

### Prayer Concerns

~**Dave Smith** is now home from the hospital. Please continue to pray for him.

~**Deana Frazier's** brother-in-law and **Peggy Allen's** son-in law Ervel Quinn passed away. Please pray for the family at this difficult time.

~**Ken Van Cleave** is recovering from his stroke at home. He was released from Encompass Friday. Continue to remember him in prayer.

~Please pray for **Dwayne Hargesheimer**. He had a fall and is recuperating at Encompass.

~Continued prayers for **Aubrey Hilligoss** and her recovery from a stroke. She is out of the hospital.

~Please remember to pray for **Eric Robinson** and his nerve and arm troubles.

~**Nell Hopper** is still in pain and is having to spend most of her time in bed. She appreciates our prayers, cards, and calls.

~Prayers for a swift recovery for **Kennedy Boerio**, who had to undergo gallbladder surgery recently.

~Remember **Jackie Lee's** grandson Logan Cornutt in your prayers as he battles side effects from the clinical trials he is going through.

~Continue to keep Jan Jordan, sister of **Linda Jones**, in your prayers. Jan started back on chemo recently.

### Those unable to join us:

~Laverne Horn  
~Ethel Gumm

### Ongoing prayer concerns:

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

### Missionaries:

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

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



### Cajun Cones Wednesday

We are kicking the summer off right with our first Family Fun Night **this Wednesday, June 1st, at 6:45 p.m.** Join us for fun, fellowship, and a sweet treat from Cajun Cones! We will not have classes Wednesday night.



### End of School Party Thursday

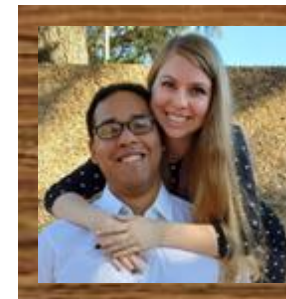
Join us this **Thursday night from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** at the Family Life Center on 1442 North 2nd as we celebrate the start of the summer! We will have pizza and drinks for dinner. Activities include bowling, skating, basketball, volleyball, pool, ping pong, and foosball. Everyone in the congregation is invited to come enjoy a great time together.

### Wednesday Night Summer Series

Our summer series has a great lineup of guest speakers. Come Be blessed by their knowledge of ministry and God's word!

- June 1st:** Family Fun Night—Cajun Cones
- June 8th:** Kevin Huddleston (Director of Ministries at Arms of Hope)
- June 15th:** Chris McCurley (Minister at Oldham Lane Church of Christ)
- June 22nd:** Doug Reeves (Dean of International Studies at Sunset International Bible Institute)
- June 29th:** Robert Baugh (Spiritual Life Minister at Cherokee Home for Children)
- July 6th:** Family Fun Night—Cookie Decorating
- July 13th:** Ian Nickerson (Minister at Minda Street Church of Christ)
- July 20th:** Bradley Steele (Minister at University Church of Christ)
- July 27th:** Carson Reed (ACU Professor and Director of the Siburt Institute for Church Ministry)
- Aug. 3rd:** Family Fun Night—Ice Cream Social
- Aug. 10th:** Nathan Burrow (Minister at Hillcrest Church of Christ)
- Aug. 17th:** Wes Crawford (ACU Professor of Modern and American Church History)

*Display Shower*  
Your thoughtful gift will be put on display, so there's no need to wrap it in any way. Just a cute bow or gift tag is all we need to see so we can all enjoy and celebrate the bride-to-be!



### Stovall Bridal Shower

**Next Sunday, June 5th**, a bridal shower honoring Stefani Stovall, bride-elect of TJ Foster, will be held at Julie Bibb's house ( ) at **2:00 p.m.** Stefani is registered at Bed, Bath, and Beyond and theknot.com/stefandtj. Hostesses are Laura Ashlock, Julie Bibb, Louise Hargesheimer, Janice Hill, Linda Jones, Connie McSherry, Marja Swart, Jill Tate, and Gayle Ann Turnage. All the ladies of Westgate are invited to come celebrate Stefani and TJ.

### Sermon Title: Nehemiah's Bailout

**Scripture:** Nehemiah 5: 1-6

Now the men and their wives raised a great outcry against their fellow Jews. Some were saying, "We and our sons and daughters are numerous; in order for us to eat and stay alive, we must get grain."

Others were saying, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our homes to get grain during the famine."

Still others were saying, "We have had to borrow money to pay the king's tax on our fields and vineyards. Although we are of the same flesh and blood as our fellow Jews and though our children are as good as theirs, yet we have to subject our sons and daughters to slavery. Some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but we are powerless, because our fields and our vineyards belong to others."

When I heard their outcry and these charges, I was very angry.



