

September 4, 2019

## 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

### Thanks for Sharing and "The Shorts"

The **Labor Day weekend** combined service was once again a time of celebration in the presence of the Holy Spirit. "Thank you" to everyone who shared a testimony to the wonderful things God is saying and doing in your life, at St Mark's and beyond.

The **Whisper study** and series helped many of us learn ways to 'hear' what God is saying and to experience Him actually communicate with us. This RightNow Media course has been a good way to become acquainted with a new online resource and, more importantly, grow closer to Christ Jesus.



Your class, Life Group any group or individual has access to RightNow Media and its many resources through the link we sent out at the first of August. If you would like to receive the link, please contact Pat Morford ([pat@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:pat@stmarksbethany.com)).

Look for another all-church experience and study during Advent.

### What's next?

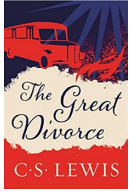
This Sunday, September 8, I will start a new sermon series on some of the shorter books of the New Testament. Jude, Philemon and Titus may be overlooked during our regular study and reading times but they are full of truth and guidance. So, please join me for this series. And, as always, invite a friend!



With Christ,  
Pastor Keith

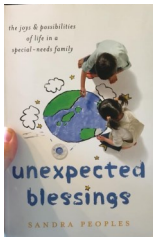
## Wednesday Adult Studies Starting August 28th

These studies begin August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:15. Come join us if you would like to.



Join Larry Gaston for study and discussion of C.S. Lewis' ***The Great Divorce***. This classic Christian allegorical tale is about a bus ride from hell to heaven. The bus ride explores good and evil, grace and judgment. Room 19

Brad Cromwell will once again be leading Fight Club, a Men's Group. This group will focus on the six words that God used to define King David's life – a man after God's own heart. It won't be easy and, in the end, will require a fight. Room 18



Christel Longoria will lead a book study which explores the joys and possibilities of a life in a special-needs family. Parents of special needs children can purchase the book, *Unexpected Blessings*, by Sandra Peoples on Amazon. Room 5

## St. Marks and PC West Football team Ministry Outreach

A steering group met this past week and here are some of the highlights. We will serve four meals to the team (spaghetti, Sloppy Joes, Chicken Alfredo and Spaghetti. Anyone is



welcome to help. We will be asking for cookies and desserts from the congregation. The meals will be 9/12; 9/26; 10/9 & 10/31. Work will begin at 3 pm on each of the days. If you would like to be a part of the team contact Shab Jupiterwala. This is a great community outreach project. Excitement is high!

### New Life Group



Come join this new life group as they begin a study on how and where God nurtures his people.

The group will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month beginning September 12th from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. It will be in the home of Mike & Kathi Fisher. Everyone is welcome. Light snacks will be served. Come grow and fellowship together. Sign up on office counter or give Kathi Fisher a call for more details.

## D.O.W.N. Dinner Wednesday

This week at D.O.W.N. we will be having a potato bar. We will also have chicken nuggets for kids of any size who would prefer them. Cost is \$3. a person. It is important to let us know if you are coming so we can properly prepare. We had a great kickoff this past week but almost ran out of food because of the unexpected turnout. See you at DOWN!



## Forgotten God

Start September 11

3:00 - 4:15 Room 5

7 weeks Jan Greve

Come be a part of this great study. Sign up on church counter or contact church office.

Today's church *admires* the gift of the Holy Spirit, but have we neglected to open it? Chan tears away the wrapping paper and the ribbons to uncover the source of the believing community's true power for witness and service. He issues a compelling invitation to understand, embrace, and follow the Spirit of the living God.



## St. Mark's Food Pantry

The St. Mark's Food Pantry for Overholser is not open each Wednesday from 11 am - 1 pm and on Sundays from 4pm - 6 pm.

As we get kicked off we expect to see a lot of families and know that supplies will begin to dwindle. St. Mark's has done a great job as we prepared and hope that everyone is able to kick in and help make this ministry meet a real need in our community and be sustainable and giving us an opportunity to share the love of Christ.



If you would like to volunteer to help with the pantry contact DJ Gannon or the church office.

## SECOND WINDERS KICK OFF FALL

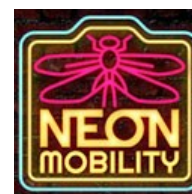
Second Winders, the retirement group at St. Mark's, will meet at noon on

Thursday, September 12th. Join us for a baked potato and salad meal. Come

early for coffee and conversation. Our speaker will be Brian McNutt, an NCAA basketball referee.

On Thursday, September 19th, we will leave the church at 10:00 for Neon Mobility. This is

the gallery and working studio of neon artist Katherine Reynolds. Afterward we will go to lunch at Jeff's Country Cafe or Off The Hook.





