

E-Messenger

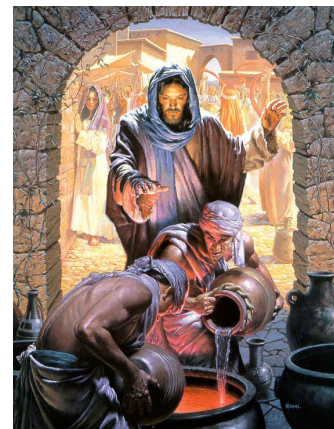
**Our Mission Statement To build a family of believers
where the lost are becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ**



Sunday Mornings The Life of Jesus

The Sunday morning messages in the first part of 2015 will be looking at the life of Jesus. Janu-

ary will focus on the young Jesus. We will explore the implications of Jesus at the temple, his baptism and first miracle of turning water into wine. Join us for this exciting journey through the life and times of our Savior.



Vespers: A Worship Journey

On January 25th, at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary come out and join with others to seek God. The goal of our time together will be experiencing God in community by means of Word, song, prayer and testimony. We will meet every couple of months using a variety of means to enter into true fellowship and communion with God.

May all who seek you
rejoice and

be glad in you!

May those who love your salvation
say evermore,

"God is great!"

Psalm 70:4

Fellow St. Markian's,

Happy new year. As we begin the year we want to say **"thank you"** on behalf of countless beneficiaries of your generosity on Christmas Eve. You donated over \$18,000 that will be used to help homeless children in Mexico City experience hope in Christ, to shelter children in emergency situations through Youth and Family Services, to connect college students with the church will away from home, and to assist families and children break general poverty in north Memphis.

Finally, your continued generous support of St. Mark's through general fund gifts supports our **on-going ministries** with people of all ages, varied needs, and diverse socio-economic circumstances right here at home.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Keith Cressman

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP

Perspectives - St. Mark's

The best training I received for mission and ministry was not in seminary or through church programming. The best understanding I gained for mission and ministry came through a course titled

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement.

I first took the class on the recommendation of friends. While none of us thought we could find the time to do it, my daughters and I have taken the class and found it worth every moment. We looked forward

to class each week. I highly recommend *Perspectives* to everyone.

While the course might first appear to target missionaries, it applies to **everyone of us**. You will better understand **the heart of God and the purpose of your life as a Christian**. There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 6th, from 6-7:30 pm in room 18.



Perspectives will be offered this spring right here at St. Mark's. Class time will be Tuesday evenings, 6:00 - 9:00. First class is January 13th with the last class on April 28.

For more information, please feel free to contact me. Also, look at the website, www.perspectives.org. Just enter Bethany, OK to go to specifics and registration for St. Mark's.

To His Glory!

Pastor Keith

To All Members.....From the Evangelism Committee

The Evangelism Committee is looking for fresh, bold, new ideas for a church event to be held in March.

The purpose of the event is to reach the un-churched, to introduce St. Mark's UMC to new communities and to spark new interest in knowing about our church.

Each member is asked to consider submitting an idea. The Evangelism Committee will vote on the most popular and feasible idea. The names of those submitting an idea will be put into a drawing for a very nice prize.

A few of the ideas are an in-door picnic, movie night and Indian taco dinner.

All ideas must be received by **February 1, 2015**. E-mail your ideas to Deloris Freeland at delorisf@cox.net or to Pastor Patricia at patricia@stmarksbethany.com. The winning idea will be announced the following Sunday and the prize awarded.

Each member is asked to pray for a successful event and to consider how you can be a part of communicating to your home community, friends and the un-churched of this up-coming event. Also, Volunteers will be needed to put the plan into action.

We as members are the church body. Our purpose is to further God's Kingdom and bring hope and love to each other and to those who are lost.

With *everyone participating and with God's blessings*, this will be a success. Success is achieved not by a few but by the willingness of many to step forward.





February is Heart Health month. The church will be holding a **health fair** on Sunday, **February 15th**, from 9 am to noon. You will be able to drop by and have your Blood Pressure checked in the Prayer room and gather information on health-related topics from A-Z in the Narthex. Don't miss it! See you there!

