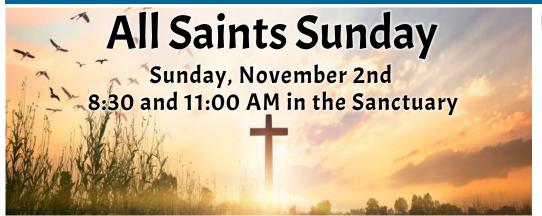
A monthly publication of First Methodist Church, Bryan, TX Vol. LXVI, No. 11 November 2025



We celebrate All Saints Day on November 1, or the Sunday following. This holy time is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith, recognizing that we are part of, what Vachel Lindsay called, "an endless line of splendor." From the earliest days of Christianity, our understanding of resurrection gives us a sense that the Church includes not only all living believers (the Church Universal), but also all who have gone before us (the Church Triumphant). Hebrews 12 makes note of the "great cloud of witnesses" who surround us with encouragement, cheering us on in our faith journey. Charles Wesley's hymn, "Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above" includes the words:

Let saints on earth unite to sing, with those to glory gone, for all the servants of our King in earth and heaven, are one.

Every week, as we recite the Apostles' Creed, we confess that we are part of the "communion of saints." All who are in Christ are saints. Read the New Testament and you will find that those who were committed to the teachings of Christ were called "saints" by these writers (e.g., Matthew 27:52; Acts 9:13; 26:10; Revelation 14:12). Six of Paul's letters to churches are addressed to the saints, the community of believers who worshiped and served God (Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians). The word "saints" comes from a Greek word (hagios) that means "set apart, different, holy." We are called saints, made holy not through any good we have done but because of the good Jesus Christ has done for us and in us. Yet, because of Jesus, we live differently, forgive differently, give differently. On All Saints Sunday we have the opportunity to join the work of the saints in a special way as we renew our commitment to Christ—our commitment to be inviting, to love even the unlovable, to give with joy, to worship with passion, to pray in faith, to dive deeper into God's Word, to lighten up and be a light. How is the Lord calling us, his church, to be an outpost of the kingdom of God here and now? As we live out that answer, we become saints.

By the Way, All Saints Sunday marks a return to standard time: we get back that hour of sleep we lost in the spring. So I fully expect to see all you saints on All Saints, bright-eyed and full of life!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jonathan



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

All Saints Sunday November 2

**The Methodist Women**November 4

Charge Conference November 16

Thanksgiving Holiday November 26-29

Hanging of the Greens November 30

#### **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**

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11/2	2:00 PM	Worship - Crestview Retirement Center/ Arbor Oaks	
	4:00 PM	Youth Worship Band	C214
	5:30 PM	The Methodist Women: Graceful Gatherings	Heritage Room
	6:00 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)	C214
	7:30 PM	Lighthouse College Ministry	Parsonage
11/3	6:00 PM	Staff Parish Relations Committee	C105
11/4	9:30 AM	TMW: General Meeting	Heritage Room
11/5	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Children's Choir	Sanctuary - 2nd Floor
	6:00 PM	Handbell Rehearsal	S101
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal Room
11/6	10:00 AM	Amazing Grace Bible Study - Creation	E209
	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University	C113
11/8	10:00 AM	Sisters in Christ	S102
11/9	6:00 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)	C214
	7:30 PM	Lighthouse College Ministry	Parsonage
11/10	6:00 PM	Finance Committee	C105
11/12	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner	Heritage Room
	5:45 PM	Children's Choir	Sanctuary - 2nd Floor
	6:00 PM	Handbell Rehearsal	S101
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal Room
11/13	10:00 AM	Amazing Grace Bible Study - Creation	E209
	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
11/16	6:00 PM	Charge Conference	Sanctuary
	6:00 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)	C214
	7:30 PM	Lighthouse College Ministry	Parsonage
11/19	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting	Chapel
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner (Last Dinner of the Fall)	Heritage Room
	5:45 PM	Children's Choir	Sanctuary - 2nd Floor
	6:00 PM	Handbell Rehearsal	S101
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal Room
11/20	11:45 AM	Men on Main	Fellowship Hall
11/21	7:00 AM	Meals of Love	Fellowship Hall Kitchen
11/23	6:00 PM	MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)	C214
	7:30 PM	Lighthouse College Ministry	Parsonage
11/26	6—11/29	Campus Closed - Thanksgiving	
11/30	4:00 PM	Hanging of the Greens Dinner	Heritage Room
	6:00 PM	Hanging of the Greens	Sanctuary

