

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests

Prayer Concerns

~Our beloved sister in Christ **Doris Wells** passed away on Thursday. Pray for peace and comfort for the Wells family at this difficult time.

~**Troy Tom** is feeling much better and they believe his collapsed lung is getting better because he is not feeling the pain that he had been experiencing. The Toms appreciate our continued prayers.

~**Steve Smith's** neck surgery has been postponed until some additional tests can be run. Please remember to pray for him.

~We extend our sincere sympathy to the **Horner** family in the loss of Brady's mother, Beth Horner.

~Let's all remember to pray for **Kevin Pruitt** and his help with the Louisiana hurricane cleanup.

~Prayers for **Judy and Crystal Collier** in the passing of **John King**. A memorial service will not be held, but gifts in his honor may be sent to American Heart Association or American Diabetes Association.

~Please continue to pray for **Janice Hill**, as she has been struggling with acute colitis.

~Remember **Sarah Hall** in your prayers as she recovers from her appendectomy.

~Prayers for Daisy Woodrow, 2-year-old daughter of former Westgate members **Matthew and Paige Woodrow**. Doctors performed surgery Thursday on a mass suspected to be a type of adrenal cancer. They were able to remove the entire tumor without any rupture. They won't know what the tumor is for sure until they are able to biopsy it, hopefully by Monday.

~**Nell Hopper's** sister and brother-in-law Claudia and Glenn have cancer. Please pray for peace and comfort.

~**Erin Cogburn's** mom, Brenda Bricker, is able to manage pain with just Tylenol. Please continue to pray the breaks remain stable as she heals. The doctor says it will take three months.

~Linda Stokes, mother of **Christie Pruitt**, is recovering after a recent surgery. She is doing well and getting stronger every day. Please pray that she continues to improve.

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
- ~Larry Loveland
- ~Hope Hodges
- ~Jerry Herttenberger
- ~Bradi Williams
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Donna Scott
- ~Frances Welch
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Susan Tolle
- ~Patsy Williamson
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell

Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves- Sunset School of Preaching, Lubbock, TX

Baby Blessing

Vows of the Parents:

- We accept our child as a unique gift and an inheritance from God.
- We dedicate ourselves to do our very best in raising up this child in the Lord.
- We will protect this child from harm with all our strength.
- We will teach this child to trust, to walk, and to search for truth.
- We will love and discipline this child in the way God has loved and disciplined us.
- We will treasure the moments and collect the memories that each day holds.
- We will give this child a legacy of wonder and wisdom.
- We will, with God's help, instill within this child a love for God which will last a lifetime.
- Lord, we solemnly accept the calling of parenting.

Vows of the Church:

- We will be an extended family for these parents.
- We will offer our help and encouragement when needed.
- We will give them advice when asked and support them with prayer without being asked.
- We will listen to their stories, share their concerns, and look at their pictures.
- We will give our hearts to these families and love them as Christ has loved us.

Volunteer Opportunity:

The Christian Service Center is in need of volunteers. Please call them at 673-7531 if you are interested in helping out.

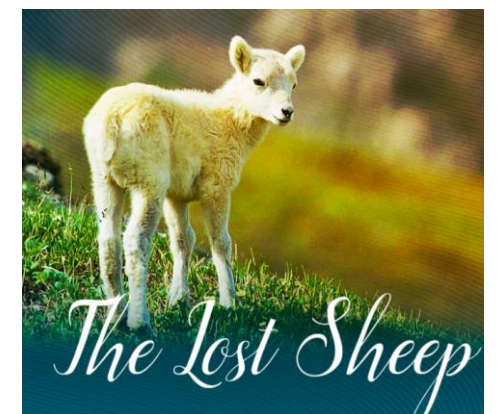


Thanks for all the socks and underwear donations for Bonham Elementary!

Sermon Title: We Are All Lost Sheep

Scripture: Matthew 18: 10-14

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."





Happy Birthday:

Sept. 21st: Mickey Walker
Sept. 22nd: Paizly Turnage, Kyley Pyeatt, Chad Longley
Sept. 24th: Ashley Becerra
Sept. 25th: Cassidy Lott

Happy Anniversary:

Sept. 22nd: Ron & Geraldine Hill
Sept. 23rd: Josh & Garolyn Jergins
Sept. 24th: Roger & Marja Swart



Our Calendar:

Sept. 26th: Fishing Derby
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Youth Group devotional at
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Oct. 3rd: All Church Picnic

Oct. 6th: Love Grub

Oct. 10th: Youth Group board game night

Oct. 11th: Columbus Day

Oct. 24th: Trunk or Treat

Fishing Derby:



Who: All families with children in the Children’s Ministry

What: Lunch and fishing

Where: MacDonald’s house —Text Kelly (325-668-8250) if you need directions.

