



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### A New Group Study on Unanswered Prayer

Have you ever prayed earnestly and felt... nothing? You're not alone. Beginning in August, I invite you to join a safe, honest, and spiritually enriching journey: "Unanswered Prayer," a five-week group study based on the Prayer Course II curriculum from 24-7 Prayer. We'll meet on **Tuesdays at 2pm, beginning August 19 through September 16, in Harper Hall.** No book purchase required – just an open heart, a willingness to watch and discuss, and a hunger for honest community.

#### Why this course matters.

Unanswered prayer often leaves us wrestling with silence: *"Why isn't God answering?" "Where is He in my suffering?"* This course tackles those hard questions head-on. Each week features a 30-minute video with trusted voices, including Pete Greig, Bob Sorge, Simon Thomas, Helen Berhane, and others—followed by rich group discussions and time for prayer.

#### What to expect each session.

- Session 1: God on Mute – Engaging the Silence — Named for the struggle we all face in silence, led by Bob Sorge.
- Session 2: Maundy Thursday – How? — Exploring heart-level questions of coping and finding purpose amid pain.
- Session 3: Good Friday – Why? — Wrestling with intellectual and theological challenges of suffering, with Alain Emerson.
- Session 4: Holy Saturday – Where? — Addressing the mystery of God's apparent absence; Helen Berhane encourages finding hope in the darkness.
- Session 5: Easter Sunday – When? — Celebrating resurrection and anticipating the fulfillment of our prayers in Christ's return.

#### How we'll meet.

Each session begins with a brief introduction and prayer, followed by a video (approximately 30 minutes), then 30 minutes of reflective discussion, and concludes with a closing prayer. You'll be encouraged but not required to share; participation is voluntary and safe.

There's no homework—not even a required reading. (However, participants longing to go deeper can find recommended devotionals like the God on Mute journal on the Prayer Course site.)

#### Facilitator.

I will lead the study each week, bringing his pastoral insights and experiences to complement the course content. My goal is to create a community where honest questions are welcomed and spiritual care is provided.

#### Join us this August & September.

Whether you've struggled with doubt, felt unheard in grief, or simply crave a place where faith can breathe in the silence—this group is for you. Mark your calendars: **Tuesdays at 2 pm, August 19–September 16, Harper Hall.** No cost, no strings – just an open invitation to explore faith, hope, and trust together.

Have questions? Contact Pastor David. Sign up via the church website, church app, or by calling the church office.

Grace and peace,

PASTOR DAVID

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### CHILDREN'S CORNER

Happy August! In July, we had a really great time at our family skate party! Thank you so much to everyone who came to enjoy skating and pizza, and a devotional!

During Sunday School time, the kids continue to enjoy music time together before we split into our age group classes. We have been learning several Forest Frank songs together!



**Sunday, August 10, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Splash Kingdom, Canton, TX**

Please save this upcoming date, and you can register online for this at [bullardmethodist.org](http://bullardmethodist.org). Please sign up and invite your friends!

Blessings to you,

Deirdre Leung  
(903) 343-2857

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### YOUTH SUMMER EVENTS



### FALL KICKOFF WORSHIP NIGHT

On **Sunday, August 17, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.**, we will have a guest speaker and worship to start our semester! Bring a friend!

## ADULT MINISTRIES

### BLESSED BITES MEAL MINISTRY

Are you interested in being on a 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.

### LADIES' SUMMER LUNCH BUNCH

Ladies Summer Lunch Bunch is an opportunity for ladies of the church to come together and have a time of fellowship, lunch, and meet new people. With the two services sometimes, it is difficult to get to meet those on "the other side" of campus.

Ladies Summer Lunch Bunch will be on **Wednesday, August 6, at 11:30 a.m. in Harper Hall**. We will be having a **Potluck Luncheon**. This event is open to all the ladies of the church and their guests. I hope to see many of you there. Please RSVP so we will know how many plan to attend and we will have adequate seating. Contact Judy Donnelly at (281) 450-2300 (phone or text) if you have any questions.

### 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, August 26, at 6:00 p.m., at Spring Creek Barbecue**. All the men of the church are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and ministry.

### METHODIST WOMEN

Bullard Methodist Women will be taking a summer break. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 3, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor**.

## EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are needed to help at East Texas Food Bank on **Tuesday, August 5, 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. Parents and their school-age children are invited to join church volunteers this summer. All volunteers must wear closed-toe shoes for safety.

## MISSION BARREL – AUGUST

In the month of August, we are collecting items for Hunger for Love that works directly with Church under the Bridge.

We will have a volunteer day to serve with Hunger for Love on **Saturday, September 6, in Tyler.** If you have any questions, you can call Jill Siler at (903) 780-0954.



## POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The Potluck with a Purpose dinner will return on **Wednesday, September 10.** Enjoy your vacation and family this summer.

## PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is taking the summer off. We will still be sewing at home. We have quite a collection of quilts available for distribution, so if you need a quilt this summer, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team. In 2025 we distributed **69** quilts. Since the ministry began, between February 25, 2024, and July 14, we have distributed **193** quilts.

