

Westgate Church of Christ Welcome Members and Guests



Friendsgiving Potluck Today

Please join us after services for the first ever Friendsgiving Potluck in the fellowship hall. Visitors are welcome! No worries if you didn't bring food; there should be plenty. We are so thankful for our Westgate family.

Thanksgiving Meal Help

Thanks to those who signed up to help with Thanksgiving meals. **(It's not too late to sign up—we need more pie makers!)** On **Wednesday**, ingredients for the meals will be available to be picked up at the Carneiros' house. Reach out to Barbara with any questions. Each part needs to be cooked and taken back to the Carneiros' house by **Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m.** Then they will be assembled and delivered from approximately **10:30-11:00 a.m.** The exception to this is pies, which can be made ahead of time if desired. See Manny or Barbara for details.

Holiday Schedule

With the holiday season upon us, please remember church office hours and worship services will vary somewhat. The church office follows the Abilene ISD calendar, so during the week of Thanksgiving and the two weeks during Christmas break, we will have limited office hours. If you have a non-emergency prayer request or announcement, please email it to westgatecofc@gmail.com. You can call a deacon or elder for emergency prayer requests or announcements to be sent out right away.

We will not have services this Wednesday night, November 22.



Prayer Concerns

~**Brenda Brown** had a second hip surgery to clean out some infection. She is still at Hendrick North and may have to be there for six weeks to receive IV antibiotics. She does not need visitors at this time, but really appreciates your prayers.

~**Aubrey Hilligoss** was in ICU at UTSW this week, but she was hoping to move to a regular room soon. She has had good progress over the last few days adapting to solid food again and going on short walks in the hall with physical therapy. Please pray for her recovery.

~**Chester Lynd** is still at Brightpointe room 206 doing rehab on his broken hip. Please lift Chester and Arieal up in prayer.

~**Michael Bryant** has not been feeling well and could use our prayers.

~**Ann Nash (Perez)** has been released from the hospital following a procedure to clear out a blockage.

~**Johnny Newman**, longtime friend and former co-worker of **Steve Henderson** could use our prayers. Doctors found a mass in his throat that may be cancerous.

~Please remember **Julie Blasingame (Barbara Carneiro's aunt)** as she battles pancreatic cancer.

~Continued prayers for **Caleb Powell's** friend **Wes Schowengerdt**.

~Keep praying for **Jim Prather, Shelley Doremus's** dad. He has congestive heart disease.

~Remember expectant mom **Skyla Krause** in your prayers.

Those unable to join us:

- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Patsy Williamson

Ongoing prayer concerns:

- ~Peggy Allen
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Bill Jackson
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Johnny Newman
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Jim Prather
- ~Eric Robinson
- ~Matt Rogers
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell
- ~Mickey Walker

Missionaries:

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

Breakfast with Santa

Ho ho ho! Breakfast with Santa is coming up **Saturday, Dec. 2, from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.** in the fellowship hall. Pictures with Santa will be available, along with breakfast and activities. Feel free to invite your friends and relatives. **We need more volunteers to help!** Please see Kari White, Barbara Carneiro, Heather Lott, or Clair Arche if you are able to help, either Friday evening or Saturday morning or both.



Potluck Chili Supper/Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 3, at 6 p.m.** for the annual Westgate Christmas Party, which includes a potluck chili supper and the children's Christmas program. Let's all come out and support our sweet kiddos as they present to us *Love Came Down*.

Sunday AM Adult Bible Classes

This Sunday (**11/19**) and next Sunday (**11/26**), Brady will teach a combined class in the auditorium. Then the following three Sundays (**12/3, 12/10, and 12/17**), Clay will teach class in the fellowship hall and the auditorium class will be led by Brady. We will not have Bible classes on **12/24** or **12/31**.



Sermon Title: Guilt Free Boundaries

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 3: 6–13

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.



Happy Birthday:

Nov. 21: Kelly MacDonald

Nov. 25: Shelby Rose



Our Calendar:

Nov. 17 – 19: youth group Fall Retreat at Solid Rock Camp

Nov. 19: Church Friendsgiving Potluck after services

Nov. 22: no services

Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 26: Children’s Program Practice **4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

Nov. 29: Brown Bag Fellowship

Dec. 2: Breakfast with Santa **8:30 – 10:00 a.m.**

Dec. 3: Church Christmas Party & Children’s Program & Chili Supper **6:00 p.m.**

Dec. 6: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**, Ladies Christmas Cookie Devo **6:45 p.m.**

