



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As the leaves fall and the air grows crisp, we find ourselves on the cusp of the Thanksgiving season. It is a time of year when we come together with family and friends to give thanks for the abundant blessings

that surround us. But this November, I want us to take a closer look at the power of gratitude and how it can transform our lives on a daily basis.

Gratitude is more than just a warm feeling we experience during a special holiday meal. It is a way of life that can enrich our spiritual journey and bring us closer to God. In the Bible, we find countless passages that emphasize the importance of gratitude. Psalm 100:4 reminds us, "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." Through this verse, we see that gratitude is our gateway to God's presence.

So, how can we cultivate a heart of thanksgiving and gratitude that goes beyond a once-a-year celebration? Here are a few key practices to consider:

1. Daily Gratitude Journal: Begin each day by writing down three things you are thankful for. These can be small or significant blessings. By acknowledging the good in your life, you'll set a positive tone for the day and develop a habit of recognizing God's hand in your life.

2. Acts of Kindness: Acts of kindness, no matter how small, can be a powerful way to express gratitude. Reach out to someone in need, offer a helping hand, or simply show appreciation to those around you. Remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

3. Count Your Blessings: Take time to reflect on the many blessings you have in your life. It's easy to focus on what we lack, but counting our blessings reminds us of the abundance that God provides. Make a list of the people, experiences, and possessions you are thankful for.

4. Pray with Gratitude: In your daily prayers, remember to express your gratitude to God for His love and the many gifts He has given you. Use your prayer time as an opportunity to reflect on the things you appreciate most.

5. Thanksgiving as a Lifestyle: Embrace a mindset of thanksgiving as a way of life. When we approach each day with an attitude of gratitude, it not only uplifts our spirits but also influences those around us. We become beacons of light, radiating God's love and thankfulness.

I believe that a thankful heart is a joyful heart, and a joyful heart is closer to God. Gratitude opens our hearts to receive His blessings and enables us to shine His light in the world. When we practice gratitude daily, it becomes a part of who we are, transforming our lives from the inside out.

This November, let us come together not only for a traditional Thanksgiving meal but also to embark on a journey of gratitude that will last throughout the year. In doing so, we can be a source of inspiration and love to our community, demonstrating God's goodness through our words and actions.

I look forward to celebrating this Thanksgiving season with you all, and I pray that we may continue to grow in gratitude as we walk hand in hand with the Lord.

Wishing you and your families a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving.

In Christ's love,

DAVID BRASHER

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S CORNER

In October, we enjoyed a trip to the Lanes Chapel Pumpkin Patch! Thank you to everyone who came out to play pumpkin games, ride the pumpkin train, pick out some pumpkins, and have a devotional, then Andy's treats together. October Club 118 met at the Siler home for a time of fellowship, mission project, devotional, and pizza! Thank you to the Siler's for hosting us. At the end of October, we enjoyed our annual Trunk or Treat! Thank you to everyone who helped make this great outreach event happen!

In November, we are having the **Children's Ministry Bake Sale on November 12 between and after each worship service**. The proceeds will go toward for the Holiday of Hope project which provides Christmas gifts for children receiving services at the Children's Advocacy Center. Please shop at our bake sale and support our mission project!

In December, we are looking forward to some special dates. Please mark these down on your calendar and make plans to participate!

Saturday, December 2: Bullard Christmas Parade (Please join us on our "Santa's Workshop" float as we invite the community to our special Christmas outreach event!)

Sunday, December 3: Children's Christmas musical (both services!)

Friday, December 8 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.: "Have yoursELF a Very Merry Christmas" event! Join us for a fun family event with supper, minute-to-win-it games, and lots of Christmas spirit! The event is free, but everyone is invited to be an Elf and bring a donation to the event which will go to the Bullard Mission House such as some canned food or gently used clothing. If you would like to help with this event, please speak to Deirdre!

Sunday, December 10, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.: Children's Christmas Market! Children will 'spend' tickets they earned from participating in Sunday school or Clubs on Christmas gifts for their friends and family! If you are NOT a parent of a child, please let Deirdre know if you can help with this!

Blessings to you,

Deirdre Leung
903-343-2857

STUDENT MINISTRIES

BIBLES AND BITES

A middle school girl's Bible study meets **alternate Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.**

ADULT MINISTRIES

COMMITMENT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 12, 10:00 AM



Our Stewardship theme for this year comes from *Isaiah 43:19*. God is always at work in the world and He has been doing new things through the missions and ministries of Bullard Methodist Church. We are asking each of you to pray for God to continue to move in mighty ways as we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Also, please plan to attend our combined worship on **Commitment Sunday, November 12, at 10:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary as we bring our financial commitments to God and celebrate by sharing a meal after worship. Please plan to stay and join us in the FLC for soups and salads.

