

# St. Mark's BETHANY



September 13, 2023

Join us this Sunday for worship at St. Mark's. Randy will finish the series "Origins: Messages from Genesis" this Sunday with the message "Day 7 - The Goal of Creation" and we hope you are able to come hear it. The scripture lesson for the week comes from Genesis 2:1-3.

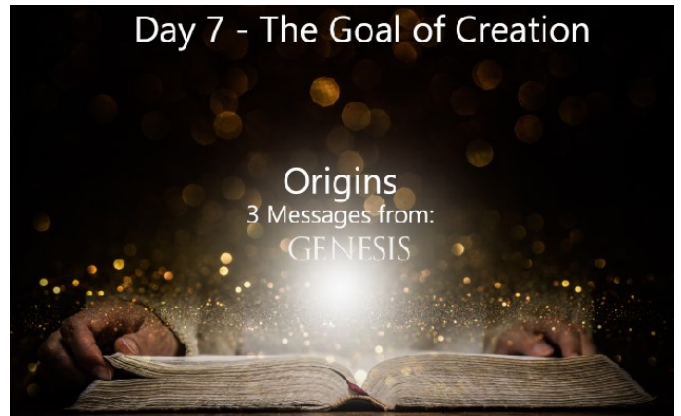
All Sunday school classes will be at their regular time and area. If you don't attend a class drop by one and try it out.

Sunday School classes:

8:30 New Life Rm. 18  
Sonshine Rm. 17

9:30 Books of the Bibles Rm 17,  
Disciple Rm. 18,  
Young Adults Rm. 5

10:45 Faithbuilders Rm 18,  
Good News Choir room,  
R.O.C.K Rm. 19



Traditional services are at 9:30 am and Modern services are at 10:55 am. If you are not able to attend Worship services there will be a live streaming of worship.

To watch the life stream, you can join us at:

[9:30 am Sunday morning](#) or at [10:55 Sunday morning](#).

## Wednesday Night!



5:00 pm



5:30 pm



6:00 pm



6:15 pm



6:15 pm



6:15 pm



6:30 pm

## Exciting New Outreach Ministry

St. Mark's is kicking off a new mission and outreach ministry that will be making shawls and caps for newborns. We will be partnering with Willow Pregnancy Support ministry. The group "Wrapped in Love" will meet the 3rd Monday of each month at 10 am in room 18 (**first meeting on September 18th**). Along with a crocheting & knitting we will have a devotion and an amazing time of fellowship. This is open to all, young and old, male and female.



**Come Join us this coming Monday!**

## HEYA!!! COOKING CLASS

### COME AND JOIN US MAKING MOLE ENCHILADAS

WHILE LEARNING SOME BASIC CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH  
**BRING \$5 AND ENJOY YOUR MEAL!**



**SEPTEMBER 28, 2023  
BARNETT HALL  
FROM 5:45-7:00 PM**

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

## Financial Peace University class coming to St. Mark's

Starting September 24th and running 9 weeks through November 19th, there will be a Financial Peace University class at St. Mark's. Tim McKay will lead the class and it will be a great opportunity for all. Cost for the class is \$79 for a family (a substantial amount less than regular price). The fee covers the class, workbook, 12 months of access to all class videos and a 12 months of Every Dollar premium which provides

This culture is *designed* to take you down. Credit cards, car loans, student loans . . . they'll keep you paying way too much money for way too long. But there's one way out of the mess of debt, and it starts right here with *you*. You can change your future today by joining my virtual *Financial Peace University* class. You'll learn to pay off debt fast, save more money, and build lasting wealth. Class starts on September 24<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's Bethany, so sign up today at [Financial Peace University](https://www.financialpeace.org)



wonderful tools, advice and a budget planning guide. You can sign up by scanning QR code above, going to registration on Church Center or at a table that will be set up in the foyer the next two weeks between services. It is a joy to be able to offer this opportunity to our members. Get signed up today!





