

E-Messenger

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

Why?

Why would someone take a more difficult path in life?

Why would someone choose to die?

Christians all over the world and throughout history have made these types of decisions. We will explore some reasons why over the next few weeks. Be a part of worship services this month.... and invite a friend.

Order Your Poinsettias

There is a sign-up sheet located on the counter outside the church office for ordering

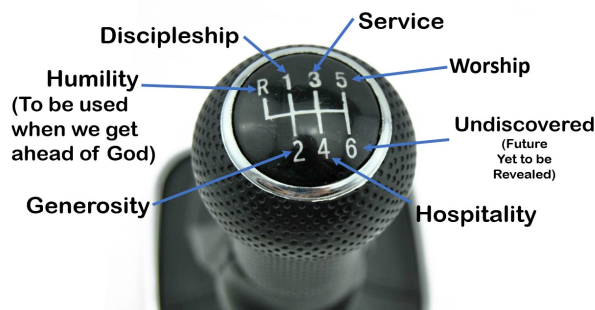


to decorate our sanctuary beginning November 29th. You may contribute poinsettias in memory or honor of a loved one. Cost this year will be \$17.50 per poinsettia.

Please order and pay for your poinsettias by November 22nd.

Drive to Discipleship Update

Our Discipleship campaign is looking good. There is continued excitement to see so many people sharing their willingness to be in service. Also, financial commitments are still showing great signs. We are still looking for responses from many of you. We ask you to prayerfully consider how God can use you and get your cards turned in. There are extra cards on page 3 of the newsletter which you can cut out and use. You can send them in, place them in the offering plate on Sunday or drop them by the church. Excitement is high for God using St. Mark's and it's people next year. God ambitiously wants us to share Jesus with everyone.



Second Winders

Austin Miller, a college student from St. Mark's, will speak about his mission trip to Burundi on Thursday, November 12 after our Thanksgiving meal at noon.



Turkey, dressing, gravy and cornbread will be prepared for us. Bring your favorite holiday dish to add to

the meal. (Those with last names beginning S through Z, please bring dessert.) There is no charge for the meal, instead please bring canned goods to donate to the ROC food pantry on west 10th street.



Faith Promise Stories - If you have a testimony to share about how God made a way for you to fulfill your Faith Promise, please contact Becky Roman or Keith Cressman

St. Mark's UMC
Faith Promise 2015

...has set us free.
stand firm, then and
do not let yourselves
be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.
Galatians 5:1

{SM}²

st. mark's student ministries

We have another great week planned for the youth ministry at St. Marks UMC! Here is what is going on this week:

Wednesday, November 11th- We will be in week 2 of our community series and discussing how to belong in a community. Plan on your youth joining us for worship from 6:30-8pm.

Sunday, November 15th-We will have youth leadership at 4:30pm followed by small groups at 6pm. We are still in our grace series and looking forward to learning more about God's plan for grace in our lives. We wrap up at 7:30pm.

Future Events

Home and Home-As part of a unique ministry experience we will be hosting a home and home with New Covenant UMC Youth.

Wednesday, December 2nd we will travel to Edmond, OK to join them for youth programming. On February 3rd, we here at St. Marks will host them for our youth programming. That being said we will need to meet at 6pm on Wednesday, December 2nd and will return by 8:30pm.

Please check out our website www.stmarkssm.com as there are new announcements about our upcoming retreats and Christmas party!

Turkey Olympics- Turkey Olympics will take place on Sunday, November 22nd. This is an incredible evening of small group competition and turkey games. Please get your small groups ready as we battle it out for bragging rights and possibly a trophy! Plan on joining us from 6-8pm.

Parent Meeting-The Student Ministry will host a parent meeting on Sunday, December 6th following church. A meal will be provided and we will be discussing upcoming events such as our retreats and spring break mission trip opportunities. We will also have child care for those who need it.

Family Scavenger Hunt November 14

Bigger and Better than Ever!!

This years Scavenger Hunt is in full swing with families out this week engaging in acts of service together. Part 2 will take place this Saturday, November 14th at 10 am. Even if you have not taken part in the week long event you can still come out and be a part of the fun. The event is designed to help families show Christ's love in the community together as they group stronger as a family. It's not too late to be a part. Call the church office, Sharon Hunt or just show up Saturday morning to be a part.

Prayerfully seek God as you look at your stewardship for next year. Please feel free to cut out and use the forms to make your service and financial commitments for 2016. You can bring them with you to services on Sunday, drop them by the office or mail them.

Drive to Discipleship



SERVICE Needs Now!

