



UPCOMING EVENTS

Patriotic Worship For All
July 5

Sweet Freedom Ping Pong Tournament
July 5

Vacation Bible School
July 27-30

Youth Back to School Bash
July 31

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary)

9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship
(Gym)

10:00 a.m.
Bilingual English/Spanish
Worship
(Chapel)

11:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary)

CHURCH OFFICE

506 E. 28th St.
Bryan, TX 77803
979-779-1324
979-775-2173 (Fax)

Monday-Thursday
8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Friday
8:30 am to 3:00 pm

www.fmcbryan.org

Pastor's Corner

The United States of America is reveling two-hundred fifty years of freedom—at least, independence declared, since it was earned through bloodshed until the British surrender at Yorktown in 1781 and through diplomacy that brought about the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

Not only did our revolution bring about a new nation; it brought about a new church.

Methodism in America began when Methodists immigrated from England to America. With no authorization, they began to gather under the leadership of Robert Strawbridge in Maryland and Virginia around 1760, Philip Embury and Barbara Heck in New York in 1766, and Captain Thomas Webb in Philadelphia in 1767. To strengthen Methodist efforts in the colonies, John Wesley sent two lay preachers, Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmore, in 1769 and, two years later, Richard Wright and Francis Asbury. The first conference of colonial Methodist lay preachers was held in Philadelphia in 1773. Because the ten who attended were laypeople, they committed to serve under Wesley's authority and would not administer the sacraments. For baptisms and Holy Communion, the Methodists attended Anglican churches.

When the American Revolution broke out, John Wesley remained loyal to the king and his writings against the American cause caused a dilemma for the American Methodists who supported independence. When independence was won, Wesley faced the facts that change was necessary: no longer could Methodism remain a movement within the Church of England. He sent Thomas Coke to superintend the work with Asbury. Coke was equipped by a prayer-book that Wesley entitled, *The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America*, and included his revision of the Church of England's Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion. Most dramatically, Wesley ordained and deployed Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey to go with Coke. Wesley's ordinations established a precedent that made way for Methodism to become an independent church, organized at the Christmas Conference in December 1784 in Baltimore at Lovely Lane Chapel. The Methodist Episcopal Church in America published its first *Discipline* and sparked a move of the Holy Spirit that swept across the nation's frontiers in the following decades.

God works in mysterious ways. So, as you celebrate Independence Day, jubilate being Methodist. More than that, appreciate being in America, but venerate that "we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives" (Philippians 3:20).

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Dr. Jonathan Bynum

Ministry Calendar

7/1	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:30 PM	MYF What-A-Hangout	
	6:00 PM	B.I.G. (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)	Gym
	6:00 PM	Adult Bible Study	Heritage Room
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7/2	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
7/3		Campus Closed - Independence Day	
		Patriotic Sunday: One Worship Service for All	
7/5	10:30 AM		Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	12th Annual Sweet Freedom 4th of July Ping Pong Tournament	Gym
	2:00 PM	Worship - Crestview Retirement Center/Arbor Oaks	
7/8	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:30 PM	MYF What-A-Hangout	
	6:00 PM	B.I.G. (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)	Gym
	6:00 PM	Adult Bible Study	Heritage Room
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7/9	10:00 AM	Amazing Grace Bible Study	E-209
	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
	1:30 PM	MYF Open Gym Day	Gym
			Fellowship Hall Kitchen
7/10	7:00 AM	Meals of Love	
7/12	5:30 PM	MYF Deep Dive Devo	
7/13	6:00 PM	Service/Mission Team	C-105
		Texas Conference Choir Clinic in Palestine, TX	
7/15	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:30 PM	MYF What-A-Hangout	
	6:00 PM	B.I.G. (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)	Gym
	6:00 PM	Adult Bible Study	Heritage Room
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7/16	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Endowment Committee	C-105
7/19	5:30 PM	MYF Deep Dive Devo	
7/22	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	6:00 PM	Adult Bible Study	Heritage Room
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7/23	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
	1:30 PM	MYF Open Gym Day	Gym
7/26	5:30 PM	MYF Deep Dive Devo	
7/27	6:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	Gym
7/28	6:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	Gym
7/29	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	6:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	Gym
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7/30	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	Gym
7/31		Youth Back to School Bash	Location TBD

FMC BRYAN CLERGY & STAFF

Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Jonathan Bynum
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Custodians
Hosea Morriel
Rocio Hitt
Jeff Conger

Veteran Voices: Celebrating 250 Years as a Nation

David Leese

U.S. Army 1968 - 1974



I participated in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M for 4 years and graduated in 1968 with a degree in Business Management and was Commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army. I followed in the footsteps of my Dad, who also served in the Army in WW2 and was a graduate of Texas A&M University. I never really considered going anywhere else.