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.

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

## TRADITIONAL SERVICE USHERS FOR AUGUST

Jake & Vanessa Krause  
Justin & Jade Morris

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

## NEWS AND NOTES

### BLUEBONNET MINISTRY

We had twelve residents and guests present at the July 6 Communion Service. Singing was led by Lisa Escolas with Lois Evans at the piano. The message was by James McBride about John, the disciple Jesus loved. Communion service was led by Lisa Escolas with Mike Walker and Mike Dunklin assisting. Carole Myers sang "You're Not The Only One". Also present from our church was Glenn Sheets.

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.

### BMC DIRECTORY

#### Updated pictures and information requested

We are preparing to publish our latest edition of the church directory. We want to make sure that everyone's information and pictures are up to date. If you'd like to update your picture or if you have an updated address, phone number, or email, please email Venus Burns at [venus@bullardmethodist.org](mailto:venus@bullardmethodist.org) and let her know. If you are new to BMC and are a member or an active guest who would like to be included in our directory, please send your picture and information (including names, address, phone numbers, and email addresses) to Venus as well. **DEADLINE: August 18, 2025.**

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR AUGUST

1	Deanna Kravetz Leah Williams
2	Cheryl Plybon Nellene Tannert
3	Ashlee Jones Hazel Mason Tim & Kristi Plumb
4	Debbie Bembenek Jason Jones Pam Kimble Donald LeVrier
7	Maya Morris
8	Brett & Susan Hatley
10	Art & Sherri Henry Milton Odom Mike & Mary Redman
11	Dennis Mason Don & Tresia Holcomb
12	David & Kimberly Brasher Gene & Katherine Bunce Kelly Burns Barbara Davis Maren LeVrier Mike & Helen Moock Courtney Willis
13	Mike & Pat Dunklin John & Greta Faulkinberry Brett Hatley Susan Paddock Scott & Maylena Williams
14	Larry & Debbie Staten
16	Avery McAvoy
17	Jonathan Brown
19	Everett Goodwin Greg & Maggie Nordyke
20	Eddy & Carrie Hobbs Dana Swanson
21	Stefanie Clevenger
23	Chad Long James Wood
24	Wayne & Mary Kay Bailey Ted Henson David & Peggy Lawson Justin Morris
25	Abigail Wood
26	Wyatt Long Carter Paddock
28	Tim Haugh
29	Tony Blakeney Louise Hurm
30	Lilith Krause
31	Landon Grogan

## BULLARD METHODIST CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR NEEDED

**WE'RE HIRING!**

# Children's Music Director

**BULLARD METHODIST CHURCH**  
Bullard, Texas

- ✓ Do you have a love for music and a passion for working with children?
- ✓ Experience in vocal performance and leading children in song?
- ✓ We'd love for you to join our team!

**Position Highlights:**

- Weekly rehearsals (September-May)
- Lead children's music for Christmas & Easter programs
- Prepare kids to sing in church services every 6-8 weeks
- Help lead VBS music in the summer
- Collaborate with children's ministry & tech teams

**Salary:**  
**\$20-\$25/hour**

For more information or to submit an application, please contact  
**Bullard Methodist Church at (903) 894-6762.**

## BULLARD METHODIST NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

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

## DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

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

## 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 church's Finance/Business Administrator, Joyce Ponder, or the church office.

### Financial Results for June:

	June	Year-to-date
Contributions (Regular)	\$ 71,164.74	\$ 393,133.89
Contributions		
(Debt Reduction)	\$ 100.00	\$ 60,023.00
Total Contributions	\$ 71,264.74	\$ 453,156.89
Contributions (Budgeted)	\$ 45,617.00	\$ 390,002.00
Expenses (Actual)	\$ 68,561.10	\$ 345,857.08
Parsonage Loan Payoff		\$ 73,084.14
Total Expense	\$ 68,561.10	\$ 418,941.22
Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 61,571.00	\$ 336,121.00

## OUR PRAYERS

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

James & Kathleen Kyles  
Dirk Streely  
Nellene Tannert  
Bobby Vermillion

Active Military Personnel:

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

## OUR PRESENCE

Average Attendance:

June: 223  
Year to date: 229

## 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
August	3	reserved
	10	
	17	reserved
	24	reserved
	31	
September	7	
	14	
	21	
	28	
October	5	
	12	
	19	
	26	

## 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

### FAMILY NIGHT AT SKATELAND USA



### MILITARY CARE PACKAGE WORKSHOP

Thank you message from the recipients of the Care Packages:

Hello!

From all the Soldiers in Alpha Battery, 1-41 Field Artillery, we would like to send you a sincere Thank You for the care packages you sent us! It was truly amazing to see how thankful everyone was and we couldn't be more appreciative! Hope you have a fantastic weekend and God Bless.

1LT Meade

## EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK – JULY 1



## EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK – YOUTH





## METHODIST COFFEE CLUB



## ENCOUNTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Karis Thrasher & Grant Snyder



## 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

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  
Finance/Business Administrator, Joyce Ponder  
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