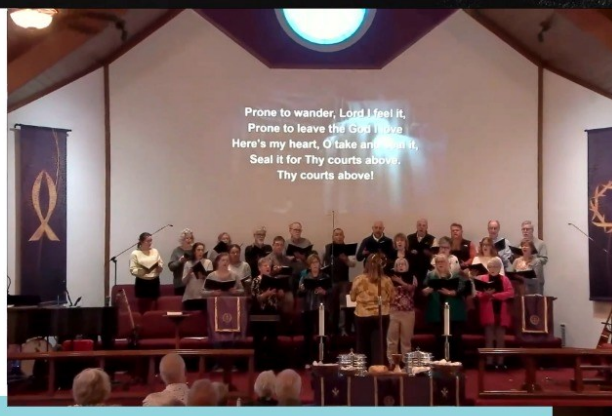
ST. MARK'S BETHANY

NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!



The People of Salt and Light -- Stay Golden

This Sunday at St. Mark's Bethany, Pastor Randy continues our Lenten series, "The People of Salt & Light" with a message titled **"Stay Golden."** In Matthew 7:12, Jesus gives us one of His most well-known teachings -- the Golden rule: *"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you."* In a world that often encourages us to look out for ourselves first, Jesus calls us to a better way -- a life marked by kindness, grace, and love toward others. Join us as we explore how this simple yet powerful teaching can shape the way we live, serve, and reflect Christ's light in our everyday lives.

Service times -

The Traditional service will begin at 9:30 am and the Modern service begins at 11:00 am.

For individuals unable to attend in person, we are pleased to offer live streaming for both services.

To watch the live streams, please join us at:

9:30 am Sunday morning 11:00 am Sunday morning

Sunday School Classes

We have classes for all ages and interests

CHILDREN

Nursery (Ages 0-3 yrs)	9:30 - 12;00
KidMin (Age 3 - 5th grade)	9:30 - 10:35
Wee Worship (Age 3- Kdgtn)	10:45 - 12:00

ADULT

- 8:30 am

New Life	Rm 18
Sonshine	Rm 17

- 9:30 am

Books of the Bible	Rm 17
Disciple Class	Rm 18
Young Adults	Rm 5

- 10:45 am

Faithbuilders	Rm 18
Good News Class	Choir Room
R.O.C.K.	Rm 19
Understanding God's Word	Rm 17

As many of our families enjoy Spring Break this week, our Wednesday night activities will take a brief break. There will be no regular programming for children, youth, or adults -- but choir will still meet as usual. We pray this week brings rest, renewal, and a little extra time together, and we can't wait to see everyone back soon!

St. Mark's Bethany is a place for children/youth to build a foundation of faith and equip kids to KNOW God, GROW to be like Him, and GO serve Him. At St. Mark's, students come first! Our summer interns must have a heart to serve our church and love working with children and youth!

Interns are people who are interested in exploring ministry in the local church. They are selected because of their demonstrated leadership among their peers and students, maturity in their Christian faith, and a desire to see others come to know Jesus Christ. This would be an unforgettable and valuable experience for someone with a heart for students and wants to be involved with them.

Our Local Missions

St. Mark's believes that mission work happens both across the globe and right here at home. ROC and Willow are two incredible ministries that are making a real difference in the lives of individuals and families in our own community.

Through your prayers, service and generosity, we are able to partner with these organizations as they share hope, meet practical needs, and reflect Christ's love in meaningful ways.

Willow Pregnancy Support is grateful for contributions of clothing for newborns to size 6, shoes up to size 13, and diapers in sizes 4, 5, and 6. They also welcome donations of bottles, bath wash, lotion, and Good Start Formula.

Willow has recently moved to a new location at 4107 N. Council in Bethany and continues to serve families in our community with care and compassion.

Your support truly makes a difference — thank you for your generosity!

ROC always appreciates our donations of canned and boxed food. Although they accept other types of contributions, our church focuses on providing food. Right now they especially need canned meats such as tuna or chicken, but any type of canned goods is welcome and appreciated. Please place your food donations in the Grocery Basket located in the narthex! Thank you for helping support this important ministry.

