



Undershepherd Udderings

During my 37 years as a pastor, I've heard of clergy taking "sabbatical." It is encouraged, based on the biblical model, every seven years. Some sabbaticals range from 30 days to 6 months. Nine years ago, I was grateful to take my first sabbatical, so-called. It came following the custody trial over Jacob, but I also had to promise the Texas Annual Conference that I would do a project. So, I did a 12-part sermon series by shutting myself away from everyone for about 10 days to write a sermon series on the biblical word "Though." I learned that it is not much of a sabbatical if you are working most of the time.

This past year of ministry has been more draining and stressful than any by a country mile. Yet, I was not alone for the Lord was with me, my wife stood by me, and the faithful members of First Methodist Church of Bryan (and our great staff) have buoyed me through it all.

Many have encouraged me to take a sabbatical. I've asked the SPRC for a sabbatical from June 18 - July 17 and I am grateful they granted it. It is very difficult to take 30 days off if you are the only pastor, but thankfully, the Lord has sent Rev. Jeremy Bass and Rev. Augusto Sarria who are able to take care of anything that arises. You can count on our great staff and clergy to handle whatever needs pop up.

I'm a purpose driven person/pastor and I'm grateful for the biblical principles outlined in Rev. Rick Warren's book, *The Purpose Driven Life* (everyone should read it today if you have not read it already). So, I cannot simply take time off without a purpose that will strengthen me in my ministry and provide a stronger, better pastor for the church when I return.

I've written a short purpose statement: To renew my spirit for ministry and seek the Lord in prayer and fasting. My plan is to set aside time each day for prayer and a time during this season to fast. I plan to continue my daily bible reading, but I have set aside some things to read that will feed my soul and focus on improving my prayer life. I'm aided in this quest by a ministry called Soul Shepherding. They have helped thousands of ministers rest and renew through sabbatical. Soul Shepherding is helping me develop a personal plan for sabbatical that will help me achieve my goals (I am purpose-driven after all).

I am grateful for this sabbatical and I realize it is an act of grace on the part of the church to grant it to me. No one earns a sabbatical any more than they earn their salvation. Thank you all for your grace to me and my family. I ask only that you pray for me and our staff every day.

Gratefully,

Pastor Rick Sitton

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fiesta of Hope @ Wesley Methodist
June 3

Mission Mexico Departing Flight
June 10

UM Army—FMC Hosts
June 11

Blood Drive
June 25

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

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

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

11:00 a.m.
Bilingual English/Spanish
Worship
(Fellowship Hall)

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.fmcbyran.org



Ministry Calendar

6/3	4:00 PM	Fiesta of Hope @ Wesley Methodist
6/4	2:00 PM	Worship - Crestview Retirement Center
6/5-6/9		Texas Conference Choir Clinic (TCCC)
6/6	9:30 AM	TMW: General Meeting
6/6	6:00 PM	Stephen Ministry - Continuing Education
6/10-6/16		Mission Mexico 2023
6/11-6/15		Lifted Youth Camp
6/11-6/17		UM Army (FMC Bryan Hosting)
6/12	6:00 PM	Staff Parish Relations Committee
6/14	6:00 PM	BIG
6/16	12:00 PM	Meals of Love
6/19	6:00 PM	Service-Mission Team
6/20	6:00 PM	Stephen Ministry
6/21	6:00 PM	BIG
6/25	8:00 AM	Blood Drive / Donor Coach
6/25-6/30		Lakeview Summer Camp
6/26	6:00 PM	Finance Committee
6/26	7:00 PM	Church Council

JUNE BLOOD DRIVE!

FMC Bryan will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, June 25th from 8 AM - 12:30 PM. You may give blood anytime to help support this life-saving ministry. When you donate at Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, let them know you are donating on behalf of FMC Bryan. They just opened up a new location at 1015 Krenek Tap Rd., College Station, TX 77840.

Visit the link below to schedule an appointment for Sunday:

www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/360297

Prayer Requests

Rehab/Nursing Care: Jim Allega, Joy Allega, Frances Allen, Ray Anthony, Jim Bradford, Marilyn Colby, Dixie Copeland, Donna Durocher, Daphne Eller, Billie Gray, Donna Lamar, Linda and Bob Prock

Prayers of Healing: Frances Allen, Pat Atmar, Zoe Ann Broughton, Betty Carter, Nancy Conlee, Cindy Lamar Davis, Janice Elsik, Sue Futrell, Billie Gray, Tom Hamilton, Ed Janosky, Buddy McGown, Esther Mancillas, Judy Miller, John Millhollon, Linda Millhollon, Bill & Martha Pishek, Linda and Bob Prock, Nancy Janosky Schnell, Helene Steck, Ann Marie Vick, Grace Ashley, Chuck Schroepel, Alma Fonsceca, Terry Hausenfluck, Sandy Lewellen, Delia Garza, Sharon Dent, John Lillie

