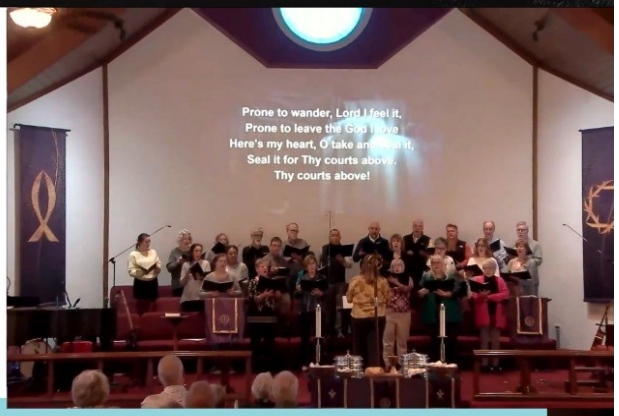
ST. MARK'S BETHANY

NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!



The People of Salt and Light -- Storing, Serving and Striving

This Sunday at St. Mark's Bethany, we continue our Lenten series, "The People of Salt & Light." Pastor Randy's message, **"Storing, Serving, and Striving,"** will explore Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:19-34, where we are reminded not to store up treasures on earth but to seek first the kingdom of God. Together we will reflect on what it means to trust God with our lives, serve faithfully, and live with our hearts set on what truly lasts. Join us as we worship, learn, and grow together in faith.

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

SENIOR 2026
Recognition Sunday

Each year at St. Mark's, we take time to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of our graduating seniors. If you have a student who will be graduating this spring and would like them to be recognized during our Senior Recognition service, please let Bequer know.

We would love to honor our seniors and celebrate this important milestone in their lives. Parents and seniors are asked to contact Beque so he can gather the information needed for the recognition.

Please reach out so we can be sure every graduating senior who wishes to participate is included in this special time of celebration with our church family.

ST. MARK'S BETHANY

We are hiring for paid children/youth 2026 summer internships now!

Apply Here!

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

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 REACHING OUR CITY

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.

Second Winders Meeting Thursday, March 12th

FAILTE! (Welcome)

Second Winder's will gather on Thursday, March 12, in Room 18. Cuairt (visiting) begins at 11:30 am.

Phil will begin announcements and devotion at 11:50 a.m., followed by the beile (meal) shortly after. In the month of March, join us as we savor the flavors of Irish-style food for a suggested $5.00 donation.

Our program will feature one of our own St. Mark's staff members. Come discover who it is – and how well you know them.

Phil will conclude the afternoon with door prizes.

We look forward to seeing everyone –failte roimh chach!

Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary

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.

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
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 EGG HUNT

Our Easter Egg Hunt is coming soon, and we need your help to make it a joyful celebration for our children!

We are collecting plastic Easter eggs, individually wrapped candy, and -- if possible -- pre-filled Easter eggs. Filled eggs are especially appreciated and help our volunteers tremendously.

For our younger children, we would also love some eggs filled with small non-candy items such as stickers, small toys, temporary tattoos, or other little treasures.

You can drop off the eggs in the church office. Thank you for helping us create a fun and meaningful Easter celebration for our St. Mark's kids!

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.

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.

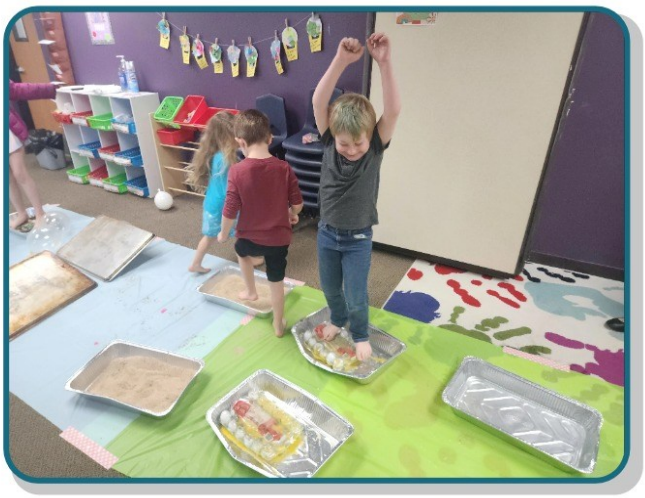
Eight participants will attend from St. Mark's and David and Becky Roman will be meeting them there. This trip is a meaningful opportunity to celebrate God's work through long-term mission partnerships and to stand alongside those serving faithfully.

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.

Rock, Sand, Splash & Squish!

Learning about faith through curiosity, creativity, and a little bit of squish!



Last Sunday our elementary class explored the lesson through a hands-on curiosity activity. As they walked across rocks, sand, balloons, eggs, and water, they discovered how different surfaces affect the way we move. This sensory activity helped the students engage with the lesson in a fun way encouraging curiosity and discovery.

Moments like these help our children connect faith with real experiences as they grow and learn together.

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!

Our Youth in Action

Our youth are actively involved in the life of the church--worshiping, learning together, and serving during communion. They are an important part of our church family.

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 11 - Wednesday Night Meal - PIZZA

5:15	Prayer
6:15	KidMin
6:15	Youth Ministry
6:30	Choir Rehearsal

March 12 - Second Winders Meeting

March 13 - Kings & Queens Kids

March 16-20 - Spring Break

March 16 - Wrapped in Love

March 18 - SPRC Mtg (Rescheduled)

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

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
3/07/2026 14,408

Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru 3/07/26) 99,530
Expenses (thru 3/07/26) .. 125,192

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, March 8 Total 369

Traditional Worship 197
Modern Worship 68
Online Worship 104

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 15, 2026

Traditional: Robin Stephenson-Bratcher and Penina Barrett
Sandy Kelly and Nichole Norberto

Modern: Schneider family

Prayer Board

Family of Kathi Wagner (Dot Lyon's daughter, Lory's best friend)
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