



ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Blessed Focus on the New Kingdom

Join us for worship as we gather this Sunday to hear Reverend Allen Smith bring the message, "Blessed," based on Matthew 4:25-5:2. As we enter the beginning of Jesus' teaching about the new kingdom, we'll reflect on what it means to follow Him and live as part of God's unfolding work in the world. We are grateful for Allen's thoughtful spirit, gentle heart, and faithful dedication as he shares God's Word with us.

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- Kdgtm) 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



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent -- a time of prayer, reflection, and renewal as we prepare our hearts for Easter. In worship, we receive ashes as a sign of our mortality and our need for God's grace, reminding us of our dependence on Christ and His promise of new life. We invite you to join us for this meaningful service as we begin the Lenten journey together, seeking God with humble hearts and renewed faith.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Cindy Wilkerson who passed away on February 15th.

A service celebrating Cindy's life will be held at The Bridge Church, 1116 W. State Hwy 152, Mustang, OK on Thursday, February 19th at 2:00 PM.

Frank and Nadine would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the many prayers and support throughout these past years. They are deeply thankful for the love that continues to surround them.

Administrative Council Meeting Tuesday March 3

Our next Administrative Council meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:00 pm in Room 18. All church members are invited to attend as we review ministry updates, discuss upcoming plans, and continue working together to support the mission of St. Mark's.

Your presence and voice matter --please join us if you're able.

Our Local Missions



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 6006 North Rockwell 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!



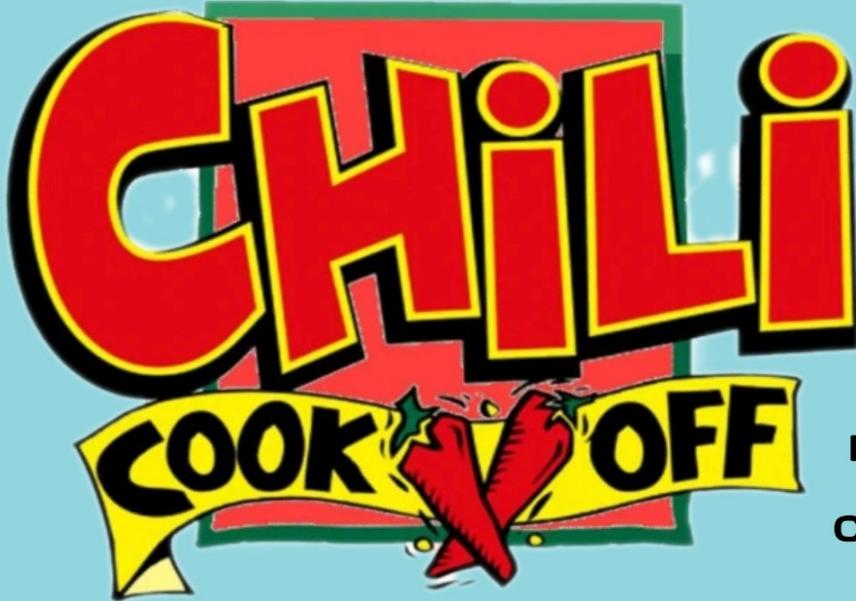
ROC always appreciates our donations of canned and boxed food. Although they accept other types of contributions, our church focuses on providing food. Right now they especially need canned meats such as tuna or chicken, but any type of canned goods is welcome and appreciated. Please place your food donations in the Grocery Basket located in the narthex! Thank you for helping support this important ministry.

KINGS & QUEENS CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, February 22

DON'T MISS IT!!!

Join us for a fun and flavorful evening at our CHILI COOK OFF THIS COMING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22! Whether you're bringing your best chili recipe or just coming to taste and enjoy the fellowship, it's a night you won't want to miss.



CHILI PROVIDERS:

Please have your chili set up by 4:30 PM.
Chili will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

Tickets are \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

This event is sponsored by the Kings & Queens Ministry and serves as a fundraiser to support their ministry, so come hungry and help make a difference -- one bowl at a time.

