



bearcreekumc.org

April 14th
2016

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

Altarnative Thoughts

by Dr. Jonathan Bynum

Do you give up?

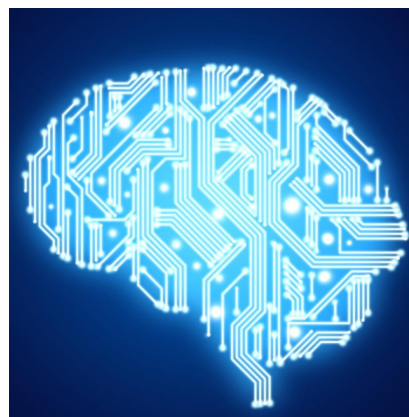
I don't mean quit or abandon.

I mean offering. I mean laying your gifts on the altar.
I mean worship.

When you give, do you give up...to God?

In the first verse of the old hymn, I Surrender All, we sing:

*All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.*



walk

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, "On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn..." (**1 Corinthians 16:2**). He was

encouraging them to share in the ministry of the saints - giving to the Church for the work of the Church. Paul was teaching that the collection is a consistent act of worship as God's people gather on the Lord's Day. Giving to the church is a priority.

That could sound like an obligation if the Church is merely an organization, an institution. But we are not. Remember what was said in this past Sunday's sermon: the Church isn't what we do; the Church is what God does and invites us to join in his work of redeeming the world. We are the Body of Christ. We are the Bride of Christ. We are a New Creation. So giving is a gift for the giver to remember how much the Giver has given. When we surrender all, we are only surrendering all that belongs to God in the first place and trusting that we will not outgive God.

Are you ready to give up now?

See you Sunday!

Lisa's Holy Land Experience

Sunday, April 17 at 3 p.m. FLC Room 212/213.

The picture on the right is a photograph of the Elah Valley, the place where David fought Goliath. As most of you know, I spent two weeks in March trekking through the Holy Land and it was incredible! I've had several requests from youth and adults to see pictures from my trip and to hear about the places I experienced. Of course I would love to tell everyone about my trip!! If you're planning on coming, please let me know so I can be sure that our space will accommodate everyone - [Lisa Gill](#).



walk

BCUMC School Spirit Night

April 28. Freddy's. 5 - 9 p.m.

Come out to Freddy's Frozen Custard on Thursday, April 28 from 5 to 9 p.m. and support our school! Freddy's is located at 15518 Fm 529 Rd, Houston, TX 77095.



work

Ohio Northern University Singers

Saturday, May 14. Sanctuary. 7 p.m.



Bear Creek UMC Music Ministry is excited to host a concert walk
by the Ohio Northern University Singers on Saturday, May 14
at 7:00 p.m. Ohio Northern is a private United Methodist Church-affiliated university
located in Ada, Ohio. The 39-voice ensemble also performed at Bear Creek UMC two
years ago as a part of their 2014 U.S. concert tour.

The concert is free. A love offering will be collected to help defray tour expenses. To
further reduce expenses, **we are asking members of our congregation to be host
families** for the choir members on Saturday evening. Host families will take their
singer(s) home after the concert and, on Sunday morning, provide breakfast and a ride
back to the church. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know these students and to
show off your Houston hospitality.

If you can host one or more singers, please contact either:

[Kay Kennedy](#) ~ 281-855-2520 or [Nancy Vickers](#) ~ 281 217-2185. Thank you!

Youth Summer Registration Open

Sign up today! District Camp. JUMMP. UM ARMY.



walk

Visit the [youth page](#) on our website for dates, locations,
payment methods and registration forms. All trips require a
\$100 deposit, due by April 24. All final payments are due by June 1. Questions? Contact
[Lisa Gill](#) for more information.

Children's Summer Registration

Sign up today! District Camp. Tennis. VBS.

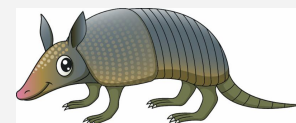


walk

Visit the [children's page](#) on our website for dates, locations, payment methods and
registration forms. District camp requires a \$100 deposit, due by April 24. Questions?
Contact [John Henley](#) for more information.

