# A monthly publication of First Methodist Church, Bryan, TX

Vol. LXIV, No. 11 November 2023



#### **Greetings First Family!**

Our first Church Conference as a Global Methodist Church is Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. All professing (full) members of the church are invited to this historic conference as we celebrate our first year as part of the GMC. I've been amazed to see the Lord work wondrous things over this past year as the GMC grows quickly. The Lord be praised!

Our stewardship campaign entitled "Put a Smile on Your Face" kicked off last Sunday and will end on Consecration Sunday, November 12. You may mail your stewardship commitment card to the church office at any time, but you may also bring it to worship on that day as we consecrate our giving to the Lord and pray over our church's financial needs. The Lord continues to supply our needs and it is because of your faithfulness. THANK you for your continued faithfulness in giving!

Each year I ask that you step up toward tithing. If everyone tithed (gave 10%), then we would have a super abundance. Churchtrac.com provides some interesting facts about giving in churches:

- Only 5% of churchgoers tithe regularly (<u>Church Development</u>)
  50% of those who donate give about 2% of their income (<u>Church</u>
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- Regular attendees give \$1,737 more per year than those who attend less than once a month (<u>Philanthropy Daily</u>)

As your prayerfully consider what would Jesus give, I hope you will increase your giving and put a smile on your face when you do because God loves a cheerful giver and it pleases the Lord to see the children of God give faithfully, generously, and cheerfully.

**Grace and Peace** 

Pastor Rick Sitton



All Saints Sunday November 5

Church Conference November 14 at 7 PM (Sanctuary)

Last First Family Dinner of Fall Semester November 15

#### **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

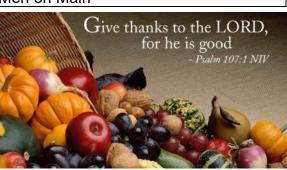
www.fmcbryan.org



# **Ministry Calendar**

11/1	6:00 PM	Hand Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
11/2	10:00 AM	Amazing Grace Bible Study
	11:45 AM	Men on Main
11/3	12:00 PM	Meals of Love
		Brazos Valley Emmaus Community's
11/4	4:00 PM	4th Day Gathering
11/5	10:40 AM	Confirmation Trip
	0.00 DM	Worship - Crestview Retirement Center/
	2:00 PM	Arbor Oaks
	5:30 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)
	7:30 PM	College/Young Adult Ministry - First Meeting
11/6	6:00 PM	Staff Parish Relations Committee
11/7	9:30 AM	TMW: General Meeting
11/8	6:00 PM	Hand Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
11/9	11:45 AM	Men on Main
11/10	6:30 PM	Generation of Power
11/12	5:30 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)
11/13	10:30 AM	Time Like Hannah's
11/14	7:00 PM	Church Conference
		Last First Family Dinner of Fall
11/15	5:15 PM	Semester
	6:00 PM	Hand Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
11/16	11:45 AM	Men on Main
11/17	12:00 PM	Meals of Love
11/18	9:45 AM	Confirmation Working at Church Pantry
11/19	5:30 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)
11/21	9:30 AM	TMW: Contemporary Study
11/22-11/24		Campus Closed - Thanksgiving
11/24	6:30 AM	Generation of Power
11/26	5:30 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)
11/29	6:00 PM	Hand Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
11/30	11:45 AM	Men on Main

FMC BRYAN WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 22-24 FOR THE THANKSGIVING



# FMC BRYAN CLERGY & STAFF

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

Associate Pastor **Rev. Jeremy Bass** ext. 106 jeremy@fmcbryan.org

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

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

Director of Adult Ministries & Member Involvement Natalie Patterson ext. 102 natalie.patterson@fmcbryan.org

