



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

One of the most stirring  
calls in the New

Testament comes from Ephesians 5:14: *"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."* Many scholars believe that this verse was part of an early Christian hymn, a song sung in worship to remind believers of the radical transformation that comes through Jesus Christ.

What a powerful word to hear in the season following Easter! We just celebrated the greatest moment in history—the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. But Easter was never meant to be a one-day celebration. It is the foundation of our faith and the heartbeat of our hope. Now comes the real invitation: to live every day in the power of Christ's resurrection. To live, as Paul puts it, "as children of light."

But how quickly we fall back asleep.

It's easy to treat Easter like a mountaintop moment—beautiful, inspiring, even life-changing—but then return to the routine rhythms of life, lulled back into spiritual drowsiness. We let our faith drift into the background. We become reactive instead of responsive. We get so caught up in our jobs, our phones, our calendars, and our worries that we stop living like resurrection people.

Paul's words are a wake-up call. They're not just about getting out of bed physically—they're about rising spiritually. They're about letting the light of Christ break through the darkness in our lives, in our homes, in our community. They're about choosing to live fully awake to the presence and purpose of God.

To live awake means we're not content with half-hearted faith. We long to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We hunger for God's Word. We speak encouragement instead of complaint. We choose love over resentment, holiness over compromise, mission over comfort. We ask, *"Lord, where do You want to shine through me today?"*

The resurrection of Jesus wasn't just the end of the story—it was the beginning of new life for all who believe. Christ's light now shines through those who rise with Him.

So let me ask: Are you awake? Are you living each day with the awareness that Jesus is alive and calling you to follow Him in the power of His resurrection?

If not, the invitation still stands: *Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

Let's be people who shine with the hope and love of our risen Savior—not just on Easter, but every day.

Here's a simple mantra you can carry with you this week. Say it each morning as a way to center your heart and remind yourself of who you are in Christ:

**"I am awake in Christ, alive in His grace, and shining with His light."**

Grace and peace,

Pastor David Brasher

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### CHILDREN'S CORNER

Happy May! In April, we had our fantastic community-wide Easter Egg-splosion! Thank you to everyone who cooked breakfast, helped with crafts, helped with the petting zoo, and hid Easter eggs! Most importantly, we told the real story of Easter, about Jesus' great love and sacrifice for us. Also in April, we have continued learning some new songs during Sunday school music time. We also had our Club M&M and Club 118 meetings. At Club M&M, the kids and some great helpers planted beautiful flowers in the courtyard area! And thank you to the Smith family for hosting Club 118!

Please save these upcoming dates:

**Sunday, May 11: Bake Sale for Church Camp!** If your child wants to raise funds to attend church camp please participate! **Camp will be June 16-20**, let me know if you need registration details!

**Club M&M and Club 118: Pool Party Sunday, May 18 from 4:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. (location TBD)**

VBS work dates:

Please consider helping out with VBS! We will have some VBS work nights **from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in Harper Hall** on the following dates: **May 7, 28; and June 4**. Please let me know if you can help!

**Vacation Bible School: June 23-26 from 9:00 a.m. until noon.** Join us as we take an adventure to "True North" as we learn that Jesus is our True North and that we can trust Jesus in a wild world! Kids aged 4 years to entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend. Sign up is coming soon! If you can help, please let me know!

Blessings to you,

Deirdre Leung  
(903) 343-2857

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### YOUTH MEETINGS

**Sundays from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.** with the following exception:

No meetings:

- **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:**

- **May 14**

### YOUTH BAKE SALE



## SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

**Sunday, May 18.** Please celebrate our graduating seniors with us. They will be recognized in the early and late services with a reception to follow the late service in Harper Hall.

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> grade. **June 9-13.**

## ADULT MINISTRIES

### BLESSED BITES MEAL MINISTRY

We're pleased to announce that we are starting a new ministry team to provide care and love to our church family members who are going through a difficult time. The Blessed Bites Meals Ministry team will deliver ready-to-eat meals that meet specific needs so that others can focus on caring for one another or getting well themselves.

The leadership team for the ministry consists of Susan Hatley (team lead), Lois Evans, Maggie Redding, and Theresa Sheldon. The team will get guidance from the Pastor on when to deliver meals. Please contact Susan Hatley at (713) 202-7019 if you want to join this ministry as a Meal Provider.