NEW ROOM CONFERENCE  
**KOINONIA**  
 TEN YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP



Sept. 20-22, 2023  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**  
 (THE WOODLANDS METHODIST CHURCH)

St. Mark's has a team together to be a part of Seedbed's New Room Conference. You can still join them if interested in going please contact the church office or any staff member to get signed up. Cost for the event will be \$309 plus travel and lodging. It will be a life changing event including some of the top Christian speakers from around the world, powerful break out sessions and God filled worship services. This is the chance to go to an event that is not that far from home that will challenge and equip you in your walk with Christ. You can learn more at:

[newroomconference.com/](http://newroomconference.com/)

If you're unable to attend in person but would like to join online individually you can register for the livestream at:

[Livestream New Life](#)



## SECOND WINDERS KICK OFF FALL PROGRAMMING

The next meeting of Second Winders will be on Thursday, September 14, with visiting at 11:30 and the meal at 12:00 in Barnett Hall. This month we will be doing the potluck meal. The meal will be divided into 3 groups, using the last names to show the group they are to bring from. Main dish (H-M) Sides-salad or vegetable (N-Z) Dessert (A-G). Pastor Randy will be bringing us the program covering his Holy land trips.

*Come & Go Prayer Time*  
*Wednesdays 5-6 pm (starting March 8)*

*Be Prayed  
 For/With*

*Pray Alone*

*You are invited to spend time with God*



Now Collecting Donations for:

- Newborn clothes size 6 Gently used or new
- Shoes up to size 13
- Bath wash and Lotion
- Bottles
- Diapers size 4, 5, and 6
- Good Start Formula

Collection Box  
 outside of Sanctuary  
 near West Entry



Thank You!



# Sm kids NEWS



## Bible Challenge

Getting into my New Bible



Turn this completed form in to Pastor Randy or Sharon by October 8th, 2023 for a prize.

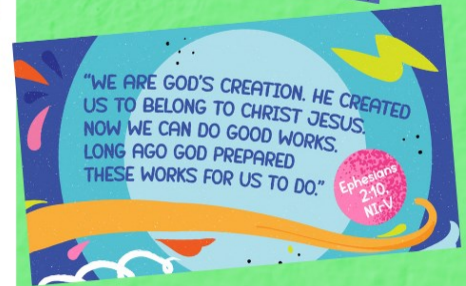
Reading	Child Completed	Parent/Adult Initial
<b>Matt 6:9-13</b> Lord's Prayer	___	___
<b>Matt 10:2-4</b> 12 Apostles	___	___
<b>Matt 13:55</b> Jesus 4 brothers	___	___
<b>Gal 5:22-23</b> Fruit of Spirit	___	___
<b>Table Contents</b> Old Test.	___	___
<b>Table Contents</b> New Test.	___	___
<b>Psalm 100</b>	___	___
<b>Psalm 23</b>	___	___
<b>Psalm 121</b>	___	___
<b>I Cor. 13:1-8</b> Love Chapter	___	___
<b>Matt. 5:3-12</b> Beatitudes	___	___
<b>Romans 12:1-8</b> Living Sacrifice	___	___
<b>Matt. 22:37-40*</b>	___	___
<b>Exodus 20:1-17</b>	___	___
<b>Romans 8:5*</b>	___	___

\* = choose one starred Scripture to memorize

## Sunday Mornings September

### Kidmin

9:30 - 10:45 ages 4-5th grade



## Nursery

9:30 - 12:00 ages 6mo - 4

## Wee Worship

10:45 am ages 2 1/2 - kindergarten



### Bible Words

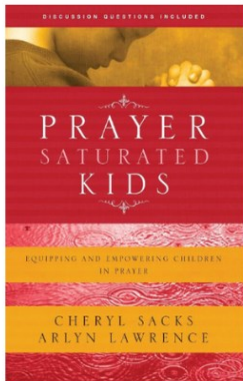
"God saw everything he had made. And it was very good."



