

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests

New Sunday AM Adult Bible Class

Each month in the fall, a different Bible class teacher will be in the auditorium. Starting **today**, Steve Stovall will be teaching a class on Ephesians. Brady Horner is continuing his class in the fellowship hall entitled *One Body, Many Parts*. Please plan to attend one of these worthwhile classes at **9:00 a.m. on Sundays**.



Pizza! Pizza!

This Wednesday night (10/4) at 5:45 p.m., we will have one of the all-time favorite Love Grub meals: pizza with brownies for dessert! Gluten-free and dairy-free options will be available. Dessert ingredients are ready to be picked up **this morning** in the kitchen after services. Please donate some money that evening to cover the cost of your meal if you're able.

CarePack for Kids Sign-Ups

In 2019, Love & Care Ministries started a program called CarePack for Kids to provide weekend meals for kids in Abilene and the surrounding area. They get volunteers to come in for an hour and fill "CarePacks" with groceries they provide. Westgate has reserved 30 spots there on **Tuesday, October 17, from 6-7 p.m.** If you would like to volunteer to help pack meals for kids in need, please sign up on the hallway clipboard.



Trunk or Treat

Believe it or not, Trunk or Treat is quickly approaching. If you are able to grab a bag of candy for this fun outreach event, please place it in the box in the short hall. Jackie is also collecting Little Debbie-type snacks for the cakewalk. If you want to provide a trunk, there's a sign-up sheet in the hall. The date for Trunk or Treat this year is **Sunday, October 29**. We hope to meet and greet lots of people from the neighborhood.



Prayer Concerns

~**Mickey Walker** is scheduled to have eye surgery this Wednesday. Please pray for a successful surgery and smooth recovery.

~The hip replacement surgery for **Deana Frazier** last week went well. She was released from the hospital Friday. Please continue to pray for Deana's recovery at home.

~**Randy Bibb** is doing much better after his bad fall. He got out of the hospital Friday the 22nd and has been resting and working from home this week. Thanks to everyone for their prayers.

~Remember **Chester Lynd** in your prayers. He was in and out of the hospital this week after a fall. Also remember his son Curtis, who is undergoing cancer treatments.

~Keep praying for Julie Blasingame (**Barbara Carneiro's** aunt). She has pancreatic cancer.

~Gang violence has forced **Megeste and Jose Pierre** to move from the compound and rent a house in a safer area. He travels to work daily. See his newsletter on the bulletin board for more info, and please pray for peace in Haiti.

~**Skyla Krause's** friend Matt Rogers was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoblastic leukemia recently and was transported to MD Anderson for 6-8 weeks of treatment. Please pray for him.

~Please pray for **Steve Henderson's** longtime friend and former co-worker Johnny Newman. He is recovering from heart surgery and doctors found a mass in his throat that they think may be cancer.

~Please pray for these expectant moms:

Paige (MacDonald) DeFoore
Claire (Longley) Howe
Skyla Krause

Those unable to join us:

~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
~Eric Robinson
~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



Blessing Box Volunteer Opportunity

We have an opening now for stocking the Blessing Box. If you (or you and a friend splitting it) are interested in filling the Blessing Box on **Mondays**, please visit with Steve Templeton today or call him for more information.



Trunk or Treat Reminders

Bring candy or Little Debbie-type treats

Invite your friends and neighbors

Sign up if you are providing a trunk

WATS Day Coming Soon

Mark your calendar for three weeks from today, **Sunday, October 22**. We will have breakfast at **9:00**, a short communion service at **10:00**, and then go participate in previously organized service projects in the community. Watch for more information next week.

Christian Homes Dinner

Please join Christian Homes & Family Services for our annual fall dinner as we welcome Kirk Cameron, remembered fondly as Mike Seaver of the '80s sitcom *Growing Pains* and star of inspirational movies *Fireproof* and *Lifemark*, on **Thursday, November 9**, at the Abilene Convention Center. For more information, call Jim or Sherri at 325-677-2205.