## CONNECTIONS MINISTRIES



Contact [grant@bullardmethodist.org](mailto: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

Spring Bingo was such fun this past month, congratulations to all our Bingo winners! The next fellowship opportunity will be announced soon.

## Missions Ministry

Please join our next Missions Ministry planning meeting on **Monday, May 12, from 4:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Harper Hall**, where we will work on our plans to join Marvin Methodist Church for Methodist Mission Week this summer.

## Outreach Ministry

Be on the lookout for our next outreach opportunity soon!

## 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, May 27, at 6:00 p.m., at Bruno's**. All the men of the church are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and ministry.

## METHODIST WOMEN

Bullard Methodist Women will meet on **Wednesday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor**. Carole Myers will give the devotional and prayer. Martha Dinwiddie will lead Lesson 9, "What God Thinks of My Ambition." This will be the last study until September. Please remember to bring your Lenten offering. We will have a SALAD POTLUCK luncheon in Harper Hall following the meeting. Drinks, rolls, and dessert will be provided. If you have questions, text or call Mary Kay at (253) 740-7666.

## EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are needed to help at East Texas Food Bank on **Tuesday, May 6, 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 – MAY

East Texas Crisis Center is at full capacity (60 people) and needs the following items: Baby wipes, Shampoo & Conditioner, Chapstick, Phone Chargers, Blankets, Fuzzy socks, Journals, and snacks are also critical: Peanut Butter Crackers, Applesauce cups, Individual Chip Bags, and Granola Bars.

## POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The Potluck with a Purpose dinner will be on the second Wednesday of the month, **May 14, at 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center**. The theme is "Vacation". Bring a framed picture of you and your family on vacation to decorate the tables. If you have not decided where you will be going this summer, come look at other people's pictures to get ideas. You could get to know someone you have never talked to before because you have common ground, or you are interested in going where they have been. Bring a dish to share and a nonperishable donation for the Bullard Mission House Food Pantry. This month, bring an item that makes you think of vacation!

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 45-50 people who came out for the April dinner.

*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 **May 11**.* Thank you to the Sunday School class, which meets in the front part of the FLC, for setting up for the April dinner.

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 **May 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon in the Family Life Center**.

Between February 25, 2024, and April 10, 2025, we have distributed **153** quilts including the 25 we took to Sager Brown on a mission trip in October 2024. We hope that in our first year, those we have prayed for have felt the love and comfort we send with each quilt. If you are in need of a quilt and we have not reached out to you yet, please contact us. We don't want anyone to be left out by mistake.

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 MAY

Meagan Goodwin  
Jane-Ellen Morris

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

## NEWS AND NOTES

### CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING SENIORS

Layne Alexander, Bullard High School  
Tyler Lamberth, Bullard High School  
Campbell Pawlak, Bullard High School  
Addison Pierce, Bullard High School  
Parker Pierce, Bullard High School  
Emma Thomas, Whitehouse High School

Bachelors: Rebekah Brasher, Texas Tech University

Masters: Reagan Duvak, UT Tyler

### NEW MEMBERS OF BULLARD METHODIST CHURCH



**Pedro Alderete and Terry Burt**

(joined April 1)

## BLUEBONNET MINISTRY

There were six residents and guests present at the April Communion Service. Singing was led by Lisa Escolas, with Lois Evans at the piano. Lisa gave the message from the Book of Daniel. Mike Dunklin and Lisa Escolas assisted with communion. Carole Myers shared one of her songs.

We are looking for people from our church who would like to help by sharing a brief devotional with the residents of Bluebonnet Place. We go **every 1<sup>st</sup> 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 MAY

- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 1  | Kelsey Thrasher      |
| 3  | Carole Myers         |
| 4  | Jack Florence        |
| 5  | Herb Jones           |
|    | Luann Smith          |
| 6  | Emersyn Burns        |
| 8  | David Crawford       |
| 9  | Janet Burns          |
|    | John & Sharon Marrs  |
| 11 | Matt Florence        |
|    | Tom & Candyce Phelps |
|    | Larry Staten         |
| 13 | Alison Walker        |
| 15 | Piper Florence       |
| 16 | Mary Kay Bailey      |
|    | Lucy Norlie          |
| 17 | Sloan Willis         |