# FMC BRYAN CLERGY & STAFF

Senior Pastor Rev. Jonathan Bynum ext. 105 jonathan@fmcbryan.org

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

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

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Meredith Pennington ext. 110 meredith@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

chris@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: Bill Pishek, Joy Allega, Ray Anthony, Vida Wilhelm, Marilyn Colby, Esther Mancillas

Prayers of Concern and Care: Cailey Cotner, Matthew Arriaga, Ashton

**Prayers of Healing:** Judy Miller, Ann Marie Vick, Chuck Schroeppel, Lynda Pool, Nancy Reynolds, Sam Tessen, Irv Sabrsula, Jeff French, Michael Smith, Cynthia McBride, Adam Bolline, Cindy Brack, Bobby Vance, Betty Horn, the Ponzio family, Jack Walker, Shirley Vasovski, Danny Robertson, Becky Davis, Judy Nix, Chad Parker, LaVerne Degelia, Mike Harrah, Leonard Urbanovsky

# In Need of Prayer?

Fill out our <u>Prayer Request Form</u> on our website to be added to our weekly Prayer List or contact the church office at (979) 779-1324.



Charge Conference has been scheduled for November 16, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary. All FMC Bryan members are encouraged to attend.



First Family Dinner and Wednesday Bible studies will end for the Fall on November 19th. The Spring dates for FFD and Wednesday Bible studies are January 14—May 6. We will not have FFD during Spring Break on March 11th.



FMC Bryan will close for the Thanksgiving holiday from Wednesday, November 26th through Saturday, November 29th.



### **Garage Sale Raises Funds for Newest Ministry**

This year's garage sale in the gym was a great success. Your donations generated over \$4,300 to be used by our newest ministry, Local Hands and Feet, This ministry was created by Gregg Barfield as a means for college students to have "hands on" service projects. If you have any questions or a project or need at your home, please contact Gregg Barfield at 979-219-3451 or <a href="mailto:gregg-barfield@ledgerspace.net">gregg.barfield@ledgerspace.net</a>.

We would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to all those who volunteered their time and energy to the garage sale!





To receive a copy of our newsletter, please e-mail Lee Ann Broeker at leeann@fmcbryan.org, and let us know if you'd like a paper or digital copy.



Our Get Connected webpage has everything you need to get plugged into the ministries and missions of First Methodist Church, Bryan. In addition to our ministries, you can view the church calendar, newsletters, and church map. Livestreamed worship services, online giving and our Connect Card can be found there.

Scan the QR code above to GET CONNECTED!

https://fmcbryan.org/get-connected

### **ENDOWMENT SPOTLIGHT**

### The Miller Music Trust Endowment: A Legacy of Love and Song

Dorothy Miller, a long-time and devoted member of our church family, lived a life filled with faith and an unwavering love for others. Known for her zest for life and gracious spirit, Dorothy shared her journey through the written word as the author of several books. In her autobiography, More Than I Ever Expected, she reflected honestly on the joys and challenges that shaped her, offering readers an inspiring testimony of perseverance and grace. She had a remarkable gift for finding possibility in every circumstance and for turning life's imperfections into opportunities to grow and bless others.

First Methodist Church was among the many passions blessed by Dorothy and her husband, Jack. Their love for both faith and community was evident in everything they did. In 1987, after years of their tireless commitment, the Keep Brazos Beautiful organization was formed. Dorothy and Jack spoke to 4-H and youth groups, as well as Scout troops, encouraging them to take pride in their community and to give back in meaningful ways. Dorothy once wrote about the formation of Keep Brazos Beautiful, saying, "A good idea doesn't care who has it, but we're proud to have tossed out a good one." That simple, heartfelt statement captures her spirit—humble and full of purpose.

