



ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

The People of Salt and Light -- Hearers and Doers

As we continue our *People of Salt and Light* series this Palm Sunday, Jesus invites us to consider what it truly means to follow Him. In Matthew 7:24-27, we hear the familiar image of building our lives on a firm foundation--not just by hearing His words, but by putting them into practice. Join us this Sunday as we reflect on what it looks like to be both "Hearers and Doers" of the Word, and how a life rooted in Christ can stand strong through every storm.

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



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.

SAVE
The
DATE

SMBW
Arts &
Crafts Fair

Requests for applications for the 2026 Craft Fair are already coming in! Applications are available at St. Mark's! Be sure to get yours and get your booth reserved!

Not having a booth???
Mark the date ...
Saturday, October 3rd!

You don't want to miss it!!!



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 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 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.

Waving Palms this Sunday

Children will be participating in the waving of the branches on Palm Sunday (this Sunday, March 29) in both services.

Please have your children ready to leave the children's area by 9:25 am for the first service and 10:55 am for the second service.

Nursery through fifth grade will participate. Parents of our littlest ones, please walk and wave with us.



Have Extra Canning Jars?

Do you have any extra canning jars you're not using? One of our St. Mark's Bethany Women lovingly makes homemade jelly for the craft fair and would appreciate any clean, empty canning jars you'd be willing to donate. You may drop them off by the church office -- thank you for supporting her ministry!

Monday Morning Gardening

Would you enjoy helping keep our church grounds beautiful?

Mondays, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, Leslie Sipes will be in the garden.

Come join us for planting, watering, weeding, or whatever is needed. Every helping hand makes a difference.


Come when you can. No commitment required.



Church Construction Update from Pastor Randy

We are about to see a lot of changes to the building. The last month has been about getting the foundational parts done - plumbing, electrical, HVAC, ect . . . Now we are about to do things that will look more like "progress". In the next few weeks the sheet rock will go up, painting will commence, and the bathrooms will take shape. Our only delay at this point is with the mezzanine. We won't have the steel for that part of the project until mid-April, so we will have to wait a little while for that. But we are making good progress and, so far, we've had no serious setbacks.

We are one year in and everyone should be receiving a letter updating their giving to "Taking Root: A Place to Grow" very soon. Giving has slowed down in 2026, but we had a great year of fundraising in 2025 and we currently stand at \$1,094,607.



Capital Campaign Update

106 Pledges	1,318,719
Rec'd toward Pledges 03/24/2026	1,094,607

Praise God and great work!

Randy

St. Mark's Bethany Women Meeting April 13

St. Mark's Bethany Women will meet on Monday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 18. Come learn, be informed, and enjoy fellowship together.



All women are welcome!

Second Winders' Meeting April 9

Second Winders will meet on Thursday, April 9, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 18 gathering with the meal at noon and the program to follow.

Come enjoy food, fun and fellowship together.



St. Mark's Bethany SAFE CHURCH Policy



At St. Mark's Bethany, we prioritize the safety and well-being of our children and youth. In accordance with our commitment to maintaining a secure environment, we have established the following access policy for the children's programming areas:

Authorized Access:

Only children, parents, or approved caregivers are permitted to enter or traverse through the designated children's areas during the following hours:

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Wednesday: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Restricted Access:

For the safety of our children, we kindly ask that all other individuals refrain from entering or passing through these areas during the specified hours, except in cases of emergency or to access emergency exits.

This policy aligns with St. Mark's Procedure for the Implementation of the Safety Policy for Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults (Refer to Paragraph 2.c.).

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in ensuring a secure environment for our children.

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
(at Overholser)
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.

For your convenience, a map for the Sunrise Service is provided on the final page of the newsletter today!

EASTER LILIES FOR EASTER



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 in the Narthex.

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

Preparations are underway for the June 7, 2026 dedication of the Women's Center in Kigoma, Tanzania. Travel plans are in place, and the team is actively preparing for this meaningful journey.



Eight participants will attend from St. Mark's and David and Becky Roman will be meeting them there. As they gather supplies and make final preparations, this trip continues to be a powerful opportunity to celebrate God's work through long-term mission partnerships and to stand alongside those serving faithfully.

The mission team will depart from Oklahoma City on May 29th and return on June 10th.

Please continue to keep this mission opportunity, the team, and the Women's Center in your prayers.



EASTER EGG HUNT

What a great response to our Easter Egg preparations last Sunday! Thank you for jumping in to help!

We still have some eggs and candy available if you'd like to join in.

Pick some up this week and return them filled as we get ready for the Easter Egg Hunt between services on April 5th.

Back to the Garden



Joyfully exploring God's world!



*On a garden scavenger hunt --
discovering God's creation!*



*Learning and growing together
in God's garden!*

This week in Wee Worship, our children stepped back into the Garden of Eden to learn about the difference between temptation and sin.

They took their lesson outside for a fun scavenger hunt, searching for garden items and enjoying God's creation.

It was a hands-on way to learn, explore, and grow together!

RACE TO THE TOMB

JOHN 20:4

DON'T MISS IT! Tonight, March 25th, our youth will be joining the youth group at Crossroads Methodist church for an Easter event inspired by John 20:4. The evening will include worship, dinner and an Easter scavenger hunt with games at their campus.

