



February 8, 2023

Join us this Sunday for worship at St. Mark's. Randy will be continue his series called "What Not To Do". This week his message will be "Do Not Judge", the scripture reference will be Matthew 7:1-5.

All Sunday school classes will be at their regular time and area. If you don't attend a class drop by one and try it out.

Sunday School classes: 8:30 New Life Rm. 18, Sonshine Rm. 17

9:30 Books of the Bibles Rm 17,

Disciple Rm. 18,

Young Adults Rm. 5

10:45 Faithbuilders Rm 18,

Good News Choir,

R.O.C.K Rm. 19

Traditional services are at 9:30 am and Modern services are at 10:55 am. If you are not able to attend Worship services there will be a live streaming of worship. To watch the life stream, you can join us at

9:30 am Sunday morning at: <https://youtube.com/live/Nmutj84bTW0>

or 10:55 at: <https://youtube.com/live/4oicBGaphyl>

Transition to GMC continues

St. Mark's Bethany continues to grow and develop

Keep your eyes out for 'signs' of God working at St. Mark's. Seeing new members joining almost weekly, energy, the Spirit of God alive and active!. Life is always changing and reacting and adopting is a great sign that we are doing great. This week we are moving to a new hymnal put out by Seedbed. The new hymnal goes back to our Wesleyan roots and will be a blessing. Due to cost we have only purchased a limited number as all the words will continue to be on the screens. If you prefer a hymnal pick one up at the back of the sanctuary on your way in. Come see other changes that continue to take place in the sanctuary to enhance our worship experience. God is on the move!



Sidenote on old hymnals. If you have an old hymnal dedicated or in honor of someone we want to give you the chance to pick it up in the office. Just drop by or call and we will work out detail. After those have picked them up old hymnals will be available to anyone wanting one.

Chili Cook Off II - A Huge Success

The Second annual Kings and Queens Cook Off this past Sunday was a Huge success. 17 chilis vied for the bragging rights and you can see the winners below. Even better than all of the chili was the fact that over \$1800 was raised for the Kings and Queens Ministry. Great food, fellowship, and a great cause. What more could you ask for?



Winners

- 1st Place - Carol Hall (pictured at far right)
- 2nd Place - Aimee Jenks (next to Carol, second from right)
- 3rd Place - Deb Wade (second from left)
- People's Choice - Kathi Fisher (far left)
- Director of St. Mark's Kinds & Queens - Kayla Gannon



Ash Wednesday Services

In preparation for Lenten season we will have a special Ash Wednesday Service. The service will be at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. This is a special service that includes the sign of the cross and a call to seek God in spiritual disciplines through Lent. No children or youth programming following (others check with leaders).

Genesis 3:19b "dust you are and to dust you will return."

Men's Breakfast Saturday, February 11th, 8 am



A great place for some great fellowship and food. All men are invited to join us this Saturday. Along with the food there will be a devotion and just a lot of laughs and fun. Following the meal, you are welcome to stay for a bit and help them in setting up for coming events. Hope to see you there.



DADDY daughter DANCE



Saturday, February 18th, at 6:30 –8:00 pm St. Marks will be having our annual Daddy Daughter dance. This has always been a special event for dads, grandads, uncles, older brothers and others to honor daughters in the family with a special night out. The event will feature a DJ, snacks and great photo opportunities. A \$5 per escort donation is suggested (no additional cost for multiple dates!) Make your plans now to bring that special girl to this great memory making event.

Grateful Hearts Celebration & Dinner

A Special Night for Adult Fellowship
Including fine food and light-hearted fun

Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm
February 11th 5-7 pm



Hosted by Faithbuilders Class as a gift to attendees
Register with QR code or sign up on counter

Second Winders to meet Thursday, February 9th



Each 2nd Thursday of the month the Second Winders gather for a time of food, fellowship and fun. In February they will have their regular meeting and anyone retired, or would like to come is invited. The group begins gathering around 11:30 am and then eat at noon. This month the meal will feature lasagna, salad, a vegetable and dessert.