If you would like to fill out your commitment card now, you can find it [here](#). To give easily and securely online, please visit our Giving Portal [here](#).

Thank you for supporting the work of advancing God's Kingdom through Bullard Methodist Church.

METHODIST COFFEE CLUB

Everyone is invited to join the Methodist Coffee Club, which meets here in Bullard on **Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. at Coffee Around the Corner**. This is a time of fellowship and coffee drinking. Everyone is welcome.

METHODIST MEN

The Methodist Men will not meet in November and December. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at Milano's Pizza, at 6:00 p.m.** All the men of the church are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and ministry activities.

METHODIST WOMEN

Meeting November 1

Bullard Methodist Women will be meeting on **Wednesday, November 1, at 10:00 a.m. in The Parlor**. We begin each meeting with a prayer and devotional, this month they will be given by Frances Cox. A Bible study, Jesus' Prediction of The Last Days based on Luke 21:5-38 will be led by Martha Dinwiddie. The study is based on the book *Luke New Hope, New Joy* by Ada Lum.

At our October meeting, we decided in support of the Bullard Mission House we would collect items monthly to give to the food pantry. For November we will collect flour, sugar, and cooking oil. A collection will be taken up at the November meeting for a memorial in honor of Debbie Druivenga and Margo Moore. BMW will be serving lemonade at the Trunk or Treat on October 29.

If you have any questions, contact Judy Donnelly at (281) 450-2300.

Meeting November 29

Because of the hectic holiday season and the many members who are volunteers at the Bullard Mission House Food Pantry/Clothes Closet, we are taking advantage of the 5th Wednesday in the month of November and changing the regular date of our meeting.

Bullard Methodist Women will be meeting on **Wednesday, November 29, at 10:00 a.m. in The Parlor.** We begin each meeting with a prayer and devotional, this month they will be given by Gloria Jones. No planned Bible study will take place at this meeting.

Please check the bulletin for the items we decided on to support the Bullard Mission House Food Pantry. The November 1 meeting has not taken place as of the time of this submission. It is time for Sideline Saints holiday cheer. Bring 11 cards (no envelopes) and 7 small gifts from the sign-up list.

We will have a holiday luncheon at Hidden Gardens Tea Room at the conclusion of the meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Judy Donnelly at (281) 450-2300.

MISSION BARREL - NOVEMBER



For November, we are collecting wrapping paper and gift bags for the Children's Christmas Market. Please drop off items in yellow barrels located in FLC and Harper Hall.

EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We had a fantastic time serving our community at the ETFB in October! Please join our Missions team as we continue this monthly opportunity **On Tuesday, November 14 from 8:15 to 11:15 a.m. We will gather at the food bank between 8:00 and 8:10 a.m.** If you can attend or need more details, please get in touch with Mary Kay Bailey (253) 740-7666 or Bret Hatley (713) 301-1231.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 5th, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Sunday, November 12th, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 19th, 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday, November 26th, Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday, December 3rd, 1st Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The October Potluck Supper was later in the month because of the homecoming parade. The November dinner will seem like it is right around the corner because of the way the second Wednesday falls, **November 8, at 5:30 p.m., in the Family Life Center.** Bring a dish you would serve for Thanksgiving at home. This way those tried-and-true recipes can be shared, and new recipes can be tested. Take a picture of your recipe so when someone asks you for the recipe you can easily share it. This is a time for fellowship and the opportunity to meet new people. We have begun to wear our nametags so everyone will know your name.

We had about 60 attendees for the October dinner. We had team supporters, Rangers and Astros, and Halloween enthusiasts. We collected items to make "all the fixin's" for a Thanksgiving dinner special for the clients at the Mission House Pantry. In November, bring all those items to make your Holiday treats and sweets like sugar, flour, chocolate chips, brown sugar, and anything else you would put in your cookies and pies for the holidays.

In November, the table decorations will be supplied by Flo Tarrant. If you would like to provide the decorations in the future, please contact Judy to sign up for a month.

Our muscle crew, aka set-up/clean-up team, has had various additional commitments this fall. We could use some additional help. If you are available to come a little early, at 4:45 p.m., to help set up it would be greatly appreciated. I really don't want my 88-year-old father moving tables and chairs.

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Donnelly at (281) 450-2300.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

In 2016, when I had my cancer surgery, I was a recipient of a prayer quilt from my previous church. This was a lap-size quilt that was created by members of the church, they prayed over it and its recipient. It was delivered to me at the hospital as they were inserting my IV. I admit the timing of the delivery was a little dramatic.

