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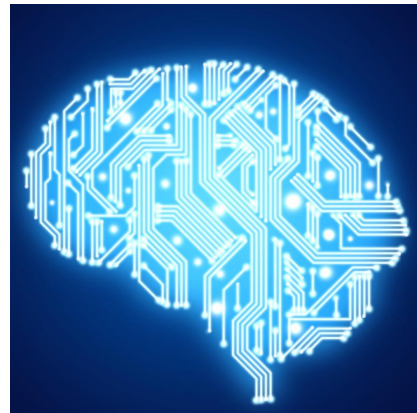
February 2nd
2017

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

Altarnative Thoughts

by Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

All eyes will be turned to Houston this Sunday as we host the Super Bowl. Of course, the big theological question is whether God is on the side of the Falcons or the Patriots. They actually do surveys about such questions. What they found is that 25% of all Americans believe that God cares about the game's outcome. They believe that God is sovereign and has a hand in all human affairs. Interestingly, the study found that almost half of Americans think God plays a role in the career of faithful athletes. The belief here is that since God has a personal relationship with people, faithful athletes gain rewards. The downside in both cases is that if your team is not winning it must be cursed and if the athlete is injured he or she is being punished.



walk

Could it be that what God really cares about is how we utilize the talents he's given us? Could it be that God wants all of us to use our abilities to glorify him? Could it be that God wants us to be humble in our victories and gracious in our defeats? Could it be that God can use any outcome to develop our character? Could it be that the way a football bounces by chance is not a threat to the authority of God? Could it be that the delicate balance of the universe does not hinge on our prayers for a particular football team? And as crazy as it sounds, could it be that God loves both the Falcons and the Patriots just like God loves each one of us?

Maybe the Super Bowl isn't about big theological questions; maybe we should just enjoy the game - or at least the commercials.

The Wesleyan Way

New church-wide study beginning February 12.

This study is authored by our very own Bishop Scott Jones.

Small groups sign-ups continue this Sunday, February 5.

Pick the group that fits best: by time, location, or membership. Please contact [Nanette Radke](#) or call the church office, 281.463.2330, if you have any questions. Books are \$10 each.



walk

- Do you want to see what God has in store for you?
- Do you want a more complete picture of the Christian life?
- Do you want to experience all the grace and love Jesus has for you

BCUMC School Registration

Opens February 7.

Registration begins Tuesday, February 7 in the Fellowship Hall:

- 9:30am - siblings of those currently enrolled
- 10:00am - church members



work

Registration continues Wednesday, February 8 in the Fellowship Hall:

- 9:30am - general public

Souper Bowl of Caring

Bring your donations this Sunday, February 5.

Tackle hunger! Be a game changer! The United Methodist Women will connect caring, giving and football on Sunday, February 5, by collecting change (\$) before, between, and after all worship services. If you would like to volunteer to collect, please contact [Cyndi Miller](#).



work

Monetary donations will be given to the *Houston Northwest Community Center's* Food Pantry to help purchase food for those in need in our community. We hope to feed many families with the money that we collect. Please support our UMW and HNwCC Souper Bowl team!

Croppin' at the Creek

February 24 and 25. Family Life Center.

Happy New Year Ladies!! Our 1st **Croppin' at the Creek** of 2017 will be Friday, February 24 and Saturday February 25. All crafters are welcome as we join together for fun and fellowship! We welcome knitters, jewelry makers, scrapbookers (traditional and digital), etc.



work

Our goal is to help you connect with other likeminded women, to be encouraged by them and to preserve your family's heritage! We promise you'll be glad you came! We

are a fun group of ladies - we laugh, we cry, we eat - and the best thing is, we get things done! Order your pictures, gather your supplies and register now: Friday night or Saturday or both! [Registration](#) *must be made in advance*. **Deadline is February 10th.**

Come and create lasting memories! Proceeds will benefit local women's and children's missions/charities.

HNwCC Food Pantry

Bring your donations this Sunday, February 5.

The Houston Northwest Community Center food pantry is located on our church property. On an average pantry night approximately 200 families are served, representing 600+ individuals, of which about 400 are children. We will have greeters at the door on the first Sunday each month to accept your donations. Please help us continue this critical ministry; so many in our community are positively impacted by the generosity of our church family!



work

Super Q

UMM Super Bowl BBQ Fundraiser.

Remember to pick up your BBQ order this Sunday, February 5 after any of the services.



work

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 28 @ 6pm in Fellowship Hall.

Join us for all-you-can-eat pancakes and stay for the Talent Show!

If you would like to perform in our Talent Show to help raise money for the HNwCC Food Pantry, please come to the Choir Room after the 11am service to audition. Michael Moore will be there from Noon to 2 on Sundays, February 5 and 12 to help you prepare. Thank you!



work

Scouting for Food

HNwCC Food Pantry to benefit.

On Saturday, February 4, local Boy Scout troops will be collecting non-perishable food items that will directly benefit the HNwCC Food Pantry! If you receive a flyer from your neighborhood scouts, please place a bag(s) of food on your porch to be collected Saturday morning between 9am and Noon.



work

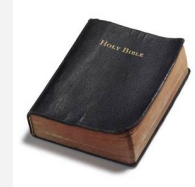
If you do not receive a flyer, but would like to help families in our community, please bring your donation to the food pantry (Karen's Place), located on the north side of the Bear Creek UMC parking lot in the Ministry Village.

We will also need volunteers that morning from 9:30am to 1:00pm to help with this very large food drive. If you would like to volunteer, please [email](#) us so we know you'll be coming to help. Thank you!

Sunday Night Ladies Bible Study

FLC 102 from 5:00 to 6:30pm.

Relationships are messy. We struggle to get along, especially with those who disagree with us. We often find ourselves divided, even as Christians. How can we work out our differences and disagreements in a loving way while still remaining true to what we believe? The Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth about this very thing!



walk

The Sunday night ladies Bible study begins a 6-week study by Melissa Spoelstra, entitled *First Corinthians - Living Love When We Disagree*, beginning January 8, 2017.

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.



walk

The Walk to Emmaus Women's Walk #96 is February 23, 2017 through February 26, 2017. Click [here](#) to sign up to pray for the pilgrims and the team. Thank you!

Youth News

No Youth Group this week.

Youth will not meet this Sunday, February 5.

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.



walk

AWANA on Wednesdays

February 8, 2017 @ 6:30pm in the FLC gym.



worship

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, February 8, 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 [John Henley](#) if you have questions concerning any ministry to children here at Bear Creek United Methodist Church. Click [here](#) for the schedule.

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

February 17, 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. 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 February 10 from 10:00am to 1:30pm.*** The theme for February is *Valentines Day* and the entertainment is *Touch of Jazz*. ***Please note that Fellowship Friday will not meet in April due to Good Friday.***

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 @ 9am.


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

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