

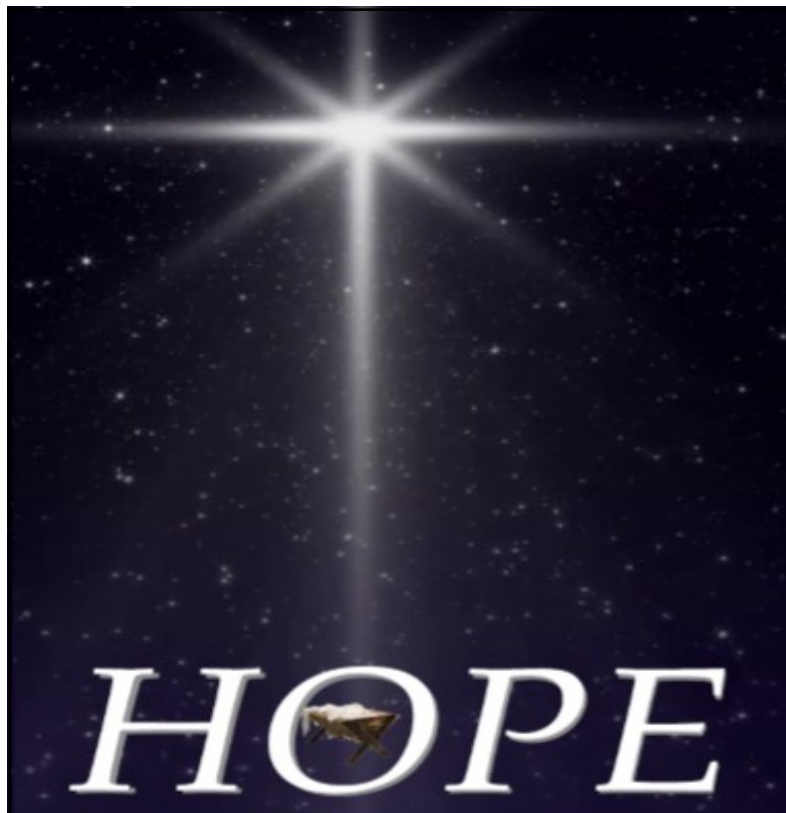
*St. Mark's*  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

To go to St. Mark's Home Page Click below  
[www.stmarksbethany.com](http://www.stmarksbethany.com)

December 19, 2018

## E-Messenger

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



*Messages of Hope*      *Advent 2018*

Join us this Sunday morning for Plaid Sunday as Pastor Keith shares about "Joy Catches Us in Unexpected Places and Times". Hope fulfilled leads to faith opportunities

**COMBINED  
WORSHIP**

**Sunday, December 30th,  
10 am**

## Plaid Sunday

December 23rd

**All Services**

Be festive and wear your  
favorite plaid

**CHRISTMAS  
EVE** CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICES  
5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

5:00 pm service will feature the worship band and the 7:00 pm service will feature the choir. A Christmas message of Hope will be given. A special ministry offering will be given. For details on where all funds from the offering will be going see page 5.

## NEW PEOPLE NEW PLACES

St. Mark's has been approved by the Oklahoma Conference to receive a grant from the New People New Places Committee. The grant will fund "**Comunidad**" (translated Community ) designed to reach out to the Hispanic community around us. It will include hiring a person to lead us in this area. The search has begun for the person who will create the bridges between where we are and where God would lead us. The kickoff will be in March of next year. This is our second grant from the New People New Places committee. Our Kings & Queens program was kicked off with the group also. Please be in prayer as this ministry begins to form. It's another great opportunity for us to connect with our neighbors and share the love of Christ.

## Advent/Christmas Dates

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| December 19 | Church/Choir/Children Caroling                    |
| December 20 | Last Day of CDO                                   |
| December 23 | 4th Sunday of Advent                              |
| December 23 | Plaid Sunday (wear plaid)                         |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight<br>Services 5:30 & 7:00 |
| December 30 | Combined Services                                 |



Thanks so much to all of you who made it possible for 36 kids and 10 families from Overholser to have a great Christmas.

**GREAT JOB!**

## Night of Caroling

On December 19th join the Choir, children, students and anyone else who loves to sing and share Christmas love to join us as we go caroling to home-bound members of the church. There will be a supper at 5:30 and then we will gather at 6 pm to head out. Contact Becky Roman, Alicia Schneider or Lydia Cressman for more details. We would love for you to join us.



## Dinner On Wednesday Night



We will have a special DOWN meal for the carolers this week. If you have participated this fall in DOWN your meal will cost you nothing as a thanks for your participation. Others who come are asked to give a love offering for the meal. The meal will be catered by Fazoli's

# STUDENT MINISTRY

I hope everyone is well! Here's what we've got going on in our ministry!

## Sundays

Sunday school is at 9:45 and Big Church is at 10:55!

## Wednesdays

December 19<sup>th</sup> – **CAROLING**

A lot of our church family is coming together for this event!

- 5:30 Meal (donations)
- We're gathering at 6
- We'll be traveling in the church vans

December 26<sup>th</sup> – No youth

**Winter Retreat** registration forms are out! (attached)

We're combining with New Covenant!

- Josh Coats will be our speaker!
- Jan. 11-13
- @ Canyon Camp.
- \$80 (partial or full scholarships are available)
- Bring friends!
- Registration is due Dec. 19

I'm praying for you all and for our ministry!

See you all at the Christmas Party tomorrow night!