**All proceeds support
Kings & Queens Ministry!**

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS THIS YEAR?

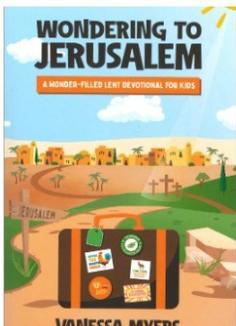


Men's Bible Study Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

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.

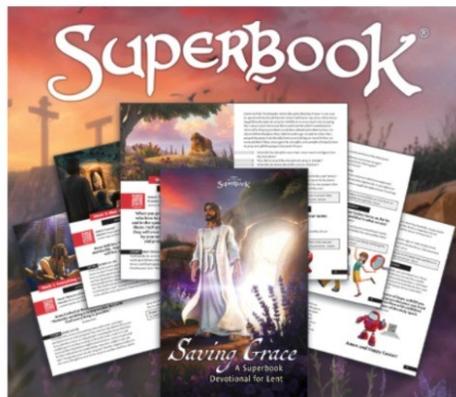
Lent Family Activities Wondering to Jerusalem



This interactive Lent resource is designed especially for younger children and families. As children journey through Lent, they'll use stickers and simple activities to help them walk alongside Jesus on the road to Jerusalem. It's a hands-on, meaningful way to talk about faith at home and stay connected to the season of Lent together as a family.

Saving Grace SuperBook

For older children, this Superbook Lent devotional offers short, engaging reading that help kids explore what it means to be saved by grace. With age-appropriate reflections and faith conversations, it's a great tool for helping kids grow spiritually throughout Lent -- whether reading on their own or with a parent.



Both resources are wonderful ways for families to experience Lent together and help children grow in faith during this season.

Kigoma Women's Center Dedication Mission Trip

Plans are moving forward for the June 7, 2026 dedication of the Women's Center in Kigoma, Tanzania.



Eight participants will attend from St. Mark's and David and Becky Roman will be meeting them there. This trip is a meaningful opportunity to celebrate God's work through long-term mission partnerships and to stand alongside those serving faithfully.

The mission team will be leaving Oklahoma City on May 28th and will return on June 9th.

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

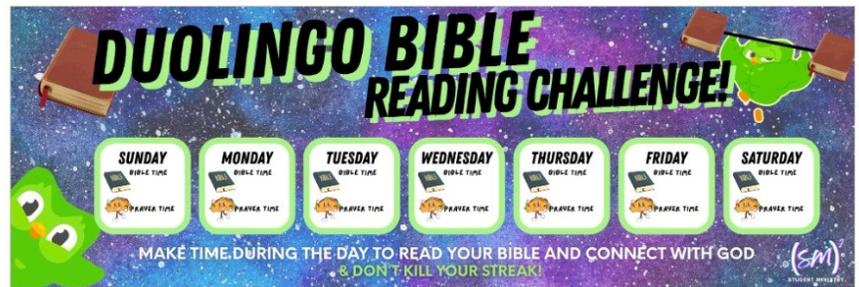
KidMin New Series



This Sunday's miracle is **Jesus Feeds the 5,000!** Children will discover how Jesus cared for a hungry crowd by taking one small boy's lunch and turning it into more than enough for everyone. Through this amazing story, kids will learn that Jesus provides for our needs, uses even small gifts in big ways, and shows us how to trust Him. Each week, they'll continue meeting a miracle-working Jesus who sees them, loves them, and invites them to share what they have with others.

Youth Bible Reading Challenge

Our youth are kicking off a fun new Bible Reading Challenge! Using a Duolingo-style tracker, students are encouraged to spend time each day reading Scripture and connecting with God. The goal is to build a daily habit of being in God's Word, grow in faith and support one another along the way. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they commit to learning, listening, and drawing closer to the Lord through His Word.



