

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 —

"Who is Worthy?"

This Sunday, we celebrate **Christ the King**, marking the final Sunday of the Christian year, when we proclaim Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In Revelation 5:1-13, we are given a breathtaking glimpse of heaven, where all creation joins in declaring the worthiness of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. As Pastor Randy concludes our *"That's a Good Question"* sermon series, we'll be reminded that Christ alone is worthy of all honor, glory, and praise.

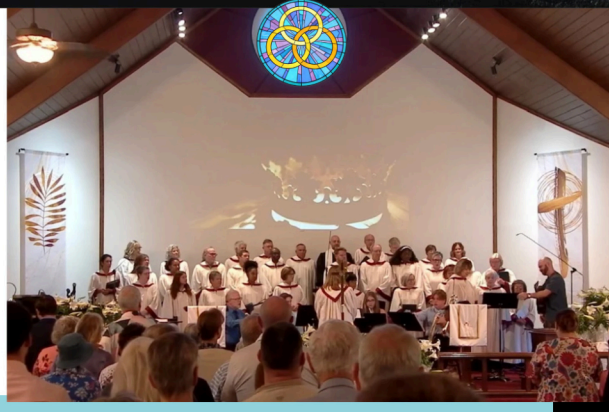
Join us for this special Sunday as we celebrate the One who reigns forever!

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:

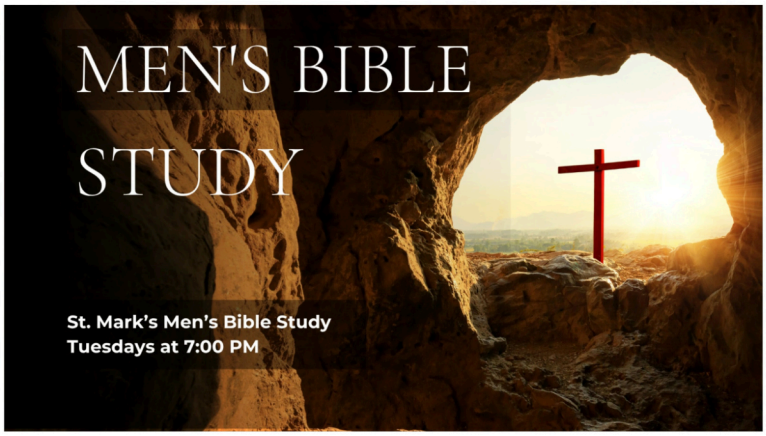
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on **YouTube** or **FaceBook**



Sunday School Classes

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

Men's Bible Study



Men's Bible Study has resumed and will meet weekly at 7:00 p.m. at the church. 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.

Bounty of Thanks

We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.



—Robert Louis Stevenson

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 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!

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!

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE CDO CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our Children's Day Out (CDO) children are getting ready to celebrate Christmas, and the entire St. Mark's congregation is warmly invited to join the festivities! Come share in the joy of the season on **Thursday, December 10, at 6:00 p.m.**

A reception will follow, and we would love a little help making it extra special. Ladies of St. Mark's, if you would be willing to bake cookies or cupcakes for the reception, your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your baked goods to the church office by the morning of Thursday, December 10.

Thank you for helping make this a wonderful Christmas celebration for our CDO children and families!



HELP US PREPARE FOR ADVENT!

It's time to get St. Mark's ready for the beautiful season of Advent! We invite anyone who would like to help decorate the sanctuary and narthex to join us on **Monday, November 23, at 9:00 a.m.**

Many hands make light work, and we'd love to have your help as we prepare our church for this special season of hope, peace, joy, and love.

If you have any questions, please contact **Cheryl Davis.**

Staff Christmas Appreciation



During this Christmas season, we want to take a moment to recognize and thank our wonderful St. Mark's staff for all they do throughout the year. Their dedication, care, and faithful service are such a blessing to our church family.

For those who would like to share in this expression of gratitude, Staff Appreciation envelopes will be available the first two Sundays in December. Gifts may also be made online through Church Center by selecting **Staff Appreciation** from the giving options.

