

Prayer Concerns

~Our sympathy to **Anita Morton** and her family. Anita's dad, Danny Cook, passed away from Covid complications. The funeral was Tuesday in Sunray.

~**Nell Hopper** has pneumonia in her right lung, but she is feeling much better.

~**Jackie Lee's** grandson Logan Cornutt has finished treatments for his brain cancer for now. He will have a month off and then they will take new scans. Please pray for no new growth.

~Continued prayers for **Janice Hill** and her battle with acute colitis. She is doing better. She is also waiting on some test results.

~**Clarissa Pyeatt's** nephew's army unit was deployed to Germany to support NATO with the Russian Ukraine conflict.

~Continued prayers for **Crystal Collier** in the aftermath of her house fire.

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

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

~Remember **Al Cogburn** in your prayers as he continues to heal from hip surgery.

~Please pray for Natalia Maluga and her family in Kyiv, Ukraine. She worked closely with **Doug Reeves** with the Sunset International Bible Institute in Ukraine, and she and her family are still involved with the school, which has moved from Donetsk to Kyiv. Natalia and some of the other women there are evacuating the city, but her husband is staying behind to fight.

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
- ~Freddie Wallace

Missionaries:

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

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests



Baby Shower This Saturday

Ladies, you are all invited to a baby girl shower for Caroline (and Josh) Wright this **Saturday, March 12th, at 2:00 p.m.** at the home of Hayley Webb. They are registered at Target. Let's all come and celebrate their upcoming bundle of joy!

Ladies Bible Class

On **Tuesday, March 22nd**, Ladies Bible Class will be starting a new book, *The Faithful*, studying heroes of the Old Testament. If you have been wondering about attending, or have attended in the past but haven't come in a while, this is the perfect time to jump in! Please reach out to Clair if you would like for her to order you a book.



All-Church Retreat

The theme of this year's All-Church Retreat is "Life Together." Last month's sermon series emphasized "Family"; the retreat will help us put this into practice. People have loved how the retreat provides space for relationship building. So, this year we will be intentional about not simply fostering casual friendships but cultivating life-giving Christian relationships that go deeper. We hope to live out Paul's statement in 1 Thessalonians 2: 8: "We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News, but our own lives, as well." Come to the retreat on **March 26th and 27th** to see how life is better together.



Fellowship Night

On the Wednesday of Spring Break (**March 16th**) we will have a night of fellowship starting at **6:45 p.m.** People can watch *Ron's Gone Wrong* in the parlor or hang out and play games in the fellowship hall. We will have plenty of drinks and snacks, but eat dinner before you come or bring it with you. Bring a game or two and come out for a fun night of fellowship.

Maintenance Requests

Time for spring cleaning! If you see anything in the building that needs to be repaired or spruced up, please email westgatecofc@gmail.com.



All-Church Retreat Registration

Registration envelopes for the retreat are on the table in the short hall. You do not have to stay overnight, but we request that you still fill out a registration form even if you plan on attending one day of the retreat. We need to have good head counts for meals with Camp Butman. The cost is \$20 per person over the age of 6 with no family paying more than \$80 total. If you are planning on rock climbing, that is an additional cost of \$6 per rock climber. As soon as you know that you are going, please fill out the envelope and enclose your payment and put it in the box on Brady's door. You can talk to Brady or Jill if you have any questions.

Sermon Title: The Flipping of the Temple

Scripture: Matthew 21: 12-17

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"

The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

"Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him.

"Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read,

"'From the lips of children and infants

you, Lord, have called forth your praise?'"

And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.



Happy Birthday:

Mar. 7th: Kaleigh Tom, Doug McFarlen



Happy Anniversary:

Mar. 12th: Eric & Crystal Robinson



Our Calendar:

Mar. 12th: Baby Shower for Caroline Wright 2:00 p.m.

