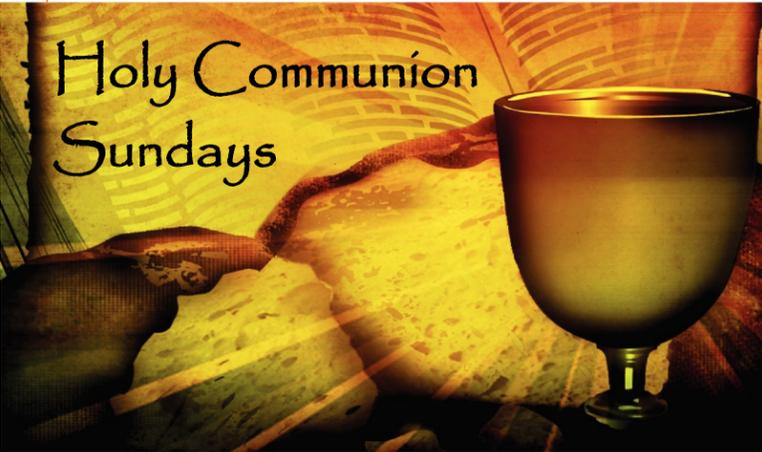




INVITING IN...
GROWING UP...
SENDING OUT...

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



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.

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.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday, May 3 at 12:00 PM
Viking Substation



INsight

Monthly Newsletter of
Benton United Methodist Church
May 2018

Weekly Events

Sundays

Worship..... 8:15 AM
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM
Worship..... 10:30 AM
Bible Study @ Hearne Home 6:00 PM

Mondays

Slushies & Scripture 6:45 AM
Bodies On a Mission 9:00 AM

Tuesdays

Slushies & Scripture 6th & 7th Grade ... 6:45 AM
Intercessory Prayer Team 9:00 AM
Men's Basketball 7:00 PM

Wednesdays

Slushies & Scripture HS Boys 6:45 AM
Bodies On a Mission 9:00 AM
The Closet Workday 11:30 AM
The Closet Distribution 11:30 AM

Thursdays

Slushies & Scripture Middle School..... 6:45 AM
Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

Fridays

Slushies & Scripture 9th Grade Girls 6:45 AM
Bodies On a Mission 9:00 AM

A Word From Pastor Brad

Dear Church,

On May 8th in Poland many years ago the first boomerang was used. Consider today the boomerang principle: what goes out comes back. Think evil thoughts today and tomorrow evil will come arching back to strike you. On the other hand, be grateful for the gifts of your life, and an abundance of blessings will return to you. Think of it this way - Our prayer life holds the power to awaken within us a need to live lives of continual gratitude. If we could acquire a habit of making short expressions of gratitude to God for the countless daily gifts of your life, we would find that such a prayer is a Boomerang Prayer.

When we pray "Thank you for such a beautiful day," we sail our prayer of gratitude off to God, only to have it come whirling back to us as we taste the beauty of the day. Each time we say "thank you" for the gift of a hot shower or for the faithfulness of a friend, we open ourselves to the giftedness of hot water or a friends' fidelity, and all that can so easily be taken for granted. Food for thought in these May days.

Bless you-
Your Preacher,
Brad

27 She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise and call her blessed; ~Proverbs 31:27-28a



Monthly & Special Events

Wednesday, May 2
Daycare Board Meeting 5:30 PM

Thursday, May 3
National Day of Prayer at Viking Substation 12:00 PM
Safety Team Meeting 5:30 PM

Sunday, May 6
United Methodist Men Breakfast & Devotion 7:00 AM

Wednesday, May 9
NCLOG Transportation Advocacy Meeting 1:00 PM

Thursday, May 10
Morning Glories 9:30 AM

Friday, May 11
Sew Crazy Ladies 10:00 AM

Sunday, May 13
Happy Mother's Day!
Senior Sunday 10:30 AM

Tuesday, May 15
NWLA Truck Unloading 9:00 AM
NWLA Food Bag Packing 10:00 AM
Nightingales Circle Meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, May 16
The Closet @ Benton UMC 11:30 AM
The Closet @ A Cross Faith 11:30 AM
The Table Ministry Lunch & Devotion 11:30 AM
The Table Food Distribution 12:30 PM

Friday, May 18
Just a Bunch of Lit Wits 7:15 AM

Sunday, May 20
Pentecost Sunday
United Methodist Men Sunday 7:00 AM

Tuesday, May 22
O.P.A.L.S. 11:30 AM

Friday, May 25
Sew Crazy Ladies 10:00 AM

Saturday, May 26
Souper Saturday 7:30 AM

Monday, May 28
Church Office Closed
in Observance of Memorial Day

For more information about these and other events, or to schedule use of a room at the church, please contact Linda Silas in the church office at (318) 965-2273.

