



ST. MARK'S BETHANY NEWSLETTER

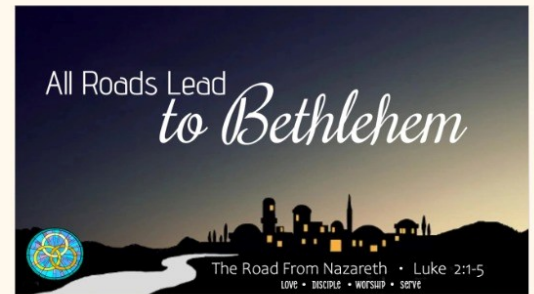
JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

- 8:30 New Life Rm 18
Sonshine Rm 17
- 9:30 Books of the Bible Rm 17
Disciple Rm 18
Young Adults Rm 5
- 10:45 Faithbuilders Rm 18
Good News Rm 5
R.O.C.K. Rm 19
Understanding God's Word Rm 17
Epistle of Romans

This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Pastor Randy will be continuing the sermon series, "All Roads Lead to Bethlehem" with the sermon is "The Road From the East" using the scripture Matthew 2:1-12.

We look forward to seeing you this Sunday and in sharing the joy of worship together as we continue our journey of Advent and prepare our hearts. The theme of the Fourth Week of Advent is peace and it reminds us that Jesus comes to bring Peace to the world and to people's hearts.



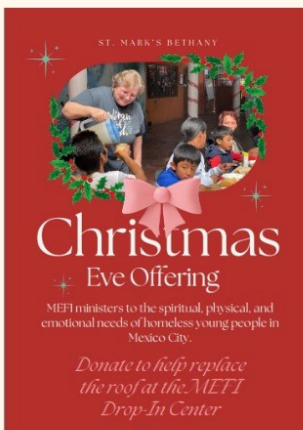
Traditional services begin at 9:30 am and the Modern service begins at 10:55 am. If you are unable to attend Worship services in person, there will be a live streaming of each service.

To watch the live stream, please join us at:

9:30 am Sunday morning

10:55 am Sunday morning

Christmas Eve Offering



This year, our Christmas Eve offering will go to MEFI, one of our longest-standing mission partnerships, to help with a new roof on their Drop-In Center!

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

Merry Christmas Pastor Randy!



Pastor Randy walked into a "wrapped" office this morning! Come by and enjoy his treat!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

December 18
5:30 pm



Sandwiches

6:15 pm



6:30 pm



CHOIR PRACTICE



DECEMBER 18TH
6:00 PM

WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AND CARPOOL
TO THE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS.

CONTACT KELLY JO POSS OR KATHI
FISHER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Christmas Eve Services are a time to focus on the joy of Christmas. Each service will include beautiful music, a Christmas message and concludes with the lighting of candles to the carol Silent Night.



Worship times are listed below.
December 24th Services

4:00 PM - Family Service

7:00 PM - Traditional Service

11:00 PM - Modern Service

End of Year Giving Reminder

To be counted for 2024, donations must be turned in to the office or postmarked by 12/31. Donations received in the offering Sunday, January 5th will be credited to 2025.



Combined Service December 29th



Difference Makers Needed

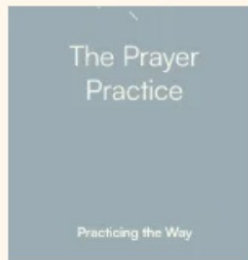


Want to make a difference in a child's life? Difference Makers are needed for smKids on Sunday mornings at 9:15 to 10:45 or 10:45 to 12:00 noon.

Contact Sharon Hunt to find out how YOU can make a difference!

New Study Beginning in January - The Prayer Practice

Whether you think you already know about and how to pray ... or wish you were better at ... or practicing the way... •



There are two opportunities to attend "The Prayer Practice." One will start on Sunday, January 5th at 8:30 am in Room 17 (Sonshine), and/or ...

Another class will start on Tuesday, January 7th at 1 PM in Room 18. Same content, different times.

No books are needed for the study.

Kathi Fisher and Beverly Ray will be leading this study. Come join us!

HEYA!!! COOKING CLASS

COME AND JOIN US MAKING CHILES RELLENOS

BRING \$5 AND ENJOY YOUR MEAL!



JANUARY 9, 2025
BARNETT HALL
FROM 5:00-6:30 PM

EMAIL TO RSVP:
BEQUER@STMARKSBETHANY.COM
OR SIGN-UP ON THE CHURCH COUNTER

Our Local Missions

Check out the LOCAL MISSIONS on the wall across from the sanctuary!!! Remember them this Christmas season!



ROC can always use our donations of canned and boxed food, especially cereal. A Grocery Basket is in the narthex for your donations!

Thank you!!!



Willow Pregnancy Support can always use our donations of newborn - 6 clothes, shoes to size 13, diapers size 4, 5, and 6, bottles, bath wash and lotion and Good Start Formula. Thank you so much for your donations!



Let's keep our children safe!!!



St. Mark's Bethany is a designated SAFE CHURCH. We take the safety of our children very seriously. Only children, parents or caregivers who have been approved by church leadership may enter or pass through this area during the hours of regularly scheduled children's programming:

Sunday - 9:00 am to 12:15 pm
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday - 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
Wednesday - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

All others, for the safety of our children, please do not enter or pass through this area except in an emergency or to access emergency exits.

