

ST. MARK'S BETHANY

NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!



To Spread Scriptural Holiness
"Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine"

This Sunday, we continue our *To Spread Scriptural Holiness* series with **"Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine,"** based on Philippians 2:1-13. Paul calls us to have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus==a life marked by humility, love, and concern for others. God's grace is not simply something we receive; it is at work within us, shaping the way we live and helping us become more like Christ. Join us as we consider what it means to live out that grace together and let God work in us "to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

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



Second Winders will gather on **Thursday, October 8, at 11:30 a.m.** for a covered-dish lunch and a special program. Please bring a dish to share according to the first letter of your last name:

A-H - Side Dish
I - P - Meat
R-W - Dessert

Please keep in mind that we may be serving about 35 people.

Following lunch, our **Mission Team will share about their trip to Tanzania**. Come hear about their experiences and the ministry that took place while they were there.

Second Winders is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy good food, fellowship, and time together. **We'd love to have you join us!**



Explore To Spread Scriptural Holiness Together!

Go deeper into our current sermon series with a special **five-week Wednesday evening study** based on *To Spread Scriptural Holiness.*

Clayton Croy and Allen Smith are leading the class as we explore the themes of the book and what it means to live our our Wesleyan calling to spread scriptural holiness.

The study continues at **6:15 p.m. TONIGHT** and the following three Wednesdays. Come for Wednesday Night Dinner at 5:30 p.m., then stay for this opportunity to learn, discuss, and grow together in faith.

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.

willow
PREGNANCY SUPPORT

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!

ROC
REACHING OUR CITY

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

St. Mark's Bethany Women

The St. Mark's Bethany Women will meet on **Monday, October 12 at 10:00 a.m.**

All women of the church are invited to come and enjoy a morning of fellowship, friendship, and connection. Whether you've been involved with the group for years or have never attended before, you are always welcome!

Come spend some time with a wonderful group of women as we share, encourage one another, and look for ways to serve our church and community together.

We'd love to have you join us!



Men, start your Saturday with a good breakfast and great fellowship! Join us on **Saturday, October 10 at 8:00 a.m.** for our Men's Breakfast. It's a relaxed time to enjoy a hearty meal, catch up with friends, and connect with other men in our church family. **Come hungry and bring a friend!**

There's always something happening at St. Mark's — come be part of it!



Have you wondered what Second Winders is all about? Here's a great opportunity to join us, enjoy a delicious meal and get to know the group!

Second Winders will be heading to **Eischen's in Okarche** on **Tuesday, October 20**, for their famous fried chicken. We'll meet at the church and leave at **11:30 a.m.** Our reservation is for **1:00 p.m.**

You don't have to be a regular Second Winders participant to come along. **Everyone is invited!** Bring a friend and join us for a fun afternoon of good food, conversation, and fellowship.

To sign up or for more information, contact **Cheryl at (405) 249-1307**. If needed, leave a message with your name and phone number.

Come along–we'd love to have you join us!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A Celebration of Life for Lauretta "Laurie" Bucholtz will be held at St. Mark's Bethany on Friday, October 9, at 11:00 a.m.

Visitation will be held Thursday, October 8, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Crawford Buchanan Chapel.

Please continue to keep Laurie's family and loved ones in your prayers, asking God to surround them with His comfort and peace.



Team ION - Let's Get Ready!

Hey, Team ION kids and parents! We're meeting **this Sunday after church** to clean up and get our meeting room ready so we can start gathering again! Bring your cleaning clothes. We will provide lunch!

Our first Team ION meeting will be Sunday, October 25, and after than we'll plan to meet on the second and fourth Sundays of each month after church. We may need to adjust a date or two as we get closer to Thanksgiving and Christmas--it's a busy time of year!

We're excited to get Team ION going again and hope to see you there!

Get Those Ovens Ready!

St. Mark's will once again have the privilege of serving dinner to the **Putnam City West football team on Thursday, October 29!** And you know what a football-team dinner needs==plenty of those wonderful homemade chocolate chip cookies from our St. Mark's bakers!



We'll be collecting cookies as the date gets closer, so for now, consider this your early warning: **dust off those cookie sheets, stock up on chocolate chips, and get those ovens ready!** More details about when and where to bring your cookies will be coming soon!

Mexico Mission Trip

January 9-16, 2027



Our next **Mexico Mission Trip** is planned for **January 9-16, 2027.** The team will leave from Oklahoma City, and the estimated cost is $1,250 per person. Some scholarship help is available.

If you've ever considered being part of a mission trip, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more! Let Bequer or Pastor Randy know if you are interested, or come to the upcoming Mission Meeting to hear more about the trip, ask questions, and find out what you can expect.

Interested? Come learn more--there's a place for you on the team!

STRIVE 2026
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!



FALL FEST IS COMING WE NEED YOU!



Mark your calendars for Fall Fest on 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! 

Growing in Faith and Having Fun!