Thank you for helping us show our staff how much they are loved and appreciated this Christmas season!

Mexico Mission Trip

January 9-16, 2027

The Team Is Ready — Will You Pray With Us?



Our Mexico Mission Trip team is complete, and preparations are underway for their journey scheduled for January 9-16, 2027! We are grateful for those who have answered the call to serve and share God's love with others.

Although the team is filled, everyone in our congregation can be a part of this mission through prayer! Please pray for safe travels, good health, strength, unity, and opportunities for our team to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those they encounter.

Most importantly, pray that God's love will shine through everything they say and do. We look forward to hearing how God works through this mission.

Thank you for supporting our mission team with your prayers!

Care Share

Help Make Christmas Brighter with Care Share!

Once again, St. Mark's Bethany is excited to participate in the **Putnam City Schools Foundation Care Share program**, helping local students and their families experience a brighter, more joyful Christmas!

Beginning this Sunday, you'll find a tree filled with names and wish lists of children who could use a little extra Christmas cheer. We invite you to take a name—or several!—and help make the season special for these children.

Here's how you can help:

- Choose a child's name and wish list from the tree.
- Shop for gifts, spending $75 or less per child. Gifts may include toys, clothing, and personal items.
- All gifts must be new. Please, no bicycles or electronics.
- Remove price tags, but do not wrap the gifts.
- Place each child's gifts in a separate bag. If shopping for siblings, place their individual bags together in one larger bag to keep the family together.

Please return your gifts to **St. Mark's Bethany as soon as possible, preferably before the second week of December**, so we can deliver them to the schools in time for Christmas.

Together, we can share God's love and help make Christmas a little brighter for children and families in our community!



Get ready for some feather-flying fun! The Turkey Olympics are happening TONIGHT!

Our youth will put their skills, teamwork, and competitive spirits to the test with some hilarious Thanksgiving-themed challenges--including a little turkey bowling! There are sure to be plenty of laughs, friendly competition and unforgettable moments,

Let the games begin--and may the best turkey win!



Celebrating New Life in Christ!

What a blessing to celebrate three baptisms over the past two Sundays at St. Mark's Bethany!

Each baptism is a beautiful reminder of God's grace, His unfailing love, and the promises we share as a church family. As a congregation, we rejoice in welcoming these precious individuals and in our commitment to surround them with love, encouragement, and prayer as they grow in faith.

God is at work at St. Mark's Bethany, and we have so much to celebrate!



