



# ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

### Essentials - Grow in the Knowledge of God

Join us for worship this Sunday as we continue our "Essentials" series with the message "Grow in the Knowledge of God," based on Colossians 1:1-14. Together, we'll reflect on what it means to truly know God -- not just with our minds, but as learners and disciples who are shaped by His truth. Through teaching, Scripture, and faithful practice, we are invited to grow in a knowledge that forms our faith, guides our lives, and strengthens our witness. Come worship with us as we seek to grow in faith, hope, and love, grounded in the grace and truth of Christ.

### 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

# Second Winders - February 12 Gathering

Mark your calendars for this month's Second Winders gathering on Thursday, February 12 at 11:30 a.m. Join us for conversation beginning at 11:30, followed by announcements and a devotion. The meal will be served around noon for a \$5 donation.

We are honored to have Fred Dalton preparing pulled pork for us. To compliment the meal, sides, desserts, and drink will be provided.

We are blessed to have Greg Gerardy presenting the program this month. Greg is the son of Miller and Nina Gerardy, and you will not want to miss hearing the stories of the journey his life has taken -- including remarkable accomplishments and the hope he has found in the midst of it all.



Come share in the warmth, fellowship, and love of the Second Winder's family.



Wrapped in Love will meet Monday, February 16, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 18. This caring ministry gathers to create handmade items that offer warmth, comfort, and encouragement to those in need. Whether you knit, crochet, sew, or simply enjoy helping in other ways, you are welcome to be part of this meaningful time of fellowship and service. New faces are always welcome -- come join us as we share God's love, one stitch at a time.



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.

## 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 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.

A large, decorative pink ribbon graphic is positioned at the top of the card, framing the text below. The ribbon is tied in a bow and has several loops extending downwards.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*baby shower*

HONORING

*Lydia & Logan  
Chappell*

FEBRUARY 15, 2026  
2:00 to 4:00 PM  
St. Mark's Bethany Narthex

 babylist

Registered at [mybabylist.com](http://mybabylist.com)

A square QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the card, next to the babylist logo. It is used for registration purposes.

## 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.

# **KINGS & QUEENS CHILI COOK-OFF Sunday, February 22**



Join us for a fun and flavorful evening at our CHILI COOK OFF on 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?**



# Rejoicing in Baptism



We celebrate with joy the baptism of Arthur Poss, son of Kelly Jo and Nick Poss, which took place on Sunday, February 8. Surrounded by his family and church community, Arthur was baptized as a sign of God's grace and his desire to follow Jesus. What a meaningful day of faith, love and promise for Arthur and his family. As Scripture reminds us, *"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him"* (Psalm 127:3). We give thanks for this special moment and pray God's blessing over Arthur as he continues to grow` in faith.



# New Series Starts Sunday in KidMin



A new KidMin series begins this Sunday, and it's one your kids won't want to miss. Through powerful and engaging stories from the Gospels, children will discover a Jesus who changes lives -- healing the sick, calming storms, showing compassion to those in need, and stopping at nothing to love His people. Each week, kids will encounter a miracle-working Jesus who sees them, knows them, and invites them to trust Him in every part of their lives. Come be a part of this journey of faith and wonder!

## Valentine Bible Bingo!

Valentine Bible Bingo cards and Act of Love coupons are available on the grid to take home. These fun, family-friendly activities encourage Scripture reading and simple acts of love as we celebrate Valentine's season together.

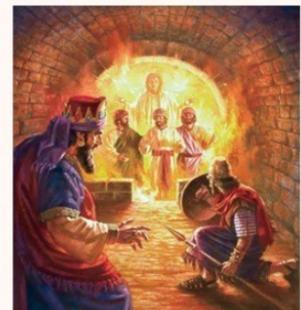


Be sure to pick up your ACT OF LOVE Coupons!

## KIDMIN – WEDNESDAY NIGHT Burning Palms & Faith in the Fire



- This Wednesday Night
- **Burning palm branches**  
with Pastor Randy  
*(preparing for Ash Wednesday)*
- **Bible lesson** – The Fiery Furnace  
Adventures in Babylon – Stories of Daniel



A hands-on night of worship, story, and faith!