Cost for the meal is \$5. Following the meal there will be program that will be brought by Carrie for the Oklahoma Historical Society in which she will do a live portrayal of Oklahoma history. We hope you join us for this great gathering.



St. Mark's Bethany Women



The St. Mark's Bethany Women are having a baby shower for Willow on February 13th. Ray Merchant is the program director of Willow Pregnancy Bethany Center and will be our speaker at the event. We are inviting the women of St. Mark's to join us on Monday, February 13th, at 10 am in room 18 for the baby shower (newborn to 6)

DAWN - Dinner & Worship Night

Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

Schedule:

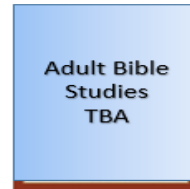
5:30-6:15 Meal (family style)

6:00-6:30 Prayer Team

6:15-7:30 Children's & Student Ministry

6:15-7:30 Adult Bible Studies

6:30-8:00 Choir Practice



YOUTH WINTER RETREAT
CALLED INTO A PURPOSE - EPHESIANS 3 AND 4
February 17-19 at Sky Ranch Cave Springs
Sign Up on Church Center under Registrations!
Deadline to Sign up is February 2nd
For Questions get ahold of Bequer
bequer@stmarksbethany.com

willow
PREGNANCY SUPPORT
Now Collecting Donations for:

- Winter Coats (newborn to 8)
- Winter Clothes (newborn to 6)
- Boys' Shoes (sizes 2 to 8 1/2)
- Blankets
- Baby Carriers & Bouncy Chairs
- Bankers Boxes
- Toys & Books

Thank You!

Lenten Bible Study Wednesday afternoon 130 pm Starting Feb. 22 (Ash Wed.)



This will be hands on experiences with different things we encounter on a daily basis that will encourage us to remember different areas of scripture on Jesus's journey to the cross. Come,

share the memory making experiences! Sign up on counter or contact Kathi Fisher.

CHURCH CENTER

We need you to sign up if you haven't. Imagine being able to have the church calendar, directory, giving and financial records, access to latest news, live services and more available at one spot. On your phone, pad or computer you will always be up to date. To download the app just click on this link and it will walk you through step by step instructions. [Download Church Center](#) The whole process should take just a few minutes.





Photo: John Wesley's prayer kneeler – The birthplace of Methodism.

Each morning at 4 a.m., John Wesley would kneel in prayer in his London home. It was in this place that the fires of Methodism began. As we seek to reconnect to our Wesleyan heritage, it seems the best place we can begin is in prayer. Join us in our monthly prayer series: The Way to the Kingdom.

**The Way to Glory
By: David F. Watson**

The way to glory is the way of the cross. "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus," Paul writes (Phil 2:5). The mind of Christ is the pattern for the Christian life. Paul then tells us what this pattern entails in the *kenosis* (emptying) hymn of Philippians 2:6-11:

"[T]hough he was in the form of God, [Christ] did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

There is a deliberate parallelism in the hymn: Christ had the form of God, but he took the form of a slave. His obedience to God was not coerced. He emptied himself. He humbled himself, and therefore God highly exalted him.

Obedience to God is no easy task. "[T]he gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matt 7:14). We have to confront our own egos, our self-will, our need for control. It is a blessing to submit to the will of God, but it is also painful. God purifies us like gold in a refiner's fire. Through the Holy Spirit, we crucify the flesh (Gal 5:24) and are conformed to the image of the Son (Rom 8:29).