After Officer Training at Ft. Knox Kentucky in the Fall of 1968, I was stationed at the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) in Korea. I initially served as a Platoon Leader in an armored Cavalry unit (happened to be the 7th Cav which was General Custer's unit in the 1870's), and then as a 1st Lt Liaison Officer on the Battalion Staff.

After 13 months in Korea, I returned to Ft. Knox to be a company Commander for several cycles of basic training. After my active duty was complete, I was assigned to an Army reserve unit for 4 years to complete my service obligation. Jeanette and I got married prior to my senior year at A&M. Our son David was born when I was in Korea. After my two years of active-duty commitment, I returned to Texas A&M to get a master's in Business. Our daughter Tammy was born while I was in Graduate school.

The Corps at A&M and the military were great teachers of discipline and accepting responsibility for whatever happens in your life. God is great and I am proud to have served in the USA Army. I have been repaid many times over for my time served.



As we prepare to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary, we want to honor the brave men and women of our church who have served in the Armed Forces. We'd love to feature your experiences in our church newsletter. Your stories of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism will inspire our congregation. Please contact Eileen Winkle at eileen@fmcbyran.org to share your story!

Sunday School Spotlight

SUNDAY MORNINGS 10 AM

Asbury Bible Class

Members are diverse in age range and marital status. Lessons consist of Bible expository teaching followed by discussion. The class is comprised of both individuals and couples, for the most part over 50+. However, we welcome persons of all ages whose primary interest is to take part in a pastor-led expository bible study.

Update:

The Asbury Bible Class has been very blessed to have Rev Joe Fort as their teacher for the past 5+ years. He recently announced his retirement from teaching. Sunday, June 21, was Rev. Fort's last Sunday to teach. The class will now begin searching for a teacher who has extensive Biblical knowledge and who will teach from the Bible and have a weekly lecture and discussions.

If you are interested, contact Natalie Patterson: natalie.patterson@fmcbyran.org

ENDOWMENT SPOTLIGHT

In Loving Memory: Matthew Winsper Knobel

July 13, 1979 – Feb 2, 1992



This month, as we remember what would have been his birthday, First Methodist Church, Bryan lovingly honors the life and legacy of Matthew Winsper Knobel.

Matthew, son of Dale and Tina Knobel and brother of the late Allison Knobel Sitton, spent his entire life within the nurturing embrace of our church family. At just 12 years old, Matthew's life was tragically cut short in a traffic accident while traveling with his Brazos Magic Select soccer team. Only months earlier, he had been confirmed into the membership of First Methodist Church.

Even at a young age, Matthew had already touched many lives. He was active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship, the youth choir, and served faithfully in the acolyte program. A dedicated member of Boy Scout Troop 977, he served as a patrol leader and had achieved the rank of Star Scout.

Matthew also shone in the wider community. At Stephen F. Austin Middle School, he was an outstanding student and a leader, known for his academic excellence, musical talent, and kind spirit. He was a budding pianist and a gifted tenor selected for the All-Region Middle School Choir. He served on the student council and played on several sports teams, including soccer, tennis, and baseball.

Matthew's legacy continues to inspire. SFA Middle School created the annual Matthew Knobel Spirit Award. At SFA, an entire display case honors Matthew and recognizes student-athletes who embody his spirit. At our church, the beautiful organ chimes in the sanctuary balcony were gifted by the Knobels. The City of Bryan's Heritage Park is home to the Matthew Winsper Knobel Memorial Gazebo.

To further honor his memory, the Matthew Winsper Knobel Campership Endowment was established to support Boy Scout Troop 977 and youth ministry at First Methodist Church that help develop godly character in young people. If you feel led to contribute, your gift will support Matthew's legacy of faith, service, and joy in Christ. Gifts may be made through the church office. Please designate "Matthew Knobel Campership Endowment" with your donation.



Matthew's life continues to shine as a beacon of grace and love. We give thanks for the joy he brought and the lasting difference he made in our church and community. He is remembered with love and deep admiration by his church family. His legacy continues to inspire kindness, service, and faith in young lives today.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." — Matthew 25:23

Financial Update – Operating Budget

As we continue carrying out the ministries and mission of First Methodist Church, Bryan, we want to provide a transparent update on our Operating Budget.

