

# connect@mcbc

Love God, Serve Others, Tell The Story, Together

Link...A connecting element



## Pastor Link • A Time to Draw Closer to God

Bennie Portwood, Pastor

March, 2018



A few years ago Gail and I came across a quote we liked so much we gave framed copies

*Life isn't About Waiting*  
For the storm to pass...  
It's about learning to  
*Dance in the Rain*

of it to several of our friends for Christmas. The quote said, *Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain.* Lately I have thought of this quote often as we have had days and days of storms and rain. I have also found myself pondering exactly what this truly means. Well, the fact of the matter is this would probably be different for every person you might ask. As for me, I don't think it is about pretending all is fine when it is not or putting on a fake smile to show others you are happy when you are not. I believe it is the realization that this can be a time to draw closer to God because we truly believe He is working in all situations in our lives for good.

So, how can we do this? How can we rise above the storm instead of

curl up in a ball of fear and misery? The first step is to face your fears. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said, *We gain strength, and courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face...we must do that which we think we cannot.* Pastor Rick Warren reflects, *There is a purpose behind every problem. God uses circumstances to develop our character. In fact, He depends more on circumstances to make us like Jesus than He depends on our reading the Bible.* Now, that is powerful! If we can grab hold of this truth, what a difference it will make in our lives!

One way to face our fears, is to throw Scripture in the face of fear. Some good verses are found in Psalm 23:4, Psalm 27:3, and Romans 8:15. If you will search your Bible, you will

find many more.

Another thing to consider is when we go through storms in our lives we tend to become consumed by what we are going through and forget that others are going through their own storms. If this is happening to you, think of someone else who is having a hard time that you can reach out to and help. It may be as simple as an encouraging word, but whatever you can do for others during your storm will help you to dance in the rain. Being able to do this is one of the blessings God gives us during our storms and one of the ways He works for good. As you help others, you will gain a deeper empathy for what others are experiencing. Remember, none of us are exempt from storms, but through Christ we can have the strength to dance in the rain. And also remember, *Everyone wants happiness, everyone wants no pain, but you can't have a rainbow without a little rain.* Author Unknown.

Loving Serving with You, *Bro, Bennie*

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### Pastor's Easter Message Series



March 4 Through Resurrection Sunday

Sundays, 10:55 a.m.

Listen to Sermons Online  
[www.mcbcwhitehouse.com](http://www.mcbcwhitehouse.com)



**Vacation Bible School**  
**June 18-22**  
Like to help?  
Sign up in Main Foyer.

VBS Coordinator,  
Krystal Montgomery  
539-5336



**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**  
**for North American Missions**  
**March 4 - 11, 2018**  
**Church Goal: \$1,800**

## Worship Ministry

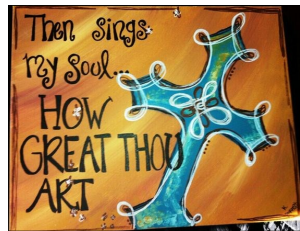
Jerry Page, Worship Leader



*Then sings my soul my Savior, God, to Thee.  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!*

In case you wanted to know: *How Great Thou Art* is a Christian hymn based on a Swedish traditional melody and a poem written by Carl Boberg (1859–1940) in Mönsterås, Sweden in 1885. It was translated into German and then into Russian and became a hymn. It was translated into English from the Russian by English missionary Stuart K. Hine, who also added two original verses of his own. The composition was set to a Russian melody. It was popularized by George Beverly Shea and Cliff Barrows during the Billy Graham crusades. I remember hearing George Beverly Shea singing this while listening to one of the crusades. This morning when I was getting ready for work I heard that Billy Graham had passed away. It brought this hymn to mind. May God richly bless you.

