

St. Mark's
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

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www.stmarksbethany.com

December 12, 2018

E-Messenger

Our Mission Statement To build a family of believers who glorify God and help each other become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ



Our Choir will be presenting a special time of Christmas music on Sunday December 16th in the 9:30 am service. Join us as we sing songs of Hope.

HOPE

Messages of Hope *Advent 2018*

Join us this Sunday morning for the Choir Christmas Concert and as Pastor Keith shares the message "Joy Breaks In". It will look at how hope and joy are related.

CHRISTMAS
EVE CANDLELIGHT
SERVICES

5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Plaid Sunday

All Services - December 23rd

Be festive and wear your
favorite plaid

COMBINED
WORSHIP

Sunday, December 30th,
10 am

NEW PEOPLE NEW PLACES

St. Mark's has been approved by the Oklahoma Conference to receive a grant from the New People New Places Committee. The grant will fund "**Comunidad**" (translated Community) designed to reach out to the Hispanic community around us. It will include hiring a person to lead us in this area. The search has begun for the person who will create the bridges between where we are and where God would lead us. The kickoff will be in March of next year. This is our second grant from the New People New Places committee. Our Kings & Queens program was kicked off with the group also. Please be in prayer as this ministry begins to form. It's another great opportunity for us to connect with our neighbors and share the love of Christ.

Dinner On Wednesday Night



Every Wednesday from 5:30-6:15

Everyone welcome.

Cost is only \$3. a person..

Wednesday Programming

5:15 Strength/Stretch Class

5:30 D.O.W.N. Dinner

6:00 Prayer Team

6:15 Adult Studies

6:15 KID Team

6:15 Student Ministry

6:15 Adult Studies

6:30 Choir Rehearsal

Night of Caroling

On December 19th join the Choir, children, students and anyone else who loves to sing and share Christmas love to join us as we go caroling to home-bound members of the church. There will be a supper at 5:30 and then we will gather at 6 pm to head out. Contact Becky Roman, Alicia Schneider or Lydia Cressman for more details. We would love for you to join us.



Second Winders will meet Thursday, December 13th. The noon meal (pasta/Italian sausage casserole) will be prepared at church. Those with last names beginning H-M please bring a dessert. Meal cost: \$5.



Please note: we will meet in the sanctuary at 11:15 am to enjoy the Children's Day Out Christmas program before our meal.

A reminder to those who bought tickets for the December 20th Symphony performance in Yukon- we will leave the church at 6:45.

STUDENT MINISTRY

I hope everyone is well! Here's what we've got going on in our ministry!

Sundays

Sunday school is at 9:45 and Big Church is at 10:55!

Wednesdays

December 12th – **CHRISTMAS PARTAYYY**

6:15-8 (still feel free to head out at the normal 7:30 time. Kids are welcome to join us after they finish programming at 7:30)

- We're watching Elf!
- High Schoolers – bring snacks/desserts
- Middle Schoolers – bring drinks
- Prizes: (1) for the person wearing the most festive attire (2) for the person who brings the most friends

December 19th – **CAROLING**

A lot of our church family is coming together for this event!

- 5:30 Meal (donations)
- We're gathering at 6
- We'll be traveling in the church vans

December 26th – No youth

Winter Retreat registration forms are out! (attached)

We're combining with New Covenant!

- Josh Coats will be our speaker!
- Jan. 11-13
- @ Canyon Camp.
- \$80 (partial or full scholarships are available)
- Bring friends!
- Registration is due Dec. 19

I'm praying for you all and for our ministry!
See you all at the Christmas Party tomorrow night!

Lydia Cressman

Director of Student Ministries

Advent/Christmas Dates

December 13	Second Winders	December 19	Church/Choir/Children Caroling
December 13	CDO Christmas Program	December 20	Last Day of CDO
December 16	3rd Sunday of Advent	December 23	4th Sunday of Advent
December 16	Choir Christmas Concert	December 23	Plaid Sunday (wear plaid)
	Christmas Party @ Cromwell's	December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight
			Services 5:30 & 7:00
		December 30	Combined Services



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



SUNDAY MORNING:

Age Nursery - Kindergarten

Time 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Age 1st - 5th grade

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

9:30-10:45 "Agape National Park" – lessons on loving God and others. We will study a series of events from the Old Testament and New Testament that will guide us to learn that we should love God and love others. Some of the lessons included will be: Creation – Genesis 1:1-2:4, Moses' Last Journey – Numbers 27:12-23, Deut. 34, and Jesus is Born – Luke 2:1-20. Memory verse for this unit is Isaiah 40:31 "Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

11:00-11:15 - Children are brought to the sanctuary to participate in the opening worship songs, prayers, and other aspects of the service. Children are encouraged to come and participate in a children's sermon time, and following that, are welcome to sit with their parents or guardians for the remainder of the worship service time, or they are welcome to go back to children's area with Ms. Alicia.