I felt a nudging earlier this year to try a prayer quilt ministry here at Bullard Methodist Church. I sought a person experienced at quilting to help me, and was introduced to Flo Tarrant. I took a quilting class this summer to get more than the Youtube version of the instructions. This past month, with the delay in the Potluck with a Purpose, it freed me up for a trip to Houston to observe an established ministry in progress. The timing was a God thing. It is going to take more than the two of us to make this work!

We need people to cut fabric, hand and machine sew, someone to iron, someone to wash the quilts, many to pray for the recipients and people to deliver the quilts to the recipients.

I would like to have an organizational meeting on **Thursday, November 9, at 9:00 a.m. in the FLC.** We will evaluate the interest and establish a monthly day and time to get together to make prayer quilts. If the interest is there we will start in January 2024. If you are interested in participating in this ministry and you are unable to make the organizational meeting, please contact me to let me know. I will get back to you regarding some of the decisions we made at this meeting.

Judy Donnelly
281-450-2300 or pauljudy82@sbcglobal.net

TRADITIONAL SERVICE USHERS FOR NOVEMBER

Pam Morton
David Parker
Neal & Becky Thompson

The full church calendar can be viewed on our website at <http://bullardfumc.org/calendar-2>

NEWS AND NOTES

TIME CHANGES



On Sunday, November 5, Daylight Saving Time ends. Please set your clocks back one (1) hour before going to bed on Saturday Night.

NEWEST ADDITION TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY



KARIS GRACE THRASHER

Daughter of David & Kelsey Thrasher



SAMUEL THOMAS BOREN

Son of Robert & Emily Boren
Brother of Peter & Cecil Boren

CHURCH CONNECTIONS



Contact grant@bullardmethodist.org
with any questions.

Volunteer Interest Survey

Our Ministry Interest Survey is on the church website under volunteer if you select the "Serving" tab. Your response is instrumental in allowing us to align your ministry and service goals with our current opportunities through our various missions, outreach, and fellowship ministries.

Please feel free to reach out if you need help utilizing the online format. Hardcopies are available, or if you know where you'd like to be, let me know, and I will connect you with the right person.

Fellowship Ministry

Veteran's Day Bingo & Games in the FLC on November 11, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Our Veteran's in attendance will be recognized, games will be played, and light appetizers or snacks and drinks will be served.

A sign-up sheet is available for those able to bring snacks/appetizers. "White Elephant" prizes - we also ask that you bring an unwrapped item from your house to serve as our prize for each Bingo winner.

Missions Ministry

Join us on **Thursday, November 30, for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Bullard Brookshire's!** The funds we raise as a Salvation Army bell ringer will impact our community year-round through social services assistance, homeless shelters, disaster relief, children's programs, rehabilitation services, anti-human trafficking, and more.

Outreach Ministry

Please join us **in Harper Hall on Monday, November 13, from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** to discuss and plan outreach opportunities for our church family to teach others about God's love and connect them with BMC. Contact Grant Rollins at grant@bullardmethodist.org with any questions.

OUR PRAYERS

Our Homebound – Side-Line Saints - Members & Friends:

Tommie Aulie
Ruby Cables
Velma Carson

James & Kathleen Kyles
Linda Pierce
JoAnn Smith
Emilie Stroble
Jean Weatherly

Active Military Personnel:

Benjamin Barbour, Bryton Blakeney, Jessica Roper, Tyler Scarborough, Victor B. Sheldon and his wife Katy Sheldon, Grant Troxell, and others

OUR GIFTS

The Board of Stewards has authorized the Finance Committee to establish a brokerage account for securities donated to the church. The purpose of this is to be able to accept donations of stocks and bonds and convert them to cash for use by the church as designated by the donor.

If you have securities you wish to donate to the church and avoid capital gains taxes, please consult with your financial advisor and then contact the Finance Secretary, Patti Maxwell, or the church office.

Financial Results for September:

	September	Year-to-date
Contributions (Actual)	\$ 41,995.30	\$ 422,532.48
Contributions (Budgeted)	\$ 41,067.00	\$ 436,103.00
Expenses (Actual)	\$ 45,689.33	\$ 410,833.32
Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 47,276.00	\$ 414,800.00

SPECIAL GIFTS

(Gifts as of October 31, 2023)

In Memory of Ermal Tedder Clark

Given by:
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Anderson
Don & Patricia Darby
Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Grawe & Family
Bob & Brooke Lunn
David & Susan Smith

OUR PRESENCE

Average Attendance (includes In-person & Online):

September:	229
Year to date:	232

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

The Vine deadline is **Wednesday, November 15, at 4:30 p.m.** for the December newsletter.