NEW THIS YEAR

CAREGIVERS FUNDAMENTALS

Following services, at noon there will be a luncheon with a speaker from Sunbeam Family Services. Her talk will focus on those who are caregivers or in the near future may become caregivers of aging family members. Come and learn how to care for the caregiver.

SHARE THE LOVE

Valentine's Day is Coming. Remember your Special Valentine with Share the Love Hearts. St. Mark's United Method-



ist Women will place Hearts at the home you request. 3 DAYS FOR \$15.00 or 5 DAYS FOR \$25.

This is also an excellent way to recognize a special day such as a birthday, Anniversary or to show someone you care. Share the love with your family and friends. Contact Barbara Gardner 721-0511 or Frankye Flemins 470-3797 to make arrangements. All proceeds go to UMW mission projects.

Daddy Daughter Dance

February 14, 6-8 pm

Family Life Center

Create lifetime memories

\$5 per escort – Fathers, grandfathers, uncles, etc.

Contact David Miller for more info 405.850.4500.

Daughter Dance

February 14, 6-8 pm

Family Life Center

Create lifetime memories

Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast

February 14, 7:00 am - 11:00 am



Come out and support our troop. They will be serving chocolate chip, blueberry and traditional

pancakes along with the side stuff. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. They will be available on Scout Sunday, February 8th and also at the door.





Come Join us!

Discipleship Junction: Sharing God with Others

Sharing God with Others studies the lives and ministries of Bible-time and modern-day missionaries. By getting to know these heroes of faith as people who serve God, children will learn the importance of sharing their faith with others as real people.



Sharing God with Others will help children memorize Scripture and learn Biblical reasons we should share the love of God. Help your children live a mission based life that focuses on others.

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00. Children's Brown Room.

Mark'd Kids Adventure, Sundays @ 9:45 & 11:00

Sundays in Elementary Kids' Adventure:

META-STORY: Life of Jesus

Jan. 18: Jesus baptized

Jan. 25: First miracle, water to wine

Feb 1: I AM the Bread of Life, John 6:35

Feb. 8: Faith the size of a Mustard Seed, Matt. 13:31-33

Two Sunday school hours: 9:45-10:45 (HOUR 1) and 11:00-Noon (HOUR 2)

HOUR 1 is a review of previous lessons, and a craft, game, or activity related to lesson for that day.

HOUR 2 has a large group Bible lesson for the day, and an application small group



{SM}²

st. mark's student ministries

the way
high school ministry

the ASCENT
middle school ministry

Winter Retreat
2015

where: Sky Ranch // when: Jan. 16-18 // costs: \$80 // who: 6th-12th

Pastor Keith's Men's Revelation Bible Study

Thursdays at 3:30, Room 18

Come join this interactive study of Revelation. We are trying to figure out what this is all about and how it applies to today.



Save the Date
Surrender Your Sparkle, Renew Your Spirit
A special event for women
February 22, 3-5 pm
Watch for Details

Joel Committee 8

Joel Committee 8 was appointed by Church Council on November 18th. It is investigating whether focusing our enthusiasm, energy and resources on two rather than three worship services, would help us reach our mission goals. Over the next few weeks

be in prayer for this group as they seek God's will on these matters. The Joel Committees derive their name and mission from Joel 2:28

*"And afterward,
I will pour out
my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters
will prophesy,
your old men will
dream dreams,
your young men
will see visions."*

Joel 2:28

St. Mark's United Methodist Women will hold their annual Valentine, "Sweets for the Sweet" Bake sale on Sunday, February 8th. Sale will be

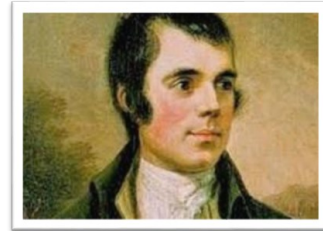


Sweets for the Sweet

from 8:15 am to noon in the Narthex. All donations of homemade items will be appreciated.

All proceeds go to UMW mission projects. Come and get something special for your special Valentine.

Scots Night Out of Oklahoma City
Wish to invite you to our
1st Annual Burns Night Pot Luck



January 17, 2015

6:00pm to 9:00pm

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
8140 N.W 36th St
Bethany, OK 73008

Entertainment:

Roger Graham and others

Haggis, Main Dishes, Tea, Lemonade, sparkling apple juice and paper goods will be provided.

