



bearcreekumc.org

October 6th
2016

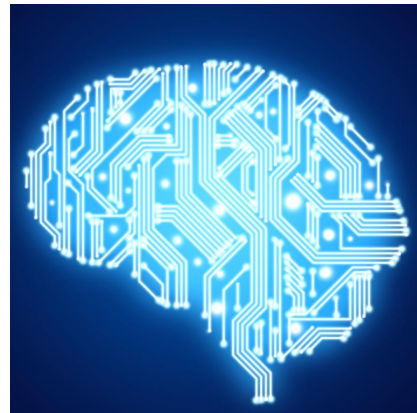
worship... walk... work...

Altarnative Thoughts

By Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

I can say that with the confidence of faith because Jesus says to his followers, "I offer water that will become a wellspring within you that gives life throughout eternity" (John 4:14). Here's how love flows:

- Our Father's love flows to us.
- We grow deeper in love with Christ.
- We pour out love to others with the power of the Holy Spirit.



walk

It strikes me how essential it is for us to be clear how love flows.

Doug Pagitt's words are stinging, "One of the reasons churches in North America have trouble guiding people about money is that the church's economy is built on consumerism. If churches see themselves as suppliers of religious goods and services and their congregants as consumers, then offerings are 'payment.'" Let those who have ears hear what the Spirit is saying: we are not consumers!

We are beneficiaries.

You see, we will never have a theology of giving if we don't have a theology of grace; we will never open our hands to be generous givers until our hands are opened up to receive. If we are confused on that point then when we give we will pat ourselves on our backs and credit ourselves as good people. But the good news is, "God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). The good news is, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16). The good

news is, "Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father" (James 1:17). Let that truth sink in until you are filled with joy.

Grace. Undeserved gift. God's offering to us.

We are beneficiaries...recipients...heirs.

Do you get it? Yes you do! All you have, you get it all from our Father.

Now that you get it, you can give it. Jesus sent out his disciples saying, "You have been treated generously, so live generously" (Matthew 10:8). Now that you get it, you can be a radical giver, "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-and we ought to lay down our lives for one another" (1 John 3:16).

Love flows in Bear Creek...straight from the throne of God!

Honey Baked Ham Gift Card Fundraiser

Order on Sundays in October or online. \$25 per card.

The **Family Missions Team** will be taking orders for Honey Baked Ham gift cards in the Courtyard on the following Sundays:

October 9 and 16

Pick up your gift cards in the Courtyard on:

October 23 or 30



work

Each gift card is \$25. Use them to purchase a ham for your Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner. They also make great gifts. Buy as many as you like - you receive the full value of the card and the Family Missions Team receives 20% of your total order directly from the Honey Baked Ham company, which helps defer the cost of our *Day of Thanks and Giving* and the *Angel Tree Christmas Party*. Last year we raised close to \$1,000! We hope to raise even more this year. You can also order [online](#) (\$10, 25, 50, 100 available) and have them shipped to your house. Thank you for your support of this vital fundraiser.

HNwCC Backpack Buddy Program

Volunteers needed. Help us deliver food bags to schools.

HNwCC food pantry is one of the many facilities throughout the Houston area that, in conjunction with the Houston Food Bank, delivers food bags to participating schools. The food is then distributed in backpacks to students who are identified by their school counselors to be most at the risk of going without food during the weekend. The student takes the backpack home on Friday and returns it on Monday. This process repeats itself every week during the school year.



work

The HNwCC food pantry accepts delivery of food bags from the Houston Food Bank on Tuesdays and then our volunteers deliver the food bags to the schools on Thursdays. Currently, we deliver to seven Katy ISD schools.

Volunteers Needed: We need additional drivers willing to deliver the food bags to one or more schools on Thursday mornings during the school year. We also need back-up drivers when our regular drivers are not available. To volunteer or get more information, visit our [website](#) or [contact us](#).

Thank You

Making a difference in our community.

You did it again! On Sunday, October 2 you, our fabulous congregation, showed your unwavering support for the HNwCC Food Pantry by donating 299 pounds of food. Way to go BCUMC!



work

BCUMC Family Missions Spirit Night

Sunday, October 9. From 11:00am to 10:30pm.

Let Chili's do the cooking while we support Bear Creek UMC Family Missions at the same time. Eat at Chili's (W. Little York, 5841 Hwy 6 N.), mention "BCUMC Family Missions" and Chili's will donate a percentage of your purchase to our Family Missions Team!



work

Following Jesus

4th Tuesday each month. Fellowship Hall @ 7:00pm.

Hopefully, you have joined one of the small groups studying Emotionally Healthy Spirituality. Knowing yourself better so that you may **Follow Jesus** more closely has been a common goal. We will **not meet in September**, but will resume on October 25 with a joint meeting of any participant of the EHS that wants to attend.

