

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



St. Markians staying connected through the pandemic

These past few months have taken away 'normal' in so many ways. One of the things that seems to be a major issue is the loss of being connected. Seeing one another on a regular basis, having a nice chat, just being around people who we have grown together with. The church is seeking to take a proactive role in that and so we are kicking off "Connections". It's goal is to challenge all of us to think about the people who we are in community with at the church and beyond and help all of us to reconnect with those we may have lost some connection with. Each week we will put out a simple challenge to everyone to make connections! It may be a phone call, text, email, zoom meeting, or other way. Pray about how God may use these challenges for you.

One thing to help us all will have the availability of getting in touch with people. It's amazing how quickly our church directory gets outdated, but the good news is that we are able to keep it up to date online and that is available to you. To get the updated directory call the church office for the passcode and then click on the link below to go to the online directory. Please contact church when you hear of changes that need to be made in the online directory.

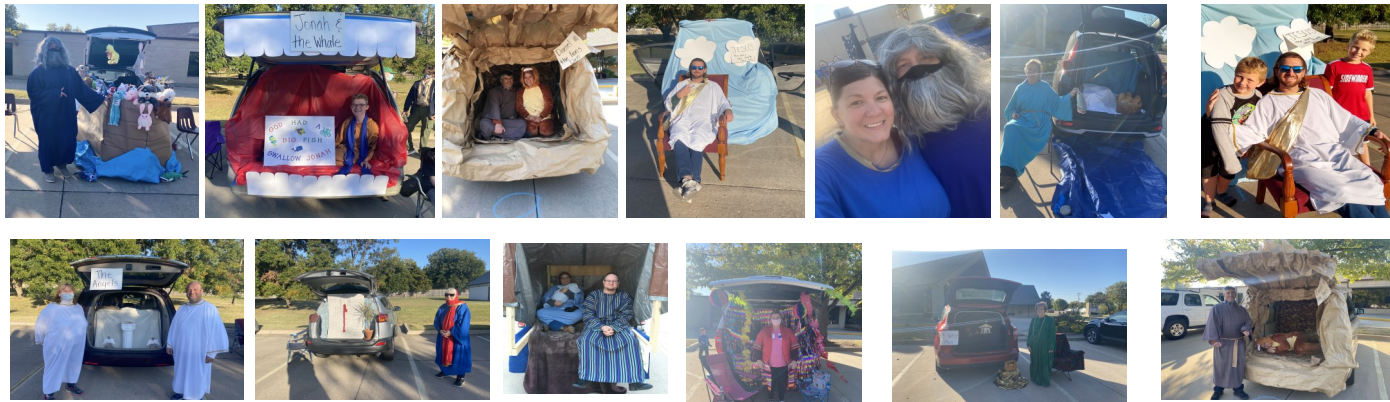
<https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/407016/st-marks-united-methodist-church>

If you have ideas for great ways of connecting please let us know and we will share those here also.

This week's challenge – Write a note to someone whom you haven't seen for a while, give them a word of encouragement and let them know you are thinking about them.

Doubling up – Include an empty note and encourage them to send a note out to someone else.

St. Mark's Trunk or Treat Bible Walk



St. Mark's to do Care Share with Overholser again this year.

Mission Opportunity Coming in November



St. Mark's will again participate in the Putnam City Care-Share Christmas Program which will benefit Overholser Elementary School. The counselor will identify families that need help providing gifts for their children. The first of November the names of the child and their "wish list" will be available. Unwrapped gifts will need to be brought back to the church the first week of December. We need you to start talking in your Sunday School classes and in your families about this mission opportunity. Last year we helped 36 children and I know the need will be greater this year due to

COVID. More information about how and when you can sign-up will be provided later. Right now we need all of you to start praying about how you can help.

Thank you,

Kathy Hamilton & Julia Bevers

Children's Ministry

Be watching your email for links to children's programming during this time to provide opportunities to stay in contact with one another through lessons and other concepts that Miss Sharon and Miss Alicia are working on. They have returned to doing a Sunday lesson each week and you won't want to miss these opportunities to grow with your children. Some will be interactive and others will just be lessons and updates. Hope you and your family take advantage of these.

Starting September 6th the children will be meeting again on Sunday mornings. They will meet during the live worship time and parents can drop their children off in the back and then pick them up following services. There is a protocol that will take place. Watch your email for all the details. If you need more information contact Sharon or Alicia.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:
Sharon Hunt
Phone: 789-9033
Email: sharon@stmarksbethany.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:
Alicia Schneider
Phone: 789-9033
Email: alicia@stmarksbethany.com

St. Mark's Food Pantry

The St. Mark's Food Pantry is changing hours to 1st and 3rd Sundays from 4pm - 5 pm. We appreciate everyone's help through the pandemic in helping to keep things supplied. THANKS for your patience. Currently the following items are needed in the pantry.

