



bearcreekumc.org

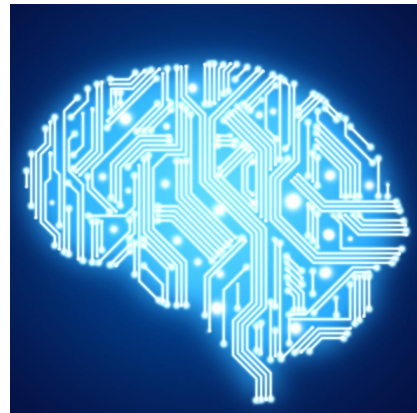
October 20th
2016

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

Altarnative Thoughts

By Dr. Jonathan Bynum.

Love Flows in Bear Creek. That is the theme of our 2017 financial giving. Yes, we will be asking you to fill out a *Pledge Your Love 2017* card. A pledge is a vow. Actually, you've already made the promise as a part of the church; you said you will uphold the church with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. That wasn't a multiple choice; that is all-encompassing. That's what following Jesus is all about. You know, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Matthew 22:37-39). Love...with everything you are...as yourself. It doesn't sound like we get to hold anything back. But think about the words of Martin Luther, "A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing."



walk

We are asking you to Pledge Your Love so we can make plans for how love will flow in Bear Creek in 2017. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope for, belongs to God alone. We are caretakers, stewards, managers, of all of Creation (Psalm 8:6-8)- that includes the church. Your church leaders want to use what God provides in the godliest way.

For some, this is new. Maybe you don't like the pressure; maybe you don't want another obligation; maybe you don't think you should have to. If that's you, I can only ask for you to spend a little time with God and to have a kind spirit toward your leaders. We are trying to discern God's calling on us as a congregation. So we leaders need your help; we need you to show us a little love right here.

For some, this pledge thing is routine. I hope not this year. A routine can mean a rut,

something tedious and confining. Break out of monotony and find joy as you are invited to enter into a new work of God. Splash around in Bear Creek, celebrating the ways God is already evident. And then look downstream. Love flows in Bear Creek and we are excited where it is headed.

Click on links below for *Love Flows in Bear Creek* videos:

[October 9](#)

[October 16](#)

Cookies, a Baby Grand and a Wall of Crosses

Choir Room Open House. This Sunday, October 23.

This past summer, the Chancel Choir decided to update and clean out their rehearsal room. It was hard work, but a labor of love. We'd like to invite everyone to come by this Sunday, October 23 to see our "fixer upper" results.



walk

We painted, moved out some cabinets, got new storage cubes, and just generally cleaned out the room. One wall is decorated with crosses, each one different and donated by a choir member. Thank you to Jerry Woodman for putting beadboard around the big column/pillar in the room, making it look so much nicer. And, to our great surprise, a baby grand piano was recently donated to us by Cherie Roper and it is beautiful!

There will be cookies and punch and coffee. You will actually learn where the rehearsal room is located. (Down the hall from the Fellowship Hall). Stop by any time between 9:00 and 10:30am or 12:00 and 12:30pm.

Honey Baked Ham Gift Card Fundraiser

Order online until October 30.

Please make sure to **pick up your gift cards in the Courtyard** on:

October 23 or 30



work

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 still order [online](#)** (\$10, 25, 50, 100 available) **through October 31** and have them shipped to your house. Thank you for your support of this vital fundraiser.

Safe Sanctuary Training

Sunday, November 6. FLC 212-213 @ 12:15pm.

UPDATED TIME & LOCATION. Safe Sanctuary is a set of policies and procedures we implement in order to keep our kids in a safe and nurturing environment. Safe Sanctuary training is required for all adults working with children under the age of 18. Safe Sanctuary



work

certification renewal is required every year. Our next Safe Sanctuary training will be on Sunday, November 6 at **12:15pm in FLC 212-213**. Contact [John Henley](#) for more information. Please download the [forms](#), then complete and bring them with you to expedite the training process, which should take approximately 30 minutes. You may also pick up a copy of the forms in the church office.

Following Jesus

4th Tuesday each month. FLC 101 @ 7:00pm.

On Tuesday, October 25, we will have a joint meeting with any of the EHS participants or leaders who would like to honestly share what they have encountered, experienced or envisioned with their growth through this study.



walk

The study will not be finished, but getting close to ending. Let us join together in our "Following Jesus" moments and see if there is some common patterns on how He is asking us to follow Him.

UPDATED LOCATION. Come to the **Family Life Center, room 101** to share the insight you have gained from your study and hear from others with regard to how it has impacted them.

Youth News

Great job in the kitchen.

A big thank you to all of the Youth and their families that cooked and served breakfast last Sunday and a huge thanks to Ron Darcy for being "King of the Kitchen".



work/walk

This week we will continue our study of Hebrews at 9:30 and 11:00am; come and hear why Jesus is the Better Way!

At Youth @5 we will have a game day and an opportunity for assisting with decorations for Trunk-or-Treat. Snacks will be provided. We will wrap up our EHS study on Sunday, October 30.