This will be a "dry" event due to church policy, so we will be toasting with Sparkling Apple Juice, or as it is called,

"Methodist Champagne!"

Donations accepted for band and cost of paper goods.

Please provide the following:

Last names beginning with
A-M - sides, & N-Z - dessert

Children are welcome!

Please RSVP by January 15, 2015

For reservations: contact

Linda Hendricks 405-249-9213

Or Laura German 405-406-7165

Classes offer leader training for laity

On Feb. 7, the Conference Board of Laity will sponsor a leadership training day for church members from across the state. This is a great place for getting great training for any of our St. Mark's leadership.

"I AM LAITY" Summit '15 starts at 9:30 a.m. that Saturday at OKC-St. Luke's Church. Advance registration is necessary. Sign up at: <https://okumc-reg.brapp.com/IAMLAITYSUMMIT2015>

Each participant may choose two classes to attend, and Bishop Hayes will preach. Fee, \$15, includes lunch and class handouts. Child care is free.

Conference Lay Leader Chuck Stewart said the Board plans this day of training in place of the Re-Ignite Workshops, not scheduled this winter.

Class choices:

1. Lay Leader: Uncovering the leader in you;
2. Being a Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: How to navigate the system;
3. Church Council/Chairperson: ministry and administration;
4. Trustees: "It's not just mowing the lawn";
5. Finance;
6. Show Me the Money: Where to find grants and additional resources for your church;
7. Missional Area 1: How to relate in your district; and
8. An Exploration Into God's Calling.

UMW UNIT MEETING



United
Methodist
Women

On Saturday, January 24, at 10 AM in Barnett Hall, the United Methodist Women will host Karen Stark, the project coordinator for the

HUGS Project, as guest speaker. Volunteers for this organization gathered in early December to assemble 2500 + packages to be sent to military personnel serving in such places as Iraq, Afghanistan and Liberia. Karen and her husband also help operate the Patriot Clinics which have been established to help returning troops and veterans. Karen is very enthusiastic about both these worthy causes and will let us know how we might help.

Staff Emails

Click email below to email

Keith Cressman	pas-torkeith@stmarksbethany.com
Patricia Johnson	patricia@stmarksbethany.com
Becky Roman	becky@stmarksbethany.com
Sharon Hunt	sharon@stmarksbethany.com
Alicia Schneider	alicia@stmarksbethany.com
Rebekah Cressman	sm2@stmarksbethany.com
Phillip Bond	phil@stmarksbethany.com
Pat Morford	pat@stmarksbethany.com
Kevin Swedlow	kevinswedlow@gmail.com

Happy Birthday



Richard Bassett	Lauren German	Valerie Pautsch
Alice Bentin	Josiah Grisham	Cheryl Pavelko
Nick Brown	Kathy Hamilton	Dylan Reimers
Jerry Calvert	Kalen Hancock	Ezra Riverol
Sarriah Clay	Tristan Hickman	Ethan Sandburg
Bravery Clemenceau	Cody Hunt	Samuel Schneider
Mary Collins	Joy Imel	Iva Smith
Keith Cressman	Ella LaPat	Dale Stafford
Letha Davis	Brian LaPat	Ella Stiffler
Vonnie Deal	Daisy LaPat	Chris Teague
Jennifer Fallon	Shelley Meisenburg	Viva Thompson
Joely Ferguson	Austin Miller	Chris Ulmer
Royden Freeland	Merrick Mullin	T.J. Weeks
Barbara Gardner	Houston Norvell	Rita Wurzer
Lorna Garner	Will Parker	

Facts and Figures

2015 Budget 595,000.00

Rec'd toward Operating 1/4/2015 8,720.37

Year to Date

Rec'd toward Operating 1/4/2015..... 8,720.37

Expenditures 1/11/2015 0

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Sunday School 231

Worship..... 215

Prayer Box

Members, Active others known Ill or Hospitalized

Longoria family	Jamie Wright	Talbot family
Dale Schmidt	Phil Bonifield	Dick family
Brehm Family	Carrie Attalla	Lusk Family
Dana Carr	Larry Watson	Nathaniel Sadler
Pavelko Family	Connie Reed	Bernie McGowan
Candice Criswell	Jack McNelly	Steve & Beverly Clark
Bill Rosenthal	Romona McKibben	