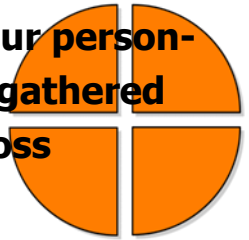
## Life Groups of St. Mark's

*Life Groups* is small group ministry launching in the Fall of 2019. *Life Groups* meet anywhere, anytime and anyway people would like to get together. The name refers to a family of friends with whom you can share our lives and grow in faith. *Life Groups* provide time to join other sisters and brothers who are also trying to follow Jesus. The purpose of *Life Groups* is to help each of us strengthen as disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Life Groups* may meet as often as weekly or as infrequently as monthly as decided by participants.



**Life Groups include four personal growth elements gathered around the cross**



### 1) Mission & Ministry

Plan a mission or ministry to accomplish within an agreed timeframe – both personal and group plans are shared.

Your *Life Group* may be a Mission team.

### 2) Prayer/Relationship

Share prayer needs related to conquering sin and experiencing spiritual transformation.

Experiment with types and ways of praying that are described in Scripture.

### 3) Study Scripture

This should usually be a study of Scripture.

### 4) Accountability

Encourage each other to keep striving toward growth goals previously set by the group and individuals.

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Thousands of videos at your fingertips! FREE!

Take advantage of this great opportunity and sign up today. Go to:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/stmarksbethany>



Our next Men's Breakfast will be on September 7th. We will have breakfast will be at 8:00 am and should be done by 9 am. Feel free to invite a friend, or bring your kids.

# D.O.W.N. (Dinner On Wednesday Night)

Kicks off this Wednesday

Meals are \$3/person or if you sign up this Sunday you can get entire semester (14 weeks) for \$35. or a family of four or more for \$140.00

Here is a quick look at the calendar for DOWN Dinners

<b>August 28</b>	<b>Spaghetti</b>	<b>September 4</b>	<b>Potato Bar</b>
<b>September 11</b>	<b>Pizza</b>	<b>September 18</b>	<b>Taco Bar</b>
<b>September 25</b>	<b>Rice Bowl</b>	<b>October 2</b>	<b>Pizza</b>
<b>October 9</b>	<b>Pasta Night</b> (PCW Football joins us)	<b>October 16</b>	<b>No DOWN Fall Break</b>
<b>October 23</b>	<b>Taco Bar</b>	<b>October 30</b>	<b>No DOWN Fall Fun</b>
<b>November 6</b>	<b>Potato Bar</b>	<b>November 13</b>	<b>Pizza</b>
<b>November 20</b>	<b>Rice Bowl</b>	<b>November 27</b>	<b>NO DOWN</b>
<b>December 4</b>	<b>Spaghetti</b>	<b>December 11</b>	<b>Pizza</b>

## Key Events on Fall Calendar (mark your calendars)

With all the heat it's hard to believe Fall is just around the corner. St. Mark's has a lot of exciting things on the horizon and wanted to get some of the key dates out for you.

Emmaus Walks Men

Emmaus Walk Women

PCW Football Dinners

Life Groups

STRIVE

Kings & Queens Fall Festival

Fall Festival

STRIVE Workday

September 5-8

September 19-22

Sept. & Oct.

various

October 6 & 13

October 29

October 30

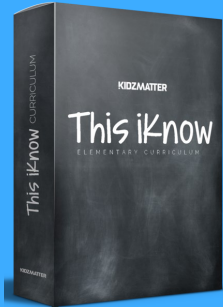
November 2



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## SUNDAY MORNING:

Ages: Nursery - Kindergarten  
Elementary Age 1st - 5th grade  
Time 9:30 am - 10:45 am  
10:45 am - 12:00 pm



## "THIS I KNOW"

Current lesson Plan :  
"Look at the Mess"  
Each Bible account highlights someone who got in a mess and how God was

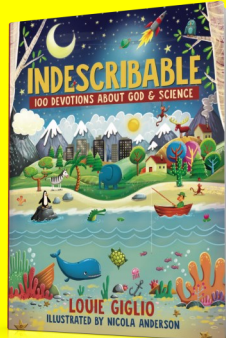
faithful to them through the entire experience. God realizes our lives can get messy and God is not intimidated in the least by them.



EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Sharon Hunt  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: sharon@stmarksbethany.com

## WEDNESDAY EVENING:

D.O.W.N. Dinner - 5:30-6:15  
INDESCRIBABLE - 6:15—7:30



God has different plans for us and your children so we are going to try something different this year and will begin

"Indescribable" Please pray for us as we plan and develop lessons around Louis Giglio's - Indescribable - devotionals for children.

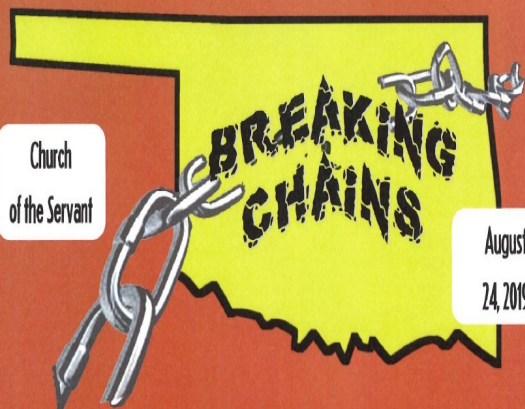
Something new and exciting as we hope to challenge the kiddos to experience our God in Indescribable ways.