HOLY WEEK
Worship Services

Palm SUNDAY
March 29
Traditional - 9:30 AM
Modern - 11:00 AM

Maundy THURSDAY
April 2
7:00 PM

Good FRIDAY
April 3
7:00 PM

Easter SUNDAY
April 6
Sunrise Svc - 7:00 AM
(at Overholser)
Traditional - 9:30 AM
Modern - 11:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt -
Between Services
Approx. 10:40 AM

Holy Week invites us to slow down and remember the depth of God's love for us. Whether you join us for one service or the entire week, we hope you will take time to reflect, worship and celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Bring a friend, invite your family, and come experience the story of Easter with us.

Easter Lilies for Easter

St. Mark's sanctuary will be beautifully adorned with lilies as we celebrate the joy of Easter. You are invited to purchase an Easter lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one or friend helping to create a meaningful and lovely setting for our Easter worship.

The lilies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning and may be picked up following the Easter services.

The cost is $15 per lily, and a sign-up sheet is available on the counter in the Narthex.

Men's Bible Study
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

The St. Mark's Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in Room 17. This group offers a welcoming space for men to gather around God's Word, grow in faith, and encourage on another through thoughtful discussion and prayer. Bring your Bible and join the conversation as we explore Scripture together and seek how it speaks into our daily lives. Whether you've been part of the group before or are joining for the first time, all men are welcome.

For information, call Fred Dalton at 405-823-7264 or Rev. Allen Smith at 405-620-1861.

EASTER
EGG HUNT

Our Easter Egg Hunt is coming soon!
We found some of our plastic eggs so we only need individually wrapped candy, and -- if possible -- pre-filled Easter eggs.

You can drop off the eggs in the church office or in one of the buckets in the Narthex.

Thank you for helping us create a fun Easter for our St. Mark's kids!

Kigoma Women's Center Dedication Mission Trip

Plans are moving forward for the June 7, 2026 dedication of the Women's Center in Kigoma, Tanzania.

Eight participants will attend from St. Mark's and David and Becky Roman will be meeting them there. This trip is a meaningful opportunity to celebrate God's work through long-term mission partnerships and to stand alongside those serving faithfully.

The mission team will be leaving Oklahoma City on May 29th and will return on June 10th.

Please keep this mission opportunity, the team, and the Women's Center in your prayers.

A Double Blessing!

We joyfully celebrate the arrival of two precious babies, Maude Elizabeth and Marilyn Blake.

We give thanks for their lives and pray God's blessing on them as they grow, surrounded by love, grace and faith.

Maude Elizabeth Evans
January 28, 2026 8 lbs 6 oz, 21.75 in
Parents: Anna and Caleb Evans

Marilyn Blake Chappell
March 9, 2026 • 6 lbs 4 oz, 20.5 in
Parents: Lydia and Logan Chappell

"Every good and perfect gift is from above." - James 1:17

Blooming in God's Word

Our Elementary group had a wonderful time together last Wednesday as they explored Isaiah 40:6-8, learning that while flowers and grass may fade, **God's Word stands forever.**

To help bring the lesson to life, the children created colorful flowers using pipe cleaners -- a fun reminder of how things in our world don't last forever, but God's word DOES!

Through Scripture and creativity, the kids were encouraged to hold onto what is lasting and true. It was a joyful evening filled with learning, laughter, and some very beautiful blooms!

FLOWERS FADE ... GOD'S WORD STAYS

Little Hands, Big Creator!

God made the world... and we made our own creations!

Our Elementary and Wee Worship kids had a wonderful time learning about God's creation in a fun and hands-on way this past Sunday! As they explored how God made the world and everything in it, they were reminded that we serve a creative and loving God.

To bring the lesson to life, the children used air-dry clay to create their own animals--just like the ones God made! From tiny creatures to imaginative designs, each creation was a reflection of their creativity and joy.

It was a meaningful reminder that not only did God create the world, but He also created each of us with the ability to imagine, build, and create. What a gift!

On Wednesday night, March 25th, our youth will be joining the youth group at Crossroads Methodist Church for a fun Easter event, Race to the Tomb, inspired by John 20:4. The evening will include worship, dinner and an Easter scavenger hunt with games at their campus.