### Happy Birthday:

**June 1<sup>st</sup>:** Isaac Espinoza  
**June 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Nell Hopper  
**June 4<sup>th</sup>:** Vince Van Cleave, Steve Stovall



### Happy Anniversary:

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Kile & Lettie Morrow,  
John & Bethany Powell  
**June 4<sup>th</sup>:**  
Gabe & Jessica Fisher



### Our Calendar:

**May 30<sup>th</sup>:** Memorial Day

**June 1<sup>st</sup>:** Family Fun Night – Cajun Cones **6:45 p.m.**

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Family Life Center End of School Party **6-8 p.m.**

**June 5<sup>th</sup>:** Bridal Shower for Stefani Stovall **2:00 p.m.**

**June 8<sup>th</sup>:** Summer Series speaker Kevin Huddleston **6:45 p.m.**

**June 12<sup>th</sup>:** Bridal Shower for Paige MacDonald **2:00 p.m.**

**June 15<sup>th</sup>:** Summer Series speaker Chris McCurley **6:45 p.m.**

**June 18<sup>th</sup>:** VBS at Festival Gardens **10:00 a.m. – noon**

**June 19<sup>th</sup>:** Father’s Day

**July 6<sup>th</sup>:** Family Fun Night – Cookie Decorating

### The Southern Baptist Scandal – by Brady Horner

The Southern Baptists have a scandal on their hands. A recent report has alleged that they have been sweeping cases of sexual abuse under the rug to avoid liability. Apparently, they had stashed away a list of over 700 pastors accused of some form of sexual abuse. I don’t know the entirety or the details of these allegations, and I don’t want to be quick to write them off like people did with Johnny Depp, but I’m sure there are plenty of terrible and real cases. Southern Baptists are the largest Protestant denomination and basically the definition of evangelical Christianity. The title “Southern” dates to the pre-Civil War era; the southern side split from the rest of the Baptists to continue to allow pastors to own slaves. So, you can imagine the media is just loving this tragic and embarrassing news.

Unfortunately, it is a very bad look for conservative evangelical Christianity and will be used against them for a long time (I say “them” because it is debatable whether Churches of Christ are part of the “evangelical” movement). Churches are not the only place where sex abuse occurs or is swept under the rug. Unfortunately, given the familial culture of love and trust in churches, coupled with the power many pastors have, churches are often ripe grounds for sexual predators. Honestly, every situation is different, and choosing to report can be difficult. It’s more than just trying to sweep a scandal under the rug. Maybe, people don’t trust how the government authorities will handle it, maybe there is concern about protecting a victim from ridicule, or maybe Churches want to handle the matter (1 Corinthians style) in house without having “unbelievers” make decisions. There are plenty of ways to talk yourself, church, or institution out of reporting, but you should just always report suspected sexual abuse. As the minister here, that is what I will do.

This article series has been exploring the distrust of institutions and this latest scandal is a perfect example of why they are distrusted. The move to not address sexual abuse is made to protect the institution over the individual. When an institution serves itself and not those under its care, something has gone wrong. When local churches are making decisions, it should not just be about them. First, they need to consider the individual people under their pastoral care, second, they need to consider the entire body of Christ. What they do could harm the individual or the image of the universal Church. Unfortunately, we are often tempted to do what is good for the institution rather than the individual or the whole. May we as a Church embrace downward mobility and do what is good for people and the Kingdom.



### Christian Homes Event

Join Christian Homes on **June 4<sup>th</sup>** at the Abilene Zoo for Babies, Blues & BBQ so that more adopted and foster children will have a Christian home of their own. Tickets are just \$25 and include BBQ, zoo admission, and a family-friendly evening concert by

KT & the Blues Scientists. More information is available at [www.ChristianHomes.com](http://www.ChristianHomes.com) or call 677-2205 or use this QR code to purchase tickets by June 3<sup>rd</sup>.



### Children’s Ministry News

Zephaniah 3:16-17 tells us that God is joyful... and what brings Him the most joy is us! God rejoices over us and delights in us, and He is thrilled when someone turns to Him. We can make music and sing for joy in response.

Summary Verse for the next few weeks:  
“Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before Him, singing with joy.” (Psalm 100:2)



Wednesday PM students celebrated the end of school with root beer floats and a video on making wise choices.

Join us for Field Day VBS. Families are invited to attend and cheer during *Growing Strong in God’s Truths*, **Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. – noon**. Ask God to lead you to a friend or neighbor to invite.

Eric Gumm has agreed to teach the older elementary boys this summer. Classes will meet on Wednesday night with an emphasis on developing skills needed to lead worship. Many thanks to Eric and other men who will assist. More details to come.

### Youth Ministry News

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

Grab a summer calendar from the youth bulletin board next to Brady’s office.

Our first Family Fun Night is on Wednesday! We will not be having youth class.

Join us on **Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**, for a pool party at the Stovall’s house!



Please pray for our students as they begin their summer!

*We are so proud of our graduating seniors!  
We can’t wait to see where God will lead you.*

**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](mailto:westgatecofc@gmail.com)

### Offering

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
Contribution: \$2,405.00  
eGive: \$2,330.00  
Total: \$4,735.00  
Budget: **\$6,341.00**  
Be A Blessing: \$16.46

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

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

**Children’s Education Coordinator:** Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)  
**email:** [lee-jacqueline@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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:

Clair Arche

### Building Lock-up:

**May:** Jon Cogburn  
**June:** Eric Gumm