

BULLARD METHODIST

CHURCH

THE VINE

February 2025



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Holiness is a word that doesn't often appear in

everyday conversations, yet it is central to the mission of the Global Methodist Church. Our mission reminds us that we are called "to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness around the globe." But what

exactly does holiness mean, and why is it so vital to who we are as Methodists?

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, often spoke of holiness as "Christian perfection." By this, he did not mean a life without mistakes or sinless perfection. Instead, Wesley described holiness as being made perfect in love. It is a heart fully devoted to God, a life transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ, and a daily pursuit of living according to His will. Holiness, at its core, is about loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and loving our neighbor as ourselves.

Holiness is not just a concept for personal piety or spiritual growth. Wesley believed it had broader implications for the community and the world. As we grow in holiness, our lives become living witnesses to the power of God's transforming grace. Holiness shapes our character, influences our decisions, and compels us to engage in acts of mercy and justice. It moves us beyond ourselves, allowing God's love to flow through us to a broken and hurting world.

Historically, holiness was a hallmark of the Methodist movement. Wesley's emphasis on holiness of heart and life led to the establishment of small accountability groups where believers encouraged and challenged one another to grow in faith. These gatherings were not about checking off a list of religious tasks but about pursuing a deeper relationship with God and each other. Wesley's famous quote, "There is no holiness but social holiness," underscores the communal nature of our spiritual journey.

Yet, in recent decades, holiness has become an often neglected topic in many churches. Perhaps it's because the word can feel outdated or misunderstood. But as Global Methodists, we are reclaiming this vital aspect of our faith. Holiness is not a relic of the past; it is the very heartbeat of who we are called to be as followers of Christ. The pursuit of holiness is both a challenge and a gift. It reminds us that we cannot achieve it on our own. Holiness begins with God's work in us. It is the Holy Spirit who empowers us to become more like Jesus, shaping us into His image day by day. But it also requires our active participation—a willingness to surrender, obey, and seek His presence in all we do.

As we move forward as a denomination, let us embrace our call to holiness. Let us seek to live lives that reflect God's love and grace, both individually and as a church. May our homes, our workplaces, and our communities see the light of Christ shining through us. Holiness is not just something we talk about; it is something we live. And as we do, we fulfill our mission to spread scriptural holiness around the globe.

Grace and Peace,

DAVID BRASHER

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Happy February! In January we had our Club M&M and Club 118 meetings and made Valentines which will be given out at the Bluebonnet Nursing Home in February. Also, in January we had our Children's Ministry planning meeting and set some dates for the upcoming year! Please save these dates:

- Club M&M (ages 4yr-3rd grades):
 Sundays from 4:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in Harper Hall: February 9, March 2, April 13, May 18 (pool party location TBD)
- Club 118 (4th-6th grades): Sundays from 4:00 until 5:30 p.m.: February 23 at the Florence home, March 30 at the Walker home, April 27 (location TBD), and May 18 (pool party location TBD)
- Easter Egg-Splosion: Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
- Vacation Bible School: June 23-26 from 9:00 a.m. until noon

On **Sunday, February 2**, the kids will help lead worship with music and scripture reading at the Bluebonnet Nursing Home. If you would like to participate, please let me know.

Also, in February, we will look forward to Club M&M on Sunday, February 9, in Harper Hall from 4:00 p.m. until

5:30 p.m. and Club 118 on Sunday, February 23, at the Florence home from 4:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Blessings to you, Deirdre Leung (903) 343-2857

STUDENT MINISTRIES

YOUTH MEETINGS

Sundays from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. with following exceptions:

• February 9 – Superbowl party, time TBD

No meetings:

- March 16 Spring break
- April 20 Easter
- May 11 Mother's Day

BIBLES AND BITES

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

- February 5 & 19
- March 5 (second meeting TBD)
- April 2, 16, 30

MARIO KART TOURNAMENT

Mario Kart Tournament for 6th-8th grade boys will be on **Thursday, February 13, from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m. in the FLC**. Dinner provided.

YOUTH BAKE SALE

On **Mother's Day**, we will be doing our church camp bake sale fundraiser. All funds raised will go to send participating kids to Church Camp at Lakeview.

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 18. Reception to follow 11 o'clock service.

