



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

A series where we get to know our church staff. This month, we're highlighting Katie Rankin.

What is your role at Bullard Methodist Church, and what do you love most about it?

Youth Minister; I love teaching students about the Bible and getting them excited about the Bible. There is so much incredible knowledge to learn, and digging deep into Scripture pushes us deeper in our faith! The Bible has surprising stories in it—about how God uses broken, messy, and sinful people for His good plans—and I love seeing the redemption and sharing that with the students.

How did God lead you into ministry or to serve in your current role?

Growing up a PK, I didn't want to go into ministry. I wanted to be a librarian! But I began to feel the undeniable pull to ministry while in high school. I pursued church camp ministry for some time, and church camp still has a very special place in my heart, but after the 2020 lockdowns, I pivoted to youth ministry. I applied basically on a whim, and I'm so thankful it worked out. Coming to this church has been a huge blessing for me!

What's a Scripture verse that has shaped your life or ministry?

Philippians 4:6-7 — *"Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

It takes gratitude to gain peace, something I'm always working to remember.

If you could have dinner with any biblical character (besides Jesus), who would it be and why?

Mary — What was Jesus like as a kid? How do I be a good mom?

Leah — How did you hang onto joy during hard times with a messy family?

Martha — Girl, sit down and take a break. I'll cook dinner for you!

What's something people might be surprised to learn about you?

I self-published a book last year about six-man football, of all things!

When you're not serving at the church, what's your favorite way to spend a day off?

Reading and snuggling with the cat. Hiking with T.J. if the weather is nice.

What's your favorite worship song or hymn right now?

"Gratitude" by Brandon Lake and *Be Thou My Vision*.

What's a hidden talent or quirky skill you have that most people don't know about?

I really like to bake! Pies are my specialty. I think people know that though, because of Bibles and Bites. I can also make an origami paper crane without instructions.

What's your go-to comfort food or favorite local restaurant in Bullard/Tyler?

T.J. and I really like Asian food, so we like Mikoto's and Go Fish Sushi. I also really like Bella's Italian and Big Shots coffeehouse.

What's one thing you hope people experience when they come to Bullard Methodist Church?

I hope they feel welcomed and loved as soon as they walk in the door.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

POINSETTIAS



Don't forget to order your Christmas poinsettias in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The plants will be placed in the sanctuary during Advent, and then you may take your poinsettias home on Christmas Eve. Order with the form available in the foyer, or conveniently and securely online, with the form sent by email. The cost is \$9 each OR 2 for \$15.

Deadline is Sunday, December 14.



Advent and Christmas Schedule

Advent & Christmas at Bullard Methodist Church

Nov. 30 - 1st Sunday in Advent

Dec. 7 - 2nd Sunday in Advent

Dec. 13 - Saturday 6:00 pm, Choir Christmas Cantata (Sanctuary)

Dec. 14 - 3rd Sunday in Advent

- Children's Christmas Musical (both services)

Dec. 21 - 4th Sunday in Advent

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm Contemporary worship in FLC
- 5:30 pm Traditional worship in the sanctuary



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Happy December! In November, we had such a great bake sale! I know our kids (and their parents) worked hard to make some yummy treats, and we are so thankful for all of you who helped make this mission project possible with your support. Thank you so so much to everyone who bought our baked goods and donated! Our Christmas mission project this year was to provide Christmas presents for kids who need help. We were able to purchase gifts for 2 kids who receive services at the Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County and their program called "Holiday of Hope". We were also able to purchase gifts for 2 kids on the Bullard ISD Angel Tree. We have prayed for the kids receiving these gifts that they will know we love them and that they will feel God's love through us. It was very inspiring to see our kids shopping for others and seeing their excitement to help out some kids they don't even know! It really put me in the Christmas spirit! Merry Christmas!!!

During Sunday School time, the kids continue to enjoy music time together before we split into our age group classes. In December, we will continue working on special Christmas music! All kids are encouraged to join us.

Please save these upcoming dates:

- **Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., December 3 and 10**, we will have Children's Christmas Music Practice in the **Sunday School Hall**.
- **Sunday, December 14: Children's Christmas Musical**, "But Why a Tree?" Our kids will perform their Christmas music and message **at both services!** Please make plans to attend.
- **Sunday, December 14, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.: Children's Ministry Christmas Market in Harper Hall**, kids will spend 'tickets' they earned by participating in ministry activities to purchase Christmas gifts for their friends and family. We could use some helpers who don't have kids to help us with the market. If you can help, please let me know.

