



Crawford Methodist Church

The Methodist Messenger

January 2026



January 2026

After the birth of Jesus, the great miracle of God becoming man, evil descends upon the Holy Family. King Herod sends his men to kill the infant Jesus. The wisemen (Magi) who came to offer worship and praise and carried gifts with them (gold, frankincense, myrrh) received a warning in a dream about Herod's intention to kill Jesus. The Wisemen took a different way home and avoided the evil they were confronted with. Then Herod ordered the Massacre of the Innocents, killing baby boys to protect his power. Another dream takes place with Joseph to escape to Egypt and stay there until Herod was dead.

It is amazing to me how such a revealing God could send His Son to us for the salvation of the world and then allow such tragic events to take place. The witness of the Bible in its stories speak to our collective memory and individual faith about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Our invitation to receive the forgiveness of sin and the restoration of our lives is a gift of God that keeps on giving. The mission of the Body of Christ, the Church, remains to spread this message of salvation regardless of the evil that may surround us at any given moment in life or in history.

I am very blessed to be your pastor and experience the remarkable opportunity over the years in front of us as a calling and great mutual ministry in Christ Jesus. We are joyfully united in our commitment to a servant and missional focus. My prayer is that we all continue to grow in God's grace and work together in our witness from our hearts and souls in our church, community, and world.

May Jesus bless your 2026 with the indelible imprint of God's saving grace found only in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Your Pastor,

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:

375 W. 6th Street | P.O. Box 209

Crawford, Texas 76638

Phone: 254.486.2361

Website: Crawfordmethodist.com

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 everyone, I hope you all had a safe and blessed Christmas. As you start this new year, and the busy season begins, take time to visit with loved ones, encourage others, and help those in need so others can see Christ working through you.

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>
11/30	\$2,930.48	\$3,661.88
12/7	\$2,930.48	\$1,479.00
12/14	\$2,930.48	\$1,880.00
12/21	\$2,930.48	\$5,010.00



Children's Class

We have children's Sunday School every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Join us for crafts, music, fellowship and bible teachings.

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.

Funny how...

Funny how a \$20 bill looks so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the market.

Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays 60 minutes of basketball.

Funny how long a couple of hours spent at church are, but how short they are when watching a movie.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.

Funny how we get thrilled when a baseball game goes into extra innings, but we complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.

Funny how hard it is to read a chapter in the bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a best-selling novel.

Funny how people want to get a front seat at any game or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church services.

Funny how we need 2 or 3 weeks advance notice to fit a church event into our schedule, but can adjust our schedule for other events at the last moment.

Funny how hard it is for people to learn a simple gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and repeat gossip.

Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.

Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they do not have to believe, or to think, or to say, or do anything.

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!



Prayer Requests

Little Holy Tent Celebration
Zach, Katie, and Walker Coia
Bill Taylor
Clinton DeChaume
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



January

3rd Karlie Collins
3rd Sarah Snider-Cunningham
5th Travis Slaughter
11th Paula Ward
13th Jenny Minnix
13th Chuck Raley
15th Will Cunningham
20th Jim Ditto
28th Kelli Byers
31st Trevor Hickok

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

January

BITTER
BLIZZARD
CALENDAR
CELEBRATION
FIREPLACE
FREEZING
FROST
FROSTY
HIBERNATION
HOLIDAY
HOT CHOCOLATE
ICICLE
INDOOR
JANUARY
MITTENS
MLK DAY
NEW YEAR
PARKA
POLAR
RESOLUTION
SCARF
SKIING
SLEDDING
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
SWEATER
WINTER

WORD SEARCH DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

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

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day	2 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	3
4 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus Holy Communion	5 11am Provide lunch to Crawford ISD Faculty and Staff	6 6pm Faith First Exercise	7	8 10am Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry	9 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	10
11 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus 3pm Confirmation Class 4pm Youth afternoon service	12	13 6pm Faith First Exercise	14 6pm Finance/Admin Meeting	15 10am Men of Faith	16 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	17
18 9:30 a.m. Coffee Plus 10:30am Annual all-church-meeting	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 6pm Faith First Exercise	21	22 10am Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry	23 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	24
25 Joy Jar Potluck 3pm Confirmation Class 4pm Youth afternoon service	26	27 12pm Newsletter articles due 6pm Faith First Exercise	28	29 10am Men of Faith	30 Rev. Kent is available for visitations	31