

## Prayer Concerns

~**Chad & Abby Longley** are excited to announce that their daughter, Claire, and her husband Reuben are expecting their first child! Baby Howe is expected in late October. The family asks that you join them as they pray for a safe pregnancy and rejoice at God's blessing!

~**Ann Perez** is doing better. She will have a procedure soon to help manage back pain. Many prayers that this is successful.

~Please continue to pray for **Eric Robinson**.

~**Barbara Carneiro's** aunt, Julie Blasingame, has stage IV pancreatic cancer. They appreciate our prayers.

~Continued prayers for **Megeste and Jose Pierre** in the loss of their twin babies.

~Prayers of thanks that Camp Beloved & Beyond was a successful trip and that our youth group kids were able to positively impact other kids.

~Frequent visitor **Kelly O'Kelley** was in a wreck and injured her leg and kneecap. Please pray for her whole family.

~**Chester Lynd's** son Curtis is going to undergo chemotherapy for his cancer. Keep him in your prayers.

~Haven Thames (**Cara Hill's** granddaughter) has sleep apnea and will have surgery to have her tonsils and adenoids removed. No word on a date yet. Remember to start praying for Haven.

~**Kathryn Boerio's** mom, Nancy Stewart, has been in the hospital with low hemoglobin numbers. Many prayers for her.

## Those unable to join us:

~Laverne Horn  
~Ethel Gumm

## Ongoing prayer concerns:

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

## Missionaries:

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

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



### Ladies Supper This Tuesday

Ladies, make plans to join us **this Tuesday (7/25) at 6:00 p.m.** for the summer Ladies Supper. It will be an Italian food night (gluten-free options will be available) and Bunco, so come on out for the great food and fun games. Visitors are also welcome. See Erin or Lettie if you have any questions.



### Summer Series Speaker

The Summer Series is in full swing! This **Wednesday evening (7/26) at 6:45 p.m.**, we will welcome the Director of Spiritual Care at Lifeline Chaplaincy Dallas, Gabe Fisher. Of course we know Gabe and Jessica and their sweet kiddos as Westgate members before they moved for his job last year. Hope everyone can come out and hear Gabe's message and catch up with the Fishers.

## Baby Shower Next Sunday

The shower for Paige DeFoore is coming up soon! It will be **next Sunday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:30** at the home of Sherry Gumm. Paige is registered at Amazon and Walmart. You can bring your gift unopened, and it will be displayed. More details 

## 1st Grade Bible Presentation

On **Sunday, August 20**, Westgate will present the incoming 1<sup>st</sup> graders with a new Bible. If your child is in this group, please talk to Melissa Bell or Jackie Lee so they can make sure they have the name you want imprinted on the Bible with the correct spelling.



## Educator Appreciation

As the new school year approaches, we want to remember the Westgate educators in our midst. If you are an educator and have changed schools, or if you have just gotten into teaching or out of teaching, please tell Jackie Lee or Jill Tate or email westgatecofc@gmail.com.




**Oh Baby!**  
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
**BABY SHOWER**  
IN HONOR OF  
**Paige DeFoore**  
JULY 30, 2023 • 2 - 3:30 PM  
HOME OF SHERRY GUMM  
registered at amazon and walmart  
PLEASE BRING YOUR GIFT  
UNWRAPPED,  
IT WILL BE DISPLAYED  
FOR ALL TO SEE.  
THAT WAY WE'LL HAVE MORE  
TIME TO SOCIALIZE  
AND CHAT WITH THE  
MOM-TO-BE!  
amazon walmart



## Hope Haven Collection

Manny Carneiro is working with the homeless population through Abilene Hope Haven and has identified these needs:

- OFF! bug spray
- sunscreen

Westgate is collecting these items for a couple of weeks. You can leave your donations in the basket in the short hall.



