



ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

To The Ends of the Earth: *"Journey #3: Mission Accomplished"*

What does it mean to finish the work God has given us to do?

This Sunday we continue through Acts with **"Journey #3: Mission Accomplished"** based on **Acts 20:17-38**. As Paul prepares to leave the Ephesian elders, he looks back on his ministry -- not at what was easy or comfortable, but at how faithfully he followed where God led.

Join us for worship this **Sunday** as we consider what it means to stay faithful to the mission God has given us and, like Paul, to finish the race well.

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 our Traditional service.

To watch the live stream, please join us at:

9:30 am Sunday morning



Sunday School Classes

We have classes for all ages and interests

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



Beginning **Wednesday, August 26**, join us for **Encounter**, a four-week journey into what worship really means, why we do what we do, and how it shapes our lives beyond Sunday morning.

Each week, we'll explore a different part of worship:

- **The Heart of Worship**
- **The Beauty of Worship**
- **The Order of Worship**
- **The Lifestyle of Worship**

Come enjoy **dinner at 5:30 p.m.**, then join us for **Encounter from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

No matter where you are in your understanding of worship, this is a chance to go deeper into both the what and why behind what we do, while discovering how worship connects us more deeply with God.

Come for dinner. Stay for Encounter.

Beyond Sunday: The Sermon Continues



Have you ever left worship on Sunday wanting to spend a little more time with the message? This summer, we invite you to go "Beyond Sunday" as Pastor Randy leads a deeper discussion of the weekly sermon and our journey through the book of Acts. Together, we'll explore the movement of the Holy Spirit, the life of the early church, and what these lessons mean for us today. Bring your Bible, your questions, and a willingness to grow as we continue the conversation beyond Sunday morning.

Join us on **Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** or **Wednesday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.** (Please note that **Men's Bible Study will return this fall.**)

We would love for you to be part of the journey!

Second Winders Are Back!

It's time to get together again! **Second Winders** will kick off a new season on **Thursday, September 10 at 11:30 a.m.** and we'd love to have you join us!

Second Winders meets on the **second Thursday of each month** for a time of good food, great fellowship, and plenty of fun. Each month will feature a different meal to gather around, along with a special program designed to help us **enjoy, learn, and laugh together.**

Whether you've been a Second Winder for years or you've never joined us before, there's always room at the table. **Come enjoy the food, the fellowship, and the fun -- we'll see you September 10!**



Our Local Missions

At St. Mark's, we love being part of what God is doing not only around the world, but right here in our own community. Through partnerships with ministries like Willow Pregnancy Support and ROC, we have the opportunity to share Christ's love in meaningful, hands-on ways.

Because of your prayers, generosity, and willingness to serve, lives are being touched, needs are being met, and hope is being shared—right here at home.



We're excited to share that Willow Pregnancy Support has moved to a new location at 4107 N. Council in Bethany! Willow continues to be a place of care, encouragement, and practical support for families in our community.

They currently welcome donations of children's clothing (newborn through size 6), shoes (up to size 13), diapers (sizes 4-6), as well as bottles, bath wash, lotion, and Good Start formula.

Thank you for being part of the love and support we're able to share through this ministry!



Our partnership with ROC continues to be a simple but powerful way to care for neighbors in need. One of the main ways we support ROC is through donations of canned and boxed food.

Right now, green beans, corn and soup are especially needed, but any nonperishable food items are greatly appreciated. Grocery items can be placed in the Grocery Basket in the Narthex.

Thank you for helping us make a difference—one meal, one family at a time.

The ROC thrift store and drop-off center has moved. The new address is:
5107 N MacArthur
Warr Acres

Calling All Crafters!

Do you enjoy sewing, painting, woodworking, jewelry-making, quilting, or creating handmade items? The St. Mark's Bethany Women's group is preparing for our Arts & Crafts Show on **OCTOBER 3RD** and would love your help!

We're inviting crafters to **donate handmade items** to be sold in our booth.

Proceeds from the booth will go back into our community to support local charities.



If you'd like to participate, please contact

 **Carol Brown | 405-823-1345**

♥ Thank you for using your talents to make a difference! ♥



As a new school year begins, our KidMin children will be kicking off a fun and meaningful two-week series called “**The Lunch Table**” beginning **Sunday, August 23**.

