



bearcreekumc.org

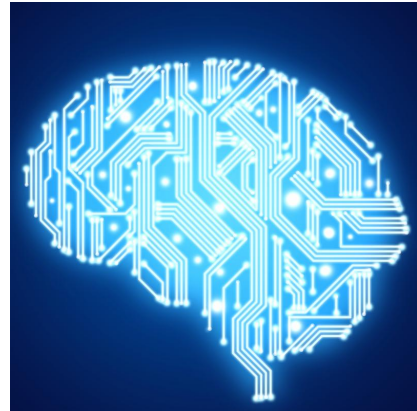
January 5th
2017

worship... walk... work...

Altarnative Thoughts

by Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

2016 started with my mother dying and the year ended with my first grandson being born. There were four seasons and twelve months. We started with a score of presidential candidates and the final score left us with one. We got hacked about hacks. We lost stars while NASA found 1294 planets. We were confronted by a flood and a flood of generosity. Yellowstone's grizzly bears officially made one of the greatest wildlife comebacks recorded and the Cubs overcame the curse, winning the World Series. We witnessed Brexit and we were reunited with Twinkies. We experienced victories and defeats, highs and lows, laughter and tears.



walk

In other words, 2016 was filled with changes, filled with life.

Was it any worse than any other year? For some.

Was it any better than any other year? For some.

That's what keeps life so interesting...and unsettling...and scary...and fun. Keep in mind that nothing that is living remains unchanged. Life is pros and cons, convolutions and confluences, conflicts and congruities. It's an adventure without a roadmap, a freefall into the unknown - no matter how well we plan. If we knew what was coming, we probably wouldn't go.

So at the start of 2017 let me share with you a few verses of scripture to cling to when you get caught in the whirlpool of living waters:

- For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

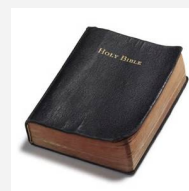
- So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart (Psalm 90:12)
- In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps (Proverbs 16:9)
- Jesus said, 'Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes' (Matthew 6:34, The Message)
- Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him (Psalm 37:7)

In short, when you are tempted to worry, just listen to God's voice telling you, "I've got this."

Ladies' Daytime Bible Study

Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:30am.

Would you like to grow another step in your journey as a child of God? Rob Fuquay explores what Jesus meant when he said, "I am the Bread of Life"; the Light of the World: the seven I-Ams in The Gospel of John. Come study these with us and learn about **The God We Can Know** beginning January 11, 2017 continuing through February 22, 2017. We will meet in FLC 102 from 10:00 to 11:30am. Facilitator will be Virginia Garner. Study books will be available after December 25th in the office for \$10. Please purchase one before class starts and read Chapter 1 before coming to class.

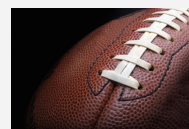


walk

Super Q

UMM Super Bowl BBQ Fundraiser.

Beginning this Sunday, January 8, the UMM will be taking orders for BBQ in the Courtyard after each of the three services. They will be accepting orders each Sunday in January and you can pick up your BBQ on Super Bowl Sunday (February 5) after any of the services. **There will be a new item on the menu this year!** Thank you.



work

Parent's Night Out

Children's Ministry Fundraiser.

On Saturday, January 14 from 6 to 10pm, the BCUMC Children's Council is hosting Parent's Night Out. For \$15 per child / \$25 per family you can drop off your child(ren), age 12 months to 5th grade, and enjoy an evening out. We will provide snacks, games movies and crafts for the kids. Please provide a sack dinner if your child is not eating before drop off. **Registration and payment is due this Sunday, January 8.** Contact [John Henley](#) or call the church office, 281.463.2330, to register.



work

Sanctuary Decorations

Bill Clark needs assistance.

On Saturday, January 14 at 9am, Bill Clark will be in the Sanctuary taking down and putting away the Christmas decorations. He is looking for 6 volunteers to help him. It won't take long and his back will really appreciate you!



work

SW District Leadership Development

Saturday, January 28 from 9am to 1pm.

