



bearcreekumc.org

December 1st
2017

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

Chili's Spirit Night

This Sunday, December 3 from 11am to 10pm.

Eat at Chili's this Sunday and 15% of the proceeds will be donated to **Family Missions @ BCUMC**. Don't forget to pick up a flyer in the Narthex - you will need to present it before ordering to ensure that Bear Creek UMC receives the 15%. Thank you!



work

Christmas Block Party

This Sunday, December 3 @ 3:30pm.

We need a few volunteers for crafts and to help with sprinkles for the cookies. The Block Party will be in the 99c Store parking lot this year ~ come meet and greet our neighbors before the annual "Parade of Lights" that will start at our church parking lot and head north up Hwy6 to Huffmeister! It's a community thing - identify yourself as a member of BCUMC by wearing your name tag, your Bear Creek Strong t-shirt, or your BCUMC baseball cap! If you have any other vintage Bear Creek gear - wear it! The Block Party is the church's gift to the community! 'Tis the season!



work

BCUMC School Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 6 @ 6:15pm.

The Bear Creek UMC School presents their Annual Christmas Pageant, to be held in the Sanctuary at 6:15pm on Wednesday, December 6. **We are starting 15 minutes earlier than previously**



announced so our choir can perform (for the parents) before the pageant. Don't miss this awesome event!

walk

Worship, Drop & go Shop

Bear Creek UMC's Gift to You.

Need some time to finish up your Christmas shopping? Sunday, December 10 after the 11:15am worship service, we will have childcare until 5pm for parents of children and youth (Education bldg. & FLC gym). **Children must be picked up by 5pm.**



work

We will have a movie, crafts, games, basketball, etc. *All we ask is that you provide a sack lunch for your child(ren).* **Reservations are required to ensure that we have enough volunteers.** Please call, 281-463-2330, or [email](#) the church office by Friday, December 8 @1pm to make reservations.

Financial Peace University

Begins Sunday, January 21 @ 5pm.

Financial Peace University (FPU) is a nine-lesson class on money management taught by America's most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future and much more. Dave Ramsey's [Financial Peace University](#) begins here at Bear Creek UMC January 21. [Sign up](#) now!



Pledges Still Needed ~ Financial Campaign Not Over

Completing and submitting your 2018 pledge card is very important to us at Bear Creek UMC. Your commitment allows us to budget for and plan our ministries for the coming year. We have 139 families who have already committed \$809,300 to our ministries and outreach to the community for 2018! Thank you for your prayerful consideration of your financial commitment - it's not too late to complete your pledge card!



work

Community Toy Drive

Benefitting the families of Bear Creek.

We are a **drop-off point** for a Christmas toy drive (sponsored by several local businesses) to benefit families in Bear Creek that were directly affected by flooding due to Hurricane Harvey.



work

They are asking for new, unwrapped toys for ages 1-12 years. There are donations boxes in the office. **Deadline for toy drop-off is December 17.**

Monetary donations may be made through PayPal: BCVRelief@gmail.com. For questions, contact [Jeanie Borawski](#). To schedule "after-hours" drop-off, contact Jodi Sherretts at 832.721.5634.

The Angels are Here!

Sunday, December 3.

This Christmas Bear Creek UMC will be once again be reaching out and connecting with over 75 *Angel Tree* children and their caregivers. Your help is needed as we share God's love, our love, and the love of their incarcerated parent to each one of these children.



The Angel Christmas Tree will be up in the Narthex this Sunday, December 3. The tree will be full of angels with requests for two gifts per child. Each child will receive a clothing gift and a toy or fun gift. These gifts should be in the \$20-25 price range. In addition to the two gifts, each child and caregiver will also receive a stuffed stocking as a gift from our church.

There will also be angels on the tree requesting gift cards for each family. Gifts can be returned to the Narthex on Sunday, December 3 or Sunday, December 10. They may also be returned to the church office between November 30 & December 9. **ALL GIFTS AND GIFT CARDS MUST BE RETURNED BY DECEMBER 10.**

As always, your help with this very rewarding outreach mission is appreciated. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to **BCUMC** with "*Angel Tree*" in the memo line.

Communion Servers Needed

Sign up today!

We are seeking fresh faces and willing hearts to help serve communion during worship services in the coming year. For more information or to sign up, call 281.773.7465 or email [Shelly Chetty](mailto:Shelly.Chetty).



work

Hanging of the Greens

Our Sanctuary is beautiful!

