



UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 Stewardship Campaign
October 5-26

Columbus Day/FMC Bryan Closed
October 13

BISD Fall Break/No First Family Dinner
October 15

Church Picnic
October 26

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.fmcbbryan.org

FMC BRYAN PICNIC *In The Park*



**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 26**



**SUE HASWELL MEMORIAL PARK
1142 E. WILLIAM JOEL BRYAN PARKWAY
PAVILLION A**



5-7 PM

The Methodist Men will be providing Fried Fish.
Please bring a dish according to your last name:

A-L Salad or Fruit M-R Side Dish
S-Z Dessert



Four Words from Pastor Jonathan

One word: wow! That's all I can say about how it feels to be your newest pastor. I'm still amazed I get to be a part of what God is doing here in Bryan. That last part—that God works among us and through us—is the most amazing amazement. He doesn't need the best and the brightest; He needs the humble and the faithful. He chooses inconceivable women to be acclaimed moms (Sarah and Mary), shepherds to lead his people (like Moses and David), a farmer to be his prophet (like Amos), fishermen to be his disciples (Peter and Andrew, James and John), and you to be his messenger.

Two words: thank you! Marjorie Lea and I can't sufficiently express our appreciation for the way you have received us with open arms. We already feel at home, that this is right where we belong. That's the church at its best: reaching out to outsiders, welcoming strangers, loving the unknown.

And that leads to three words: wear your nametag! Keep wearing your nametags. It makes life so much easier. Hospitality is simply being friendly, being neighborly—as in, "love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31; Leviticus 19:18; James 2:8). Look at the opening words of the New Testament with all its "begats": names! Look at the last chapter of Romans: more names! Look at the first nine chapters of 1 Chronicles: lots and lots of names! There are nearly 2000 individuals named in the Bible (so I'm told—I didn't count them). They all matter to God. Everybody is somebody. So let's help each other out—especially me. I've got four kids and I don't always get their names right. Marjorie Lea and I are just getting to know you, but it takes a long time. And if we are going to be an inviting church, we will always have new people who need to learn your name.

In conclusion, four words: I look forward to...

Oops, I ran over on my words. I guess you'll have to come find out the rest.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jonathan

Ministry Calendar

10/1	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner
10/2	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University
10/3	7:00 AM	Meals of Love
10/5	9:15 AM	Confirmation Trip
	2:00 PM	Worship - Crestview Retirement Center/Arbor
	4:00 PM	Youth Worship Band
10/6	6:00 PM	Staff Parish Relations Committee
10/7	9:30 AM	The Methodist Women: General Meeting
10/8	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner
10/9	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University
10/10	7:00 AM	Church Garage Sale
10/11	7:00 AM	Church Garage Sale
10/13	10:30 AM	Time Like Hannah's Breastfeeding Support
	6:00 PM	Service-Mission Team
Church Campus Closed / Columbus Day		
10/15	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
10/16	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University
10/17	7:00 AM	Meals of Love
10/19	4:00 PM	Youth Worship Band
10/20	6:00 PM	Finance Committee
10/22	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner
10/23	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University
10/26	5:00 PM	Church Picnic
10/27	6:00 PM	Church Council
10/29	12:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
	5:15 PM	First Family Dinner
10/30	6:00 PM	Financial Peace University
10/31	7:00 AM	Meals of Love



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
GARAGE SALE
OCTOBER 10-11
FMC BRYAN GYM
8 AM - 2 PM

DONATE YOUR TREASURES!

Drop Off Begins:
Monday, October 6th

Drop Off Location: Gym

Items MUST be priced when dropped off!

