

**Prayer Concerns**

~**Steve Smith** has been dismissed from the hospital and moved to Hendrick Center for Rehabilitation after his shoulder replacement surgery. This is a big step forward. They appreciate all the prayers.

~**Chester Lynd's** son Curtis has been diagnosed with cancer and will start chemo treatments soon. Please add Curtis to your prayer list.

~New Westgate member **Michael Bryant** was in the hospital last Sunday, but has been released and is doing much better. Please pray for his recovery.

~Continued prayers for **Eric Robinson** concerning the nerves in his arm.

~Please continue to pray for **Kipley Sutton** as she recuperates from hip surgery.

~Update from **Clarissa Pyeatt**: "My mom's husband, Ervin Spain, after receiving one round of chemo and feeling awful from it, has decided to go on hospice to have peace and comfort in his final days. He's looking forward to being with Jesus. My mom is thanking God for every day she has left with him. Thank you for prayers of peace and comfort for them."

~Remember to pray for Gracie Tharp, mother of **Patty Galaway** and **Tammy Rose**. She was diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

~**Erin Cogburn's** mom, Brenda Bricker, appreciates our prayers as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.

~Keep praying for **Shelley Doremus's** dad, Jim Prather. He has congestive heart disease and has been prescribed new medicine and a portable oxygen device to use as needed.

**Those unable to join us:**

- ~Laverne Horn
- ~Ethel Gumm

**Ongoing prayer concerns:**

- ~Peggy Allen
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Bill Jackson
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Donna Scott
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Patsy Williamson
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell
- ~Mickey Walker
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill

**Missionaries:**

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves—Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, TX
- ~Megeste Pierre—Christian Family Center, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



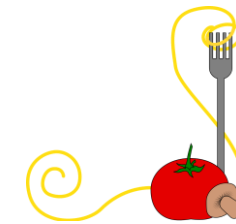
**Graduation Celebration Next Sunday**

A big congratulations to the Westgate 2023 seniors: Wyatt DeFoore, Percaya Langston, and Reese MacDonald! We will honor our graduates **next Sunday, May 21**, with a slideshow, potluck dinner, and display tables where you can put graduation gifts or cards. For the potluck dinner, the church will purchase fried chicken and cupcakes, and **each family is asked to bring 2 side dishes**. Let's all remember to pray for these three great kids as they embark on new adventures.



**Ladies Supper This Tuesday**

Ladies, please join us **this Tuesday, May 16, at 6:00 p.m.** for a special Ladies Supper. We're going to have a build-your-own pasta bar, salad, and breadsticks. After the meal, Holly will teach everyone how to make earrings. Please let Lauren Cole or Holly Howell know if you plan on making earrings so they can buy ample supplies. Should be a fun night, come on out!



**Love Grub This Wednesday**

The last Love Grub of the school year is **this Wednesday, May 17, at 5:45 p.m.** Hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings will be served. If you can help make Rice Krispies treats, stop by the kitchen after church to get the ingredients. Please plan to attend and be sure to tell the Powells and Carneiros thank you for all their hard work and delicious meals this year.



**VBS Sign-Ups**

A VBS sign-up sheet is now posted in the hall for children 4 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. It will help with planning if you stop by and add your children's names to the list, along with the number of visitors you are inviting and hope will attend. VBS is scheduled for **Sunday morning, June 4, at 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., and Monday – Wednesday evenings, June 5 – 7, at 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.** It's going to be epic, don't miss out!



