

# St. Mark's

## BETHANY



September 27, 2023

Join us this Sunday for worship at St. Mark's. Pastor Randy is on vacation and we have a special guest speaker this week. You will want to come out and hear as Rev. Keith Cressman shares the gospel this coming Sunday in both services.

All Sunday school classes will be at their regular time and area. If you don't attend a class drop by one and try it out.

Sunday School classes:

8:30 New Life Rm. 18  
Sonshine Rm. 17

9:30 Books of the Bibles Rm 17,  
Disciple Rm. 18,  
Young Adults Rm. 5

10:45 Faithbuilders Rm 18,  
Good News Choir room,  
R.O.C.K Rm. 19



Traditional services are at 9:30 am and Modern services are at 10:55 am. 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](#) or at [10:55 Sunday morning](#).

## Wednesday Night!



5:00 pm



5:30 pm



6:00 pm



6:15 pm



6:15 pm



6:15 pm



6:30 pm

# Students Kick Off STRIVE DRIVE

STRIVE is the key fundraiser for student ministries

Stands for : **S**tudents **T**urning **R**esponsibility **I**nto **V**aluable **E**xperiences



This Sunday and next (Oct. 1st and 8th) students will be seeking your donations to help them on their mission trips, camps, retreats, college scholarships and so much more. When they have finished getting pledges they will have a community workday to celebrate their work. Then throughout the year the students will use the money they have collected to pay for their mission trips, etc. This is the only fundraiser they student ministry does for the year. We hope you support our students.

## HEYA!!! COOKING CLASS

**COME AND JOIN US MAKING  
MOLE ENCHILADAS**

WHILE LEARNING SOME BASIC CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH  
BRING \$5 AND ENJOY YOUR MEAL!



SEPTEMBER 28, 2023  
BARNETT HALL  
FROM 5:45-7:00 PM

EMAIL TO RSVP:  
BEQUER@STMARKSBETHANY.COM  
OR SIGN-UP ON THE CHURCH COUNTER

## Mark Your Calendars

### CDO Spaghetti Dinner



**Admit One**

**November 16, 6-7 PM**

## New Bible Study

**Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 pm in room 18 starting Oct. 10th**

**“Leap Over A Wall” By Eugene Peterson**

**Led by Rev. Larry Gaston**



LEAP OVER A WALL



EUGENE H. PETERSON



translator of • THE MESSAGE •



EARTHLY SPIRITUALITY FOR EVERYDAY CHRISTIANS

Leap Over a Wall is Eugene H. Peterson's vibrant, insightful, and heartfelt exploration of one of the Bible's most controversial figures: King David. Peterson beautifully elucidates the Old Testament's rich depictions of David's failures and victories, recapturing their excitement and immediacy to reveal David himself as a crucially human example of how we relate to God. Leap Over a Wall is a unique opportunity to reconnect with David, a man simultaneously admirable, soulful, and dark, and one of the most complex and vital characters of the greatest story ever written. Sign up on church center, on church center or use the QR Code here.





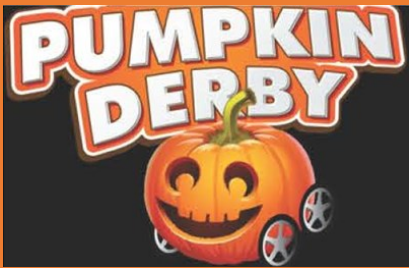
## Exciting New Outreach Ministry Wrapped in Love

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month at 10 am Room 18, come join us as we crochet and knit shawls and caps for newborns. We are partnering with Willow Pregnancy Support ministry. Along with a crocheting & knitting we will have a devotion and an amazing time of fellowship. This is open to all, young and old, male and female.



**Come Join us on October 16th!**

## Be a part of Pumpkin Derby 2023



### November 5, 2023

It's time to get excited about St. Mark's hosting another Pumpkin Derby. The event is open to all ages - kids, teens,



and adults. We will gather on November 5th to give those pumpkins one last hurrah! You can enter the race as a family, Bible study group, Sunday School class or individually to try and take home the grand prize Pumpkin Derby Championship Trophy. Awards for creative pumpkin decorations will be presented as well.

