



bearcreekumc.org

March 23th
2017

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

Altarnative Thoughts

by Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

We have an exciting anniversary coming for our church: Cristo Reina, our Spanish-language ministry, will be celebrating its 2nd anniversary next week on April 2nd! In two years, under the leadership of Franklin Rodriguez, they have grown from a gathering in a Sunday school room into a vibrant Bear Creek UMC ministry that includes over 100 people in a very spirited worship service, small group Bible studies meeting in homes, and a Saturday children's outreach. Franklin has an evangelist's heart and it shows as he helps us fulfill the church's mission is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."



walk

On this momentous occasion, I want us to be clear that the motivation for Cristo Reina is not demographics; the motivation for Cristo Reina is a kingdom vision. Hence, the name: Cristo Reina, "Christ reigns"- as in, we are part of the kingdom of Christ. We have a calling and a desire to draw all people into God's kingdom. Pastor and author, John Perkins, reminds us, "God has called the whole church to take the whole gospel to the whole world." Jesus gives us the Great Commission, "Go and make disciples of all nations." That last word, nations, is the Greek word ethnos, meaning races, culture groups, people groups. In other words, there are to be no boundaries on our efforts to reach people with the love of Jesus. Because we live in a county where 1.7 million people identify themselves as Hispanic - many of whom speak little or no English - we were limited in our ability to share the gospel as we should. Then God provided us with Cristo Reina.

We are still learning how to bridge the cultural challenges and language differences. But we are committed to the effort, working together as one church. More than the church looking like heaven, God wants us to operate like heaven. So we become stronger when we are pushed beyond our comfort zones. We are United Methodists and we are uniting Methodists: Methodists in the business of uniting with all people. As John Wesley said, "You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work."

Let us celebrate and proclaim Cristo Reina, Christ reigns!

Chili's Spirit Night

Proceeds benefit Bear Creek UMC Missions.

Let Chili's do the cooking while we support BCUMC Missions. With **each flyer presented** on Sunday, April 2 between 11:00am and 10:30pm, Chili's will donate 15% of the event day sales! Only at W.

Little York location: 5841 Hwy 6 N, Houston, TX 77084. You may pick up a flyer in the Narthex on Sunday, April 2 or in the church office or click to [download](#) and print one.



Clay's Spirit Night

Proceeds benefit Bear Creek UMC School.

Join us at Clay's (17717 Clay Rd, Houston, TX 77084) on Tuesday, March 28, from 5:30 to 8:30pm for our Fundraiser / Family Fun Night. Mention you are supporting BCUMC School. You may also RSVP on Facebook: *Bear Creek United Methodist Church School*.



Books with Friends

Book Club in the Library. Open to all.

Join us three times this year for a book discussion group sponsored by the BCUMC Library and the UMW.



Our first meeting will be April 23 from 4:00 to 5:30pm in the Library and/or Narthex of the Fellowship Hall. Our first book is *The Undoing of Saint Silvanus*, by Beth Moore. You are responsible for purchasing your own book, which is available at [Lifeway](#) for \$12.49 (half-price until March 20, 2017!) You will also find a description of the book here.

We will meet again on June 10 and October 29. Books for those dates will be communicated once they are determined. We hope to see you there!

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15 @ 2pm.

The BCUMC Children's Council would appreciate your assistance with this year's Egg Hunt. We need non-chocolate candy, empty



plastic eggs and volunteers to help work the event. You may drop off your donation at the church office. Contact [John Henley](#) if you would like to help during the event.

Saturday in Service

Saturday, April 8 @ 8:30am.

Saturday-in-Service is your opportunity to help support BCUMC Ministry & Missions with campus-wide service projects for a maximum of 3 ½ hours on Saturday, April 8th.



work

There are various projects on the BCUMC campus for all skill levels, including: painting, adding sand to the playground, cleaning pews, light gardening, power washing, and more. Service projects for both children's and youth ministries are being planned. All projects are underwritten by the BCUMC Trustees, so all that is needed is your presence and willingness to help.

A light snack breakfast begins at 8:30am, with service projects starting at 8:45am. All projects will be completed before noon.

Please visit the Trustees table between services this Sunday with questions and to sign up, or email the church [office](#).

BCUMC UMW Lunch at the Creek

Old-fashioned Fried Chicken Dinner.

The Bear Creek UMC United Methodist Women invite all ladies to a dinner on Sunday, March 26 at 12:15pm in the Family Life Center gym. The guest speaker is Dr. Jacque Colbert; her topic is: *Iron Sharpens Iron - Women's Strengths*.



walk

There will be door prizes and a silent auction. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in the Courtyard between services on Sunday, March 5, 12 and 19 or in the church office. Questions? Contact [Cyndi Miller](#).

Musical Opportunities

Chancel and Chamber Choir volunteers needed.

Clarinetist Needed - The Chamber Choir needs a clarinetist to play with them on Maundy Thursday, April 13. For more information, please contact [Sean Saunders](#).



work

Youth News

Night on the Range tickets for sale.

The Youth are gearing up for **Night on the Range**, Saturday, April 29 at

6:30pm and we want YOU to come and celebrate our Bear Creek Youth Ministry with us! Tickets may be purchased on Sundays or in the church office, \$20 per person or \$35 for two. Come and support the BC Youth and help make our Summer 2017 fantastic!



Contact [Lea Bynum](#) or [John Henley](#) with questions.

walk

AWANA on Wednesdays

March 29, 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, March 29, 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.
- **We will not have Awana on April 13 due to Holy Week services.**

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

April 21, 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 May 12 from 10:00am to 1:30pm.** The theme for May is *Mother's Day* and the entertainment is Harbor Light Choir. **Please note that**

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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