

Prayer Concerns

~**Deana Frazier** has asked for prayers for her granddaughter and grandson. They recently lost their mother and the funeral was Friday. Her sister-in-law also just lost her mother.

~**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.

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

~Please remember **Freddie Wallace** in your prayers. She is at home receiving hospice care. She appreciates all the prayers, cards and phone calls.

~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.

~Continued prayers for **Crystal Collier's** brother-in-law Monty Hale, who is undergoing daily prostate cancer treatments.

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

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

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



Ukrainian Refugee Help

Jeremiah's Hope is collecting hygiene packs to send to Ukrainian refugees. If you would like to help, the following items need to be placed in a gallon size Ziploc bag: washcloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, brush or comb, 2 bars of hand soap, bottle of shampoo, stick deodorant, and a pack of feminine pads. These bags can be placed in the bin in the short hall, or Effie McClendon can pick them up from your house. The deadline is **March 28th**.




Fellowship Night

This Wednesday (**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.

Ladies Bible Class

Ladies Bible Class will take a break this Tuesday due to Spring Break, but here's some exciting news! On **Tuesday, March 22nd**, we 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.

Together
with their families

KELSEY SANDERS

and

NOAH PRUITT

joyfully invite you to their
wedding celebration

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022
at 6 o'clock in the evening

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
2801 antilley rd.
abilene, tx

reception to follow

Thank You Notes

Friends, thank you for your prayers, your concern, cards and phone calls while I was sick. I am much better now.
Love y'all. Nell



Dear Westgate congregation,

On behalf of the family Jerry Herttenberger, I would like to express our thanks for all the thoughts and prayers, cards and visits while Daddy was in the hospital and after his passing. Also, we appreciate Brady, Steve, and Dwayne for their participation in the service, and for all those who provided and served the wonderful meal for us before the funeral.

Daddy loved his church family and your kindness and expressions of sympathy mean so much to us. God bless you all,
Mary Davis

Sermon Title: All leaves, no fruit

Scripture: Matthew 21: 23-27

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you this authority?" Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?" They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin'—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet."

So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."



Happy Birthday:

Mar. 13th: John Powell

Mar. 14th: Madelaine McClendon, Charlotte Smith

Mar. 17th: Sharla Van Cleave

Mar. 18th: Brian Doremus

Mar. 19th: Troy Tom



Happy Anniversary:

Mar. 14th:

Vince & Sharon Van Cleave

Mar. 15th:

CJ & Michelle Chaney



Our Calendar:

Mar. 14th–18th: Spring Break

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

Mar. 23rd: Pizza before Bible class
5:45 p.m.

Mar. 26th–27th:
All-Church Retreat

Apr. 5th: Ladies Supper
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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.

May 8th: Mother's Day

Invalid Baptism 3—by Brady Horner

This article series has been exploring the issues surrounding the Catholic Church's invalidation of baptisms due to priests saying, "we baptize you", rather than "I baptize you." While I take some issue with the "we" statement, I believe this is about power. Who has the power? The lay people or the clergy? The Catholic Church invalidating these baptisms is saying "the priests have the power, not the laity." To most lay Catholic people, this invalidation of baptisms has been a very unpopular move.

One of the major outcomes of the Protestant Reformation was giving the power, and access to God, back to the people. Bibles were printed in local languages for anyone to read, people were no longer obliged to participate in fasts or giving, and there was a loosening of who could administer the sacraments. There was no longer a need to get to God by going through a middleman priest. In the Catholic Church, saying "we baptize you" implies the laity/community has some power, and takes some part in the baptism. So, it's implying that they (the congregation) are administering a sacrament and are thus circumnavigating the power of the priest. The Catholic Church can't have another Reformation on their hands, so they must invalidate these baptisms and reassert their authority.

The Churches of Christ are on the extreme end of the Reformation! We take the "priesthood of all believers" doctrine to a level that allows for any Christian (theoretically) to teach, preach, and administer the sacraments (we believe the only two "sacraments" are baptism and communion). We are one of the few Christian groups left with no formal ordination of ministers. It's really pretty cool, and one of the things that makes us unique and special (that we don't get much credit for). This is why I like that concept of saying "we baptize you" for an adult baptism! There are so many people who loved me, taught me, and nurtured me in the Church of my youth. All these people led me to the decision to be baptized, so in a sense, they all took part in baptizing me. However, I also acknowledge that it is God who does the transformative work of baptism, not the minister, priest, or congregation. So, I can understand taking issue with the statement. Let's continue our Churches of Christ tradition of being a group that encourages and empowers the congregation to speak, serve, and act in ways that connect them and others to God.

Easter Egg Collection & Hunt

We are asking everyone with children participating in the Easter Egg Hunt to contribute a dozen plastic filled Easter eggs for the annual hunt. Members who don't have children participating in the hunt, but still want to contribute are encouraged to do so. There is a labeled bin under the table in the short hall where you can drop off those filled eggs. A gracious volunteer has offered to fill the eggs for you if you drop off the supplies in the office. Please remember that you can fill the eggs with candy or other non-edible treats. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on **Sunday, April 10th**, at the Festival Gardens. More details on the hunt to come.



Children's Ministry News

In 2 Samuel 9, King David finds Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth. David shows kindness by inviting him to the palace, feeding him a meal, and letting him eat at the palace regularly. God was kind to David; David was kind to Mephibosheth, and we should be kind to others.



New summary verse for the next several weeks, "He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us." (2 Corinthians 1:4)

Remember to pray for Westgate educators, "... 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)

There will be no children's classes on **March 27th**. Join us the church retreat.

Mark your calendars for our Field Day VBS, *Growing Strong in God's Truths* on **June 18th**. The events are planned for ages 4 years through 5th grade, but families are welcome to enjoy the park and watch the strength building activities. Please be in prayer for planning and for friends to invite.

Jonathan's older elementary class heard how David praised God when the ark was returned to Jerusalem. Many thanks to Jon for the pictures and for his patient instruction of this vibrant group.



Youth Ministry News

We will not be having class this **Wednesday, 3/16**. Join our church family at **6:45** in the fellowship hall for games and a movie instead!

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!

Group Picture at lovely Palo Duro Canyon!



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

Mar. 6th:

Contribution: \$6,552.50

eGive: \$4,285.84

Total: 10,838.34

Budget: **\$6,341.00**

Be A Blessing: \$25.79

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