

# St. Mark's

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 21, 2022



Join us this Sunday for worship at St. Mark's. Randy will be continuing in his series The Lord and His Prayer. This week's message will be "Deliver Us From Evil" and will come from I Corinthians 10:16-23 & Psalm 121.

Traditional services are at 9:30 am and Modern services are at 10:55 am. All Sunday school classes will be back at their regular time and area. If you don't attend a class drop by one and try it out.

If you are not able to attend Worship services there will be a live streaming of worship. To watch the life stream, you can join us at 9:30 am Sunday morning at:

<https://youtu.be/HolInd9euGw>

### St. Mark's Pledge Drive for disaffiliation



*St. Mark's*  
BETHANY

During September, with the grace and help of God, I commit to move St. Mark's forward in its service & witness into the future as we disaffiliate.

I pledge to give \_\_\_\_\_ in September  
and a monthly gift of \_\_\_\_\_ if the loan is needed.

Love . Disciple . Worship . Serve .

For full details go to  
page 4 for letter  
from Mike Kilby,  
Finance Chairperson

### St. Mark's Votes to join the Global Methodist Church

On Sunday September 18th, St. Mark's had a church conference for the purpose of voting on joining the Global Methodist Church once we are disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. The motion was made by the church council to join and a vote was taken and passed 140 to 5. To learn more about the GBC go to: <https://globalmethodist.org/> To learn about basic beliefs you can go to: <https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/>

## Transitional Prayer Needs

September 20 - 27

Bible Reading :

Psalm 150, 2 Corinthians 5:17-19



Prayers for:

- Our transition team to have peace and clarity as they work through requirements to disaffiliate required by the conference.
- All our submitted documents to be approved by the conference
- Our ability to meet all future deadlines so we can be considered for disaffiliation at the October Conference.
- Each member to give financially as the Lord leads to meet our obligations to the conference
- Other churches in our state going through the same process - clarity and peace
- Our church as we share with others the forgiveness and reconciliation that can be found through Christ
- Our words and actions would glorify God

## Birthday Cards For Pat Wonderly

The family of Pat Wonderly is trying to give a special 90th birthday party for Pat. They would love to receive birthday cards to present to Pat. If you would be willing to write a Happy Birthday card to Pat please take a few minutes to do so and then send it to:

Pat Wonderly  
10913 Blue Stem West Rd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73162

Cards will need to be received by September 23rd

## RIGHT NOW MEDIA

Hopefully you have been taking advantage of the Right Now Media for personal, group and family opportunities offered by Right Now Media. But with COVID having us all at home and isolated more than usual we hope you take advantage of the service to use the videos, studies and other resources to use this time to strengthen your faith. If you have not signed up go to <https://www.righnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/stmarksbethany> and do so now.

## Wednesday Night Fall Programming

Fall programming is in full gear at St. Mark's. The prayer team has begun meeting at 6 pm in the prayer room. The choir will be having rehearsal starting at 6:30 pm. All other programming has also begun. Children, Youth and adult studies will follow our meal together which kicks off at 5:30 pm. Check below for more information about our adult Bible Studies

DAWN - Dinner & Worship Night  
Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

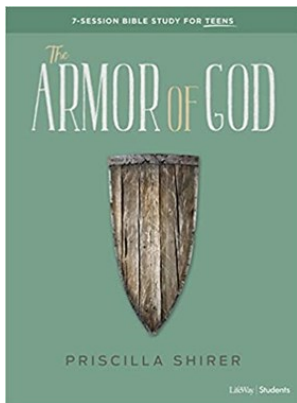
**Schedule:**

5:30-6:15 Meal (family style)  
6:00-6:30 Prayer Team  
6:15-7:30 Children's & Student Ministry  
6:15-7:30 Adult Bible Studies  
6:30-8:00 Choir Practice



## Armor of God - A Wednesday night study for adults

In the introduction to this study, Priscilla Shirer writes, "A very real enemy has been scheming against you, assaulting you, coming after your emotions, your mind, your future. Are you ready for him not to have victory anymore? Join us as we learn to arm ourselves and prepare to stand firm against his schemes. And, as we learn about what to wear to ensure victory, we're simultaneously going to engage in what to do to guarantee it. Each week, we'll employ the secret weapon that has been divinely authorized by God Himself to stop the devil in his tracks."