**Lydia Cressman**

*Director of Student Ministries*

## GOD SIZED

During 2019, I commit with the grace and help of God, to know Jesus better and support the ministries of St. Mark's with my prayers, presence, gifts, service & witness.

The amount I intend to give during 2019 is:

yearly ☐

monthly ☐



St. Mark's  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

PRAYERS STUDY

PRESENCE WITNESS SERVICE

GIFTS

If you have not turned in your pledge card for 2019, please do so as soon as possible. We will be working on the budget for next year and need to be able to make a reasonable estimate of giving. Thank you for the love you continually

show towards, God, and the church through your tithes and offerings.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### SUNDAY MORNING:

Age Nursery - Kindergarten

Time 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Age 1st - 5th grade

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

9:30-10:45 "Agape National Park" – lessons on loving God and others. We will study a series of events from the Old Testament and New Testament that will guide us to learn that we should love God and love others. Some of the lessons included will be: Creation – Genesis 1:1-2:4, Moses' Last Journey – Numbers 27:12-23, Deut. 34, and Jesus is Born – Luke 2:1-20. Memory verse for this unit is Isaiah 40:31 "Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

11:00-11:15 - Children are brought to the sanctuary to participate in the opening worship songs, prayers, and other aspects of the service. Children are encouraged to come and participate in a children's sermon time, and following that, are welcome to sit with their parents or guardians for the remainder of the worship service time, or they are welcome to go back to children's area with Ms. Alicia.

11:15 - Noon - we will focus again on the lesson God is teaching us through the Bible story that was taught in the first hour. We will typically watch a short video to demonstrate the message, and participate in more activities which help the children understand the importance of living faithfully with God as their focus.

Elementary children's Sunday school is for children ages 1st grade through 5th grade. We do have a special needs ministry that is available upon request to help children with special needs during services.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

D.O.W.N. Dinner 5:30 - 6:15

Team Kid 6:15 - 7:30

### TeamKID, Going Vertical

Going Vertical is a term many of today's athletes use to indicate they jumped their highest and performed their best. We are using Going Vertical for that sports connection but also to imply the importance of growing closer to God (so a vertical connection) through studying His Word and in fellowship with others. Going Vertical is a step in helping kids grow closer to God - a kid-friendly study of God's Word. In a world where the Bible isn't revered as a holy book Going Vertical will help kids understand the message and power of God's Word. Issues such as the importance of the Bible, what makes it up, what's the message and how does it all fit together as well as enabling the kids to learn to read and grasp the Bible on their own. We hope you join us weekly on this adventure of GOING VERTICAL! Kick off is September 5th



December 19: Caroling with the choir

December 26: NO TeamKID

#### 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)





Our Christmas Eve offering will be shared among international ministries and Oklahoma United Methodist Ministries.



Internationally we will be helping Syrian refugees living in Jordanian refugee camps. The ministry is operated by the Christian Alliance Church of Mafraq. They run schools



for the children, shelters for the refugee families, employment training, job placement, basic food and furnishing distribution and efforts to evangelize a multi-cultural and multi-faith refugee population.

The Oklahoma missions support the efforts of the United Methodist Annual Conference to support foster home families, church start-ups, campus ministries, and some of the administrative costs of missions and ministries.



**Thank you for making a difference at home  
and around the world.**

# DECEMBER



|          |          |           |              |          |           |
|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Laura    | Brown    | Michael   | Fryman       | Draven   | Montesano |
| Mildred  | Brown    | Christine | Funk         | Evelyn   | Moore     |
| Grace    | Cassidy  | Don       | Greve        | Chris    | Pavelko   |
| Jamarion | Collins  | Donna     | Harder       | Kelli    | Pavelko   |
| Kirsten  | Collins  | Evylene   | Hickman      | Sharon   | Payne     |
| Don      | Deal     | Mary      | Holliday     | Megan    | Pedigo    |
| Mildred  | Dix      | Brian     | Kiespert     | Betty    | Pope      |
| Billy    | Fallon   | Christine | Kiespert     | Beverly  | Ray       |
| Jamie    | Fallon   | Michael   | Kilby        | Becky    | Roman     |
| Joelle   | Ferguson | J.B.      | King         | Robert   | Sample    |
| Josie    | Ferguson | Aubrey    | Lamb         | Steven   | Shenold   |
| Matt     | Ferguson | Donna     | Lautzenhiser | Jay      | Skinner   |
| Mike     | Fisher   | Ashley    | Lusk         | Sandy    | Tull      |
| Stevi    | Franklin | Jarrel    | Lyon         | Patricia | Vasquez   |
| Deloris  | Freeland | Avery     | Meisenburg   | Zuri     | Vinson    |
| Gabriel  | Freeland | Tate      | Miller       | Charlie  | Whetton   |

## Facts and Figures

2018 Budget ..... 590,255  
 Rec'd toward Operating 12/9/2018 ..... 29,804  
Year to Date  
 Rec'd toward Operating 12/9/2018 ..... 523,380  
 Expenditures 12/9/2018 ..... 517,834

### Attendance

Sunday, December 16

Worship ..... 264

Sunday School ..... 192

## Prayer Box

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Don & Fran Nobles      | Pat Wonderly & family |
| Kieth Ballard          | Beverly Clark         |
| Harold Kessler         | Dale & Jan Johnson    |
| Greg Spiser            | Mike Fisher           |
| Knutson/Pavelko family | Funk family           |
| Linda Moon             | Pat Wonderly family   |
| Mike Fisher & family   | Laurie Bucholtz       |
| Pam Barnes             | John Baumeister       |