Blessings to you,

Deirdre Leung
(903) 343-2857

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Youth Holiday events

Friendsgiving. Nov 16. 5-7pm

Sign up with Kelly Rollins

Thanksgiving break. Nov 23

Christmas Party. Dec 14. 5-7pm

Boys bring salty/savory snacks. girls
bring sweet.

Everyone bring a white elephant gift

Christmas break. Dec 21-Jan 4



ADULT MINISTRIES

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 met on Tuesday, October 29, and elected a new slate of officers:

President, Wayne Bailey
Vice President, Paul Donnelly
Secretary, Phil Shipp
Treasurer, Mike Walker

We do not meet during November and December due to the holidays. We will resume meeting on **Tuesday, January 26, at Spring Creek Barbecue on South Broadway in Tyler. We meet at 6:00 p.m.**, the fourth Tuesday of each Month, January through October.

The Methodist Men provides Scholarships for graduating Seniors from our congregation. We also support the Trunk or Treat, which was just completed on October 26, and we also provide the Pancake Breakfast associated with the Easter Eggstravaganza. We have also provided an occasional meal to the Highway 80 Mission House and would like to occasionally continue this ministry.

We welcome any men in our Congregation or Friends to join us at our meetings for good food and fellowship. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to give me a call, Wayne Bailey (253) 740-7700.

METHODIST WOMEN

Bullard Methodist Women will meet at **11:00 a.m. (New Time) on Wednesday, December 3, in Harper Hall** for a brief meeting to complete Christmas gift bags and cards for our Sideline Saints. Afterward, we will carpool to the Cumberland Mall in south Tyler for lunch.

Please bring 7 signed Christmas cards and treats for our three local Sideline Saints. Also, please bring nonperishable holiday food items for the Mission House.

EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK MONTHLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are needed to help at East Texas Food Bank on **Tuesday, December 2, 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 – DECEMBER

December Mission Barrel Blood Drive in Harper Hall on **Sunday, December 21. Sign-ups start at 8:00 a.m.**

Website below to register-
https://www.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/168697

Let's make a difference together this Christmas!

MISSIONS MINISTRY MEETING

Our Mission's Ministry will meet on **Tuesday, December 2**, to discuss our future plans. Please join us **from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in Harper Hall.**

POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

Show off a prized Christmas "set upon"

For decorations this month, we are trying something different. Bring a Christmas item from home to "set upon" the table. These will be our decorations this month. Bring a nativity, a Hallmark animated plush, or something the kids made. The possibilities are endless! It will give everyone something to talk about. "I used to have one of those." "I've never seen one of those." "Where did you get that? I want to get one!"

The Potluck with a Purpose dinner will be on the second Wednesday of the month, **December 10, at 5:45 pm in the Family Life Center**. New time, to benefit our working members. Bring a dish to share and a nonperishable donation for the Bullard Mission House Food Pantry. This month, bring an item to spice up a holiday dinner!

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 between 50-55 people attend our November dinner. It was great to see everyone again.

Thank you to everyone who came over after the church meeting to help set up the tables for the dinner. Many hands made light work. *For setup in November, 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 December 7.*

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Staten at (903) 752-3182.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

The Prayer Quilt Ministry will now be meeting on the *first* Thursday of the month. In December, this will be on **December 4, at 9:00 am, in the FLC**. We will pray for the recipients of the quilts at 11:45 a.m. At our December meeting, we will photograph completed quilts, pray, and learn to make Christmas ornaments made with fabric scraps, pins, and styrofoam.

In 2025, we distributed 133 quilts. Twenty-five were given out during a recent mission trip to Baldwin, LA. Fifteen were distributed at Bluebonnet Nursing Home in Bullard following the communion service. Since the ministry began, between February 25, 2024, and November 11, 2025, we have distributed **257** 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 DECEMBER

Justin & Jade Morris
Maya Morris
Violet Morris

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

NEWS AND NOTES

BLUEBONNET MINISTRY

We had eleven residents present at the November Communion Service. Four ladies from the Quilt Ministry brought quilts for the residents: Judy Donnelly, Leah Williams, Flo Tarrant, and Jan Blakeney.

