

**Our Mission Statement** To build a family of believers who glorify God and help each other become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

## Lenten season begins

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. "The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a season of the Christian Year where Christians focus on simple living, prayer, and fasting in order to grow closer to God as a time of preparation for Easter and the celebration of our Risen Lord.



**Ash Wednesday Services**  
**February 14th 6:30 pm**

...Opportunities for discipleship for the Lenten season:

Sundays will focus on moving boldly to the throne of grace ... together.

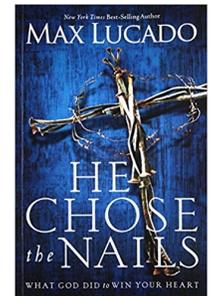
### **He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart** by Max Lucado

"The wood. The thorns. The nails. Christ's sacrifice has defined the very essence of mankind's faith for the past 2000 years. And now, Max Lucado invites you to examine the cross, contemplate its purpose, and celebrate its significance with *He Chose the Nails*." (6 weeks)

#### **Two options for He Chose the Nails:**

Start your day right! Join the Sunshine class on **Sunday Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am** in Room 17. We'll have the coffee going! All ages are invited! Contact: Beverly Ray, 789-1273 or [litraxfour@sbcglobal.net](mailto:litraxfour@sbcglobal.net)

New group! – begins on **Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 am** in Room 17. All ages are invited! Contact: Julia Bevers, 202-8097 or [beversjb@gmail.com](mailto:beversjb@gmail.com)

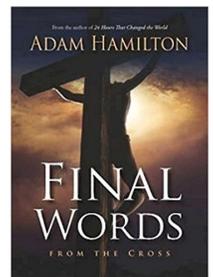


### **Final Words: From the Cross** by Adam Hamilton

"In life and in death, Jesus' words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, Jesus spoke seven 'final words' – statements that have much to teach us about Jesus, his Father, and ourselves."

(6 weeks)

Begins **Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm** in Room 18, beginning .  
Contact: Joey Pedigo, 720-7814 or [jepedigo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jepedigo@sbcglobal.net).



**Please sign up on the sheet posted on the counter outside the church office. If you forget to sign up, come anyway!**

Maundy Thursday will feature a living Lord's Supper.

Be watching for other means to draw close to Christ as we enter into this holy Lenten season this year.





# Second Winders

Second Winders will meet Thursday, February 8th. Our meal at noon will be a fish fry. The fish, fries, hushpuppies and preparation is being donated by Frank & Nadine Wilkerson.



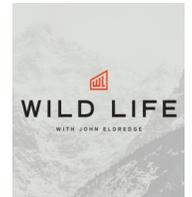
Those with last names beginning A- G, please bring a dessert. There is no charge for the meal.

There will be a trip on Thursday, February 15th. We will eat at 11 am at Florence's, a soul food restaurant on NE 23rd. After the meal we will go to the Oklahoma Railway Museum.



We will be doing a men's breakfast and looking at the a series called Wild Life with John Eldredge We have plans to meet February 10 & 24. We will have breakfast at 8, and should be finished around 9:15. There is no cost for the study, but donations taken to cover breakfast costs. Contact Brad Cromwell for more information.

*"So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world." 1 Peter 1:13*



## Dinner On Wednesday Night

Every Wednesday's from 5:30-6:15  
Great place to get fed and fellowship before programming.  
Everyone welcome.

Cost is only \$2. a person.

## Tonight! Pizza Night



**Next week special meal pasta dishes, salad, and dessert. Come enjoy prior to Ash Wednesday services.**



Next meeting March 4th, 5:30 pm. Everyone welcome to join us as we grow together and seek God in looking at who God is calling us to be at St. Mark's. This time is inspiring, challenging and exciting as we examine ourselves, our neighbors and our call!

## Adult Sunday School Discipleship Classes Schedule

8:15 am

Room 17 - Sonshine Class

Room 18 - New Life Class

9:30 am

Room 18 - Discipleship Class

Ascent Room - College Age

10:55 am

Room 5 - Promise Class

Room 17 - Faithbuilders Class

Room 19 - R.O.C.K. Class

Choir Room - Good News Class



# DADDY *daughter* DANCE



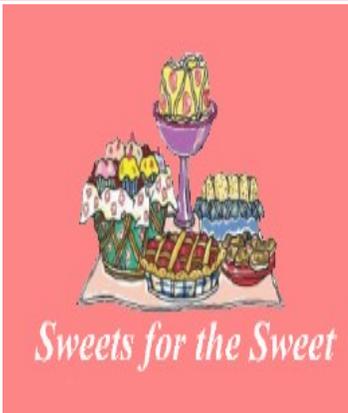
Saturday, February 17th, at 6:30 –8:00 pm St. Marks will be having our annual Daddy Daughter dance. This has always been a special event for dads, granddads, uncles, older brothers and others to honor daughters in the family with a special night out. The event will feature a DJ, snacks and great photo opportunities. A \$5 per escort donation is suggested (no additional cost for multiple dates!) Make your plans now to bring that special girl to this great memory making event.



