

# Bellville Methodist Believer

## SUNDAYS

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (sanctuary)
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (sanctuary)

## BELIZE SHAREHOLDER DINNER

**Sunday, August 7**  
**5:00 p.m. (MAC)**

If you purchased shares for the Belize Mission Trip, you are invited to dinner in the MAC as a thank you for supporting them.

Please RSVP to the church office at 979.865.5976.

## SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

**August 3, 2022**

**9:00 a.m. – Noon**

*(Must bring a report card from Bellville ISD)*

This is a time community churches come together to help the children have a good beginning to their school year.

Thank you!  
 Society of St. Stephen,  
 Sue Barton  
*(We will stuff backpacks Monday, Aug 1 at 9:00 a.m., and set up Tuesday, Aug 2 at 9:00 a.m. Any help is appreciated!)*

Thank you to the local churches joining us to participate.

- St. Barnabas Anglican
- New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist
- St. John Lutheran
- Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic
- St. Mary's Episcopal
- First Baptist Bellville



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Sunday, August 14

**Promotion Sunday**

**Backpack Blessings**  
*(both morning services)*

**Splash Bash**  
**Family Swim**

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
 Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Wednesday Children's activities are resuming:

Wednesday, August 24

5:00 p.m. Children's Dinner  
 6:00 p.m. Wild Wednesdays

Wednesday, September 7

4:00 p.m. Children's Choir



Summer is quickly coming to an end and the first day of school is right around the corner!

The first day of Mother's Day Out is August 22, 2022. Registration packets have been distributed to parents who have already registered

their child/children. MDO still has a few spaces open for the 2022-2023 school year. Please call or email if you have any questions.

[mdo@bellvilleumc.org](mailto:mdo@bellvilleumc.org)

Mother's Day Out is hiring for the positions of Toddler Teacher and Nursery Aide to

work Mondays and Wednesdays for the 2022-2023 school year. You must be able to encourage, praise, listen, hug, and, most of all, have patience.

Please stop by the church office for an application.

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

Veronica Ashorn	Mary Gibson	Sally Schaefer
Michelle Maderer	Mike & Pat Aldredge	Doug Lottridge
Paul Jones	Katie Huebner	Molly Lottridge
Jessica Engler	Ann Kiesewetter	Avis Pouncy
Anne Wingo	Kathryn King	Billy Armstrong
Laura Mann	Janice Engelking	
Bill Moebes	Carrie Steinbach	
Luke Keaton	Winifred Valentine	
Everly Lunsford	Kennedy Maderer	
Bill Schmidt	Don Moore	
Kay Marek	John Grube	
Billie Grounds		
Irene Herreth		
Susan Crutchfield		
JoAnn Gillum		
Jerri Hurta		
JoAnn Hinze		
Sharon Dyer		



### SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Hunter Morris  
 Chad Holloway  
 Sean Whitfield  
 Gregory Hill  
 Mitch & Emily Bruce  
 Maj. Zachary & Lt. Cassidy Jones  
 John Lanier  
 David Anderson  
 Dalton Flannigan  
 Jesse Worthen  
 Hunter Berry  
 Rachel Hoag  
 Cheryl Munoz  
 Rachel Munoz  
 Ryan Tull

*All the men/women serving our country and their families*



### AUGUST CALENDAR

**Monday, August 1**  
 9:00 a.m. Stuff Backpacks (MAC)

**Tuesday, August 2**  
 9:00 a.m. Set up for Backpack Giveaway  
 1:00 p.m. Fun & Fellowship (204)

Wednesday, August 3  
 9:00 a.m. Backpack Giveaway (MAC)  
 5:30 p.m. Backpack Giveaway (MAC)

Thursday, August 4  
 1:00 p.m. Roller Skating (Children's Min)

**Sunday, August 7**  
 5:00 p.m. Belize Shareholder Dinner (MAC)

**Tuesday, August 9**  
 9:30 a.m. Nursing Home Communion

**Thursday, August 11**  
 9:00 a.m. Urban Air Bryan (Child Min)

**Saturday, August 13**  
 2:30 p.m. West District Discernment Mtg. (Christ UMC, College Station)

**Sunday, August 14**  
**Promotion Sunday & Backpack Blessings**  
 4:30 p.m. Back to School Family Swim  
 Blue Bell Aquatic Center, Brenham

**Monday, August 15**  
 9:00 a.m. MDO Workday

**Tuesday, August 16**  
 6:00 p.m. Ruth Circle (204)

**Wednesday, August 17**  
 9:00 a.m. MDO Workday  
 5:30 p.m. MDO Meet the Teacher

Monday, August 22  
 8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Out begins