For assistance or to schedule a large item pick up, please contact: Steve May
wsmayjr@gmail.com

FMC BRYAN CLERGY & STAFF

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

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

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

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Meredith Pennington
 ext. 110
meredith@fmcbyran.org

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

Director of Music & Worship Ministries
Chris Caffee
 ext. 107
chris@fmcbyran.org

Contemporary Worship Leader
Kaitlyn Zimmerman
kaitlyn@fmcbyran.org

Organist
Angela Corbett

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

Administrative Assistant
LeeAnn Broeker
 ext. 101
leeann@fmcbyran.org

Financial Administrative Assistant
Lynn Knowles
lynn@fmcbyran.org

Custodians
 Hosea Morriel
 Rocio Hitt
 Josh Sweed

Prayer Requests

Rehab/Nursing Care: Joy Allega, Ray Anthony, Marilyn Colby, Donna Durocher, Esther Mancillas, Bob Prock

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

Prayers of Healing: Betty Carter, Janice Elsik, Judy Miller, John Millhollon, Bill Pishek, Nancy Janosky Schnell, Ann Marie Vick, Chuck Schroepel, Kelly Callaway, Lynda Pool, Nancy Reynolds, Jake & Lyndsi's twins, Sam Tessen, Irv Sabrsula, Jeff French, Michael Smith, Rosemary Garrett, Pete Paul, Cynthia McBride, Adam Bolline, Cindy Brack, Bobby Vance, Cyndi Weber, Nick Turnham, Niko Paskos, Betty Horn, Brandi DeAtley, Baby Wade, the Ponzio family, Jack Walker, Bill Vance, Shirley Vasovski, Danny Robertson, Jeane McGown, Ralph Stevener, Becky Davis, Judy Nix, Chad Parker, LaVerne Degelia



Please welcome Sharon Oldaker (pictured second from left) to FMC Bryan! Sharon joined First Family on September 7th.



**THE METHODIST
WOMEN**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:30 Gather
10:00 Meeting begins

GUEST SPEAKER:
Ron Crozier
Twin City Mission



Lone Star Santa Visits The Methodist Women

The speaker at the September 2nd Methodist Women's meeting was John Manes (Santa), along with his wife Pauline (Mrs. Claus), from Lone Star Santas, a Texas based nonprofit that provides a bit of joy to children in Texas and other neighboring states who have experienced natural disasters.

Estimate of Giving

Annual Income	% Giving									
	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
25,000	2,500	2,250	2,000	1,750	1,500	1,250	1,000	750	500	250
45,000	4,500	4,050	3,600	3,150	2,700	2,250	1,800	1,350	900	450
65,000	6,500	5,850	5,200	4,550	3,900	3,250	2,600	1,950	1,300	650
100,000	10,000	9,000	8,000	7,000	6,000	5,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	1,000
150,000	15,000	13,500	12,000	10,500	9,000	7,500	6,000	4,500	3,000	1,500
250,000	25,000	22,500	20,000	17,500	15,000	12,500	10,000	7,500	5,000	2,500

Opportunities for Giving

In today's world, there are many ways to support the ministries of First Methodist Church Bryan. Each option allows you to give in a way that best fits your circumstances, while continuing the tradition of generosity that sustains the missions and ministries of our church and the fulfills needs in the local community, the state, national or international callings.

Offering Plate

The traditional method of giving by cash or check during worship remains a meaningful moment. It not only provides a personal act of worship but also teaches the next generation by modeling faithful generosity.



Bank Bill Pay & Mail

Many financial institutions offer online bill pay services, which allow you to set up automatic gifts to the church. Contributions can also be mailed directly. These methods represent a significant portion of the church's monthly gifts and are both fast, simple, and free of fees—for both the donor and the church.

Online via PayPal

The church maintains a PayPal account, accessible through the "Donate" button under the **More** tab on our website. While PayPal does charge a small processing fee, the church absorbs this cost so that your full intent is honored. The PayPal option also allows for accepted designated funds or payments of events.

Gifts of Stock

Donating appreciated stock is another way to contribute. Once received and sold, the proceeds benefit the church directly. Please contact the church office if you wish to explore this option.

How many ways are there?