Beverly Ray and Casey Cassidy are leading the study.

If you are interested in this study, please get a guide entitled – Armor of God Teen Study Guide by Priscilla Shirer. They are available on Amazon for \$14.99 or \$18.99 depending on delivery date. Sign up on the church Counter

## Bible Study on the Letter to the Romans

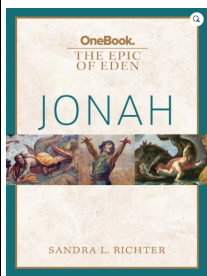
The book of Romans is considered by many to be the apostle Paul's greatest written work. In this One Book Daily-Weekly, noted New Testament scholar Dr. Ben Witherington III leads learners to grow in knowledge and faith as they begin to discover the enormous breadth and depth of the scripture contained therein. Over the course of twelve-weeks, this poignant study will guide students toward holy love, revealing more of Christ through deeper understanding.

This Study will also kick off on September 14th in room 18. Clayton Croy will lead this group and it should be full of wonderful content and discussion. If you would like a study guide, you can get one in the church office for \$15.

Sign up on the church counter and come be a part.



## New Bible Study - Wednesday 1:30 pm



Join us for 7 weeks as we prepare to get soaked in the life of Jonah and find out how this prophet's adventurously inspired by God book is not just for children. Real or fiction? Sign up to get your feet wet: sheet on the narthex counter; Starting Wednesday, September 7 at 1:30 in room 18

More Info Text: K. Fisher (405)833-5820;

e-mail [kfbirdfeeder@gmail.com](mailto:kfbirdfeeder@gmail.com).



# St. Mark's BETHANY

8140 N. W. 36<sup>th</sup>, Bethany, Oklahoma 73008

405-789-9033 [www.stmarksbethany.com](http://www.stmarksbethany.com)

## St. Mark's Mission Statement

To build a family  
of believers who  
glorify God and  
help each other  
become fully  
devoted follow-  
ers of Jesus Christ

Greetings St. Markians,

I am writing this letter for the purpose of addressing a very important "next step" in the church's disaffiliation process.

We have overwhelmingly agreed that disaffiliation is the right thing for St. Mark's. This decision has set us on a path that is well defined by the Oklahoma Conference. In October the conference will vote to ratify the decision we as a church have made. Ten days prior to that ratification vote St. Mark's must deposit the required funds in an escrow account. The amount that we must be prepared to pay is \$467,000.

As the finance committee chair it is my task to recommend the best way for St. Mark's to come up with the money. Thankfully we are a church that has no debt, a significant asset in our property and a faithful congregation that gives generously. With that being the case there is every confidence that we can have the money ready when the conference requires it in the first week of October.

Now comes the ask. There are different ways to secure the funds needed. But our goal, and our prayer, is not to heap debt on the church. Ideally, this vote to uphold our conservative/traditional views and ensure that St. Mark's future is secure within a denomination that will respect and support us, ideally, it has motivated us to do whatever we can, each of us individually, to get it done. So, we are embarking on a fund-raising campaign throughout the month of September to raise as much money as we can.

God is faithful. He has proven His faithfulness to St. Mark's and to me personally in so many ways. I have no doubt that He will provide exactly what we, the church, and what we individually need. Please pray about what God would have you do for this campaign.

This specific gift needs to be above and beyond regular giving. We need as many people as possible to make a one-time gift in the month of September. Donations need to be marked as "Disaffiliation Fund" donations.

