

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests

### Re|engage Registration

Sign-ups are now open for [re|engage](#), the 14-session program aimed to help married couples reconnect, reignite, and resurrect their relationships with each other and with God. The classes are scheduled for **5:30 – 7:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings**, beginning **February 4**. The cost is \$30 per couple, and childcare will be provided for free. A sign-up sheet is posted in the hall, and registration envelopes are next to that sheet. If you have the money today, place it in the envelope and put it in the lockbox on Brady's door. If you don't have the cash or a checkbook today, go ahead and sign your name on the sign-up sheet anyway and bring money later. The deadline to register is **Sunday, January 21**, but the earlier the better for planning purposes.

### Sunday AM Adult Bible Classes

Starting **today**, adults will have two options for Bible class. CJ Chaney will be in the auditorium, and Brady Horner's class will be in the fellowship hall. Here is an overview of Brady's class:

[A Brief and Inaccurate History of the Holy Land](#): The history of the "Holy Land" is not just Jewish or Palestinian history, it's our history. Looking at the past will shine light on the conflicts of the present. We will discover that the roots of the current conflict are the roots of all human conflict: power, security, misunderstandings, desire for justice, elitism, and prejudice. History is an interpretation of the past and Israel's history is complex...so we will be upfront in admitting this is a brief take, from one perspective, that could be inaccurate.



### Marriage Retreat Registration Due Soon



Envelopes are available in the short hall to register for the Marriage Retreat coming **January 26 – 28** in Brownwood. The cost of \$225 covers a two-night hotel stay, Friday dinner, Saturday lunch, entertainment, and some great content from guest speaker Lantz Howard. Register by **Wednesday, Jan. 17**, to reserve your spot.

### Sermon Title: A Healthy Heart

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 16: 1-7

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord."

<sup>7</sup>But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him.

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

### Prayer Concerns

~**Deana Frazier** was scheduled to have surgery for a detached retina Thursday, but they had to postpone it due to inflammation. She will go to the eye doctor Tuesday, and if all is well, they will do the surgery Friday (1/12). After the surgery, she will have to keep her head down 90% of the day for 2 months. Please pray for Deana and the doctors caring for her.

~Please pray for **David and Skyla Krause** as they adjust to being a family of 3. Please see details on their new bundle of joy below.

~**Aubrey Hilligoss** is out of the hospital and doing breathing treatments at home to strengthen her lungs. Please continue to pray for Aubrey and family.

~Continued prayers for **Kami Winter**, recovering from shoulder surgery.

~**Chester Lynd** appreciates the visits and prayers while he recuperates at BrightPointe.

~**Mollie Varnado's** great-granddaughter Brynlee was very sick last week with RSV and a double ear infection. She is doing better; thanks for your prayers.

~Keep praying for **Bob Hoyle**, who is losing strength in his legs.

~Remember **Brenda Brown** in your prayers, recovering at home from hip replacement surgery and a second surgery to clear out infection, followed by IV antibiotics for several weeks.

~Please continue to pray for healing and cure for **Randy Bibb's** brother, Steve Bibb. Your prayers have been very much appreciated.

~Please pray for **Chester Lynd's** son Curtis, who is battling cancer.

### Those unable to join us:

- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Patsy Williamson
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill
- ~Dwight Painter

### Ongoing prayer concerns:

- ~Peggy Allen
- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Johnny Newman
- ~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

### Contribution Letters

It's tax preparation time again. The office will be happy to provide anyone with a 2023 contribution letter upon request. The best way to request a letter is through email at [westgatecofc@gmail.com](mailto:westgatecofc@gmail.com).

### Love Grub Volunteers

Remember to sign up to wash dishes or help with kitchen cleanup for Love Grub one or two times this winter/spring. "Volunteer more" can be the New Year's resolution you didn't even know you needed. Thanks for making things a little easier for the LG crew!

### Moving Help

Ashley Simon needs help moving this **Saturday, January 13**. Please see Ashley or Brady for details if you would like to volunteer to help.



Ladies Bible Class resumes **this Tuesday, January 9!**

### New Address

Anita Cox  
If you would like Anita's new address, please contact the church office.



### Welcome Baby Whitten

David and Skyla Krause welcomed a precious baby boy to their family on December 29. Whitten O'Neal Krause was 7 lbs., 1 oz., and 19½ inches long.