CHURCH CAMP

Registration for Lakeview is open. Please use code BULLARD50 for \$200 off--this is the half the church will cover. And don't forget the fundraiser! Please notify Katie if you register. Open to all students up to 12th grade. **June 9-13.**

ADULT MINISTRIES

2025 BOARD OF STEWARDS

Teri Rogers, Board Chair David Brasher, Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert Hand, Associate Pastor Jason Jones, Lay Leader & Lay Delegate Diane Fritsche, Finance Chair Richard Dinwiddie. Treasurer Patti Maxwell, Financial Secretary Tammy Woodard, SPRC Chair Karen Padrucco, SPRC Member Maggie Nordyke, SPRC Member Rob Sheldon, Trustee Chair Bob Burnett, Trustee Member Jim Neuman, Trustee Member Landon Grogan, Member At-Large Mike Walker, Member At-Large Tom Phelps, Member At-Large Venus Burns, Recording Secretary

CONNECTIONS MINISTRIES



Contact grant@bullardmethodist.org with any questions.

Volunteer Interest Survey

Our Ministry Interest Survey, a crucial tool for aligning your ministry and service goals with our current opportunities, is available on the church website under the 'Volunteer' tab. Your response is instrumental in shaping 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

We had a great time at our annual chili cook-off and supper! Congratulations to our first-place chili chef, Theresa Sheldon! Margaret Spier had the second-place overall chili and Phyllis Koopmann won the most unique chili! Be on the lookout for our next fellowship planning meeting in March.

Missions Ministry

We will have a Missions Ministry planning meeting on **Monday, February 24, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Harper Hall**. Please join us in planning our next opportunity to serve others.

Outreach Ministry

Our outreach ministry met on Tuesday, January 21st and planned a "First Responders Meal Outreach" where we are taking a meal to our local Police and Fire Departments to show them our love.

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

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 25, at 6:00 p.m. at Milano's Pizza.** All the men of the church are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and ministry.

METHODIST WOMEN

The Methodist Women's monthly meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 5, in the parlor at 10:00 a.m.** The devotion will be given by Mary Kay Bailey and the Bible study will be lead by Martha Dinwiddie. We are on Lesson 6, "How to Really Love Your Enemies," based on Matthew 5:38-48. A business meeting will follow the Bible study.

Please bring 10 signed Valentine cards (without envelopes) for our Sideline Saints. We continue to collect food items for the Bullard Mission House. Some items needed are: spices, salt, pepper, vegetable oil, condiments, hot sauce, seasoning packets, sugar, tea, or coffee. Watch the weekly grocery sales and get the best prices.

All women are invited to join our group. If you would like to know more, call or text Mary Kay Bailey at (253) 740-7666.

EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are needed to help at East Texas Food Bank on **Tuesday, February 4, from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** We help organize food for local food banks and schools. The address is 3201 Robertson Rd. Tyler 75701. For more information contact Mary Kay Bailey or Brett Hatley.

MISSION BARREL – FEBRUARY



POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The Potluck with a Purpose dinner will be the second Wednesday of the month, February 12, at 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center. We can celebrate Lincoln's Birthday. Bring a dish to share and a nonperishable donation for the Bullard Mission House Food Pantry. This month, bring seasonings to spice things up for Valentines!

This is a great opportunity for fellowship. We wear nametags so we will be able to meet those we do not know by name and put names with faces. We had around 50 people who braved the cold weather to attend the January dinner.

If you know anyone who does not drive after dark, offer to bring them with you.

We are doing the setup a little differently this year, we are asking people to stay **after the second service**, walk across to the FLC, and help set up tables on the Sunday before the dinner. This month will be **February 9**.

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

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Prayer Quilt Ministry meets on the second Thursday of the month. We will meet on **Thursday**, **February 13**, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Between February 25, 2024, and January 14, 2025, we have distributed **125** quilts including the 25 we took to Sager Brown on a mission trip in October. That is 100 quilts for our members, friends, and family and 25, a gift for missions in Louisiana.

We did not meet in December due to the holidays, but we had 25 quilts which were completed and are being distributed to those needing comfort and healing.

We distribute to those in the military, with health issues or going through a rough time. We depend on feedback from all of you to know who may be in need of prayers for healing and a quilt for comfort. If you have a close friend or relative who lives out of town, you may request a quilt, and we will give it to you to forward it to its final destination. If you would like a service member to receive a patriotic-themed quilt or an alternative color, please contact us.

The lap-size quilts are sewn at the church and/or at home by the group. The quilts are prayed over at the end of each session. All are welcome to stop by at around 11:45 to pray with us for the ones who will be the recipients of these quilts for their healing and comfort. A quilt may be requested directly from a member of the group.