Regularly scheduled events are listed on page 1.

O.P.A.L.S.

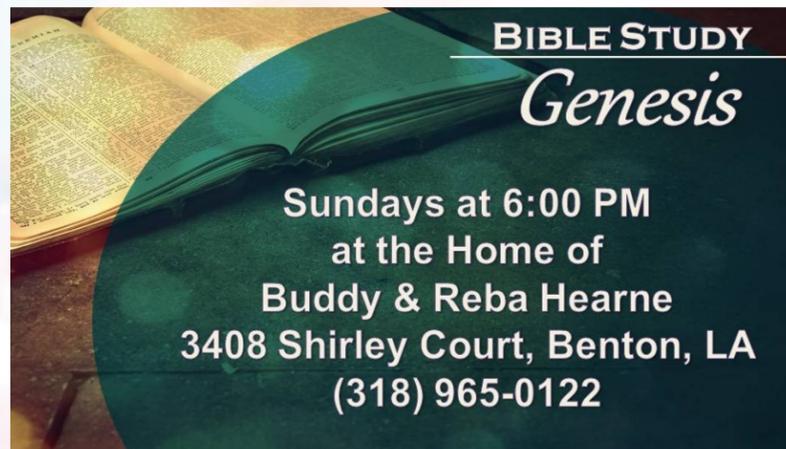
(Older People with Active Life Styles)

Tuesday, May 22 at 11:30 AM
in the Family Life Center

Cost: No cost—bring a salad to share

The Older People with Active Life Styles will meet in the Family Life/Worship Center for their monthly gathering of fun, food and fellowship. This month lunch will be a salad smorgasbord! Everyone is to bring a salad to share so there will be no cost for the meal, but we do need you to register by calling Peggy Rumbaugh. The program will be sharing our favorite vacation sites, adventures, and memories so come prepared with pictures and/or mementos from vacations you've had over the years, and even from your own childhood. Don't forget to bring a donation for the Common Ground pantry. They are our mission focus this year, as we partner with them to provide food staples for needy families in the Cedar Grove neighborhood. This month we are collecting small packets or boxes of cereal, oatmeal, grits, etc. OPALS is designed for the 55+ bunch (and we have plenty of those in our church family) but everyone is always invited to join us – hope to see YOU there!!

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



BIBLE STUDY
Genesis

Sundays at 6:00 PM
at the Home of
Buddy & Reba Hearne
3408 Shirley Court, Benton, LA
(318) 965-0122

AARP Defensive Driving Course

Thursday, May 10, 2018
12:00-4:00 PM

Cypress Baptist Church

An AARP Defensive Driving Course will be offered at Cypress Baptist Church. This course is designed especially for folks who are 55+ and will give you a discount on your auto insurance; but the certificate must be renewed every 3 years. There is a cost of \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members.

If you are interested in attending or if you have any questions, call Cindy Waldrop at 965-2296.



Save the Date!!

Shipwrecked

Vacation Bible School
Monday, July 9-Friday, July 13, 2018
9:00-11:30 AM



Senior Sunday
May 13, 2018

Please contact
Mary Jo Duddy at
maryjo.duddy@bossierschools.org
to fill out your senior's
information sheet.

Congratulations, graduates!

Women's Weekend at Wesley Center

Friday, May 18– Sunday, May 20, 2018

FUNdamentals of Compassion



The FUNdamentals of Compassion is happening May 18-20, 2018, at the Wesley Center in Woodworth, just south of Alexandria. Cheryl Fell, author and motivational speaker, will partner with Pastor Cheryl Nelson to provide a weekend of fun, relaxation and spiritual revitalization for women of all ages. We will walk the woodland labyrinth, experience Holy Communion, share our thoughts and stories, play games and rest – all while we explore what it means to show and experience “compassion.” Cheryl Fell, always a woman of action when she sees a need, has asked all who attend to bring a set of full, white bed sheets to donate to the lodge where we stay. The discounted cost of the weekend is \$125 for a double room and \$175 for a private room which includes 2 nights’ lodging, 6 meals and the use of all the facilities. There are also scholarships available; see Pastor Cheryl for more information. Registration forms are in the church office now; the deadline is May 10 and you can register online by going to www.thewesleycenter.com and clicking on “FUNdamentals Retreat.” The Wesley Center is a wonderful setting for a time apart so treat yourself and join us.

First Quarter Financial Report

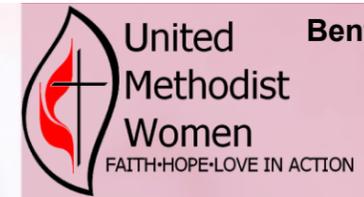
Income	\$154,163.00
Expenses	\$154,462.00

The first quarter of this year has been a bit extraordinary by way of expenses. We have had some large unexpected expenses. Even with the unexpected expenses we have managed to maintain stability.