- ♦ The rules are simple—roll your pumpkin down the ramp and have fun making it! We want to see your coolest and fastest pumpkins.
- ♦ No electronics, NO flames, No explosives!
- ♦ Pumpkins must stay connected to whatever wheels you design
- ♦ Pumpkin may be hollowed out, (watch out for pre-race rotting)
- ♦ Total weight of race should not exceed 20 pounds and should not be more than 18 inches wide (TOTAL)



**Register on Church Center or Sign Up in the Narthex**

**We have 10 pumpkin kits for your racer. They are available for \$25.**





## New To St. Mark's?

On October 8th, following second service (around 12) come meet the staff and get to know one another and all the opportunities that are available for you at St. Mark's. If you are new to St. Mark's, we would encourage you to join us. For more information or to RSVP, contact the church office 405-789-9033 or email [pat@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:pat@stmarksbethany.com) You can also register by using the QR code

*Come & Go Prayer Time  
Wednesdays 5-6 pm*

*Be Prayed  
For/With*

*Pray Alone*

*October 5 Prayer Emphasis  
Church Staff*

*You are invited to spend time with God*

Wednesday night prayer time has been a powerful time of coming before God and being filled with his love and presence. We are introducing a new element to each Wednesday night starting October 5th. Each week the regular prayer time will continue but there will be an area set aside for a prayer emphasis. There will be materials and guides to assist you if you would like to spend some time in prayer for the special emphasis. On the 5th the emphasis will be the church staff. We hope you take care of all the opportunities on Wednesday as well as the emphasis. God works in the midst of our prayers!



*Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>*

Following second Service.  
Bring a dish and enjoy great  
food and fellowship together.





Sm  
kids  
NEWS



Sunday Mornings  
September

Kidmin

9:30 - 10:45 ages 4-5th grade



Nursery

9:30 - 12:00 ages 6mo - 4

Wee Worship

10:45 am ages 2 1/2-kindergarten



Bible Words

"God saw everything he had made. And it was very good."



Basic Truth:  
God made me.



Bottom Line:  
God made everything.



BETHLEHEM'S AMAZING MOVING PICTURES SHOW!

A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FOR KIDS

Contact:  
Kelly Jo Poss  
for more  
information



PUMPKIN DERBY  
NOV. 5TH

CONTACT: JACQUE SWENSON FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

RACING KITS AVAILABLE \$25

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

kidmin 0-2nd grade  
join us Oct. 7th  
9:30-11:30 am  
for fun @

We Rock The Spectrum  
KID'S GYM  
For All Kids - Y'all

Register on church center  
Parents come enjoy fellowship



Wee  
Worship

Opening on the First Sunday of  
the Month beginning October 1



Train up a child in the way he should go,  
even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6



# CHURCH CENTER

Over the next few weeks we are going to make a special effort to get people more familiar with Church Center. If you still haven't downloaded it or would like help doing so we will have a table available in the Narthex with people to assist you. We also want to get as many people as possible loading their information into the directory so we can all get to know one another better and can put out a updated directory.

Also, if you just want a little help navigating around church center and learning all of it's features feel free to drop by. Our goal is to have better communication in the church and there is no better means that we can find to do it than Church Center. Thanks!



COLLEGE AGE  
RETREAT

# RENEW



**January 4-6, 2024**  
**Camp Egan**  
**Early Bird Cost: \$60**  
**until September 1st**

...

**SIGN-UP  
HERE**



@RENEW\_\_RETREAT



## PC West Football Team Meal

We will feed the PC West Football Team twice this year. If you would like to help, contact Shab Jupiterwala.

We will be looking for lots of cookies to for each of the events. Thanks St. Mark's for how you always come through for the community.

Dates October 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>



## ROC Still Needs Your Help



REACHING OUR CITY  
COMPASSION • COMMUNITY • CHRIST

St. Mark's you have done a great job of meeting needs. We will keep the grocery cart set up in the narthex for your donations of canned and boxed food for a couple more weeks. Ramen noodles, pasta, any type of canned beans and cake mixes have been requested. Plastic and paper bags are always needed to pack the food. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

Thank you!



willow  
PREGNANCY SUPPORT

Now Collecting Donations for:

- Newborn clothes size 6 Gently used or new
- Shoes up to size 13
- Bath wash and Lotion
- Bottles
- Diapers size 4, 5, and 6
- Good Start Formula

Collection Box  
outside of Sanctuary  
near West Entry



Thank You!

# September 2023 Prayer Guide

## The Way to the Kingdom



### **Photo: John Wesley's prayer kneeler – The birthplace of Methodism.**

Each morning at 4 a.m., John Wesley would kneel in prayer in his London home. It was in this place that the fires of Methodism began. As we seek to reconnect to our Wesleyan heritage, it seems the best place we can begin is in prayer. Join us in our monthly prayer series: The Way to the Kingdom.