If you are looking for a place to be in service the items listed below are needing assistance right now. Circle if interested

Nursery

1. Nursery volunteer for Sunday evening and Wednesday evening

Children

1. Elementary Sunday School small group leader, 11:00-12:00
2. Elementary Sunday School small group leader substitute, 11:00-Noon
3. Elementary Sunday School class time assistant substitute, 9:30-10:45
4. Computer sign-in helper
5. Hold a cradle baby at CDO to comfort child

Kings & Queens

1. Volunteers to be with kids for respite care 2nd Fridays and Sunday morning.
2. Buddies for children in Kings and Queens

Transportation

1. Drivers and chaperones to pick up and take home children on Sunday morning
2. Include a child when they attend a Family worship or other special event at church.

Christian Growth

1. Participate in / Lead Financial Peace University
2. Participate in / Lead The Art of Marriage
3. Participate in / Lead Disciple Bible Study
4. Train to be a Stephen Minister

Name: _____

Areas of Interest

- _____ Keeping the church building and grounds repaired, maintained and looking nice.
- _____ Sharing the Gospel with others.
- _____ Traveling abroad to help share Jesus.
- _____ Projects to help people suffering from natural disasters, hunger, inadequate housing, etc.
- _____ Helping others grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- _____ Playing a musical instrument.
- _____ Which one(s) _____
- _____ Teaching biblical truth.
- _____ Praying for or with others.
- _____ Help children to read better.
- _____ Welcoming people and helping them feel comfortable at church.
- _____ Listening to people share stories of their life.
- _____ Driving church vehicles for special events.
- _____ Assisting in events to setup, clean up and provide support.
- _____ Volunteer work in office to answer phones, help with mailings, fill in for vacations.
- _____ Other _____

Name: _____

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

During 2016, I commit with the grace and help of God, to support the ministries of St. Mark's through my financial giving & service.

The total amount I intend to give for the year 2016 is:



My commitment for financial giving to St. Marks for 2016 is:

St. Mark's
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH



MISSION: St. Mark's Children's Ministry exists to partner with parents to equip, train, and release children to be passionate disciples filled with the heart of Jesus to minister today!

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
~Matthew 19:14

SUNDAY MORNINGS:

Time 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Age Kind. - 4th grade

Room Brown Room

Program The Adventure

Sunday morning, our goal is to teach the Bible, plain and simple. We believe the Word of God is essential to study and learn in order to grow in faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. Children are encouraged to bring their personal Bibles from home in order to practice looking up Scripture. If a child does not have a Bible, we will give one to the child for them to take home and keep.

During Hour 1, 9:45-10:45, children get an overview of the day's Bible lesson and do a craft, game, or activity related to that Bible story.

During Hour 2, 11:00-Noon, children spend 25-30 minutes in a large group lesson time, then split into small groups for the last half hour. Small groups are divided according to grade.

WEDNESDAY EVENING:

Dates: Aug. 26 - Dec. 9

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Age: 4-4th grade

Room: Brown Room

Program: Discipleship Junction

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

For hundreds of years, people waited for the Savior to arrive. But who would it be? And what would he be like? In Happy Birthday Jesus!, kids embark on a journey through the Bible to discover God's plan for salvation. From the early prophecies to the angels' joyful announcement, children will learn about the character, the name, and the person of Jesus. Then it's time for the ultimate birthday celebration!

Throughout the series, children will find that:

- We need a Savior
- God had a wonderful plan
- God keeps His promises
- Christ is our hope

Nov. 11: Angelic Invitation Memory Verse: Psalm 92:4

Nov. 18: Call Him Jesus Memory Verse: Psalm 97:6

Nov. 25: NO DJ, Thanksgiving

Dec. 2: A Gift from Heaven Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 3:15

Dec. 9: Happy Birthday, Jesus Memory Verse: John 1:14



Come be a part of this exciting new Christmas play where we go from rehearsal to cast party – in ONE afternoon! Get your holiday back with this amazing and easy event. In one night, families create props, rehearse, and present a full Christmas production. It doesn't get any easier than this!

There is a director's meeting on Wednesday, November 18th, in the choir room.

Then on the December 6th, we will all come together to make it happen at 3 pm in the afternoon.

Make plans to attend with your family!

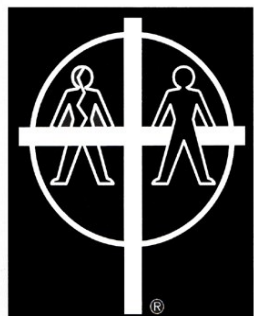




Please continue to pray for this ministry as they grow and seek to follow after Christ. Friday will be the regular respite program and 3 new families will be joining the ministry as a result of the family fun night. They are also still in the process of working on grants and prayers for wisdom and direction would be appreciated. Amanda Peters is now fully in place as the director and is excited about the direction of the ministry. Pray for this ministry and if you feel God leading you to be a part or just to know more contact Amanda at amanda@stamarksbethany.com.