FMC BRYAN CLERGY & STAFF

Senior Pastor
Rev. Rick Sitton
ext. 105
rick@fmcbyran.org

Associate Pastor
Rev. Jeremy Bass
ext. 106
jeremy@fmcbyran.org

Contemporary Worship
Coordinator/Leader
Josué Sarria

Associate Pastor, Hispanic Ministry
Rev. Dr. Augusto Sarria
ext. 104
augusto@fmcbyran.org

Director of Children
& Family Ministries
Jeff Hobbs
ext. 111
jeff@fmcbyran.org

Director of Adult Ministries
& Member Involvement
Natalie Patterson
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Director of Music & Worship
Ministries
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Director of Youth and Young Adult
Ministries
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Organist
Angela Corbett

Director of
Business & Operations
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ext. 109
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Administrative Assistant
LeeAnn Broeker
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leeann@fmcbyran.org

Financial Administrative Assistant
Lynn Knowles
lynn@fmcbyran.org

Custodians
Hosea Morriel
Rocio Hitt
Josh Sweed

Church News & Upcoming Events



Josuè Sarria Exits as Contemporary Worship Leader

One of my favorite things about the Lord is that His timing is always perfect and He places people in our life right when they need to be there. We recently had one of those people in the life of our church. When we had a group of people leave the contemporary service after the denominational decision, we needed someone to step up in that service and the Lord provided us Josuè Sarria.

For those of you who are not aware, Josuè, the son of Pastor Augusto, has been our contemporary worship coordinator here at the church. He has been a tremendous blessing not only to me, but to this church as well. He has been the perfect example of how leadership doesn't have to be this out in front person, but good leadership can also be in the background.

He has helped this service, brought in new people, and helped me transition into my role. The Lord is good and I'm grateful he lifted up Josuè in His perfect timing. Josuè left to do an internship over the summer in Dallas. We sent him off with a blessing in the service as he has blessed us with him time here. Please be in prayer for him in his internship and the Awakening service as we continue to rebuild.

-Pastor Jeremy Bass



TRADITIONAL AND MODERN WORSHIP SERMONS ANYTIME, ANYWHERE



THE FMC BRYAN PODCAST

 @FMCBRYAN
@THEAWAKENINGFMCBRYAN

 Listen on Google Podcasts

 Listen on Apple Podcasts

 LISTEN ON Spotify



Every 4th Sunday of the month is FRAN day! Please bring a FRAN on JUNE 25th!

**Friends
Relatives
Acquaintances
Neighbors**

HOPE

PREGNANCY CENTER

IT'S TIME FOR

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG!

PICK UP ON **MOTHER'S DAY**
RETURN ON **FATHER'S DAY**

Open House and BBB Celebration at Hope
Saturday, June 24, 10 am - 2 pm

**QUESTIONS? CHECK WITH YOUR CHURCH
LIAISON, OR CALL US AT (979) 695-9193.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Registration for Worship & Arts Camp will begin in June. Please watch our website and weekly announcements for the registration date.

WORSHIP & ARTS CAMP 2023 FOR CHILDREN 1ST - 6TH GRADE

SUNDAY, JULY 9—THURSDAY, JULY 13 5:30 P.M.—8:30 P.M.

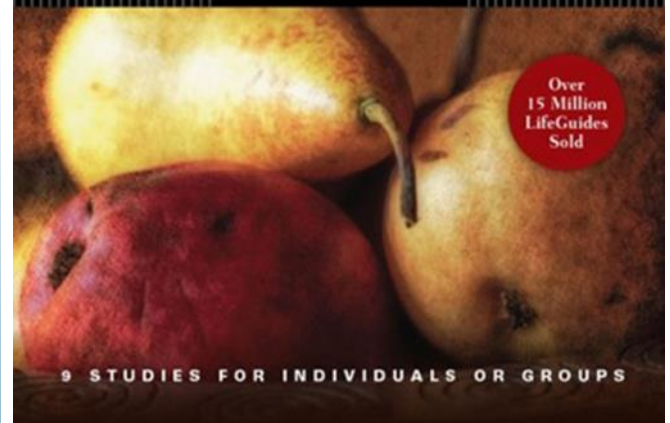
MUSICAL IN WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JULY 16TH AT 11:00AM IN THE SANCTUARY

The children will learn and put on a short musical.
Dinner is served each night, and there is a
nightly devotional.

HAZEL OFFNER

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

LifeGuide®
BIBLE STUDIES



Amazing Grace Bible Study *Summer Study*

6 weeks

June 15 -29 and July 13 - 27
10 AM E209

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. To be spiritually mature is to show the fruit of the Spirit of Christ in our lives.

To sign up contact:
natalie.patterson@fmcbyryan.org

Hispanic Ministry

FIESTA OF HOPE

SATURDAY JUNE 3RD AT 4-7PM

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH, 4201 N TEXAS AVE.