## Pancake Breakfast Boy Scout Troop 553 February 17, 7:00 am - 11:00 am



Come out and support our troop. They will be serving chocolate chip, blueberry and traditional pancakes along with the side stuff. Tickets for this all you can eat event are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 and will be available on Scout Sunday, February 11th and also at the door.

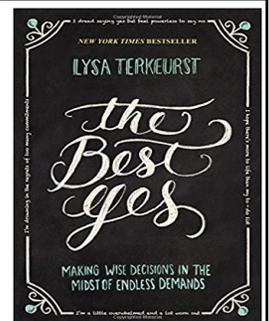


## “Sweets for the Sweet” Sunday, February 11, 2018

Again this year, St. Mark’s United Methodist Women will sponsor a “Sweets for the Sweet” bake sale. We are inviting **ALL** members of St. Mark’s who enjoy baking to participate, so fire up your stove/oven/microwave and share your favorite with us. Baked goods will be received at St. Mark’s Narthex on Saturday, February 11th from 9-11 AM. All proceeds from the sale will go to missions.

## St. Mark’s Women’s Bible Study

The next meeting for the Women’s Bible Study will be this Friday, February 2nd at Kayla Gannon’s home. We will continue on the study “The Best Yes” by Lysa Terkeurst. You are encouraged to join this group of women seeking to grow in Christ and in fellowship with one another. For more information contact Kayla Gannon.



# STUDENT MINISTRY

I hope and pray you are all far past flu season. My home has been ground zero the past week, but thankfully we are on the upswing. For those of you that have not experienced it, count your blessings and for those that have or are currently, get some rest. Rest seems to be the best medicine. We have some great stuff going on around St. Marks this week and I hope you can join us!

Wednesday, February 7th- We will have youth worship and small groups from 6:30-8pm in the youth room. There is a \$2 dinner served from 5:30-6:15pm and this week its pizza. Please RSVP your spot if interested in dinner.

Sunday, Feb 11th-Its Metro Worship time! We will be gathering with youth from all around the greater metro area to fellowship and praise and worship together. We will meet at church at 5:30pm to head to FUMC downtown and return no later than 8pm. The Bishop will be speaking and leading us in communion. This will be a great night of ministry please plan to join us.

Mission Mexico-We have 2 meetings left for before we depart on our mission to Rio Bravo, Mexico. If you have not obtained your passport yet, please do so starting today. Our next two meetings are must attend so please mark them down in your calendar. Feb. 25 and March 11, both will be after church and both will be at St. Marks with lunch provided. The February meeting is a paperwork meeting and all minors are encouraged to have both parents there if possible. Please let me know if you have any questions.

John Hollon  
Youth Pastor



Respite care will be this coming Friday, February 9th. Please pray for participants, families and volunteers.

The next Kings & Queens Special Needs Family Bible Study will be February 28th. If you know a family that this would be helpful for let them know of this opportunity.

The Kings and Queens special Easter gathering will be March 24th. Another great place to invite families this would be meaningful for.

Introducing

## GIVE+

A new way to give from your electronic device any time, anywhere.

Easy as 1, 2, 3, 4

- 1) Download the app
- 2) Find St Marks United Methodist Bethany
- 3) Create an account
- 4) Donate

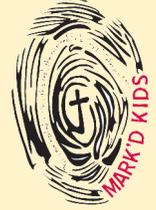




# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

**MISSION:** St. Mark's Children's Ministry exists to partner with parents to equip, train, and release children to be passionate disciples filled with the heart of Jesus to minister today!

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." ~Matthew 19:14



## SUNDAY MORNING:

Age Nursery - Kindergarten  
Time 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Age Kindergarten - 4th grade  
Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Beginning January 7, elementary children will be studying EPIPHANY - the unveiling of the incarnate Jesus Christ. We will be exploring different events from the life of Jesus, along with his promise to return again as clues to what our One True God is like and what he has in mind for his people - us.

