

# St. Mark's

UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

To go to St. Mark's Home Page Click below  
[www.stmarksbethany.com](http://www.stmarksbethany.com)

March 20, 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



*Spring Break*

B I B L E

Bible Club March 18-21 12:30-2:30

St. Marks East Lawn  
Children ages 4-11  
Lunch Provided  
All Free - Space Limited  
Register @ [stmarksbethany.com](http://stmarksbethany.com)



**GATHERING PLACE**<sup>SM</sup>  
TULSA'S RIVERFRONT PARK

**Family Outing**  
**Friday, March 22nd**

Join us as we head to Tulsa for a great day of family fun. We will caravan from the church and head for one of the hottest places in the country for families, "The Gathering Place" in Tulsa for a day of fun. We will eat at the park and need everyone to bring their own sack lunch (food trucks available if you would prefer). You can sign up on the church counter to let us know you are planning to be a part. Sign up and join us for this great St. Mark's Family event.

## 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.



⚡ ABRA ⚡

CADABRA!

WITH YOUR HELP, SOME LEFTOVER CHANGE CAN BECOME 1000'S OF YUMMY MEALS FOR ORPHANED CHILDREN.



 RICE BOWLS



**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!

**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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# 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
granolla bars	carrots	ham	apple sauce	pepper
instant mashed taters	lima beans	spam	dried fruit	oils
cereal (bagged)	asparagus	Vienna sausage	peaches	nuts
quiinoa	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**  
**at the**  
**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.

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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 led today late reaching their highest and best. On Wednesday's we seek to go vertical to God.

**Spring Break  
No Programming  
This Wednesday**



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

March 21st 10 am



GATHERING PLACE<sup>SM</sup>  
TULSA'S RIVERFRONT PARK

**Messy  
Easter**  
April 17, 5:30 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](mailto:sharon@stmarksbethany.com).

**Adult Classes**

<b>8:15 am</b>	<b>Room 17</b>	<b>10:40 am</b>	<b>Choir Room</b>
<b>Sonshine Class</b>	<b>Room 18</b>	<b>Good News Class</b>	
<b>New Life Class</b>		<b>10:55 am</b>	
<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Room 18</b>	<b>Room 5</b>	
<b>Discipleship</b>	<b>Ascent Room</b>	<b>Promise Class</b>	
<b>College Age</b>		<b>Room 18</b>	
		<b>Faithbuilders Class</b>	



**LENT**  
 — 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 17  
 Worship ..... 232  
 Sunday School ..... 189

Kieth	Ballard	Brianna	Hardin	Ivy	Norvell
Nicholas	Bentin	Becky	Harned	Nevada	Norvell
Ed	Boerner	Darlene	Hickman	Mary	Parker
Chris	Brehm	Kruse	Holliday	Roger	Pautsch
Carla	Brueggen	Megan	Johnston	Brian	Ray
Matt	Chaney	Harold	Kessler	Preston	Risinger
Adrienne	Cressman	Chris	Knowles	Kyphla	Sadler
Brad	Cromwell	Dorthy	Lynch	Jenny	Shenold
Jeff	Davidson	Ruth	Martyn	Esther	Underwood
Jillian	Ferguson	Dave	Moore	Lauren	Wurzer
Victor	Gammill	Don	Nobles	Evelyn	York

## Prayer Box

Kieth Ballard  
 Beverly Clark  
 Harold Kessler  
 Knutson/Pavelko family  
 Funk family  
 Laurie Bucholtz  
 John Baumeister  
 Edith Chilcutt  
 Derwin Jones  
 Fisher family  
 Andre Frehley

Barbara Gardner  
 Earl Moore  
 Wenonah Shaw  
 Cheryl Pavelko  
 Teresa Kruta  
 Betty Underwood  
 Tiffany Montesano  
 Jason Talbot  
 Lee Hughes  
 Barbara Homer  
 Betty Underwood  
 Clint Hutchison