

# BENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JUNE 2010



## THE LOVE LETTER

### LYNN'S LINES . . . .



I am excited about the summer at Benton United Methodist Church, and I want to share that excitement with you. Summer kicks off in a big way June 6<sup>th</sup> with Sunday school Promotion Sunday. All our children's and youth Sunday school classes will transition early in the summer rather than at the more traditional "back-to-school" time in August/September. We will also honor and express our appreciation to our Sunday school teachers in morning worship that day.

Summer excitement continues with "Wednesday Nite Live" activities continuing throughout the summer for the first time since its inception six years ago. **REACTION** student worship leads the slate of activities, with Children's ministry activities, and movie night for adults in the Family Life Center. Adults will be discussing theological and philosophical ideas contained in some of Hollywood's best known movies. As always, dinner will be served each week at 5:30 p.m.

Excitement continues to grow as **Vacation Bible School** kicks off Monday morning, June 21<sup>st</sup>, and runs through June 25<sup>th</sup>. Things will be rocking as our facility will be filled with community youngsters as they take a **High Seas Expedition**. The Children's Ministry area on the second floor of the FLC has already been decorated and designated **Bible Beach** as Mary Jo and Ashley prepare for this great week of learning about the love of Christ.

Even more fun awaits on June 30<sup>th</sup>, from 6 – 9 p.m., as we have a great Independence holiday blowout. All the activities that were originally scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> have been moved to June 30<sup>th</sup>, and we've added a fireworks display to close the evening. There will be free food, live music, a car show, bounce houses, cold watermelons, and now, fireworks, as we celebrate our nation's independence and the freedom God gives us through Jesus Christ.

We'll continue the excitement on Independence Day. July 4<sup>th</sup> will kick off a special series we're calling **Super Summer Sundays** at Benton United Methodist Church. For seven Sundays, July 4<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup>, we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m., each week. There will be no Sunday school on July 4<sup>th</sup>, but beginning July 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday school will begin at 9:00 a.m. Each of the seven weeks will have a different theme: God and Country (July 4<sup>th</sup>), Bluegrass Sunday (July 18<sup>th</sup>), Youth Sunday (July 25<sup>th</sup>), Beach BUM Sunday (with Family Day at Cypress Park—Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>), Back-to-School Blowout (August 8<sup>th</sup>), and Friendship Day (be watching for something really special—Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>). We want to take these seven weeks to celebrate our unity as a congregation and get to see members that we don't always get to see. The regular schedule of services will return on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, as we kick off **The Biggest Winner** sermon series and competition at 8:30 a.m., and 10:50 a.m., with Sunday school returning to 9:40 a.m.

I want to personally challenge each of you to participate and volunteer as much as possible during this summertime excitement. Join the fun as we seek to fulfill our mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ by *inviting in*, *growing up*, and *sending out* transformed persons in mission and ministry.

Until next time, keep looking up...



### SUNDAY EVENTS

**Sunday Worship**

8:30 & 10:50 am

**Sunday School**

9:40 am

**Children's Church**

Age 3 - Grade 3

10:50 am

### REGULAR EVENTS

3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY of each month  
**United Methodist Men**  
 Breakfast 7:15 am

3<sup>rd</sup> TUESDAY at 6:30 p.m.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAY at 9:30 a.m.  
**United Methodist Women**

TUESDAYS  
**Prayer Time**  
 9:00 am

4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY of each month  
**OPALS**  
 11:30 am

WEDNESDAYS  
**Wednesday "Nite" Live**  
 5:30 pm  
**REACTION**  
**Student Worship**

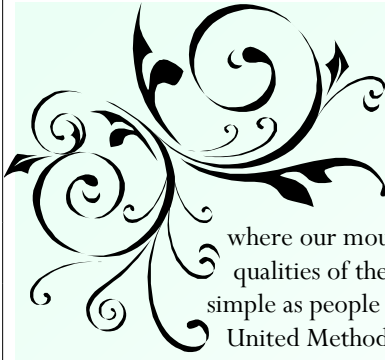
Last SATURDAY of each month  
**Souper Saturday**  
 8:00 am

From Dianne

**Methodist 101**

**Apportionments**

(“A portion meant” for others)



To many people the word apportionment is a dirty word that means a “tax from on high” or a franchise fee. That terminology demeans our ministry share where we can put our money where our mouth is and accept the mission and ministry that we collectively accepted. One of the unique qualities of the United Methodist Church is our connectional giving. What is connectional giving? It’s as simple as people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves. United Methodists support apportioned and designated funds through their connectional giving.

