

Prayer Concerns

~Laura Templeton has foot surgery scheduled for Wednesday. Please pray for her surgery and recovery.

~David and Skyla Krause will be traveling to Raleigh, North Carolina, today. Skyla is scheduled for follow-up surgery on a cyst that has not healed properly. Prayers for safe travels and complete healing would be greatly appreciated.

~Please keep praying for Eric Robinson and family.

~Amy Robertson is recovering from a broken hip at home and appreciates our prayers.

~It was great to see Ellen Schoenrock here last Sunday. Please continue to pray for her full recovery from hip replacement surgery.

~Former member Laura Hennan had her 6th chemo treatment for pancreatic cancer last week. Your continued prayers are appreciated.

~Beverly Meeks (Chris Meeks’s mother) has breast cancer and will have to undergo chemo and surgery. Please remember her in prayer.

Ongoing prayer concerns:

- ~Glenn Arnold – recovering from fall
- ~Steve Bibb (Randy’s brother) – leukemia
- ~Michael Bryant – rheumatoid arthritis in lungs and aortic aneurysm
- ~Fernando Espinoza (Noe’s dad) – prostate cancer (in remission)
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Laura Hennan – pancreatic cancer
- ~Aubrey Hilligoss
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Tiffany Houdeshell (Rachael Lee’s friend) – breast cancer
- ~Melody Loveland – inoperable stomach issue
- ~Louise Monaghan – Alzheimer’s
- ~Fran Prather (Shelley’s mom) – pulmonary hypertension
- ~Jim Prather (Shelley’s dad) – congestive heart failure
- ~Dottie Roberts – recovering from fall and heart ablations
- ~Eric Robinson
- ~Savanna Smith (Paul & Marian Piersall’s granddaughter) – AVM
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Steve Templeton – prostate cancer
- ~Marty Turentine – recovering from stem cell transplant
- ~Mickey Walker
- ~Chris Willerton – cellulitis

Those unable to join us:

- ~Barbara Buchanan
- ~Bobby Davis
- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill
- ~Ralph and Margaret Monroe
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell
- ~George Woodfin

Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves—Sunset International Bible Institute
- ~Megeste & Josette Pierre—Christian Family Center, Port-au-Prince, Haiti (in Mexico currently)
- ~Keith & Grace Gafner—Eldoret, Kenya
- ~Larry & Hollye Conway—Nairobi, Kenya
- ~Scott & Shirley Raab—Belgium and Maastricht, Netherlands

Sunday 5:00 PM Worship
Childhood of Jesus
Where Was Jesus Born?

Thank You Note

Dear Westgate Church of Christ Family,
I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your prayers, support, and concern during my recent illness. Your kindness and encouragement have meant so much to me and have truly lifted my spirits throughout this time.
I am especially thankful for the ladies Bible class. Your thoughtful cards, messages, and continued prayers have been a great source of comfort and hope. Knowing that you were thinking of me and lifting me up in prayer made all the difference, and I am blessed to be part of such a loving congregation.
Thank you all for your Christian love and care. May God continue to bless each of you as you serve Him and share His love with others.
With sincere appreciation,
Ross Blasingame



Westgate Church of Christ
Welcome Members and Guests



Trunk or Treat Candy Collection

If you’re out and about this week, please pick up an extra bag of candy for our Trunk or Treat, scheduled for **Sunday, October 26**, in the Westgate south parking lot. We hope to meet and greet lots of people from the neighborhood and show them our famous Westgate hospitality. And someone be sure to get Nerds in honor of Jim!

Blessing Box

What is the Blessing Box? Outside by the playground, the Blessing Box is filled with food each day and used by neighborhood residents and passersby who need a little extra help. If you are interested in filling the Blessing Box, please visit with Steve Templeton or call/text him for more information.



Ways to get involved:

Blessing Box Bucket: The money the kids put in the bucket is used to buy additional groceries to put in the box. Feel free to give a dollar or two to a child on their way up the aisle.

Weekly Volunteers: The Blessing Box is stocked with food each day by volunteers; for example, one family fills the box every Sunday, one family fills the box every Monday, etc.

Extra Food Donations: If you ever want to donate nonperishable food, that is also welcome; just put it in the basket in the short hall.



Missions Month Coming Up

October is Missions Month! We will prayerfully seek ways that our congregation can continue to bless and serve others. Part of Missions Month is WATS Day, slated for **Sunday, October 19**. If you know of a good project we could work on, please talk to Brady or one of the deacons (no guarantee we will be able to do every suggested project).

Sermon Title: Baptism

Scripture: Romans 6: 1–7

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.



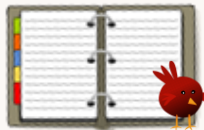
Happy Birthday:

Sept. 21: Mickey Walker
Sept. 24: Ashley Becerra
Sept. 25: Cassidy Lott,
Brandon Davis,
George Woodfin



Happy Anniversary:

Sept. 22: Ron & Geraldine Hill
Sept. 23: Ralph & Margaret
Monroe (75th!!!!!!)
Sept. 24: Roger & Marja Swart



Our Calendar:

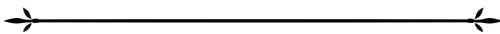
Sept. 28: Games @ Youth House
Oct. 1: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
Oct. 5: Youth Group Devo
Oct. 12: Youth Group HS Hangout
Oct. 13: Columbus Day (office closed), Youth Group lunch
Oct. 15: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
Oct. 19: Breakfast and WATS
Oct. 26: Trunk or Treat
Oct. 29: Brown Bag Fellowship 5:45 p.m.
Nov. 2: Daylight Saving Time ends
Nov. 5: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
Nov. 11: Veterans Day
Nov. 19: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
Nov. 21 – 23: Youth Group Fall Retreat
Nov. 23: Church Friendsgiving Potluck
Nov. 26: no Wed. p.m. services
Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Day/ Thanksgiving Meal Delivery
Nov. 30: Youth Group HS Hangout

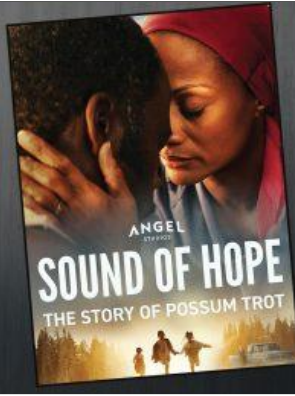
Church Criticism: Criticizing other Churches –
by Brady Horner

Criticizing other churches is generally offensive. I guess indirectly by saying this, I’m being critical of churches that criticize other churches and am a hypocrite...but here goes anyway! When I was a kid my whole family, all the aunts, uncles, and cousins, crowded into my grandparents’ small country church during a family reunion. It was an exciting and sweet Sunday, but we realized that the church bulletin was speaking ill of my aunt and uncle’s church! My family didn’t cause a stink about it, but it still put an awkward feeling in the air.

Often criticism of other churches is unfair because the information we have about them is incomplete. The criticism is often based on what we’ve heard through the grapevine, learned in a brief interaction, or saw on social media. Simply put, we are not insiders at the other church, and we don’t really know. We may not understand their history, their vision, their tradition, or their heart. We should not develop harsh criticism based on little information, that is being overly quick to judge. We should get to know people and churches, listen to them, understand them, and ask questions, before we criticize (if we criticize at all).

I think there was some good and bad intent in the criticism of my aunt and uncle’s church. First, I think the one criticizing was trying to say “This is who we are and what we believe,” by contrasting themselves with a different church. Maybe they were learning from the mistakes of other churches. Maybe it was even saying “If you are worried our church is going this direction or will adopt this practice, fear not.” However, I also wonder if our criticism of other churches is to tell ourselves how we are good and “right”. Like a lot of criticism, it gives us a sense of superiority as we pat ourselves on the back and say, “We are not like them.” Much like the Pharisee prays, in the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.” (Luke 18: 11-12) Sometimes we like to talk about how bad people are to remind us of how “good” we are. Jesus closes the parable with the words “...those who humble themselves will be exalted.” Criticism of others to elevate oneself is not a healthy way to criticize.





HEAR THEIR STORY!

OCTOBER 28, 2025
ABILENE CONVENTION CENTER

Bishop W.C. Martin and his wife, Donna
They lived and led a movement
of 22 families who adopted 77 children!

Christian Homes
A FAMILY SERVICES



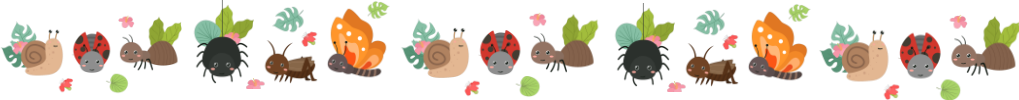
Having fun in the one-year-old class with sweet Whitten!

Children’s Ministry News

- Our fall memory verse is Acts 2:38 – Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”
- On **Wednesday nights** our 3rd – 5th graders are playing games to memorize scriptures and important people of the Bible.
- This Wednesday night** our 3-year-olds – 2nd grade are learning about Abraham from The Biggest Story, Bible Storybook!



Sadie loves coming to church!



Youth Ministry News

You can pick up a schedule for our fall events in the folder on the bulletin board by Clay’s office.

On **September 28**, students are invited to join us for a Game Night at the Youth House! We will eat dinner together and have time to play some organized group games.

Our next Youth Devo will be on **Sunday, October 5**.

It’s time to start thinking about Trunk or Treat Theme ideas for the youth group! Make sure to come to class on **Wednesday nights** to brainstorm and vote for costume ideas!

Please mark your calendars for our youth group Fall Retreat, which will be **November 21 – 23**! The cost will be \$35 and parents can register online through Churchteams. Ask Clay if you have any questions!

We had great Westgate representation at the cross-country meet last Saturday!



Ways to Give: check: 402 S. Pioneer, 79605 eGive: westgatecofc.com text-to-give: 325-379-8222			
Services at Westgate: Sundays—Bible Class 9:00 a.m. , Worship 10:00 a.m. , 5 p.m. Tuesdays—Ladies Bible Class 10 a.m. Wednesdays—Bible Class 6:45 p.m.			Church office: (325)692-2300 westgatecofc@gmail.com
Offering September 14: Contribution: \$7,116.00 eGive: \$2,610.86 Total: \$9,726.86 Budget: \$8,393.30 Be a Blessing: \$21.00	Lead Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903) pbhorner@gmail.com Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983) sch16a@acu.edu Children’s Education Coordinator: Emily Clute (325-269-9806) eclute123@gmail.com Elders: Eric Gumm, Jim MacDonald, John Powell, Steve Stovall, Troy Tom, Aaron Winter Deacons: Manny Carneiro, Jon Cogburn , Adam Lott, Chris Meeks, Matt Waldrip		
			Nursery Duty: 9/21: Connie McSherry 9/28: Lauren Cole Building Lock-up: Sept.: Matt Waldrip Oct.: Manny Carneiro