Register [online](#) now! \$10 online or \$20 on-site. Takes place at Christ UMC, 3300 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land, TX 77479. Childcare is available.



work

SW District Welcomes Bishop Scott Jones

Saturday, January 14 from 9:30am to Noon.

All Clergy and Laity are invited to Christ UMC (3300 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land, TX 77479) as they host a welcoming event for Bishop Scott Jones. Bishop Jones will be conducting an interactive presentation based on his book, "The Wesleyan Way". Lunch will be provided afterward by RSVP only. [Email](#) your plans to attend.



walk

PB & J and Tuna

Bring your donations this Sunday, January 8.

Due to the holidays our donations last Sunday were down considerably, so we are going to try again this Sunday. Please bring your peanut butter, jelly and tuna for the HNwCC Food Pantry. Thank you!



work

Emmaus Prayer Clock

Sign up to pray for pilgrims.

The Walk to Emmaus Men's Walk #95 is February 16, 2017 through February 19, 2017. Click [here](#) to sign up to pray for the pilgrims and the team. Thank you!



walk

Happy New Year!

We have celebrated a New Year and now we are celebrating NEW MINISTRY opportunities with the creation of *Director of Family Ministries* position and John Henley stepping up to lead the Youth and Children of Bear Creek UMC! John would like to have a creative brainstorming time with the Youth on Sunday, January 15 at noon in Rooms 205-206; lunch will be provided, so come and help kick off the New Year and take an active role in YOUR Youth ministry. Later in the month parents will have a meeting with John, so parents mark your calendar for Sunday, January 29 at noon.



walk

This week we will resume regular activities - check out your Youth Newsletter for all the specifics and info on registration deadlines for upcoming activities - contact [Lea Bynum](#) or [John Henley](#) with questions.

AWANA on Wednesdays

Resumes January 11, 2017 @ 6:30pm in the FLC gym.



worship

We will resume next Wednesday, January 11, 2017.

Bear Creek United Methodist is devoted to nurturing your children with scriptural teaching, fun activities, and opportunities to cultivate great friendships that last forever.

Here are a few things to remember:

- On Wednesday, January 11, please drop off (6:30) and pick up (8:00) your child in the Tree House on the second floor of the Family Life Center.
- Fill out a new Kidzone Registration ([English](#) or [Spanish](#)) form for 2016-17.
- Pay the \$20.00 registration fee per family for 2016-17.

Please contact me if you have questions concerning any ministry to children here at Bear Creek United Methodist Church. Click [here](#) for the schedule.

Thanks,
John R. Henley
281.463.2330

Online and Text Giving

Electronic giving. From your smartphone.

We now offer online and text giving on our website. Both options are facilitated through Shelby Systems, Inc., our church administration software, which is highly secure. You will find links and instructions on the [giving](#) page of our website.

Thank you for your faithful contributions that allow us to continue the various ministries of Bear Creek United Methodist Church!



worship

Energizers

January 19, 2017 @ 10:30am.

Energizers, a group of active adults age 50-plus, enjoy gatherings that include day-long excursions. We meet on the third Friday of every month at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert and drinks are provided. Come join us for games and Christian fellowship.



walk

Fellowship Friday, an Energizers outreach ministry, provides a loving, welcoming and fun environment for family members with mild to moderate memory loss who do not require skilled care. This program, a partnership between Interfaith CarePartners and BCUMC, is designed to give caregivers some much needed time away. **Our next meeting is January 13, 2017 from 10am to 1:30pm.** The theme for January is *New Beginnings* and the entertainment is *Grandma's Boy Friends*.

Western Prayer Wall

FLC 101. Leave a Prayer Request.

Been to the Holy Land? If it's too far or you've already been, visit our BCUMC Western Prayer Wall any time during church office hours or on Sunday. Please leave your prayer request in the crevices of the wall. Thank you - the Prayer Ministry Team.



walk

A Time to Pray Together


Prayer Room - Ministry Village. Wednesdays @ 9:15am.

Come to pray with us for the congregational needs of BCUMC and for what God puts on our hearts. We are trusting in His Promise, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." ~ Matthew 18:20



walk

Blessings, **James Sharp, Communications Director**
281.463.2330 X109

 Like us on Facebook