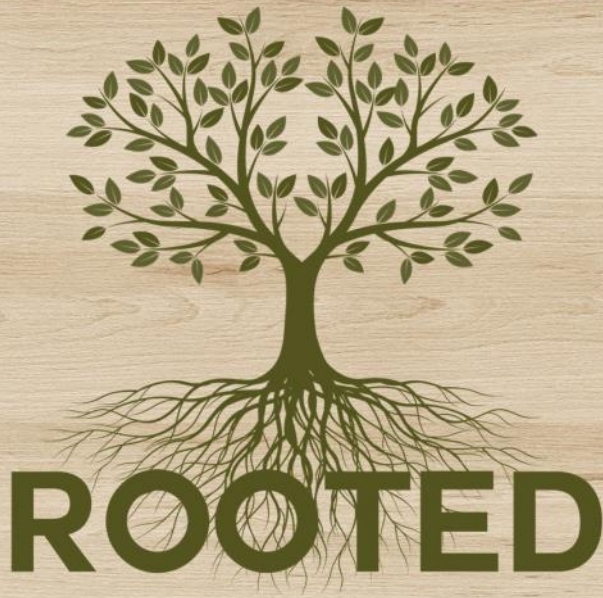
IRA Charitable Distribution

If you are of eligible age, you may consider directing a portion of your required minimum distribution from an IRA to the church. This method can provide tax advantages while supporting ministry. Consult your financial advisor and the church office for details.

Whichever avenue you choose, please be sure to indicate how you would like your gift to be designated. Every contribution—whether through service or financial support—helps advance God's work through First Methodist Church Bryan.

If you have questions, please contact **Eileen Winkle, Director of Business & Facility Operations**, at 979-779-1324 ext. 109 or eileen@fmcbyran.org. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

THIS FALL GET ROOTED IN CHRIST AT FMC, BRYAN



**2026
Stewardship Campaign
October 5-26, 2025**

**Stewardship Pledge Cards will be
available at all worship services.**

Deuteronomy 15:10
**You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall
not be grudging when you give to him, because for
this the Lord your God will bless you in all your
work and in all that you undertake.**

ENDOWMENT SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. Kathryn Esther Ramsey Blackwell was born March 21, 1909, in Denver, Colorado, to Lydia Phoebe Montague Ramsey and the Reverend Preston Taylor Ramsey, a Methodist minister who served in many Texas congregations, including as pastor of Bryan First Methodist Episcopal Church, South from 1918 to 1920. Kathryn excelled in both academics and music, earning Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music (cum laude) degrees from Southern Methodist University before furthering her studies at Juilliard School of Music. She later taught school in Alvin, Texas, and gave private voice lessons.

While at SMU, Kathryn met the Reverend Derwood Leland Blackwell, himself the son of a Methodist minister. They married in 1934, beginning a lifelong partnership of ministry. Together, Dr. and Mrs. Blackwell served faithfully in Methodist churches throughout Texas. Kathryn joyfully supported her husband's ministry, directing choirs, teaching Sunday school, leading Vacation Bible School, and hosting countless gatherings that fostered fellowship and strengthened faith. Though they had no children of their own, the Blackwells poured their lives into the church and into the communities they served.

In 1974, after decades of full-time ministry, the couple retired to Bryan. For the first time, they settled into a home that was not a Methodist parsonage. Deeply aware of the blessings they had received through Methodism, the Blackwells sought to ensure that their commitment to sharing the gospel would extend far beyond their lifetimes. Out of this desire, they established the Blackwell Lectureship Endowment at First Methodist Church, Bryan.

The purpose of this endowment is to support speakers, events, and programs focused on evangelism—carrying forward the Blackwells' passion for making Christ known. Over the years, the fund has brought to FMC Bryan nationally recognized pastors and authors such as Dr. Morris House and Dr. Chap Clark, as well as powerful musical and theatrical ministries including Foothill Community Ministry, the Skit Guys, and Ken Medema.

