

ST. MARK'S BETHANY

NEWSLETTER

Telling the Story of God's Work at St. Mark's

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

That's a Good Question —

"If God is For Us, Who is Against Us?"

Have you ever faced a situation that seemed overwhelming and wondered if you had the strength to get through it? Life brings challenges, uncertainties, and moments when we may feel like the odds are stacked against us. But Scripture reminds us that we never face those moments alone.

This Sunday, Pastor Randy continues our sermon series, *"That's a Good Question,"* with **"If God Is for Us, Who Is Against Us?"** Based on Romans 8:37–39, we'll explore the incredible assurance that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Whatever challenges you may be facing, come be reminded that God's love is stronger than anything that stands against us.

Service times —

The Traditional service will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the Modern service begins at 11:00 a.m.. For individuals unable to attend in person, we are pleased to offer live streaming for our Traditional service.

To watch the live stream, please join us at:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on **YouTube** or **FaceBook**



Sunday School Classes

CHILDREN

"Seeds" (Ages 0-18 mos)	9:30 - 12;00
"Sprouts" (Ages 18 mo-3 yrs)	9:30 - 10:35
Kidmin 1 (Elementary)	9:30 - 10:35
Kidmin 2 (Elementary)	11:00 - 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



Join the Second Winders on Thursday, **November 12**, in **Barnett Hall**, for a special Thanksgiving feast filled with delicious food, warm fellowship, and grateful hearts! We'll begin gathering at 11:30 a.m., with our Thanksgiving meal served at noon. **Turkey, dressing, gravy, ham, and drinks** will be provided. To complete our feast, everyone is asked to bring a favorite side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

Following the meal, **Katelyn King from Navigating Medicare** will present an informative program about Medicare. Be sure to bring your questions and take this opportunity to better understand your own Medicare coverage and benefits.

We look forward to seeing you there!

HELP US PREPARE FOR ADVENT!

It's time to get St. Mark's ready for the beautiful season of Advent! We invite anyone who would like to help decorate the sanctuary and narthex to join us on **Monday, November 23, at 9:00 a.m.**

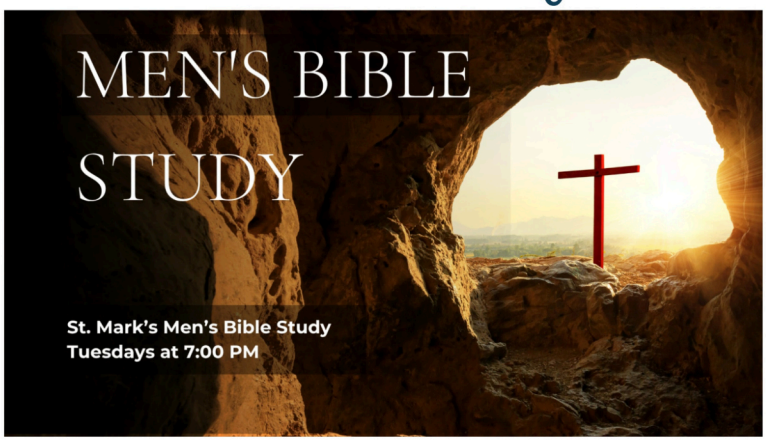
Many hands make light work, and we'd love to have your help as we prepare our church for this special season of hope, peace, joy, and love.

If you have any questions, please contact **Cheryl Davis.**



Bible Study UPDATES

Men's Bible Study



Men's Bible Study has resumed and will meet weekly at 7:00 p.m. at the church. All men are invited to join us for Bible study, fellowship, and spiritual growth as we continue growing together in God's Word. Questions? Contact Fred Dalton or Allen Smith.



Join **Wrapped in Love on Monday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 18** for a time of creativity, fellowship, and caring for others.

Whether you enjoy sewing, quilting, crocheting, knitting, or simply lending a helping hand, we'd love to have you join in! Together, we can share our talents, enjoy one another's company and spread a little love--one stitch at a time.

Come be a part of this special ministry!