18	Steve & Debbie Bembenek
21	Dean & Hazel Mason
22	Ron Martin
24	Mike Walker
26	Alma McBride
28	Reggie & Luann Smith
29	Jason & Jennifer Blakeney
	Joe & Patti Maxwell
31	Larry & Nelda Perry

## UPLIFTING WORDS

### Trucker's Song

I was travelin' down that dark highway, one cold December morn,  
 When the Lord said, "Child, are you going my way?  
 Do you know the reason you were born?"  
 I said, "Well, Lord, I gotta confess, sometimes I'm not too sure.  
 Guess I'm looking for a little success in this crazy old world of yours."  
 And then the Lord said, "Child, well you're going the wrong way.  
 You need a new road map to guide you today.  
 Better let Jesus get behind that wheel, He'll show you the road that's real."

I said, "Now, Lord, I heard about him when I was just a child.  
 They told me He was the shepherd of men, gentle, meek, and mild.  
 But, Lord, I'm pushing a mighty heavy load  
 down this dark and lonesome road,  
 And I just can't see how a childhood friend  
 Could be any help to me now."  
 And then the Lord said, "Child, what you say is true,  
 He's gentle and meek, but so strong, too.  
 Strong enough to give his life on Calvary,  
 To save your soul and set you free."

I said, "Now, Lord, I know you can see that I'm really not  
 such a bad guy.  
 You can look all around this crazy old world and find a whole  
 lot worse than I."  
 The Lord said, "Child, that sounds mighty fine, but that's not  
 where I draw my line.  
 Only one thing you can do today to get on the King's  
 Highway.  
 You've got to surrender to Jesus, as Lord,  
 He's the straight and narrow way, the living Word.  
 He'll help you get this old rig turned around  
 And rolling on solid ground."

I was travelin' down that dark highway one cold December  
 morn,  
 When the Lord said, "Child, are you going my way?  
 Do you know the reason you were born?"

I said, "Ye, Lord, I'm so happy to say I've learned how to  
 travel on the King's Highway.  
 Jesus is riding right by my side, my best friend and my guide.  
 I surrendered my life to Jesus, my Lord, my road map is His  
 Holy Word.  
 He helped me get this old rig turned around  
 And rolling on solid ground."

By Carole Myers

## OUR PRAYERS

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

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 April 30, 2025)

### In Memory of Bill Cox

Given by:  
 Gloria Jones  
 William Mitchell

### In Memory of Hunter Hopson

Given by:  
 Richard Jr. & Michele Jett

### In Memory of Barbara Odom

Given by:  
 Billy & Myrna Braly  
 Hope Sunday School Class - Mt. Carmel Baptist Church  
 Gloria Jones  
 Rogers Michna Family  
 Jill Siler

### In Memory of James Summers

Given by:  
 Gloria Jones

## 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 March:

	March	Year-to-date
Contributions (Regular)	\$ 26,825.39	\$ 237,594.60
Contributions		
(Debt Reduction)	\$ 59,823.00	\$ 59,823.00
Total Contributions	\$ 86,648.39	\$ 297,417.60

Contributions (Budgeted)	\$ 51,367.00	\$ 257,701.00
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Expenses (Actual)	\$ 58,352.08	\$ 165,223.73
Parsonage Loan Payoff	\$ 73,084.14	\$ 73,084.14
Total Expense	\$131,436.22	\$ 238,307.87

Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 56,067.00	\$ 166,261.00
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## OUR PRESENCE

Average Attendance:

March:	214
Year to date:	213

## DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

The Vine deadline is **Thursday, May 15, at 4:30 p.m.**, for the June 2025 newsletter. Email articles to [bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org](mailto:bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org)

## 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](http://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
May	4	
	11	reserved
	18	
	25	
June	1	
	8	
	15	
	22	
	29	
July	6	
	13	
	20	
	27	

## 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.

## RECENT EVENTS

### EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK



## PREPARATION FOR THE EGG HUNT



## METHODIST COFFEE CLUB



## POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE



## PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY



## 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: [bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org](mailto:bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org)  
Pastor David: [david@bullardmethodist.org](mailto: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 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