Update on Security System Fundraiser

\$8,216.00 was raised at the UMM Fish Fry Fundraiser this past Sunday bringing the total to \$38,565.66 raised for the Security System. The Finance Committee voted to take the remaining funds needed to pay for the Security System from the BUMC BP Fund that is housed at the Louisiana United Methodist Foundation so that work could begin as soon as possible. Thanks to the UMM for the time and energy they put in to the fish fry to make it such a great success. Thanks to everyone who have prayed over and donated to this important endeavor. The security system will be a major step towards making our future more safe.

LA Conference Apportionment amount for 2018 is \$44,828.00. We have paid \$ 12,223.00 to date.



Benton United Methodist Women
President, Pat Mosher

onthelake8@bellsouth.net

(318) 572-3447

Morning Glories

Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 11:15 AM
at Olive Garden

Nightingales

Tuesday, May 15 at 6:30 PM
at the home of Pat Mosher
216 West Lake Road (off Parks Road in Benton)
Bring a salad, all are invited!

These will be our last meetings until September.

United Methodist Women Legacy Foundation

United Methodist Women has a rich legacy as a mission movement since 1869. They have established the UMW Legacy Foundation to build for the next 150 years of service in God’s mission on behalf of women, children and youth in communities down the street and around the world.

We, Benton UMW, donated to this Foundation Fund and are honoring three (3) of our oldest and finest ladies. Betty Russell, Louise Grisham and Peggy Rumbaugh. They belong to the Eva Smith Sunday School Class and will be recognized in class. They total 167 YEARS of service to Benton United Methodist Church and Benton United Methodist Women. And they are still putting Faith, Hope and Love in Action for our generation to the next. Legacy, in the dictionary, says it is something handed down from one generation to the next. These ladies deserve this honor!!! Tell them how much you appreciate them.

Mark your calendars:

Circles: No circle meetings in June, July or August

FUNdamentals of Compassion: Our Pastor Cheryl Nelson and Nurse Cheryl Fell are sponsoring “Women’s Weekend at Wesley Center” May 18-20.

BUMW Executive Meeting: June 18 at 6:00 PM
(Date may change)

UMW State “Mission u”: July 25-28
Wesley Center - Woodworth, LA

BUMW Sock Hop: August 10

UMW District “Mini Mission u”: August 18
at Zwolle UMC – Tamales promised!!

Methodist Women in the Kitchen #2

Our **Cookbook** is still available in the church office at **\$20 each or 6 for \$100.**

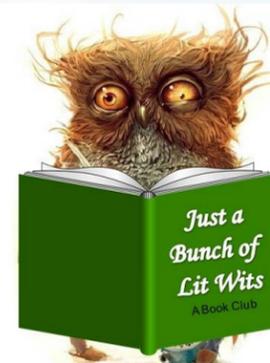
They make great housewarming or birthday gifts for those who love to cook or are learning to cook! .

Proceeds go to United Methodist Women supported missions.



The Gift of Life BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, June 3, 2018
Blood Drive



Just a Bunch of
Lit Wits
A Book Club

3rd Fridays at 7:15 AM
at Panera Bread on Airline

For more information, contact:
Joel Carter
jlcumc@yahoo.com

Our book club starts over again on June 15, 2018! We meet in May and we will choose books at our May meeting. Now is the time to jump in and join the Lit Wits! We would love to see you there!

Contact Joel Carter for information
at (318) 465-9235.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Bible Study:
Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Supporting Camp Caney



Hello, my name is Patrick Thomas. My wife, Jessica, and I have been extremely blessed to answer the Lord and to serve as Camp Caney's hosts! As you know, Camp Caney is one of only three camping ministries maintained by the Louisiana Conference. The Monroe and Shreveport districts see that Camp Caney is a wonderful mission that works to transform the lives of many children, youth, and adults, past, present, and future!

Camp Caney holds a special place in my heart that no other place can ever hold; it's where I found the Lord Jesus Christ. It is where my transformation started as a Christian. Sadly, over the last twelve years, I lost contact with Camp Caney; but the memories were always there. In September of 2017, I asked God to get me back to my roots. I was asking Him to allow a job opening in the Monroe area to become available if I had my way. I never imagined that He would give me the opportunity to get back to my ROOTS! In November of 2017, I came out for a work day at Caney with a few other people to find a place that means so much to me look nothing like my memories had conveyed. I kind of expected that there would still be summer camps that were so full that we would be either having two weeks of the

same age group or turning kids away because we didn't have enough room. Sadly, that isn't the case. When God called me to do His work here at Camp Caney I knew I couldn't do it alone.