Through their vision and generosity, Derwood and Kathryn Blackwell created a legacy that continues to equip the church for evangelism and inspire new generations to proclaim the gospel. Their lives remain a testimony to the joy of serving the Lord and the lasting impact of investing in God's kingdom.

GIVEAWAY EVENT

November 20th
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

2505 S. COLLEGE AVE

2025



twin city
MISSION

COAT AND BLANKET DRIVE



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

All Sizes- Men, women, and children's

CONLEE-GARRETT
MOVING & STORAGE

IF YOU DONT WEAR IT, SHARE IT

integ

SEPTEMBER 28-NOVEMBER 2

DROP OFF BOX WILL BE IN THE FOYER BETWEEN GYM AND HERITAGE ROOM

Next
Service-Missions
Meeting:

Monday,
October 13
at 6 PM

in the
Heritage Room

Donate to FMC Bryan Missions Through Kroger Community Rewards

24-May-2025 to 24-
Aug-2025

14

Households

\$ 38.61

Total Donations

The Kroger Family of Companies is committed to community engagement, positive social impact and charitable giving at the national and local levels. Every community is unique, but our common goal is to partner with the neighborhoods we serve and help the people there live healthier lives.

One of the ways in which we do this is through our Kroger Community Rewards program. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. Here's how it works:

1. Create a digital account.

A digital account is needed to participate in Kroger Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose.

2. Link your Card to an organization.

Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple as updating the Kroger Community Rewards selection on your digital account.

1. Sign in to your digital account.

2. Enter the NPO number of the First Methodist Church (GP627),

3. Select the appropriate organization from the list and click "Save".

Your selected organization will also display in the Kroger Community Rewards section of your account. If you need to review or revisit your organization, you can always do so under your Account details.

3. Your organization earns.

Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.

100% of funds earned go towards Missions of First Methodist Church, Bryan.

Simplicity

Matthew 6:19-24 (NIV)

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²²"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Recently I started a process of "down-sizing". As I looked around my home I realized how much "stuff" that I was not using or needing. By selling or giving away these things, a burden was lifted, and I felt free and more relaxed.

Purging the "unnecessary" in our lives will help us to better focus on our relationship with Christ.

In his book "The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry" author John Mark Comer gives us 3 simple goals:

1. Slow Down
2. Simplify my life around the practices of Jesus.
3. Live from a center of abiding in a deep place of love, joy, and peace.

"Life does not consist in an abundance of possessions" Luke 12:15

-Natalie Patterson, Director of Adult Ministries & Member Involvement



POSTPONED: Men's Retreat

The Men's Retreat planned for October 3-5, 2025 has been postponed until Spring 2026. We will announce the new dates as soon as the planning for Spring concludes.

