

March 27, 2019

## E-Messenger

**Our Mission Statement To build a family of believers who glorify God and help each other become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ**

### Pastor's Class Kicks off March 27th Barnett Hall 6:20 pm - 7:20 pm

A new class is kicking off on Wednesday, March 27th. Pastor Keith will be leading it. Each week the group will deal any questions or issues that attendees may have and also will be a time to reflect further on the current sermon series that take place on Sunday morning. This is a great opportunity for visitors, those hunting for a place to interact following dinner, people wanting a further look at scriptures, and anyone just wanting to grow. No sign up needed to be a part of this class. Come join us!

PASTOR'S  
CLASS



### Lent & Holy Week Events

- Lenten Studies -ongoing  
Sunday, Monday, Wednesday
- April 14 Palm Sunday Services
- April 17 Messy Easter
- April 18 Maundy Thursday Service  
Communion Service
- April 19 Good Friday Services  
Tenebrae Service
- April 20 Easter Egg Hunt  
Kings & Queens/ Community
- April 21 EASTER Services

### RICE BOWLS

This Lenten season we will have the opportunity to make a difference in amazing kids lives. Rice bowls is an amazing organization feeding, orphaned and hungry children. On March 6th, you will have the opportunity to pick up your rice bowl and start filling it for hungry kids. Challenge your friends, members in your family, give up a drink a day and drop that change in the rice bowl and we will gather them all together on Easter morning and make a real difference. Watch for stories, and more information about the many ways Rice Bowls can make a difference and then pick up your rice bowl on or after the 6th and start filling those Rice Bowls.



RICE BOWLS

# Food Pantry

If you are interested in helping with the Food Pantry you can sign up on the church counter or get in contact with DJ or Kayla Gannon. We have cleaned out the small kitchen and begun prepping it. If you may have left something in the old kitchen, you may want to check the table in Barnett Hall where we have placed any remaining items. We are going to begin accepting donations for the Pantry and have included a list of items that we will be seeking below. You can drop them by the church anytime.

## Food Pantry Items Needed

boxed items	canned veggies	canned meats	canned fruit	other
mac n cheese	corn	tuna	mixed	herbs
crackers	green beans	chicken	pineapple	spices
cookies	peas	salmon	apple	salt
granola bars	carrots	ham	apple sauce	pepper
instant mashed taters	lima beans	spam	dried fruit	oils
cereal (bagged)	asparagus	Vienna sausage	peaches	nuts
quinoa	sweet potatoes		oranges	pasta
rice	mixed		pears	peanut butter
oatmeal	potatoes		other canned	potatoes / not canned
pancake mix			beans	beans dried
			refried beans	jelly
			black beans	popcorn
				freezer pops
				honey
				pancake syrup
				ramen noodles



**WORK DAY  
• a t t h e •  
CHURCH**  
**April 6, 9:00 am**

On Saturday, April 6th, we will be having a workday at the church. The day will begin with a breakfast at 8:30 am and then we will go to work at 9:00 am. The day will include gardening, cleaning, painting and other tasks. We are trying to tie it in with Lent as a way to give back

to the Lord as a sacrifice of our time and energy. If you are interested in being a part of the workday you can sign up on the church counter or contact Brad Cromwell. If the weather is bad we will have an alternative date of the 13th of April.

# COUNTRYfair CAMP

Go to camp without leaving town!

**SIGN UP NOW FOR Mark'd Kids**

**Tuesday & Thursdays**

**June & July 9:30 - 2:30**

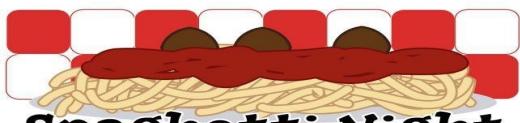
Contact Alicia Schneider or church office

**Tuesdays - in house activities**

**Thursdays - Field trips**

**\$180 for summer \$90 for 1 day/week**

**Dinner On Wednesday Night**



**Spaghetti Night**

Every Wednesday from 5:30-6:15  
Everyone welcome. Cost is only \$3.