Dec. 10: Baby Shower for Skyla Krause

Dec. 17: Christmas Candlelight Service

Dec. 20: Youth Group Christmas Party

Dec. 24: no Bible classes, worship @ **10:00 a.m.**

Dec. 31: no Bible classes, worship @ **10:00 a.m.**

Jan 3: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

Jan. 13 – 15: Youth Group Mystery Trip

Jan. 17: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

Jan. 26 – 28: Marriage Retreat

Jan. 31: Brown Bag Fellowship **5:45 p.m.**

Propaganda War Part 2 — by Brady Horner

What is going on in Israel and Gaza is horrible. Grasping what is really going on there is tricky. Israelis and Palestinians are both attempting to put their own twist on the story, so it’s hard to know what to believe. It sounds like both sides are just attacking children! Neither side has a good strategic reason to do that, but demonizing the enemy to the rest of the world is a great strategy. Gaza’s population is over 50 percent children so numbers of child casualties are tragically high; however, in a propaganda war you can expect the numbers and stories to be sensational. Some media sources (engaged in the propaganda war) leave out that Hamas makes a practice of setting up their command bases in and under hospitals and apartment buildings. While it may not justify Israel’s attack on a hospital (or continued brutal shelling), it does give it a little more context. Israeli propaganda will tell you Hamas’s base choice is simply using civilians as human shields (side note: this goes back to the question of “Who is responsible?”).

Another interesting way the story has been spun is claims about who is “David” and who is “Goliath”. To some it’s this Apartheid state of Israel (Goliath) bullying Palestinians (David); to Israel it’s them against the whole Arab world. In a single day after the conflict began, roughly one in four accounts on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and X posting about the conflict were fake (most accounts originated in Iran). This isn’t conspiracy theory stuff; you can find this on Yahoo news. This is good evidence that there is a real information war, and it is more than just Palestine and Israel involved. It’s clear that when it comes to the conflict in Israel, there are people with bad faith preying on those with bad knowledge.

James tells us we should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. Our world way too often is quick to listen... to one biased source, then quickly perpetuates (speaks) what they have heard...and it’s usually angry. Unfortunately, our extremely free and varied media makes it hard to find truth. Perhaps we should slowly and carefully investigate (listen), and if we are unwilling to do that, not speak, lest we become a pawn in an information war. I am angry, but more sad than angry, about what is going on in Israel. May our voices be that of peace and may any anger we have be Holy and directed at the right place (Ephesians 6: 12).

Thank You Note

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are writing to thank the members of the Westgate Congregation for spending most of their Sunday helping us move our church office into our main building. We have been considering this move for some time, and have just been putting it off. With your help and encouragement, the monumental task seemed simple due to all the help.

As Matthew 5:16 says, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven.” Truly, God has been glorified as we have been blessed by your selfless act of service.

His peace,

Elders, representing all the Members, South 11th & Willis Church of Christ

(excerpt, full thank you note is on bulletin board)

Children’s Ministry News

- In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus says to be the salt of the earth, bringing flavor to the world around us. He also says to be the light of the world and not to hide our lights. Our good deeds can be like lights that point out God’s glory and bring him praise. The focus this week is that God shines His light through us.
- New Summary Verse: “In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father” (Matthew 5:16).
- We are thankful for each one of our Westgate educators. Please thank God for them and their schools. Ask God to bless their week with rest and renewal.
- Christmas program practice is underway. No practice today, enjoy Thanksgiving week with family. If your child is participating, plan to meet again on **Nov. 26 at 4:00**. Most parts were assigned, please contact me if you have questions. Many thanks to Kipley and Madeline for their help with practice, and for their servant hearts.
- Winter quarter teacher is needed, please contact Jackie if you can help.



Appreciation to Larry, Hayley and Melissa for their pictures of children learning to love God and each other. Westgate is thankful for teachers who love God’s Word and share that with our children.



Youth Ministry News

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

Please pray for our safety as we return from our Fall Retreat in Eastland this morning!

Join us for a youth devo at the Robinsons’ house on **Sunday, December 10th!**

Please also join us for the Youth Group Christmas Party on **Wednesday, December 20th.**

Please pray for a time of rest for our students over Thanksgiving break!



Emory and Layla working hard at the duck game at Trunk or Treat!

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:
November 12:
Contribution: \$7,867.63
eGive: \$4,117.00
Total: \$11,984.63
Budget: **\$6,917.00**
Be A Blessing: \$16.77

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:
Alison Colburn

Building Lock-up:
Nov.: Matt Waldrip
Dec.: Manny Carneiro

Blessing Box Counting:
Wyatt Cogburn
Liam Meeks