Learn Character. Learn Independence. Learn Truth.

# KIDS NEED CAMP.

[www.newliferanch.com](http://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.

## Parent Information Meetings

Parents are invited to attend **the last information meeting TONIGHT** with **Casey Cassidy** to learn more about New Life Ranch camps.

### Meeting date:

- **TONIGHT, February 11, at 6:00 pm**

This meeting will cover camp details, costs, scholarships, and what to expect. If your child is interested in attending camp this summer, we encourage you to join us for one of this meeting if you missed the first one.

# Nurturing Faith in Our Youngest Children



Our Wee Worship and Preschool ministries continue to be filled with joy and discovery. Through stories, play, and hands-on activities, our youngest children are learning about God's love and discovering that church is a welcoming, joyful place to be. As Jesus reminds us, *"Let the little children come to me"* (Matthew 19:14), we are grateful for the caring volunteers who help nurture faith in these precious early years.



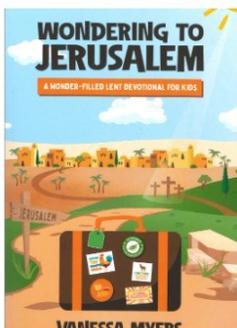
# Celebrating Integrity in Our Community

We're so proud to celebrate four of our St. Mark's kids who were recently honored with the **Lion Paw Award for Integrity** at a nearby school in our community. This award recognizes students who consistently show honesty, kindness, and strong character--and what a joy it is to see those values shining through our children. We give thanks for these young lives and the ways they reflect integrity in their schools, friendships, and daily lives.



Way to go, St. Mark's kids--we are proud of you!

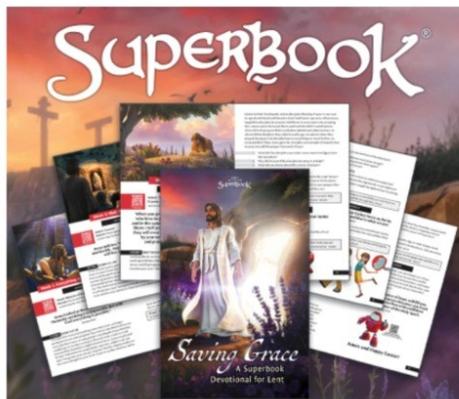
## Lent Family Activities Wondering to Jerusalem



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.



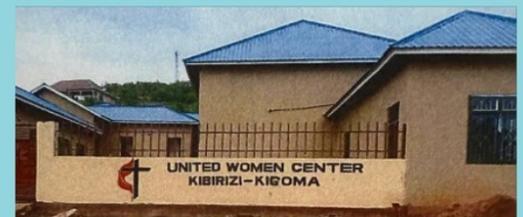
Both resources are wonderful ways for families to experience Lent together and help children grow in faith during this season.

## Praying for our Children & Youth in 2026

Thank you to everyone who picked up a prayer card for one of our children or youth. All of the cards have been taken, and we are grateful for the prayers being lifted on behalf of our youngest members. As we are reminded in Scripture, *"we have not ceased praying for you"* (Colossians 1:9). Your faithfulness and care are a beautiful reminder of what it means to be a church family.