If you have any questions, please contact Flo Tarrant at (903) 894-6416 or Judy Donnelly at (281) 450-2300.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE USHERS FOR FEBRUARY

Bob & Kathi Burnett Pam Morton David Parker

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

NEWS AND NOTES

BLUEBONNET MINISTRY

We are looking for persons from our church who would like to help by sharing a brief devotional with the residents of Bluebonnet Place. We go **every 1st Sunday of the month at 2 p.m.** to serve communion and share a devotional. If you can help, please sign up today! If you would like to participate, please contact Lisa Escolas at (774) 226-6153.

BULLARD METHODIST CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR NEEDED



BULLARD METHODIST NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Applications are available in the church office. Please contact Kimberly Brasher for additional information.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR FEBRUARY

- 1 Keith Gibson
- 3 Gary Shultz
- 4 Jane-Ellen Morris
- 6 Lois Evans
- Bruce Woodard
- 7 Brody McAdoo Grant & Kelly Rollins
- 9 Reagan Brasher Duvak
- Rob & Theresa Sheldon 10 David Allen
- Maggie Nordyke
- 11 Elayna Burns Jim Gill
- 12 James & Kathleen Kyles Mahlon Parker
- 14 Clay & Stefanie Clevenger
- 15 Reggie Smith
- 16 Nick Lamberth
- 17 Jerry Rightmyer
- 18 Pat Dunklin Matt Parker
- 19 Luke Alexander
- 20 Steve & Cheryl Plybon
- Angela Roper
- 22 Mike Moock
- 23 Sherry Perry
- 25 Kathleen Bunce Lynn Summers
- 26 Carl & June Coleman
- 29 David Lawson

UPLIFTING WORDS

God's Wonderful Touch

I see God's wonderful touch, Most every place that I look, In the raging of the stormy sea Or a ripple in a tiny brook, In the magnificent starlit sky Or the twinkle that He puts in a little babe's eye. I see God's wonderful touch, Most every place that I look.

Well, if all that you see when you look around Are bad things and sad things that get you down, If your whole world is gloomy and dark, Well, friend, believe me you need a spark, A spark from Jesus to set you free To give your life meaning so that you can see, You'll see God's wonderful touch Most everyplace that you look.

By Carole Myers

OUR PRAYERS

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

Tommie Aulie James & Kathleen Kyles Dirk Streely Emilie Stroble Nellene Tannert Bobby Vermillion Jean Weatherly

Active Military Personnel:

Benjamin Barbour, Matt Pearce, Jessica Roper, Victor B. Sheldon and his wife Katy Sheldon, Luke Sprinkle, and Grant Troxell

SPECIAL GIFTS

(Gifts as of January 31, 2025)

In Memory of Bill Fitch

Given by: Andy & Leah Williams

In Memory of Patsy Harper

Given by: The Donovan Siblings Richard & Robin Tedder

OUR GIFTS

BMC has 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 December:

	December	Year-to-date
Contributions (Actual)	\$ 82,491.92	\$ 704,325.73
Contributions (Budgeted)	\$ 46,013.00	\$ 592,000.00
Expenses (Actual)	\$ 70,189.39	\$ 613,843.66
Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 50,096.00	\$ 592,000.00

OUR PRESENCE

Average Attendance (includes In-person & Online):

December: 261 Year to date: 231

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

The Vine deadline is **Saturday, February 15, at 4:30 p.m.,** for the February 2025 newsletter. Email articles to <u>bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org</u>

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.

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.

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

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

Month	Sunday	Name
February	2	
	9	
	16	
	23	
March	2	
	9	
	16	
	23	
	30	
April	6	
	13	
	20	
	27	

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.

RECENT EVENTS

EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK









METHODIST COFFEE CLUB



CHILI COOKOFF





1st Place – Theresa Sheldon



2nd place – Margaret Spier



Most Unique – Phyllis Koopman



Judges

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY RECIPIENT

Pat Dunklin



也

My brother received his quilt and he said it made him cry like a baby and the smile. He said to thank the Prayer quilt group for all they do.

CHILDREN'S TIME – TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE



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 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

> 903.894.6762 (office) 903.894.3245 (fax)

Office: <u>bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org</u> Pastor David: <u>david@bullardmethodist.org</u>

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 and spread scriptural holiness around the globe.

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

CLERGY

Senior Pastor, Rev. David Brasher Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Robert Hand

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

TRINITY CONFERENCE Bishop, Rev. Dr. Scott Jones Presiding Elder, Rev. Nick Sholars Presiding Elder, Rev. David Brasher Connecting Elder for BMC, Rev. Ed Wandling