



Happy Birthday:

- Nov. 16: Marilyn Turentine
- Nov. 18: Glenn Arnold
- Nov. 21: Kelly MacDonald



Our Calendar:

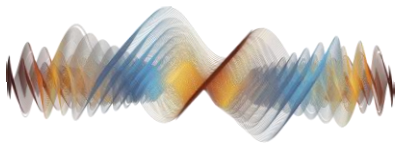
- Nov. 16: Children’s Christmas Program Practice 4 – 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 19: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Nov. 21 – 23: Youth Fall Retreat 5:30 p.m. Friday – 11:30 a.m. Sunday
- Nov. 23: Church Friendsgiving Potluck, Children’s Christmas Program Practice 4 – 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 25: no Ladies Bible Class
- Nov. 26: no Wed. p.m. service
- Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Day/ Thanksgiving Meal Delivery
- Nov. 30: Youth Group HS Hangout, Children’s Christmas Program Practice 4 – 5:30 p.m., no Sunday 5 p.m. service
- Dec. 3: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Dec. 6: Breakfast with Santa 8:30 – 10 a.m.
- Dec. 7: Church Christmas Party and Children’s Program 6 p.m., no Sunday 5 p.m. service
- Dec. 14: Christmas Candlelight Service 6 p.m., no Sunday 5 p.m. service
- Dec. 17: Youth Christmas Party
- Dec. 19: Westgate Ladies’ Favorite Things Party
- Dec. 21: no Bible classes, regular worship service 10 a.m., regular 5 p.m. service
- Dec. 24: no Wed. p.m. service
- Dec. 25: Christmas Day
- Dec. 28: no Bible classes, regular worship service 10 a.m., regular 5 p.m. service

Lessons from School Required Readings: Part 2 – by Brady Horner

I remember growing increasingly angry as I read *Animal Farm* my sophomore year. I just couldn’t understand why we were being made to read this silly children’s book. I was unaware of all the symbolism in the book until I was halfway through it! I’m not sure if my English teacher is to blame, or if I was just a dumb high school kid, but it was all flying over my head. When I discovered the book is a political allegory about communism and the Soviet Union, it became much more interesting.

For a while, *Animal Farm* was a summer reading for Abilene High students. Evidently some kids were reading the whole book, with no teacher guidance, and missing the entire point! They read it thinking they just read a competitor to *Charlotte’s Web*. Once teachers figured this out, they began reading it with the class during the school year, because the book needs to be read with guidance. It needs to be talked about, sometimes explained, and needs to come with some history lessons.

The Bible is the same way. Sometimes we have this idea that if everyone picked up the Bible and objectively read it (which we can’t completely do) we would all draw the same conclusions. The truth is when people go and read the Bible on their own, without guidance, at best they miss some important stuff, at worst they come up with some wacky ideas! In Acts 8 the Ethiopian Eunuch tells Philip he can’t understand the Scriptures unless someone explains it to him. The Bible isn’t your book, it’s the Church’s book. So, it is to be read with God’s people, with spiritual leadership and guidance. I’m not saying there is anything wrong with personal private study, but it is much richer when explored and discussed with other Christians. Reading the Bible in and with community helps us to read it for all it’s worth.



Bible Trails

Children’s Ministry News

- The theme for the winter quarter is Faith Works. Our focus for November is Paul and Silas in prison.
- Our winter memory verse is Isaiah 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
- Christmas Program practice starts **today!** Sign-ups are open until practice starts at 4. Text “Christmas” to the Westgate number to fill out a short form and sign your child(ren) up!



Youth Ministry News

Our Fall Retreat is **next weekend** (Friday night– Sunday morning)! The theme for the weekend is **One**, and we are excited to talk about unity in the Body of Christ. We are leaving from Westgate at **5:30 p.m.**, and we will be back around **11:30 a.m. on Sunday morning**. Please ask Clay if you have any questions!

Due to Thanksgiving, we will **not** have class on **Wednesday, November 26**.

Our next High School Hangout will be on **Sunday, November 30**.

Please continue to pray for our students throughout the school semester!



Students hanging out before class on Wednesday night!

Ways to Give: check: 402 S. Pioneer, 79605 eGive: westgatecofc.com text-to-give: 325-379-8222 Churchteams

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 November 9: Contribution: \$3,900.00 eGive: \$4,229.21 Total: \$8,129.21 Budget: \$8,393.30 Be a Blessing: \$11.57

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: 11/16: Chandra McFarlen 11/23: Cathrine Clements **Building Lock-up:** Nov.: Manny Carneiro Dec.: Adam Lott