We plan to leave the church around 5:00 PM and travel together in the church vans. Students will enjoy a time of worship, dinner, and fellowship with other youth and should return to the church by 8:00 PM.

Please have your student bring a towel and possibly a change of clothes, along with Crocs or shoes they don't mind getting messy.

It will be a great evening of fun and fellowship!

Faith, Friends & Fun

Our youth enjoyed a fun time together this week, sharing laughs, conversations, and a few sweet treats along the way! Moments like these are more than just fun -- they're opportunities to build friendships, grow in community and strengthen the connections that make our youth group so special.

Youth Bible Reading Challenge
Don't Break the Streak!

The Youth Bible Reading Challenge is in full swing, and our students are working hard to keep their streaks alive! Each day they spend time in God's Word is another step toward building a strong, lasting habit of faith.

Students -- don't let that streak flame go out! Even just a few minutes in Scripture makes a diffeerence.

Parents, a quick "What did you read today?" can go a long way in encouraging consistency and meaningful conversations at home. Let's keep cheering them on as they grow, learn, and connect with God each day!

Learn Character. Learn Independence. Learn Truth.

KIDS NEED CAMP.

www.newliferanch.com

St. Mark's Children's Summer Camp SAVE THE DATES!!!

We're excited to share information about **two fantastic children's camps at New Life Ranch** this summer for kids who are **going into 2nd-6th grade!**

Junior Camp runs June 14-20 (Sunday-Saturday) with fun, high-energy theme "Superheroes."

Children's Camp Howdy will be July 12-15 (Sunday - Wednesday) and features a "Wild West" theme your kids are sure to love.

Camp at New Life Ranch is an incredible opportunity for children to grow in faith, build friendships, and experience God's love in a fun and encouraging environment.

Scholarships are available to help make camp possible for every child.

Youth Summer Camps 2026!!!

Check our your Youth Newsletter for links to sign up for camps!

Mark your calendars for our 2026 summer camps! These camps are wonderful opportunities for students to grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun in a Christ-centered environment.

DAYSPRING May 26 - 30

This is our high school camp for students entering 9th grade through graduating seniors. Camp will be held at New Life Ranch - Frontier Cove. The cost is $325 per student, and Strive funds may be used for camps and retreats!

YOUTH FORCE TULSA - June 14 - 19

DISCIPLE CAMP - July 22-25

We encourage families to start planning now and prayerfully consider which camp opportunities are right for their students.

Upcoming Events

March 18 - NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES
SPRING BREAK

6:30 Choir Rehearsal

March 24 - Men's Bible Study

March 26 - Kings & Queens Plus

March 26 - KidMin Meeting

March 26 - Finance Audit Meeting

March 29 - PALM SUNDAY

March 31 - Men's Bible Study

April 2 - Maundy Thursday

April 3 - Good Friday

April 5 - EASTER

Come pray with us -- whether you want to pray quietly alone, be prayed for, or join in intercessory prayer for others. Explore simple prayer tools, linger or come and go as you need, and experience the presence of God in a peaceful space.

Wednesdays 5:15-6:00 pm
Prayer Team meets 5:15 pm

COMMUNION SERVERS
March 22, 2026

Traditional: Bob and Lynne Kanary
Steve and Christie Couch

Modern: Larry and Bobbie Gaston
Christel and Ben Longoria

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
3/14/2026 8,405

Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru 3/14/26) 107,935
Expenses (thru 3/14/26) .. 129,245

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, March 15 Total 321

Traditional Worship 192
Modern Worship 52
Online Worship 77

Prayer Board

Brittaney (Good friend of Jan Greve's daughter)
Stacey Risinger
Paul Moon
Carolyn Grady
Carol Hall
Jared Fenton (SIL of Jeff & Dianna Davidson)
Kason (grandson of Cheryl Pavelko)
Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)
Norma McMurtry
Greg Tyler (friend of Loretta Wright)
Norma and Dan Boland
Tony Pellegrini
Evelyn Moore
Bill Underwood
Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
Sandy Rutherford
Barbara Hill
Elmer (Barbara's friend)
Lief Hill (son of a friend of Wayne Barnes)
Judy McMinn
Tiffany Montesano