(Ref: St. Mark's Procedure for implementation of the Safety Policy for Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults, Paragraph 2.c.)

THANK YOU!!!!

YOUTH WINTER RETREAT 24

YOUTH WINTER RETREAT 24
BEING THE CHURCH

February 14-16 at Sky Ranch Cave Springs
Get ready for it! Cost: \$135
or you can use STRIVE Credits

Deadline to Sign up is February 1st
For Questions get ahold of Bequer
bequer@stmarksbethany.com



SCAN FOR REGISTRATION FORM

The Youth Winter Retreat is coming up February 14-16 at Sky Ranch in Peoria, Oklahoma.

Use the QR code to sign up!

The group will leave St. Mark's on Friday at 5:00 PM and return to OKC around 4:30 PM on Sunday.

Cost of the retreat is \$135 and includes a t-shirt and meals!

Spring Break Mission Trip 2025!

Confirmation 2025!

CONFIRMATION 2025
confirm your faith

REGISTER NOW IN THE CHURCH APP!
FROM LATE FEBRUARY- APRIL
8-10TH GRADE

St. Mark's BETHANY

(SM)² STUDENT MINISTRY

SPRING BREAK

MISSION TRIP 2025

MARCH 16-21 MIREZ, MEXICO
MORE DETAILS TO COME

Sm kids

Sunday Mornings Kidmin



Nursery

9:30 - 12:00 ages 6mo - 3

Early Childhood

9:30-10:45 ages 3-Kindergarten

Wee Worship

10:45 - 12:00 ages 3-kindergarten

Elementary

9:30-10:45 ages 1st-5th grade



Family
Christmas Eve
4:00pm
The Lights of
Bethlehem

We need children and Families to help in readings for the Lights of Bethlehem Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:00pm Contact Sharon Hunt



All
Church
Caroling
Dec. 18
6:00pm

What does it feel like to wait?

Read Isaiah 9
But even in the waiting, God is at work, preparing you for what lies ahead.

Read Luke 1:46-55
God is faithful in the waiting. Talk about what this means. So, keep watch. The King is coming!



Word of Wonder
Isaiah 9:6

A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.

Elementary

A child will be born.
He will be the Prince of Peace.

Early Childhood



Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6





KINGS AND QUEENS

DECEMBER 2024



Kings and Queens is not just a Respite program, we also help families plug into our Wednesday nights and Sunday morning programs. Reach out to Kayla Gannon for information!

Kings and Queens Thursday Respite Night had a great night out Christmas shopping for their family and friends! We ate pizza, field trip to Five Below, and back to wrap presents! Such a fun night!

Kings and Queens Friday Respite Night We had lots of fun exploring sensory activities and spending time together!



Upcoming!!

DECEMBER RESPITE WILL BE COMBINED! WE HAVE LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE EVENING!

Special Thanks!

We are so grateful for the generous donations from the **Methodist Women's** group to help purchase Christmas gifts for our Kings and Queens kids!



COMING UP!

December 18 - Wednesday Night Meals
 5:30 SANDWICHES
 6:15 KidMin
 6:15 Youth Ministry
 6:15 King Jesus Bible Study
 6:30 Choir Rehearsal

December 18 - Caroling

December 24 - Christmas Eve
 Services at 4, 7 & 11 PM
 Church Office Closed

December 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS
 NO WEDNESDAY EVENING PROGRAMS
 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

December 26 - Church Office Closed

December 29 - Combined Service

December 31 - Church Office Closes
 at Noon

January 1 - New Year's Day!
 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

January 5 - Team ION

January 7 - Prayer Practice Study

January 9 - Second Winders

January 9 - Cooking Class

January 10 - Kings & Queens


January 11 - Men's Breakfast

January 13 - St. Mark's Bethany Women

January 16 - Mexico Mission Trip

January 20 - Wrapped in Love

January 28 - Advance Commitment
 Gathering



God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone
 If you know someone who could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister
 contact a Stephen Leader or our church office



Prayer Tools
 Intercessory Prayer
 Prayer Alone
 Be Prayed For/With
 Come & Go
EXPERIENCE GOD

Wednesdays 5:00-6:00 pm
 Prayer Team meets 5:00-5:30 pm

FACTS & FIGURES

2024 Annual Budget 603,578

Rec'd toward Operating
 12/14/2024 14,326

Year to Date 2024
 Rec'd toward offering
 (thru 12/14/24) 564,555
 Expenses (12/14/24) 556,262

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, December 15 Total 323

Traditional Worship 195
 Modern Worship 62
 Online Worship 66



Prayer Board

- | | |
|---|---|
| Frank Wilkerson | Dennis Bratcher |
| Bill Kindred | Fisher Marchant (Daughter of Jen Marchant and Granddaughter of Kathi & Mike Fisher) |
| Beverly Clark | Lief Hill (son of a friend of Wayne Barnes) |
| Barbara Homer | Jim Brown |
| Barbara Hill | Fred Dalton |
| Sara Miller | Winn Lusk |
| Michelle (co-worker of Sara Votaw) | Dianna Davidson |
| Larry Grady (Jerry Grady's brother) | Judy McMinn |
| Laurie Buckholtz | Cheryl Andrews |
| Evelyn Moore | Jeff & Tiffany Montesano |
| Cindy Wilkerson (DIL of Frank & Nadine Wilkerson) | |
| Jan Greve | |