

Prayer Concerns

~Melody Loveland received great news at her last doctor's appointment. The cancer has not grown any, so they don't have to do any treatments for now. She will go in again in 6 months. She appreciates your prayers.

~Continue to remember the Tom family in your thoughts and prayers. Troy's mom, Cynthia Tom, passed away a couple of weeks ago. The funeral was last Saturday in Victoria.

~Please pray for Eric Robinson. He is having trouble with the nerves in his arm.

~Remember to lift Chad Longley up in prayer. He is on the road to recovery after several procedures and surgeries for achalasia.

~Logan Cornutt, grandson of Jackie Lee, could use our prayers. Remember to also pray for his family.

~Kathryn Boerio's mom, Nancy Stewart, has started radiation and is doing great so far. She really appreciates your prayers.

~Julie Conly (daughter of Jerry Varnado) is out of the hospital. Please keep praying for Julie.

~Continued prayers for Megeste Pierre and the school he is running in Haiti. It is a tough situation there, with gang rivalries and violence affecting them daily.

~Please pray for those affected by the devastating earthquake that struck Syria and Turkey last week.

Those unable to join us:

- ~Laverne Horn
- ~Ethel Gumm

Ongoing prayer concerns:

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

Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves—Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, TX
- ~Megeste Pierre—Christian Family Center, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

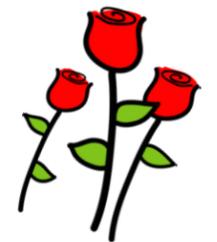
Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests



Senior Valentine Luncheon

Are you ready for some B-I-N-G-O? Senior members of the congregation are invited to the Senior Valentine Luncheon hosted by the youth group today. Lunch and bingo will be provided in the fellowship hall immediately following our worship service. Thanks to Clay, the youth group, and the youth group parents for this fun fellowship time.



Love Grub This Wednesday



Second time's the charm with some Raising Cane's chicken fingers and sides with ice cream sandwiches for dessert, after Love Grub was canceled due to ice Feb. 1st. Come one, come all to Love Grub Wednesday, February 15th, at 5:45 p.m.! Gluten free and dairy free options will be available. A donation to cover the cost of your meal is appreciated.

Directory Wall Pictures

Steve Templeton will be set up in a west hall classroom the next two Sunday mornings, Feb. 19th and 26th, to take directory wall pictures. If you don't have a picture up there, or your family has changed, or you would just like a new picture, he will be happy to take your picture after services those days.



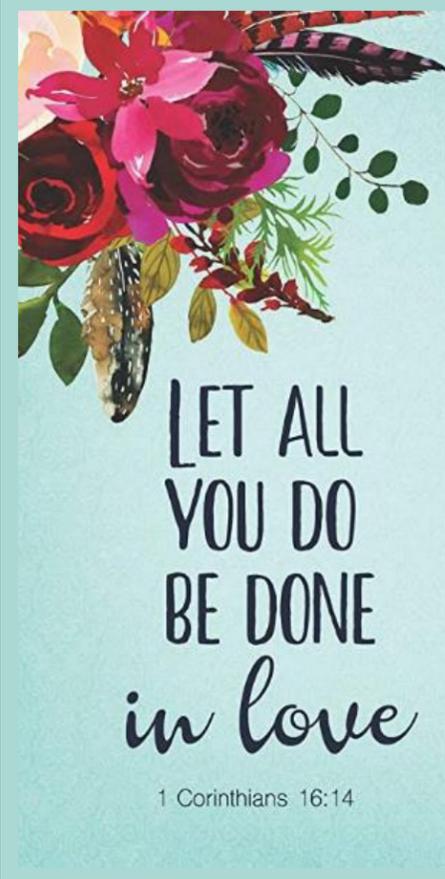
Welcome New Member

Jamie Dye

Please contact the office if you would like Jamie's address and phone number.

Bonham Support

Bonham staff received lip balm as the monthly encouragement from Westgate. Please continue to pray for Bonham as they make a difference in the lives of children. Please include in your prayers our Westgate educators, our children, their teachers, and their schools. "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:1-2)



Sermon Title: Abraham and Sarah

Scripture: Genesis 12:10-20

Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."

When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman. And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels. But the Lord inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai. So Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!" Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.