Using the familiar setting of the school lunchroom, children will discover important biblical truths about kindness, friendship, including others, and showing God’s love to everyone they meet.

KidMin 1 (9:30 a.m.)

- **August 23:** *Our Table Is Big*
- **August 30:** *Loving the Lunchroom Bully*

KidMin 2 (11:00 a.m.)

- **August 23:** *What’s on the Menu?*
- **August 30:** *Packing Your Lunchbox*

This engaging series is a wonderful opportunity to help children navigate friendships and challenges they may face at school while learning what it means to follow Jesus in their everyday lives.

We invite all children to join us as we begin this exciting back-to-school adventure in KidMin on **Sunday, August 23!**



Growing in God's Love Every Week!

Join us in **KidMin 2** (during the 11:00 a.m. service) and on **Wednesday nights** as we discover how the Fruit of the Spirit helps us live more like **Jesus!**



The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

Hey MOMS, DADS & KIDS!

Have you checked out the grids lately?

There's lots of **NEW** stuff waiting for you! Pick up a family devotion, grab a Know-Me-Note, or discover another simple way to connect at home.

These resources are designed to help families **talk together, grow closer together, and grow closer to God**--one little moment at a time.

Stop by the grids and **TAKE SOMETHING HOME** this week! ❤️



Moms, you're invited!

Join us each **Wednesday morning from 9:30-11:00 am in Room 19** for The Gathering, a welcoming time for moms to connect, encourage one another, and grow in faith while your little ones are lovingly cared for by our Titus 2 volunteers. Whether you're a first-time mom or have older preschoolers, we'd love to have you join us!



Something new is sprouting in KidMin! 🌱 Beginning **September 13**, KidMin Sprouts will provide a special place for our littlest ones, ages **18 months through 3 years**, during the **9:30 a.m. worship hour**. Led by **Miss Christy Couch**, Sprouts will give young children an opportunity to begin learning about God's love in a fun, nurturing, age-appropriate environment. We're excited to watch these little ones **sprout and grow in faith!**

Administrative Council Meeting

Our next Administrative Council meeting will be held **Monday, August 24, at 6:00 p.m.** All Administrative Council members are encouraged to make plans to attend as we discuss the ministries, business, and ongoing work of St. Mark's.

As always, everyone in our church family is welcome to attend and stay informed about what is happening in the life of our church.

We hope to see you there!

One Service September 6

Just a reminder that on **Sunday, September 6, we will have ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m.** This will be a wonderful opportunity for our entire St. Mark's church family to come together in one service for worship and fellowship.

Please mark you calendar, adjust your usual Sunday morning routine, and join us at **10:00 a.m.** We look forward to worshipping together as one church family!

≡ *Wednesday Night* ≡
MINISTRIES
Return!

And don't forget--**Wednesday Night Ministries return on August 26!** Dinner begins at **5:30 pm**, with ministry activities for all ages to follow.

Whether you've been coming for years or you're looking for a place to connect, Wednesday nights are a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a meal together, build friendships, grow in your faith, and spend time in Christian community.

More details about the fall schedule will be coming soon. We can't wait to gather together again!

SAVE THE DATE! St. Mark's Fall Picnic Sunday, September 20

Mark your calendars for one of our favorite fall traditions! **St. Mark's Fall Picnic is Sunday, September 20.** We'll provide the grilled hamburgers and hot dogs -- you bring a covered dish to share, along with your lawn chairs and blankets.

Come ready for good foot, great fellowship, and plenty of fun! We'll have games and activities for the kids and lots of time to relax, visit, and enjoy being together as a church family.

Save the date and plan to join us!



ONE SUNDAY a Month. AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE.

Follow Jesus. Make a Difference.

Jesus welcomed children with open arms—
and you can help us do the same.

Our KidMin ministry is looking for a few caring volunteers to help create a safe, fun, and Christ-centered environment where children can learn about God's love. Whether you can serve once a month or be available as a substitute, your time makes an **eternal difference**.