**Wednesday Programming**

**5:15 Strength/Stretch Class**

**5:30 D.O.W.N. Dinner**

**6:00 Prayer Team**

**6:15 Adult Studies**

**6:15 KID Team**

**6:15 Student Ministry**

**6:15 Adult Studies**

**6:20 Pastors Class**

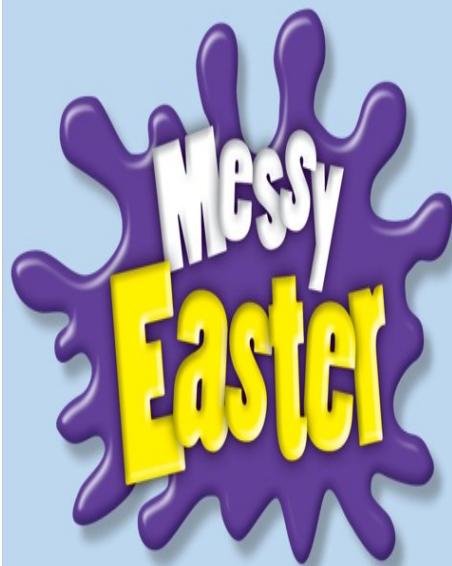
**6:30 Choir Rehearsal**

## Check out the Missions Map

If you haven't take a look at the map lately we encourage you to take a few minutes to check out the missions map in the hallway off the Narthex. It's a great way to see some of the many mission and missionaries supported by St. Mark's. Many of the missionaries have sent updates in the last couple of weeks and you can read about how God is using them all over the world to share the love of Christ.



**Everyone Welcome - Family Friendly**



**Wednesday**

**April 17**

D.O.W.N. 5:30 pm  
Program @ 6:15

**Prayer Targets 2019**

**Council Grove Elementary**

**Overholser Elementary**

**Yukon newer residents**

**House groups  
Outreach**

**Your neighbors  
and neighborhood**

## **General Conference 2019**

Thank you for sending Adrienne and me to observe General Conference 2019 (GC). The conference was held at The Dome, St. Louis, February 23-26.

### *A letter from our Bishop*

I would like to share some reflections but allow me to first share Bishop Nunn's letter to us:

"The conference voted to retain the traditional definition of marriage, continued the policy that does not provide for clergy to officiate or churches to host same gender weddings, and continues the current standards for ordination.

"The conference adopted legislation requiring bishops to provide additional certification that they will uphold provisions of the *Discipline* or face involuntary changes in relationship with the church, to insure persons nominated to credentialing bodies uphold all the *Discipline*, and to guide the process for the administration of complaints.

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"These matters were referred to the Judicial Council for a declaratory ruling regarding their constitutionality. When the Judicial Council releases their findings after their review of the legislation, the Church will then know what has been enacted. For now, please continue to pray for the church, for all who have felt pain and harm from the proceedings, and for God to guide us in the path ahead.

"A plan for a church to disaffiliate from the denomination was approved.

"The Oklahoma Conference delegates dedicated themselves to tasks before them. The process was emotionally challenging for everyone in the room, regardless of their convictions. Thank you for your prayers before and during the meeting. Please continue to pray for the church."

#### *Why was the Conference called?*

The task before GC was to determine how we might remain united as one church while holding two mutually exclusive understandings of human sexuality.

#### *What was decided?*

Considering the expectations leading up to GC, perhaps what is remarkable is how little actually changed. The 864 delegates from around the world voted definitively to:

1. Affirm the Church teaching on human sexuality, that the *practice* of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching,
2. Hold clergy, including bishops, accountable to follow the rules they vow to uphold at their ordination, and
3. Allow congregations who cannot live by the rules of the church regarding human sexuality, to leave with the blessing of those who remain. The terms of exit and the constitutionality of this decision are not yet clear.

Each decision of GC will be reviewed to determine whether it meets the constitutional requirements of the UMC.

#### *Some other thoughts and observations*

Did a winner emerge from GC? I would say that no one "won." The results reflect deep division within the UMC in the US and Europe, while the UMC located in other parts of the world is more united on these issues.

St. Mark's will continue to welcome and share the Gospel with all.

Both Adrienne and I are happy to visit about our experiences at GC2019.

