

## Prayer Concerns

~Lauren Blasingame's hip replacement surgery on Monday went well. She is back at home and started rehab Wednesday. Please pray for her recovery.

~Former member Brian Cavitt developed a staph infection in his leg after a serious car accident, but he seems to be doing well now. He was released from the hospital and is on oral antibiotics.

~**Barbara Carneiro's** aunt, Julie Blasingame, went to a pulmonologist Tuesday and had a liter of fluid taken from around her lungs. Many prayers for Julie.

~Sheryl Tarkenton is having a heart procedure done this Thursday. Please add her to your prayer list.

~Continued prayers for Kyler Burd's recovery from back surgery (**Skyla Krause's** brother).

~**Layla Horner** is doing physical therapy following her ACL surgery. Please continue to pray for a quick, full recovery for her.

~Please pray for our high school graduates and their parents during this time of transition: **Isabella Becerra** (daughter of **Felipe** and **Ashley**), **Alyssa Chaney** (daughter of **CJ** and **Michelle**), and **Ava Longley** (daughter of **Chad** and **Abby**).

~Keep praying for **Ron and Geraldine Hill**. Ron had a stent put in a couple of weeks ago to help relieve pressure on his brain. He is out of the hospital and recovering at Hendrick Center for Rehabilitation.

~Remember to keep praying for **Megeste & Jose Pierre** and the dangerous situation in Haiti.

~Please continue to pray for **Randy Bibb's** brother, Steve Bibb. He is battling acute myeloid leukemia.

## Those unable to join us:

~Ethel Gumm  
~Ron and Geraldine Hill  
~Dwight Painter  
~Bob Hoyle

## Ongoing prayer concerns:

~Peggy Allen  
~Deana Frazier  
~Steve Henderson  
~Nell Hopper  
~Melody Loveland  
~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 (in Dominican Republic currently)

Westgatecofc.com

May 19, 2024

# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests

### Graduation Celebration



Isabella Becerra



Alyssa Chaney



Ava Longley

We are celebrating our Class of '24 high school seniors today! Join us after services for a potluck dinner and be sure to congratulate these happy students. Remember to pray they stay firmly grounded in their Christian faith as they take on the world.

### VBS Two Weeks Away

*What a Mess! VBS!* is coming soon, **June 3 – 5 from 6 to 8 p.m.** Children ages 4 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to come out Monday – Wednesday of that week for some messy fun to emphasize important Bible lessons. Don't forget to sign up to help and sign up your kids if they're coming. Jackie could use donations of empty plastic disposable water or soda bottles, old t-shirts of any size, and 3 plastic swimming pools.

### Statement from the Elders

In case you missed it last Sunday, the elders announced the following:

"A couple of months ago, the elders at S. 11th & Willis Church of Christ asked for a meeting with the Westgate elders. At that meeting, they informed us that they were going to be closing their doors due to dwindling attendance. They had several churches in Abilene that they were visiting with and asked if we would be willing for Westgate to be considered. Since then, S. 11th & Willis has visited with the other churches and has held several family meetings. Two weeks ago, they surveyed their congregation and the congregation decided overwhelmingly that they think Westgate would be a very similar family. Over the next couple of weeks, several members will come and join us in worship, and we will have a select group from Westgate go and worship with them. While both churches have strengths that we can build on and weaknesses that the other church can strengthen, both groups of Elders believe that this joining of the churches will bring together those strengths. As this time of transition starts, we will share times together and fellowship to get to know each other. S. 11th & Willis, like Westgate, has traditions that we will continue. The intention is for S. 11th and Willis to join Westgate in late summer or early fall. Part of this reason is our Missions Month in October. S. 11th is very strong in missions, such as Sam's Place in Burundi, so we want Westgate to see and hear about the work they are doing and be able to pray for and support those missions. We ask that you continue to pray for Westgate and S. 11th through this next chapter. We know there will be concerns and questions that arise and we want to know what they are."

**Sermon Title:** Jochebed: The Mom Who Releases

**Scripture:** Exodus 2: 1-10

Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" "Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."



