

Westgate Church of Christ

Welcome Members and Guests



Family Fun Night Wednesday



The final summer Family Fun Night is **this Wednesday, August 7, at 6:45 p.m.** Join us for fun, fellowship, and ice cream! That's right, it's time for the Ice Cream Social. Ice cream and toppings will be provided. You don't have to bring anything except yourself and your family! We will not have classes Wednesday evening.

Boys Lead Worship Next Sunday

Our young men have been working Wednesday nights on leadership, and the culmination of this study is **next Sunday, August 11**. They will lead singing, share messages, read scripture, distribute communion (with help), count the contribution, and offer prayers. Be sure to be here next Sunday so you can encourage these young leaders.

Welcome Emily

The new Children's Education Coordinator, Emily Clute, officially starts this week. She has already been hard at work cleaning out the workroom, ordering teaching materials, meeting with members and ministers, and curriculum planning. Watch for exciting updates to Bible classes in the fall! Please take a moment to encourage Emily and tell her how happy you are that she and Andrew are here.



Sermon Title: Heaven Questions Part 2

Scripture: Matthew 22: 23-33

That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question. "Teacher," they said, "Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him. Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. Finally, the woman died. Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?"

Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

Prayer Concerns

~**Nicolas Davis** (son of **Brandon and Nicole**) started having seizures Thursday and was rushed to Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth, where they are running tests. Nicole is there with him. Please pray for Nicolas and the Davis family.

~The elders have announced that Westgate will begin the process of selecting new elders. Please pray for the current elders, for men in the congregation who are open to serving and fulfilling this need, and for God's blessing on the process.

~Please keep **Aubrey Hilligoss** in your prayers with her health concerns.

~Continued prayers for **Eric Robinson**.

~Don't forget to pray for a good start to the school year for our educators and students.

~Remember **Bob Hoyle** in your prayers. He is receiving hospice care at home.

~Please begin praying for the S. 11th & Willis and Westgate congregations concerning the Willis church joining Westgate.

~**Sherry Hurst's** mom, Brenda Smith, was finally able to go home on Tuesday. Prayers of thanks that she is doing better and prayers for continued good health.

~Please lift up **Larry Loveland's** mom in your prayers. She is not doing well.

~Melissa Bell's brother, **Michael Martinez**, is having some struggles. Please pray for Michael and family.

~**Megeste & Josette Pierre** could use your prayers. They are facing extreme obstacles as they try to travel to the United States in order for Megeste to attend Lipscomb University in the fall.

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 & Josette Pierre—Christian Family Center, Port-au-Prince, Haiti (in Dominican Republic currently)

Youth Group Bridging Week

Remember this is the week that the youth group will welcome the incoming 6th graders and say farewell to the recent graduates with all sorts of activities and events, culminating in a Youth Family Devo at the Winters' house **next Sunday evening from 6 – 8 p.m.** This is an extremely important week for the kids to get to know each other and learn the youth group culture, so all students are encouraged to attend as many events as possible.



Lake Day earlier this summer



2023 First Grade Bibles

First Grade Bible Presentation Next Sunday

Another valued Westgate tradition is the presentation of Bibles to incoming 1st graders. Our prayer is that these burgeoning readers will grow into lifelong Bible scholars. If you are the parent of a child entering 1st grade and Melissa hasn't contacted you yet, please email the office at westgatecofc@gmail.com so your child will be included.

eGive Information

Ministry Brands is the company that owns eGive. In mid-July, they upgraded Westgate to Ministry Brands Amplify, with the assurance of a seamless transition. All settings, donor data, and recurring gifts should transfer automatically. **You do not have to take any action or change anything.** Just letting you know in case you log in and see "Amplify" instead of "eGive". Feel free to call or email the church office if you have any problems or questions. I mean problems with eGive, not just problems, Jim!





Happy Birthday:

Aug. 4: Cathrine Clements, Teresa Buckley

Aug. 7: Ronald Hill

Aug. 8: Mark Brown, Louise Hargesheimer



Happy Anniversary:

Aug. 4: Aaron & Kami Winter

Aug. 6: Jon & Erin Cogburn



Our Calendar:

Aug. 4 – 11: Youth Bridging Week

Aug. 7: Family Fun Night – Ice Cream Social **6:45 p.m.**

Aug. 11: Boys Lead Worship, 1st Grade Bible Presentation, Youth Family Devo **6 p.m.**

Aug. 14: Summer Speaker Series – Jerry Taylor **6:45 p.m.**

Aug. 18: Celebrate Westgate Educators

Aug. 25: Promotion Sunday

Aug. 27: Ladies Bible Class returns **10:00 a.m.** (p. 172)

Sept. 1: Breakfast Fellowship **9:00 a.m.** (no Bible classes)

Sept. 2: Labor Day

Sept. 4: Brown Bag Fellowship **5:45 p.m.**

Sept. 18: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

Sept. 29: Potluck Lunch

Oct. 2: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

Oct. 14: Columbus Day

Oct. 16: Love Grub **5:45 p.m.**

Oct. 27: Trunk or Treat

Faceless Characters – by Brady Horner

One of my favorite times of the week growing up was Saturday morning. That was when there were several hours of new and awesome cartoons to watch! The anticipation and joy of this sacred time is lost on the video streaming generation. I didn't love the show *Muppet Babies*, but it came on between great shows like *X-Men* and *Eek the Cat*, so with great commitment and resolve, I would power through and watch. There was one character on the show that greatly intrigued me and weirded me out...and it wasn't Gonzo.