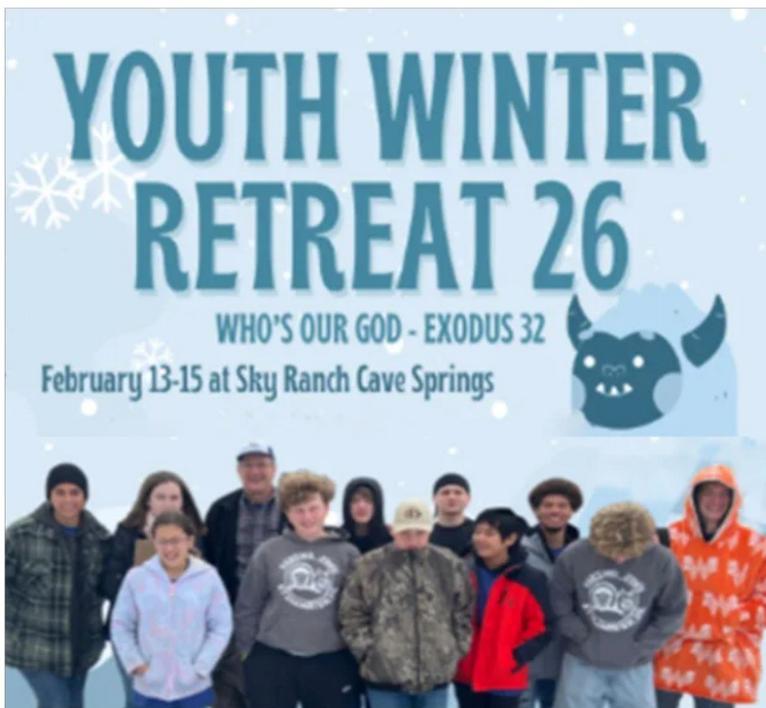
## Kigoma Women's Center Dedication Mission Trip

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.

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



Our youth will be attending their Winter Retreat February 13-15 at Sky Ranch Cave Springs. Please keep our students and leaders in your prayers as they spend time growing in faith, fellowship, and trust in God.

Because they will be returning on Sunday, there will be no Youth Sunday School on the 15th.

## 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.

**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.

## Spring Break Mission Trip 2026

It may feel a little early, but Spring Break 2026 will be here before we know it! Our St. Mark's Student Ministry is planning a Spring Break Mission Trip to Sacramento, New Mexico, on March 15-20, and we want students and families to start praying and thinking about going.



This week will be a great opportunity for our youth to serve others, learn new skills, grow in their faith, and have fun together as they work side by side. Whether this would be a first mission trip or a returning experience, all students are encouraged to consider taking part.

Sign-ups will open soon, but for now, please mark your calendars, start the conversation at home, and keep this trip in your prayers as we prepare for an amazing week of adventure!



# Upcoming Events

February 11 - Wednesday Night Meal - CHILI DOGS

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

February 11 - Children's Parent Camp Meeting

February 12 - Second Winders

February 13 - Youth Winter Retreat 2026

February 13 - Kings & Queens

February 16 - Wrapped in Love

February 17 - Men's Bible Study

February 18 - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 19 - Trustees Meeting

February 19 - SPRC Meeting

February 22 - Chili Cook-Off



February 26 - Kings & Queens Plus

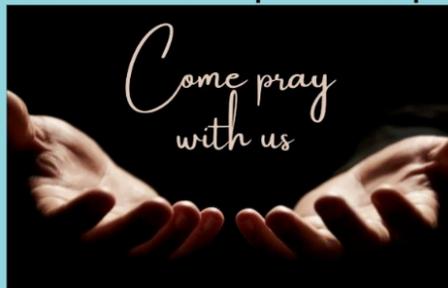
## FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget	684,155	
Rec'd toward Operating 2/07/2026 .....	14,948	
Year to Date 2026 Rec'd toward offering (thru 2/07/26) .....	43,978	
Expenses (thru 2/07/26) ..	70,825	

### ATTENDANCE

Sunday, February 8	Total	332
Traditional Worship .....		189
Modern Worship .....		67
Online Worship .....		76

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 15, 2026

Traditional: Shab and Jeanelda  
 Jupiterwala family

Modern: Tyler and Katie Miller  
 Jay and Gwen Sears



## Prayer Board

Family of Kevin McDonnell (friend of Christy Kiespert)  
 Dennis Graham  
 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)  
 Bonnie Fisher (sister-in law to Sandy Kelley & Mike Fisher)  
 Isaac Roman  
 Cindy Wilkerson  
 Norma and Dan Boland

Vickie Wines (grandmother of Chealsie Zink)  
 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