



bearcreekumc.org

February 9th
2017

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

Altarnative Thoughts

by Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

Having been to the Holy Land, I realized just how easy it is to overlook the little things, particularly in our Bible reading. Take, for example, the olive tree. The olive may be the most important plant mentioned in the Bible, yet I have hardly given it a second thought. But when we were in Israel olive trees were all over the place. While these evergreens aren't very tall trees, they have knobby trunks that can become massive as they enjoy a lifespan of hundreds of years. The oval fruit ripen late in the year, when farmers shake and beat the trees to make the olives fall onto sheets spread below them. Some olives are kept for eating. Some are taken to the press where they are crushed multiple times to extract the oil.



walk

The humble olive was used in essential ways:

- for food, an important source of nourishment;
- as a healing and soothing ointment;
- to anoint sacred objects and people (kings and priests);
- for lamps to give light.

A lowly olive can do all of that!

I could wax on in so many ways theologically (but I won't here). The point is that something as simple as an olive has so much to teach us. How much more is there in the Bible just like that? I don't know - yet. But let's keep finding out.

The Wesleyan Way

New church-wide study beginning February 12.

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

Small groups meetings begin this Sunday, February 12.

Please contact [Nanette Radke](#) or call the church office, 281.463.2330, if you have any questions. Books are \$10 each.

- 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



walk

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 22nd.**

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

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 28 @ 6pm in Fellowship Hall.

Join us for all-you-can-eat pancakes [\$5/person or \$20/family] and stay for the Talent Show!



work

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 Sunday, February 12 to help you prepare. Thank you!

Hour of Prayer

February 14 in the Fellowship Hall @ 7pm.

Hour of Prayer (HOP) is on Valentine's Day this year.

Sherri Weeks, an artist from *Out of the Box*, will lead us in contemplative painting while we listen to Chris Tyree play his



worship

guitar and sing.

Come at 6:30 to enjoy Hebrews Coffee before we begin! Come ready to pray & paint!

Book Fair

Sunday, February 19 in FLC gym.

Come for breakfast then stay and browse our collection of gently-used books! We will be in the Family Life Center gym from 8:30am to 12:30pm on Sunday, February 19.



work

Thank You!

From the HNwCC Food Pantry.

On Sunday, February 5, 2017, you - our awesome congregation - brought **321 pounds** of peanut butter, jelly and tuna for the Houston Northwest Community Center Food Pantry! Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please continue to donate.



work

Thank You!

From the UMW.

On Sunday, February 5, 2017, you - our awesome congregation - **donated \$911.50** for the Souper Bowl of Caring. This money will be used by HNwCC to purchase items for their Food Pantry.



work

Instrumentalists Needed

Chancel Choir Instrumentalists.

Occasionally, the Chancel Choir sings an anthem that has an instrumentalist part. We would like to start and maintain a list of anyone who could play for us. All types of instruments are needed.



work

If you are interested, please contact [Sean Saunders](#) to set up a time to meet for a conversation about how you can participate in our music ministry.

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

Sign up now for summer camps and activities.

Please remember that we need to have a [Parental Permission](#) form on file for each youth.

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

February 15, 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 15, 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.

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.***



walk

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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