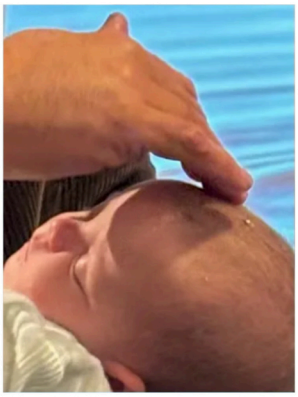




Calvin Thomas Kessler







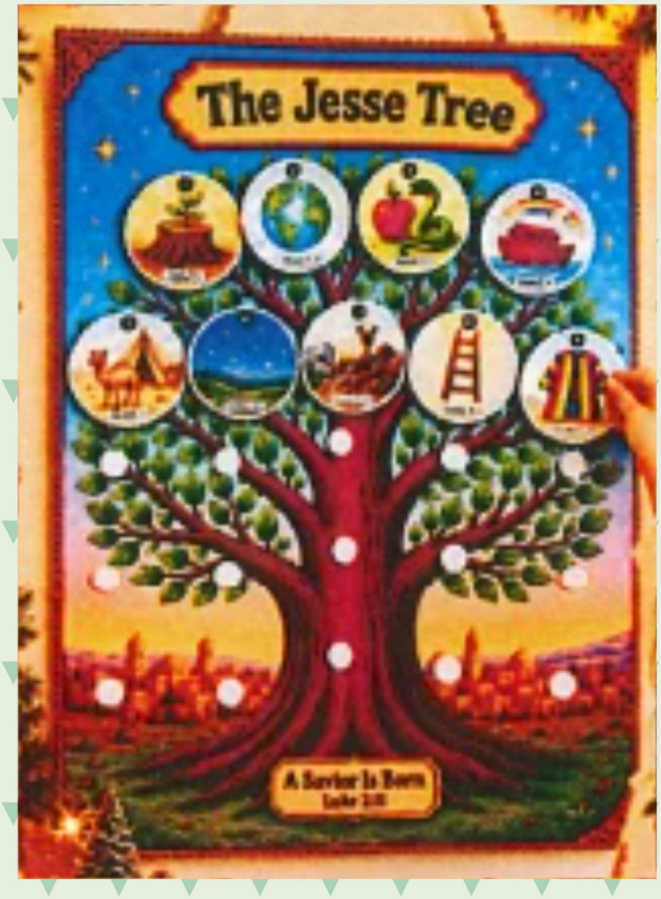
Rachel Rose German







Dale George German



The Jesse Tree is coming!

We've been dropping a few hints about something special coming this Advent season. Now it's time for a little sneak peek!

This colorful Jesse Tree features 24 ornaments, each representing a Bible story that helps us follow God's promises from the beginning of Scripture to the birth of Jesus.

There's more to discover, and we can't wait to share it with you! One for older kids too!

Check the KidMin Grid!

Advent is coming to KidMin!

Exciting new resources are on the way to help families celebrate Advent together! From family devotions and prayers to meaningful activities, there will be opportunities to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus.





Be sure to keep checking the KidMin Grid for new Advent resources and ideas to share with your family!

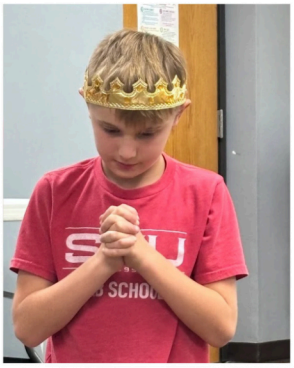
Growing in Faith and Having Fun!



There's always something exciting happening in KidMin at St. Mark's! From learning about God's love through Bible stories and hands-on activities to singing, playing, and making new friends, our children are growing in faith while having lots of fun!

Every smile, every discovery, and every little moment is an opportunity to plant seeds of faith that will last a lifetime. What a blessing to watch these young hearts grow in God's love!

























Growing in God's Love - One Fruit at a Time!



KidMin is continuing their journey through the Fruit of the Spirit, discovering how God's love can grow in their hearts and shine through their everyday lives!

Each week brings new opportunities to grow in faith and become a little more like Jesus!

KidMin Sprouts

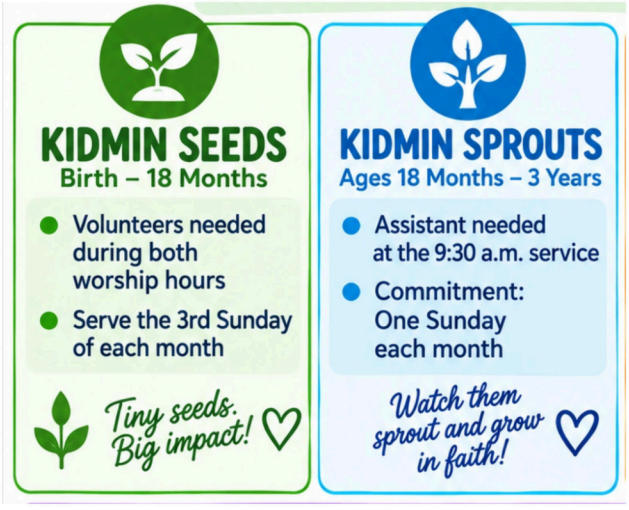
Big faith begins with little hearts! KidMin Sprouts provides a loving, nurturing environment for children ages 18 months through 3 years. During the 9:30 a.m. worship service, Miss Christie Couch helps our little ones experience God's love through activities, play, and caring attention. We're planting seeds of faith that will continue to grow for years to come!