**Wednesday, August 24**  
 5:00 p.m. Children's Dinner (217)  
 6:00 p.m. Wild Wednesdays (217)  
 6:00 p.m. Youth

**Thursday, August 25**  
 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study begins  
 6:30 p.m. Children's Parent Meeting

**Sunday, August 28**  
 4:00 p.m. Children's Parent Meeting

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### CHILDREN

Rm 215 – Nursery  
 Rm 214 – 3s - Pre-school  
 Rm 217 – K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
 Rm 212 – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

#### YOUTH

Rm 213 (SS Workroom)

#### ADULTS

Rm 204 – Joy Class  
 Rm 206 – Seekers Class  
 Rm 208 – Disciples Class  
 Rm 211 – Young Families Class  
 MAC – Berean Class (all ages)

### RUTH CIRCLE

#### Tuesday, August 16

No designated hostesses  
 Please bring your favorite salad.

Cards 5:30 p.m.  
 Salads 6:00 p.m.

We will discuss upcoming fall events as our program.

All ladies of BUMC are welcome!

### HELP NEEDED

If you would like to help at the Welcome Center desk or help with snacks on Sundays, please contact Linda Ludwick.

ludwick1950@hotmail.com

### FOOD PANTRY

For the month of August we are collecting cans of vegetables, instant potatoes, and rice mixes..

### DISTRICT HYMN SING

Sunday, August 21

6:00 p.m.

Christ Church  
 4201 State Hwy 6 S  
 College Station

### BLUEBONNET OPRY

Bluebonnet Opry holds events at the Silver Wings Ballroom in Brenham the third Thursday of each month. Tickets sold at the door are \$8.00.

BUMC will take the church bus for anyone who wants to ride. Please call the church office.  
 Next dates: 8/18, 9/15

### SURVIVING GRIEF

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month

Allumine Hospice Office  
 540 W. Main Street, Bellville  
 7:00 p.m.

A free support group, giving you an opportunity to meet with other grieving people.

Ruth Dinges (281-734-9111)  
 Sharon Glentzer (713-303-2237)

### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Sundays**  
 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (sanct)  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)  
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (sanct)  
 5:00 p.m. Youth

**Mondays**  
 8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Out

**Tuesdays**  
 Noon AA (206)

**Wednesdays**  
 8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Out  
 6:00 p.m. Youth  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (102)

**Thursdays**  
 6:30 p.m. AA & Al Anon (206, 211)

**Fridays**  
 Office Closes at Noon

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## BUMC DISCERNMENT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Based on the feedback from Pastor John's presentations on the growing divide in within United Methodist Church, many members of BUMC believe it may be time to enter into a period of discernment about our denominational affiliation. Many factors have come to light that indicate the decision to leave or stay needs to be made now.

This is a recommendation for Bellville UMC to immediately enter a process of discernment.

We propose:

1. A call for church wide prayer to understand whether Bellville UMC should remain in or split from the greater United Methodist Church and if split, discern where God is leading us
2. Immediately enter the required period of discernment to determine for or against disaffiliation from UMC
3. Plan to vote for or against disaffiliation before Nov 10
  - a. If disaffiliation is chosen, then vote on a new denominational affiliation

Our plan for discernment follows:

Form a task force for discernment using small groups to concentrate in four areas:

- PRAYER – focused on understanding the spiritual element and perceiving God's will for our Church  
*(headed by Missy Graham)*
- COMMUNICATION – focused on sharing with the congregation our findings and information on remaining with or splitting from the UMC, and focused on listening to feedback of our fellow believers *(headed by Joe McReynolds)*
- FINANCES – focused on understanding financial ramifications of staying or leaving the UMC  
*(headed by Jim O'Jibway)*
- AFFILIATION – focused on gathering information to seek affiliation with another Methodist denomination (for example, Global Methodist, Free Methodist, Asbury movement, or independent) *(headed by Jason Samford)*

Proposed Task Force Timeline:

- Phase I - Research
  - o Small Groups research and gather all relevant information
  - o 28 days duration
  - o Jul 27 – Aug 23
- Phase II – Research Compilation
  - o Assess our findings
  - o 7 days duration
  - o Aug 24 – Aug 30
  - o Provide draft proposal for voting for or against disaffiliation and possible new affiliation if necessary
- Phase III – Dissemination and Listening
  - o Disseminate findings and information to congregation
  - o 21 days duration
  - o Aug 31 – Sep 20
  - o Provide final proposal for voting for or against disaffiliation and potential new affiliation if necessary
- Phase IV – Congregation prayer and determination
  - o Time of prayer and consideration for individuals in congregation to consider proposal
  - o 14 days duration
  - o Sep 21 – Oct 11
  - o Prepare to participate in Church wide vote (all members are eligible to vote) regarding the potential of disaffiliation and potential new denominational affiliation if necessary during the Church Conference (date to be set by District Superintendent)



**Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God VBS 2022** was a huge success! We had over 160 children and over 50 volunteers that took their time and love to make this week very special. Food Truck

Party invited the children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words served as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met. Through stories in both the Old and New Testaments, Food Truck Party opened the kids'

eyes to the countless ways God provides, loves, and cares for us while inviting them to join God in providing, loving, and caring for others. At all of our daily needs are met. Thank you BUMC for all the donations, support and love you gave for this week also. Thank you again to everyone who made this week amazing for our children and those in the community.

### THANK YOU

The family of Eugene (E.C.) Parr wishes to thank all who brought food, helped to serve refreshments, or helped in any way.

Your kindness will never be forgotten.

God Bless you,

Delores Parr  
Debra Parr

Thanks also for the use of the MAC center.

## BUMC BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Our architect and construction company joined members of the building project on July 19 for a punch list/walk through of the new facilities. Areas still needing attention will be addressed by the architect and / or the contractor.

You have probably noticed the restriping of the parking lots and the new routing of traffic.

We continue to have delivery problems. We are waiting for the letters for the new corner sign, attic folding ladders, and additional interior and exterior door hardware.

The Welcome Center has undergone a beautiful transformation. Stop by and take a look!



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

BUMC Children's Choir will begin Wednesday, September 7, at 4:00 p.m. for children K - 5th grade. Pickup available from O'Bryant schools.

CHANCEL CHOIR

BUMC Chancel Choir practice begins Wednesday, August 10, at 6:30 p.m.



FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, August 2

Room 204 GAMES & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Adults of all ages are welcome!!

Bring a game you'd like to play or let me know and I'll see if I can round it up! We meet the first Tuesday of each month.

For more information or if you need transportation contact: Dianna Norton, 979 270 5075

diannashipmannorton@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!!

Remaining 2022 dates: September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendars - BUMC Women's Retreat Round Top, TX October 14 - 16

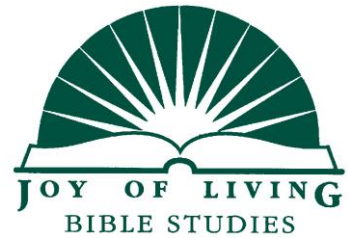
Watch for more details to come soon.

BIBLE STUDY

Bellville Evening Bible Study begins Monday, September 12. We will be studying Genesis from the Joy of Living series. \$40/person. I will be ordering books very soon. Ladies, gentlemen, couples, singles, all are welcome! Call Janice Hord (979-877-4430) if you have questions.

This is a really great study which lasts until the end of March.

By the way, we have a Pot Luck Dinner once a month before our study. We have some of the best cooks in Austin County in our Bible Study!!



INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Saturday, August 13 2:30 - 4:00 pm. West District Future Discernment Task Force Meeting

The district meeting will include three speakers.

The first will discuss the future of the UMC.

Another will discuss the Global Methodist Church (GMC).

A third who can discuss other options including Free Methodist, Congregational

Methodist, African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Evangelical Methodist and Christian Methodist Churches.

Clergy and church leaders are invited to attend.

Christ Church 4201 State Highway 6 S College Station, TX 77845

Dear Church,

As you may be aware, many United Methodist congregations are actively asking if remaining in the UMC is really the best path forward for them to follow God's call in the future. This comes following years of deep disagreements within the larger UMC and increasing numbers of clergy and bishops actively choosing to defy the Book of Discipline. The May 1, 2022 launch of a new denomination called the Global Methodist Church only further increased the number of those conversations. Tuesday, July 27, 2022 our Church Council decided we need to formally enter a period of discernment to wrestle with that very issue. We will use the time to officially seek where God wants us to have our denominational affiliation in the future as we seek to "change lives by the power of Jesus Christ."

Included in this newsletter/ mailing you will find an outline of what that discernment period will look like. There will be a time of research, a time of compilation and processing that research, a time of communicating that information and listening to feedback, a formal recommendation, and then a formal season of prayer holding that recommendation before God.

While there are several possible outcomes, two of them are: 1. that we will hear God calling us to remain in the UMC and all will carry forward as is. 2. That God is calling us away from the UMC to another denominational affiliation or even none at all. If our time of discernment leads us to believe God is calling us away from the UMC, there will be a Church Conference vote at a date set by our District Superintendent (likely in mid-October). At the Church Conference, a 2/3 majority of the members present and voting would be required for a motion to disaffiliate to pass.

