

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 — "Did God Say?"

Join us for worship this Sunday as Pastor Randy begins a new sermon series, *That's a Good Question*. This week's message, **"Did God Say?"** draws from Genesis 3:1-7 and invites us to consider how we listen to God's Word and trust what He has spoken. Come grow in faith with us as we worship, learn, and encourage one another. We look forward to sharing Sunday morning with you!

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:

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning on YouTube or on **FaceBook**



Sunday School Classes

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

DULT

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



FALL FEST IS COMING
WE NEED YOU!



Mark your calendars for Fall Fest this Friday, October 23, from 5:00-6:30 p.m.! It's going to be a fun evening for our church and community, and now is the time to start getting ready!



TRUNK HOSTS, we need YOU!

Sign up to decorate your trunk and help us fill the parking lot with lots of fun stops for the kids. The sign-up sheet is available now, so please add your name soon and help us know how many trunks we can count on.



Candy donations are needed, too! We're collecting individually wrapped, small candies, along with fun non-candy treats such as stickers, pencils, erasers, small toys, or other kid-friendly goodies.

And there's more to come! The volunteer sign-up board for the rest of our Fall Fest activities will be out soon, so be watching for ways you can join in and help make this a great night!

Decorate a trunk, donate some treats, lend a hand--and come have some fall fun with us! 

Calling All Cookie Bakers!



Our cookie collection is looking a little crumb-y--we haven't received any yet! The PCW Football team dinner is Thursday, October 29, just a little over a week away. Please bring homemade chocolate chip cookies to the church office anytime before then. The sooner they arrive, the more time we'll have to stack them up and get everything ready. Let's send these players home with full hearts and plenty of cookies!

Hear More, Join In!

We're excited to introduce St. Mark's new assistive listening system to help you hear more clearly during worship! Ten receivers are available to use with your own wired earbuds or earbuds we provide. Auracast listening is also available for compatible hearing aids. Stop by the tech booth at the back of the sanctuary for help getting connected. We want everyone to hear and take part in worship!

Our New Assistive Listening System

10 receivers available

Bring your wired earbuds
or use the earbuds we provide.

Auracast listening for
compatible hearing aids



Help is available at the tech booth in the back of the sanctuary.



To Spread Scriptural Holiness

As our *To Spread Scriptural Holiness* sermon series comes to a close, our Wednesday evening Bible study will conclude tonight, October 21. Thank you to everyone who has participated in this meaningful time of learning and growing together in faith! **Join us tonight!!**

Men's Bible Study Returns!

Men's Bible Study will resume on **Tuesday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 17** and will meet weekly. 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.

Administrative Council Meeting

The Administrative Council will meet on November 2 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 18 to discuss the work and ministry of St. Mark's. This meeting provides an opportunity to hear ministry updates, consider upcoming needs, and look ahead to the ways we can continue serving our church and community. The council will also be preparing for the Charge Conference, which will be held on November 5 at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and learn more about the plans and decisions that help support our church's mission. We hope you'll join us as we prayerfully look toward what God has in store for St. Mark's!

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!

St. Mark's Bethany Women – November Meeting



St. Mark's Bethany Women will meet on Monday, **November 9**, in Barnett Hall. The business meeting will begin at **10:00 a.m.**, followed by a special program at **11:00 a.m.** titled **"What I Didn't Know Because I Didn't Know."**

This informative presentation will focus on VA disability benefits, including how veterans who have not yet received a 100% disability rating may qualify for an increased rating and the additional benefits that may be available to them and their spouses. Many veterans and their families may not realize what benefits they could be eligible to receive.

Whether you are a veteran, spouse, family member, or someone who cares for a veteran, we encourage you to attend and learn more about these valuable resources. Everyone is welcome!

Be sure to bring a notebook! You'll want to take notes on all the helpful information being shared.

Second Winders Thanksgiving Gathering

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. Come enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration, spend time with friends, and learn something helpful along the way. We look forward to seeing you there!



Mexico Mission Trip

January 9-16, 2027



Our next **Mexico Mission Trip** is planned for **January 9-16, 2027.** The team will depart from Oklahoma City, and the estimated cost is $1,250 per person. Some scholarship assistance is available.
Have you ever considered joining a mission trip? This is a wonderful opportunity to serve alongside others and share God's love. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Bequer or Pastor Randy as soon as possible. Airline tickets need to be purchased soon, so the team needs to hear from you!

ST. MARK'S STUDENT MINISTRY

Student Ministry Fundraiser STRIVE 2026

STRIVE is an opportunity for our students to raise money toward camps, retreats, and mission trips through donations and participation in an 8-hour workday. Anyone planning to attend a camp, retreat, or mission trip may participate. Participation is mandatory for students enrolled in Jesus University.

How It Works



Students will receive pledge cards and envelopes to share with potential donors. Donations may be made as a flat amount or pledged toward the hours a student works during the fundraiser.

