

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



### Youth Auction & Brisket Burn

Don't miss the annual Brisket Burn and Youth Auction **TODAY!** This will be another great year with all of the things you know and love. Make sure that you enjoy an incredible lunch, wonderful fellowship, a fun auction, and an opportunity to support our youth group.

- A terrific smoked brisket lunch with all of the sides and fixings prepared by Troy Tom and the Pit Crew will be served after services. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Due to the high price of meat, feel free to give more if you are able.
- A Cash & Carry section of gift certificates from local restaurants, which you can purchase at face value and support the Westgate youth group, will be available while supplies last in the church office beginning at **8:45 a.m. this morning.**
- Dozens of assorted auction items – from a crocheted stuffed animal to a biplane ride, babysitting to yard work, beautiful gift baskets to homemade baked goods – will be offered. Don't miss this chance to support our youth group!
- To bid on auction items, you will need a bidder number, so see Eric Gumm to get one. He will be near the parlor after worship to assist you.
- Childcare will be available to allow parents to participate in the auction. Youth group members will be available to supervise kids, with ages 1 – 3 in the nursery, ages 4 – Kindergarten in the 2's & 3's room, and 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the youth house. (Make sure that you feed your kids lunch first. 😊)
- We will have four rooms full of great items. We will begin closing the auction rooms at approximately **12:30 p.m.** at about 10-minute intervals and checkout will open after the last room closes. We will also have a live auction in the fellowship hall beginning at approximately **12:35 p.m.**

We are looking forward to another great event this year – with fantastic food and fellowship and support for our youth group – and we hope that you are planning to participate!

**Sermon Title:** The Optimism of Jesus

**Scripture:** Matthew 14: 13-21

When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

"Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

### Prayer Concerns

~Prayers of thanks that **Lainey Schumpert's** cardiologist appointment went well and that **Kipley Sutton's** hip is healing nicely.

~Please continue to pray for **Eric Robinson**. He is experiencing problems with the nerves in his arm.

~Add **Clarissa Pyeatt's** mom's husband Ervin to your prayer list. Doctors found two spots of cancer on his liver at his last checkup. He will get a port on Tuesday and start an IV chemo after that.

~**Erin Cogburn's** mom, Brenda Bricker, is doing well after her knee replacement surgery. She went to the doctor Wednesday and he was very pleased with her progress. Please pray for a full recovery.

~Please remember Gracie Tharp in your prayers this week. She is the mother of Westgate members **Tammy Rose and Patty Galaway**. She has ovarian cancer and is scheduled to start chemo tomorrow. Please pray the chemo is tolerated well.

~Our heartfelt condolences to the **Varnado** and Conly families in the loss of Jerry's daughter, Julie Conly.

~Continued prayers for **Dwight Painter**, who is recovering at home after a bad fall.

~Please remember **Hannah Loveland** in your prayers.

~**Megeste Pierre** sent the great news that the construction of the building for offices and housing has been completed. This process was started in April 2021. Prayers of thanks that this was able to be accomplished amidst all the turmoil there.

~**Reese MacDonald** and **Wyatt DeFoore** will graduate soon. Please start praying for our 2023 seniors to continue to seek God and His wisdom.

~Remember **Kathryn Boerio's** mom and dad in your prayers, Myron and Nancy Stewart.

### 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

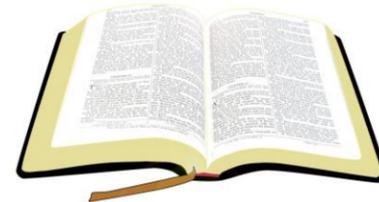
### Missionaries:

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

### Sunday AM Bible Class

Due to the Brisket Burn **today**, Brady will teach a combined class in the auditorium. (Please note the changes for the children's Bible classes in the Children's Ministry News column inside the bulletin.)

**Starting next Sunday**, Cody Bob Williams will be teaching a class on Romans in the auditorium. Brady will continue teaching his class in the fellowship hall.



### Love Grub This Wednesday

Tired of things stacking up on top of you? Tacos aren't! Join us **Wednesday night, tres de mayo, at 5:45 p.m.** for a taco stack Love Grub. We'll have taco meat, cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, and lots more fixings to pile up. And to top it off, sopapilla cheesecake will be the dessert! If you would like to help make a dessert, **ingredients will be available to be picked up today** in the kitchen area. Please chip in some money to cover the cost of your meal that evening.