And when this happens, we realize that we are strangers and aliens (1 Pet 2:11). This world is not our true home. Our true King, Jesus Christ, sends us out as his ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20) to carry the Gospel into life's painful places, sometimes at great cost. The Gospel calls us into confrontation with sin, death, and all of their manifestations in the world. Despite the many peddlers of faith that look more like consumerism than Christianity, there is no true Christian faith without pain. When we confront that pain with the love and power of Christ, there can be healing. That is the way to glory—not the counterfeit glory of this world, but the true glory that comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

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A Suggested Pattern of Prayer

As you pray through the following prayer points, invite the presence of the Lord into your time of prayer. Each day's prompt has a Scripture reference for you to pray through. As you pray allow time to also listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. When you have prayed through the Scripture and prayer point, you may be led to add your own prayers. Pray and consider what action steps you might take in response to the Lord's leading. Repeat this prayer pattern weekly for the month.

Sunday: Praise God for his goodness and love. Offer him praise and thanksgiving for coming to us in Jesus Christ, who emptied himself and was obedient, even to the point of death upon the cross. (1 Cor. 15:57)

Monday: Pray that every clergyperson in the Global Methodist Church will receive the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2:14-16)

Tuesday: Pray that every layperson in the Global Methodist Church will receive the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 1:10)

Wednesday: Ask God to pour out a spirit of obedience on the Global Methodist Church. (1 Pet. 1:22)

Thursday: Ask God to teach us what it means to crucify the flesh, and to give us the will and wisdom to do it. (Gal. 5:24)

Friday: Pray that God will give us the strength to confront the powers of sin and death in this world, and to walk into painful circumstances and bring the healing love of Christ. (Eph 6:10-13)

Saturday: Praise God for the salvation we have in Christ, and for the glory we glimpse in the present but will know fully in the age to come. (2 Cor 3:18)

**"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."
(Philippians 2:5)**

The Rev. Dr. David Watson serves as Academic Dean and Professor of New Testament at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He is also the Lead Editor of Firebrand, an online magazine aimed at enlivening intellectual dialogue in various related traditions, including Methodist, Arminian, Holiness, Pentecostal, and others.



St Mark's Bethany Helping Hand Project

Need a ride to the doctor? Your battery need a jump? Need a few groceries? Let us help you. Please contact Pat at St Mark's (405-789-9033) or Elle Mysinger (469-323-1560).

Requests for help will be posted on the Helping Hand Project. Notification of the request will go out to the members of the Helping Hand Project. Whoever can help with the project will notify the group that they will manage the request and then reach out to the person who needs the helping hand.

We welcome anyone who would like to join the Helping Hand Project. Please contact Elle or Pat at the Church.

Interested in knowing more about the Global Methodist Church?



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

The GMC website (<https://globalmethodist.org/>) shares their vision, mission, governance structure, and beliefs. You can also read their *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. The Catechism Questions and Answers with scripture references can also be found here.

If you would like a weekly update and devotion from this Holy Spirit inspired movement, you can sign up here : <https://globalmethodist.org/connect/>

To help us intercede on behalf of the GM Church, they invite us to [subscribe](#) to a monthly prayer guide beginning this January written from a distinctly Methodist/Wesleyan perspective and distributed through email.

Facts and Figures

2023 Annual Budget	601,800
Rec'd toward Operating 2/5/2023	13,209
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 2/7/23)	56,470
Expenses (thru 2/7/22)	40,191

Attendance

Sunday, February 5	Total	262
Traditional Worship		157
Modern Worship		64
Online Worship		41

Prayer Box

Cheryl Andrews'	Jan Greve
Chris Brehm	Crystal Corbin (Beverly Clark daughter)
Lavina Bonifield (DIL Margaret Bonifield)	Tiffany Montesano
Hank Brueggen	Ron Norvell
Marty Croy	Roger Pautsch
Jeff & Dianna Davidson	Mary Jane Svejovsky
Jared Fenton (SIL Davidson's)	Dorothy Sipes
Bob Denton (Sandy Kelly brother)	Bobbi Pinkerton
Mary Desmukes	Ina Walker (sister of Bobbi Pinkerton)
Cindy Wilkerson (DIL Wilkerson's)	LaDonna Mathews
Paula Galt	Beverly Clark
Norma & Dan Boland	Russell Jobe
Curtis Scott (SIL Jim Brown)	Jan Johnson