

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests

All-Church Retreat

Everyone is invited to attend the All-Church Retreat at Camp Butman on **March 26th and 27th**. Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch will be provided, along with lodging at Camp Butman Saturday evening. Registration envelopes are in the short hall. As soon as you know that you are coming, please fill one out and include the registration fee. You can put completed envelopes in the lockbox on Brady's office door. It will be \$20 per person for everyone 6 years of age and older, with no family paying more than \$80 total. If you want to rock climb, it is \$6 extra per person. We haven't been able to have the retreat for a couple of years, so we're hoping everyone will venture out.



Volunteers Needed

At least four more ladies are needed on the Graduation Celebration committee. Westgate will honor the 2022 graduates on Sunday, **May 22nd**. Please sign up on the clipboard in the hall across from the kitchen if you can help. See Heather, Clair, or Erin if you have any questions.

Love Grub This Wednesday Night

Come on out **Wednesday night at 5:45 p.m.** for the March Love Grub! There will be a baked potato bar and a salad bar. Please contribute a few dollars to cover the cost of food if you are able. After the meal, stay for Bible class, now from **6:45 – 7:30 p.m.**



Prayer Concerns

~Our condolences to **Anita Morton** and her family. Her dad passed away on Thursday.

~**Nell Hopper** has pneumonia in her right lung and is at home. She goes back to the doctor this week. Prayers for a speedy recovery for Nell.

~Continued prayers for **Crystal Collier** after her devastating house fire.

~Update on Logan (**Jackie Lee's** grandson): "He has finished treatments for now. He will have a month off and take new scans. Please pray for no new growth."

~Please pray for **Al Cogburn's** healing and mobility after hip surgery.

~**Jack Tarkenton** is home from the hospital and continuing to improve. Please remember him in your prayers.

~**Freddie Wallace** is at home receiving hospice care. She appreciates all your prayers.

~Wayne Corley, friend of **Steve Henderson**, recently found out he has cancer. Please keep Wayne in your prayers.

~**Skyla Burd's** grandmother had surgery on her elbow and is temporarily in a nursing home for rehabilitation on her arm. Prayers for healing and strength for her.

~Ervel Quinn, son-in-law of **Peggy Allen**, has cancer and needs our prayers.

~Ervin Spain (**Clarissa Pyeatt's** mom's husband) will start on IV chemotherapy soon. Please pray this goes well.

Those unable to join us:

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

Ongoing prayer concerns:

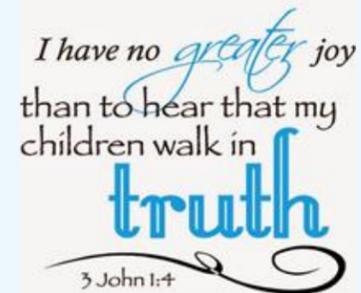
- ~Peggy Allen
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Bill Jackson
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Lue Gray
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Bradi Williams
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Donna Scott
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Patsy Williamson
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell
- ~Mickey Walker

Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves- Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, TX

Growing Strong in God's Truths

Save the date: Saturday, June 18th
10 - 12 a.m.
Abilene Festival Gardens



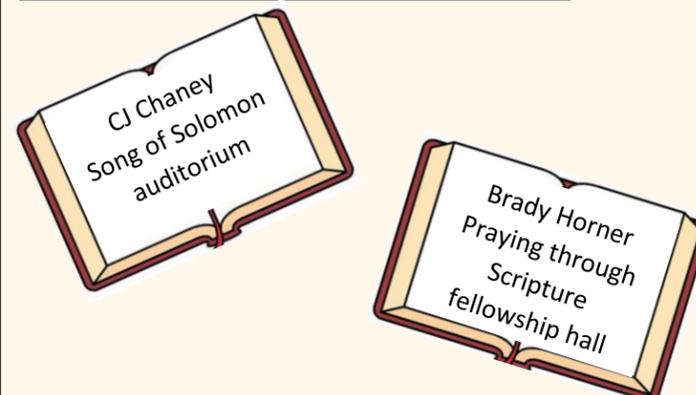
Mark your calendar for a field day format VBS at Abilene Festival Gardens, June 18th from 10 - 12 a.m. The youth group will assist as children work to strengthen their knowledge of God's unchanging truths. Be in prayer for friends and family to invite. Planning is in process, so contact Jackie if you have ideas or wish to help in any way.

Baby Shower

Let's celebrate Josh and Caroline Wright and their upcoming bundle of joy! Please join us for a baby girl shower on **March 12th at 2:00 p.m.** for Caroline Wright at the home of Hayley Webb. They are registered at Target.



Sunday Adult Bible Class Choices



Sermon Title: The Inner Circle

Scripture: Matthew 26: 31-38

Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."