In His Service, *Bro. Jerry*



**Celebration Choir Rehearsal  
Sundays 4:45 p.m.**

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

Benji Morrison, Minister to Students



There is a story about the Lone Ranger. He and his sidekick, Tonto, are crossing the plains. All of the sudden, a group of Indians attack from the south. Tonto says, *What do we do, Kimosabi?* He says, *Well, we should go to the north.* So they go north to run from the Indians, but then shortly run into another group of Indians positioned to attack also. Tonto says, *Kimosabi, what do we do now?* The Lone Ranger says, *Well, we should go west.*

They hit the western ridge only to find a group of Indians there, too. Tonto says, *Well, what do we do now, Kimosabi?* The Lone Ranger says, *Well, we can only go east. That's all that's left.* The problem was that another group of Indians were positioned to attack from the east. They were surrounded! The Indians were slowly closing in on them from all sides. The Lone Ranger looked at Tonto and asked, *What do we do now, Tonto? These are your people.* Tonto replied, *What do you mean we, Kimosabi?* It's easy to jump ship when the going gets tough. In Him, *Benji*



**Youth Advisory Council Meeting:** Sunday, March 18, 1 p.m., FLC  
**Sunday Morning Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.**  
**Wednesday - Open Gym - 5:30 p.m., Bible Study - 7 p.m.**

## Ministry Link • Women's Ministry Spring Event March 24, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Theme: *Festival of Tables...Celebrating the Uniqueness of You!*

Ten (10) tables will be decorated by different hostesses in a variety of themes. Volunteers needed to be Table Hostesses. Table Hostesses: Spots will be filled on first-come basis. Hostess needs to provide plates (china or everyday dinnerware), glasses for tea or water, coffee cups, silverware, table decorations. Table Decorations: Any appropriate theme of your choosing. So we will have a variety of themes, one table per theme, please. Hostesses are not responsible for inviting guests to sit at their table, though it is encouraged. Suggested, but not required: Most hostesses give their guests a small, inexpensive favor. It could be anything from piece of chocolate to a bookmark with a Bible verse. This is not meant to be a burden or great expense. Table Hostess/WEM Responsibilities flyer is on table in Main Foyer. Food: Pot Luck Lunch. Bring your favorite salad, main dish and desserts. Devotional: Belinda Dominey. Prayer Partner Exchange: Bring an unwrapped new small soup or cereal bowl with your name written underneath on the bottom. Bowls will be passed out to attendees and you will pray for the person whose name is on the bowl you receive. It's fun to see the different designs and colors that are brought!

Ages: Ladies high school & up. Child care provided. Advance registration required. Sign up in Main Foyer today to attend, be a Table Hostess and for child care. Questions? Ann Bennett, Gail Portwood, Pat Smith, Mary Stainback.

**His Story Book Club Begins Thurs., April 12**  
*Love Drops-A Study of God's Love for Us.* Each lesson includes a Scripture-based devotion, meditative coloring sheet, reflective page and discussion questions. 10 a.m., Encouragers Room. 6 sessions on Thursdays. \$11 book fee. Sign-up begins March 18 in Main Foyer. Questions? Ann Bennett, 570-5249.

**Evening in the Word Begins Tuesday, April 3**  
6-session study. *Finding I Am by Lysa Terkeurst.* Facilitator: Belinda Dominey. 6:30 p.m., Encouragers Class. Workbook \$14.99. Available at LifeWay Christian Book Store, Tyler. Sign-up begins March 18 in Main Foyer. Questions? Belinda Dominey 839-2326.

**One-Stitch Sewing Ministry**  
We will be sewing simple children's dresses and shorts to go to orphanages worldwide. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon in FLC. Questions? Jan Bragg, 920-1873.

**Children's Church & Kids Praise Choir**  
Sunday morning ministry that provides Bible-based activities for children first - sixth grade during morning worship service. Children are in the Worship Center through song service and then dismissed to go to Children's Church upstairs in the Family Life Center. Questions? Pat Smith, 539-9692.