### Happy Birthday:

- May 2:** Arieal Lynd
- May 3:** Rachael Lee
- May 4:** Sherry Hurst, Joyce Waddell
- May 5:** Vivi Arche



### Our Calendar:

- Apr. 30:** Brisket Burn/Youth Auction after services
- May 3:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- May 13:** ACS Graduation
- May 14:** Mother's Day
- May 17:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- May 21:** Graduation Celebration during and after services
- May 25:** Clyde ISD Graduation
- May 26:** Wylie ISD Graduation
- May 26 – 27:** Abilene ISD Graduations
- May 29:** Memorial Day
- June 4 – 7:** VBS
- June 14:** Family Fun Night
- June 18:** Father's Day
- June 19:** Juneteenth
- June 18 – 24:** Youth Group at Camp Pine Springs
- July 3 – 4:** Church office closed for Independence Day
- July 5:** Family Fun Night
- July 10 – 15:** Youth Group at Camp Beloved and Beyond
- July 22:** Lueders Fun Day
- Aug. 2:** Family Fun Night

### Open Secrets – by Brady Horner

In the late '90s/early 2000s—before streaming, social media, and online gaming—professional wrestling was at peak popularity. Goldberg, Hollywood Hogan, and Stone Cold were exciting characters that did some outrageous things. I hate to tell you this, but it was all fake (and so are “reality” TV shows for that matter)! They are just actors, and everything was scripted. Okay, I know you know that, everyone knows that, it’s an open secret! Open secrets are a weird phenomenon. Like the “elephant in the room” it’s when there is something that everyone knows, but no one wants to acknowledge. Acknowledging an open secret might ruin the fun, might expose someone, or demand a group take action that no one wants to take. Some open secrets I think of are a gay family member, a company’s illegal activity, marital strife or even affairs, or the immorality of a beloved leader or hero.

This is kind of a buzzkill, but good leaders address the “elephant in the room”; they talk about the open secret. In 1 Corinthians 5 we see the church’s open secret that a man (likely a powerful one) is having an incestuous relationship. Everyone turns their head and ignores it, because it’s awkward, no one wants to deal with it, and holding a powerful man accountable might have repercussions. In a bold move of leadership, Paul calls it out and brings it to the forefront. Similarly, Jesus exposed the open secret amongst the Pharisees that they are more into themselves than God; he points out how their practices confirm that. As awkward as exposing the open secret can be, it is often real and refreshing and can lead to transformation of a community.

Are there open secrets in your family, at your work, in our church, or in our society? What would pointing to them do? Perhaps it will create conflict (this is a legitimate fear) so it takes strong leadership to navigate it. Pointing to the “elephant” will also require people to change...which no one likes. But change is growth and can be the beginning of transformation. This creates an open environment that is honest about ourselves and who we are, which is so refreshing. It leads to a genuine community where people can feel safe to share themselves and find real support and healing. Let’s be willing to address the open secrets and be supportive of leaders who do the same.



### VBS Help

One easy way to help with VBS this year is by lending some things you already have at home. If you are willing to loan us a pop-up canopy tent, baskets, artificial plants, pots of growing herbs, a molcajete, Babylon-looking throw rugs, eggshells, or solid color flat bedsheets, that’s great! Write your name on the sign-up sheets in the hall to help

with planning purposes. You don’t have to bring the item yet if you’re still using it. We’ll announce later in May when to bring the items once the decorating is in full swing. Be sure when you bring things that they are clearly marked with your last name so they’ll get back to you easily.

Thanks!



### Children’s Ministry News

- ❖ Brisket Burn Sunday, west classrooms are in use with auction items, so 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will join the youth group for class. 4’s through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will meet in Toolshed with youth group assistance. Birth to 3 will meet in their regular rooms.
- ❖ Many thanks to Juanita for challenging 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday nights; one more lesson to go. On May 10, new teacher, new topic, watch for additional info.
- ❖ Check out the sign-up sheets in the hall for needed items to loan/donate for VBS. Many helping hands are needed so look for ways to help children learn about Daniel’s courage in



Larry’s class discussed Psalm 100 and the importance of praise as we began a study of the Lord’s prayer. Philip and Thomas made praise flags in Hayley’s class. Children will resume lessons on the Lord’s prayer next Sunday.

Babylon. Thanks to those who have already signed up.



Wednesday PM class practiced self-control while building, as children finished up a study on the fruits of the Spirit.

### Youth Ministry News

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

Please join us for the Youth Auction and Brisket Burn following worship **today!** Thank you so much for all the hard work you’ve already put in for this event!

Join us for dinner in the youth house before class on **Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>!**

Mark your calendars for Graduation Celebration on **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.** We are so excited to honor our seniors during our worship service, and at the meal following.

Please continue to pray for all our students as they finish the school year!

*Thank you to the Williamses for hosting the youth group for a Devo last Sunday!*



**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:**  
**April 23:**  
Contribution: \$2,671.04  
eGive: \$3,130.00  
Total: \$5,801.04  
Budget: **\$6,917.00**  
Be A Blessing: \$22.04

**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:**  
Jackie Lee  
Kennedy Boerio  
**Building Lock-up:**  
**April:** Chris Meeks  
**May:** Matt Waldrip  
**Blessing Box Counting:**  
Luke McFarlen  
Beckett Williams