

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests

he is risen

Flowering of the Cross

Today we will participate in the Flowering of the Cross tradition. It is a beautiful way to illustrate Christ's (and our) move from death to life. It is a living example of how God can bring beauty out of brokenness and abundant life out of bareness. We will have flowers here to place on the cross or if you brought a flower that is meaningful to you, you can use it.



Auction & Brisket Burn

Make sure that you join us next **Sunday, April 24th**, for a delicious lunch, wonderful fellowship, a great auction, and an opportunity to support our youth group. Check out the insert in the bulletin to see some of the great auction items featured. Invite your family and friends!

The suggested donation for lunch is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Childcare will be available after lunch to help parents participate in the auction.

If you have not been a part of this event before, you may not know that we will have four rooms full of auction items and a "Cash & Carry" section where you can purchase gift cards from local restaurants and other businesses at face value. "Cash & Carry" will open up at **8:45 a.m.** in the church office. This should be your first stop next Sunday as this section will only be open while supplies last.

The youth group is grateful for the many ways you support them through this event and throughout the year!

Sermon Title: From Death to Life

Scripture: Matthew 28: 1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Prayer Concerns

~Please remember **Eric Robinson** in your prayers. He is having arm and nerve issues.

~**Lydia Lyon** is home and recuperating from surgery for a broken hip and knee after a car accident. Please pray for strength and healing for Lydia.

~**Josh and Caroline Wright** are expecting a baby girl toward the end of this month. Continue to pray for the Wrights at this exciting time.

~Continued prayers for **Janice Hill** and her battle with acute colitis. She is doing better, but has ups and downs each week.

~Remember **Linda Jones's** sister, Jan Jordan, in your prayers. Jan is battling cancer.

~Logan Cornutt, 18-year-old grandson of **Jackie Lee**, has brain cancer. Please remember him in your prayers.

~**Clarissa Pyeatt's** nephew was deployed to Germany to support NATO with the Russia/Ukraine conflict.

~**Crystal Collier's** brother-in-law, Monty Hale, is having to undergo daily treatments for prostate cancer. Please pray for him.

~Please pray for Natalia Maluga and her family. She worked closely with **Doug Reeves** at the Sunset International Bible Institute in Ukraine. Natalia, along with 11 adults and 8 children, escaped Ukraine in March after traveling 2 or 3 days. She is staying in Sopot in Northern Poland. Her husband is still in Kyiv.

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

Expectant Parents:

Josh and Caroline Wright – April

Westgate Golf Tournament

Sat., April 30th at 9:00 a.m. ← **new start time**

4-person scramble at Twisted Oaks - Hawley

Cost yet to be determined but not more than \$35 per person

Must have your own set of clubs (golf course rule)

Must sign up and put avg. score so we can set up the teams

Maintenance Requests



It's time for some spring cleaning! If you see anything around the church building that needs to be spruced up or repaired, please email the office:

westgatecofc@gmail.com.

Blessing Box Needs

If you are able to put a few items for the Blessing Box on your grocery list, that would be helpful. Our supplies are getting low. Some popular food items: macaroni and cheese, tuna cans, granola bars, peanut butter crackers, pudding cups, Vienna sausages, fruit cups, and baby food. Also, if you have any books that you don't need anymore, feel free to donate them here to our little library.

You can place donations in the short hall.

Display Shower

Your thoughtful gift will be put on display so there's no need to wrap it in any way. A simple ribbon or bow will do just fine leaving us free to visit and dine

bridal SHOWER

WESTGATE CHURCH OF CHRIST INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN HONORING THE BRIDE-TO-BE
LAUREN GUMM

MAY 1, 2022 AT 2:00 PM
THE STOVALL RESIDENCE | 255 HEDGES RD. ABILENE
LAUREN IS REGISTERED AT BEDBATH&BEYOND, TARGET, & ZOLA

Cathrine Clements Janice Hill Briana Homer Holly Howell
Kelly MacDonald Christa Pruitt Juanita Stovall Misty Tom Angie Wier



Happy Birthday:

Apr. 17th: Noah Pruitt, Aubrey Hilligoss
Apr. 19th: Deana Frazier
Apr. 20th: Chandra McFarlen, Patty Galaway
Apr. 21st: Kymber Pyeatt
Apr. 22nd: James White, Cody Williams



Our Calendar:

Apr. 17th: Easter Sunday

Apr. 20th: Meal before Bible Class **5:45 p.m.** - fajitas

Apr. 24th: Brisket Burn/Youth Auction

Apr. 30th: Westgate Golf Tournament

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

May 8th: Mother's Day

May 15th: Bridal Shower for Kelsey Sanders, bride-elect of Noah Pruitt **2:00 p.m.**