**Girls in Action News**  
Camp Mission Project: *Collect travel-size toiletries, new socks, gloves, small notepads, granola bars, fruit snacks, travel-size packs of Kleenex, Wet Wipes, washcloths.* Please put items in receptacle in Main Foyer until March 18. Summer Camp June 8 -12: Timberline Encampment. Fourth - Sixth Grade. Cost \$195 per person. Questions? Georgia Eades, 570-8975, Patty Samples, 752-1251.

**Church-wide Christmas Child Project**  
Items being donated through September to be used to prepare Christmas Child Boxes in October. When buying items, THINK SMALL. 12 items placed in each shoe box so things need to be small to fit. March item is non-liquid toiletries: *Combs, small brushes, dental floss, travel-size hard soap, toothbrushes, small boxes of band aids, small individual packets of Kleenex, nail clippers.* Place in receptacle in Main Foyer. Questions? Scott Dowdy, 570-9247.

**YOU Can Be a MCBC Volunteer**

Bless the Lord, O my soul  
And forget not all His benefits.

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**New Members**  
From Other Fellowship: 2

**Attendance:**  
Sunday School Average Attendance: 106  
Worship Service Attendance: 119

**Tithes & Offerings/Building Fund**  
Budget Requirements: \$ 62,176.00  
Budget Receipts: \$ 60,332.01  
Building Fund: \$ 36,623.05  
**Church Bus Fund:** \$ 4,810.15

**Church Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m.  
Family Life Center

**2017 Church Contribution Records**  
Available in Church Office

**Church Office Hours**  
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Thursday

*Pastor's Day Off: Friday*

**Welcome New Members**

Titus & Linda Jones  
(No photo available)



**Sunday, March 11**




**Church Campus Closed**  
**March 30 & 31**  
**for Easter Holiday**




**Sundays 9:45 a.m., 6 p.m.**  
**Wednesdays 7 p.m.**  
**Book of Judges**

**March Deacon**



Dennis Bennett • 570-3813



**Schedule Change**  
No 42 League or One-Stitch Sewing Ministry Tuesday, March 6, due to the FLC being used for the Primary Election that day.

**New Home Address, Phone, E-Mail?**  
Please let us know by writing them on the back of your white registration card on Sunday morning or calling the office, 839-2606. Please let us know if your birthday or anniversary is not on the calendar so we can update the database.

