

Prayer Concerns

~Our sympathy to **Becki Sutton** and family. Her grandmother, Virginia McDonald Sheridan, passed away Friday the 17th and was laid to rest Friday the 24th. Please add this family to your prayer list.

~**Ethel Gumm** fell Tuesday and was taken to the ER, but thankfully she did not have any broken bones. They said she would be very sore. Please remember Ethel in your prayers.

~**Ron Hill** is in the rehab center across from Hendrick North recovering from his stent procedure. Please keep praying for Ron and Geraldine.

~Steve Bibb (**Randy Bibb's** brother) had his bone marrow transplant on Thursday. Please pray this treatment is effective and he will be cured.

~Continued prayers for **Eric Robinson**.

~Former member Sheryl Tarkenton underwent a heart procedure Thursday. Please pray for her recovery.

~Continued prayers for **Bob Hoyle**. He is losing strength in his legs.

~**Megeste Pierre** has requested prayers for one of the students in Haiti, Enel Yverne. Please see Megeste's newsletter on the bulletin board for additional information.

~Please be in prayer this week for a fun, successful VBS.

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

If you have a prayer request to put in the bulletin, please email it to westgatecofc@gmail.com, call 325-692-2300, or write it on an attendance card.

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)

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests



WEDNESDAY

Brown Bag Fellowship

A 5th Wednesday night in the month means a Brown Bag Fellowship! Pack a lunch at home or pick up some fast food and meet in the fellowship hall **at 5:45 p.m. this Wednesday evening, May 29**. Then stay for our guest speaker at **6:45 p.m.**



Summer Speaker Series Starts

The first speaker in the Summer Series **this Wednesday** will be Darrin Cox, the homeless and foster care liaison for Abilene ISD. If you have a youth group student, they will be joining us for the speaker instead of going to the youth house for class. Please make plans to be here for this interesting and important message.

Summer Kickoff Party Thursday

Join us **this Thursday night, May 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** at the Family Life Center as we celebrate the start of the summer! We will have pizza and drinks for dinner. Activities include bowling, skating, basketball, volleyball, pool, ping pong, and foosball. Everyone in the congregation is invited to come enjoy a great time together, and invite some friends!

Sunday AM Adult Bible Class

This summer we will have a joint adult class in the auditorium. The theme will be The Emotional Intelligence of Jesus. Emotional intelligence is the ability to monitor one's own and other's emotions, and to use that information to guide one's thinking and actions. The most successful leaders have high emotional intelligence. Jesus did as well! This class series will explore how he used and applied his emotional intelligence for successful ministry and leadership. This class will begin **next Sunday, June 2, at 9 a.m.**

Sermon Title: A Clean Heart

Scripture: Psalm 51:10-17

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior,

and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart

you, God, will not despise.

VBS Workdays

Come one, come all to a VBS Workday **from 2 to 4 p.m. EITHER Saturday, June 1, OR Sunday, June 2!** Lots of final preparations will be needed to "splatter" our building. You can pick whichever day works better for your schedule; you don't have to come both days. The youth group is also encouraged to come volunteer. Thanks for the support from everyone; your investment in Westgate kids does not go unnoticed.



Ladies Bible Class

It has been a fun-filled year of learning, fellowship, and service for Ladies Bible Class. As usual, this class will take a break during the summer. Class will resume **Tuesday, August 27, at 10 a.m.**, studying *Amos: An Invitation to the Good Life* by Jennifer Rothschild. Come join us in the fall – you won't regret it!

What a Mess! VBS!

It's almost here! VBS will be **Monday, June 3, through Wednesday, June 5, from 6 to 8** each night. Please see Jackie if you have any questions.





Happy Birthday:

May 26: Janina Espinoza, Amanda McSherry
May 27: Alejandro Becerra
June 1: Isaac Espinoza



Happy Anniversary:

May 27: Larry & Janice Hill
May 28: Troy & Misty Tom



Our Calendar:

May 27: Memorial Day (office closed)
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 1: VBS Workday **2 – 4 p.m.**
June 2: VBS Workday **2 – 4 p.m.**, Youth Devo w/parents **6 – 8 p.m.**
June 3 – 5: VBS **6 – 8 p.m.**
June 12: Family Fun Night – Movie Night **6:45 p.m.**
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 Ezquerra **6:45 p.m.**
July 9 – 13: Youth Group @ Camp Beloved and Beyond