Director of Music & Worship Ministries Chris Caffee ext. 107

ext. 107 chris@fmcbryan.org

Director of Youth and Young Adult

Ministries
Will Pepper
ext.110
pepper@fmcbryan.org

Contemporary Worship Leader **Kaitlyn Zimmerman** kaitlyn@fmcbryan.org

Organist Angela Corbett

Director of
Business & Operations
Eileen Winkle
ext. 109
eileen@fmcbryan.org

Administrative Assistant **LeeAnn Broeker** ext. 101 leeann@fmcbryan.org

Financial Administrative Assistant Lynn Knowles lynn@fmcbryan.org

Custodians
Hosea Morriel
Rocio Hittt
Josh Sweed

## **Prayer Requests**

**Rehab/Nursing Care**: Joy Allega, Ray Anthony, Jim Bradford, Marilyn Colby, Dixie Copeland, Donna Durocher, Daphne Eller, Billie Gray, Donna Lamar

**Prayers of Healing:** Pat Atmar, Betty Carter, Nancy Conlee, Janice Elsik, Sue Futrell, Billie Gray, Ed Janosky, Esther Mancillas, Judy Miller, John Millhollon, Linda Millhollon, Bill Pishek, Nancy Janosky Schnell, Helene Steck, Ann Marie Vick, Grace Ashley, Chuck Schroeppel, Alma Fonsceca, Delia Garza, Sharon Dent, Ann Fancher, David Kipp, Keith Reece, Kelly Callaway, Lynda Pool, Betty Thompson, Nancy Reynolds, Sharon Wehring, Patt Gandy



In Need of Prayer? Here are some options to help you find others to pray with you:

- Weekly Prayer List e-mail to congregation on Mondays. Write your prayer requests on your Connect Card or e-mail a FMC Bryan staff member.
- Caring Ministry Facebook Page—Private Facebook page for our church congregation. If you do not use Facebook, you may send prayer requests to natalie.patterson@fmcbryan.org.
- Sunday School Classes
- Discipleship Bands
- · Upcoming Kairos and Emmaus Walks



# COAT AND BLANKET DRIVE



New and gently used coats, blankets, gloves, hats, and scarves

All Sizes- Men, Women, and Children's

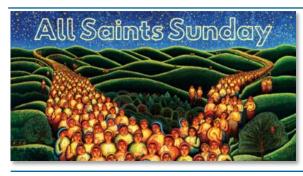
CONLEE-GARRETT

### IF YOU DONT WEAR IT, SHARE IT

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There will be a box to collect coats and blankets in The Awakening Welcome Foyer until November 7th.

# **Church News & Upcoming Events**



Join us for All Saints Sunday, **November 5th** at the traditional worship services at 8:30 and 11 AM, as we honor loved ones who are no longer with us. We will be remembering our church saints who have passed away in the past year with a special bulletin. If you would like the name of your friend, family member or loved one listed in the bulletin, please email their name to the church office. (leeann@fmcbryan.org)

I want to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity at the church picnic! I'm so grateful for the people I got to meet, the conversations we had, and the gifts I was blessed with. I have never felt so welcomed and supported by a church family, and I am glad to call FMC Bryan my new home. I look forward to growing in this community and continuing to worship with you!

Thank you, Kaitlyn Zimmerman







# **Missions & Evangelism**

### Service/Mission Team Highlights-Fall 2023

#### Mobility World Wide (PET): Immediate Need for Volunteers

Since its beginning in 1994, this program has built 100,000 carts across the United States. The symbolic 100,000<sup>th</sup> cart was given to a man in Honduras. MWW is currently reaching 75 countries in Asia, Africa, South America, and Central America. There are three start-up shops, one each in Africa (Liberia), Sierra Leone, and Zambia, as well as a potential shop in Cambodia.

Six thousand carts were shipped nationally last year. At 24 sites worldwide, 550 volunteers have worked over 180,000 hours. Over 90% of all funds raised goes into the cart itself. Worldwide, there are only six paid individuals. Last year, 5350 carts were built: 4,000 large, 1,000 small, and 350 pull carts.

In some shops, as is the case here in Bryan, rent must be paid for the building, which is a part of the 10% not going into building the carts. This past year, the Bryan shop made two shipments, one to Liberia and one to Mexico, with a total of 375 carts along with other requested aid. There are no paid staff in the Bryan shop which has 17 consistent volunteers.