WE STILL NEED DIFFERENCE MAKERS!

.Our KidMin ministry is growing, and we need YOU to help make a difference in the lives of our youngest children! Volunteers are needed for KidMin Seeds and Sprouts, and we also welcome anyone willing to fill in when an extra hand is needed.

Even serving just one Sunday a month can make a lasting impact!

If you have a heart for children and a willingness to help, please contact **Sharon Hunt** to learn how you can be a **Difference Maker**!



The Gathering

There are wonderful opportunities for moms to connect, grow and encourage one another at St. Mark's! **The Gathering** meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m., offering moms a welcoming place for friendship, encouragement, and study.

Meanwhile, our **Titus 2** ministry provides loving care for babies and toddlers while their moms participate in Bible study and fellowship. Together, these ministries are helping build friendships, strengthen families, and share God's love with the next generation!



Upcoming Events

Nov 18 - TONIGHT!
5:30 pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL
Meatball Subs

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

Nov 22 - Mission Meeting
Nov 23-27 - CDO Closed
Nov 24 - Men's Bible Study
Nov 25 - Office Closed - No Wednesday Night Programming
Nov 26 - THANKSGIVING
Nov 29 - First Sunday of Advent
Dec 1 - Men's Bible Study
Dec 2 - The Gathering/Titus 2
Dec 5 - Faith Builders Christmas Party
Dec 6 - Team ION
Dec 10 - CDO Christmas Program
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve
Dec 25 - CHRISTMAS

Communion Servers – November 22

Traditional	Gregg & Kathy Miller Trish Patton & Vickie Maynord Cheryl Davis & Robin Stephenson-Bratcher
Modern	Schneider family members

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget 684,155

Rec'd toward Operating
11/14/2026 16,946

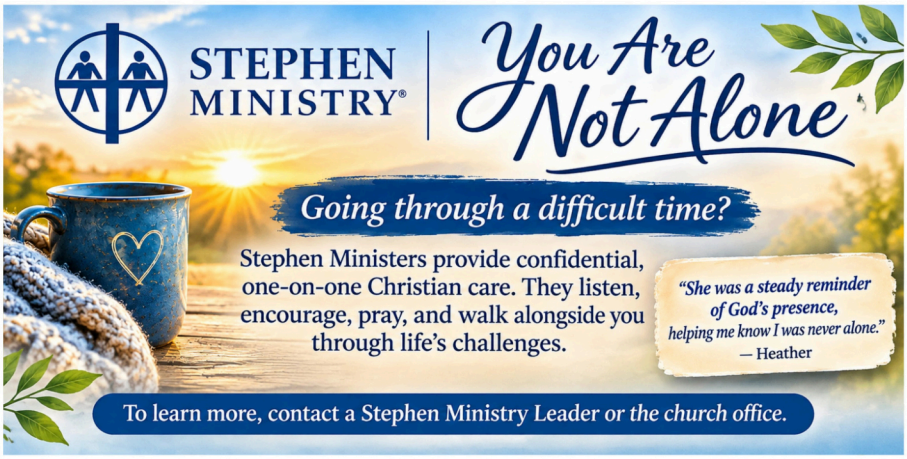
Year to Date 2026
Rec'd toward offering
(thru11/14/26) 548,710
Expenses (thru 11/14/26) ... 560,393

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 15 Total 331

Traditional Worship 200
Modern Worship 27
Online Worship 104







Family of Sandy Rutherford
Sarah (Sister of Robin Bratcher)
In Utero Grandaughter (Connie Willis)
Norma Boland
Elle Gather
Don Greve
Donna Shriver
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
Marie & Skyler Wolfgang (daughter & granddaughter of Tony & Vicki Pellegrini)
Evelyn Moore
Bill Underwood
Mark Stover (SIL of Sandy Rutherford
Barbara Hill
Judy McMinn
Tiffany Montesano