Minister Complaints – by Brady Horner

Last week a minister that I follow made a post about how hard it is to be a minister. He wanted to let people know the experiences of ministers, and to help ministers feel seen. But it was made in a context of telling prospective ministers to weigh the cost/don't do it. Some highlights that stuck out to me are "legacy families will control the church and their traditions cannot be broken", "you will spend half of your week on sermon prep but people will only remember the joke you told", "your children will be taught heresy, will be the only kids there, and will be strictly judged", "you can't complain about your finances or afford a place to live", "no one cares about your degree", "you will feel guilty about neglecting family and guilty about neglecting your flock". I can identify with some of the complaints, but I know my experience has been way better than many other ministers.

The post stuck with me, and bothered me, in two ways. First, it was cloaked complaining about "church people". I know some ministers have been wronged by church people in some very harsh ways, as have all of us (but I imagine it's worse for ministers who are on display and their livelihood is under control of church people). However, I am growing tired of the "church people are bad" narrative. Some are, and we need to do better and change; we should definitely be challenged. But church people are also very good, they are generous, loving, grace-filled, and thoughtful. There are church people that invest wonderfully in my kids and want to support me however they can. I love my church people! If you think it's wrong to judge entire groups of people based on their race, gender, or sexual preference, then you should also think it's wrong to lump all church people in the same category.

Second, I'm tired of ministers complaining about their jobs all the time. I feel bad saying that, because I know it is often hard and unfair. It is frustrating to pour so much of yourself into something and people don't care or appreciate it. It hurts to give so much to a person and be rejected. But every time a minister complains about their job they should remember it's an honor to suffer for The Name. Then they should list a few things they love about ministry. I have met so many awesome people and developed some of the greatest relationships ever, because I chose to be a minister. It is an honor to walk alongside people I love as they make life-changing decisions, get married, have kids, and pass on. The trenches of ministry are hard, but also a beautiful honor. Being a minister is a great honor and privilege; we need to speak more about that and complain less, maybe then more will join the ministry.

One More VBS Need

Old junk towels are needed for VBS. You know the ones that you have to use the scissors while you're folding them? Here's your excuse to get better towels for your home; hey, you're helping the church! Please place your junk towels in the bin in the short hall. They will not be returned.

Children's Ministry News

- Exodus 20:1-21 says that while Moses is up on a mountain listening to God, God gives him the Ten Commandments. These important instructions are more than just God handing down rules; they're guidelines to help His people live better lives. God wants to guide and protect us, so He gives us the Ten Commandments.
- New Summary Verse: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- If your child plans to join us for VBS **June 3-5**, please add their name to the sign-up sheet in the hall. Be advised that we plan to get a little messy. Children will have old shirts to wear, but some mess may sneak through. In addition, to promote our messiness, we encourage children to wear clothing for Mixed up Monday (clothes that do not match), Technicolor Tuesday (brightly colored clothing), and Wrinkled Wednesday (no ironing allowed).
- We will be decorating for VBS on Saturday and Sunday afternoon, **June 1 and 2, from 2 to 4 p.m.** Have some fun and help us "splatter" our building. Everyone is welcome.



Re/engage finished up last Sunday. Over the weeks that parents were "engaging", children had short discussions on similar topics, sang songs together, reviewed related Bible verses, played games, and more. This last week, children enjoyed watermelon together—they ate two whole melons!

Youth Ministry News

Join us on Sundays at **9 a.m.** and Wednesdays at **6:45 p.m.** for class!
Please pick up a copy of our Youth Group Summer Calendar!
We will have a Youth Devo on **Sunday, June 2**, at Cal Young Park from **6 – 8 p.m.** that parents are encouraged to attend. We will go over helpful info for our Summer Calendar! Please bring a picnic/brown bag dinner, and any lawn chairs, blankets, etc. you would like to be comfortable!
Please come 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 begin an exciting summer!



Please enjoy this throwback picture of Kailyn and Layla!

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:
May 19:
Contribution: \$1,343.39
eGive: \$3,825.00
Total: \$5,168.39
Budget: **\$7,169.00**
Be A Blessing: \$21.00

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:
Linda Jones & Hannah Meeks

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

B. Box Counting:
Liam Meeks
Beckett Williams