In 1993, Dorothy Sherrill Miller established the Miller Music Trust Endowment—a reflection of her love for music and its power to move hearts and draw people closer to God. Her vision was to ensure that music would continue to play a vital role in worship and in the life of the church for generations to come.

The endowment provides annual support for musical enrichment beyond what is covered by the regular operating budget. Through this generosity, our music ministries have been able to include special instrumental music during traditional services, Easter celebrations, Hanging of the Greens, and Christmas worship services.

Over the years, the Miller Music Trust has made possible the inclusion of guest artists such as The Marian Anderson String Quartet, The Zion Jubilees, and many others whose gifts have enriched our worship and deepened our connection to God through music.

Dorothy's legacy continues to sing through every note and every act of service that echoes her love for God, her church, and her community. Her life reminds us that music and ministry alike are lasting gifts—beautiful ways to praise God and share His love.

Consider giving to honor someone with a passion for music. Gifts may be made through the church office. Please designate "Dorothy Miller Trust Endowment" with your donation.

### FMC BRYAN 2025 FINANCIAL—3RD QUARTER

As of September 30, 2025, the church's checking account balance was \$33,730, with an additional \$320,679 held in our reserve investment account. Your faithful generosity enables First Methodist Church to maintain a strong financial foundation while actively supporting our missions and ministries. Through your gifts, we continue to share the gospel and bless others in meaningful ways. Thank you for your continued commitment and stewardship.

	<b>Sept 2025</b>	Year-to-Date
Income	\$72,199	\$817,428
Expenses	<u>\$121,066</u>	\$1,038,021
Deficit	\$48,867	\$220,593

## MEMBERSHIP AT FMC BRYAN







If you are interested in becoming a member of our church family here at First Methodist Church, Bryan, please contact Pastor Jonathan Bynum at <a href="mailto:jonathan@fmcbryan.org">jonathan@fmcbryan.org</a>, Pastor Jeremy Bass at <a href="mailto:jeremy@fmcbryan.org">jeremy@fmcbryan.org</a>, or contact the church office at (979) 779-1324.

### Hurry: The Great Enemy of Spiritual Life\*



"The devil can't make you sin, he'll make you busy." Corrie Ten Boom

There is truth in that. Both sin and busyness have the exact same effect – they cut off your connection to God, to other people, and even to your own soul. The number one problem you will face is time. People are just "too busy" to live emotionally healthy and spiritually rich and vibrant lives. There is a healthy kind of busyness where your life is full of things that matter, not wasted on empty leisure or trivial things. The problem isn't when you have a lot to do; it's when you have too much to do and the only way to keep up is to hurry......

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

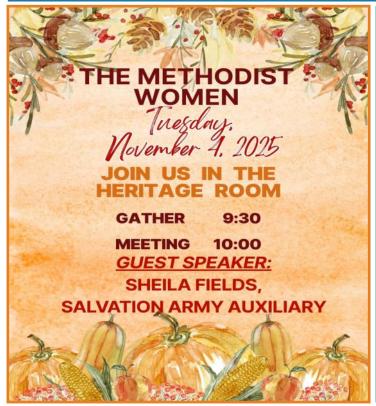
Organize your life around three basic goals:

- 1. Be with Jesus
- Become like Jesus
- 3. Do what he would do if he were you

Jesus's invitation is to take up his yoke – to travel through life at his side, learning from him how to shoulder the weight of life with ease. To step out of the burnout society to a life of soul rest.

