

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 (MAC)

POINSETTIAS



If you would like to order a poinsettia please contact the church office. Cost is \$20 each.

You can dedicate them in honor or memory of special friends or loved ones. The dedication list will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin, and you can take them home after the service.



BELLVILLE METHODIST CHURCH
Christmas Services

Family Service
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
3:00 PM

Candlelight Communion Service
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
5:00 & 7:00 PM

Christmas Day Service
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
10 AM

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Come With Us to Bethlehem

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Performed by the
BUMC Chancel Choir
featuring the
BUMC Children's Choir




THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Wednesday, December 21

6:00 p.m. (sanctuary)

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Bobby Spiers	Mary Gibson	Sally Schaefer
Delores Parr	Mike & Pat Aldredge	Doug Lottridge
John Musslewhite	Katie Huebner	Molly Lottridge
Veronica Ashorn	Janice Engelking	Avis Pouncy
Michelle Maderer	Carrie Steinbach	Billy Armstrong
Ervin Kiesewetter, Jr.	Winifred Walentine	Helen Gabig
Paul Jones	Kennedy Maderer	
Jane McKinley	John Grube	
Bill Moebes	Cyndy Massey	
Everly Lunsford		
Bill Schmidt		
Kay Marek		
Billie Grounds		
Irene Herreth		
Susan Crutchfield		
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
 Rachel Hoag
 Cheryl Munoz
 Rachel Munoz
 Ryan Tull

All the men/women serving our country and their families



DECEMBER CALENDAR

Friday, December 2
 6:00 p.m. Small Town Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 3
 9:00 a.m. Special Called Texas Annual Conference

Sunday, December 4
 Noon Missions Christmas Bags (MAC)

Tuesday, December 6
 1:00 p.m. Fun & Fellowship (204)
 6:30 p.m. Extra Rehearsal Chancel Choir
 7:00 p.m. Methodist Men (204)

Thursday, December 8
 Final Community Bible Study this semester

Friday, December 9
 6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out

Sunday, December 11
 9:00 a.m. Christmas Cantata (during worship)
 5:30 p.m. Advent Celebration

Tuesday, December 13
 6:00 p.m. Ruth Circle Christmas (Yani's)

Wednesday, December 14
 8:30 a.m. MDO Christmas Breakfast (Last MDO this semester)
 Last day of Children's Choir and Wild Wednesdays this semester

Thursday, December 15
 5:20 p.m. Bus leaves for Bluebonnet Opry (Silver Wings, Brenham)

Sunday, December 18
 10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Centers
 6:00 p.m. Youth Christmas (Samford home)

Wednesday, December 21
 6:00 p.m. Longest Night Service

Saturday, December 24
 3:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve
 5:00 p.m. Candlelight & Communion
 7:00 p.m. Candlelight & Communion

Sunday, December 25
 10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols (MAC)

Monday – Friday December 26 – 30
 Office Closed for Holidays

Sunday, January 1
 10:00 a.m. ONE Worship Service (sanct)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHILDREN

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

YOUTH

Meet in the Kitchen

ADULTS

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

RUTH CIRCLE

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 13
 Meal at 6:00 p.m.
 Yani's in Bellville
 RSVP to Carolyn Golan by December 5.

FOOD PANTRY

For the month of December, we are collecting chili & soup.

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 date: 12/15

FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, December 6

Room 204
 GAMES & LIGHT EFRESHMENTS
 Adults of all ages are welcome!!

We meet the first Tuesday of each month.
 For more information or if you need transportation contact:
 Dianna Norton,
 979 270 5075
 diannashippmannorton@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!!

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

If you would like to make a special year end gift, we have put together a wish list from some of our ministries.

Make sure to mark your donation so it will be credited to the appropriate place.



Worship

A/V equipment and other items to enhance worship

Society of St. Stephen

Provides assistance to those in need

Backpack Buddies

Sends bags of food items home with school children

Missions

Many outreach projects

Children's Ministry / MDO

Additional items to furnish the new children's area

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

Noon AA (206)

Wednesdays

8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Out
 4:00 p.m. Children's Choir (217)
 5:00 p.m. Children's Dinner
 6:00 p.m. Wild Wednesdays
 6:00 p.m. Youth
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (102)

Thursdays

6:30 p.m. AA & AI Anon (206, 217)
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball (MAC)

FROM PASTOR JOHN...

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, "which means, "God is with us." - Matthew 1:22-23

I write on what feels like the least Christmasy day in a long time. The weather app on my phone says it's 81 degrees and 73% humidity. There is a promise of a cold front on it's way, which I eagerly await. But right now when I step outside it's just - yuck.

As we enter into Advent, the days leading up to Christmas, we are reminded that this is a time of waiting in faith in a world

that can at times seem awfully yucky.

We fully believe that in the birth of Jesus, God shifted into a new phase in bringing about His Kingdom here on earth. And we also believe that Jesus will return one day and bring God's Kingdom into its fullness. When Christ returns, at his second advent, everything will change for the better.

All the yuck (sin, unrighteousness, injustice, even death itself) will be overcome and destroyed by his might. Only life, joy, righteousness, all that which is truly good, will be left.

For now we are called to work and wait. We wait not as abandoned children, but as faithful followers full of the Holy

Spirit, who is at work in and through us. We work by the power of the Holy Spirit helping things be just a little less yucky for us and all whom we encounter.

In the coming weeks, we've got a number of activities and services planned to help us experience God's presence with us even here and now. You'll find details about them contained inside. Invite a friend, especially one whose world might be a bit extra yucky this year, and come and be a part of God's great redeeming work.

