

Prayer Concerns

~Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of **Patsy Williamson**. She passed away last Saturday and was laid to rest Friday. Patsy was a longtime member of Westgate and a dedicated servant for the Lord. She will be greatly missed. Those who have been at Westgate a number of years remember before Trunk or Treat having church Halloween parties out at the Williamsons' place. Please remember to pray for Jerry and Donna Scott and the rest of her family during this difficult time.

~**Deana Frazier** is on the path to healing from her retinal detachment eye surgery. She is finished with the head-down position, and is able to go for short walks. She can see some out of that eye, although it is still blurry. Her next eye appointment is Tuesday. Please continue to pray for full healing for Deana.

~Please be in prayer for **Autumn Meeks's** mom, Chris Fredrickson. She has two spots that doctors are concerned about, one in her mouth and one on her lungs. They haven't received results from her biopsy yet.

~The **Lovelands** have a couple of friends who could use our prayers. Kelley O'Kelly is having a blood transfusion and B12 shots. Russell Bennett is having trouble walking and breathing.

~Please pray for all the couples doing re|engage, that marriages will be strengthened.

~Please remember **Randy Bibb's** brother Steve Bibb in your prayers. He is battling acute myeloid leukemia.

~Remember **Chester Lynd's** son Curtis in prayer. He has Stage 2 colon cancer.

Those unable to join us:

- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Chester Lynd
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~Bob Hoyle

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

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests



Senior Valentine Luncheon Today

Are you ready for some food and fun? Senior members of the congregation are invited to the Senior Valentine Luncheon hosted by the youth group **today**. Lunch and games will be provided in the fellowship hall immediately following our worship service. Thanks to Clay, the youth group, and the youth group parents for this entertaining fellowship time.



No Re|engage Tonight

Re|engage classes will not meet tonight due to the Super Bowl. Please use this opportunity to cheer for the less loathsome football team. Sessions will start back on **Sunday, February 18, at 5:30 p.m.**, and continue through **May 19**. There is one other night off, the first Sunday of Spring Break, **March 10**.

Ladies' Day Coming Up Soon

The Westgate Ladies' Day is quickly approaching—**Saturday, February 24**, will be the big day! This event will be in the Westgate fellowship hall this year from **9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, with a light breakfast and lunch provided. The theme is "A Cord of Three Strands". Three longtime friends will be speaking to us about the challenges and joys of friendship. If you haven't RSVP'd yet, please do so soon so they can have a good head count for food. Hope everyone can make it!



Donations Needed

Christian Service Center needs donations of sleeping bags and winter clothing. They anticipate another cold spell before spring arrives. CSC is located at 3185 N. 10th Street, and is open **Monday – Friday, 9 – 12 and 1 – 4**.



Change of Address

David & Skyla Krause & Whitten

If you would like their new address, please contact the church office.

PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND
WESTGATE LADIES' DAY
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024
9 AM - 3 PM

Westgate Fellowship Hall
Light Breakfast and Lunch Provided
A cord of three strands is not easily broken
Ecclesiastes 4:12

For God

SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON SO
THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN HIM SHALL
HAVE EVERLASTING
Life

KICK IT UP

YOUTH GROUP
SUPER BOWL PARTY

SUNDAY - 5:15 PM
WESTGATE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Sermon Title: In with the New

Scripture: Ezra 3: 10-13

When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the Lord, as prescribed by David king of Israel. With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord:

“He is good;
his love toward Israel endures forever.”

And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.



Happy Birthday:

- Feb. 11:** Chester Lynd
- Feb. 13:** Judy Collier
- Feb. 14:** Liam Meeks
- Feb. 15:** Melody Loveland
- Feb. 16:** Ava Longley, Ann Nash



Our Calendar:

- Feb. 11:** Youth host Senior Valentine Luncheon, Youth Group Super Bowl Party **5:15 p.m.**
- Feb. 18:** re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**, Youth Group HS Hangout
- Feb. 19:** Presidents Day
- Feb. 21:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Feb. 24:** Ladies' Day
- Feb. 25:** re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**, Youth Devo
- Mar. 1:** Ladies Supper **6 p.m.**
- Mar. 3:** Bridal Shower for Caleb Powell and Sydney Baker, re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**
- Mar. 6:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Mar. 10:** Daylight Saving Time begins, no re|engage due to Spring Break
- Mar. 13:** no services due to Spring Break
- Mar. 17:** re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**
- Mar. 20:** Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**
- Mar. 24:** re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**
- Mar. 29:** Good Friday, Youth Group Lunch
- Mar. 30:** Easter Egg Hunt