**Basic Truth:**  
God made me.



**Bottom Line:**  
God made everything.



## Book Recommendation

I just finished reading this book, and I can still use these tools in prayer.

Raise kids who are strong in faith and powerful in prayer!

# Wee Worship

Opening on the First Sunday of the Month beginning October 1

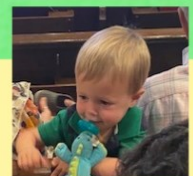


Wednesday evenings in kidmin we will.....PRAY

Pause  
Reflect  
Ask  
Yield

Created and uniquely designed by God. How do we help our kids communicate with God? One of the most powerful ways we can help kids in communicating with God is to help them PRAY. Through this journey the kids will create their own unique PRAYER boards to help assist them in their PRAYer life.

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





# CHURCH CENTER

Over the next few weeks we are going to make a special effort to get people more familiar with Church Center. If you still haven't downloaded it or would like help doing so we will have a table available in the Narthex with people to assist you. We also want to get as many people as possible loading their information into the directory so we can all get to know one another better and can put out a updated directory.

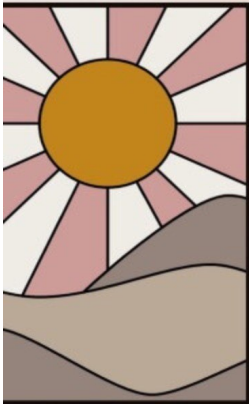
Also, if you just want a little help navigating around church center and learning all of it's features feel free to drop by.

Our goal is to have better communication in the church and there is no better means that we can find to do it than Church Center. Thanks!



COLLEGE AGE  
RETREAT

# RENEW



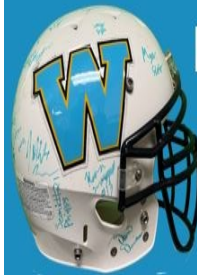
**January 4-6, 2024**  
**Camp Egan**  
**Early Bird Cost: \$60**  
**until September 1st**

...

SIGN-UP  
HERE



@RENEW\_\_RETREAT



## PC West Football Team Meal

We will feed the PC West Football Team twice this year. If you would like to help, contact Shab Jupiterwala.

We will be looking for lots of cookies to for each of the events. Thanks St. Mark's for how you always come through for the community.

Dates October 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>



## Special Short-term Need for ROC!

**The ROC has a current dire need for Ramen Noodles. If you could bring some in the next few days, it would be very helpful. Thanks!**

September 2023

# Prayer Guide

The Way to the Kingdom



**Photo: John Wesley's prayer kneeler – The birthplace of Methodism.**

Each morning at 4 a.m., John Wesley would kneel in prayer in his London home. It was in this place that the fires of Methodism began. As we seek to reconnect to our Wesleyan heritage, it seems the best place we can begin is in prayer. Join us in our monthly prayer series: The Way to the Kingdom.

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## The Way of Faith

By Leah Hidde-Gregory

This week, I went in to get my nails done. A thirty-year indulgence that my husband doesn't quite understand. My nail tech, Carrie, explained to me that she could not do my nails next time, because she was headed back to Vietnam to see her parents and family. During our conversation, she explained that she was to be baptized and join her church when she returned, but that she needed to go home and tell her family, who are devoted Buddhist, that she was converting to Christianity. I could tell in her eyes that this was going to be very hard for her to do, but she also had this amazing joy that bubbled up when she talked about Christ. She said, "Jesus is my everything. He has completely changed my life. We talk together every night before I go to sleep." Her faith was so pure and sweet.

