

## Prayer Concerns

~Longtime member **Laverne Horn** passed away on Tuesday and was laid to rest on Thursday. Our heartfelt condolences to her family.

~**Michael Bryant** had gallbladder removal surgery last Friday. He is doing good and is already back to work. Thanks for your prayers.

~Our sympathy to former member **Gabe Fisher** and family. Gabe's grandfather, Tom Fisher, passed away Tuesday night. Please pray for Gabe and his dad, David.

~Nancy Stewart (**Kathryn Boerio's** mom) has been transferred to hospice care. Please pray for the whole family at this difficult time.

~Prayers are appreciated for **Barbara Carneiro's** aunt, Julie Blasingame, as she deals with pancreatic cancer.

~**Chester Lynd** has been having a lot of back pain. Please pray for him. Also don't forget to pray for his son, Curtis, as he undergoes chemo treatments for cancer.

~Please keep **Eric Robinson** in your daily prayers.

~Remember to pray for **Megeste and Jose Pierre** and the difficult circumstances in Haiti.

~Please keep praying for **Caleb Powell's** friend, Wes Schowengerdt. He is having some okay days and some days with episodes of high pain.

~Please pray for the flood recovery efforts in Libya.

~Please pray for these expectant moms:

**Paige (MacDonald) DeFoore**  
**Claire (Longley) Howe**  
**Skyla Krause**

## Those unable to join us:

~Ethel Gumm

## Ongoing prayer concerns:

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

## Missionaries:

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

Westgatecofc.com

September 17, 2023

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



### Love Grub This Wednesday

Hope everyone can make it this **Wednesday night (9/20) at 5:45 p.m.** for another great Love Grub! On the menu is pulled pork sandwiches and banana pudding. Bethany will have dessert ingredients in the kitchen Sunday for volunteers to make banana pudding. Please donate some money that night to cover the cost of your meal if you're able.

### Bridal Shower Next Sunday

Ladies, please join us **Sunday, September 24**, for a bridal shower honoring Emma Longley, bride-elect of Stefan Truett. The shower will be here at the building **from 2 to 4 p.m.** Emma is registered at Amazon, Dillard's and West Elm. Hostesses are Juanita Stovall, Michelle Chaney, Shelley Doremus, Christie Pruitt, Clair Arche, and Angie Wier.

### New Address

Clay and Holly Howell  
*Please contact the church office if you would like Clay and Holly's new address.*



### Last Day

**Today** is the last day to give money toward a gift card for Reuben and Claire (Longley) Howe. Their baby is due in late October. Please see Clair Arche, Heather Lott, or Lettie Morrow if you would like to contribute.



### Thank You Note

Many thanks for all the birthday wishes, signed cards, and gifts. Special thanks to the Lovelands and the Love Grub crew for their secret planning. It was a memorable birthday surprise. Blessings to all who blessed me!

Jackie Lee



### Welcome New Members

Shane & Alison Colburn  
Lane, Elise, Rhett, Grant

*Please contact the church office if you would like Shane and Alison's address and phone numbers.*



### CarePack for Kids

In 2019, Love & Care Ministries started a program called CarePack for Kids to provide weekend meals for kids in Abilene and the surrounding area. They get volunteers to come in for an hour and fill "CarePacks" with groceries they provide. Westgate has reserved 30 spots there on **Tuesday, October 17, from 6 – 7 p.m.** Save the date and watch for more information about signing up to help coming soon.



**Sermon Title:** A Posture of Readiness

**Scripture:** Acts 13: 1-3

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.





