

## 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

### Worship, May 2nd

We invite everyone to come out this coming Sunday to join us in worship. Services are @ 9:30 and 10:45. Rev. Phil Davis will be bringing the message. If you are not able to attend there will be a live streaming of it. Watch your email for a link to the live service.

8:30 to 9:30	9:30 - 10:15	10:15 - 10:45	10:45 - 11:30
	Classic Worship	Clean sanctuary	Modern Worship
Adult SS in room 17 and 18	Adult SS room 19 (9:30 to 10:30)	Adult may continue into or start during this time frame. See next pane below for youth & children	Adult SS (10:30 to 11:30) Rooms 17 and 18 (and choir room)

### In Person Services Guidelines

In addition to our continued support of online worship, we are excited to say the live service has been and going well. When you feel comfortable we invite you to join us for services.

Before attending the Service ask yourself these questions:  
Are any of the following true for you or anyone in your party:

- Showing any flu-like symptoms
- A fever of 100.4 or higher in the past 14 days.
- Prolonged exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Any medical reason to think you should not be around others.

If you answered yes to any of these, we strongly encourage you to watch the services online rather than attend service. You can participate online by going to YouTube.com and searching for St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Bethany, OK, there you will find a link to the service on Sunday morning.

## What Goes on Between Pastors?

St. Mark's leadership has planned for the time between when Pastor Keith retires and Pastor Randy Wade arrives.

During **May and June**, we will be blessed by the **preaching** of some of the retired pastors who call St Mark's their home. They will also be on call to respond to emergencies during the week following their message. Either Pat Morford or Julia Bevers can help you reach one if needed.

Pat Morford will be serving as "Staff Manager" during the interim. He will be able to assist with scheduling and ministry related questions. He will be helping coordinate the mission and ministry work of our **staff** during the first several busy months of summer.

Becky Roman will be coordinating **worship** services and related events. Music, praise teams, and special events occurring during worship services (e.g. Senior Sunday) will be scheduled, approved, and coordinated through her.

Remember that Jay Sears, Chair of Church Council, and David Miller, Lay Leader, are available to serve and help in any way they may be able.

Do not hesitate to reach out to any of the leaders mentioned for help and clarification.

## **Preschool Training Opportunities set**

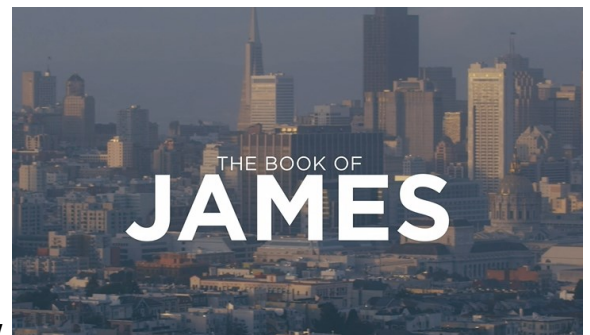
We are having three different opportunities set up for training for working with in the nursery and pre-school. These are to meet Safe Sanctuary guidelines set by the conference. For those of you who have already agreed to be a part this is a reminder of the times. If you would like to be in ministry with the youngest St. Markians you are also welcome to join us. It would be helpful if you let Sharon Hunt know which training you will be at for supplies, snacks, food, etc. The three opportunities are:

**Wednesday, April 28th 6:30 to 8:00 pm (snacks)**

**Sunday, May 2nd 11:45 am to 1:15 pm (lunch)**

## **New Sunday Morning Bible Study Coming**

Starting **May 16th, at 9:30 am** a new Sunday morning Bible Study is kicking off. KJ and Casey Cassidy will lead the groups as they open up with a Right Now Video series on the book of James with Francis Chan. This study is for anyone interested. We invite you to be a part as they jump into God's Word together and build relationships together. They will meet in room 17. You can contact KJ or Casey for more information or contact the church office.



## Great Resource Available

Feel free to pick up one of the boxes on the church counter if you are looking for a great way to open some great conversation around your family dinner table with these discussion starter questions.