Do you ever feel the need to just talk to someone? Someone who will not Judge you, and won't repeat anything you say? Someone who has a Christian-based compassion to listen and be there for You? Then you may find having a Stephen Minister helpful; Whether it's just a few weeks or longer.

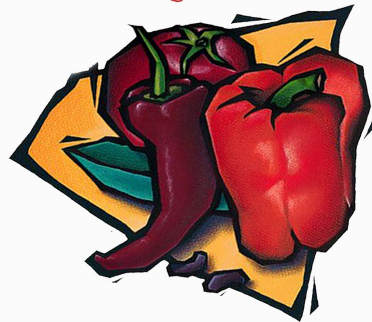
A Stephen Minister is available to be there for you. Call Gwen Sears (261-6019), Jan Greve (350-0959), Dorthy Lynch (789-2556) or Carla Brueggen (203-8555) for more information.



STEPHEN MINISTRY®
Christ Caring for People through People

Mark your calendar and get working on your special recipes

ST. MARK'S UMC 1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF



+ SECOND ANNUAL DESSERT COOKOFF



JANUARY 10, 2016

5:00 PM

REGISTER AT CHURCH OR AT STMARKSBETHANY.COM



Advent Sermon Series - November 29 - December 20

CHRIST IS HERE

Bethlehem Bound - December 6

Children/Family Program 3-6 pm

CDO Christmas Program - December 10

CDO children - 6:00 pm

A Very Merry Acapella Christmas - December 12

Oklahoma Chorale 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Choir Christmas Program - December 13

11:00 am - Combining 8:30 am & 11:00 am Services

Christmas Piano Concerts - December 13

Concerts 4 pm & 6 pm Students of Christy Kiespert

Church Caroling - December 16

All Invited 6:30—8:00

Christmas Eve Services - December 24

3:30 (No childcare) - 6:00 (childcare) - 7:30 (childcare)

Christ is Here



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November

Christie	Agyemang	Ethan	Ferguson	Joe	Owen
Ramsey	Alexander	Sylvia	Foster	Connie	Reed
Wayne	Barnes	Genie	Funk	Evan	Rodriquez
Knix	Barton	Nina	Gerardy	Cale	Sample
Connor	Benton	Jarrett	Grisham	Alicia	Schneider
Cole	Bounds	Randal	Hancock	Donna	Shriver
James	Bowman	Julie	Harlow	Emmanuel	Sinnathamby
Nick	Bremmer	Judah	Henley	Camden	Snapp
Kellen	Brooks	Mary	Hoisington	Diona	Speer
Audrey	Buthion	Sam	Kapka	Carson	Teague
Darlene	Calvert	Lucy	LaPat	Catherine	Thomas
Nora	Cantwell	Breanna	Meisenburg	Isabella	Thomas
Lydia	Cressman	Nate	Meisenburg	Jax	Verdalette
Ester	Davis	Billie	Meniffee	Porter	Wiseman
Karrick	Dillon	Sherry	Mullins	Addison	Young

Facts and Figures

2015 Budget 615,000.00

Rec'd toward Operating 11/8/2015 11,157.00

Year to Date

Rec'd toward Operating 11/8/2015491,109.19

Expenditures 11/8/2015 471,341.80

Sunday, November 8, 2015

Sunday School 209

Worship..... 224

Prayer Box

Members, Active others known Ill or Hospitalized

Members, others needing prayer

Michelle Funk	Beverly Bevins	Talbot Family
Lois Ballard	Bonifield Family	Romona McKibben
Bill Rosenthal	Tre Collins	Jamie Wright
Don Greve	Steve and Beverly Clark	
Jean Schneider	Hudson Haws	

OCU Wesley Foundation College Finals Goodie Bags

Hello, My name is Jan Pezant and I'm the administrative assistant for the Wesley Foundation at UCO. We are trying to put together 75 goodie bags to give out to students who come to the Wesley Foundation for finals week. We would like to give them a bag filled with snack type food that they can munch on while studying for finals. We are asking local churches to donate items to help us fill the bags. Suggested items would be: microwave popcorn, trail mix, nuts, protein bars, individual bags of chips, beef jerky, and individual packages of cookies or crackers. We would need the items by Monday, November 23rd so we have time to put the bags together and pass them out before finals week which is December 7th-11th. If you need us to come and pick up your donation we can do that. Please contact me by phone 341-5450 at the Wesley House or email me janpwesleyuco@yahoo.com to let me know how you can help.

Anything you could help us with would be greatly appreciated. We just want the kids to feel our love and support during the stressful time of finals.