When: Sunday, Sept. 26th 12:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

Other Details: Plenty of fishing spots will be available. Bring chairs or blankets to sit on, bug spray, and fishing equipment if you have any. Lunch will be provided. Fishing is optional; if your child is too young to fish or doesn’t want to fish, come out anyway and enjoy the nice fall day (hopefully!). Hope to see you there!

Church Extras: Wednesday Night Service—by Brady Horner

Of all the “Church Extras,” the tradition of Wednesday night service is the hardest to find an origin/reason for the practice. Puritans apparently had a Thursday night service. Some believe Dwight L. Moody popularized using Wednesday for a noontime prayer meeting during his revivals. In the Churches of Christ, this evolved into Bible classes coupled with a brief devo. In my understanding, the main purpose of the devo was to offer an “invitation” for people to come to Christ. In my 35 years of Wednesday night Church attendance, I don’t think I have ever seen anyone respond to a Wednesday night invitation (but I’m sure it’s happened). Offering an “invitation” is not a command but a tradition, one borrowed from the Methodist “anxious bench”. Oddly enough, some of us act as though the “invitation” is a command and get very upset when it is not offered.

Wednesday night is another one of those traditions that is slipping away. Of all the “Church Extras” it looks to be the next to go. In my 13 years of ministry, I have found that Wednesday is arguably the most important time for youth and more of a chore for adults. For students it’s a time to hang out, reconnect, and be spiritually formed. Students that regularly attend on Wednesday night are the most involved and connected. They are much more likely to bring friends because it is a night event (not early in the morning). In fact, overall, the average attendance of Bible class in my ministry has been higher on Wednesday night than Sunday morning! It would be hard to see youth ministries lose Wednesday night as our culture secularizes, and extracurriculars/busyness move in on that time. One thing that is already happening is churches are hosting youth programs on Wednesday night that parents can just drop their kids off at. I suppose this is better than just all out cancelling Wednesday nights.

I should say, there is a sizable group of people at Westgate committed to Wednesday night. I have grown to really enjoy that time and feel more connected with those who attend. Still in proportion to Westgate as a whole, it is low numbers. We could take the old route that worked in the 70’s and say “Ya we know Scripture doesn’t say you have to go on Wednesdays, but the elders said this is when you should go, so if you don’t go you are still sinning.” But come on! Perhaps the best way to move forward is much like we did with Sunday nights; find ways to make that time more meaningful or reallocate it. The world already has so much of our time, I would like to see God and the Church reclaim some of that, but it may take creativity, commitment, and a willingness to break from tradition.



Children’s Ministry News

In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus warns about doing good things like giving just to be noticed by other people. Hypocrites call attention to their gifts, but Jesus wants us to give privately so that our hearts are about giving...not about looking impressive. The Sermon on the Mount teaches us that God loves a giving heart.

Summary Verse for the next few weeks: “So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today. (Matthew 6:34)

For the month of September, please pray for our Westgate educators.

“May the Lord give strength to His people! May the Lord bless His people with peace.” (Psalm 29:11)

There is a sign-up sheet in the hall to help with supervising children from birth to three during Wednesday night class. Please check out a date and sign up, thank you.

Second graders discussed loving your enemy as they learned more from the Sermon on the Mount. Thanks to Hayley for teaching open hearts and busy hands.

Youth Ministry News

Join us on **Sundays at 9 a.m.** and **Wednesdays at 7 p.m.** for class.

Sunday 9/26: Join us for a devotional at the **Waldrips’** house from **7-9 p.m.**

Join us on **Friday, October 10th,** for a board game night!

Please pray for our students as they begin a new school year!



Lucy and Alyssa hanging out at Camp Blessing

Services at Westgate: Sundays—Bible Class **9:00 a.m.**, Worship **10:00 a.m.**

Wednesdays—Bible Class **7:00 p.m.**

By the Numbers

Sept. 12th:
Contribution: \$2,670.42
eGive: \$3,145.00
Total: \$5,815.42
Budget: **\$6,076.00**
Be A Blessing: \$12.10

Lead Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903)

Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983)

Children’s Education Coordinator: Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)

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:

Sept. Jon Cogburn

Oct. Eric Gumm