DIFFERENCE MAKER OPPORTUNITIES



KIDMIN SEEDS (BIRTH–18 MONTHS)

- Volunteers needed during **1st and 2nd hour**
- Serve the **3rd Sunday** of each month



KIDMIN SPROUTS

- Assistant needed during the **9:30 a.m.** service
- Commitment: **Once each month**



KIDMIN 2

- Assistant needed during the **11:00 a.m.** service
- Serve the **3rd Sunday** of each month



KIDMIN RESPONSE TEAM

We also need a few volunteers who are willing to step in when someone is sick or unable to serve. If you're flexible and enjoy helping wherever you're needed, we'd love to have you on our **Response Team**.



Every smile, every hug, every story, and every prayer helps plant seeds of faith that can last a lifetime.



Ready to make
a difference?



Contact Sharon
to learn more or sign up to serve.

Help Build Our Titus 2 Team

We're looking for caring adults who enjoy spending time with babies and toddlers while parents participate in Bible studies and church activities.

Whether you're comforting a toddler, reading a story, playing a game, or simply sharing God's love, you'll be helping create a safe, nurturing environment where young families can grow in their faith together.

No teaching required. Just a caring heart and a willingness to love our youngest children.

If you'd like to learn more about serving on the Titus 2 Team, **contact Sharon Hunt**.

CARE FOR OUR YOUNGEST **SUPPORT FAMILIES IN FAITH** **MAKE AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE** **BE PART OF SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL**

A little time. A lasting impact.

"Supporting young families. Encouraging the next generation." Titus 2:3-5

Upcoming Events

Aug 19 - NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL
 Aug 19 - The Gathering/Titus 2
 Aug 19 - Beyond Sunday 2
 Aug 19 - Choir
 Aug 24 - Administrative Council Meeting
 Aug 25 - Beyond Sunday
 Aug 26 - The Gathering/Titus 2
 Aug 26 - Wednesday Nights Returns!
 Aug 26 - Beyond Sunday 2
 Aug 29 - BSF Leaders Workshop
 Aug 30 - Missions Meeting
 Sept 2 - The Gathering/Titus 2
 Sept 6 - One Service
 Sept 7 - Office Closed
 Sept 12 - Men's Breakfast
 Sept 14 - St. Mark's Bethany Women
 Sept 21 - Wrapped in Love

Communion Servers - August 23

Traditional: Gerald & Carolyn Grady
 Fred & Carol Dalton
 Fred & Christie Agyemang

Modern: Clay & Marty Croy
 Ben & Christel Longoria

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
 8/15/2026 8,509

Year to Date 2026
 Rec'd toward offering
 (thru 8/15/26) 400,931
 Expenses (thru 8/15/26) .. 411,267

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, August 16 Total 362

Traditional Worship 187
 Modern Worship 47
 Online Worship 128

Need Someone to Walk With You?



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**
 Christ caring • for people • through people

None of us is meant to carry life's burdens alone.

Stephen Ministers are caring members of St. Mark's who are trained to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian support during difficult times.

Whether you're experiencing grief, illness, loneliness, caregiving, or another life challenge, a Stephen Minister is available to listen, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you.

Hope begins with a conversation.



Contact one of our Stephen Ministers, or call the church office to learn more.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"I have fought
 the good fight,
 I have finished
 the race,
 I have kept the faith."

- 2 TIMOTHY 4:7

Prayer Board

Family of Beverly Clark
 Bob Kanary
 Karen Hall (Friend of Sandy Kelley)
 Jack (Dad of Aimee Jenks)
 Bobbie Gaston
 Fisher Marchant
 Kathi Fisher
 Elaine Talbot
 Heidi (Friend of Esther Underwood)
 Sherry White
 Mary Jane Svejovsky
 Tamara Spear Kerr (friend of Dot Lyon's daughter, Lori)
 Lucas (12 yr old nephew of Carolyn Grady's supervisor)
 Laurie Buckholtz
 Benni (DIL of Cheryl Davis)
 Helen Sullivan
 John Evans
 Danny Payne
 Roger Pautsch

Gordon Denton
 BIL of Joey Pedigo)
 Nichole Norberto
 Judy Knight
 Carol Hall
 Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)
 Brittany (Friend of Robin Bratcher)
 Coy Sue Tyler (best friend of Loretta Wright)
 Norma and Dan Boland
 Tony Pellegrini
 Evelyn Moore
 Bill Underwood
 Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
 Sandy Rutherford
 Barbara Hill
 Elmer (Barbara's friend)
 Judy McMinn
 Tiffany Montesano