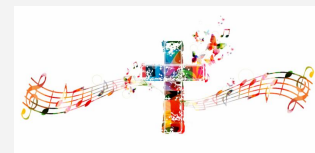


walk

Chancel Notes

Schedule your audition. Rehearsals begin soon.

The choir collected school supplies for the students and baked cookies for the teachers at Bear Creek Elementary. These were delivered last Friday and were very much appreciated. The anthem sung on September 25, "He Heard the Voice of God," was commissioned by the Chancel Choir in 2006 in memory of Mike Vickers. A big thank you to Katie Folds for playing the flute with us this past Sunday! The Chamber Choir will begin rehearsals soon. It's not too late to audition. Contact [Sean Saunders](#) to schedule your audition.



work

Trunk-or-Treat

Saturday, October 29. BCUMC parking lot. 4 to 5pm.

Our annual Trunk-or-Treat is coming soon! **We need your candy and your cars.** Candy can be dropped off in the church office if you are unable to attend. Prizes will be given for the best decorated trunk, most original decorated trunk and best candy. Please



work

contact [John Henley](#) for more information or to sign up. Thank you for your continued support of our Childrens' Ministry!

Breakfast Next Sunday

Third Sunday Breakfast. Sunday, October 16.

Join us next Sunday for breakfast in the Family Life Center gym. The Youth are preparing and serving. Bring your appetite and a friend. Children are \$2, adults \$4 and seniors \$3. You won't find a better breakfast in town at these prices...not to mention the fellowship you'll enjoy!



walk

The Day of Thanks & Giving

SAVE THE DATE. Saturday, November 19.

The day of **Thanks & Giving** is an opportunity for our church members to come together and give thanks to God for all our blessings by giving back to those in need. On Saturday, November 19 from 10:30am to 1pm, we'll be assembling 400 food boxes. There will be opportunities for all ages to serve and the UMM will be cooking us lunch. Please put it on your calendar!



walk

In preparation for the day of Thanks & Giving we will be kicking off our **food drive** on Sunday, October 16 with our turkeys from which you can "pluck" needed items then bring your donations beginning October 17 through November 12. Place them in the red donations bins around campus or bring them to the church office. Thank you!

Receptionist Needed

Part-time. Contact the church office to inquire.

We have an opening in our church office for a part-time receptionist. Answer the phone, greet people, and perform various computer tasks. Pleasant personality, patience, and proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite. The receptionist position is a shared position - the hours available include one full day (9am to 5pm), the Thursday afternoon hours (1 to 5pm), and the Friday morning hours (9am to 1pm). Please contact the church office, 281.463.2330, if you feel called to fill this paid ministry position. You, too, could be working with amazing people!



walk

Annual Conference

Thursday, October 27 @ 7pm.

The Bear Creek UMC Annual Conference is scheduled for October 27, 2016 at 7pm. District Superintendent, Jay Jackson, will meet with several churches at one time in one location. Our location is the First Filipino American United Methodist Church located at 8603 S. Kirkwood Rd, Houston, TX 77099. All members of our church are invited to attend.



walk

Croppin at the Creek

October 7 & 8. Sign up online. FLC gym.

Visit our [website](#) for details. Your family will thank you and adore you for working to put albums together just for them! So print your photos, organize your supplies and sign up today!



work

Fall Friend Special - B.O.G.O. 1/2 OFF! Looking to crop with a family member or friend? Then look no further! Sign up, pay full price, then bring your friend and pay *half price* for them! This applies to the entire weekend or for those attending on Saturday (after your fully paid registration). This will be a wonderful way to spend the weekend with family and friends.

[Registration](#) and payment **must** be made in advance.

Online Church Directory

Coming soon. Opt out if necessary.

In a few weeks we will place a link on our website that will allow you to access an electronic version of our church directory. If you are an active member in Shelby (church administration software), then you will have access to your information (including the ability to update it) as well as other members' basic information (name, address and phone number - PLEASE NOTE: birth dates have been removed due to security concerns).



work

If you do not want your information to be accessible to others, you may opt out by [emailing](#) or calling the church office, 281.463.2330; however, doing so will also negate your ability to use the online directory.

Houston West Emmaus

October 6-9 for men. October 13-16 for women.

There are slots left for both the Women's and Men's Walks in October. Let's make sure we fill up both of these walks as soon as possible. You can start by asking someone if you can sponsor them. They will be flattered, they will be excited, but most importantly, they cannot say yes unless you ask them!



walk

Whom will you sponsor?

Men's Walk: October 6 - 9

Women's Walk: October 13 - 16

Pilgrim and sponsorship forms found [here](#). October Prayer Clocks are open for [sign-up](#).

AWANA on Wednesdays

October 12 @ 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, October 12, 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

October 21. Fellowship Hall. 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. Only 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. **Our next meeting is October 14 from 10am to 1:30pm.** The theme for September is "Octoberfest" and the entertainment is Jeff Stewart.

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

FLC 101. Meets @ 9:15am.

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

