

St. Mark's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 31, 2022



Join us this Sunday for a combined worship at St. Mark's. Randy will be continuing in his new series "The Lord and His Prayer". This week's message will be "They Kingdom Come" and will come from Isaiah 67:17-25

Services will be at 10:00.

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 10:00 am Sunday morning at: <https://youtu.be/2uDW9GxNvzc>

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 7 for letter
from Mike Kilby,
Finance Chairperson

ST. MARK'S PICNIC

BURGERS AND HOT-DOGS -BOUNCE HOUSES- DUNK TANK- MUSIC -GAMES

COME JOIN US!

SEPTEMBER 11 FROM 5-7PM



**BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE
COME DUNK YOUR FAVORITE
STAFF MEMBER!**



Safe Sanctuary—Leadership Training

With School getting started and with programming beginning to get planned for the Fall St. Mark's is looking at how to make ministry the best and safest we can for all. We will be making some changes in the way we train and do security checks. Over the next few weeks all those who are in ministry to children, youth and vulnerable adults will be receiving new material that we will have all staff and volunteers go through. On top of that you may want to check with your team leaders for any additional training that may be going on. The Children, CDO, Kings and Queens will be having a specialized training on August 28th at noon and August 31st at 6 pm. We will be using a company called Ministry Safe as a tool for training also. They have decades of experience training and provide a sound ministry basis. Be watching and let's make St. Mark's an even safer and more



Transitional Prayer Team

With all the conversation and activity going on around the transitions taking place the Church Council felt that this was a critical time for us as a church to set aside a time of prayer. A team has been put together to help us all join together in prayer as we seek God's wisdom during this time. Each Monday a Prayer guide will be available listing specific areas for us to be in prayer together in. It will be sent to the church email and be available on the Church Center app also. If you are not getting it please let the office know so we can make sure you are connected. Below is a copy of the third weeks guidelines. St. Markians believe in the power of prayer and during this time we expect to see God move.



St. Marks is in a time of transition as we consider disaffiliating. Our Church Council has put together a team to oversee a time of emphasis on prayer over the next few weeks seeking God in prayer and reflection. Over the next few weeks we ask that you pray daily for our church as we journey through this time that God has called us to. Each Monday we will send out some areas of emphasis for prayer.

Transitional Prayer Needs August 28 – September 5

Bible Reading : Psalm 100

Prayers for:

our transitional team to have clarity as they work through all the requirements to disaffiliate required by the conference

each member to give financially as the Lord leads to meet our obligations to the conference

each member to serve joyfully and with thanksgiving as we are needed

our church to have increased opportunities for outreach and discipleship



Second Winders Returns

After a summer hiatus Second Winders will kick off their monthly meeting on September 8th at noon. The meal will be Indian Tacos followed by a program celebrating Native American Culture. Following the meal there will be an optional extended times for those who would like to play games and have some fellowship. Everyone is welcome

to second winders.

Then on September 19th, they will take a road trip to the First American Museum. You can sign up for that trip on the office counter. Come join us.



Wednesday Night Fall Programming Gearing up

Fall programming is ramping up 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. On September 7th, all other programming will begin. Children, Youth and adult studies will follow our meal together which kicks off at 5:30 pm. Check below for adult Bible Studies

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

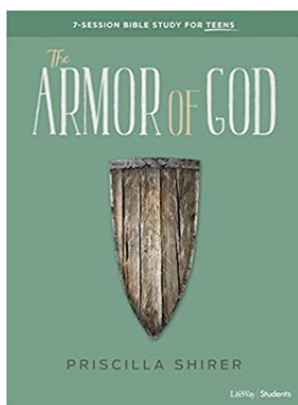
Schedule:

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."



This study will kick off on September 7th following dinner. Beverly Ray and Casey Cassidy will be leading the study.