Beginning immediately, the Discernment Task Force, headed by Joe McReynolds, will begin its work and more fully develop the plan of research, communication, listening and prayer. Please keep your eyes and ears open. Get informed. Let your voice be heard. This is a major decision in the life of this church, and we need you to be a part of it.

Right now, however, begin intentionally praying for the process, for God's desire for us to be clear and compelling, and for us to move through this time in a spirit of respect and love. We may not all agree on issues that emerge but Christ calls us to love one another regardless.

If you are ready to dig into your own research, our Conference and their Future Discernment Task Force have begun to compile some great resources on their website. Begin with Bishop Scott Jones' letter here <https://www.txcumc.org/navigatingthewaters>

And also look at the work the Conference Future Discernment Task Force has already published including the first of the District information meetings found here <https://www.txcumc.org/FDTF>

Our District's information meeting will be August 13, 2:30 - 4 pm at Christ Church in College Station. Please add it on your calendar and plan to attend.

May we emerge from this season more committed to Christ and serving him in this world.

Seeking Christ,  
John Reasons

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## SAFETY / SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The BUMC Security Committee Representatives are tasked by the church council with the following duties/responsibilities, as outlined in the ***BUMC Emergency Response Policy and Procedures***:

- Establish/Implement the emergency response procedures
- Establish Safety Teams to implement emergency response procedures
- Identify staffing requirements for Safety Teams including off-duty Law Enforcement personnel, if authorized.
- Develop law enforcement duties, activities, responsibilities, hours, and employment
- Identify and ensure completion of required training for Safety Teams including the following:
  - Annually train Ushers/Greeters and other individuals to respond and assist members should a building-wide emergency occur.
  - Annually schedule CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training for all BUMC staff and volunteers
  - Explore options for post-crisis response training for pastors, church staff, and members.
- Identify required emergency and safety equipment
- Strive to maintain situational awareness of current, threats, trends and practices and develop strategy, as appropriate
- Annually review Emergency Response Policy and Procedures; update as required

The Security Committee met on March 29, 2022, for the annual review of the *Emergency Response Policy and Procedures* and to discuss the roles/responsibilities/duties and administrative procedures for off-duty law enforcement officers, as authorized by the Church Council.

As many of you are aware, the number of Active Shooter Incidents have increased year-to-year, including incidents in Faith-Based Organizations/Houses of Worship (government speak for churches, synagogues, mosques, etc.). According to the FBI, *“In 2021, the FBI designated 61 shootings as active shooter incidents. In these incidents, 103 people were killed and 140 wounded, excluding the shooters. For the period 2017–2021, active shooter incident data reveals an upward trend. The number of active shooter incidents identified in 2021 represents a 52.5% increase from 2020 and a 96.8% increase from 2017.”* The worst church shooting in the United States occurred in 2017 at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, when a gunman killed 26 people and wounded 20, before killing himself. On June 16, 2022, a man described as an occasional attendee at services opened fire during a potluck dinner at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, killing three people. Another person in attendance subdued him until police arrived. The common attitude towards acts of violence, particularly in houses of worship, is that “It will never happen here”! There are multiple incidents that clearly indicate that attitude is false.

Because of the almost 200 children, volunteers and staff participating in VBS, church leadership authorized the employment of off-duty law enforcement officers and to initiate the Sunday coverage of worship services for the remainder of the year. Chief of Police Jason Smalley, Bellville Police Department, coordinates the program for the BUMC. He attended the first three Sunday worship services to assist the Security Committee in developing duties and responsibilities for the officers.

Currently, there are four local police officers who will rotate for our Sunday services and identified church-wide special events. Please introduce yourself and welcome them. Having them here, reduces the response time from minutes to seconds. In an active shooter event, seconds count, when the police are minutes away.

**Bellville UMC**  
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Bellville, TX 77418

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**Fax** 979.865.0701  
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www.bellvilleumc.org

*Changing Lives  
By the Power of  
Jesus Christ*



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JOIN BUMC FOR OUR BACK TO SCHOOL

# SPLASH BASH

THERE WILL BE SWIMMING, PIZZA & DRINKS!  
BRING A FRIEND ON

## AUGUST 14TH

FROM 4:30PM-6:30PM

BLUE BELL AQUATIC CENTER  
1800 E TOM GREEN STREET  
BRENHAM, TEXAS 77833

**BUMC**  
BELLVILLE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Changing Lives by the Power of the Gospel

RSVP BY AUGUST 10TH TO  
LAURA@BELLVILLEUMC.ORG