The Nanny in *Muppet Babies* was fascinating because you never see her face. The audience would only see her from the little kids' view, so just her purple shoes and weird green striped socks. Why would they not show her face? Was her face horribly mangled and disfigured? Did the authors want the viewers to imagine what she would look like (that was a theme in the show)? Or was there something intriguing in the mystery of it all? *Muppet Babies* isn't the only show to do this. Dr. Claw, the bad guy in *Inspector Gadget*, Kenny from *Southpark*, and Wilson from *Home Improvement* never show their faces. It sure was exciting when Vader took off his helmet in *Return of the Jedi*! Choosing to not reveal a character's face is an interesting story telling device that creates a lot of mystery, imagination, and intrigue.

Sometimes I am frustrated that God doesn't give us more tangible representations of Himself for us to hold on to. But there is something about the mystery in it that makes me want more, something that keeps me talking and thinking about Him. I remember very little about *Muppet Babies* outside of the Nanny (ok, I can probably sing you the whole opening song...it was catchy), because she was so intriguing. Perhaps in not giving us all the answers, God is trying to spark our imagination and inquisitive spirit. Part of me knows I can't see God, because I can't handle His power and beauty, nor can any representation fully show us all his goodness. Perhaps another part of me needs to learn and appreciate the excitement of the mystery, rather than be mad about it. So, I will dream, seek, and imagine more of his character and traits until we all get to be part of his grand reveal.

Are you hungry?

Breakfast is served!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

September 1, 2024 | 9 AM | Fellowship Hall

Children's Ministry News

- This morning our lesson comes from 1 Samuel 1:9-28. In this passage, Hannah does not have a baby, and that makes her sad. She prays that God will give her the desire of her heart: a son. She promises that if God answers her prayer, she will give her son back to God. God hears and answers Hannah's prayer, and she gives her son back to God when he is weaned. God hears *our* prayers, too.
- Although there is a new summary verse for this quarter, kids are still encouraged to work on memorizing **Proverbs 3:5-6** and **Joshua 1:9**.
- Summary Verse: **"Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!"** (Romans 12:16).
- Last, but not least, please help me welcome Emily Clute as our official new Children's Education Coordinator! I know she will do a wonderful job with our children, and I also wanted to say "Thank You" for your patience and support when I substituted for Jackie! I really appreciate it and love you all! – *Melissa*

Debra's class created a friendship chain to remember the story of Ruth and Naomi.



4th & 5th graders created Faithfulness Paper Braids while studying Ruth.

Isa's class drew their biggest fears to review the story of Gideon. Can you tell what she drew?



Youth Ministry News

Make plans to join us for Bridging Week (**Aug. 4 – 11**)! These events are a fantastic way to get to know our new 6th graders and welcome them into the youth group!

Monday: Lake Day (Meet at Westgate at **8** and be back at **5**! Bring lunch, water, sunscreen)

Tuesday: Breakfast Bible Study (**9 – 10 a.m.** at Biscuit Bar) & Pickleball at Rose Park at **7 p.m.**

Wednesday: Family Fun Night and then Sonic with 6th graders

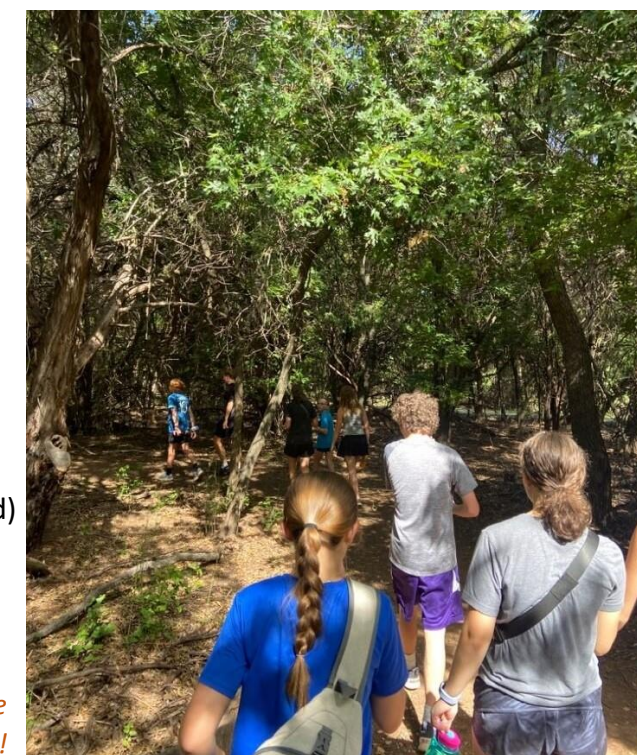
Thursday: Movie and Game Night in the youth house (**6:30 – 8:30**)

Friday: Hang out at Primetime (**noon to 2:30**)

Sunday: Family Devo at Winters' house (**6 – 8 p.m.**, dinner is provided)

Please continue to pray for all our students to experience God as we close out this summer!

The Westgate Youth Group got to experience nature at our last Mystery Thursday event!



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:
July 28:
Contribution: \$1,999.00
eGive: \$2,435.00
Total: \$4,434.00
Budget: **\$7,169.00**
Be A Blessing: \$13.00

Lead Minister: Brady Horner (325-260-1903) pbhorner@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Clay Howell (615-879-0983) sch16a@acu.edu

Children's Education Coordinator: Emily Clute (325-269-9806) eclute123@gmail.com

Elders: Randy Bibb, Jim MacDonald, Steve Stovall, Troy Tom

Deacons: Manny Carneiro, Jon Cogburn, Eric Gumm, **Adam Lott**, Chris Meeks, Matt Waldrip

Nursery Duty:
Jamie Dye

Building Lock-up:
August: Eric Gumm
Sept.: Adam Lott

B. Box Counting:
Liam Meeks
Titus Powell