### Happy Birthday:

**May 19:** Mark Lyon  
**May 23:** Hattie McSherry,  
Shelley Doremus



### Happy Anniversary:

**May 19:** Adam & Heather Lott  
**May 24:** Kenan & Clarissa Pyeatt,  
Anthony & Jill Tate



### Our Calendar:

**May 19:** Graduation Celebration, re|engage **5:30 – 7 p.m.**  
**May 24:** Abilene High Graduation  
**May 27:** Memorial Day  
**May 29:** Brown Bag Fellowship **5:45 p.m.**, Summer Speaker Series – Darrin Cox **6:45 p.m.**  
**May 30:** Summer Kickoff Party – Family Life Center **6 – 8 p.m.**  
**June 2:** Youth Devo w/parents  
**June 3 – 5:** VBS **6 – 8 p.m.**  
**June 12:** Family Fun Night  
**June 16:** Father's Day  
**June 19:** Summer Speaker Series – Nathan Burrow **6:45 p.m.**  
**June 23:** Bridal Shower for Jessica Touchstone **2 – 3:30 p.m.** at the home of Shelley Doremus  
**June 26:** Summer Speaker Series – Robert Oglesby **6:45 p.m.**  
**July 3:** Summer Speaker Series – Alejandro Ezquerro **6:45 p.m.**  
**July 9 – 13:** Youth Group @ Camp Beloved and Beyond  
**July 10:** Family Fun Night

### The Importance of Commitment – by Brady Horner

This Sunday is our last night of re|engage. I am so grateful for the people who put this together, the servants who are leading groups, and the people who have committed their time and energy to tend to their marriages. The whole program has been beneficial in many ways, beyond just blessing our marriages; but one thing I have really admired is the commitment people have put forth. I have not seen that kind of commitment to anything church related since the '90s!

People were always there, not hit-and-miss like many other church services, classes, and events. People were generally on time. If people weren't going to make it, they would tell people and group leaders in advance. People made sacrifices to be there like coming home early from trips and saying "no" to other obligations. This was refreshing and made the experience much richer. This was one of those programs where you get what you put in. Those who didn't do the book work (or did it in the car on the way there) probably didn't benefit as much as those who prayerfully did it through the week and set aside intentional time to discuss it with their spouse.

Why were people so much more committed to this than other church gatherings/opportunities? It helped to have an end date. You only must commit to this for so long before you get a break...it's not a life sentence. There was a strong sense of accountability (which is lacking in our individualistic "you do you" culture). Some were doing this for their spouse and didn't want to let them down and group leaders held people accountable to attendance. People felt needed. Group discussion time is more life-giving when there are more couples there to share, laugh, encourage, and admonish. It felt important. People really want to bless, heal, and improve their marriages; this was not wasted time. I wonder if regular church gatherings aren't doing these things? Is what we are doing here a problem or is it a culture problem? I hope we can create a space here of accountability, where people feel needed, and where people believe what goes on with the Church family is important. Oh! and maybe we should work in a few more breaks!



### Children's Ministry News

- Exodus tells us that after sending nine other plagues to Egypt, God sends one final plague that will finally convince Pharaoh to let God's people, the Israelites, escape from slavery. God kills all the firstborn sons in each household, passing over homes where Israelites put lambs' blood on the door frame. The Israelites escape, but the Red Sea is blocking their way as the Egyptians chase them. God parts the Red Sea, and the Israelites walk safely through. God is with them through every step because God wants what's best for us.
- Summary Verse: "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them" (Romans 8:28).



- Check out the sign-up sheets in the hall and plan to join us for *What a Mess! VBS!*, **June 3 – 5 from 6 to 8 p.m.** Help with planning and sign up the number of visitors you may invite.
- Many thanks to some of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders, Bryce, Landry, Hattie, and Isaiah for handing out roses to our mothers last week.



4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders drew what makes them happy and had a discussion on how to fill their hearts with joy and contentment. Thanks to Kami for leading this joyful group.



Elliott, James, and Annie used a magnet to move an object in water during a discussion of baby Moses and the way God took care of him.

### Youth Ministry News

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

If you are going to Camp Bandina, please fill out the registration form as soon as you can! The cost is \$215. Ask Clay if you have any questions.

We are so proud of our graduates: Ava, Alyssa, and Bella! Remember to stop by the parlor after Worship to congratulate them!

We will have a Youth Devo on **Sunday, June 2**, that parents are encouraged to attend. We will go over helpful info for our summer calendar! Stay tuned for details.

Be ready to sign up to help with VBS (**June 3 – 5**)! We are excited for the youth group to help make this an awesome event by leading groups and helping with crafts, games, songs, and more.

Please pray for all our students as they finish up the school year!



The Youth Group signing cards during class last Sunday!

**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

**Nursery Duty:**  
Kari White

**Offering:**  
**May 12:**  
Contribution: \$1,565.75  
eGive: \$3,304.00  
Total: \$4,869.75  
Budget: **\$7,169.00**  
Be A Blessing: \$18.66

**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

**Building Lock-up:**  
**May:** Matt Waldrip  
**June:** Manny Carneiro

**B. Box Counting:**  
Wyatt Cogburn  
Titus Powell

### Youth Group