Mar. 13th: Daylight Saving Time begins

Mar. 14th–18th: Spring Break

Mar. 16th: Fellowship Night 6:45 p.m.

Mar. 26th-27th: All-Church Retreat

Apr. 10th: Easter Egg Hunt at Festival Gardens

Apr. 17th: Easter Sunday

Apr. 24th: Brisket Burn/Youth Auction

May 1st: Bridal Shower for Lauren Gumm 2:00 p.m.

“Invalid” Baptism 2—by Brady Horner

The Catholic Church’s debacle over invalid baptisms due to priests saying “we baptize you” rather than “I baptize you” has made me think more about the words spoken at baptism. How important are they? Is there a specific formula that must be said? Could any “wrong” words invalidate a baptism?

The most universal baptismal statement used across many denominations is based on the Great Commission “I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit”. This is used from the Catholic Church to the Churches of Christ. The Orthodox Church uses the statement “this person is baptized...” which avoids the “I” versus “we” issue currently taking place in the Catholic Church. I like this approach because it takes the act of the one baptizing out of the picture; neither the priest nor the Church bestow the grace/gifts of baptism, God does. The widely used universal statement above is interestingly not used in the book of Acts! In Acts they only baptized into the name of Christ! Some Christian groups today would invalidate a baptism that neglected the name of the Father and Holy Spirit! Do we really have the gall to say that a baptism in Acts is invalid!? Perhaps we shouldn’t be splitting hairs over the wording.

The Churches of Christ have no written baptismal liturgy we are to speak...but there is an assumed one. After performing my first baptism at a Church, I failed to speak the full unspoken Church of Christ liturgy. I was (kindly) called out for it! I spoke the full universal statement, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” but failed to add (the Churches of Christ Acts 2:38 addition) “for the remission of your sins.” They didn’t make me redo the baptism, but that additional doctrinal statement is important to us and differentiates our views on baptism from other groups. So, perhaps the baptismal wording is more a reminder for us than God. That said, I love the baptismal wording that the Baptists adapt from Romans 6:4. As the person is dunked the baptizer speaks “buried with Jesus by baptism into death” then as they bring them up “raised to walk in newness of life”. The wording is important because it describes what is taking place and is a powerful message. However, the power of baptism is in God’s grace, not our words, and I do not believe that our “wrong” words can invalidate God’s grace.

Spring Forward

Don’t forget to set your clocks **forward** one hour at **2:00 a.m. on March 13th**...or the night before!



Grad. Celebration Help

There are more spots available for the Graduation Celebration committee.



We will honor Westgate high school seniors on **Sunday, May 22nd**. If you can help, please talk to Erin, Heather, or Clair. Thanks for supporting our graduates!



Children’s Ministry News

In 2 Samuel 6, King David leads a parade to bring the Ark of the Lord back to Israel. It’s a big celebration, with music and dancing. David knows that God is worthy of praise.

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

Westgate educators have a few months remaining in this school year. During the month of March let’s pray for teachers “...that God will strengthen you with his own great power, so that you will be patient and not give up when troubles come...” (Colossians 1:11)

Remember to use the discussion prompts sent home last week in the small white bags. Pull one daily for a short talk with your family as we prepare for a meaningful celebration of Easter.

On Wednesday, children reviewed the contents of the ark of the covenant as we discussed serving our one true God. We used the hall to aim for the goal (ball in a basket) as individuals shared good deeds they could do to value friends. Isaiah is thinking about a kindness he could model at school to value others as God values us.



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.**

Come with us this summer to Pine Springs! The cost is \$125. A \$25 deposit for camp is due by **Sunday, April 10th.**

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

Lucy, Emory, and Zoey at the Senior Valentine lunch!



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. 27th:
Contribution: \$1,548.71
eGive: \$3,200.00
Total: \$4,748.71
Budget: \$6,341.00
Be A Blessing: \$29.75

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:
Mar. Manny Carneiro
Apr. CJ Chaney