By being a part of a connectional church, our church along with all United Methodist Churches, have an opportunity to pool our resources to be in ministry beyond our walls and to help others both in Methodist Churches throughout the world and in outreach and mission.

**The Example of Jesus:**

Jesus called his followers to be in community with others. He did ministry in a community that pooled resources and worked together to meet the needs of those around them. With a crowd by the Sea of Galilee, he challenged the scarcity mindset and reminded us that if we entrust what little we have to God, abundance will prevail.

**The Example of the Early Church:**

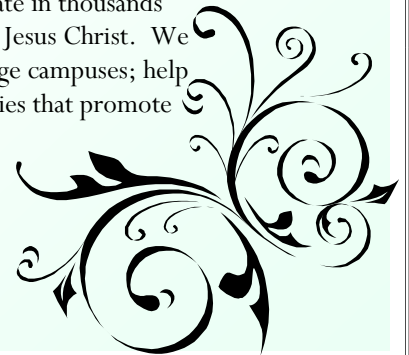
“At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem in ministry to the saints; for Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share their resources with the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. They were pleased to do this for if they have come to share the spiritual blessings they ought also to be of service to them in material things.” Romans 15:25-27

**The Example of John Wesley:**

Wesley urged those in connection with him to “Earn all you can and save all you can, so that you can give all you can.” Wesley modeled modest living and sacrificial giving. He also told his followers, “There is no holiness but social holiness.” The class offerings in Wesley’s day were used for outreach just as they are today.

**Did you know?** Benton UMC “A Portion Meant” for others for 2010 is \$46,636 or 8% of our total budget. The largest amount goes to the World Service Fund (25%) which allows every church member to participate in thousands of ministries carried on in mission fields around the world by our denomination in the name of Jesus Christ. We also support Centenary College and Dillard University, Wesley Foundations on all of our college campuses; help to pay for the education of our ordained deacons and ministers and support ecumenical ministries that promote Christian unity, Christian life, and Christian mission.

*Thank you!  
For all that you have done  
For all you are doing  
For all you will do in the days and years to come  
To make the love of Christ real to a hurting world.*



◆————— Financial Report —————◆

2010 May Financial Report		Bank Accounts	General Fund (Operating)	Building Fund	Designated Gifts
May 2	\$ 10,648.89	Opening Balance 4-30-2010	\$ 83,666.02	\$ 22,013.25	\$ 29,341.48
		*Income	\$ 31,575.46	\$ 13,729.00	\$ 4,806.09
May 9	7,156.00	Expenses	\$ 45,864.85	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 3,656.84
May 16	6,765.92	Bank Balance 5-25-2010	\$ 69,376.63	\$ 15,742.25	\$ 30,490.73
May 23	6,694.65	*Does not include 5th Sunday offering			
Received YTD	\$ 262,295.32	Mortgage			
		Principal balance 01/2010		\$ 1,496,489.71	
2009 YTD	\$ 264,004.06	Principal balance 04/2010		\$ 1,332,151.40	

## OUR FAITHFUL JOURNEY

### 1<sup>st</sup> year Report

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by since we started our 2<sup>nd</sup> capital campaign "Our Faithful Journey." Since that time we have received gifts and pledges totaling over \$453,000.00 and have paid down our note from \$1,890,359.01 to \$1,332,151.00. That is really something to celebrate and to renew our dedication to paying off this note.

Most of the money we have received came from those families who made a 3 year pledge. If you were unable to pledge last year, but want to do so for these final two years, please contact me in the church office and I will be glad to take your information.

## UMM NEWS

### Garage/Rummage Sale

Rob Stinson will be hosting a monthly garage sale at his Cash Point storage facility next to the water tower on Benton Road (Hwy 3) on the first Saturday of each month starting at 8 a.m. The UMM will be participating with items in one of the storage facilities. But we need your help. We need donations of large items like furniture, bedding, washers, dryers, etc.

If you have any of these items to donate, call Rob at 402-2437 to set up a time for you to deliver it or for us to pick it up. We must have all items in place and priced no later than the Friday before the sale.