## St. Mark's Social Media Links



Facebook.com - search for "stmarksbethany"



Instagram.com - search for "St. Mark's United Methodist Church"



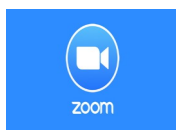
Twitter.com - search "@stmarksbethany"



Youtube.com - search St. Marks United Methodist Church, Bethany, OK



RightNow Media.com - "St. Mark's United Methodist Church"



Zoom.com - sign up and then watch for upcoming announcements on Bible Studies, Sunday School classes and other things you can join with other members of St. Mark's

## St. Mark's Food Pantry

**The St. Mark's Food Pantry is changing hours to 1st and 3rd Sundays from 4pm - 5 pm.** We appreciate everyone's help through the pandemic in helping to keep things supplied. THANKS for your patience. Currently the following items are needed in the pantry.

**Spaghetti Noodles**  
**Mac & Cheese**  
**Canned Meat**  
**Canned Beans**

**Spaghetti sauce**  
**Canned Vegetables**  
**Canned Fruit**



## The Greatest Commandments are these:

Jesus replied: **"Love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it:

**'Love your neighbor** as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40

## Our Mission is:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28: 18-20

Thus, the core of everything we do through church and life can be thought of as commitments to **C**hrist (love God), to **O**ne another (neighbor) and **W**orld Evangelism & Mission

## So what?

You are asked to prayerfully consider your commitment and priorities in 2021. How will you live out your relationship with Jesus through those commitments? How will your priorities be demonstrated by your use of time and money? How will you grow in prayer and study? In what ways will you share the Gospel at home and around the world? Where and how will you serve? What are your study and scripture memorization plans?

Think and pray, perhaps with another, and write down your commitments, priorities, and plan. Then turn the following in at St. Mark's by February 14<sup>th</sup>:

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*St. Mark's*

UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information about:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Studies  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small groups  | <input type="checkbox"/> Areas to serve |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other —       |   |

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During 2021, St. Mark's can count on me to pray, serve, learn, worship and fellowship.

Additionally, count on me to donate financially:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly



# St. Markians staying connected through the pandemic

These past few months have taken away 'normal' in so many ways. One of the things that seems to be a major issue is the loss of being connected. Seeing one another on a regular basis, having a nice chat, just being around people who we have grown together with. The church is seeking to take a proactive role in that and so we are kicking off "Connections". It's goal is to challenge all of us to think about the people who we are in community with at the church and beyond and help all of us to reconnect with those we may have lost some connection with. Each week we will put out a simple challenge to everyone to make connections! It may be a phone call, text, email, zoom meeting, or other way. Pray about how God may use these challenges for you.

One thing to help us all will have the availability of getting in touch with people. It's amazing how quickly our church directory gets outdated, but the good news is that we are able to keep it up to date online and that is available to you. To get the updated directory call the church office for the passcode and then click on the link below to go to the online directory . Please contact church when you hear of changes that need to be made in the online directory.

<https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/407016/st-marks-united-methodist-church>

If you have ideas for great ways of connecting please let us know and we will share those here also.

## Challenge for the week:

*Email 3-4 people and invite them to church.*

## Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

### Facts and Figures

2021 Annual Budget	TBA
Rec'd toward Operating 4/4/2021.....	30,311
<u>Year to Date 2021</u>	
Rec'd toward offering .....	153,821
Expenses .....	129,431
<u>Attendance</u>	
Sunday, April 25 Total	285
9:30 Service .....	142
10:45 .....	102
Online .....	41

### Prayer Box

Corona Virus issues	Pat Wonderly
Don & Fran Nobles	Norma Boland
Barbara Homer	Pat McDowell
Pam & Wayne Barnes	Jane Foreman
Carolyn Rosenthal	Marty Croy
Dianna Davidson	Ladonna Mathews
Letha Davis	Janice Brown
Mary King	Don Greve
Katrina Lambert	Carol Sandburg
Norma McMurtry	Pavelko family
Margaret Bonifield	Dorothy Sipes
Daughter in law—Lavina	Darell Brehm
Paula Galt	