Our Local Missions

At St. Mark's, sharing God's love doesn't stop at our church doors! Through our partnerships with local ministries like Willow Pregnancy Support and Reaching Our City (ROC), we have opportunities to make a meaningful difference right here in our community.

Together, we're putting our faith into action and showing Christ's love in practical ways!

willow PREGNANCY SUPPORT

Willow Pregnancy Support is continuing its ministry of caring for families at its new location, 41 7 N. Council in Bethany! Through encouragement, practical assistance, and compassionate support, Willow helps families feel valued and cared for during important seasons of life.

Donations currently welcomed include: Children's clothing (newborn - size 6), Children's shoes (up to size 13), Diapers (sizes 4-6), baby bottles, bath wash, lotion, and Good Start formula.

Every gift, large or small, is an opportunity to remind a family that they are loved and supported. Thank you for helping St. Mark's be part of this important ministry!

ROC REACHING OUR CITY

Sometimes sharing God's love begins with something as simple as helping put food on a family's table! Through our partnership with ROC, St. Mark's continues to help provide food and encouragement to neighbors facing difficult circumstances.

Current food needs include green beans, corn and soup, although all nonperishable food donations are gratefully appreciated.

Please place your donations in the Grocery Basket in the Narthex.

The ROC Thrift Store and donation drop-off center is located at 5107 N. MacArthur in Warr Acres. Thank you for helping us make a difference--one meal, one family, and one act of kindness at a time!

Mexico Mission Trip

January 9-16, 2027

The Team Is Ready — Will You Pray With Us?



Our Mexico Mission Trip team is complete, and preparations are underway for their journey January 9-16, 2027! We are grateful for those who have answered the call to serve and share God's love with others.

Although the team is filled, everyone in our congregation can be a part of this mission through prayer! Please pray for safe travels, good health, strength, unity, and opportunities for our team to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those they encounter.

Most importantly, pray that God's love will shine through everything they say and do. We look forward to hearing how God works through this mission.

Thank you for supporting our mission team with your prayers!

Honoring Faithful Service

Each year on Veterans Day, we pause to give thanks for the men and women who have served our country with courage, sacrifice and devotion. Their willingness to defend freedom reminds us that service often comes with great cost.

As Christians, we are called to honor those who serve and to pray for veterans, active-duty military members and their families. May their example inspire us to gratitude, prayer and a renewed commitment to serve others with humility, courage and love.



As we honor those who have served in defense of our nation and the freedoms we cherish, we also look to Jesus, the Prince of Peace. We pray for unity among all nations and for the day when "nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4, NIV).

Raking Leaves, Sharing Love!
STRIVE 2026 - Faith in Action!









The rakes were busy, the leaves were flying, and our STRIVE youth were hard at work on November 7! After weeks of fundraising, our students rolled up their sleeves and spent the day helping church members with yard work.

STRIVE is more than a fundraiser. It's an opportunity for our young people to experience the you of serving others while raising funds for camps, retreats, and mission trips.





A huge thank you to our incredibly generous congregation for investing in our youth and making these life-changing opportunities possible. And thank you to our students for showing what it means to put faith into action!