Youth Metro Worship Night

All youth are invited to join us for a special Metro Worship Night on Sunday, March 1st! We will meet at the church at 4:30 PM, grab dinner together, and then head to New Covenant Church for a powerful evening of worship with other youth groups from across the metro.

Please send \$10 with your student to help cover the cost of dinner. We expect to return to St. Mark's by 8:30 PM.





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!!!



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.

DAYSRING 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.

Faith in Action: KidMin Wednesday Nights



Our KidMin students had a meaningful and creative evening last Wednesday!

First, they spent time with Pastor Randy preparing for Ash Wednesday by burning palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday. As they watched the palms turn to ashes, they learned how ashes remind us of repentance, humility, and God's amazing grace.



Then they explored the story of Daniel's three friends in the fiery furnace. The youngest group had a special watercolor art project where they painted colorful "furnaces" and as the paintings dried, an angel appeared -- a beautiful reminder that God is always with us, even in the hottest trials.

This week, following the Ash Wednesday service, our kids will continue their journey in Daniel by learning about Daniel in the lions' den -- discovering how God protects and cares for those who trust in Him.

We love watching our children grow in faith, creativity, and courage each week in KidMin.



Youth Winter Retreat Highlights



A total of 18 students and leaders from St. Mark's attended the Youth Winter Retreat at Sky Ranch Cave Springs this past weekend. It was a meaningful time of worship, fellowship, fun, and growing deeper in faith together.



We are grateful for Bequer, Steve and Sara, the adult leaders who gave their time to invest in our youth, and we thank God for safe travels, new friendships, and the ways He is continuing to work in the hearts of our students.



Upcoming Events

February 18 - Wednesday Night Meal - LIGHT SANDWICHES

5:15 Prayer
6:00 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Following Service --

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

February 19 - Trustees Meeting

February 19 - SPRC Meeting

February 22 - Chili Cook-Off

February 24 - Men's Bible Study

February 26 - Kings & Queens Plus

March 3 - Administrative Council Mtg

March 3 - Men's Bible Study

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

Be sure to pick up your copy of our Lenten devotional if you haven't already! Each daily reading was prayerfully written by members of our congregation and staff, making this a meaningful way to journey through Lent together. We encourage you to begin using them now as you prepare your heart for Easter.

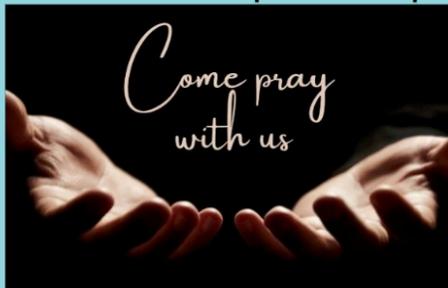
FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget	684,155
Rec'd toward Operating 2/14/2026	14,948
Year to Date 2026	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 2/14/26)	16,800
Expenses (thru 2/14/26) ..	73,388

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, February 15	Total	413
Traditional Worship		207
Modern Worship		64
Online Worship		142

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 February 22, 2026

Traditional: Kathy and David Moore
Kathi Fisher and Margaret Bonifield

Modern: Sally and Mike Kilby
Amy Jenks +1



Prayer Board

Family of Kevin McDonnell
(friend of Christy Kiespert)
Family of Cindy Wilkerson
Hazel Bremmer
Carol Hall
Jared Fenton (BIL of Jeff &
Dianna Davidson
Kason (grandson of
Cheryl Pavelko)
Tina West
Laurie Buckholtz
Brandon Kilpatrick (friend
of Steve Ross)
Norma McMurtry
Greg Tyler (friend of
Loretta Wright)
Cheryl (friend of Loretta
Wright)
Cindy Wilkerson
Norma and Dan Boland

Beverly Clark
Tony Pellegrini
Evelyn Moore
Jim Donnan (father of
co-worker of Deb Wade)
Kathi Wagner (Dot Lyon's
daughter, Lory's best
friend)
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