

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests

Easter Egg Hunt

Please mark your calendars for April 3rd. The annual Easter egg hunt will take place at Festival Gardens (across the parking lot from the Abilene Zoo). The hunt will begin at 6:30 PM. The doors will open at 5:30 for all to gather and fellowship over their brown bag dinners. We are asking that each family bring a dozen filled eggs per hunt participant. Filled eggs can be dropped off at the church building during the month of March. The eggs can also be brought to the hunt by 6 PM. Please remember eggs can be filled with more than just candy. We look forward to this fellowship event.



Senior Sunday

Graduation Celebration is approaching rapidly. Our youth group seniors are preparing for their high school graduation and their future plans. We will be celebrating 9 seniors this year. Please make plans to join the celebration on May 16th for a brisket lunch and the opportunity to bless our youth students. Here is the list of students:

Anyslee Clements	Kymber Pyeatt	Sydney Baker	Sydney Monroe
John Paul Gumm	Paige MacDonald	Will Martin	Rebecca Kinyon
Jax Longley			

Prayer Concerns

~Please pray for **Ethel Gumm's** healing and recovery from a recent procedure to address a fractured vertebra as well as for wisdom regarding best next steps.

~Prayers for **Jack Tarkenton** and his recovery from his recent surgery to remove the cancerous tissue on his lung. He is now home and doing great. Continue to pray for positive follow up appointments.

~**Judy Collier** recently had surgery on her shoulder. Prayers for her recovery and rehab.

~Prayers for **Jim and Joyce Waddell** and health struggles.

~Please keep the **Russell Family** in your prayers as the move back to Tennessee. It will be a blessing for them to be closer to family in that area.

~Congratulations to **Stefani Stovall** and her recent engagement to TJ Foster. Prayers for their coming union.

~Continue to pray for our students and teachers to maintain health and wellness as the end of the school year comes to a close in the coming months. Specifically, our graduating seniors and the plans they will be making for their futures.

~Beth Horner, **Brady's mom**, will have another surgery in May to replace the spacers in her knees with replacement knees. Prayers for her health as that surgery approaches.

~Please be in prayer for Jenn Rogers and her three children, Haelyn, Hope, and Hunter, as they mourn the recent loss of Mark Rogers. Hope is still in the hospital, but has been moved out of the PICU. Continued prayers for her physical recovery.

~Former member Lena Cavitt had a double mastectomy recently. Prayers for her and the family as she recovers from this surgery.

Those unable to join us:

- ~Laverne Horn
- ~Patsy Williamson
- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Pat Suba

On-going prayer concerns:

- ~Peggy Allen
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Bill Jackson
- ~Doris Wells
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Lue Gray
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Larry Loveland
- ~Hope Hodges
- ~Jerry Herttenberger
- ~Bradi Williams
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Donna Scott
- ~Frances Welch
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Susan Tolle

Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves- Sunset School of Preaching, Lubbock, TX
- ~Megeste Pierre- Haiti

Expecting Parents:

- ~Noe & Janina Espinoza(June 2021)

Campfire Devo Night

Thanks to the MacDonalds for hosting!



Sermon Title: The King is Here

Scripture: Matthew 11: 1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Happy Birthday:

Mar. 30th: Hess McSherry
Mar. 31st: Trevor Meeks, Andrew Tarkenton
Apr. 1st: Avery Williams
Apr. 2nd: Anita Morton

Happy Anniversary:

Mar. 27th: Mark & Brenda Brown

Our Calendar:

Apr. 2nd: Good Friday

Apr. 3rd: Easter Egg Hunt

Apr. 4th: Easter

May 9th: Mother's Day

May 15th: ACS Graduation

May 16th: Graduation Celebration/Brisket Burn

May 28th: Wylie ISD Graduation

May 29th: Abilene ISD Graduation

May 31st: Memorial Day

June 2nd: Family Fun Night

June 5th: Vacation Bible School

June 20th: Father's Day

June 20th – 26th: Youth Group Camp to Pine Springs

Doug Reeves Update

A slow-motion reboot is how I would describe the early months of 2021. In January we cautiously, hopefully made plans for the coming year. At the same time, we knew that nothing would be the same as previous years. For example, each year Sunset hosts a workshop featuring several key note speakers and classroom sessions. Not in 2021. Instead of a live event, everything was presented in a virtual world. We could not enjoy the fellowship and encouragement of seeing friends and swapping stories, but over 200 people registered, logged on and enjoyed the presentations. The theme was "Preach the Word, Every Way" and each of the speakers shared examples of overcoming the adversities and finding creative ways to Preach the Word. In the Fall of 2019 I was working with the advancement team to plan a fundraising event. The original plan was to hold a dinner in Abilene, Texas and invite someone who was well known and respected in that area to be our keynote speaker. Colt McCoy grew up in the Abilene area and is a local football hero. Colt led the University of Texas to the national championship game and has gone on to the NFL. All the pieces were coming together. Well, you can guess what COVID-19 did to those plans. We had no choice but to postpone.