### Happy Birthday:

- Jan. 7: Noe Espinoza
- Jan. 8: Autumn Hilligoss
- Jan. 9: Aaron Winter
- Jan. 10: Philip Carneiro, Thomas Carneiro



### Happy Anniversary:

- Jan. 7: Chris & Autumn Meeks
- Jan. 13: Brandon & Nicole Davis



### Our Calendar:

- Jan. 9: Ladies Bible Class resumes **10 a.m.**
- Jan. 13 – 15: Youth Group Mystery Trip
- Jan. 15: MLK Day
- Jan. 17: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**, deadline to register for Marriage Retreat
- Jan. 21: deadline to register for re|engage
- Jan. 26 – 28: Marriage Retreat
- Jan. 31: Brown Bag Fellowship **5:45 p.m.**
- Feb. 4: re|engage begins
- Feb. 7: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Feb. 11: Youth host Senior Valentine Luncheon, Youth Group Super Bowl Party
- Feb. 19: Presidents Day
- Feb. 21: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Feb. 24: Ladies Day
- Mar. 6: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Mar. 10: Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 13: no services
- Mar. 29: Good Friday
- Mar. 30: Easter Egg Hunt

## Haiti Mission Work Newsletter – by Megeste Pierre

We salute everyone who's reading this newsletter and pray that you find it informative. It is our prayer that it gets to you well.

### Merry Christmas

Zanmi mwen yo, CFC is wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It is our prayer that you're prosperous in everything that you do in 2024.



### We're truly walking by faith.

Zanmi mwen, we come across some difficult financial challenges that could make someone question how we are able to survive as a ministry. Administratively speaking our decisions often doesn't make sense on how we are going to make it. All we can say is that our God is an awesome God. He continues to amaze us every day. This end of the year is different because we had to forcefully vacate our home due to gangs taking over our community and even ransack our compound and take away everything they wanted. Yet, we keep faith.

Christian Family Center serves the marginalized in its community. Despite of all the ongoing political unrest and gangs' conflict we have done some good work this year. We fed more than 2700 people through our feeding program.



In our monthly reports we continue to express the level of pains and struggles that Haitians are constantly facing daily. A great majority of the people do face starvation. Nine out of ten people who come to our office are seeking some support, mostly something to eat. It is painful to see an adult crying out of desperation for not being able to feed his family, which has been the case on many occasions. Mèsi anpil, as our donors, you didn't have to help but you still do. Because of your generosity CFC can serve some of the most vulnerable in Haiti.

### Empowering the future leaders of Haiti one child at a time

We were not sure if the children would be able to come back to school but some of them did. They are traumatized to experience so much fear and pain daily but still going strong. We started the semester on a leap of faith. To be honest, everything that we do is by faith. We closed the session on December 22 with twenty-five students and fifteen others online (via WhatsApp) because they couldn't make it. School should be back in session on January 8th. To close the semester, we had a little Christmas party and shared gifts with the kids. We will continue to empower and equip them to be the uprising leaders in Haiti. We are moving forward in one of the most difficult environments and will continue to thank you for your generous support in this effort. You are changing lives in Haiti through CFC in a way that we don't have words to express.



### Creole 101

Merry Christmas—Jwaye Nwèl  
Happy New Year—Bòn Ane

*(excerpts, full newsletter is on bulletin board)*

## Children's Ministry News

- Matthew 6:1-4: In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns about doing good things like giving just to be noticed by other people. Hypocrites call attention to their gifts, but Jesus wants us to give privately so that our hearts are about giving...not about looking impressive. Children's classes resumed this morning with an emphasis on cheerfully giving.



Check out the bulletin board in the hall. On Wednesday PM, children used the letter from their first name to find a verse to memorize for the year. Ask a child about their verse, then choose a letter or more and put God's Word in your heart in 2024.



- Summary Verse: "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today" (Matthew 6:34).

- Teachers needed for Wednesday night to teach on Wisdom from Proverbs. Please find a date on the sheet in the hall and sign up. Choose a favorite wisdom verse to be discussed by our young students. Grab a lesson plan and a resource sheet from the clipboards to begin planning and contribute to the growth of wisdom in our children. "Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature, in favor with God and man", Luke 2:52. Thank you!



## Youth Ministry News

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

The Mystery Trip is next weekend. We will be gone **Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (MLK weekend)**.

The youth group will help out with children's classes on **Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**, will be a busy day! Join us for both the Senior Valentine Luncheon in the afternoon and the Super Bowl party that evening!

Please pray for our students to have a great start to the semester!

*Addison and Zoey hanging out at Wednesday night youth class!*



**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:**  
**December 31:**  
Contribution: \$11,472.27  
eGive: \$2,855.00  
Total: \$14,327.27  
Budget: **\$6,917.00**  
Be A Blessing: \$18.50

**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:**  
Jan.: Jon Cogburn  
Feb.: Eric Gumm

**B. Box Counting:**  
Lane Colburn  
Luke McFarlen