

HE MEETS US IN OUR DOUBT

ST. MARK'S BETHANY
NEWSLETTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Wait—It Doesn't End at the Empty Tomb

Easter wasn't the end of the story—it was just the beginning. This Sunday we begin our new series — *"Wait—It Doesn't End at the Empty Tomb"* as we step into the story of Thomas in John 20:19-31. In a moment filled with doubt, questions, and longing for truth, Jesus meets His disciples—and Thomas—right where they are. Join us as we discover how Christ still comes to us with peace, grace, and an invitation to believe, even when we haven't seen.

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 both services.

To watch the live streams, please join us at:

9:30 am Sunday morning 11:00 am Sunday morning



Sunday School Classes

We have classes for all ages and interests

CHILDREN

Nursery (Ages 0-3 yrs)	9:30 - 12:00
KidMin (Age 3 - 5th grade)	9:30 - 10:35
Wee Worship (Age 3- Kdgtn)	10:45 - 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

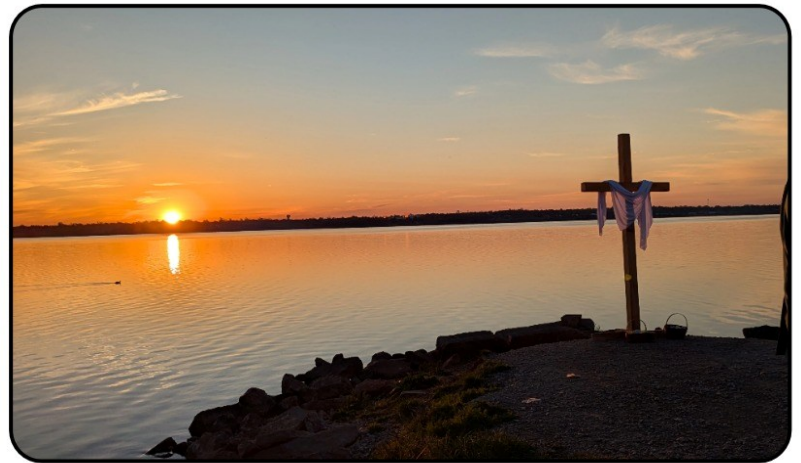
Easter at St. Mark's: A Day of Joy and Celebration

What a beautiful and meaningful Easter Sunday we shared together as the St. Mark's family!

We began the morning at sunrise, gathering at the lake as the light broke over the water—a peaceful and powerful reminder of the hope and new life we celebrate.

It was truly a breathtaking start to a very special day.

Later, laughter and excitement filled the air at our Easter egg hunt. It was a joy to see so many children and families participating! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated eggs, helped prepare, and made this event such a wonderful success! Your time and generosity made all the difference.



Throughout our worship services, we were blessed by a full sanctuary, uplifting music, and a message that reminded us of the joy found in the risen Christ. It was a moving and meaningful time of worship, and we are so grateful for each person who joined us.

Thank you for being part of such a special Easter at St. Mark's.

**He is risen—He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!**





ST. MARK'S BETHANY

We are hiring for paid children/youth 2026 summer internships now!

Apply Here!



St. Mark's Bethany is a place for children/youth to build a foundation of faith and equip kids to KNOW God, GROW to be like Him, and GO serve Him. At St. Mark's, students come first! Our summer interns must have a heart to serve our church and love working with children and youth!

Interns are people who are interested in exploring ministry in the local church. They are selected because of their demonstrated leadership among their peers and students, maturity in their Christian faith, and a desire to see others come to know Jesus Christ. This would be an unforgettable and valuable experience for someone with a heart for students and wants to be involved with them.

SAVE *The* DATE

SMBW Arts & Crafts Fair

Applications for the 2026 Craft Fair are already coming in! Booth applications are available at St. Mark's—be sure to reserve your spot soon.

Not having a booth?

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 3rd** and plan to join us for a wonderful day of shopping, creativity, and community.



You won't want to miss it!

StMarksBethany.com

Our Local Missions

St. Mark's believes that mission work happens both across the globe and right here at home. ROC and Willow are two incredible ministries that are making a real difference in the lives of individuals and families in our own community.