As 2021 began, the Sunset board of directors gave us the green light and a date was set for the Abilene event. Even the Governor of Texas was helpful by lifting the limitations on gatherings just in time for the event. Oldham Lane Church of Christ provided the venue and safe distancing was the rule for the evening. Some expressed concern about gathering, others had made plans for spring break, but over 150 people came to hear Colt and his father Brad. And I had the opportunity of sharing about the international outreach of Sunset. Several people spoke to me afterwards and said "I had no idea about the vast influence and reach of Sunset" Maybe, just maybe, this is a sign of a return to normal. We always remember you in our prayers and ask you to do the same for us. Together, we are making a difference. I receive regular reports from around the globe containing wonderful stories of lives and eternities that have been changed. I am convinced that God is working through us, even in the midst of the pandemic, to make His grace and love known.

God bless each of you,
Doug & Marge



Youth Group Fundraising Opportunities

Our youth students are going to camp this summer!! Camp at Pine Springs is taking place at the end of June and Camp Blessing is in July. We need your help to send our youth students to these amazing opportunities to grow spiritually and to serve others! On Sunday, April 18th, our youth group ladies will be teaching our children's Bible classes and youth group men will be helping to lead our worship service. Also, on that Sunday, we will be having a special contribution to help send our students to these camps.

In years past, we have had a silent auction and that has always been a great way to engage our congregation in community as well as raise funds for these events. Unfortunately, due to Covid and the current world around us, we simply are unable to put this event on this year. So, since we cannot have this event, we are asking for your help and generosity through this special contribution to help raise these dollars. We would encourage you to ask your friends and family that would normally attend this event to watch online and if you are able, make a donation on that date. Our goal is to raise \$4,000 overall.

Children's Ministry News

In 2 Samuel 5:17-25, David is the new king and his enemies are angry. Many years prior, David killed a giant named Goliath...and now the people from Goliath's country want to kill David. David asks God very specific questions about how to battle these enemies, and God gives him guidance by telling him what to do and by marching ahead of his army in the treetops. Classes discussed how we all need God's guidance. **Summary verse:** "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Ephesians 2:10).

March prayer focus for Westgate educators: Ask for wisdom for our educators. "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).

Save the date: June 5, 10-12 am. Similar to our Fall Filled Adventure, a modified VBS experience is in planning stages. Children will navigate through a Wilderness Adventure similar to the Israelites as they left Egypt. Mark your calendar, find your desert shoes and help us explore some highlights of Exodus.

Plan to join us at Festival Gardens on April 3. The youth group will help families at 4 different stations as we focus on being thankful, remembering God's promises and more. In addition to hunting eggs, children will hunt for adults with stickers to get to know each other better. We need adults of all ages to participate, so come out for fun and fellowship.

Thanks to Cathrines's class for these drawings as they discussed being God's masterpiece. A special thanks to Aynslee for subbing for her mom last week. Wednesday PM class used hoola hoops to talk about God's forever love. Their energetic participation is an encouragement to all.



Youth Ministry News

Join us on **Sundays at 9 A.M.** and **Wednesdays at 7 P.M.** for class.

We are going to camp at Pine Springs this summer from **June 20th-26th.** Stay tuned for more information coming soon.

If you haven't paid \$50 for Camp Blessing, please do so as soon as you can.

Saturday, April 3rd--Please come help out with the church Easter Egg hunt! We need volunteers to help run activities for the kids.

Please pray for our students' well-being this semester!



John Paul presenting his drawing.

By the Numbers

March 21st:
Contribution: \$
eGive: \$3,610.00
Total: \$
Budget: **\$6,076.00**
Be A Blessing: \$2.00

Preaching Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903)
Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983)
Children's Education Coordinator: Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)
Elders: Randy Bibb, Jim MacDonald, Steve Stovall, **Troy Tom**
Deacons: Don Bell, Manny Carneiro, CJ Chaney, Jon Cogburn, Eric Gumm, **Adam Lott**, Chris Meeks, Matt Waldrip

Building Lock-up:

March: Adam Lott
April: Chris Meeks