**Sermon Title:** Be Kind

**Scripture:** Luke 6: 31-36

“Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”





### Happy Birthday:

- July 23:** Hannah Schumpert
- July 25:** Jenni Langston
- July 26:** Julie Bibb, Sharon Van Cleave
- July 28:** Peggy Allen
- July 29:** Andrew Tom, Tahmind Thames



### Happy Anniversary:

- July 23:** Adam & Clair Arche
- July 24:** Luke & Amanda McSherry



### Our Calendar:

- July 25:** Ladies Supper **6 p.m.**
- July 26:** Summer Series – Gabe Fisher **6:45 p.m.**
- July 30:** Paige DeFoore baby shower **2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**
- Aug. 2:** Family Fun Night – snow cones **6:45 p.m.**
- Aug. 5:** Texas Rangers game
- Aug. 6:** youth group devo
- Aug. 6 – 11:** youth group Bridging Week
- Aug. 7:** Merkel ISD First Day of School
- Aug. 9:** Summer Series – Carson Reed **6:45 p.m.**
- Aug. 10:** ACS First Day of School
- Aug. 16:** Summer Series – Robert Baugh **6:45 p.m.** AISD, Wylie, Jim Ned First Day of School

### Uber Car Confessions: Muhammad — by Brady Horner

In Fort Worth I had an Uber driver named Muhammad. Normally, I wouldn't give names, but since it's the most popular name in the world, I suppose it's ok. Muhammad was a devout Muslim, but not like the ones you see in books or media. He didn't have a turban or an AK-47, he was dressed much like me. This alone was a check on my prejudices and stereotypes. He was about my age, friendly, and from Afghanistan. During the war he worked with U.S. special forces as an interrogation translator. In return, and perhaps for his safety, he was brought to the U.S., but his wife and kids had to stay (many Uber drivers I've talked to are immigrants living separate from their families). However, when the U.S. withdrew from Afghanistan, the U.S. government, in an act of loyalty to Muhammad, went in and got his family out and they now live with him in Texas!

Muhammad helped me to understand that there is a diversity of beliefs and sects in Islam. Most interesting to me was his critique that the current Afghan regime was going beyond the Quran! He said they are oppressing women way more than they should, specifically citing how they are not allowing women to be educated (Muhammad had a wife and daughter). The Quran doesn't say to do that! These guys are going above what their Holy Scriptures say just to enforce their own values and cultural customs...well, I guess Christians aren't the only ones guilty of doing that then!

Sometimes religion shapes our cultural values, then sometimes cultural values shape our religion. Muhammad was angry that the cultural value of controlling women was usurping the Quran. Jesus had something to say about this as well. In Mark 7: 9 Jesus told the Pharisees, "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions." I wonder what we have made a "law" that shouldn't be. I wonder what ways we have made faith and Church about our own preferences, rather than God's desires. I wonder if we have ever confused our own desires with that of God's. May we objectively seek God's will through Scripture. May we be quicker to change ourselves than to manipulate God's word.



**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**  
**SNOW CONES**  
**WED., AUGUST 2**  
**6:45 P.M.**

### Children's Ministry News

- Our lesson from this morning comes from Exodus 20:16 and Acts 5:1-11. In this passage, God commands his people not to lie. When Ananias and Sapphira sell their property, they lie about how much money they sell it for so they can keep some money but make it *seem* like they gave it all. Both of them are caught in the lie and die suddenly.
- Our Bible Point today is **We don't lie**. This lesson is a great reminder to our children to always tell the truth, even though feelings might be hurt or consequences might be felt.
- Summary Verse: **"Jesus replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'" (Matthew 22:37)**
- Please continue to work on these memory verses: **"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."** (John 3:16) and Exodus 20:7: **"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."**



*Kids of all ages have enjoyed studying God's 10 Commandments.*

### Youth Ministry News

Join us on **Sundays at 9 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.** for class. We will not have Breakfast Bible Study or Mystery Thursday this week. Please join us on **Friday night** for a Lock-In! We will meet at Westgate at **7 p.m.** and be done the next morning at **8 a.m.!** Please put the week of **August 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar for our annual Bridging Week to welcome in our new 6th graders and say goodbye to our graduates! Join us at the MacDonalds' house on **Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**, for our Family Devo to kick off the new school year! Please pray for all our students to have a great and formative summer!



*Evan Chaney enjoying the giant swing at Camp Beloved and Beyond!*

**Services at Westgate:** Sundays—Bible Class **9:00 a.m.**, **Church office:** 325-692-2300  
 Worship **10:00 a.m.**, Wednesdays—Bible Class **6:45 p.m.** westgatecofc@gmail.com

**Offering:**  
**July 16:**  
 Contribution: \$2,675.28  
 eGive: \$2,425.00  
 Total: \$5,100.28  
 Budget: **\$6,917.00**  
 Be A Blessing: \$18.25

**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:**  
**July:** Jon Cogburn  
**Aug.:** Eric Gumm  
**Blessing Box Counting:**  
 Issacc Carneiro  
 Wyatt Cogburn