Four key areas will be explored as we look at how indescribable our God is.

Space  
Earth  
Animals  
People

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Alicia Schneider  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: alicia@stmarksbethany.com

He brought you out of the deepest darkness and broke your chains.  
-- Psalm 107:14



August  
24, 2019

Mark your calendars  
and save the date

— Examining incarceration issues in Oklahoma through the eyes of the church —

United Methodist Women + Board of Church and Society + Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries (CJAMM)

## Adult Sunday AM Classes

8:15 am  
Room 17  
Sonshine Class

Room 18  
New Life Class

9:30 am  
Room 18  
Discipleship Class

Ascent Room  
College Age

Room 17  
New Class

10:40 am  
Choir Room  
Good News Class

10:45 am  
Room 19  
R.O.C.K. Class

10:55 am  
Room 5  
Promise Class  
Room 18  
Faithbuilders Class



# STUDENT MINISTRY

Hey Youth Parents and Leaders!!

School has started! I pray that all our students have a great year!

Wed, Sept 4 - Youth!

- Dinner at 5:30, \$3/person
- Youth is from 6:15-7:30!
- We're continuing our Apologetics series

Sun, Sept 8 - J.U. begins!

- Sunday School is at 9:45
- Big Church is at 10:55
- We'll start taking J.U. attendance this day! Remember that if you arrive after 9:55, you'll receive half credit.

The next couple weeks, programming will continue as usual with Sunday School at 9:45 and Big Church at 10:55. On Wednesdays, dinner will be at 5:30 with Youth at 6:15! See everyone (and their friends) there! Come Sundays and Wednesdays to get those J.U. attendance credits!

## METRO WORSHIP

Sept 15! It's in Mustang this time! Meet at church at 5pm. Bring money for a fast food meal on the way! We'll be back about 8 and we'll text rides when we're headed back.

## SCHOOL LUNCHESES:

In a couple weeks, I'll put a new [Lyd@Lunch](#) signup sheet in the youth room! I am so excited to eat lunch with all our students this year!

## STRIVE:

The STRIVE fundraiser begins Wednesday, October 2nd. The Sundays students will be able to ask at church are Oct. 6th and 13th. The mandatory STRIVE Workday is Nov. 2nd. *STRIVE is mandatory for everyone enrolled in Jesus University.*

Throughout the school year, I'll continue to send youth updates about every other week. I typically post reminders on the youth Instagram, so if you don't already follow [stmarkssm](#), do it! Also, please, email, text, or call me anytime if you need anything or have questions!

Let me know how I can serve you all! I'm praying for you!

**Lydia Cressman**  
*Director of Student Ministries*



## Facts and Figures

2019 Annual Budget .....605,361  
 Rec'd toward Operating 8/18/2019 .....6,195

### YTD 2019

Rec'd toward Operating 8/18/2019.....331,809  
 Expenditures 8/18/2018 .....345,236

### Attendance

Sunday, September 1  
 Worship ..... 228

Autumn	Swedlow	Hadley	Davis	Mike	Penny
Barry	Foster	Ingrid	Morrison	Pam	Barnes
Becky	Bates	Jim	Brewer	Patricia	Wonderly
Ben	Longoria	Joey	Pedigo	Patsy	McDowell
Brandy	Miller	Josiah	Gustafson	Richard	White
Carolyn	Bright	Judy	Browning	Scott	Nobles
Christel	Longoria	Kelsey	Evans	Stephanie	Agyemang
Cooper	Brooks	Korey	Gannon	Sue	Price
Ella	Epely	Madison	Knowles	Teresa	Kruta
Emersyn	Crouch	Maggie	Hill	Tony	Pellegrini
Finleigh	Miller	Markus	Mullin	Vicki	Pellegrini
Gary	Davis	Matt	Risinger	Wren	Hance
George	Kloss	Max	Collins	Wyatt	Walters

## Prayer Box

Kieth Ballard	Votaw family
Beverly Clark	Charez family
Funk family	Mark Summers
John Baumeister	Barbara Gardner
Don & Fran Nobles	Hutchison family
Frankye Flemins	Beverly (Valerie Davis GM)
Betty Underwood	Travis Merklin
Greg Spiser	
Chris & Kelli Pavelko	
Andre Frehley	
Brian Black family	

*St. Mark's*

UNITED METHODIST  
 CHURCH

8140 NW 36th Street  
 Bethany, OK 73008

## **St. Mark's Staff**

**Keith Cressman, Pastor**

**Becky Roman, Mission & Music Director**

**Sharon Hunt, Early Childhood Ministries r**

**Alicia Schneider, Children's Minister**

**Kayla Gannon, Kings & Queens Coordinator**

**Lydia Cressman, Student Minister**

**Pat Morford, Administrator, Communications**

**Christy Kiespert, 8:30 Keyboardist**

**Jackie Swedlow, Accountant**

**Gwen Sears, Accountant Assistant**