**March 2018** *Let God's promises shine on your problems. Corrie Ten Boom*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Pray for our prayer partner church,</b> <b>Hope Community Fellowship,</b> <b>Bridgeport, Vermont</b></p>				<p><b>1</b> Sherrie Warren, Tracy &amp; Polly Cawthorn, Don &amp; Cindy Rivers 7 p.m. CenterShot, FLC</p>	<p><b>2</b> Lesa Beverly, Mary Creech, Erica Olmstead</p>	<p><b>3</b> Patty Samples</p>
<p><b>4</b> 9 a.m. Teacher's Meeting, Encouragers 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:55 a.m. Worship Celeb. Child Church, Choir 4:45 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m. Worship &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p><b>5</b> 1 p.m. Mah Jongg, FLC</p>	<p><b>6</b>  <b>6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Primary Election</b> <b>NO OTHER ACTIVITIES ON CHURCH CAMPUS</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> Jarrett Wright 5:30 p.m. Gym/Youth Bible Study 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, GIA, FLC</p>	<p><b>8</b> 7 p.m. CenterShot, FLC</p>	<p><b>9</b> Charlotte Johnson</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b> <b>Time Change</b>  9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:55 a.m. Worship Celebration 4:45 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m. Worship &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b> Mike Baldrée, Stacy Fleming, Nelson Manziel <i>Spring Break</i> 1 p.m. Mah Jongg, FLC</p>	<p><b>13</b> Hadley Hearon <i>Spring Break</i> 10 a.m. One-Stitch Ministry, FLC 6 p.m.—42 League Ministry, FLC</p>	<p><b>14</b> James &amp; Nancy Sloan <i>Spring Break</i> 5:30 p.m. Gym/Youth Bible Study 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, GIA, FLC</p>	<p><b>15</b> Dylan Meyer <i>Spring Break</i> <i>(No CentersSat during Spring Break)</i> Noon -T-N-T Senior Luncheon, FLC</p>	<p><b>16</b> <i>Spring Break</i></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>18</b> Linda Cox-Frogge 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:55 a.m. Worship Celeb. Child Church, Choir Noon—Visitation Outreach &amp; Lunch, FLC 1 p.m.—Youth Advisory Council Mtg, FLC <i>No Celebration Choir Rehearsal</i> 6 p.m. Worship &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b> Kameron Caldwell, Sammy Clark, Joe &amp; Patsy Gregg 1 p.m. Mah Jongg, FLC</p>	<p><b>20</b> Ashley Coon 10 a.m. One-Stitch Ministry, FLC 6 p.m.—42 League Ministry, FLC</p>	<p><b>21</b> James Meredith, Benji Morrison, James &amp; Sandra Kirkpatrick 5:30 p.m. Gym/Youth Bible Study 7 p.m. Business Meeting/Adult Bible Study, GIA, FLC</p>	<p><b>22</b> Donna Francis, Melody Self 7 p.m. CenterShot, FLC</p>	<p><b>23</b> Caylin Meredith, Charles &amp; Betty Gibbons FLC, Set-Up for Spring Fling GA Minicamp, Timberline</p>	<p><b>24</b> 11 a.m.—1 p.m. Women's Ministry Spring Fling GA Minicamp, Timberline</p>
<p><b>25</b> David Mullins, Aris Obar, Sarah Turner, Pam Stainback 12 p.m.—1 p.m. Easter Party, FLC 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:55 a.m. Worship Celeb. Child Church, Choir 4:45 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m. Worship &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b> Mary Baldrée 1 p.m. Mah Jongg, FLC</p>	<p><b>27</b> Jean Welch 10 a.m. One-Stitch Ministry, FLC 6 p.m.—42 League Ministry, FLC</p>	<p><b>28</b> Blake Butler, Kaylee Rivers, Paula Shackelford, Darwin &amp; Pam Stainback 5:30 p.m. Gym/Youth Bible Study 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, GIA, FLC</p>	<p><b>29</b> Don Coon 7 p.m. CenterShot, FLC</p>	<p><b>30</b> Joyce Miles <b>Church Campus Closed</b> <b>Easter Holiday</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> <b>Church Campus Closed</b> <b>Easter Holiday</b></p>

**Raffle to Benefit Centershot Archery Ministry**

2018 PSE Fang 350XT Crossbow Package. Includes limb dampeners, 4x32 scope, quiver, 3 bolts and practice points. Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Drawing held at Wild Game Dinner. All proceeds go to help MCBC Centershot Archery Ministry.

**Wild Game Dinner April 14:** Doors open 4 p.m. Meal 6 p.m. Speaker: Jake Robertson, President Real Men Outfitters. Theme: *Many have gods. Few have God.* Two sign-up sheets in Main Foyer for attendance and food donations. Questions? Kenneth Hearon, 780-3021.

**Community Easter Egg Hunt Sat., March 31 10 a.m., Whitehouse Sports Complex**

Age groups 3 & under, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, Special Needs & Adults 18 & up. Bring 2 non-perishable food items for Whitehouse Food Pantry. Games, bounce houses, food vendor. Door Prizes: 2 bicycles. *Bro. Bennie & Gail will be at the MCBC Booth, come say, Hi!*

**Run/Walk 4 the Son, Sat. March 31, 10 a.m. Whitehouse Sports Complex**

**Register 9 a.m. Entry fee: \$25 per person**  
**Benefits Whitehouse First Responders**  
 Kids and adults run/walk at your own pace with a group escorted by police or firemen from Sports Complex to High School property, around High School and back to Complex. Prizes for kids 9-15, youth 16-adult 24, & 25 and older. Register online at <https://therec.redpodium.com/run-4-the-son-2018>.

