



ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

To The Ends of the Earth "Jerusalem: 'The Blessings of a Good Debate'"

This Sunday we continue our **To the Ends of the Earth** sermon series as we return to Jerusalem as we explore ' **The Blessings of a Good Debate**' from Acts 15:1-11. The early church faced a difficult question that had the potential to divide believers, yet God used honest discussion, faithful leadership, and His grace to bring clarity and unity. Join us as Pastor Randy explores how the Jerusalem Council reminds us that even challenging conversations can become opportunities for God's blessing when we seek His will together.

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



St. Mark's Bethany Women To Meet August 10

Ladies, we invite you to join us for the next St. Mark's Bethany Women meeting on Monday, August 10, in Room 18. This is always a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, encouragement, and learning together.

Our featured program will be presented by Becki Sigmon, who will share about Project 31, a ministry dedicated to supporting women and families affected by breast cancer. Project 31's mission is:



"To embrace, educate, and empower women and families affected by breast cancer to live fully restored lives."

Whether you're a regular attendee or joining us for the first time, we would love to have you with us. Come enjoy meaningful fellowship, hear an inspiring presentation, and discover how this ministry is making a difference in the lives of so many.

We hope to see you there!

MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH



Men's Breakfast is a great opportunity for food, fellowship, and encouragement. Join the men of St. Mark's as they gather for breakfast, conversation, and time together. Next breakfast is on **August 8th at 8:00 am.**

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 pm** or **Wednesday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30 am.** (Please note that Men's Bible Study will return this fall.)

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

Celebrating Baptism



We rejoice with the Miller family as **Maverick Miller was baptized during worship last Sunday.** Maverick is the son of Tyler and Katie Miller, brother to Jaxon and Stetson, and grandson of Danny and Sabrina Beebe.

Baptism is a beautiful reminder of God's grace and the promises He makes to His children. We give thanks for Stetson's family and church family as we celebrate this special day and commit to encouraging him as he grows in faith and in the love of Christ.



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!



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!



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, canned meats like tuna and chicken are especially needed, but any nonperishable food items are greatly appreciated. Donations 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.



Let's Finish Strong!

Thank you to everyone who has already supported our

Back-to-School Blessing!

We're almost there! Let's work together to bless our students and teachers with the supplies they need for a great year.



You can purchase a pencil item from the list or make a donation, and we will do the shopping!

Thank you for making a difference! ♥

KidMin2 – Aug 16



On Sunday, August 16, our KidMin2 children will discover an important truth: God is always with us and we can trust Him no matter what. Through Bible stories, fun activities, and hands-on learning, they'll be reminded that God watches over His

children and never leaves their side. We can't wait to see what God teaches them this week!



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!**

CHILDREN'S AREA *Cleanup Day*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

9:00 A.M. - NOON

Help us get our classrooms
ready for a new school year!



Children's Area Cleanup Day Friday, August 7th

A new school year is just around the corner, and we're excited to welcome our children and families back! As we prepare for another wonderful year of Sunday School and Children's Day Out, we're inviting everyone to be part of getting ready. Join us on Friday, August 7, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm for our **Children's Area Cleanup Day** as we freshen up classrooms, toys, tables, windows, and more.

Back-2-School Breakfast Sunday, August 16th

Kick off the fall with our annual **Back-2-School Breakfast**! Bring the whole family and enjoy breakfast together before Sunday School as we celebrate a new season of learning and pray a blessing over our children, students, teachers, and school staff for the year ahead.

We'll be serving **Big Truck Tacos** breakfast burritos and **smoothie bowls**, and a special **Back-to-School Blessing** will be offered during each worship service.

Please register on **Church Center** so we'll know how much food to purchase. We look forward to celebrating this exciting new school year with you!



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!

Making a Difference All Summer Long



From Sunday mornings to Kid Camp, Robotics Camp, Youth Camp, the Gathering with Titus 2 to our Summer Pop-Up events, God blessed St. Mark's with an incredible summer of ministry. None of it would have been possible without the many "difference makers" who gave their time, energy, creativity, and love to invest in our children, youth, and families.

Thank you for making this summer one our church family will remember for years to come. Your faithfulness is making an eternal difference.



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)	- Volunteer needed during 1st 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 2nd 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.

Every CHILD. EVERY STORY. EVERY LIFE. ETERNALLY IMPACTED.

Ready to make a difference? | Contact Sharon to learn more or sign up to serve.

STARTING IN September! FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

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!**

 LOVE	 GOODNESS
 JOY	 FAITHFULNESS
 PEACE	 GENTLENESS
 PATIENCE	 SELF-CONTROL
 KINDNESS	

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
GALATIANS 5:22-23

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.

Love LITTLE ONES? JOIN THE Titus 2 Team!

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 5 - NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

Aug 8 - Men's Breakfast

Aug 9 - Mission Committee Meeting

Aug 10 - St. Mark's Bethany Women

Aug 11 - Beyond Sunday

Aug 12 - The Gathering/Titus 2

Aug 12 - Beyond Sunday 2

Aug 12 - Choir - Back to Choir Welcome

Aug 13 - SPRC Meeting

Aug 13 - CDO Meet the Teacher Night

Aug 16 - Back to School Breakfast

Aug 17 - CDO Begins

Aug 17 - Wrapped in Love

Aug 18 - Beyond Sunday

Aug 19 - The Gathering/Titus 2

Aug 19 - Beyond Sunday 2

Aug 24 - Administrative Council Mtg

Aug 25 - Beyond Sunday

Aug 26 - The Gathering/Titus 2

Aug 26 - Beyond Sunday 2

Aug 29 - BSF Leaders Workshop

Sept 6 - One Service

Sept 7 - Office Closed

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget	684,155
Rec'd toward Operating 8/01/2026	15,432
Year to Date 2026 Rec'd toward offering (thru 8/01/26)	380,574
Expenses (thru 8/01/26) ..	381,484

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, August 2	Total	334
Traditional Worship	186	
Modern Worship	67	
Online Worship	80	

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.



COMMUNION SERVERS August 9, 2026

Traditional:

Bill Underwood & Heather Strickler
Vicki Leonard & Lorna Garner
Margaret Bonifield
Cheryl Davis

Modern:

Youth



Prayer Board

Bobbie Gaston	Gerald Grady
Fisher Marchant	Gordon Denton
Kathi Fisher	BIL of Joey Pedigo)
Elaine Talbot	Nichole Norberto
Heidi (Friend of Esther Underwood)	Penny and James Hager (daughter & SIL of Barbara Homer)
Sherry White	Judy Knight
Family of Major James McGuckin (Nephew of Sandy Kelley, Mike Fisher & Kathi Fisher)	Carol Hall
Laura Joss (Wife of Bill Underwoods Nephew)	Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)
Mary Jane Svejovsky	Brittany (Friend of Robin Bratcher)
Tamara Spear Kerr (friend of Dot Lyon's daughter, Lori)	Coy Sue Tyler (best friend of Loretta Wright)
Lucas (12 yr old nephew of Carolyn Grady's supervisor)	Norma and Dan Boland
Laurie Buckholtz	Tony Pellegrini
Benni (DIL of Cheryl Davis)	Evelyn Moore
Helen Sullivan	Bill Underwood
Beverly Clark	Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
John Evans	Sandy Rutherford
Danny Payne	Barbara Hill
Roger Pautsch	Elmer (Barbara's friend)
Jo Manharth (mother of Lisa Hutchison)	Judy McMinn
	Tiffany Montesano