Peace, mercy and grace,

Pastor Keith

*The next General Conference will be at Minneapolis, May 5-15, 2020. Delegates will be elected this Spring during regional conferences around the world. In Oklahoma, we will elect delegates during Annual Conference, May 28-30, 2019 at Oklahoma City University.*

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## SUNDAY MORNING:

Ages: Nursery - Kindergarten  
Elementary Age 1st - 5th grade  
Time 9:30 am - 10:45 am  
10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Current lesson Plan

"Extreme"

Studying Bible stories that are extreme. God goes to great lengths to reach, love and guide us.



## WEDNESDAY EVENING:

D.O.W.N. Dinner - 5:30-6:15  
Team KID - 6:15—7:30

Going Vertical is a team used today to indicate reaching their highest and best. On Wednesday's we seek to go vertical with God.



EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Sharon Hunt  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: sharon@stmarksbethany.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:  
Alicia Schneider  
Phone: 789-9033  
Email: alicia@stmarksbethany.com

## COMING SPECIAL EVENTS



**Messy Easter**  
April 17, 5:30 pm



June 2-6 5:30 pm (Dinner @ 5:00 pm)

Volunteers  
Needed



**Volunteers are needed for VBS in early June. If you would be willing to help please contact Kirsten Collins.**

# STUDENT MINISTRY

I hope you're well! Spring has been great so far! I've started going to school lunches with students, and I've got to say, those lunches are the best part of my week! We have amazing youth!

There's so much to look forward to! Here's what's going on!

## Camp and Summer Mission Dates

- Disciple, May 31-June 3
- **Youth Force, June 16-21** (I accidentally originally told everyone the dates were June 16-24. That was incorrect. Sorry!)
- Dayspring, July 5-8

**Parents and Leaders, with all upcoming events, please, let me know what you're interested in and available to help with asap!**

Please, let me know if you have questions or ideas! I love you all and I'm so thankful to be serving you!

GO TEAM!

**Lydia Cressman**

*Director of Student Ministries*



Enrollment for the Summer session (Tuesday & Thursday, June 4th– July 25) has begun. If you have a child who needs to be enrolled contact Sharon Hunt at:  
sharon@stmarksbethany.com.

## Kings and Queens

Kings and Queens will have their next respite care on Friday, April 5th. Please be in prayer for this growing ministry. If you are interested in being a volunteer in this ministry you can contact Kayla Gannon and she will help you begin the process to be a part. This is a wonderful way to share the love of Christ.

**L E N T**

*— 40 Days Of Renewal —*

**March 6-April 20**

# COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

## APRIL 20th - Overholser Elementary Playground

### 10:30 am Kings & Queens    11:00 am General

#### Volunteers

Last year we had 250-300 children at the Egg Hunt. We need a lot of volunteers for setup, cooking, and crowd control. If you are willing to help you can sign up on the church office counter or contact Alicia Schneider.

#### Easter Eggs & Candy

We need lots of filled Easter eggs again this year for the community egg hunt. If you can provide eggs, individually wrapped candy or eggs you have stuffed with individually wrapped candy please drop them by the church office.



#### Facts and Figures

2019 Annual Budget ..... 605,361  
Rec'd toward Operating 3/17/2019 ..... 4200

YTD 2019  
Rec'd toward Operating 3/17/2019 ..... 109,821  
Expenditures 3/17/2018 ..... 120,732

#### Attendance

Sunday, March 24  
Worship ..... 264  
Sunday School ..... 187

Kieth	Ballard
Nicholas	Bentin
Ed	Boerner
Chris	Brehm
Carla	Brueggen
Matt	Chaney
Adrienne	Cressman
Brad	Cromwell
Jeff	Davidson
Jillian	Ferguson
Victor	Gammill

Brianna	Hardin
Becky	Harned
Darlene	Hickman
Kruse	Holliday
Megan	Johnston
Harold	Kessler
Christopher	Knowles
Dorthy	Lynch
Ruth	Martyn
Dave	Moore
Don	Nobles

#### Prayer Box

Cheryl Pavelko  
Teresa Kruta  
Betty Underwood  
Tiffany Montesano  
Jason Talbot  
Lee Hughes  
Barbara Homer  
Betty Underwood  
Clint Hutchison  
Barbara Gardner  
Earl Moore  
Wenonah Shaw  
Judy Ferguson  
(sister in law)