February 4: Jesus' return

Children ages Kindergarten through 4th grade are invited to attend Sunday school from 9:30-Noon. At 9:30, the main lesson is presented, followed by small group time to apply the lesson to their personal lives. At 11:00, children are taken to the sanctuary to experience integrated worship with the rest of the congregation. After the children's moment is presented, Pastor Keith will then dismiss those children who wish to return to more children's Sunday school with Ms. Alicia, or they are welcome to stay with their parents in service for the remainder of the worship hour.

We value the presence of children in worship with the rest of the congregation, and encourage parents to model worship through singing, tithing, liturgy recitation, prayer, communion, and all parts of Sunday worship. The children will be learning the same topics that Pastor Keith preaches on, so families can go home discussing what they have all learned and will strive to live out in their lives. Blessings to our children and their families!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Alicia Schneider  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: [alicia@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:alicia@stmarksbethany.com)

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Sharon Hunt  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: [sharon@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:sharon@stmarksbethany.com)

## TeamKID

This week in TeamKID, we will learn about the Godly character trait of being AVAILABLE. Being available to love others, serve others, and give our gifts for the good of others is what Jesus did and is God's will for our lives as well. Just as Isaiah said to God, "Here I am, send me," so God wants that response from all of us as well. Memory verse is Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria. And you will even tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other." See you all tonight!

February 7 Be Available Memory verse

Acts 1:8

February 14 Be Honorable/Valentine Party MV

Romans 12:17

February 21 Be Dependable Memory verse

Luke 16:10

~Ms. Alicia



# Church Council Notes

Church Council met on Tuesday, January 30, 2018. Here is what happened:

Review of minutes and approval

Discussion of volunteer ministry allocation pie chart (also passed out in worship) and how it is helping to understand who we are. This led into discussion of some of the dreams and visions of the church as we seek to follow Christ. Small groups may be one key opportunity for achieving goals.

Discussion of safety concerns at church in light of recent developments. Two key areas: 1) natural disaster (particularly tornado) and 2) active shooters. Council reviewed current safeguards. The policy will be reviewed and revisited next meeting.

Discussion on 2018 budget. Council spent time looking over past years directions, pledges, line by line expenses, apportionments and long term expenses on horizon. Budget of \$590,255. was approved. It will be a challenge for each of us as we go through this year. Bottom line of Council was that "It's gonna work out by Faith!".

A proposal to update lights throughout the church was made to Council by Trustees. The cost should be met in savings in 1 to 1 1/2 years with long term savings being significant.

There was discussion about plans for Lent and Easter. 2-3 Lenten studies and other activities will be taking place between Ash Wednesday (February 15) and Easter (April 1).



## Facts and Figures

2018 Budget ..... 590,255  
 Rec'd toward Operating 1/28/2017 ..... 4,960  
Year to Date  
 Rec'd toward Operating 1/29/2018 ..... 36,731  
 Expenditures 1/28/2017 ..... 19,047

### Attendance

Sunday February 4, 2018

Worship ..... 243  
 Sunday School ..... 187

Ryan	Agyemang	Katrina	Harkey	Chase "Bear"	Nichols
Todd	Attalla	Bill	Harned	Fran	Nobles
Mike	Benton	Joy	Hicks	Danny	Payne
Dan	Boland	John	Hollon	Greg	Pinkerton
Darell	Brehm	Blake	Hull	Kelsey	Pope
Nikala	Bremmer	Beau	Jackson	Hunter	Reimers
Pat	Brock	Emerson	Jenks	Lori	Shenold
Asher	Cromwell	Judy	Knight	Irene	Stafford
Colt	Fletcher	Garrett	Mackey	Jackie	Swedlow
Ethan	Fletcher	Brock	McClaren	Mia	Teague
Mika	Foster	Lauren	McClellan	Betty	Underwood
Chris	Garner	Grant	Merhib	Brisa	Valdez
Janna	Greve	Jeff	Montesano	Quintavion	Washington
Red	Groves	Steve	Mullins	Grace	Watson
Juanita	Hancock				

## Prayer Box

Don & Fran Nobles  
 Don Wonderly  
 Tiffany Montesano  
 Will Kohn family  
 Genie Funk  
 Becky Horrigan  
 Vic Gammill

Kason Knutson & family  
 Kieth Ballard  
 Betty Miller  
 Beverly Clark  
 John Baumeister  
 Dave Moore