MUSIC, FREE FOOD, KIDS GAMES & BOUNCE HOUSE

Sponsored by the FMC Bryan Hispanic Ministry

****Volunteers Needed! Contact Pastor Sarria at augusto@fmcbyran.org****



Teacher Appreciation Luncheon at Fannin Elementary

Many thanks to the wonderful teachers of Fannin Elementary for the great work they are doing with the children of Bryan. God bless them and multiply their efforts to form the generation of tomorrow.

Many thanks to the FMC Bryan volunteers for supporting this great work, and special thanks to Mary Lou deZerga, Wanda and Eddie Stuart, Sheri Weems, Jayne Keyser, David and Jeannette Leese, Beverly Brown, Lanny Parker, Jeff Hobbs and Pastor Augusto Sarria.

Blessings in the Hispanic Ministry

New Member:

We congratulate Elizabeth on the birth of her baby, Jeyden Galeas, God bless the littlest member of the Hispanic ministry.

Celebrating twenty-four years of marriage:

We are happy to celebrate 24 years of marriage this May 15, God has been good to give me such a wonderful wife filled with the Holy Spirit.

-Pastor Augusto Sarria, Hispanic Ministry

Mission Peru Update:

Thank you very much Missionary Jessica Miranda for the great work you have been doing in Peru. Thank you for your hard work of discipleship in small groups, your missionary ministry and the Power Generation ministry. Congratulations for successfully completing your second semester at United Theological Seminary. Many thanks to the Missions Ministry Team, and especially to John Millhollon and Steve May.

Adult Ministries

Encountering The Holy Spirit

*Excerpts from "Encounter the Spirit" by Carolyn Moore

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:1-3

This is the God's recipe for sanctification....in other words "run the race of life so that we can go somewhere spiritually." John Wesley describes the grace of God as a "house" into which we are invited. The porch of the house is **Prevenient Grace**, the grace that calls us to Christ before we know Him. **Justifying Grace** occurs when we step through the doorway, where our sins are forgiven. All the rooms inside the house are designed for **Sanctification** where we learn to love as Christ loves. Sanctification is the process of opening ourselves to the Work of the Holy Spirit, so that we love more and more like Christ does. Sanctification is a continuous process in our lives. Our daily encounters with the Lord through study, prayer and worship will continually draw us closer to the Lord. We begin to strive and grow into the work of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus invites his followers to be empowered because it is the power of the Holy Spirit that binds us to Jesus. It is the Holy Spirit who grows us, and it is the Holy Spirit who empowers us for ministry. *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* Acts 1:8

In 1 Corinthians 2 12-16, we learn what it means to be sanctified ¹² *What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.* ¹³ *This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.* ¹⁴ *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.* ¹⁵ *The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,* ¹⁶ *for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" but we have the mind of Christ.*

Come Holy Spirit!

Natalie Patterson

Youth & Young Adult Ministries



It is hard to believe that our seniors have graduated! Senior Sunday was a beautiful service. I am always grateful to partner with Mr. Jeff on this wonderful occasion... and may I add that Mr. Jeff throwback games are always a blast. Every year after Senior Sunday, Mr. Jeff comes and leads the youth for a great lesson and an evening of fun! The youth always look forward to this. They are often reminiscing about the things they did while in the children's program. I also want to give a shout out to my adult volunteers! They go above and beyond caring for the youth! From food

preparation, to activities, to leading and teaching Sunday school. They are much appreciated.

Looking forward, I am excited about the confirmands joining the youth program. I know that they will make a wonderful addition to the youth program, and I am excited about what God is going to do through them! Thank you church for prayers and support!

-Will Pepper, Director of Young Adult & Youth Ministries

Children & Family Ministries



B.I.G.
A SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN
GOING IN KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE.
WEDNESDAYS
JUNE 14TH & 21ST, JULY 5TH & 19TH
DINNER, A BIBLE STORY, DESSERT,
AND LOTS OF FUN!
CHECK SCHEDULE FOR TIME & LOCATION.



SUIT UP!
VOLUNTEER
FOR VBS
Put on your armor and help
children experience the
Kingdom of God!
It is a 4-night commitment
Monday, July 31st -
Thursday, August 3rd.
Fill out the volunteer form on
the children's page of the
website www.fumcbryan.org
or scan the QR Code.

PROMOTION SUNDAY SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH

ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH WILL BE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE LEVEL.
ALL SUMMER EVENTS ARE BASED ON THE NEW GRADE LEVEL.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, BRYAN
JULY 31st-AUGUST 3rd
6:30 - 8:30 P.M
AGES 4 YEARS OLD -
COMPLETED 5TH GRADE
Find the registration
link at: www.fumcbryan.org/ministries/children
or scan the qr code.

Thy Kingdom Come

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King,
sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne. -Psalm 47:6-8



BRYAN, TEXAS

506 East 28th Street
Bryan, TX 77803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

THE 9TH ANNUAL FMC BRYAN, SWEET FREEDOM, 4TH OF JULY PING PONG TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY,
JULY 2ND
1:00 P.M.
IN THE
FMC BRYAN GYM

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

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