May 22nd: Graduation Celebration

May 30th: Memorial Day

June 5th: Bridal Shower for Stefani Stovall **2:00 p.m.**

June 12th: Bridal Shower for Paige MacDonald **2:00 p.m.**

The Cliffhanger—by Brady Horner

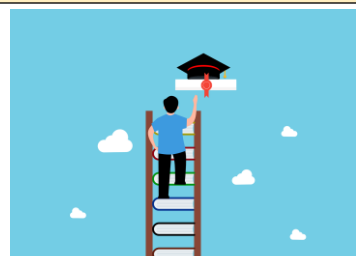
When I was little, I couldn't wait for Saturday morning cartoons. I loved three hours of shows like Garfield, X-Men, Ninja Turtles, and Tiny Toons. Usually, the shows were isolated stories with a clear start and finish. Every now and then, a show would end on a cliffhanger and the words "to be continued" would show on screen. Both exciting and frustrating! Interestingly, most shows today end on cliffhangers. Rather than tell one complete story per episode, it takes an entire season to tell one full story. If you miss an episode, you miss an important part of the story. We can't handle the excitement, mystery, and the wait of a cliffhanger, so we binge watch.

The Gospel of Mark may very well end on a cliffhanger. The oldest manuscripts of Mark don't have 16: 9-19. This means that section was most likely a later, not original, addition. Most Bibles will include a note that testifies to this. The oldest versions end with the boy (angel?) at the empty tomb telling the women that Jesus has been resurrected and instructing them to tell the other disciples. It is weird to end at 16: 8 "Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone because they were afraid." One, it's a pessimistic ending, two, some Greek scholars who are much smarter than me, argue that with the way the language works, it's almost the equivalent of ending the story mid-sentence.

It's likely that the story felt unfinished, so someone added on a more satisfying ending (perhaps borrowing from Matthew, Luke, and Acts). Some hypothesize that Mark purposefully left it as a cliffhanger. In this case, the story ends with all of Jesus's followers abandoning him and running scared, but there is good news in the background. He is alive! But we don't get to see or hear from him. His body is gone, but what is going to happen? What is he going to do? How will his followers, who abandoned him, respond? Maybe, it originally ends with a "to be continued" as a challenge to the reader. It's as if to say "This isn't just a story, it's an event, and you are part of it, what are you going to do? Will you run scared and abandon him like the others? Or will you continue the mission? Will you go and share the story of the risen Christ?" As Christians we live in the excitement and mystery of the cliffhanger as we work and wait for God.

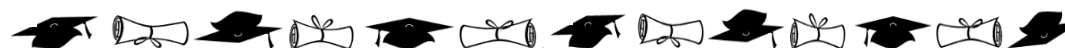
Wednesday Night Meal

This **Wednesday, April 20th**, we'll have a dinner at **5:45 p.m.** before Bible classes at **6:45 p.m.**
 On the menu: fajitas with all the trimmings!
 Come on out and enjoy the great food and fun fellowship.



Graduation Celebration

It won't be long until we're celebrating our high school graduates on **Sunday, May 22nd**! The seniors this year are Emily Gumm, Caleb Powell, Shelby Rose, and Tim Tarkenton. Congratulations Class of 2022!



Children's Ministry News

Children's lesson for today is found in John 19:16–20:18. John teaches that when Jesus dies on the cross, the world goes dark. His friends and followers are in mourning. But just when it seems like Jesus has lost...He comes back to life! Jesus is alive, and God wins! Through Jesus, we have victory over sin and death.

Summary Verse: "But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:57)

Many thanks to all who brought eggs for the Easter hunt. Appreciation to the Lovelands for their props for the photo area. Lots of eggs, lots of fellowship, and lots of wind, thank you to all who came.

Remember to pray for Westgate educators. Psalm 32:8: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go, I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

Plan to join us for Field Day VBS, *Growing Strong in God's Truths*, on **June 18th, 10:00 a.m.—noon.**

On **April 24th**, west hallway classrooms will be used for auction items for the Brisket Burn. 4th and 5th grade children will join the youth for class in the youth house. Some youth will assist with teaching younger children in Theo's room. West hallway teachers will have the day off.



Second graders watched yeast overflow and they discussed God's generosity to Elijah.

Youth Ministry News

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

The Youth Auction is next week, **Sunday, April 24th**. We will be assigning you specific roles to help out with both Saturday, and on Sunday during the auction itself. Come ready to work!

All Auction items are due **today, April 17th**.

If you are a graduating senior, please send Clay the pictures and the song you want in the slide show by **Sunday, May 8th**.

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



The Chaney boys having a great time with the CrossNet 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

April 10th:
 Contribution: \$4,771.33
 eGive: \$4,245.00
 Total: \$9,016.33
 Budget: **\$6,341.00**
 Be A Blessing: \$24.97

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

Nursery Duty:

Kari White

Building Lock-up:

April: CJ Chaney

May: Jon Cogburn