For the month of May, the church received **\$63,196 in income** and incurred **\$93,173 in expenses**, resulting in a monthly operating deficit of **\$29,977**.

Looking at the broader picture, our **year-to-date income totals \$513,526**, while **year-to-date expenses total \$515,845**, resulting in a cumulative operating deficit of **\$2,319** through the end of May.

	May 2026	Year-to-Date
Income	63,196	513,526
Expenses	<u>93,173</u>	<u>515,845</u>
Deficit	(29,977)	(2,319)

While expenses currently exceed income by a small margin year-to-date, the overall gap remains relatively narrow and reflects the ongoing work of ministry, worship, outreach, facilities, and programs taking place throughout our church community.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness through your prayers, service, and generosity. Every gift helps support the mission and ministry of First Methodist Church as we seek to *love* God, *witness* to our faith, and *serve* our church and community.

A Journey with Christ

The word Emmaus in the phrase, “Walk to Emmaus” comes from the story in [Luke 24:13-32](#), where Jesus travels with two disciples from Jerusalem to Emmaus on the day of His resurrection. Later that evening, their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus. They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road?”

What is Emmaus

The Walk to Emmaus develops Christian disciples and leaders by inspiring, challenging, and equipping active adult church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, workplaces, and communities. It also benefits less active members who are seeking to renew a relationship with God, grow spiritually, or discover firmer foundations for their lives.

Through The Walk to Emmaus, as they seek to become healthy and vital congregations, local churches have both a means of growing disciples and a tool for developing leaders for their disciple-making systems.

Emmaus is a Christian Ministry that revitalizes Christian men and women in their walk with Jesus Christ by encouraging them to:

1. Rediscover Christ’s presence in their lives and gain a fresh understanding of God’s transforming grace,
2. Make a deeper impact on the world by living a life centered on Jesus Christ,
3. Form friendships that foster faith and support spiritual maturity

Emmaus begins with **The Walk to Emmaus**, a 3-day spiritual retreat wrapped in prayer. The Walk to Emmaus inspires, challenges, and equips active adult church members for Christian action to grow in their faith and commitment.

Emmaus does not teach doctrine. We focus on two truths: God’s Grace Is Real, and We Need to Share It.

Emmaus continues as a life-long family of Christians gathering to celebrate together, pray together and grow together through small group sharing and worship services throughout the years.

For more information, contact Doug Avery dpavery92@gmail.com

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Summer Has Begun!



Children & Family Ministries

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 27 - JULY 30
 6:30-8:30 P.M.
 AGES 4 - COMP. 5TH GRADE



SCAN OR TO REGISTER
 OR GO TO
WWW.FMCBRYAN.ORG
 DEADLINE TO
 REGISTER IS JULY 20




**IF KATY PERRY CAN BE AN ASTRONAUT
 SO CAN YOU!**
VOLUNTEER FOR VBS

VBS IS
 JULY 27TH - 30TH
 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.
 VOLUNTEERS MEETING -
 SUNDAY, JULY 26TH
 @ 12:15 P.M.

SCAN TO REGISTER




BIG A SUMMER PROGRAM
 FOR CHILDREN
 GOING INTO
 KINDERGARTEN -
 6TH GRADE.

WEDNESDAYS
JULY 1, 8, 15
 DINNER, A BIBLE STORY,
 DESSERT, AND LOTS OF FUN!
 IN THE FMC BRYAN GYM.




THE 12TH ANNUAL FMC BRYAN, SWEET FREEDOM,
 4TH OF JULY PING PONG TOURNAMENT

¥10 TO ENTER THE
 TOURNAMENT.
 ALL PROCEEDS GO
 TO THE BRAZOS
 CHURCH PANTRY.

SUNDAY,
 JULY 5TH
 1:00 P.M.

IN THE
 FMC BRYAN GYM

ALL AGES MAY ENTER,
 BUT MUST KNOW HOW
 TO PLAY.





Scripture Readers
 Needed for Summer Worship
 All Ages Welcome!




SIGN UP!

Wednesday
Prayer Meeting
 Noon in the FMC Bryan Chapel



Strengthen your faith through prayer.



BRYAN, TEXAS

506 East 28th Street
Bryan, TX 77803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR APP

Our church is now on MinistryOne, the church app that keeps you up to date and in the loop. Access giving, upcoming events, prayer requests, member directory and much more!



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for First Methodist
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