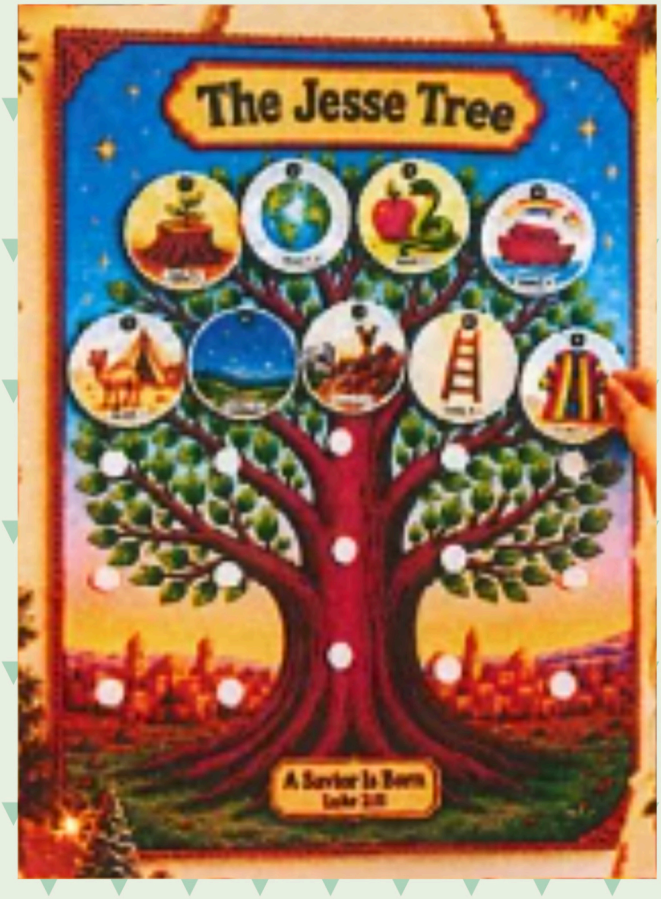
Generous hearts. Helping hands.
God's love at work!











The Jesse Tree is coming!

We've been dropping a few hints about something special coming this Advent season. Now it time for a little sneak peek!

This colorful Jesse Tree features 24 ornaments, each representing a Bible story that helps us follow God's promises from the beginning of Scripture to the birth of Jesus.

There's more to discover, and we can't wait to share it with you! One for older kids too!

Check the KidMin Grid!

Get ready for the TURKEY OLYMPICS!

Who knew turkeys could be so competitive?

The **Turkey Olympics** are coming to St. Mark's Student Ministry on **Wednesday, November 18!** Get ready for crazy challenges, lots of laughs, and some friendly competition!

Bring your friends and your competitive spirit for an evening of turkey-themed fun.



Advent is coming to KidMin!

Exciting new resources are on the way to help families celebrate Advent together! From family devotions and prayers to meaningful activities, there will be opportunities to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus.



Be sure to keep checking the Grid for new Advent resources and ideas to share with your family!

Growing in God's Love - One Fruit at a Time!



KidMin is continuing their journey through the Fruit of the Spirit, discovering how God's love can grow in their hearts and shine through their everyday lives!

Each week brings new opportunities to grow in faith and become a little more like Jesus!

KidMin Sprouts

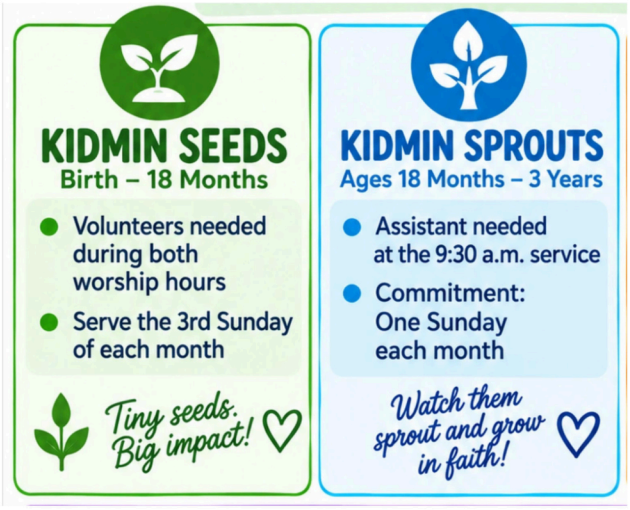
Big faith begins with little hearts! KidMin Sprouts provides a loving, nurturing environment for children ages 18 month through 3 years. During the 9:30 a.m. worship service, Miss Christie Couch helps our little ones experience God's love through activities, play, and caring attention. We're planting seeds of faith that will continue to grow for years to come!

WE STILL NEED DIFFERENCE MAKERS!

.Our KidMin ministry is growing, and we need YOU to help make a difference in the lives of our youngest children! Volunteers are needed for KidMin Seeds and Sprouts, and we also welcome anyone willing to fill in when an extra hand is needed.

