



Crawford Methodist Church

The Methodist Messenger

December 2025



Advent 2025

The season of Advent is our way of preparing for the birth of Jesus and is filled with God's miracles focused on four weeks before Christmas with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

The season of Advent also is contextualized by the future event of the second coming of Jesus Christ (Acts 7: 52).

It is easy to get our cast of characters mixed up like I did at our last confirmation class with John the Baptist and John the Apostle. My take away from that experience is that of the miracle birth of John the Baptist includes the story of the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us in his Prolog. So, we have one John writing about the other John.

Again, we have miracles all around us and the story of the birth of John the Baptist is a miracle birth story as well. So, we read that Jesus and John the Baptist were related through their mothers. Mary and Eliabeth were cousins. They were both pregnant at the same time and there is a famous passage in the Bible that connects them during that time of pregnancy and anticipation of the births of their two sons (Read Luke 1:44).

The miracle of the birth of John the Baptist is captured in scripture when the Angel Gaberial appeared to Eliabeth and her husband Zachariah. Elizabeth and Zacariah where too old to conceive a child but God granted them a miracle of fertility. Later John Baptizes Jesus (Luke 1:13).

I would offer this as a reflection for this Advent and Christmas, that we see the full story of God's miracles in the Holy Season and claim them as a part of our own salvation and personal miracles God has touched us with through Jesus the Christ.

By His Grace.

Kent

Our mission is to become a community of believers and followers of God; the Creator, Savior, and Holy Spirit. We gather to worship and become stewards and disciples who express our faith with others, nurture one another, and are in ministry with Christ.

How to reach us:

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Facebook page: Crawford, Texas FUMC

fumccrawford@gmail.com

Pastor's email: John.Kent.Berry@gmail.com

Pastor's phone: 254.722.9680

Youth Leader: Nathan Byers

Organist: Karen Crockett

Pianist: Vicki Berry

Senior Bells Director: Marda Raley

Youth Report

Hello Crawford Methodist Youth. Bundle up, winter is coming fast. Throughout this Christmas season, be blessed and remember the power of prayer is always available. Use it often.

Morning youth services are every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Youth afternoon services are on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 4 p.m. unless it falls on a holiday, then we will reschedule accordingly. Also, if there is any youth news I need to be made aware of (sporting events, birthdays, joys, or concerns) please send me an email, text, or call. If you would like to be added to the youth list for updates and youth activities, please let me know. See you at youth group, as always, bring a friend! --- Nathan "Nate" Byers, Youth Director

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:7

WEEKLY OFFERING TOTALS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Financial Goal</u>	<u>Offering Report</u>
11/2	\$2,930.48	\$2,140.00
11/9	\$2,930.48	\$2,240.00
11/16	\$2,930.48	\$2,355.00
11/23	\$2,930.48	\$982.00



Children's Class

Five Week Focus: *The Christmas Story* Lesson: The Birth and Celebration of Jesus

Week #1 Dec. 7th – Clayton
 #2 Dec. 14th – Jenny
 #3 Dec. 21st – Glenda
 #4 Dec. 28th – Kelli/Kaye

The Sunday School verse is: "I pray that God, who gives hope, will bless you with complete happiness and peace because of your faith. And may the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope." (Romans 15:13)

Confirmation Class will continue every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 3:00 p.m.



The church needs volunteers for Children's Sermon. We would like enough volunteers to only have you scheduled for Children's Sermon once every three months or more. The only requirement is to prepare and present a sermon. If you would like a prepared sermon for you, arrangements can be made. You may stand or sit while speaking to the children. If you are interested, please contact Suzie Devorsky by calling or texting 254-366-4119 or email srdevorsky@gmail.com.

SAFETY RESPONSE COMMITTEE

The church has created a Safety Response Committee. This committee is responsible for promoting and overseeing the church safety and security by conducting risk assessments, developing safety policies, implementing training, and responding to incidents to protect people and assets. Key responsibilities include creating a safety team, risk identification and mitigation, managing security awareness, coordinating emergency preparedness, and security strategy.

If you are interested in being part of the Safety Response Team and have a license to carry or any type of medical first aid training, please contact Suzie Devorsky by calling or texting 254-366-4119 or email srdevorsky@gmail.com.