Happy Birthday:

- Feb. 27th:** Mollie Varnado, Bethany Powell
- Mar. 2nd:** Lucy Waldrip
- Mar. 3rd:** Pat Smith, Patricia Yarbrough
- Mar. 4th:** Ruben Perez
- Mar. 5th:** Kinley Morton



Our Calendar:

- Mar 2nd:** Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Mar. 12th:** Baby Shower for Caroline Wright 2:00 p.m.
- Mar. 13th:** Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 14th–18th:** Spring Break
- Mar. 26th-27th:** All-Church Retreat
- Apr. 10th:** Easter Egg Hunt at Festival Gardens
- Apr. 15th:** Good Friday
- Apr. 17th:** Easter Sunday
- Apr. 24th:** Brisket Burn/Youth Auction
- May 1st:** Bridal Shower for Lauren Gumm 2:00 p.m.
- May 8th:** Mother's Day

“Invalid” Baptism--by Brady Horner

Last week thousands of Catholic baptisms in Arizona were declared invalid when it was discovered that a priest spoke the baptismal words incorrectly by just one word! All the priest did was say “we baptize you” rather than “I baptize you”. Just one word wrong, and thousands of baptisms didn’t count! These people can’t take communion, and any other sacraments they received are invalid. Worst of all if someone died after receiving this “invalid” baptism they might be in hell! This seems so legalistic! So petty! But it is loaded with meaning and reminds us how important words are. It leads to a lot of questions and a rethinking of how baptism works. What holds the power and distributes the grace at baptism? Is it the words spoken? The physical act and the water? Or is it what is going on in the mind and the heart of the believer? This next article series will explore some of these themes.

In the Churches of Christ, where we believe baptism is for forgiveness of sins/salvation (much like the Catholic Church), the thought of having your baptism not take or be invalid, is scary. So, what would make our baptism be invalid? Saying the wrong words? Not being completely immersed? Could something about the person doing the baptism mess it up? Or what if we didn’t “know enough”? I’ve seen all these concerns, but the most common reason I’ve seen for rebaptism is “not knowing enough” or not knowing the full meaning of baptism the first time around.

Plenty of great Christians I know have been rebaptized, and I’ve done several. But I’ve never been a huge proponent of rebaptism essentially because this overemphasizes our need for knowledge and deemphasizes God’s grace. I just can’t believe that God would love us so much that he would die on the cross for us, just to condemn us to hell for not having a full and complete understanding of a concept that is fairly complex. It also makes it almost as if it is our “correct” knowledge that saves us. If being “correct” is what gets us into heaven, we are all doomed! I’m glad our God is grace filled and it is not completely up to me to save myself. God is the ultimate giver of grace and gifts at baptism, and I believe his love leaves room for error on our part.

Christian Service Center Collection

Next Sunday will be the last day to bring items for the CSC collection box in the short hall. If you can help out, we are collecting any of the following:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Men’s white t-shirts M-2XL | Razors |
| Men’s boxer briefs M-2XL | Deodorant |
| Toothpaste | Bar Soap |
| Toothbrushes | Newborn Clothing |



Children’s Ministry News

In 1 Samuel 24:26, Saul is chasing David and trying to kill him. Finally, David has two opportunities to kill Saul: once in a cave and once when Saul is sleeping. Both times, David chooses to spare Saul’s life because he knows God values people.

Summary Verse: “So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.” (Matthew 10:31)

Remember to pray for Westgate educators: “Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” (1 John 3:18)

Today, children received a bag of 14 prompts to discuss in the days before Easter. More prompts will be sent home on **March 20th**. As a family, set apart a special time you can pull a slip from the bag and discuss the question. As Easter approaches, let’s make efforts to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ’s sacrifice.



Group pictures from months past show the enthusiasm and love of our sweet children. Spring quarter begins next week, special thanks to all our current classroom teachers. Please let me know if you would like to influence the future church by teaching the next three months, you will definitely be encouraged.



Youth Ministry News

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

We will be joining the church in moving Wednesday night class start time **from 7 to 6:45.**

Be thinking of a product or service you can provide for the Youth Auction on **Sunday, April 24th.**

Please pray for our students as they work hard this semester!



Addison and Evan passing the time with a game.

Services at Westgate: Sundays—Bible Class 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays—Bible Class 6:45 p.m.

Church office: (325)692-2300
westgatecofc@gmail.com

Offering

Feb. 20th:
Contribution: \$2,512.43
eGive: \$3,055.54
Total: \$5,567.97
Budget: \$6,341.00
Be A Blessing: \$15.00

Lead Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903) email: pbhorner@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983) email: sch16a@acu.edu

Children’s Education Coordinator: Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)

email: lee-jacqueline@sbcglobal.net

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:

Feb. Don Bell
Mar. Manny Carneiro