Even serving just one Sunday a month can make a lasting impact!

If you have a heart for children and a willingness to help, please contact **Sharon Hunt** to learn how you can be a **Difference Maker**!



The Gathering

There are wonderful opportunities for moms to connect, grow and encourage one another at St. Mark's! **The Gathering** meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m., offering moms a welcoming place for friendship, encouragement, and study.

Meanwhile, our **Titus 2** ministry provides loving care for babies and toddlers while their moms participate in Bible study and fellowship. Together these ministries are helping build friendships, strengthen families, and share God's love with the next generation!



Upcoming Events

Nov 11 - TONIGHT!
5:30 pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL
Spaghetti

6:15 pm KidMin 2
6:15 pm Youth Ministry
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Nov 12 - Second Winders
Nov 14 - Men's Breakfast
Nov 15 - Team ION
Nov 16 - Wrapped in Love
Nov 17 - Men's Bible Study
Nov 24 - Men's Bible Study
Nov 25 - Office Closed
No Wednesday programming
Nov 26 - THANKSGIVING
Nov 29 - First Sunday of Advent
Dec 1 - Men's Bible Study
Dec 6 - Team ION
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve
Dec 25 - CHRISTMAS

Communion Servers - November 15

Traditional	Tony & Vicki Pellegrini Gregg & Kathy Miller Cheryl Davis & Lorna Garner
Modern	Ben & Christel Longoria Bruce & Sharon Hunt

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
11/07/2026 14,078

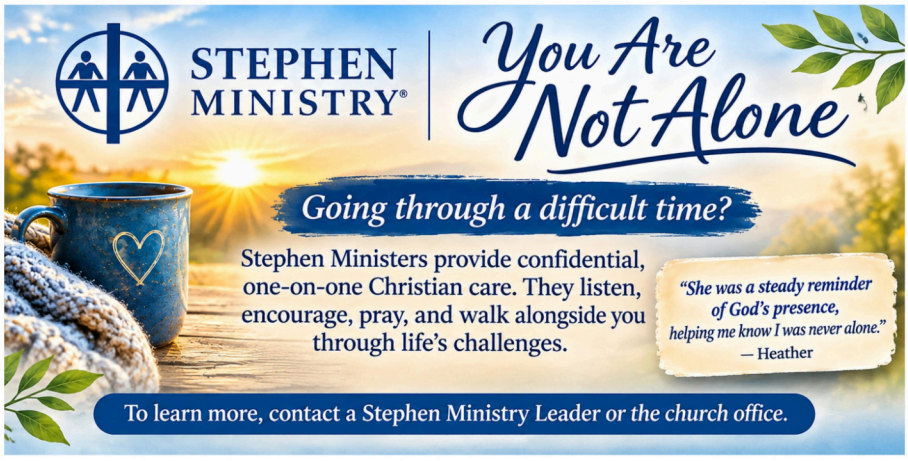
Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru11/07/26) 531,764
Expenses (thru 11/07/26) ... 557,913

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 8 Total 359

Traditional Worship 206
Modern Worship 43
Online Worship 110







Declan Longoria
In Utero Grandaughter (Connie Willis)
Norma Boland
Elle Gather
Don Greve
Donna Shriver
Karen Hall (Friend of Sandy Kelley)
Bobbie Gaston
Mary Jane Svejkovsky
Tamara Spear Kerr (friend of Dot Lyon's daughter, Lori)
Lucas (12 yr old nephew of Carolyn Grady's supervisor)
John Evans
Nichole Norberto
Judy Knight
Carol Hall
Judy McMinn
Brittany (Friend of Robin Stephenson-Bratcher)
Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)
Coy Sue Tyler (best friend of Loretta Wright)
Tony Pellegrini
Marie & Skyler Wolfgang (daughter & granddaughter of Tony & Vicki Pellegrini)
Evelyn Moore
Bill Underwood
Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
Sandy Rutherford
Mark Stover (SIL of Sandy Rutherform
Barbara Hill
Tiffany Montesano