**Meals for Morrison Family**

A meal train is now going for the Morrison Family like before. It's through [carecalendar.com](http://www.carecalendar.com). The link and password are below. If anyone would like to do meals on days not listed, please contact Benji Morrison to set that up. <http://www.carecalendar.org/logon/229869>. ; Pin 2953.

Questions? Benji Morrison, 363-3858.

**TNT Senior Adult Lunch March 15**

Noon, FLC. Questions? Elaine Swinney, 839-2038.

**Visitation Outreach & Lunch March 18 , Noon**

A light lunch will be provided for those who would like to go visit folks interested in becoming a part of our church family, shut-ins, or write cards to those who have not been able to attend church recently. Sign up in Main Foyer. Questions? Scott Dowdy, 570-9247.

**Cans for Camp Donations**

Aluminum can donations needed to help send kids to camp. Please place cans in wire bin behind the Gym.

**Please let us know** if your birthday or anniversary is not on the calendar so we can update the database.



**Get Church News On His Mail Internet Ministry & Website**

Two great ways to stay connected! The web site & His Mail! You may get monthly newsletter via His Mail Internet Ministry, along with church news about those who are sick, deaths, special needs and upcoming church events. Sign up your e-mail address in the Main Foyer. Web Site: [www.mcbcwhitehouse.com](http://www.mcbcwhitehouse.com) His Mail & Web Site maintained by Women's Ministry. Questions? Gail Portwood, 363-7457.

**Attention, Young Readers!**

One of our own MCBC authors, Wayne Welch, has a new book in the library called *Dangerous Adventures*. Check this out. Ann King, Librarian

**Prayer Requests**

As requests come in they are added to the Prayer List, which is read aloud Sunday & Wednesday evenings, and sent out on HisMail, if they are not marked confidential. Names read during Sunday morning worship service are limited to those hospitalized, having procedures, victims of catastrophic event, or passed away during the current week.

**Church Calendar Procedure**

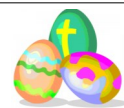
All groups or individuals wishing to reserve any portion of the church facility need to fill out a form to give us necessary information about the event. All non-church events must be approved by the Pastor and some fees may apply.



**Church-wide Highway Trash-Off Saturday, April 7, 8 a.m.**

Our church body as a whole committed to maintain this portion of the highway and we need everyone who is able to help get the project done. Men, women, youth, & children with their parents are asked to help pick up trash along Highway 344. Donuts provided prior to groups leaving church. Sign-up in Main Foyer to volunteer. Questions? Mike Eades, 570-5740.

**Individually Wrapped Candy Needed Children's Easter Party Sunday, March 25 Noon - 1 p.m., FLC**



Ages Nursery - Sixth Grade  
 Children's families are invited to join kids for lunch. Easter egg hunt following meal. Bring your own basket. Please put donated candy on table in the Main Foyer by Wednesday, March 21. Questions? Krystal Montgomery, 539-5336.

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED



FLC - Family Life Center

eachweek@mcbc • Spring Regular Schedule  
**Sunday**  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:55 a.m. Worship Celebration, Children's Choir  
 4:45 p.m. Celebration Choir  
 6 p.m. Worship & Bible Study  
**Wednesdays**  
 5:30 p.m. Open Gym/Youth Bible Study  
 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study



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 Bennie Portwood, Pastor  
 Jerry Page, Worship Ministry  
 Benji Morrison, Student Ministries  
 10519 FM 344 East • Whitehouse, Texas 75791-4909 • Phone: 903-839-2606  
 Fax: 903-839-1435 • E-mail: [mcbcwhitehouse@aol.com](mailto:mcbcwhitehouse@aol.com)  
 Website: [www.mcbcwhitehouse.com](http://www.mcbcwhitehouse.com)  
 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.