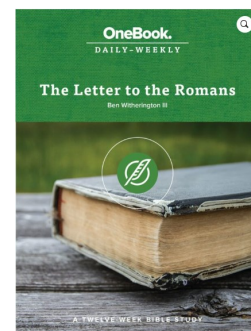
If you are interested in this study, please get a guide entitled – Armor of God Teen Study Guide by Priscilla Shirer. They are available on Amazon for \$14.99 or \$18.99 depending on delivery date. Sign up on the church Counter

Bible Study on the Letter to the Romans

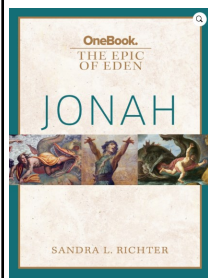
The book of Romans is considered by many to be the apostle Paul's greatest written work. In this One Book Daily-Weekly, noted New Testament scholar Dr. Ben Witherington III leads learners to grow in knowledge and faith as they begin to discover the enormous breadth and depth of the scripture contained 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 7th 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;

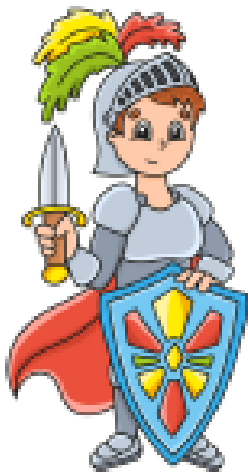
Starting Wednesday, September 7 at 1:30 in room 18

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

e-mail kbirdfeeder@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wed. Aug 31st @ 6:30 pm - Safe Sanctuary Volunteer Training
- Sunday, Sept 4th - Labor Day One service @ 10 am
- No KidMin, Wee Worship, or Nursery
- Wed. Sept 7th - Wednesday night programming resumes; Dinner at 5:30 pm & Classes at 6:15 pm



We will be learning about the Armor of God. Beverly Ray and Casey Cassidy will be working on a corresponding lesson for Adults.



- Sunday, Sept 11th - New series - The Fruit of the Spirit
- Saturday, Sept 17th, 9 am - 3 pm - Bible Bootcamp

Kids in 3rd thru 5th grade. Registration coming soon.



KIDMIN NEWS

Staying Up to Date with the Latest Happenings





St. Mark's

BETHANY

8140 N. W. 36th, Bethany, Oklahoma 73008

405-789-9033 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

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

We have been in contact with the Willow Pregnancy Center here in Bethany and they need items to help young women who are pregnant. The items the need right now are:

Winter Coats –newborn to 8

- Winter Clothes – newborn to 6
- Baby Carriers & Bouncy Chairs
- Toys & Books

Blankets

Boy's Shoes Size 2 – 8
Bankers Boxes

You can learn more about the great work they are involved with at:
willowpregnancy.org

willow
PREGNANCY SUPPORT

GREAT JOB ST. MARKIANS

What a great job you did of meeting a need. We were able to raise over \$5200 to help our missionary JeDene Reeder in getting some much needed transportation.



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



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
 Becky Roman becky@stmarksbethany.com
 Sharon Hunt sharon@stmarksbethany.com
 Kayla Gannon kayla@stmarksbethany.com

Bequer Gomez bequer@stmarksbethany.com
 Jackie Swedlow finance@stmarksbethany.com
 Pat Morford pat@stmarksbethany.com

Facts and Figures

2022 Annual Budget	635,934
Rec'd toward Operating 8/21/2022	11,028
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 8/7/22)	285,773
Expenses (thru 8/7/22)	318,496
Attendance	
Sunday, August 28 Total	284
Traditional Service	146
Modern Service	76
Online	62

Prayer Box

Jane Foreman	Marty Croy
Ronnie Williams (Hickman's friend)	Patsy McDowell
Cheryl Andrews	Dianna & Jeff Davidson
Tiffany Montesano	Paula Galt
Lavina Bonifield (DIL Margaret Bonifield)	Kelli (daughter Cheryl Pavelko)
Ina Walker (sister Bobbi Pinkerton)	Esmeralda Manuel
Mike Kolar (son of Ruth Martyn)	Mary Desmukes
	Jeremy Kinsey (Dot Lyon nephew)