#### More volunteers are needed! For more information, contact Ken Graalum, cnkgraalum@gmail.com

#### Hope Pregnancy Center of Brazos Valley: Immediate Need for Volunteers

One of the biggest challenges at HPC is knowing how to encourage the men who walk through the doors of Hope. The man's attitude toward his role as father may be the biggest factor in determining whether or not the mother chooses to carry the child. More "dadhood" mentors and male advocates are needed. Email jason@hopepregnancy.org for more information about new dad advocates.

Other immediate volunteer needs: **Registered Nurses and LVNs** to chaperone ultrasounds and provide coaching for healthy pregnancies; pit crew workers to maintain and drive the mobile van; prayer partners to join Hope's new **prayer ministry** by praying at home or on site. Please call **HPC at 979-695-9193** for more information.

#### From the HPC Facebook page:

"We are thankful for the work of **#unboundNOW** in our community and around the world. In the past ten months, they have helped rescue 90 victims of human trafficking just in the B/CS area. We are getting updates on their work and continuing conversations on ways to help the women we see at Hope Pregnancy Center who are being trafficked."

#### Missions Report to the SPRC:

At our October 16th meeting we approved a donation of \$300 to BCS Together. BCS Together is a local program for children and families needing assistance with foster care. They also help foster children and parents reunite through training and a vetting process.

We approved a request from Fany and Augusto for financial aid for tuition for Jessica Miranda and Alex Cabrera Ruiz, Pastors from Peru who are enrolled in the United Theological Seminary in Dayton Ohio. \$2070 was approved for Jessica Miranda to pay tuition through the fall of 2024. \$1000 was approved for Alex Ruiz to get through fall of 2024 as well.

Sock-tober was a big success. Several boxes of clothes were delivered to Fannin Elementary. \$528 was also collected.

The SOS Banquet was a great success once again. Over \$165,000 was raised.

Beverly Brown has agreed to represent our church as a member of the board of The Brazos Church Pantry. She will become a new member of the Service/Mission Team.

## **Adult Ministries**

# Amazing Grace Bible Study "When You Pray" January 18, 2024 – February 29, 2024

Do you have trouble thinking of words to say to God when you pray? Are you afraid some emotions are too intense to express to God? Do you reach the end of a day only to realize you haven't prayed at all? You're not alone. Prayer is the way we relate to God, but sometimes it's a struggle. Throughout God's Word, we encounter many voices who teach us how to pray.

Join six beloved Bible study teachers in this 7-session study and learn that God welcomes your praise and lament, your thanksgiving and intercession. You'll see examples of how to pray when you're alone and when you're gathered with others. Above all, you'll notice there's no one right way to pray.



Is life more that you can handle alone right now? Are you adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move or just experiencing a lonely or difficult time in your life? Could you benefit from having someone who would listen and care and walk with you through this difficult time? We all go through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing. God does not intend for you to struggle alone.

# Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness.

#### A Stephen Minister is ...

- · A child of God who walks beside a hurting person.
- A caring Christian who really listens.
- A member of our congregation who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care.
- A person who is ready to focus on your needs.
- · A trustworthy confidant who will keep everything you say and your identity confidential.
- Someone who will faithfully meet with you on a weekly basis for as long as your need persists.



Would you like to know more about becoming a Stephen Minister?

For information about joining a training class.

Contact Natalie Patterson 979-779-1324 ext. 102 natalie.patterson@fmcbryan.org

# **Children & Family Ministries**





\$10 per family.

Register at

https://fmcbryan.org/events/christmas-family-night



# **Hispanic Ministry**



Many churches in South America are moving to the GMC.

Myself and Pastor Fany are in a relationship with several churches in South America that are in the process of affiliating to the Global Methodist Church.

We would like to congratulate Pastors Alex Ruiz and Jessica Miranda of the Sintuco Peru church "Dios es mi Refugio" for their decision to apply for affiliation with the GMC.

We also congratulate Pastors Daniel and Daisy Tordecilla from Centro Cristiano Casa de Gloria for their decision to join the GMC.

We pray for them so that they can affiliate with our church as soon as possible.

We ask for God to bless the other churches we are supporting which are in this same process.

-Pastor Augusto Sarria





506 East 28th Street Bryan, TX 77803

#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