**CRAWFORD
METHODIST
CHURCH**

Crawford, Texas ~ Founded 1880
Independent Methodist Church



Prayer Requests

Family of Ron Galt
Pam Hanson
Marilyn Judy
Travis Stanford
Megan, Willie, and Brooks
Try Ditto
Veronika Gusendorf (Patti Thomas's mother)
Bob Fuller
Family of Rob Dubois
Buffy Bayer
Angie Steinkamp
Family of Timothy Gerald
Pata Potter
Lynda King
Patrick Gardner
Family of Randy Clements
Elijah-broken arm (Zoey's friend)
Nancy Way
Wesley Ardoin
Tiffany Stadler
Chuck Raley
Ruby Powers
Joan Smith
Beverly Jones
Ronny Anderson (Amy's uncle)
Peggy Michaels (Waynette's aunt)
Rev. Kent Berry

Cheryl Isbell
Ernie Isbell
Mark Norwood
Nancy Jones
Riley Jenson
Hunter McFarland
Clem Kortis
Russel Hall
Joanne Smith
Berry Baize
Terry Taylor (surgery)
Debbie DeChaume
Linda Vandiver
Gene Clements
Shirley Bullard
Clarence Scott
Michael Schmalriede
Ukraine
Israel Gaza War
Eunice Boedeker (school counselor)
Kathy Hickey
Jennifer Coan
Ethan Valdez
Hannah Riley
Megan Ayers (DeChaume)
Emma Harper



Please stop by and say hello to our members and Crawford residents in nursing homes!!

Joyce Holmes
c/o Stoney Brook
Rm 210
151 Royal Dr.
Hewitt, TX 76643

Barbara Lovorn
c/o Stoney Brook
Rm 605
151 Royal Dr.
Hewitt, TX 76643

Due to popular demand, Coffee Plus will continue. We have a sign-up sheet in the hallway. We are asking that 2 people sign-up each week, one to make the coffee and one to bring food. Coffee Plus begins at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday morning, except 4th Sunday Potluck, in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!



December

3rd Marda Raley
5th Jackson Bayer
7th Janette Baldwin
9th Gail Bolin
15th Katie Coia
16th Jules Walpole
25th Jesus
27th Linda Leight
28th Tracy Love
28th Edie Snider
30th Rev. Kent Berry
31st Karen Crockett

15th Jeff and Angie Slaughter
31st Will and Micah Echols-Snider

CHRISTMAS! WORD SEARCH

P	S	I	V	H	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	T	R	E	E	P
E	U	A	G	W	C	O	M	L	M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	H
M	S	C	N	N	W	E	R	I	N	S	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S
P	E	O	A	T	I	E	E	I	E	B	Y	X	G	S	T	A	R	F
I	J	C	H	R	A	D	K	P	X	F	Z	E	N	E	H	V	A	W
A	F	J	H	U	O	C	D	A	S	Z	T	O	A	H	T	M	V	H
F	O	O	D	I	F	L	L	U	C	S	S	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H
E	H	A	W	G	M	T	S	A	P	S	N	W	N	L	E	L	N	H
G	T	I	T	P	O	N	Q	I	U	S	A	E	Y	E	L	V	E	S
O	R	V	I	A	H	S	E	T	N	S	A	M	E	Y	K	N	M	E
O	I	H	N	P	A	R	T	Y	L	G	R	M	T	U	R	I	E	L
R	B	N	S	G	O	L	E	L	U	Y	I	E	T	S	Q	B	S	B
C	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	V	N	E	N	K	S	I	O	I	U
S	Q	M	L	B	U	B	X	I	X	I	B	K	G	C	I	R	W	A
K	X	U	P	B	O	X	I	N	G	D	A	Y	R	N	A	R	H	B
M	I	N	C	E	P	I	E	S	H	P	L	O	D	U	R	R	H	C
U	R	E	P	A	P	G	N	I	P	P	A	R	W	F	T	Q	C	C
P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	W	T	N	E	V	D	A	G	Y	D	R
S	N	O	W	M	A	N	M	U	L	L	E	D	W	I	N	E	N	J

ADVENT	CHRISTMAS TREE	MISTLETOE	SCROOGE
ANGELS	CRACKERS	MULLED WINE	SHEPHERDS
BAUBLES	ELVES	PARTY	SNOWMAN
BELLS	FAMILY	PRESENTS	STAR
BIRTH OF JESUS	FOOD	QUEEN'S SPEECH	TINSEL
BOXING DAY	HOLIDAYS	REINDEER	TURKEY
CAROL SINGING	HOLLY	ROBIN	WISEMEN
CHIMNEY	IVY	RUDOLPH	WRAPPING
CHRISTMAS CAKE	MINCE PIES	SANTA CLAUS	PAPER
CHRISTMAS			YULE LOG
PUDDING			

December 2025						
◀ November						
January ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6pm Faith First Exercise	3	4 10am Men of Faith	5 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	6
7 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus Holy Communion	8	9 6pm Faith First Exercise	10 6pm Finance/Admin Meeting	11 10am Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry	12 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	13
14 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus 3pm Confirmation Class 4pm Youth afternoon service	15	16 6pm Faith First Exercise	17	18 10am Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry	19 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	20
21 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus	22	23 12pm Newsletter articles due 6pm Faith First Exercise	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28 Joy Jar Potluck 3pm Confirmation Class 4pm Youth afternoon service	29	30 6pm Faith First Exercise	31 New Year's Eve			