Through your prayers, service and generosity, we are able to partner with these organizations as they share hope, meet practical needs, and reflect Christ's love in meaningful ways.



Willow Pregnancy Support is grateful for contributions of clothing for newborns to size 6, shoes up to size 13, and diapers in sizes 4, 5, and 6. They also welcome donations of bottles, bath wash, lotion, and Good Start Formula.

Willow has recently moved to a new location at 4107 N. Council in Bethany and continues to serve families in our community with care and compassion.

Your support truly makes a difference — thank you for your generosity!



ROC always appreciates our donations of canned and boxed food. Although they accept other types of contributions, our church focuses on providing food. Right now they especially need canned meats such as tuna or chicken, but any type of canned goods is welcome and appreciated. Please place your food donations in the Grocery Basket located in the narthex! Thank you for helping support this important ministry.

April 8, 2026



Your Thoughts Matter!

On Wednesday nights, we've been learning that our thoughts matter—because they shape what we say and what we do. Last week, we talked about finding joy even in hard times. This week, we'll take a step further as we learn what Jesus teaches about loving our enemies.

In Luke 6:27–28, Jesus says, *“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.”* It's not always easy—but it's how we begin to look more like Him.

We hope your child will join us on this journey as we discover that Jesus changes everything—for those who choose to follow Him.
He is the way and the truth and the life. — John 14:6



ROBOTICS CAMP IS COMING June 29 - July 2



Plans are underway as we finalize details like ages and group sizes. We wanted families and volunteers to go ahead and save the date!



Watch Church Center for registration and details—coming soon!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Second Winders' Gathering Thursday, April 9 | Room 18



Come gather with friends for a time of conversation, food, and a program.

The group will meet in Room 18 at 11:30 with visiting, followed by announcements and a meal of pizza, salad and desserts.

The program, *Legends of the Castles on the Rhine*, will explore the stories behind these famous castles. How many are there? What are the legends — and are they real? Come find out!

St. Mark's Bethany Women Monday, April 13 | Room 18

Beginning at 10:00 am, our Women's group will join in fellowship, refreshments, a program, and the Women's meeting.



Today's program will be presented by The Salvation Army "Bed & Bread Club." Major Analise Ryerson will share how the Salvation Army serves our local community by providing beds and meals for those in need.

We would love to see you there!

MOMENTUM CAMPUS MINISTRY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mark your calendars! Join us for the Momentum Campus Ministry Golf Tournament on Monday, May 4, 2026 for a day of golf, community, and supporting what God is doing on campus.

- Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 (two flights)
- Location: Oak Hills Golf & Country Club, Ada, Oklahoma

All proceeds go toward helping Momentum continue its mission of impacting students' lives for Christ.

Contact Randy if you are interested.

Monday Morning Gardening

Would you enjoy helping keep our church grounds beautiful?

Mondays, from 10 :00 am to 12:00 noon,
Leslie Sipes will be in the garden.

Come join us for planting, watering, weeding, or whatever is needed. Every helping hand makes a difference.

Come when you can.
No commitment required.



Men's Bible Study Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

The St. Mark's Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in Room 17. This group offers a welcoming space for men to gather around God's Word, grow in faith, and encourage on another through thoughtful discussion and prayer. Bring your Bible and join the conversation as we explore Scripture together and seek how it speaks into our daily lives. Whether you've been part of the group before or are joining for the first time, all men are welcome.

For information, call Fred Dalton at 405-823-7264 or Rev. Allen Smith at 405-620-1861.

Youth Bible Reading Challenge Don't Break the Streak!

The Youth Bible Reading Challenge is going strong, and our students are continuing to build their streaks! Each day spent in God's Word is another step toward growing a steady, lasting faith.

Students -- keep that streak going! Even a few minutes in Scripture each day can make a big impact.

Parents, a simple question like, "What did you read today?" can encourage consistency and open the door for meaningful conversations at home. Let's continue cheering them on as they grow, learn, and deepen their connection with God each day!



Kigoma Women's Center Dedication Mission Trip

Preparations are underway for the June 7, 2026 dedication of the Women's Center in Kigoma, Tanzania. Travel plans are in place, and the team is actively preparing for this meaningful journey.



