

## **E-Messenger**

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

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October 6, 2015

Dear Saint Markians,

Driving a car with a manual transmission is one of the simple pleasures in my life. It is a lot of fun to run through the gears while accelerating. The standard transmission is especially convenient in snow and ice when I want to feel the bite or slip of the tires on the road surface.

The past two and a half or so years have presented tricky road conditions for St. Marks. We have down-shifted, conserved resources, and suffered some losses, but we have continued the road trip of following Jesus. On behalf of all we serve in Jesus' name, "Thank you." Thank you for your steadfast commitments of time, money, prayers and skills.

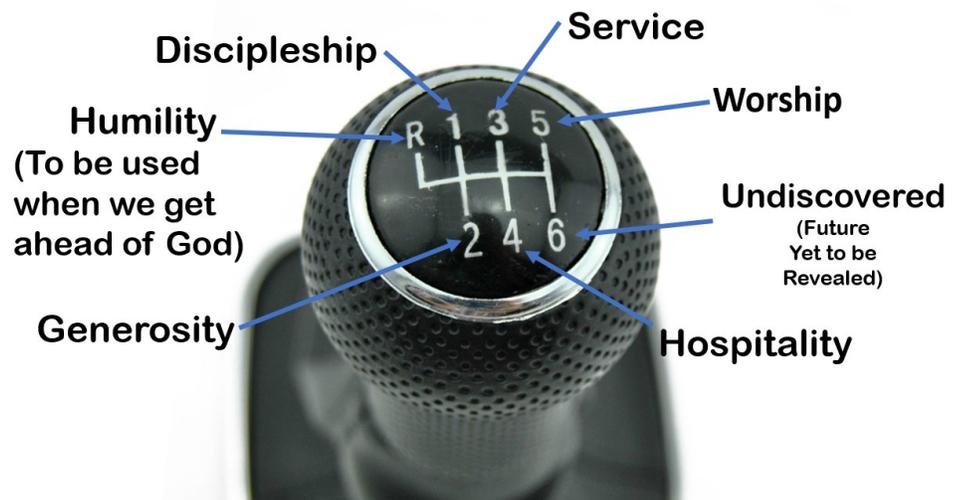
We are stronger now and ready to shift gears as we move forward into 2016.

Five gears for 2016 will help us cultivate more devoted lifestyles. We will drive through: 1. Discipleship, 2. Hospitality, 3. Service, 4. Generosity, and 5. Worship. These five, powered by the Holy Spirit and solidly tuned with biblical belief and Wesleyan doctrine, will help us glorify God and become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Beginning October 11, I will overview each gear. On November 1, we will reaffirm our commitment to Jesus Christ and begin shifting gears into the future.

Praise Jesus! The road ahead is a life changing journey. Let's go for a drive! God is up to something good.

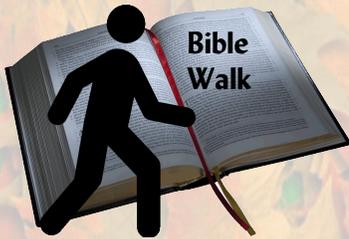
Blessed be the Lord,  
Pastor Keith



# FALL FUN NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY 10/28/2015 6:30 – 8:00 P.M.**

Our annual fun night is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this evening and you are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors. Children can dress up and enjoy the holiday in a safe, nurturing environment.



The main feature of this evening is the “Bible Walk” where children and parents walk through a maze of different stations. They stop at each station where real “live” Bible characters share a brief Bible story and receive candy relating to that story! That’s why we’re asking for specific kinds of candy. Please take a “candy envelope” from the Narthex wall and bring the candy or put cash in the envelope and let us buy the candy. All envelopes need to be returned by Sunday, October 25th. We are also looking for help for snacks, **TRUNKLESS TREATS** and even characters for the Bible Walk. Let us know if you are interested in helping.

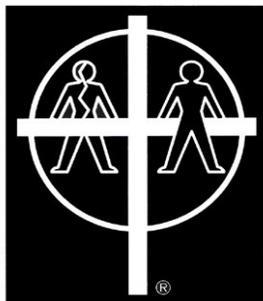


**kings and Queens Family Fun Night**  
**Tuesday October 27th, 6-8 pm**

This year our special needs ministry will be having a Family Fun Night on Tuesday, October 27th. This will be a time designed for persons with special needs and their families. The evening will include fun interactive activities for the entire family with the highlight being a Special Sensory ‘Bible Walk’. Instead of candy - sensory items will be given out to the children. Reservations will be required. Your help is needed to get the word out in the community. Tell your friends, neighbors and anyone this ministry may help to join us for this night of fun. You can make your reservations or get information or give ideas by contacting Amanda Peters [Amanda@stmarksbethany.com](mailto:Amanda@stmarksbethany.com) or Margaret Bonifield [pmbon@cox.net](mailto:pmbon@cox.net)

## STEPHEN MINISTERS CARE!

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



**STEPHEN MINISTRY**  
Christ Caring for People  
through People

**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 me free.  
Stand firm, then, and  
do not let yourselves  
be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.  
Galatians 5:1

## Hospital Visits

St. Marks would like to make sure we never forget anyone needing a hospital visitation. Please contact Bobbi Pinkerton at 773-8200 (home) or 659-8728 (cell) if you or a family member would like to have a hospital visit.



## SECOND WINDERS

On Thursday, October 8th, Second Winders (St Mark's Seniors Group) will share a covered dish meal at noon. After lunch, the Cottonwood Creek Cloggers will entertain us.