Summer Reading Program

Mondays in June and July. 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.



walk

Get ready for the Summer Story Program (for 1 year to
kindergarten) and the Summer Reading Program (must have completed 1st through 6th
grades) happening on Mondays: June 6, 13, 27 and July 11, 18, 25 in the Bear Creek
UMC Library. Come **Read Your Way Across Texas!**

General Conference

Message from Dr. Bynum.

I want to encourage the church to pray, each day at 9 a.m., leading up to General Conference, which takes place May 10 to 20. Upper Room is providing a resource of [60 daily devotions](#) (**link has been corrected**) that can be downloaded as a pdf and/or receive daily emails or texts from them to prompt prayer.

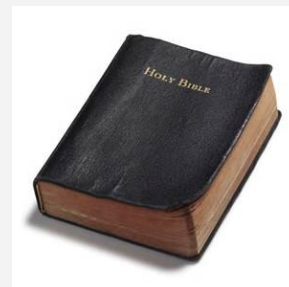


walk

Women's Sunday Night Bible Study

FLC 102. Begins April 10. Starts at 5 p.m.

Come join us for a 12-week study of **Isaiah** by Drew Hunter from the *Knowing the Bible* series beginning April 10. The Book of Isaiah alternates between promise of judgment and restoration, reminds God's people of the magnitude of humanity's sin, the judgment deserved, and how God displays His glory by saving sinners. We meet from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center, room 102. Lessons will be facilitated by Marilyn Wetzel. See you there!



walk

UMCOR

Flood relief. Help our neighbors here in Texas.



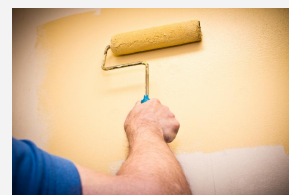
work

The Advance Number for UMCOR Domestic Disaster response is 901670. *Texas Flooding* should be in the memo and all checks made out to UMCOR, **not** Bear Creek UMC. Visit the UMCOR [website](#) for more information about their relief programs around the world.

Saturday in Service

April 16. BCUMC Grounds. 8:30 a.m.

All indoor projects will continue as planned; however, in the event that we have inclement weather, all outdoor projects will be rescheduled.



work

- Snack Breakfast from 8:30 to 9:00
- Commissioning at 8:45

- Projects begin at 9:00

Visit our [website](#) for a complete list of projects.

Please note: It is not too late to sign up. We still really need volunteers for Project #4 (painting & sealing), Project #6 (power washing) and Project #9 (Habitat for Humanity - deconstruction). We will accept sign-ups on the morning of - just show up!

UMW Retreat

Real Love. Real Faith. Real Laughter.



walk

Registration for the Women's Retreat **is continuing through Sunday, April 17.** Registration forms are available [online](#) and also in the church office. Additionally, there are two more Sundays you may register between church services - Sunday, April 10 and Sunday, April 17. If you register after March 20 and are spending the night there is an additional \$50 fee for late booking of your hotel room; however, if you are commuting to & from there is no additional charge. If you do need a hotel room, contact Pam Anthes ASAP as there are only three rooms left.

Come be filled by God's love. Be inspired to overflow into other's lives. Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24. Hilton Garden Inn - the Woodlands. Guest speaker is Karen Cunningham. *Questions?* Contact [Pam Anthes](#) or [Cyndi Miller](#). For more information, click [here](#) to see the flyer with full details on prices for lodging and meals.

Rummage Sale this Summer

July 15 & 16. Family Life Center Gym.



work

In July the *Family Missions Committee* will be sponsoring a rummage sale. Please start saving your 'treasures' for us.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to help fund our continued **Angel Tree** activities and our other community outreach events such as **The Day of Thanks & Giving**. We will be collecting items daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 10 through 13. No major appliances, non-working TVs or tube-type TVs please. Thank you!

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.



worship

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

Fellowship Friday / Energizers

May 13. Fellowship Hall. 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert and drinks are provided.



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. The theme for May is "Mother's Day" and the entertainment is *Party of 2*.

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

Pray Together

Prayer Room in Wesley thru April 17. Meets @ 9:15 a.m.

Are you free on Wednesday mornings? Want someone to join with you in prayer? Come for *A Time to Pray Together* as we lift up our concerns and rejoice in our joys.



walk

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

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