A big thank you to all who turned out to decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season! This is a big undertaking and it takes a team to put it together. We had about 16 people working, including volunteers from our youth group. The altar committee, headed by Wes Stewart, could not have done it without you!



work

Look for a future notice to take everything down!

Pop Up Library

Tuesdays from 11am to 3pm beginning October 31.

The Harris County Public Library is opening a temporary branch in Hope 1 and Hope 2 of our Ministry Village on Tuesdays. There will be a Story time at 11:15am, crafts for children, laptops with internet access, books to check-out, and drop-off for returned books.



work

There will be no Pop Up Library December 25-31, opening again January 2, 2018.

Questions? Contact the Fairbanks Branch at 713-466-4438.

Harvey Relief Phase III

Were you flooded?

Please note: the deadline for applying for FEMA and SBA funds **EXPIRES November 30**, 2017. It is extremely important to make timely applications for the aid/loan before we are able to assist with any rebuilding. Call Al Balboni with questions - 281-744-4721.



Bear Creek UMC is looking into the upcoming Phase III - reconstruction. Please call (281.463.2330), text (832773.4901) or [email](#) the church and give us the current status of your home and what your reconstruction needs might be in the (hopefully) near future. With the generosity of those who have given to our Harvey Relief Effort here at Bear Creek UMC and resources that may be available through the United Methodist Church connection, Bear Creek UMC is preparing to assess the needs of the community; members and non-members alike!

Above and Beyond Giving

Update on our progress.

Thank you to all who have given "above and beyond" your normal giving to anchor the many ministries of Bear Creek UMC. We are currently just over **\$53,777.84** of our goal of \$100,000. Your generosity is amazing!



Harvey Relief at BCUMC

Designated Giving for Congregation Members.

Click [here](#), login or select Quick Give, then select "Harvey Relief at BCUMC" in the dropdown menu. These designated funds will be used to assist those in our congregation that were affected by Hurricane Harvey. Thank you for your continued generosity!



Also, visit our [website](#) to find ways you can be in service or to find a list of donations that are needed.

Children's Worship and Events

Upbeat, energetic service filled with music and scripture.

This Sunday, December 3 during the 9am worship service, we will now have a Kids Worship service for 2nd-5th graders in the Treehouse (FLC 202). This will be an upbeat and energetic service filled with music, scripture and fun! Kids will be signed in at the Treehouse.



Note: There will be no Kids Worship service on Communion Sunday (the 1st Sunday of the month.)

We will still have Lil' Church for 3 years to 1st grade in the Bride's Room.

Communion Sunday is also Family Sunday!

Beginning this month, families are encouraged to worship together on Communion Sunday. Nursery and Lil' Church will be available, but we are encouraging all children to worship with their families. Worship folders, filled with enrichment activities for your children, are available in the Narthex. There will be no Kids Worship service on Communion Sunday.

BCUMC School Christmas Pageant

Join us Wednesday, December 6 @6:15pm in the Sanctuary for this celebration of our Lord.

Teacher Training

The training scheduled for Sunday, December 10 has been cancelled.

Youth News

Youth @5. Faith Groups. Youth SS @ 11:15am.

Our Christmas Party will be December 17 from 4-7pm at Jana Jone's house.



walk

Youth Parade of Lights Float

The Bear Creek Youth will once again have a float in the Texas Volunteer Firefighter Relief Fund's annual *Parade of Lights*. We will be working on the float here at the church on Saturday, December 2 at 9am. In order to ride on the float, you must participate on this day (or have participated on November 26) and have a current parent permission form on file. Contact Jana Jones for more information.

[Download](#) our KidZone registration form. All youth attending any of our activities, whether on campus or off, **must** have a current form on file.

If you have questions or would like more information about our Youth or Children's programs or would like to be added to the Youth Newsletter, please contact [John Henley](#) or [Jana Jones](#).

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

Active adults age 50-plus.

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 December 8.*** The theme for December is *Christmas* and the entertainment is **Decibells** (large singing group).



walk

Energizers, a group of active adults age 50-plus, enjoy gatherings that include day-long excursions. **We meet again on December 15 at Clay's @ 17717 Clay Rd at 11am. You will be responsible for your own lunch. We will have a \$10.00 gift exchange. Bring a gift if you wish to participate. If anyone has any questions, please contact Dot at 713-466-1898.**

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 @ 9:15am.

Come and 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