Eight participants will attend from St. Mark's and David and Becky Roman will be meeting them there. As they gather supplies and make final preparations, this trip continues to be a powerful opportunity to celebrate God's work through long-term mission partnerships and to stand alongside those serving faithfully.

The mission team will depart from Oklahoma City on May 29th and return on June 10th.

Please continue to keep this mission opportunity, the team, and the Women's Center in your prayers.

Unshakable Joy in Every Step



This week, our kids didn't just hear the lesson — They *walked it out!*

They practiced their "**unshakable stroll**" while learning that joy doesn't go away when things are hard. When our joy comes from Jesus, we can keep moving forward with confidence no matter what.

And let me tell you — they walked it well! 😊





Learn Character. Learn Independence. Learn Truth

KIDS NEED CAMP

www.newliferanch.com

St. Mark's Children's Summer Camp SAVE THE DATE!!!

We're excited to share information about a **fantastic children's camp** at **New Life Ranch** this summer for kids who are **going into 2nd-6th grade!**

Junior Camp runs June 14-20 (Sunday-Saturday) with fun, high-energy theme "Superheroes."

Camp at New Life Ranch is an incredible opportunity for children to grow in faith, build friendships, and experience God's love in a fun and encouraging environment.

Scholarships are available to help make camp possible for every child.

Youth Summer Camps 2026!!!



Check out your Youth Newsletter for links to sign up for camps!

Mark your calendars for our 2026 summer camps! These camps are wonderful opportunities for students to grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun in a Christ-centered environment.

DAYSPRING May 26 - 30

This is our high school camp for students entering 9th grade through graduating seniors. Camp will be held at New Life Ranch - Frontier Cove. The cost is \$325 per student, and Strive funds may be used for camps and retreats!

YOUTH FORCE TULSA - June 14 - 19

DISCIPLE CAMP - July 22-25

We encourage families to start planning now and prayerfully consider which camp opportunities are right for their students.

Upcoming Events

April 8 - Wednesday Night Meal - TACOS

5:15 Prayer
 6:15 KidMin
 6:15 Youth Ministry
 6:30 Choir Rehearsal

April 9 - Second Winders

April 10 - Kings & Queens Kids

April 12 - Mission Meeting

April 13 - St. Mark's Bethany Women

April 14 - Men's Bible Study

April 20 - Wrapped in Love

April 21 - SPRC Meeting

April 21 - Men's Bible Study

April 23 - Kings & Queens Plus

April 28 - Men's Bible Study

May 5 - Men's Bible Study

May 7 - CDO Lunch with Parents

May 8 - Kings & Queens Kids

May 10 - Mother's Day

FACTS & Figures

2026 Annual Budget	684,155
Rec'd toward Operating 4/04/2026	11,741
Year to Date 2026 Rec'd toward offering (thru 4/04/26)	144,857
Expenses (thru 4/04/26) ..	173,489

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 5	Total	577
Traditional Worship		263
Modern Worship		96
Online Worship		218

Come pray with us -- whether you want to pray quietly alone, be prayed for, or join in intercessory prayer for others. Explore simple prayer tools, linger or come and go as you need, and experience the presence of God in a peaceful space.



Wednesdays 5:15-6:00 pm
 Prayer Team meets 5:15 pm



COMMUNION SERVERS April 12, 2026

Traditional: Becky & Steve Chessmore
 Fred & Carol Dalton

Modern: Tyler & Katie Miller
 Mike & Sally Kilby



Prayer Board

Abbey Evans Stowe	Norma and Dan Boland
Judy Knight	Tony Pellegrini
Paul Moon	Evelyn Moore
Carolyn Grady	Bill Underwood
Carol Hall	Billy Joe Watson (friend of Wayne Barnes)
Kason (grandson of Cheryl Pavelko)	Sandy Rutherford
Brandon Kilpatrick (friend of Steve Ross)	Barbara Hill
Norma McMurtry	Elmer (Barbara's friend)
Greg Tyler (friend of Loretta Wright)	Lief Hill (son of a friend of Wayne Barnes)
	Judy McMinn
	Tiffany Montesano