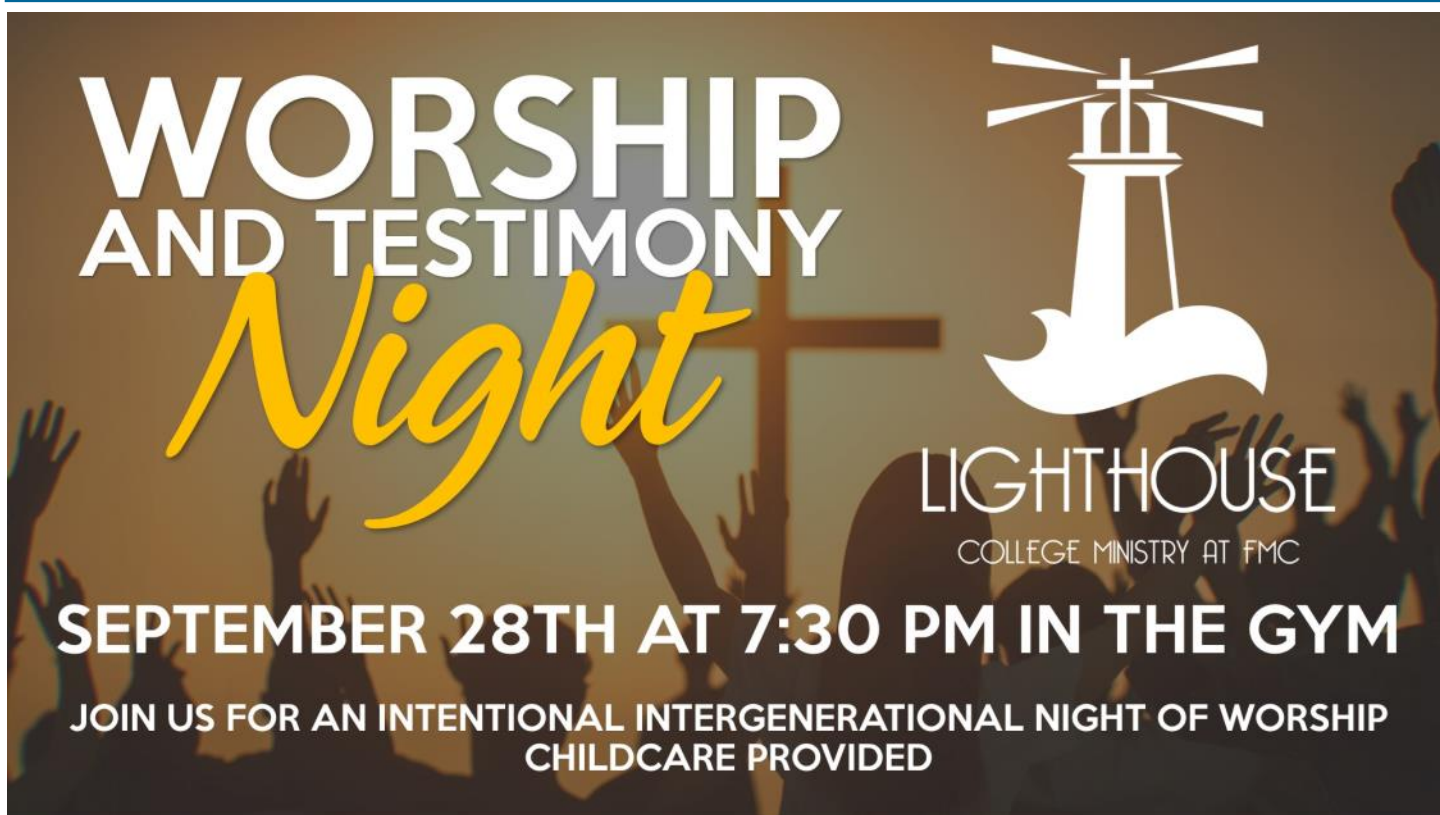


Office Keepers Needed

Do you have a heart for service? We are in need of Office Keepers in the church office. Our Office Keepers are a vital part of our church family. They answers phone calls, greet visitors and do light office work. If you are available during one of the following shifts, we would love to have your help! You are welcome to come try it out to see if it is for you.

**Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday Afternoon
1 PM-5 PM**

Please contact LeeAnn Broeker at leeann@fmcbyryan.org or (979) 779-1324, ext. 101 to volunteer.

A poster for 'Worship and Testimony Night' featuring a background of silhouettes of people with their hands raised in worship. The text 'WORSHIP AND TESTIMONY' is in large white capital letters, with 'Night' in a large yellow script font. To the right is a white lighthouse icon. Below the lighthouse is the text 'LIGHTHOUSE' and 'COLLEGE MINISTRY AT FMC'. At the bottom, it says 'SEPTEMBER 28TH AT 7:30 PM IN THE GYM' and 'JOIN US FOR AN INTENTIONAL INTERGENERATIONAL NIGHT OF WORSHIP CHILD CARE PROVIDED'.

Youth Ministries

Fall is in full swing, and we are grateful for the ways God is moving in the lives of our students at FMC Bryan! Each week is filled with opportunities to grow in faith, build friendships, and discover what it means to live as disciples of Jesus.