Singing was led by Lisa Escolas with Lois Evans at the piano. The message was brought by Mike Walker, the story of Saul, showing no one is beyond redemption. Communion was led by Lisa Escolas. Mike Dunklin and Mike Walker were assisting. Carole Myers sang "The Majesty of God". Also present was Jim Gill.

This is a very rewarding ministry. If you feel led to bring a short devotional message just once a year, it would be a great help to us and a blessing to you.

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 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.

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

Due to the Christmas Holiday, the Vine deadline is **Thursday, December 11, at 4:30 p.m.**, for the January 2026 newsletter.

Email articles to bullardmethodist@bullardmethodist.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed Friday, December 19 through Friday, December 26 in observance of Christmas. Normal office hours will resume on Monday, December 29.

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.

UPLIFTING WORDS

Rejoice! Rejoice!

In a stable lowly a boy child is born,
Oh, hear the angels singing.
They know from whence He came, the Son of God,
And the joy that He is bringing.

Shepherds bow before Him so reverently
While village bells are ringing.
Wise men from afar, have followed His star
Their precious gifts are bringing.

None but the Father knew on that morn,
The plan that was unfolding.
In that simple setting and tiny form
The King of Kings beholding.

Gather round the Babe all ye who seek
The Lord of Heaven and earth.
He has brought salvation to mankind,
Dignity and worth.

Rejoice! Rejoice! For Christ has come down.
He left His throne, He gave up His crown.
He came to earth to live and to die
To bring new birth to you and I.

By Carole Myers

BULLARD METHODIST NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR DECEMBER

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Bill Evans
Lindsey Smith |
| 2 | Randall Druivenga
Joe Maxwell
Dori Vestal
Lila Walker |
| 3 | Bob & Kathi Burnett
Linda Neuman |
| 5 | Lisa Escolas |
| 6 | Bonnie Kate Long
Jonathan Stanley |
| 7 | Bill Cummings |
| 8 | Jacob Walker |
| 9 | Pam Morton |
| 12 | Louis Escolas |
| 13 | Mike Hill |
| 14 | Steve Bembenek
Jason Blakeney
Russell Geesing
Rob Sheldon |
| 16 | Susan Hatley |
| 17 | Peter Boren |

- | | |
|----|---|
| 18 | John & Julie Lamberth |
| 19 | Ronda Blalock
Jill Siler |
| 20 | Sharon Marrs |
| 21 | Tresia Holcomb
Debbie Staten |
| 22 | Susanna Hale
Cindy Shultz |
| 24 | Josh Lamberth |
| 25 | Sean Parker |
| 28 | Robert & Emily Boren
Kelly Rollins |
| 29 | Bob Burnett
Louis & Lisa Escolas |
| 30 | Mike & Susan Hill
Carley Pawlak
Danica Vestal |
| 31 | Bob & Kim Nimon |

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.

SPECIAL GIFTS

(Gifts as of November 30, 2025)

In Memory of Terry Thomson

Given by:
Charles & Barbara Davis

OUR PRAYERS

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

James & Kathleen Kyles
Dirk Streely
Nellene Tannert
Bobby Vermillion

Active Military Personnel:

Matt Pearce, Jessica Roper, Victor B. Sheldon and his wife
Katy Sheldon, Luke Sprinkle, Grant Troxell, and 1-41 FA
regiment

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.

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
December	7	reserved
	14	
	21	
	28	
January	4	
	11	
	18	
	25	
February	1	
	8	
	15	
	22	

RECENT EVENTS

BLUEBONNET COMMUNION PRAYER QUILT RECIPIENTS



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BAKE SALE





**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SHOPPING TRIP FOR
HOLIDAY OF HOPE**





EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK – NOVEMBER 4



METHODIST COFFEE CLUB - NOVEMBER



BMC MEMBERS WORKING AT MISSION HOUSE



POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE – NOVEMBER



PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY – NOVEMBER



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
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 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

WORSHIP

Director of Traditional Music, Robert Boren
Director of Contemporary Worship & Ministry, 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