Email articles to bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org

UPLIFTING WORDS

The Little Foxes

God has made you the keeper of the vineyard.
God has made you the guardian of your mind.
Keep the fences strong around your vineyard.
Don't let the little foxes destroy your vine.

Little drops of water, little grains of sand,
make the mighty oceans and the mighty land.
Little words of unbelief, little seeds of doubt,
soon will make your candle of faith go out.

Little nagging worries, little thoughts of fear,
help destroy the joy we have now and here.
Bitterness and envy grow into hate, my friend.
Those tiny little foxes will get you in the end.

God has made you the keeper of the vineyard.
God has made you the guardian of your mind.
Keep the fences strong around your vineyard.
Don't let the little foxes destroy your vine.

By Carole Myers

NEED A NAME TAG?

Active members' and visitors' name tags are located on the shelf (in alphabetical order) in the foyer of the Sanctuary and the entrance of the FLC. If you need a name tag, please put a note in the offering plate, or call Venus at the church office at (903) 894-6762.

WELCOME TEAM

We need volunteers to serve on our Welcome Team each Sunday. This group of volunteers makes sure every person who comes through our doors is warmly welcomed and that our first-time guests are given a gift. You simply need to be at worship a few minutes early and wear a smile. If you would like to help, please contact the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS: POLICY & PRICE

Altar flowers are a way of honoring a beloved person, remembering the deceased, or recognizing an anniversary or birthday.

To participate in this expression of your appreciation, complete an Altar Flower Form found below the glass case in Harper Hall near the children's wing, or go to our website, bullardmethodist.org, and drop down the Online Giving tab. A payment of \$45.00 must accompany your request. To pay online, use a credit card. To pay by check, indicate on the subject line that it is for altar flowers and place the check with

your request in the offering plate, or take it to the church office.

The next three months are listed below. Check the glass case in Harper Hall for the calendar.

Month	Sunday	Name
November	5	
	12	
	19	
	26	
December	3	
	10	
	17	
	24	
	31	
January 2024	7	
	14	
	21	
	28	

When you take the altar flowers home, please leave the green plastic containers at the church. These are reused each week.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

2	Karyn Heath
4	Frances Cox
5	Emerson Siler
8	Billy Newburn
9	Bobby Vermillion
10	Joy Mason
	Patti Maxwell
11	Mike Redman
14	Jerry Hale
	Art Henry
15	Julie Lamberth
16	Lyla LeVrier
18	Jennifer Blakeney
	Phil Heath
20	James Shipp
21	Glen Sheets
	Elizabeth White
22	Miranda Pierce
24	Billy & Myrna Braly
	Gary & Belva LeVrier
	Nelda Perry
26	Linda Samford
	Warren White
27	Kellie Marie Burns
	Janette Johnson
28	Amber Alexander
	Layne Alexander
	Brittany Allen
	Dan & Nancy Campbell

29 Mike Dunklin
30 Jill Siler

RECENT EVENTS

SEAN PARKER'S BAPTISM



BLUEBONNET FESTIVAL – SEPTEMBER



BULLARD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CONCESSIONS





METHODIST COFFEE CLUB



CHURCH UNDER THE BRIDGE



EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



PASTOR'S APPRECIATION PRAYER (FROM THE CHILDREN)



Encounter Worship Service



Traditional Worship Service

POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE (OCTOBER)



MARIO CART TOURNAMENT – SEPT 29



CONTACT US

If you would like to know more about how to become a member of Bullard Methodist Church, contact our Pastor.

Bullard Methodist Church
P.O. Box 152
204 S. Rather Street
Bullard, TX 75757

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

903.894.6762 (office)
903.894.3245 (fax)

Office: bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org
Pastor David: david@bullardmethodist.org

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Encounter (FLC)
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional
5:30 p.m. Youth

*Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
who worship passionately, love extravagantly,
and witness boldly.*

*All members of the church are ministers of the Gospel,
equipped for sharing the grace of God with the assistance
of:*

CLERGY

Pastor, Rev. David Brasher

PROGRAMS

Student Ministries Director, Katie Rankin
Children's Director, Deirdre Leung
Director of Connections, Grant Rollins

WORSHIP

Director of Traditional Music, Robert Boren
Encounter Worship Leader, David Thrasher
Pianist, Kerry Baham

SUPPORT

Administrative Assistant, Venus Burns
Financial Secretary, Patti Maxwell
Nursery Supervisor, Kimberly Brasher
Custodian, Louis White

EASTERN TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Bishop, Rev. Dr. Scott Jones
Area Presiding Elder, Rev. Nick Sholars
Circuit Presiding Elder for BMC, Rev. Bryan Harkness