Check out your weekly Youth Newsletter for all of the youth happenings – especially info on Summer 2017!! If you are not receiving an email from BCYouth, let [Lea Bynum](#) know.

Trunk-or-Treat

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

Our annual Trunk-or-Treat is coming soon! **Great news - we have commitments for 17 car trunks!** We are, however, still in need of candy, which can be dropped off anytime to the church office if you are unable to attend the event. Prizes will be given for the best decorated trunk, most original decorated trunk and best candy. Please contact [John Henley](#) for more information or to sign up. Thank you for your continued support of our Childrens' Ministry!



work

Part-time Custodian Opening

20 hours per week. M-F from 6 to 10pm.

We currently have an opening on staff for a part-time custodian. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the church office, 281.463.2330, for specific job duties and hourly wage or to set up an interview.



work

Prayer Room Open House

Sat, Oct 29 and Sun, Oct 30. Refreshments served.

The Prayer Ministry Team would like to invite you to our Open House of the newly-remodeled Prayer Room in the BCUMC Ministry Village. Our first Open House will be held from 4 - 5pm during the Trunk-or-Treat event. While in the Church parking lot on Saturday, October 29, please visit us for a tour and treats in the Prayer Room. Another opportunity for seeing our updated Prayer Room is from 10:30am - 12:30pm on Sunday, October 30. Refreshments will be served. New carpet, new paint, new ceiling fan - but still the same love for our Lord and His love for each of us.



walk

The Turkeys are Here!

Beginning Sunday, November 23. In the Courtyard.

Starting this Sunday, October 23 members of the Missions Committee will be in the Courtyard with turkeys whose feathers will show all the needed food items for the Thanksgiving food boxes we will be packing on the Day of Thanks & Giving. Please stop by and "pluck" a few tail feathers and help us fill the boxes! If you prefer to fill a box, there will be grocery bags with lists of all that is needed to feed a family.



work

In addition to the food items listed on the feathers, the Mission Committee will be adding fresh produce, bread, and turkey gift cards to each box. If you would like to make a monetary donation to help with these costs, please make your check payable to **BCUMC** with "*missions*" in the memo line and place it in the offering plate.

The Food Drive will run until Sunday, November 13. Your food donations can be returned to any of the red bins that will be located around the church campus.

The Day of Thanks & Giving

SAVE THE DATE. Saturday, November 19.

The Day of **Thanks & Giving** takes place Saturday, November 19 from 10:30am to 1:00pm and 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.



work

Willie's Spirit Night

Monday, November 7. From 4pm to close.

Join us for a Spirit Night to benefit Bear Creek UMC Library. Mention that you are here in support of "Bear Creek UMC Library" and **Willie's will donate 15%** of your check to our Library. This event will be at the Copperfield location: [7092 Hwy 6 N](#).



work

Book Fair

Donate your used books. Bring to church office.

The Library is having a Book Fair on Sunday, November 6 in the FLC gym from 8:00am to 12:30pm. Please note that this particular Book Fair is on the first Sunday of the month rather than the usual third Sunday. Thanks for your support of our Library.



work

Bishop's Consecration

Sunday, October 23 from 5 to 7pm.

A service for welcoming Bishop Scott Jones will be held at the First UMC Westchase Campus (corner of Beltway 8 and Westpark). For more information, visit the Texas Annual Conference [website](#).



walk

Charge Conference

Thursday, October 27 @ 7pm.

The Bear Creek UMC Charge 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

Financial Report

Report from Rick Wilson.

Below is a synopsis of our finances three quarters of the way through the year. Overall, year-to-date giving has fallen just over 8% short of budget. Our pastors, staff and church leadership have managed to make up a third of the shortfall through controlling expenses and are strategically working to close the gap further.



work

	September Y-T-D Actual
Total contributions	\$850,612
Total expenses	\$986,573
Deficit	(\$135,961)

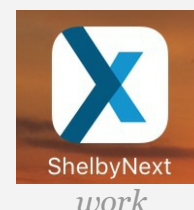
Thanks to all who have, and continue to, support the church with their prayers, presence, service and gifts!

Online Church Directory

Available now! Stay in Touch. Directions below.

Click [here](#) to access the ShelbyNext Directory, then:

1. Click "forgot password"
2. Enter your email address (a new password will be sent to this email from ShelbyNext ChMS)
3. Choose "log in" from this email and use the password ShelbyNext created for you
4. Your login name will pop up in the user box (it may or may not have your middle/maiden name included - you may change it later)
5. When you log in, you will see your own membership record. Use the search feature to find contact information for other members of the church
6. To change your user name/password: go to the **Account** tab on your own record. *Be sure to **SAVE** before leaving this screen.* (Do not check the "Reset Password" box - it starts the password process over)
7. You are welcome to add your photo (face only, please). You can also make updates to your record if you move or change phone numbers



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.

AWANA on Wednesdays

October 26 @ 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 26, 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,

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 November 11 from 10am to 1:30pm.** The theme for November is *Giving Thanks for Our Veterans* and the entertainment is Larry Emerson (solo entertainer and singer).

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