11:15 - Noon - we will focus again on the lesson God is teaching us through the Bible story that was taught in the first hour. We will typically watch a short video to demonstrate the message, and participate in more activities which help the children understand the importance of living faithfully with God as their focus.

Elementary children's Sunday school is for children ages 1st grade through 5th grade. We do have a special needs ministry that is available upon request to help children with special needs during services.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

D.O.W.N. Dinner 5:30 - 6:15

Team Kid 6:15 - 7:30

TeamKID, Going Vertical

Going Vertical is a term many of today's athletes use to indicate they jumped their highest and performed their best. We are using Going Vertical for that sports connection but also to imply the importance of growing closer to God (so a vertical connection) through studying His Word and in fellowship with others. Going Vertical is a step in helping kids grow closer to God - a kid-friendly study of God's Word. In a world where the Bible isn't revered as a holy book Going Vertical will help kids understand the message and power of God's Word. Issues such as the importance of the Bible, what makes it up, what's the message and how does it all fit together as well as enabling the kids to learn to read and grasp the Bible on their own. We hope you join us weekly on this adventure of GOING VERTICAL! Kick off is September 5th



December 12: God uses suffering, Job 1:21b

December 19: Caroling with the choir

December 26: NO TeamKID

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:

Alicia Schneider

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Email: alicia@stmarksbethany.com

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:

Sharon Hunt

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Email: sharon@stmarksbethany.com





Our Christmas Eve offering will be shared among international ministries and Oklahoma United Methodist Ministries.



Internationally we will be helping Syrian refugees living in Jordanian refugee camps. The ministry is operated by the Christian Alliance Church of Mafraq. They run schools



for the children, shelters for the refugee families, employment training, job placement, basic food and furnishing distribution and efforts to evangelize a multi-cultural and multi-faith refugee population.

The Oklahoma missions support the efforts of the United Methodist Annual Conference to support foster home families, church start-ups, campus ministries, and some of the administrative costs of missions and ministries.



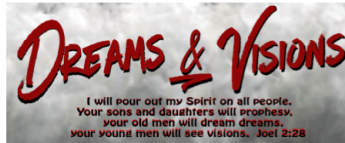
**Thank you for making a difference at home
and around the world.**

GOD SIZED

During 2019, I commit with the grace and help of God, to know Jesus better and support the ministries of St. Mark's with my prayers, presence, gifts, service & witness.

The amount I intend to give during 2019 is:

yearly ☐
monthly ☐



If you have not turned in your pledge card for 2019, please do so as soon as possible. We will be working on the budget for next year and need to be able to make a reasonable estimate of giving. Thank you for the love you continually

PRAYERS STUDY

PRESENCE WITNESS SERVICE

GIFTS

show towards, God, and the church through your tithes and offerings.



Thanks so much to all of you who made it possible for 36 kids and 10 families from Overholser to have a great Christmas.

GREAT JOB!



Kings & Queens will be having their last respite of 2018 on December 14th. This one is always special in December as they celebrate the season together. Be in prayer for the leaders, volunteers, participants and families as this vital ministry continues to grow and share the love of Christ.



Laura	Brown	Michael	Fryman	Draven	Montesano
Mildred	Brown	Christine	Funk	Evelyn	Moore
Grace	Cassidy	Don	Greve	Chris	Pavelko
Jamarion	Collins	Donna	Harder	Kelli	Pavelko
Kirsten	Collins	Evylen	Hickman	Sharon	Payne
Don	Deal	Mary	Holliday	Megan	Pedigo
Mildred	Dix	Brian	Kiespert	Betty	Pope
Billy	Fallon	Christine	Kiespert	Beverly	Ray
Jamie	Fallon	Michael	Kilby	Becky	Roman
Joelle	Ferguson	J.B.	King	Robert	Sample
Josie	Ferguson	Aubrey	Lamb	Steven	Shenold
Matt	Ferguson	Donna	Lautzenhiser	Jay	Skinner
Mike	Fisher	Ashley	Lusk	Sandy	Tull
Stevi	Franklin	Jarrel	Lyon	Patricia	Vasquez
Deloris	Freeland	Avery	Meisenburg	Zuri	Vinson
Gabriel	Freeland	Tate	Miller	Charlie	Whetton

Facts and Figures

2018 Budget 590,255

Rec'd toward Operating 12/9/2018 29,804

Year to Date

Rec'd toward Operating 12/9/2018 523,380

Expenditures 12/9/2018 517,834

Attendance

Sunday, December 9

Worship 228

Sunday School 180

Prayer Box

Don & Fran Nobles	Don Wonderly
Kieth Ballard	Beverly Clark
Harold Kessler	Dale & Jan Johnson
Greg Spiser	Mike Fisher
Knutson/Pavelko family	Funk family
Linda Moon	Pat Wonderly family
Mike Fisher	Sherry Fisher
Laurie Bucholtz	Cristi Steichen
Juanita (Gina Boerner GM)	Pam Barnes
Marilyn Cook	Danny Bond