## UMW NEWS



### General meeting

The next general meeting of the UMW will be on June 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Our guest speaker will be Terry Strain, founder of the Pool of Siloam. After our business meeting, we will pack Birthing Kits for UMCOR. Plans for the summer will include two activities for the Shreveport-Bossier Rescue Mission.

## OPALS

Older Persons with Active Lifestyles invites everyone to attend their meeting scheduled for June 29, 2010 in our Family Life Worship Center at 11:30 a.m. You will enjoy the fellowship, get to meet our new associate pastor and his wife, Carl and Linda Munyon and for our entertainment we will play BINGO. The prizes will be furnished, so invite your friends for a wonderful meal and lots of laughter.

Our July program will be a group from 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Bossier City called the Silver Sneakers. They will give us a demonstration of how to exercise from our chairs! Call Barbara at 990-9952 to sign up.

## STEWARDSHIP CHAIR



Richard Cox is married to Connie Cox. He has one daughter who is happily married and lives in Mississippi. Richard is an auto adjuster for Allstate Insurance Company. He and his wife attended services at BUMC the first time because he stopped to enjoy the annual Car Show and a church member invited him to visit. He and his wife joined BUMC because they felt like they'd found their church family.

When I was asked to be Stewardship chair, I was honored and puzzled. Why me?, I wondered. Why ask me? Yes, I'm up here at the church a lot. I sing in the first service choir, help prepare meals for Souper Saturday, go on mission trips and greatly enjoy the Wednesday Night Live food and classes. The activities, the fellowship and the worship I join in at Benton United Methodist Church help me travel my path toward God. My church is a very real sign that, no matter what the world has in store for me, God has my back. I'm not talking about the church building or the grounds. I'm talking about the people, the congregation who come together to make the foundation, the rafters, the walls and the heart of BUMC.

I pray the prayers of my church and know that God will help me over the hurdles of my life. I hear the laughter of my church and know that God wants me to rejoice. I feel the solidness of my church and know that God will help me find my balance no matter how hard my job pulls at me, or how much my aging parents need me, or how badly I lose myself in the chaos of the world around me. When I am here at BUMC, my soul finds refuge.

There is no doubt about it. BUMC keeps me spiritually healthy. So I said yes, I'll do it. I'll gladly be stewardship chair. I want to give my time, my money, my laughter and my tears to my church because I want to keep my church as spiritually healthy as it keeps me. I need my church. I am my church. And so are you.

Why you? Because without you, there is no church. When asked to give, will you say yes—for all of us?

*Luke 6:38*

*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

## Donor Recognition Tree

*Donor leaves are available for a minimum donation of \$100 in the church office in memory or in honor of your loved one .*

*All donations go to the Building Fund.*

## Christian Education



Sunday, June 6 is Promotion Sunday. Please send your children to their regular Sunday School class. If you would like to see your child receive their promotion certificate, please go to **Shelter 491** (Avalanche Ranch) at 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 6 is teacher appreciation Sunday. Thank you, teachers, for your time and talents that you joyfully give each Sunday morning. You are truly a blessing to Benton United Methodist Church!



**Thank You!**

*Teacher Appreciation*

## Confirmation Class 2010

*~Thank You~*

*We would like to thank Brenda LeChien for all of her hard work that she gave to this year's Confirmation class.*

*Brenda, your dedication guided these five Confirmands spiritually to help them know and accept Christ as their Savior.*

## Confirmands of 2010

*Kristen Cortez*

*Noah Leo*

*Jake Pierreele*

*Jackson Rutledge*

*Madeline Scott*

## Other Ministries

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Monday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Eva Smith room. All are welcome, from beginners to experts. If you don't know how to crochet or knit, we can help. We hope to see you there.

## Children's Ministry

### Vacation Bible School



Don't monkey around! Mark your calendars for VBS, and set sail for **The High Seas Expedition**

June 21-25th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

You can register online at:

[www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org)

and click on Children's to take you to the Children's page.



Watch for registration packets to be available soon. Call Mary Jo or Ashley for information.



### "CROCS" FOR CHRIST

Promotion Sunday is June 6th and as a special project we will begin collecting Crocs for Christ now. These Crocs or "Croc-like" shoes (does not have to be the name brand, just that style) will be sent to First UMC, Shreveport for their Haiti Mission Initiative. We will collect all sizes, but there is a special request for children's sizes for the orphanage. Bring your shoes and drop them off in the box with the crocodile on the front. The children's ministry will personalize some tags to attach to the shoes and then deliver them to FUMC, who will deliver them to the orphanage in Haiti. Please call the church office at 965-2273 if you have any questions.