There's always something happening with our St. Mark's Kids! From **Titus 2** little ones enjoying time together while their moms gather and study, to **KidMin 1** on Sunday mornings and **KidMin 2** on Wednesday nights, our children are learning about God's love, building friendships, creating, playing, and having plenty of fun along the way. We love seeing these smiling faces as they learn, grow, and discover what it means to follow Jesus!







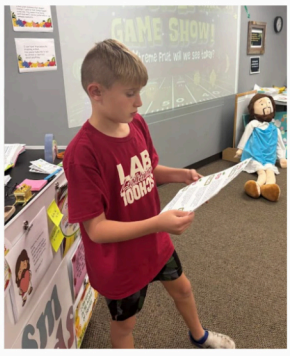


















WE STILL NEED DIFFERENCE MAKERS!

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 2

FILLED!! THANK YOU!!

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

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.**



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

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., head out for bowling and fun!

Bring $20, wear your costume, and get ready for a great night!

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!**



Church Construction Update from Pastor Randy

As many of you have already seen, significant progress has been made toward the completion of Phase 1.

The Family Restroom in the main hall is operational. We have yet to put up the paper towel and soap dispensers, and we have not put the new sign on the door, but it is now a working restroom.

Barnett Hall is partially operational. The floor is done, the lighting is done, the new ceiling is in and we have new chairs and tables. The bulk of the work is completed and the main room is able to be used in a limited way. However, we are still waiting for the bathroom partitions to be installed before we open the new bathrooms. We also have some touchup work with electrical boxes and paint. We have approved installation of a new audio visual system and expect work to begin on that soon. It shouldn't be long before Barnett Hall is totally completed.

The Family Life Center is also coming along nicely. The lighting is in, new doors and doorframes are hung, and the floor in the gym is installed as is the railing on the mezzanine. The bathrooms are near completion as are the 3 new storage areas. The Youth Room, stairs and mezzanine are awaiting flooring. A new sound system was approved and work on that will begin soon.

Capital Campaign Update

TAKING ROOT a place to grow

106 Pledges 1,318,719

Rec'd toward Pledges 10/07/2026 1,277,595

We are a little further away from the Family Life Center's completion, but it is moving along well.

Financially, we are still doing well. We are at the phase of the Capital Campaign where giving is a little slower, but still consistent. We are grateful for everyone's faithfulness and generosity. At this point, it is our hope that we can exceed our original pledges so we can take care of more of the projects that were originally identified.

Lastly, we have a couple of significant additions to the original plan. First, we will be replacing the flooring and paint in the lobby of the Family Life Center. This was not part of our original plan, but that area has been significantly damaged during construction and needs to be replaced. Finally, I know I've buried the lead in this, but I am excited to announce that the Family Life Center will be renamed upon its completion and dedication. After a unanimous vote from our Church Council, it will now be called "the Don & Jan Greve Family Life Center" in honor of all they have meant to this church from its inception until today.

Randy

St. Mark's Bethany SAFE CHURCH Policy

SAFE CHURCH

At St. Mark's Bethany, we prioritize the safety and well-being of our children and youth. In accordance with our commitment to maintaining a secure environment, we have established the following access policy for the children's programming areas:

Authorized Access:
Only children, parents, or approved caregivers are permitted to enter or traverse through the designated children's areas during the following hours:

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Wednesday: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Restricted Access:
For the safety of our children, we kindly ask that all other individuals refrain from entering or passing through these areas during the specified hours, except in cases of emergency or to access emergency exits.

This policy aligns with St. Mark's Procedure for the Implementation of the Safety Policy for Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults (Refer to Paragraph 2.c.).

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in ensuring a secure environment for our children.

Upcoming Events

Oct 7 - TONIGHT!
5:30 pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL
Biscuits & Gravy

6:15 pm KidMin 2
6:15 pm Youth Ministry
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Oct 8 - Second Winders
Oct 10 - Men's Breakfast
Oct 11 - Mission Meeting
Oct 12 - St. Mark's Bethany Women
Oct 14 - Gathering/Titus 2
Oct 19 - Wrapped in Love
Oct 21 - Gathering/Titus 2
Oct 23- Overholser Fall Festival
Oct 27 - Finance Budget Meeting
Oct 29 - PC West Football Team Dinner
Nov 2 - Administrative Council
Nov 5 - Charge Conference

Communion Servers - October 11

Traditional	KJ, Casey, Selah & Greer Cassidy Gerald & Carolyn Grady
Modern	Aimee & Lincoln Jenks Jay & Gwen Sears

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
10/3/2026 11,348

Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru10/3/26) 465,194
Expenses (thru 10/3/26) .. 491,006

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 4 Total 347

Traditional Worship 185
Modern Worship 50
Online Worship 112





Prayer Board

Family of Laurie Buckholtz
Donna Shriver
Kathy Moore
Kyle Baisden
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
Danny Payne
Gordon Denton (BIL of Joey Pedigo)
Nichole Norberto
Judy Knight
Carol Hall
Brittany (Friend of Robin 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