**Sermon Title:** A Motherly Love

**Scripture:** Matthew 23: 37-39

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

**VBS Ways to Help**



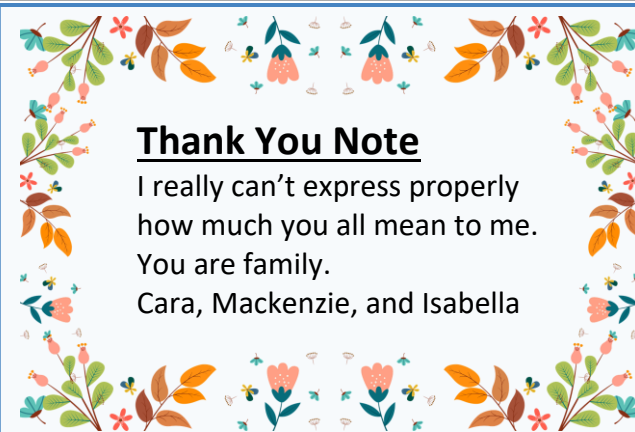
If you have items you can loan us (pop-up canopy tents, baskets, artificial plants, pots of growing herbs, molcajetes, eggshells, throw rugs, or solid color bedsheets), you can start bringing them **now through May 28**. Please mark them clearly with your name and place them in the short hall.



Helpers are needed to put away tables and chairs and to set up the canopies in the fellowship hall for the Babylonian marketplace, **after class on Wednesday, May 31**.



VBS workday – all hands appreciated on **Sunday afternoon, June 4, at 4:00**. The youth group is also encouraged to come help.



**Thank You Note**

I really can't express properly how much you all mean to me. You are family.  
Cara, Mackenzie, and Isabella

**Love Language Quiz**

Here's the QR code if you didn't get a chance to take the quiz last week. Discover how you give and receive love. There are options for adults (in a relationship or not) and kids. What love language did the Australian marsupial have? Koala-ty Time!







### Happy Birthday:

**May 15:** Kipley Sutton,  
Linda Jones

**May 19:** Mark Lyon



### Happy Anniversary:

**May 14:** Chad & Abby Longley,  
Jarrod & Kayla Crockett

**May 17:** Willie & Jennifer Lee

**May 19:** Adam & Heather Lott

# 2023

### Our Calendar:

**May 14:** Mother's Day

**May 16:** Ladies Supper **6 p.m.**

**May 17:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

**May 21:** Graduation  
Celebration during and after  
services

**May 24:** Summer Series –  
Dan McGregor **6:45 p.m.**

**May 29:** Memorial Day

**May 30:** Youth Group Lake Day

**May 31:** Children's root beer  
float party, VBS help needed  
after Brady's Bible class

**June 4:** VBS Workday **4 p.m.**

**June 4 – 7:** VBS

**June 7:** no adult Bible classes  
due to VBS, adults help with  
VBS cleanup **7:30 p.m.**

**June 14:** Family Fun Night

**June 18:** Father's Day

**June 19:** Juneteenth

**June 21:** Summer Series –  
Kurt Boyland **6:45 p.m.**

### Grace and Empathy – by Brady Horner

One of the qualities that should separate Christians from the rest of the world is our counterintuitive way of extending radical grace. By this I mean showing people an undeserved favor or giving people not what they “deserve,” but something much better. Christianity is not a merit-based religion, we earn nothing but are given everything. From Christ's fullness “we have all received grace, upon grace.” Consequently, because we have all received grace and need grace, we should freely extend it. Unfortunately, throughout our history we have struggled with receiving grace. We really want to feel like we have earned the blessings we receive. Because of this, and the hyper-individualistic culture we live in, we are often more inclined to give people what they deserve, make people “lie in the bed they have made”, and rarely bless people unless they have “earned” it (or earned our sympathy).

Grace is beautiful and powerful, but so counterintuitive to our way of thinking that it's difficult to accept and harder to give. I'm not an expert at giving grace, and often don't; but I know that one of the keys to helping us extend grace to others is empathy. If we can put ourselves in someone else's shoes and understand where they are coming from, why they are doing the offensive things they are doing, it can be a little easier to let it slide. Something my mom used to say when I complained about grumpy church people was “they are trying to please God”. She wasn't agreeing with them, but she was pointing out that they aren't trying to be fun killers, they are doing what they believe God wants. It's really an empathetic statement, and it is a little more difficult to be mad at people who are trying to do the right thing. I know this does not help in every situation (because people do not always mean well), but since I learned this, I have found it much easier to extend grace for offenses that are done with good intentions.