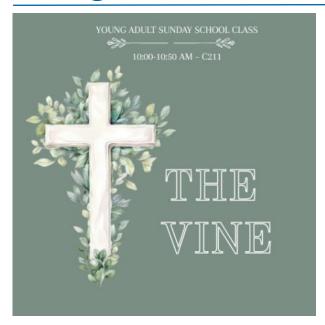
The secret of the easy yoke: If you want to experience the life of Jesus, you have to adopt the lifestyle of Jesus. Let Jesus do all the heavy lifting. At his pace, slow, unhurried, present to the moment, full of love and joy and peace. \*

- \*Excerpts from "The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry" by John Mark Comer
- -Natalie Patterson, Director of Adult Ministries & Member Involvement





## Young Adult Ministries



At FMC Bryan, we believe that faith grows best when it's rooted in community. That's why we are excited about *The* Vine, a Sunday School class designed specifically for young adults (ages 18-25) who are seeking a place to connect, grow, and live out their faith in everyday life.

Jesus said in John 15:5, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

These words remind us that real life, purpose, and strength come from staying connected to Jesus. Just like branches can't thrive without the vine, we too are called to remain rooted in Christ through worship, study, and fellowship. The Vine is a space where young adults can encourage one another, ask honest questions, and grow deeper together in Christ.

#### What to Expect

- Weekly Bible Study & Discussion This Advent season, our Young Adult class will begin a special fourweek study of Lee Strobel's The Case for Christmas. Together, we'll investigate the birth of Jesus through the eyes of a former skeptic, exploring the historical evidence, fulfilled prophecies, and eyewitness accounts that point to the truth of the Incarnation.
  - As we move toward Christmas, this study will help us slow down, ask meaningful questions, and renew our awe at the miracle of God becoming flesh. Bring your Bible, your curiosity, and we will provide the coffee — and join us as we discover the real story behind the season!
- Community & Fellowship Share life together through conversations, monthly meals together, and fun fellowship events throughout the year.
- Spiritual Growth Learn what it means to bear fruit that reflects God's love in your workplace, school, relationships, and community.

The Vine meets every Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour 10-10:50 AM in Rm C211. Come as you are—whether you're in college, starting a career, or finding your way—there's a place for you here.

#### **IIII** Upcoming Fellowship Events

Lunch Out | Nov. 2 | 12PM | Location TBD Friendsgiving and Bonfire | Nov. 15

For more information, visit our website: www.fmcbryan.org/ministries/young-adult



Follow along on Instagram



Get the latest communications for the group in the groupme app





Let us treat you to a cup of coffee and great conversation!

### **Youth Ministries**

Hey friends! November is here — a season full of gratitude, growth, and gathering. As the year winds down and calendars fill up, I'm reminded how important it is to stay grounded in what matters most: our faith, our families, and our walk with Jesus. Let's finish this year strong by staying rooted in Him together.

#### **Upcoming News & Events**

#### MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)

IIII Sundays | 1 5:30−7:30 PM | 1 Heritage Room

No MYF 11/23/2025 - Happy Thanksgiving

No MYF 11/30/2025 – Join us for Hanging of the Greens

Join us each week for fellowship, worship, games, and Bible teaching.

#### **Diving Deeper**

Wednesdays following *First Family Dinner* – Last meeting for 2025 will be Nov 12. A midweek Bible study designed to help students strengthen their foundation of faith.

#### Hanging of the Greens

Please keep an eye out for youth to sign-up to participate in this special worship service. Please feel free to email me if your student would like to participate at: <a href="Meredith@FMCBryan.org">Meredith@FMCBryan.org</a>.

📰 Rehearsal | Hanging of the Greens | Wednesday 11/19/2025 | 6:30-7:30 PM | 🔎 Sanctuary

Hanging of the Greens | Sunday 11/30

For the latest updates and information, visit our website: www.FMCBryan.org/ministries/youth

#### Snack Supper Menu - November 2025

11/02 - Pizza - Salad - Dessert

11/09 - Taco/ taco salad night - dessert

11/16 – Let the Lord Decide-iykyk

11/23- NO MYF Happy Thanksgiving

11/30 - NO MYF Hanging of the Greens

I love attending the students' activities throughout the year. The link below allows you to give me all the details about your student's upcoming events.