It is the prayer of the finance chair and the finance committee that we would raise enough money in September that a loan is not needed. But if a loan is needed it would be our goal to pay off the loan as soon as possible. Along with the one-time donation please also consider committing to an additional monthly gift to be used for the purpose of paying off a loan. Any Amount will be helpful whether it be \$10 per month or \$100 per month. Receiving the commitment cards will help your finance committee set the terms of the loan *if a loan is needed*.

Thank you for reading this letter and prayerfully considering how you can help. May God clearly guide you as you seek His guidance, and may this effort be met with peace and comfort as we seek God's glory as a church.

Blessings to all,

Mike Kilby

Love . Disciple . Worship . Serve .



**STIR UP THE**  
*Fire!*  
**CONFERENCE**

**Save The Date**

An event we hope a lot of St.  
Markians are able to attend.

Learn More@ [Stirupthefire.com/about](http://Stirupthefire.com/about)

*Brent Taylor Live*  
*Spirit*  
@ TRUTH

A TRAINING AND RENEWAL CONFERENCE FOR  
THOSE WHO WANT TO REIGNITE GOD'S GIFT IN  
THEMSELVES, THEIR CHURCH & THEIR COMMUNITY.

*Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2022*  
Weatherford, Oklahoma

## Fall Festival

### Friday, October 28th

### Overholser Elementary

Mark your calendars now for an evening of ministry and fun as we host the Fall Festival at Overholser Elementary. All the fun games, food and activities will be taking place and we will need lots of volunteers to man everything. One thing we need to get people signing up for now is for Trunk or Treat. Decorate and load your car up with goodies and have a great time. If you would like to have a Trunk or Treat spot contact Mike Fisher or sign up on church counter.



## St. Mark's Garden Club

*He has made everything beautiful in His Time*  
Ecclesiastes 3:11



If you would like to be involved in keeping the gardens of St. Mark's maintained and beautiful, please contact Leslie Sipes at 405-850-8743

## Mark Your Calendars

December 18th, 7:30 to 1:30



## CHURCH CENTER

We need you to sign up if you haven't. Imagine being able to have the church calendar, directory, giving and financial records, access to latest news, live services and more available at one spot. On your phone, pad or computer you will always be up to date. This Sunday we will be giving a quick overview of it. To download the app just click on this link and it will walk you through step by step instructions. [Download Church Center](#) The whole process should take just a few minutes.



## Staff Emails

If you have questions please feel free to contact the staff.

Randy Wade [Revwade5@gmail.com](mailto:Revwade5@gmail.com)  
Becky Roman [becky@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:becky@stmarksbethany.com)  
Sharon Hunt [sharon@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:sharon@stmarksbethany.com)  
Kayla Gannon [kayla@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:kayla@stmarksbethany.com)

Bequer Gomez [bequer@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:bequer@stmarksbethany.com)  
Jackie Swedlow [finance@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:finance@stmarksbethany.com)  
Pat Morford [pat@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:pat@stmarksbethany.com)

## Facts and Figures

2022 Annual Budget	635,934
Rec'd toward Operating 9/18/2022	4778
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 9/15/22)	346,689
Expenses (thru 9/15/22)	379,876
Disaffiliation Fund Campaign	
Goal	386,000.00
Through 9/20/2022	250,095.50

### Attendance

Sunday, September 18	Total	276
Traditional (with children)...	152	
Modern	76	
Online	48	

## Prayer Box

Gary Wedtland (friend of Fred Dalton)	Judy McMinn
Patrick Clemenceau	Marty Croy
Cheryl Andrews	Patsy McDowell
Tiffany Montesano	Dianna & Jeff Davidson
Lavina Bonifield (DIL Margaret Bonifield)	Paula Galt
Ina Walker (sister Bobbi Pinkerton)	Esmeralda Manuel
Mike Kolar (son of Ruth Martyn)	Mary Desmukes
Danny Payne	Barbara Byrd (sister of Dot Lyon)
George Kloss	David Roman