Musings on Worship—by Clay Howell

Recently, I have been contemplating the act of worship. While preparing a class for the Westgate youth group, I began to encounter questions in my own mind such as: What is worship? Perhaps more importantly, *why* do we worship? At first glance, these feel like questions that I should know the answers to. I have spent countless hours of my life engaged in the worship of God with my voice. I have distinct childhood memories of the songbooks at Crieve Hall Church of Christ; attempting to put my newly learned literacy skills into practice as I read many of the lyrics that shaped my faith from a young age while they were sung all around me. I have later memories of pouring out my heart with my youth group family that meant so much to me on the wooden steps of the amphitheater at Camp Hy-Lake outside of Quebeck, Tennessee. More recently, I have powerful memories of candlelight singing at ACU, worship in the mountains of New Mexico at Camp Pine Springs, and even forgetting most of the words to most of the songs we sung at two o'clock in the morning in a pitch-black room here at Westgate with a youth group family that means so much to me now. If I have such a degree of lifelong experience in the act of worship, why do I still catch myself in my lowest moments questioning what the point of all of it is?

While I have felt the presence of God deeply in these holy moments throughout my life, the cynical part of my brain tries to tell me that the goosebumps running up and down my arms were due more to a well-timed key change combined with a catchy melody rather than the conviction of the Holy Spirit. That my musically-inclined, pattern-seeking frontal lobe inside my head liked what it heard, and released a batch of serotonin. Instead of pushing back on that part of my brain, I want to argue that maybe it's partially correct, and maybe that's okay.

Any defense for the purpose of worship must begin with God rather than with us. From the first page of our Bibles we learn that "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." The very first fact we ever learn about God is that He Creates. He is the Creator; we are only a part of His Creation. However, God gave us the gift of creativity so that we can create beautiful things alongside Him. Our worship is the opportunity to create something beautiful in response to the beauty that God has created. Beauty is not the same thing as perfection. Beauty is found in shaky voices and half-forgotten lyrics, just as the Holy Spirit works through key changes, catchy melodies, sweet harmonies, pattern recognition, and serotonin release; because God has created all those beautiful things. We have the privilege to Create alongside God until His Kingdom has fully come to earth as it is in heaven. We can worship today while looking forward to the day in which "every knee will bow" in worship at the name of Jesus.



Children's Ministry News

Children's classes today include passages from Matthew 7 and John 14. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says there's a wide path that leads to hell but He's the only way to get to God's kingdom. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, He is the only door to heaven.



New Summary Verse: "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12). Thank you to Larry for teaching the 4th and 5th grade on Wednesday PM. Appreciation to Becky for leading the group next week. There are a few openings, check out a date on the sheet in the hall and plant a few seeds of wisdom.



Please continue to pray for our Westgate educators, our children, and their teachers. Sunday morning teachers are needed for the spring quarter, beginning in March. Please consider helping out, many thanks.

Sixth day, sixth day, God made animals and man that day! Annie is a big fan of the giraffe.



Thanks to Connie & Kevin for teaching Proverbs Wednesday night!

Youth Ministry News Youth Ministry News

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

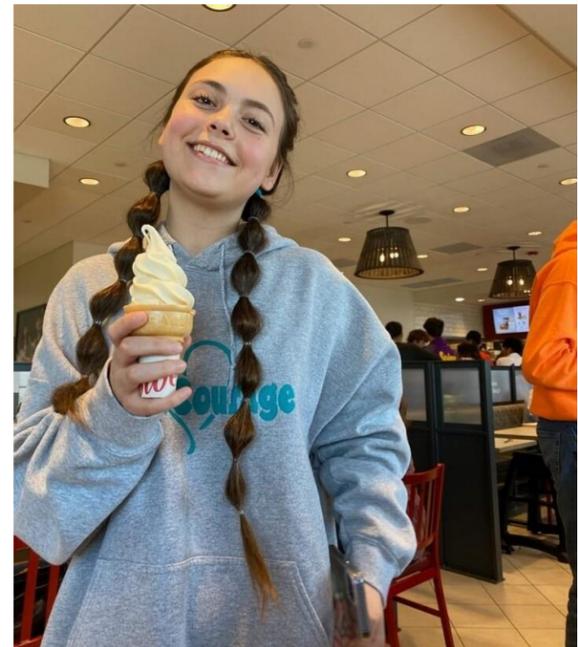
Today is a busy day for the youth group! Join us for both the Senior Valentine Luncheon following Worship Services and the Super Bowl party **tonight from 5:15—8:30**. Please bring an appetizer or dessert!

Please mark your calendars for the annual Brisket Burn and Youth Auction on **Sunday, April 28th**. We want to make sure all our students can participate in this event!

The deadline to register for summer camps is **Sunday, March 31st**. Please let Clay know which camps you are attending by that date!

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

Lucy enjoying some Chick-Fil-A Ice Cream!



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:
February 4:
Contribution: \$5,935.00
eGive: \$4,397.00
Total: \$10,332.00
Budget: **\$7,169.00**
Be A Blessing: \$20.00

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:
Cathrine Clements

Building Lock-up:
Feb.: Eric Gumm
March: Adam Lott

B. Box Counting:
Lane Colburn
Liam Meeks