Happy Birthday:

- Feb. 13th: Judy Collier
- Feb. 14th: Liam Meeks, Stephen Boyd
- Feb. 15th: Melody Loveland
- Feb. 16th: Ava Longley, Ann Perez



Our Calendar:

- Feb. 12th: Youth Group hosts Senior Valentine Luncheon after services, Youth Group Super Bowl Party 5:15 p.m.
- Feb. 15th: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Feb. 19th: Picture Day
- Feb. 20th: Presidents Day
- Feb. 26th: Picture Day
- Mar. 1st: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Mar. 12th: Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 15th: Game and Movie Night
- Mar. 29th: Brown Bag Fellowship 5:45 p.m.
- Apr. 1st – 2nd: Family Retreat in Leuders
- Apr. 5th: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Apr. 8th: Easter Egg Hunt at Festival Gardens
- Apr. 9th: Easter Sunday
- Apr. 19th: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Apr. 30th: Brisket Burn/Youth Auction after services
- May 14th: Mother's Day
- May 21st: Graduation Celebration

Reactive Theology – by Brady Horner

This article series has been exploring the outside and inward forces that shape our reading of Scripture and keep it from being as clear and objective as we would like. In the Churches of Christ we can be a little funny about our use of religious terminology. We have ministers/elders not pastors, an auditorium not a sanctuary, a slogan but no creed, communion not Eucharist, Bible class not “Sunday School”, a chorus not a choir, we do choreography but don’t dance, we give a contribution not a tithe, we meet at the church building not the Church, we have a fellowship hall not a kitchen or café, and we have invitations not altar calls. Some of this hairsplitting about terms has deep thoughtful reasoning behind it, however some of it is simply because we don’t want to be like “those guys.”

It is very important to make clear that the church (emphasis on the lower case) is just a building. God isn’t more present in the auditorium than anywhere else (like the term sanctuary implies), unless of course the believers are gathered there in Christ’s name. We don’t like creeds because there is no biblical example, but also because they seem more divisive than uniting. Let’s be honest, a large amount of these theological stands we take on terminology is to define ourselves against other groups. The Baptists called words like “testimony”, “tithe”, and “Sunday School”! Our use of “elder” or “minister” instead of “pastor” is mostly to indicate we don’t have one pastor who runs the church. However, if you do an in-depth Scriptural study of the roles of an elder/pastor in the Church you will find that most Church of Christ ministers fill the scriptural teaching role of an elder/pastor more so than designated elders.

There are many things we don’t do mostly because Catholics do it: fasting, kneeling, saying prayers together, and coming to the front for communion. These can all be great practices that we are missing out on! Similarly, the issues concerning having kitchens in the building and instruments go back to the post-Civil War era when those rich jerks in the North had so much money, they could add kitchens in their buildings and have fancy built-in organs. Meanwhile, the poor South didn’t have the funds for those things, so we read Scripture in a way that defined ourselves against the “guilty” Northerners. I want our practices and identity to be defined by God and his Word, not our traditions or who we want to be differentiated from. It is my prayer that exploring and naming our biases will liberate us and help us to read Scripture for all it is worth!

Happy Retirement

A big congratulations to Deana Frazier, who retired this month after 50 years in the grocery business! She worked at HEB the last 20 years. She will now be able to be home more with her mother and son and grandkids, which will be great. But HEB won’t be the same without her!



Children’s Ministry News

- ❖ Children continued their study on the Fruit of the Spirit with a story on joy. Nehemiah 8:1-12 tells that after they finish rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem, Nehemiah and his friends read from God’s Word. They’re sad to realize they haven’t been obeying God, but Nehemiah tells them to celebrate because the joy of the Lord is our strength.
- ❖ Bible Verse for the next several weeks: **“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!” (Galatians 5:22-23)**
- ❖ Bullies of the Bible for 4th and 5th graders began last Wednesday and will continue with Chandra teaching this week. Please thank these willing teachers and reinforce their focus by continuing the discussion with your 4th or 5th grader. Ask your child which bully was discussed and what your child added to the discussion.

David and Skyla’s class worked together to make a long chain, check out their proud smiles. The class learned about a father’s love for his prodigal son. Thank you to the Krauses for teaching and blessing this group each week.



Larry’s 4th and 5th grade class played a review game in the parlor. We are thankful that his class is growing and today was divided into two groups. We will be using the parlor for additional classroom space. Thanks to Jon for teaching the newly formed group.



Youth Ministry News

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

We are excited to host the Senior Valentine Luncheon following worship **today!** Come ready to serve and play bingo!

We are also having a Super Bowl party **tonight at 5:15 p.m.!** Girls please bring desserts, and guys please bring appetizers. Come hang out, eat, and play games!

Please pray for our students to have a great semester.

Layla and Emory posing with their prized possession.



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:
February 5th:
Contribution: \$3,537.66
eGive: \$3,636.00
Total: \$7,173.66
Budget: \$6,917.00
Be A Blessing: \$30.18

Lead Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903) pbhorner@gmail.com
Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983) sch16a@acu.edu
Children’s Education Coordinator: Jackie Lee (325-518-4767)
lee-jacqueline@sbcglobal.net
Elders: Randy Bibb, Jim MacDonald, Steve Stovall, Troy Tom
Deacons: Manny Carneiro, Jon Cogburn, Eric Gumm, Adam Lott, Chris Meeks, Matt Waldrip

Nursery Duty:
Lettie Morrow

Building Lock-up:
Feb.: Eric Gumm
March: Adam Lott

Blessing Box
Counting:
Issacc Carneiro,
Wyatt Cogburn