#### Stay connected with us on social media:



Follow us on Facebook





Follow us on Instagram

#### A Word for Parents

"Staying Rooted When Life Gets Busy"

#### Scripture:

"Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

— Colossians 2:7 (NLT)

Between work, school activities, sports, and church, November often feels like a blur. The more we take on, the easier it becomes to run on empty — spiritually and emotionally. But God never intended for our roots to be shallow. He invites us to stay deeply connected to Him, even in full seasons.

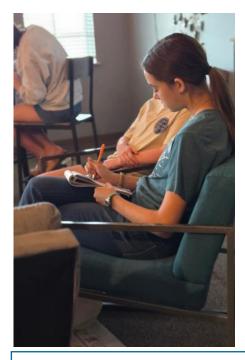
Think of a tree: the more it grows upward, the deeper its roots must go to stay steady. The same is true for us. When our schedules stretch us thin, our roots in prayer, Scripture, and community must grow deeper to sustain us.

This month, try these small practices:

- Morning Root Check: Before your day begins, take 60 seconds to thank God for one thing and surrender one concern.
- Family Faith Moment: Share one verse or blessing at dinner or in the car. Little roots grow strong hearts.
- Sabbath Stop: Block off one hour a week for quiet no phone, no to-do list, just time to breathe in God's presence.

When our lives are rooted in Christ, we can weather any storm and still bear fruit — peace, patience, and gratitude — even in the busiest seasons.

If you are looking for a great parenting podcast, check out *Upside-Down Parenting*, because in today's world, sometimes it can feel as if your parenting is upside down.

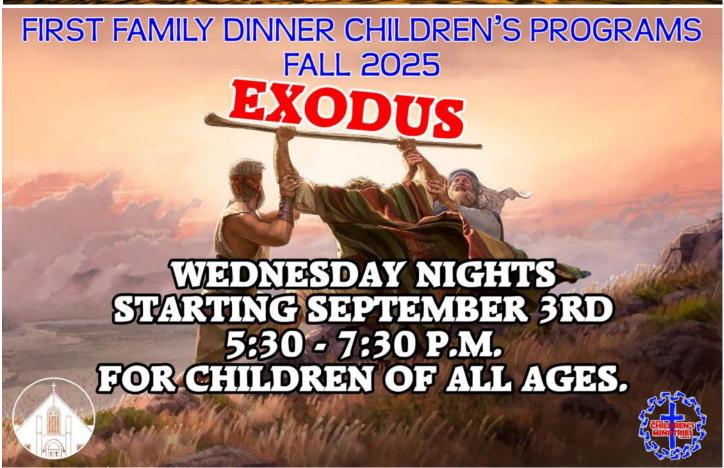




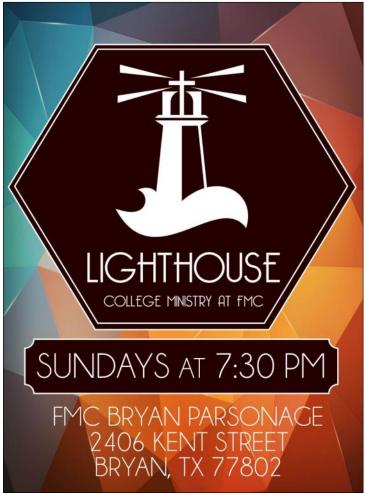


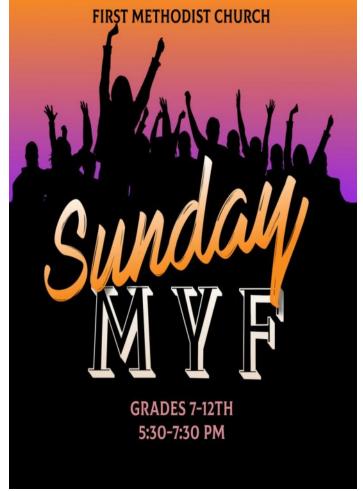
## **Children & Family Ministries**













506 East 28th Street Bryan, TX 77803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