Crockey needs a new pair of shoes...



## Contact Information

Mary Jo Duddy, Children's Minister

(318) 549-9273

[maryjo.duddy@bossierschools.org](mailto:maryjo.duddy@bossierschools.org)

Ashley Stinson, Children's Minister Assistant

(318) 349-5913

[patash1210@aol.com](mailto:patash1210@aol.com)

Margaret Febus, Tween's Volunteer Director

(318) 965-1362

# SHELTER 491

*"Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty."-Psalm 91:1*

## Regularly Scheduled Events

4th Sunday	6:00 p.m.	Sports
5th Sunday	TBA	Declaration
Sunday	3:00 p.m.	Drama Practice
Sunday	4:00 p.m.	Band Practice
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	REACTION Youth Service

Hey everyone,

As we approach the summer "vacation," it seems that everyone's schedules get busier instead of more relaxed. As a student ministry we are no exception here at SHELTER 491. Here's some of the things we have going on for the summer:

**-REACTION Student Worship every Wednesday night at 6:30**

**-June 6th-June 10th Impact Benton**

**-June 14th-June 18th Sr. High Week at Camp Caney**

**-July 13th Six Flags**

**-July 25th Youth Sunday**

**-July 26th-July 30th Student Life Camp**

**-NO FUSION Small groups or UPWARD Prayer for the summer**

The summer is a great time for the students and adults to experience missions, camps, and other trips. We can always use adult volunteers in any of our events or trips. If you would like to be a part of anything we are doing, let me know. [Chriswinterman@bellsouth.net](mailto:Chriswinterman@bellsouth.net) or 465-1031. Thanks for letting us be a part of what God is doing in the lives of the students here in Benton!

*Blessings*

*~Chris*

**Contact  
Information**

Chris Winterman, Student Minister  
Office: (318) 965-2273 or Cell: (318) 465-1031  
[chriswinterman@bellsouth.net](mailto:chriswinterman@bellsouth.net)  
[www.myspace.com/bentonumcshelter491](http://www.myspace.com/bentonumcshelter491)  
[www.facebook.com/cwinterman](http://www.facebook.com/cwinterman)



**Deeper 2.0**

Join this group  
on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/cwinterman](http://www.facebook.com/cwinterman)

## Impact Benton 2010

Impact Benton is almost here. Please pick up your registration forms at BUMC and turn them in to First Baptist in Benton. For more information, visit our website at:

[www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org)

June 6-10, 2010

Our BUMC  
Representative:

Gary Wyche

(318) 465-3274



## Mission Update

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our mission to Mexico this summer due to unrest in the border towns of Mexico. However, we will view this as an opportunity to explore other missions.

We are holding a missions interest meeting on Wednesday, June 2 at 6:30 PM. We will discuss possible missions for this summer and in the future. *Everyone* interested in mission work is welcome at this meeting.

If you are interested but unable to attend, please email Rachel Basco at [rachbasco@gmail.com](mailto:rachbasco@gmail.com) or call her at 455-6390. ~Rachel Basco

~Sending out transformed persons in mission~

## 3rd Annual BUMC Missions 5K Run-Walk

### Date & Time:

Saturday, June 19, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.

### Early Registration:

To register with cash or check, you have to drop off the check and form at **Sportspectrum**.

All credit card registration must be made online at [www.sportspectrumusa.com](http://www.sportspectrumusa.com).

Registration fee is \$15.00 through June 18 until 6 p.m. Race day (June 19) will be \$20.00. Race day pick up will be from 7:00 a.m. until 7:45 a.m. at the race site.

For more information, visit:

[www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org)

Register online quickly and easily at:

[www.sportspectrumusa.com](http://www.sportspectrumusa.com)

Benton UMC Blood Drive

Sunday, June 20, 2010

Share Life on Father's Day



## Independence Day Celebration and Car Show

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

6:00 p.m. until FIREWORKS are done

Free food & drinks, live music,  
jump houses, Car Show,  
Critter Company animal exhibit,  
and much, much more!!!

For more information, call

965-2273 or visit

[www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org)

### ***SUPER SUMMER SUNDAYS!!!***

Remember to mark your calendars for July 4th! That will be the start of our Super Summer Sundays.