Cereal Oatmeal Crackers
Soup Peanut Butter Jelly
Canned goods are always welcome!



Holiday Help for Food Pantry Families Needed

The Food Pantry is also wanting to provide holiday meals for those they are serving. Currently 5 families are consistently being helped and our goal is to provide a basic holiday meal for these families for Thanks giving and Christmas. If your family, Sunday School class or other group you are a part of would like to make that happen please let us know. You can either go out and shop for all the items or supply the funds and let the Food Pantry team get it. Cost for a meal for a family is \$75. We will need the meals by the 3rd Sunday of November (Thanksgiving) and the 3rd Sunday of November (Christmas) so we can distribute to the families. Contact Kayla Gannon for more information.



OTHER NEWS NOTES

If you need to visit with someone

St. Mark's wants to extend an invitation to anyone feeling disengaged or just needing a friendly voice to share, pray and just hear a word of encouragement. If you would like to visit with someone who cares and wants to be there for you feel free to contact Jan Greve at (405) 641-5863 and she will help you make that connection.

Do you need a mask?

If you are in need of a mask for going out we have members who are making them for people at no cost. If you have a need please contact us and we will connect you with them.



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

the Corona virus 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. Once on take time to look at all the opportunities. We are even adding a St. Mark's channel to see original content from the church (go to libraries and click on St. Mark's United Methodist Church). During this time we will be adding content to this regularly. If you have questions contact the church office.

St. Mark's Social Media Links



Facebook.com

- search for "stmarksbethany"



Instagram.com

- search for "St. Mark's United Methodist Church"



Twitter.com

- search "@stmarksbethany"

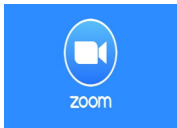


Youtube.com

- search St. Marks United Methodist Church, Bethany, OK



RightNow Media.com - "St. Mark's United Methodist Church"



Zoom.com - sign up and then watch for upcoming announcements on Bible Studies, Sunday School classes and other things you can join with other members of St. Mark's

St. Mark's Memorials Updated

During the coronavirus pandemic we have not been able to gather as usual for services that celebrate eternal life in Jesus Christ and the earthly lives of members of St Mark's. To help us remember, mourn, grief and celebrate we have created a page on our web site. We will be posting short biographies of those who are a part of St. Marks but for whom we have been unable to hold a service in the usual way. Several new memorials have been updated with a few more still coming.

The link is on the homepage or go directly to it at: <https://www.stmarksbethany.com/memorials-title>

Sources publicly published obituaries and the compilation of interviews with family and/or friends. Biographies will be posted as they are completed (more to come). Please be patient.

We hope this method of celebrating life and acknowledging our losses will be healing.

If you have comments or input please contact pastorkeith@stmarksbethany.com

Worship Services Continue

In addition to our continued support of online worship, we are excited to say the live service has been growing and going well. This week the Children will be meeting again in the back. If you would like to join us this coming Sunday for worship or for your children remember that safe spacing requirements result in a limited number of available seats. Thank you for following the steps below to make your reservation.

Before Saving Your Seat for the Service:

Are any of the following true for you or anyone in your party:

- Showing any flu-like symptoms
- A fever of 100.4 or higher in the past 14 days.
- Prolonged exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Any medical reason to think you should not be around others.

If you answered yes to any of these, we strongly encourage you to watch the services online rather than attend service. You can participate online by going to YouTube.com and searching for St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Bethany, OK, there you will find a link to the service on Sunday morning.

St. Mark's Charge Conference Set

The Charge Conference for St. Mark's will be held on Zoom this year on November 12th and 6:30 pm. If you would like to join the conference contact the church office for the Zoom information.

Facts and Figures

2020 Annual Budget620,218
Rec'd toward Operating 10/4/2020 13,849

YTD 2020

Rec'd toward Operating 10/4/2020.....365,103
Expenditures 10/4/2020 397,174

Attendance

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Sunday, November 1 | 221 |
| In Person | 77 |
| Online | 144 |

Prayer Box

Corona Virus issues

Don & Fran Nobles

Barbara Homer

Beverly Clark

Pam & Wayne Barnes

Matt Ferguson family

Jenny Shenold

John, Jason & Cole Talbot

Carolyn Rosenthal

Shaun (Sandy Kelley son)

Dianna Davidson

Pavelko & Knutson family

Sherry White

Jessica Moates

Shellie Wolf family

Letha Davis loss of sister

Paula Galt

Norma Boland

Carrie Welles

Nicora Clouse & family