Blessings,

John

BUILDING UPDATE

We have a planned start date in our new facilities!!

Sunday, January 8, Miss Laura plans to have the children meet in their new classrooms.

MDO will begin their new semester on Monday, January 9.

The office will officially open in the new building on Monday, January 9.

We will plan to have an open house sometime later in January or early February.

The playground equipment is scheduled to arrive sometime in March.

Thank you for your continued support of our project.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers for the front office reception desk.

If you would like to volunteer to greet people as they come in and answer phones during business hours, please let Donna in the office know.

979.865.5976 or

donna@bellvilleumc.org

Think about what day(s) of the week you might be willing to volunteer, full or half day, and how many days per month. We will begin filling out the schedule soon.

We will begin staffing the front desk on Monday, January 9.

Thank you!!



BACKPACK BUDDIES MINISTRY

We want to thank the congregation and all those who have donated to help our ministry to the children at O'Bryant Primary, O'Bryant Intermediate, and Bellville Junior High School. Backpack Buddies is currently serving 70-75 children with food bags for them to take home on the weekends.

In addition to helping the children with food needs, we have provided winter jackets at Christmas to the primary students. We want to gift the 35 primary children again this year. We will also be providing Christmas gift bags to the 14 intermediate students and the 15 junior high school students.

If you would like to make a donation at any time, please designate on the memo line of your check to: *Backpack Buddies Ministry.*

We welcome a new member to our team, Debbie Biddle. A big thank you to Debbie and all our team members who have served faithfully each week to keep our school children fed.

If you have any questions about our ministry, please contact me, Jane Couch at jr.couch@yahoo.com or 713-203-0966.



Thank you...

MANY THANKS to our 2022 Women's Retreat committee: Annette James, Barbara Robinson, Catheryn Van Wormer, Kaitlin Stuart, Missy Graham, Jeanne Krumrey, Kathy Walton, Kerri Byler, Sehoy Meeks, and Sharon Metcalf for a job WELL DONE!

Thank you to our speaker, Carrie Bonk who serves as the Senior Director of Strategy and Retreats for Serenity Retreat. Ladies, it was spectacular! I appreciate all the ladies who were able to attend and their participation.

Thank you SO Much!
Linda Ludwick

Thank you to each person who served on the four Discernment Committees for your time, efforts and hard work in gathering the information and getting it out to our congregation.

Linda Ludwick

THE GIVING TREE

Each year Society of St. Stephen partners with Child Protective Services to provide gifts to children in CPS custody.

If you would like to help give a little Christmas love to a child this year, take an angel off the tree. Each angel has the first name of a child and a couple gift wishes.

There is a tree in the Welcome Center and one in the MAC.

Bring back the unwrapped gift with the angel attached so we can make sure it gets to the correct child.



Thank you to Ruth Circle who assisted Society of St. Stephen putting together 24 fruit baskets for some of our homebound members.

(A bonus surprise for the group was getting to put these together in the new office conference room!)

They will soon be delivering poinsettias for Christmas.



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT
Friday, December 9

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Room 217

Cost is \$25 / family
Infant - 5th grade

Please RSVP to Miss Laura
(laura@bellvilleumc.org) by



Sunday, December 18

Children ages 3 years – 5th grade will have a very special Christmas Centers celebration during the Sunday School hour (10:00 a.m.)



Sunday, December 25

There will be one worship service at 10:00 a.m.

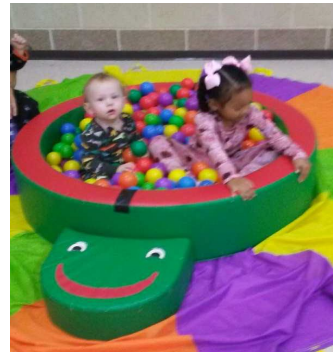
We will not offer Sunday School that morning, but we invite our children to come worship in their Christmas Pajamas!

There will be a nursery available during worship for children 5 and under.

MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Mother's Day Out had a visit last week from Mr. Jason representing the Bellville Volunteer Fire Department. He gave a lesson about fire safety and how to "stop, drop, and roll". The lesson continued outside for the littles to see (and hear) what the huge fire engine can do! The siren and horns were too loud for a few of our little ones, who chose to stay inside and watch through the window. ☺

We closed out October with our Fall Fun Day. Children were invited to wear their pajamas on Monday. Games were played, cookies were decorated, pumpkins were picked from the pumpkin patch... fun was had by all! Thank you to all the parents who were able to help; we appreciate you!



During November we discussed the many ways that we are thankful. Our annual Thanksgiving Feast was a potluck attended by family and friends. The children sang their blessing before the meal... so sweet! They proudly decorated the tables with their fall crafts. We hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving!



Bellville UMC
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*Changing Lives
By the Power of
Jesus Christ*

ADVENT CELEBRATION

All are invited to this year's BUMC Advent Celebration on Sunday, Dec 11 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm beginning in the Sanctuary.

Together we will gather in anticipation of our coming Savior. We will sing hymns, reflect upon scripture, decorate our Community Christmas Tree, and join in fellowship around a light meal of soup and salad.

We encourage each family to bring an ornament, representing their family, to be hung on our Community Christmas Tree located in the Welcome Center; during the service each family will get a chance to place their ornament on the tree. After the service, we will then move to the MAC to enjoy our potluck soup and salad meal.

Please contact Laura Stinnett, laura@bellvilleumc.org to let her know if you will be bringing a salad or soup.