Donors should complete their pledge cards, keep their receipts, and return donations in the pre-addressed envelopes or place them in Bequer's box in the church copy room. All pledge cards must be returned to Bequer's box by **November 1** to count toward a specific student.

Incentive Levels

- **$400** – Free retreat and mandatory amount for Jesus University students
- **$700** – Free camp or mission trip
- **$1,050** – Additional free camp or mission trip
- **$1,300** – Additional free camp or mission trip
- **$1,750** – Season pass

Important Dates

- **September 30–October 25**: Students ask for donations at church on Wednesdays and Sundays.
- **November 1: Last day to turn in donations for a specific student.**
- **November 7**: STRIVE Workday and Banquet (subject to change depending on weather)

Thank you for supporting our students and helping make these life-changing ministry opportunities possible!





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
- JOY
- PEACE
- PATIENCE
- KINDNESS
- GOODNESS
- FAITHFULNESS
- GENTLENESS
- SELF-CONTROL

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

KidMin Sprouts Is Growing!

Ages 18 Months–3 Years

9:30 Worship Hour

Led by

Miss Christie Couch

WE STILL NEED DIFFERENCE MAKERS!

OUR GREATEST NEEDS:

KIDMIN SEEDS
Birth – 18 Months

- Volunteers needed during both worship hours
- Serve 1st and 3rd Sundays each month

Tiny seeds. Big impact!

KIDMIN SPROUTS
Ages 18 Months – 3 Years

- Assistant needed at the 9:30 a.m. service
- Commitment: One Sunday each month

Watch them sprout and grow in faith!

KIDMIN
- Assistant needed at the 11:00 a.m. service
- Serve the 2nd Sunday of each month

FILLED!! THANK YOU!

Building strong roots in Jesus!

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 where needed, we'd love to have you on our **Response Team!**

Every child. Every story. Every life. Eternally impacted.

Could you give one Sunday a month?

Contact Sharon to learn more or to say, **"I can help!"**

The Gathering

A COMMUNITY FOR MOMS of babies + toddlers

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!*

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.

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.**

Coming Up IN NOVEMBER

Holy Rollers! Youth Bowling Night!



Get ready for an evening of strikes, spares, and plenty of fun at our **All Saints Costume Bowling Night!**

Join us Sunday, November 1, for a fun-filled evening. We'll meet at the church at 4 p.m., then head out for bowling. The cost is **$20 per person,** which includes bowling and pizza.

Find your favorite costume and come ready for a great night! Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes!

Get ready for the TURKEY OLYMPICS!

Who knew turkeys could be so competitive? **Turkey Olympics** is coming to St. Mark's Student Ministry on **Wednesday, November 18!** Get ready for an evening filled with crazy challenges, plenty of laughs, friendly competition, and maybe even a little turkey-themed glory.

Students, bring your friends, bring your competitive spirit, and come prepared to have a great time. **You won't want to miss this one - because at the Turkey Olympics, everyone has a chance to be a champion!**



Upcoming Events

Oct 21 - TONIGHT!
5:30 pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL
Chili Dogs!

6:15 pm KidMin 2
6:15 pm Youth Ministry
6:15 pm To Spread Scriptural Holiness Bible Study
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Oct 22 - SPRC Meeting
Oct 22 - Trustees Meeting
Oct 23 - Overholser Fall Festival
Oct 25 - Team ION
Oct 27 - Finance Budget Meeting
Oct 27 - Men's Bible Study
Oct 28 - Gathering/Titus 2
Oct 29 - PC West Football Team Dinner
Nov 1 - All Saints Day
Nov 2 - Administrative Council
Nov 3 - Men's Bible Study
Nov 4 - Gathering/Titus 2
Nov 5 - Charge Conference
Nov 9 - St. Mark's Bethany Women
Nov 10 - Men's Bible Study
Nov 11 - Gathering/Titus 2
Nov 11 - Veteran's Day
Nov 12 - Second Winders
Nov 14 - Men's Breakfast
Nov 16 - Wrapped in Love

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
10/17/2026 12,488

Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru10/17/26) 503,061
Expenses (thru 10/17/26) .. 519,777

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 18 Total 287

Traditional Worship 169
Modern Worship 43
Online Worship 75





Communion Servers - October 25

Traditional	Gerald & Carolyn Grady Bill Underwood & Heather Strickler David & Jill Morgan
Modern	Ryan & Lisa Mays Aimee & Lincoln Jenks



Don Graves
Christina Baisden
Barbara Homer
Donna Shriver
Jason Jupiterwala
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
Brittany (Friend of Robin Stephenson-Bratcher)
Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)
Coy Sue Tyler (best friend of Loretta Wright)
Tony Pellegrini
Evelyn Moore
Bill Underwood
Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
Sandy Rutherford
Mark Stover (SIL of Sandy Rutherform
Barbara Hill
Elmer (Friend of Barbara Hill)
Judy McMinn
Tiffany Montesano