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### **The Way of Faith** **By Leah Hidde-Gregory**

This week, I went in to get my nails done. A thirty-year indulgence that my husband doesn't quite understand. My nail tech, Carrie, explained to me that she could not do my nails next time, because she was headed back to Vietnam to see her parents and family. During our conversation, she explained that she was to be baptized and join her church when she returned, but that she needed to go home and tell her family, who are devoted Buddhist, that she was converting to Christianity. I could tell in her eyes that this was going to be very hard for her to do, but she also had this amazing joy that bubbled up when she talked about Christ. She said, "Jesus is my everything. He has completely changed my life. We talk together every night before I go to sleep." Her faith was so pure and sweet.

Carrie then explained how she had come to know Christ. She told me that Jesus had literally come to her. She was in a superstore parking lot, when a man with a gun came up behind her. He put the gun to her head and took her backpack. Carrie said she felt as though her life was about to be over. A bumper sticker across the way from where she was standing had the words, "Jesus is the Way." Something in her cried out to Jesus in that moment. Immediately, she felt Christ come beside her and wrap his arm around her. The man who was robbing her, dropped the backpack and said, I am so sorry and took off running. Carrie said from that day on, she knew Jesus was real and she wanted to find out about the "way" on that bumper sticker.

When I asked how she found her way to a local church, she said, "Because they have that giant Jesus out front, and I want to always be near Jesus." Carrie told me about a couple of the sins that she had truly wrestled with her whole life and how Jesus had taken them away from her. She said, "I am a new person. I have a new life. I owe Jesus everything."

Whether we were born into the Christian faith or experienced a radical conversion like my friend, the way of faith starts with awakening to our need, surrender of ourselves, and deep innate desire to be with Jesus. The way of faith means relying on God's strength in our weakness and walking in the way of Christ

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**A Suggested Pattern of Prayer**

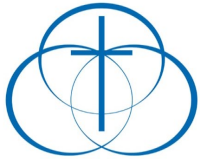
As you pray through the following prayer points, invite the presence of the Lord into your time of prayer. Each day's prompt has a Scripture reference for you to pray through. As you pray also allow time to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. When you have prayed through the Scripture and prayer point, you may be led to add your own prayers. Pray and consider what action steps you might take in response to the Lord's leading. Repeat this prayer pattern weekly for the month.

**Sunday:** Pray for victims of violent crime and their families. (Hebrews 11:4)

**Monday:** Pray for those who are passionately seeking the way of Christ. (Hebrews 11:6)

**Tuesday:** Pray for those who chose the way of faith in the face of family and worldly pressures. (Hebrews 11:7)

**Wednesday:** Pray for those who want nothing more than to be obedient to Christ but struggle along the way. (Hebrews 11:9)



**GLOBAL**  
METHODIST CHURCH

**Thursday:** Pray for those who seek the better way. (Hebrews 11:16)

**Friday:** Pray for those who are called to seemingly impossible tasks. May they trust that God will provide. (Hebrews 11:17)

**Saturday:** Pray for those who are disgraced for the sake of Christ. (Hebrews 11:26)

*"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)*

*Rev. Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory is the President Pro Tem of the Mid-Texas Conference, after serving as chairwoman of the Transitional Leadership Council of the Global Methodist Church. She served 30 years in the United Methodist Church in congregations ranging from 20 to 8,000 in worship attendance. She is a Denman Evangelism award winner.*

## Kitchen needs your empty plastic containers!

If you have extra leftover containers the kitchen is in need of them. We go through a lot of them for storage and to give to families as leftovers, etc. cool whip, cottage cheese, etc. containers are used all the time and we are running low at this time. You can just drop them off in the kitchen anytime. Thanks!!



### Facts and Figures

2023 Annual Budget	601,800
Rec'd toward Operating 9/16/2023	17,147
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 9/11/23)	386,569
Expenses (thru 9/11/23)	384,683

#### Attendance

Sunday, September 24 Total	291
Traditional Worship	150
Modern Worship	58
Online Worship	83

### Prayer Box

Esther Withers  
Norma McMurtry  
Kristen & Mike  
Barbara Hill  
Winn & Ginger Lusk  
Diana & Jeff Davidson  
Judy McMinn  
Jane Foreman  
Earl Moore  
Dan & Norma Boland  
Mary Desmukes  
Cheryl Andrews  
Paula Galt  
Roger Pautsch

Dorothy Sipes  
Cindy Wilkerson (DIL Frank & Nadine)  
Curtis Scott (SIL of Jim Brown)  
Jeff & Tiffany Montesano  
Geo Montesano  
Carol Hall  
Joey Pedigo  
Mary Jane Svejkovsky  
Beth Bidne  
Rob Ivins (friend of Dennis & Robin Bratcher)  
Brittany Ivins (friend of Dennis & Robin Bratcher)  
Roger Hahn  
Christina Baisden  
Kathy Miller  
Kamden Goff  
Judy Knight