



THE *Spire*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 2020

A THRILL OF

HOPE

DECEMBER 2020

**BIRTH OF CHRIST
CELEBRATION
WORSHIP SERVICES**

RSVP Today.

**RENEWED HOPE –
AN ADVENT STUDY
& COMMUNION**

Details inside.

**PHONE-IN
LIVESTREAM
WORSHIP & NEWS**

Details inside.

LITTLE GIVING TREE

Gifts due by Dec. 15

STOUFFER'S

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

LUKE 2:19

¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

As we wait to celebrate the birth of Christ this Advent, our waiting is deeper than in other years. We are waiting for more than the celebration of the Jesus' birth. We are waiting, even yearning for each other's presence in worship where the gift of companionship is extended to the fullness of our church family as part of the Body of Christ!



While we wait, we may wonder what the Christmas celebration will look like for our congregation this year. We have discovered a new way to celebrate Holy Communion with elements prepackaged for each individual. We are finding our way to a new candlelit experience!

As I prepare for a Christmas celebration like none other I have ever known, I am struck by the simplicity of the story as Luke tells it. There is no pomp and circumstance of similarly announced births of those who would ascend the throne in Rome. Yet, Christ is the King of kings! The announcement is to the poorest of the poor, the shepherds who are outside of the

city in the fields with their sheep, not to those of societal power and importance. Yet, Christ is Lord of lords. And while the angel chorus must have been magnificent, the visit and message of shepherds at the manger must have been at least confusing if not chaotic there in the stable that served as delivery room and infant nursery.

Luke wrote, "Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart." Hers is a curiously quiet response, having received an angelic visit of her own; but not uncharacteristic to the one who said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

My hope and prayer as we wait together, is that in our own words and in our own way we would yield so willingly to God's word and will; we will ponder our experience in this time in our hearts; so that we may discover the new ways God is leading us into 2021! I long for the days when this pandemic is far enough behind us that we may all safely gather and sing like the angelic host. Until then, as I ponder all these things, I will pray for you, our church family, and for the world!

May Christ be our sufficiency,

P.J.

Rev. Jon Stouffer, Lead Pastor



PHONE LIVESTREAM WORSHIP & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introducing First UMC Beaumont's new telephone broadcast system. We will broadcast Livestream Worship services, as well as important dates and announcements once a week.

Call 409-920-PRAY or 409-920-7729, and you will be able to listen to our Livestream Worship broadcasts over the phone. Call 409-920-PRAY to subscribe, and receive a call when we are live.

Email info@fumcbeaumont.org, or call our church office (409)-832-0295 from Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. to learn more.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep our entire First UMC Beaumont community in your prayers.

If you have a specific request, our prayer team would love to be praying with you. Email us – prayer@fumcbeaumont.org.

STAY CONNECTED

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 [First UMC Beaumont](#)

 [lovebeaumont.com](#)

 **(409) 920-PRAY**

WEEKLY RHYTHMS

SUNDAYS

Prayer & Holy Communion Service
9:15 a.m. | Sanctuary

First Kids ZOOM Church
Pre-Recorded for your convenience. A time for First Kids to grow in faith.
Contact Stephanie Denham via Facebook Message or Email
Stephanie@fumcbeaumont.org

Livestream Worship
11 a.m.
[fumcbeaumont.org/livestream](https://www.fumcbeaumont.org/livestream)
Facebook Livestream

WEDNESDAYS

Renewed Hope - Advent Study & Communion
December 2,9,16
Noon & 6 p.m.
In-Person - Rothwell Hall & via Zoom.
Join us as we continue to welcome Christ into our lives and hearts this Advent season. Contact Pastor Julius for more information -
julius@fumcbeaumont.org

DAILY

Independent Prayer & Meditation
12:19 p.m.
Anywhere
Take a moment every day at 12:19 p.m. and pray for our churches, communities, country and the world as we seek Gods help to navigate during the COVID-19 outbreak.

DO YOU HAVE UPCOMING EVENTS?

Email event info and pictures to –
Erika@fumcbeaumont.org

DATES TO KNOW



LITTLE GIVING TREE

Gifts Due by Tuesday, December 15

This year, First UMC will partner with Once Upon A Dream Daycare to provide giving tree gifts to children in need of Christmas presents. Once Upon A Dream provided giving tree wish lists for 19 children.

Doors will be open to pick out gift tags on Wednesday at Noon and 6 pm, and Sunday at 9:15 am. Call the church office from Monday-Thursday, between 9 a.m. and Noon to pick out giving tree tag over the phone.

Contact Phyllis Fernandez for more information -
phyllisbeaumont@fumcbeaumont.org



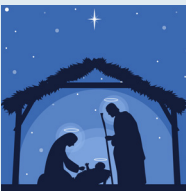
CHRISTMAS UNDER THE OAKS

Friday, December 18 | Begin arriving at 6:30 p.m.
RSVP by Thursday, December 10 to First UMC

(409)-832-0295 | Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The Home of Colby & Gina Crenshaw
11976 Brooks Road
Beaumont, TX 77713

Colby & Gina Crenshaw invite you to Christmas Under The Oaks with First United Methodist Church Beaumont. Join us for hors d'oeuvres, hot cocoa, and live music throughout the evening. All ages are welcome. Attire is casual.



BIRTH OF CHRIST CELEBRATION WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday, December 23 | Noon, & 6 pm
Thursday, December 24 | 4 pm, & 7 pm

Now taking Reservations
(409)-832-0295 | Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Gather with us as we celebrate the Birth of Christ this December. Our Birth of Christ Celebration service will be offered four times to allow everyone an opportunity to worship safely in person. You must RSVP to attend. All are welcome to RSVP.

Our December 23, 6 pm Birth of Christ Celebration will also be available to view via Livestream on Facebook, YouTube, on our website. Our broadcast will be available for you to view or listen at your convenience after the December 23, 6 p.m. service.

Our audio livestream will be available at (409)-920-PRAY or (409)-920-7729.



LAKEVIEW FAMILY RETREAT

Postponed

Due to low sign ups and the projected rise in COVID-19 cases for the new year, we will be postponing our Lakeview Retreat. Watch for new Family Retreat plans in 2021!



First United Methodist Church
701 Calder Ave.
Beaumont, Texas 77701



Loving THE CITY WITH THE *heart* OF *Christ*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT

Birth of Christ Celebration

WORSHIP SERVICES

DECEMBER 23 & 24



RSVP TODAY - ALL ARE WELCOME

LOVEBEAUMONT.COM • (409) 832-0295, Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - Noon