On July 4th, we will have one service and no Sunday School classes. The one service is themed *God and Country*. The following Sunday, Sunday School classes will resume at 9 a.m. and worship will remain at 10 a.m. Then, in August, our normal Sunday schedule will resume.

Please read *Lynn's Lines* for a more detailed description of our Summer Sundays to see how SUPER they will be!

### ***BENTON UMC WEBSITE***

Benton UMC website has a new look!  
Please check out the new website at our old address:

[www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org)

If your ministry is not listed or has outdated or incorrect information, please call the Rachel in the church office at 965-2273 or email her at [bentonumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:bentonumc@bellsouth.net) so we can update your webpage!

### ***JUNE MEETINGS***

SPR Committee..... Wednesday, June 2, 5:00 p.m.  
Trustees..... Monday, June 21, 5:30 p.m.  
Finance Committee.....Monday, June 28, 5:30 p.m.

### **The Love Letter is YOU!**

Each month, Benton UMC publishes *The Love Letter*. Your ministry, group, accomplishments, and heart are to be shared with our Benton UMC family. If you have something you are excited about and are willing to share for the benefit of our congregation, please send an email to [bentonumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:bentonumc@bellsouth.net) or bring the article to the church office.

You don't have to be an author, make it simple and we will assist you in editing the information as needed. Give us the who, what, where, when and how and we can take care of the rest. Event pictures are a wonderful addition, but they need to be on disc or emailed to the church office.

## ***UMW Bake Sale***

Check out the UMW Booth  
at The Independence Day Celebration and  
Car Show on Wednesday, June 30 from  
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for:

- ◆ *Screaming Owl Salsa*
- ◆ *Pepper Jelly*
- ◆ *Baked Goodies*

All proceeds go to missions.

### ***SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING***

***Sunday, June 6 at 4:00 p.m.***

If you have not had your  
Safe Sanctuary training, please join us on Sunday.  
Class length is approximately one hour.

*Training is required for all volunteers.*

### ***E-GIVING***

Summer vacation? Stay current on your pledge with E-Giving—the easiest way to donate. For a better idea of all the options available, visit [www.bentonumc.org](http://www.bentonumc.org) and click on the **E-Giving** link to see all the features.



***E-Giving***

### ***NEW BABY IN THE FAMILY?***

We at Benton UMC would like to celebrate new babies born within our church family - child, grandchild, great grandchild. We want to announce the birth in our Sunday worship folder and honor this new life by placing a rosebud on the altar. Please notify the church office at 965-2273 if you have a new family member.





BENTON UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

4615 Palmetto Road  
Benton, LA 71006

Phone: 318-965-2273  
Fax: 318-965-5360  
E-mail: bentonumc@bellsouth.net

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Deaths

Mac McGregor  
Trudy McBride  
Louise Guillot  
Charles Doran  
Kassie Gardenhire  
E.B. Fuller  
Isaiah Stone

### Military

Troops and Leaders  
Aaron Thompson  
Cory Campbell  
Derrick Albright  
Patricia Johnson  
William Pluth  
Eric Lee  
Jacob Maddox  
Drew Maddox  
Matthew Flinn

### Requests

Jennifer Warner  
Ron Gormanous  
Adam & Peggy Durant-Praise!  
Mark Landrum  
Jim Farnam  
Terri Kavanaugh  
Pete Sirman  
Evelyn Futch  
Emma Grace Holmes  
Ralph Malone  
Margaret Henry  
Carolyn Pearce  
Wayne Mulford  
Louise Farnsworth  
Sue Hefner  
Jean Wright  
Joy Porter  
Terry Edminston

Brock Cassell  
Stephanie Nehring  
James Cox  
Cleve Davidson  
Kenny Wreyford  
Thomas Wilson  
Tripp Litrell  
Mae Gracie  
Brian Barnard  
Gina Easterly  
Donald Prifogle  
Ben Johnston  
Gulf Coast Residents  
Fannie Sudds  
Edwina Martin  
Bob Vise  
Valerie Rockett  
Willie Gies  
Toni Wright

Cindy Bouslog  
Shannon Humphrey  
Tyrone Burton  
Erica Pipes  
Jack Burke  
Blanche Ellison  
Matt Hattaway  
Laura Johnson  
Rudine Lloyd  
Howard Coon  
Sue Oldham  
Lorraine Barnard  
Marie Bassett  
Bryan Garrison  
Justi Shipley  
Kassidy Taylor