### Happy Birthday:

**Sept. 18:** Kami Winter, Briana Horner, Adam Arche, Marshall Boerio

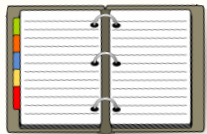
**Sept. 21:** Mickey Walker

**Sept. 22:** Paizly Turnage, Chad Longley, Kyley Pyeatt



### Happy Anniversary:

**Sept. 22:** Ron & Geraldine Hill



### Our Calendar:

**Sept. 20:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.

**Sept. 24:** Emma Longley bridal shower 2 – 4 p.m.

**Oct. 4:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.

**Oct. 9:** Columbus Day

**Oct. 17:** CarePack for Kids

**Oct. 18:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.

**Oct. 22:** Breakfast and WATS Day

**Oct. 29:** Trunk or Treat

**Nov. 1:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.

**Nov. 5:** Daylight Saving Time ends (fall back), Emily Gumm bridal shower

**Nov. 11:** Veterans Day

**Nov. 15:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.

**Nov. 17 – 19:** youth group Fall Retreat at Solid Rock Camp

**Nov. 19:** Church Friendsgiving Potluck after services

**Nov. 22:** no Bible classes

**Nov. 23:** Thanksgiving Day

### The Kenny Pickett Rule – by Brady Horner

In football when the quarterback runs, he can slide to avoid being tackled and protect him from injury. If a player hits a sliding quarterback, the team will be penalized. One quarterback figured out he can pretend to slide so players quit tackling him, but then keep running. People were up in arms because he was exploiting a rule meant to protect him. Exploiting protective rules and safeguards is becoming a bigger issue in our society.

The “me too” movement was great in that it exposed people who were using power to abuse. However, the Johnny Depp and Amber Heard case showed us that the sensationalism from the “me too” movement made it easy to make accusations and hurt people’s reputations. Similarly, schools are big on protecting kids from abuse by teachers and adults in the school. Unfortunately, some kids now know that if a teacher touches them at all, they can cry abuse and make a teacher’s life difficult. These protective rules for kids are being exploited to give students power over teachers! A few years ago, a lineman violently attacked a quarterback, but later said it was because the quarterback called him a racial slur. The quarterback’s name was dragged through the mud, then later it was discovered the accusation was not true. The attacking player knew that if he cried racism, he could be absolved of his bad behavior and the negative spotlight be pointed elsewhere.

The knee-jerk reaction might be to just stop protecting people since some are abusing it and using it to have power over others or shirk responsibility. However, this would be unfair to those who are being protected against such safeguards. In football quarterbacks will now be penalized for the fake slide, it’s called the “Kenny Pickett Rule,” named for the first player to abuse the slide rule. Perhaps this same mentality should be used elsewhere. The media should expose those abusing protective safeguards. Real victims of racism should cry out when people who are not victims claim they are, same with real victims of sexual abuse. Because these false cries out are making people not want to protect them at all and remove the safeguards. Similarly, when the Church protects people, when the church serves and gives, some will abuse it. But this does not mean we should stop helping and serving. Let’s not let those who abuse ruin it for those who are in legitimate need. May the Church be “as wise as serpents and innocent as doves” (Matthew 10: 16) in our dealings with people.



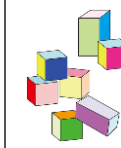
May we all be as excited as Westgate kids to put on the full armor of God!

### Ephesians 6



Children used blocks and playdough to work together. Relationships are built as we brainstorm, create, encourage, and clean up

while learning to love each other.



### Children’s Ministry News

- Children’s classes today studied Psalm 23:1 and John 10:1-16. In these passages, David begins a psalm about how God is like a shepherd. In John 10, Jesus tells us He is our Shepherd. As His sheep, we can follow our Shepherd because He guides us.
- Summary Verse for the next few weeks: “The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need” (Psalm 23:1).
- Remember to pray for our Westgate educators and our children. Romans 15:13: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace...”
- Thanks to Kami for giving the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders a deeper understanding of “Amazing Grace”. Appreciation to Becki for helping children understand the concepts behind “Pierce my Ear”. Kari will guide the group this Wednesday with “Doxology”. We need a teacher for Sept. 27, please consider choosing a song and signing up.

### Youth Ministry News

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

Our verse of the month for September is 1 John 4: 9-11: “This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

Please join us this Wednesday for class and start to plan for our Youth Group Trunk or Treat theme!

Please pray for all our students this school year!

Kailyn Clements showing off her serving skills at the Madison Middle School volleyball game!



**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:**  
**September 10:**  
Contribution: \$4,904.00  
eGive: \$4,508.00  
Total: \$9,412.00  
Budget: \$6,917.00  
Be A Blessing: \$30.47

**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:**  
Emory & Kami Winter

**Building Lock-up:**  
**Sept.:** Adam Lott  
**Oct.:** Chris Meeks

**Blessing Box Counting:**  
Lane Winter  
Issacc Carneiro