Carrie then explained how she had come to know Christ. She told me that Jesus had literally come to her. She was in a superstore parking lot, when a man with a gun came up behind her. He put the gun to her head and took her backpack. Carrie said she felt as though her life was about to be over. A bumper sticker across the way from where she was standing had the words, "Jesus is the Way." Something in her cried out to Jesus in that moment. Immediately, she felt Christ come beside her and wrap his arm around her. The man who was robbing her, dropped the backpack and said, I am so sorry and took off running. Carrie said from that day on, she knew Jesus was real and she wanted to find out about the "way" on that bumper sticker.

When I asked how she found her way to a local church, she said, "Because they have that giant Jesus out front, and I want to always be near Jesus." Carrie told me about a couple of the sins that she had truly wrestled with her whole life and how Jesus had taken them away from her. She said, "I am a new person. I have a new life. I owe Jesus everything."

Whether we were born into the Christian faith or experienced a radical conversion like my friend, the way of faith starts with awakening to our need, surrender of ourselves, and deep innate desire to be with Jesus. The way of faith means relying on God's strength in our weakness and walking in the way of Christ

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A Suggested Pattern of Prayer

As you pray through the following prayer points, invite the presence of the Lord into your time of prayer. Each day’s prompt has a Scripture reference for you to pray through. As you pray also allow time to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. When you have prayed through the Scripture and prayer point, you may be led to add your own prayers. Pray and consider what action steps you might take in response to the Lord’s leading. Repeat this prayer pattern weekly for the month.

**Sunday:** Pray for victims of violent crime and their families. (Hebrews 11:4)

**Monday:** Pray for those who are passionately seeking the way of Christ. (Hebrews 11:6)

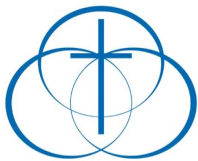
**Tuesday:** Pray for those who chose the way of faith in the face of family and worldly pressures. (Hebrews 11:7)

**Wednesday:** Pray for those who want nothing more than to be obedient to Christ but struggle along the way. (Hebrews 11:9)

**Thursday:** Pray for those who seek the better way. (Hebrews 11:16)

**Friday:** Pray for those who are called to seemingly impossible tasks. May they trust that God will provide. (Hebrews 11:17)

**Saturday:** Pray for those who are disgraced for the sake of Christ. (Hebrews 11:26)



**GLOBAL**  
METHODIST CHURCH

*“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
the conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)*

*Rev. Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory is the President Pro Tem of the Mid-Texas Conference, after serving as chairwoman of the Transitional Leadership Council of the Global Methodist Church. She served 30 years in the United Methodist Church in congregations ranging from 20 to 8,000 in worship attendance. She is a Denman Evangelism award winner.*

**Facts and Figures**

2023 Annual Budget	601,800
Rec'd toward Operating 9/11/2023	7,166
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 9/11/23)	369,422
Expenses (thru 9/11/23)	365,112
<u>Attendance</u>	
Sunday, September 10 Total	358
Traditional Worship	177
Modern Worship	78
Online Worship	103

**Prayer Box**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Gary Davis family     | Dorothy Sipes                                     |
| Barbara Homer         | Karen Hall  |
| Mark Walpus           | Cindy Wilkerson (DIL Frank & Nadine)              |
| Ginger & Winn Lusk    | Curtis Scott (SIL of Jim Brown)                   |
| Judy McMinn           | Jeff & Tiffany Montesano                          |
| Diana & Jeff Davidson | Geo Montesano                                     |
| Kathy Miller          | Carol Hall  |
| Hazel Chessmore       | Rob Ivens (friend of Dennis & Robin Bratcher)     |
| Dan & Norma Boland    | Joey Pedigo                                       |
| Jane Foreman          | Sandy Rutherford                                  |
| Earl Moore            | Mary Jane Svejkovsky                              |
| Mary Desmukes         | Kamden Goff                                       |
| Cheryl Andrews        | Beth Bidne  |
| Paula Galt            | Christina Baisden                                 |
| Roger Pautsch         | Brittany Mins (friend of Dennis & Robin Bratcher) |
|                       | John & Elaine Talbot                              |