When Jessica and I moved on campus, I started making a list of things I considered to be important issues that we needed to address – some things that I can do personally and other things that will take help to complete. When looking over my list at the end of each week, there is one thing I cannot stress enough - we need help! We need people, youth groups, and churches to help us. That is the main reason I am writing this letter. There are many needs here at Camp Caney and an army of God's people is the only way Camp Caney will flourish and continue to transform lives. We need many volunteers and churches to help with the upkeep of facilities as well as donations of items and money to keep the campus alive and beautiful. We need people to simply give up a day of their time to come participate in work days or even schedule other days that better fit their schedules. We need people to encourage children and youth to get involved by attending and volunteering at Caney's summer camps. Most importantly we need people praying that Camp Caney will be a place where children, youth and adults can come and renew, revive, and transform their lives. Simply put, we need YOU.

We will be holding a **work day on May 12th, 2018 at 8:00 am**. We will start the work day off with a prayer asking that God's Will with Camp Caney be done. Then we will get to work making Camp Caney an even more beautiful place. I am asking you to be a part of the puzzle that will continue to help Camp Caney be special for so many generations to come – just like it was and continues to be for us! Please come be a part of transforming lives! Below I have attached a work day list along with a list of things Camp Caney needs. Please RSVP by way of my contact info below. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Sincerely,
Patrick Thomas, Camp Caney Host
318-372-9485 (cell) campcaney@gmail.com
www.caneycamp.com

Camp Caney Work Day List – May 12, 2018 at 8:00 am

1. The first curve on the main road once you enter the gate is washing away. I would like to have the same look that we have in front of the cafeteria with a wood retaining wall.
 2. Cut all marked trees in the wooded area and make walking trails by the lake.
 3. Need tractors to help remove all trees and put them in burn pile.
 4. Replace a few boards on the pier that have splintered.
 5. Replace steps that are missing on the ladder that goes in/out of the water.
 6. Tear down obstacle course and clean that area up so it can be used.
 7. Need blowers and rakes to start from the back of campus and work to the very front of campus. Need to blow and rake years of pine straw and leaf build up.
 8. Clear all debris from behind old manager house—I have a dumpster provided by Stallion to put everything in.
 9. Clear and manicure the cross/hill and swimming area
 10. Seal all wooden boxes and posts on the outside of each cabin.
 11. Need limb saws—need to trim all trees on the campus.
 12. The area behind the Rec Hall and concession stand—we need to completely clean up and have it trimmed.
 13. The area to the left of the fire pit- we need to clean and trim all trees.
 14. Replace all wooden benches with expanded metal benches so they won't wear and rot like the wooden ones. (these need to be donated-there are about 10 throughout the campus)
 15. Replace all the wooden picnic tables throughout the campus. I would also like for these to be expanded metal so they won't wear and rot like the wooden ones. (these would also need to be donated- there are about 10 of these as well).
 16. Replace boards on bridge going to the lake from the cross.
 17. Put metal railing along all sidewalks to accommodate people who are disabled or elderly.
 18. Put in sidewalks from Rec Hall to the sitting area to the Dining hall.
 19. Trim all trees around campus.
- Things to bring: chainsaws, rakes, blowers (gas powered), limb saws, tractors, power tools, hammers, and gloves.
- If you would like to take a project on this list or if you have any questions, please contact Patrick Thomas at 318-372-9485.
campcaney@gmail.com

Serving Our Community



The Table Food Ministry

Tuesday, May 15
9:00 AM Truck Unloading
10:00 AM Bag Packing

Wednesday, May 16
12:30 PM
Food Distribution

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

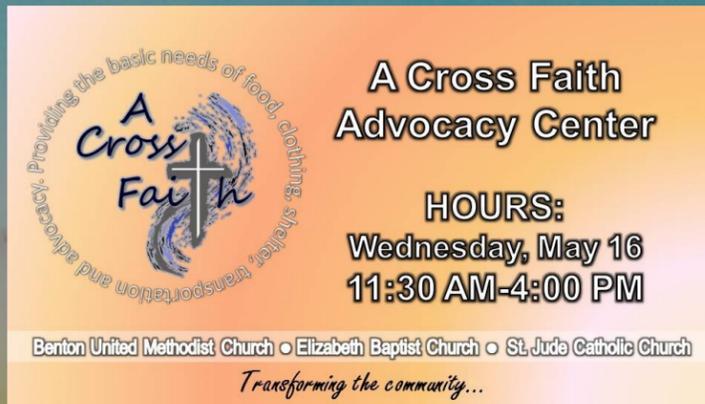
The Closet Clothes Ministry

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, May 16
11:30 AM-4:00 PM

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

Sue Shadow
(318) 965-2496
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

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