The third Thursday, October 15th, we will leave the church at 11:15 to eat lunch at IHOP on South Meridian. After lunch we will tour the Wilkie Mfg. plant. Come see where high performance cranes and ladders are produced. Anyone interested is invited to join us.



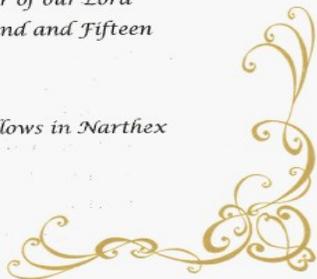
*Heather Christine  
and  
John David Strickler*

*Request the honor of your presence  
at the consecration of their marriage  
before God and the congregation  
at*

*St. Marks United Methodist Church  
8140 NW 36th St,  
Bethany, OK 73008*

*At the third hour after noon  
on the Eleventh of October  
in the year of our Lord  
Two Thousand and Fifteen*

*Reception follows in Narthex*



**kings and Queens**

Special Needs Ministry  
Children with special needs have a special place in our hearts  
- and in our church

We welcome Amanda Peters as St. Mark's Special Needs Ministry Director, as well as Marcia Adams who will be acting as a consultant. These two bring a vast amount of experience and insight into working with special needs children's and their families. We are excited about how Kings and Queens will develop under their leadership. We have been asked for an interview on our second grant request through 'New People, New Places'. Please prayer for this ministry as they continue to provide this special ministry. Respite Care will meet on October 9th and plans are underway for the Special Needs Family Fun Night with a Sensory Walk on Tuesday, October 27th. Reservations are needed to attend.



**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

Oct. 7: The Big Announcement Memory Verse: 1 John 4:10

Oct. 14: NO DJ, Fall Break

Oct. 21: Prepare the Way Memory Verse: Psalm 26:2-3

Oct. 28: NO DJ, Fall Fun Night

Nov. 4: Bethlehem Bound Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 31:8

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





st. mark's student ministries

Wednesday, October 7th-We will be having youth

worship from 6:30-8pm. We are continuing our "Knowing our God Story" series and looking at how we fit into a God Story. This will be a great time to refresh and destress from a busy week.

Sunday, October 11th-We will have small groups at 6pm. We will be starting a new series on Grace and this will be a perfect time to come and join in!

Future Events:

We are looking at a fall break fun day on Saturday, October 17th.

Details are as follows:

Cost \$25

Time 9:30am-3pm

What: trampoline park and lunch, plus some game time at church.

# Looking Ahead...

**Ladies, INC. - November 1, 3-5 pm**  
**Theme " Creating with a purpose"**

**Church Scavenger Hunt - November 14th**

## Christmas Events

**Bethlehem Bound - December 6**

**Choir Christmas Program - December 13**

**Church Caroling - December 13**

**Christmas Eve Services - December 24**

**3:30 - 6:00 - 7:30**



## Connecting Church and Family

*"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These commandments that I give you today are to be on*

*your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deut. 6:5-9*

Even when parents know they should be teaching their children about faith, they're not always sure how to go about it. St. Mark's Family Ministries has developed easy-to-use tools to help parents disciple their children with grace – anytime, anyplace. These tools will help connect what children learn at church to life at home. Parents, did you know that your child's Sunday school lessons usually dovetail with the sermon topics? Resources are now available to help parents use teachable moments each day to build upon these topics.



Fred	Agyemang	Aiden	Hamilton	Kathy	Moore
Lois	Ballard	Evan	Herren	Clare	Morford
Michael	Bevins	Connor	Hoisington	Nhayomei	Pedigo
John	Biege	Emma	Hughes	Tabitha	Pedigo
Margaret	Bonifield	Jaclynn	Hull	Terry	Pope
Kennedy	Branscum	Cordell	Jacobs	Dorothy	Sipes
Mal	Bucholtz	Izaiah	Jennings	James	Skinner
Nick	Chaney	Barbara	Johnson	Millison	Streetman
Steve	Clark	Michael	Kapka	Lana	Thompson
Noah	Cromwell	Julie	LaPat	Phoenix	Thompson
Reu	Cromwell	Ryder	Lincoln	Monte	Tull
Chandler	Epely	Jose	Lopez	Melvin	Ulmer
Lauren	Epely	Winn	Lusk	Bill	Webster
Jayce	Fallon	Michael	McEachern	Nadine	Wilkerson
Pete	Fallon	Norma	McMurtry	Gene	Wilkey
William	Funk	Earl	Moore	Grey	Williamson
Bud	Grisham				

## Facts and Figures

2015 Budget ..... 615,000.00

Rec'd toward Operating 10/4/2015 ..... 12,288.95

### Year to Date

Rec'd toward Operating 10/4/2015 ..... 427,564.31

Expenditures 10/4/2015 ..... 419,845.93

### Sunday, October 4, 2015

Sunday School ..... 224

Worship ..... 276

## Prayer Box

### Members, Active others known Ill or Hospitalized

#### Members, others needing prayer

Michelle Funk	Beverly Bevins	Talbot Family
Lois Ballard	Phil Bonifield	Laura Seapy
Brehm Family	Joe Gordon	Bill Rosenthal
Tre Lambert	Jamie Wright	Shull Family
Don Greve	Chris Brehm	Helen Freeman
Steve and Beverly Clark	Romona McKibben	
Brad & Valerie Cooper		