### Summer Speaker Series Starting Soon

On Wednesday nights during the summer, Westgate has a great lineup of guest speakers. Come be blessed by their knowledge of ministry and God's word!

**May 24:** Dan McGregor (ACU Professor of Art and Design)

**May 31:** Brady Horner (Lead Minister at Westgate Church of Christ)

**June 7:** No adult Bible class due to VBS

**June 14:** Family Fun Night

**June 21:** Kurt Boyland (Marriage and Family Therapist)

**June 28:** Lance Parrish (Youth Minister at Hillcrest Church of Christ)

**July 5:** Family Fun Night

**July 12:** Scott Allen (Minister at Johnson Street Church of Christ)

**July 19:** Rodney Ashlock (ACU Bible Professor)

**July 26:** Gabe Fisher (Director of Spiritual Care at Lifeline Chaplaincy Dallas)

**Aug. 2:** Family Fun Night

**Aug. 9:** Carson Reed (ACU Bible Professor and Director of the Siburt Institute for Church Ministry)

**Aug. 16:** Robert Baugh (Spiritual Life Minister at Cherokee Home for Children)

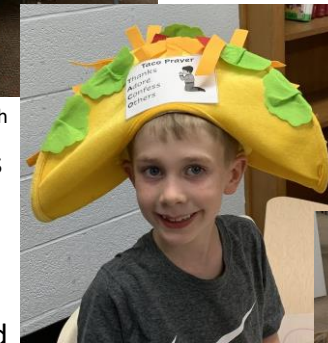
### Children's Ministry News

In Matthew 6:11, Jesus teaches us to ask God for what we need. Psalm 121 is an example of this kind of prayer; travelers asked for God's help as they faced a dangerous journey. The psalmist writes, “My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!” The focus of the children's lesson today is that asking for help is an essential part of prayer.

Summary verse: “Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation but rescue us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6: 9-13)



Laura will continue guiding 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Bible truths on Wednesday PM. Many thanks to Laura for her willingness and expertise.



VBS sign-up sheets are posted for 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. For planning purposes, please add children's names to the list. Add an approximate number of visitors you are inviting and hope will attend.



Children will celebrate the end of school with root beer floats on **May 31**.

*TACO prayers remind us to thank God, adore or praise Him, confess or say we are sorry, and include others that need God's help. Children used playdough to form things for which we are thankful.*

### Youth Ministry News

Join us on **Sundays at 9 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. for class.**

Graduation Celebration is **next Sunday!** We are so excited to honor Reese, Wyatt, and Percaya during our worship service, and at the meal following!

Join us on **Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**, for our first Lake Day of the summer!

Get ready to help with VBS! The youth group will help teach kids about Daniel's courage in the Bible **June 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>**.

Please continue to pray for all our students as they finish the school year!

*We loved having the 4th and 5th graders in Sunday Morning class!  
We also loved all the Skittles we got to eat.*



**Services at Westgate:** Sundays—Bible Class **9:00 a.m.**, **Church office:** 325-692-2300  
Worship **10:00 a.m.**, Wednesdays—Bible Class **6:45 p.m.** westgatecofc@gmail.com

**Offering:**  
**May 7:**  
Contribution: \$4,595.36  
eGive: \$3,855.00  
Total: \$8,450.36  
Budget: **\$6,917.00**  
Be A Blessing: \$18.68

**Lead Minister:** Brady Horner (325-260-1903) pbhorner@gmail.com  
**Youth Minister:** Clay Howell (615-879-0983) sch16a@acu.edu  
**Children's Education Coordinator:** Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)  
lee-jacqueline@sbcglobal.net  
**Elders:** Randy Bibb, Jim MacDonald, **Steve Stovall**, Troy Tom  
**Deacons:** Manny Carneiro, Jon Cogburn, Eric Gumm, Adam Lott,  
**Chris Meeks**, Matt Waldrip

**Nursery Duty:**  
Lettie Morrow  
**Building Lock-up:**  
**May:** Matt Waldrip  
**June:** Manny Carneiro  
**Blessing Box**  
**Counting:**  
Wyatt Cogburn  
Titus Powell