The plan is to leave the church around 5:00 PM and travel together in the church vans. Students will enjoy worship, dinner, and fellowship there and should return to St. Mark's around 8:00 PM.

Be sure to bring a towel and possibly a change of clothes, along with Crocs or shoes they don't mind getting messy.

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 difference.

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 out 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 25 - Wednesday Night Meal - SPAGHETTI

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

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

April 6 - Church Office Closed

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 29, 2026

Traditional: Trish Patton and Cheryl Davis
 Bill Underwood and Heather Strickler

Modern: Marty and Clay Croy

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155
 Rec'd toward Operating
 3/21/2026 7,173

Year to Date 2026
 Rec'd toward offering
 (thru 3/21/26) 115,108
 Expenses (thru 3/21/26) .. 152,940

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, March 22 Total 345
 Traditional Worship 204
 Modern Worship 51
 Online Worship 90



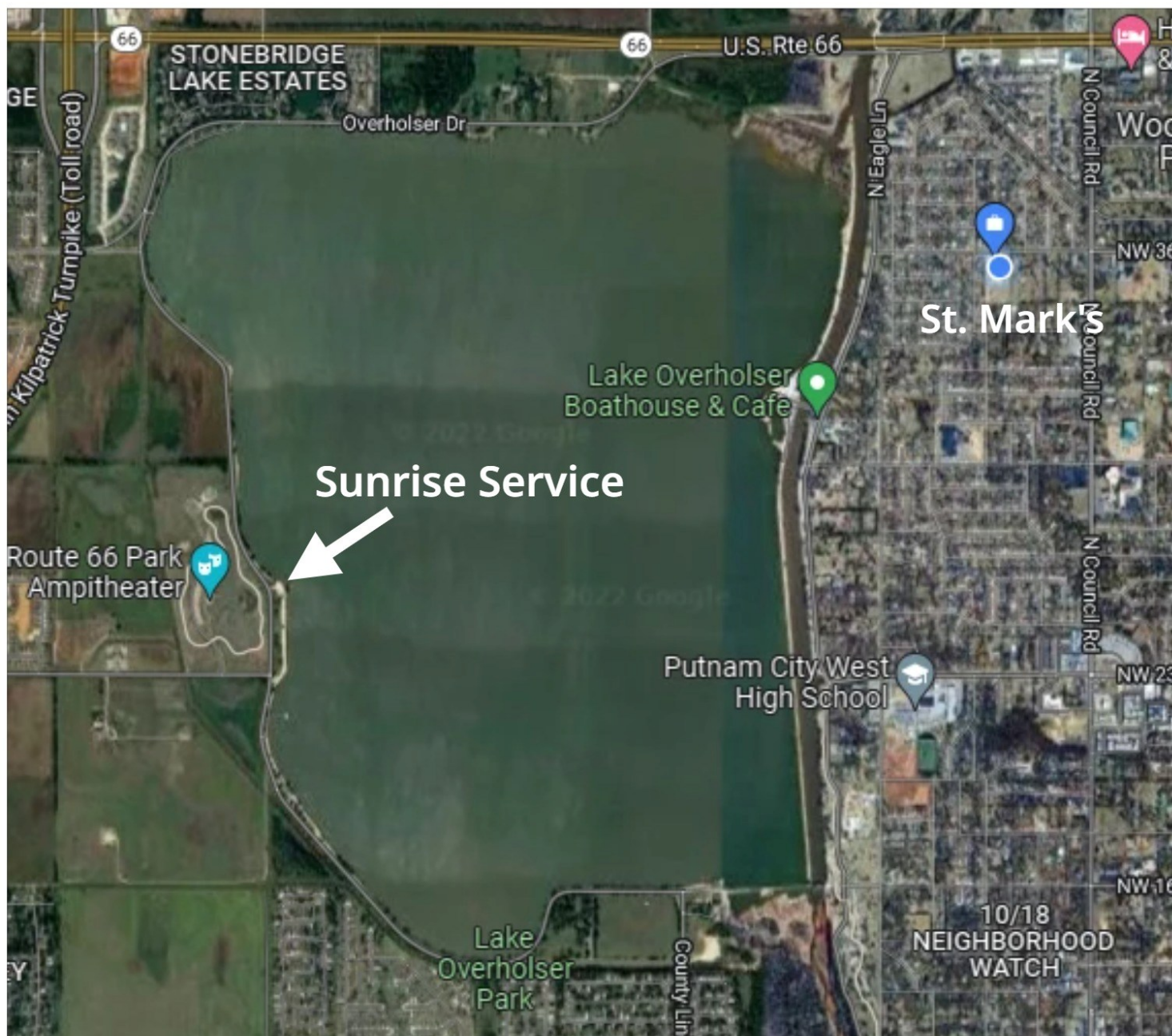
Prayer Board

Judy Knight
 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

Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m.

Join us as we gather in the quiet beauty of Easter morning to celebrate the hope and joy of the risen Christ. Our Sunrise Service begins at 7:00 a.m. and all are welcome to come and worship together as the day begins. See the map below for directions -- we would love to share this special morning with you.



HE IS *risen*