Happy Birthday:

- Oct. 3: Hannah Meeks
- Oct. 4: Reese MacDonald, Shane Colburn
- Oct. 5: Chris Meeks
- Oct. 6: Adalyn Arche
- Oct. 7: Mackenzie Stotts, Haley Lee, Jan Cogburn



Our Calendar:

- Oct. 4: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Oct. 8: Youth Devo @ the Crockett's house
- Oct. 9: Columbus Day, youth group lunch
- Oct. 10: Ladies Supper 6 p.m.
- Oct. 17: CarePack for Kids 6 p.m.
- Oct. 18: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Oct. 22: Breakfast and WATS Day
- Oct. 29: Trunk or Treat 6 p.m.
- Nov. 1: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Nov. 5: Daylight Saving Time ends (fall back), Emily Gumm bridal shower
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day
- Nov. 15: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Nov. 17 – 19: youth group Fall Retreat at Solid Rock Camp
- Nov. 19: Church Friendsgiving Potluck after services
- Nov. 22: no Bible classes
- Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 26: Children's Program Practice
- Nov. 29: Brown Bag Fellowship
- Dec. 2: Breakfast with Santa
- Dec. 3: Church Christmas Party & Program

Is Country Music Good Again? – by Brady Horner

I think most of us can agree that “Bro Country” hasn’t been good for country music. It basically took everything that was wrong with pop music and dumped it all over country music. But now it looks like a new style (or maybe old style) of country music is taking over. A few weeks ago, some dude named Oliver Anthony went viral and reached number one on the Billboard charts with his “Rich Men North of Richmond” song. Personally, I love the singing and the style, but to me it still felt a little too politically charged (it feels like politics ruin everything, I hope my music isn’t next). Now one of my favorite musicians, Zach Bryan, has unexpectedly and quickly become super famous, also reaching number one on Billboard.

I sometimes can’t put my finger on why I like his music, or why it’s becoming popular. He isn’t as good of a singer or guitarist as Tyler Childers, and admittedly a lot of his songs sound the same. I think it’s that his lyrics and storytelling have a way of speaking to people. It’s not just silly songs about sitting on tailgates or drinking a cold one. It’s the more classic stuff about momma, or trains, or trucks, or prison, or getting drunk. He has a lot of sad songs, but they make people feel seen, heard, and understood. I almost consider him emo country (but now that I think about it, that sounds terrible).

To me something that makes a song great is when it can help you tap into emotions that you don’t always experience fully; when it can give you words that you didn’t come up with yourself, but you can feel them deeply. Often the Psalms do this. They give words and describe experiences that I often find myself identifying with: feelings of rejection, confusion over why things happen the way they do, questions about God, and even wonder at God’s infinity. When read carefully and prayerfully, the Psalms help me to feel my emotions and thoughts more deeply. Try praying through a Psalm this week! A few to try out are 10, 42, and 139.



Ladies Supper Coming Soon

Ladies, please make plans to join us on **Tuesday, October 10, at 6:00 p.m.** for a fun Ladies Supper. (This is a week from Tuesday – not this Tuesday.) The hosts plan to provide food for charcuterie boards with a fall theme: “Come Fall-ow Up with the Westgate Ladies!” You don’t have to bring anything; everything will be provided. Mark your calendars and come on out and join the fun!



Children’s Ministry News

- This is the third week of our study of Psalm 23. In Psalm 23:4, things take a dark turn...into dark valleys. But God, our shepherd, is still there with us! One example of that in the Bible is when the Israelites escape from slavery in Egypt and wander through a desert. Though it’s a hard time, God shows He’s with them through a cloud and a pillar of fire. Today’s lesson reminds children that God is with us in hard times.
- Summary Verse for the next few weeks: *“The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need”* (Psalm 23:1).
- Please pray daily for our Westgate educators, our children, and their teachers.
- Please begin to bring Little Debbie-type wrapped treats for the cakewalk for Trunk or Treat. Our theme this year will be the Beatitudes.

Many thanks to Briana and Brady for teaching the 4th and 5th graders about the song “My Lighthouse”. Kari and David will guide the group again this Wednesday evening, appreciation to them.



Melissa’s group talked about God our shepherd as they used watercolors. Older children made a path and “guided” their sheep (small balls) with their wooden staffs, after a discussion on the many ways God guides us.



Youth Ministry News

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

Please join us **this Wednesday** for class as we vote for our Youth Group Trunk or Treat theme!

Join us at the Crockett’s house for a Youth Devo on **Sunday, October 8th**!

We will also have lunch together on **Monday, October 9th**. (No school!)

Please pray for all our students this school year!



Westgate Youth Group getting ready to play dodgeball at Maxx Air Trampoline Park!



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:
September 24:
Contribution: \$1,913.58
eGive: \$3,120.00
Total: \$5,033.58
Budget: \$6,917.00
Be A Blessing: \$28.25

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:
Kari White
Building Lock-up:
Oct.: Chris Meeks
Nov.: Matt Waldrip
Blessing Box Counting:
Lane Colburn
Titus Powell