Upcoming News & Events

MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)

📅 Sundays | ⌚ 5:30–7:30 PM | 📍 Heritage Room

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

Diving Deeper

📅 Wednesdays following *First Family Dinner*

A midweek Bible study designed to help students strengthen their foundation of faith.

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



Snack Supper Menu – October

October 5 – Pizza

October 12 – Breakfast for Dinner

October 19 – *Let the Lord Decide!*

October 26 – No MYF (*First Family Picnic*)

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.

✈ [Youth Activity Calendar Request](#)



Stay connected with us on social media:



Follow us on [Facebook](#)



Follow us on [Instagram](#)

A Word for Parents

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” – Philippians 4:8

Parenting pre-teens and teenagers in today's world comes with a unique challenge: *social media*. With constant notifications and endless scrolling, our students are bombarded with voices telling them who to be, how to look, and what to believe.

But Scripture gives us a better focus: to set our minds on what is noble, true, pure, and lovely. As parents, you have the powerful role of modeling and reminding your student to filter what they see online through the lens of God's truth. A few ways to encourage this at home:

Model balance. Show your student what it looks like to take breaks from screens and prioritize real connections.

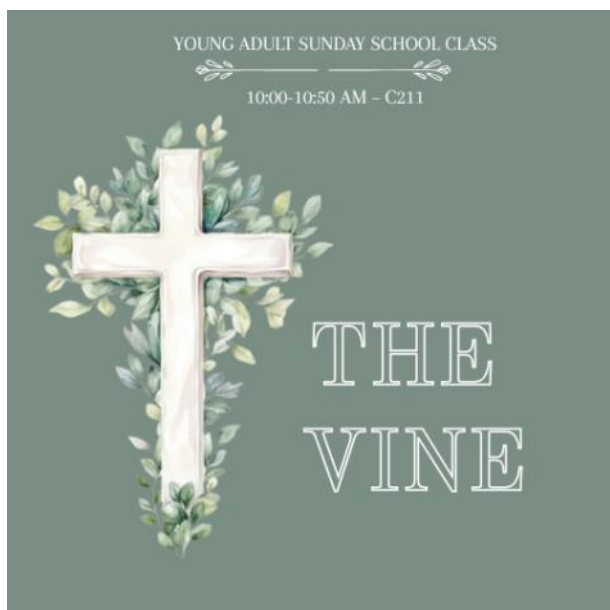
Ask questions. Instead of just monitoring, invite them to talk about what they're seeing and how it makes them feel.

Point to truth. Remind them daily that their worth and identity are secure in Christ—not in likes, follows, or comments.

Let's walk together in helping our students keep their minds fixed on Jesus, the true source of life and joy.



Young Adult Ministries



The Vine 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 – Dig into God's Word and explore how it speaks to the unique challenges of young adulthood. The study for this fall up to Advent is “Invitation” written by Brian D. Russell.


What is the Bible's message? How does it all fit together? In what ways does it speak to women and men hungry for truth in the 21st century?



In *Invitation*, Dr. Brian D. Russell serves as your guide through the narrative of Scripture: Creation, the Fall of Humanity, the Calling of Israel, the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Sending of the Church, and New Creation. Through ten chapters divided into five daily readings, *Invitation* covers the core content of the Bible with an emphasis on God's mission and the role of God's people in living as a holy community for the sake of the world. The goal of the *Invitation* is not merely information—it seeks the transformation of readers as they encounter the good news of Scripture and realign themselves continually with its powerful truth.

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 Room C211. Come as you are—whether you're in college, starting a career, or finding your way—there's a place for you here.

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



 Follow along on Instagram



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



Our 3rd Graders and Kindergarteners received Bibles on September 14th.





BRYAN, TEXAS

506 East 28th Street
Bryan, TX 77803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Family Dinner
Wednesdays in the Heritage Room
September 3–November 19
Dinner at 5:15 PM
Bible Studies For All at 6 PM