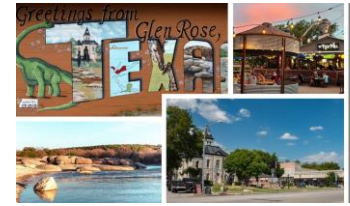


# Westgate Church of Christ

## Welcome Members and Guests



### Marriage Retreat Registration Due Wednesday

There are only a few more days to register for the Marriage Retreat! This fun experience is scheduled for **January 24 – 26**, at Arrowhead Retreat Center outside of Glen Rose, Texas. Jonathan Cogburn, a deacon and former marriage and family therapist, will be our facilitator. The cost is \$200 per couple and is due this **Wednesday, January 8**. Look for registration envelopes in the hall. Fill out your information, enclose payment (\$100 deposit or the full \$200), and place the sealed envelope in the lockbox on Brady's door.

### Love Grub This Wednesday

Back to reality isn't all bad! The first Love Grub of 2025 will feature taco pile-up with sopapilla cheesecake for dessert. Dessert ingredients will be available in the kitchen after services today if you can help with baking. **This Wednesday (1/8) at 5:45 p.m.**, come to the fellowship hall to eat and fellowship together before Bible classes. Please donate some money that night to cover the cost of your meal.

### New Adult Bible Classes Start Today

Two great choices for **Sunday a.m.** classes:

#### Fellowship Hall – Brady Horner – *The Bible and Mental Health*

Even before Covid we have had a "mental health crisis" with isolation, depression, and anxiety continually on the rise. Fortunately, our culture has taken note, and is becoming more attentive to these issues. Mental health is closely associated with spiritual health, and the Bible has much to teach us about both.

#### Auditorium – Curt Niccum – *Sign Right Here!*

Through seven signs, John illustrates that Jesus is not only the God who created the heavens and the earth, but the one who is recreating them. The class will study how the signs communicate this amazing message and the challenge that comes with it.

### Contribution Letters

It's tax preparation time again. The office will be happy to provide anyone with a 2024 contribution letter upon request. The best way to request a letter is through email at westgatecofc@gmail.com.



**Sermon Title:** Listen to Criticism

**Scripture:** Matthew 18: 15-17

"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

### Prayer Concerns

~Curt and Deborah Niccum's daughter had surgery Tuesday in Oklahoma. Please pray for a quick recovery.

~Continued prayers for Deana Frazier and her eye recovery.

~Remember Chris Willerton in your prayers. He is at home after having to spend some time in the hospital and rehab center in December.

~Keep praying for Melody Loveland. Her appointment with the specialist to see about her hernia is in late January. Please pray the doctor will have a good solution for her.

~Noe Espinoza's dad, Fernando Espinoza, has Stage 4 prostate cancer that has spread to his bones. He is currently undergoing treatment. Many prayers for Fernando.

~Please keep praying for Vickie Cardot's recovery from complications from pneumonia. She is at home.

~Remember Randy Bibb's brother, Steve Bibb, in your prayers, battling acute myeloid leukemia.

~Lift up Mark Walker in prayer. He is recovering at home after undergoing surgery for a tumor in his colon a few weeks ago.

### Those unable to join us:

- ~Barbara Buchanan
- ~Bobby Davis
- ~Ethel Gumm
- ~Ron and Geraldine Hill
- ~Bob Hoyle
- ~Dwight Painter
- ~George Woodfin

*If you have a prayer request to put in the bulletin, please email it to westgatecofc@gmail.com, call 325-692-2300, or write it on an attendance card.*

### Ongoing prayer concerns:

- ~Deana Frazier
- ~Steve Henderson
- ~Aubrey Hilligoss
- ~Nell Hopper
- ~Melody Loveland
- ~Jim Prather
- ~Eric Robinson
- ~Savanna Smith
- ~Steve Smith
- ~Jim and Joyce Waddell
- ~Mickey Walker

### Missionaries:

- ~Doug & Marge Reeves—Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, TX
- ~Megeste & Josette Pierre—Christian Family Center, Port-au-Prince, Haiti (in DR currently)
- ~Keith & Grace Gafner—Eldoret, Kenya
- ~Larry & Hollye Conway—Nairobi, Kenya
- ~Scott, Shirley, Stephen, and Sean Raab—Belgium

### Nursery Duty Sign-Ups

We could use more Nursery Duty volunteers. With the implementation of the Worship Buddies program, the nursery will now be for children 2 years of age and under. Look for the sign-up sheet in the hall by the south entrance. While you're there, sign up for some other committees as well. Looking for a cool New Year's Resolution? Sign up for one more committee than you normally do!



### Ladies Bible Class Winter Break

Ladies Bible Class will resume at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 14**, so not this Tuesday, but a week from Tuesday. We will start back on p. 42 in *The Gospel of John* study book if you want to get a head start on your lesson. If you haven't come to class before but would like to join in 2025, we would love to have you, and the church will provide a study book for you. Please see Clair Arche with any questions.

### Congratulations

Our very own Sydney Powell graduated from ACU in December with a degree in Communication Science and Disorders. Be sure to tell her, "Way to go!" next time you see her!



**Favorite Things Party**



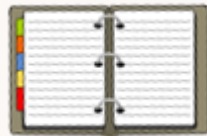
### Happy Birthday:

- Jan. 7: Noe Espinoza
- Jan. 8: Autumn Hilligoss
- Jan. 9: Aaron Winter
- Jan. 10: Philip Carneiro, Thomas Carneiro



### Happy Anniversary:

- Jan. 6: Jim & Joyce Waddell
- Jan. 7: Chris & Autumn Meeks



### Our Calendar:

- Jan 8: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Jan. 18 – 20: Youth Group Mystery Trip
- Jan. 22: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Jan. 24 – 26: Marriage Retreat
- Feb. 5: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- Feb. 9: Youth Group hosts Senior Valentine Luncheon following Sunday a.m. services, Youth Group Super Bowl party
- Feb. 17: Presidents Day
- Feb. 19: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- March 5: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- March 9: Daylight Saving Time begins (spring forward)
- March 12: no Bible classes or services at building
- March 19: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- March 30: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck
- April 2: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- April 12 – 13: All-Church Retreat
- April 16: Love Grub 5:45 p.m.
- April 19: Easter Egg Hunt & Family Cookout
- April 20: Easter Sunday
- April 27: Youth Auction/Br. Burn

### Getting to Know You...

Vince, Sharon, and Mackenzie Van Cleave



#### How long have you been married?

It will be 16 years on Pi Day (3.14.25).

**Where did you grow up?** Abilene for Vince, Houston for Sharon (in Westbury area), Mackenzie mostly Abilene, some in Florida.

**How long have you lived in Abilene?** Sharon and Vince came back in 2015, but Vince was born here and lived here from 1980 to 2009.

**What kind of work do you?** Vince is a Pathologists' Assistant and Technical Operations Manager for Clinical Pathology Associates. Sharon is a bilingual Speech Language Pathologist and is Assistive Technology certified. She works for Hendrick Pediatric Outpatient Therapy. Mackenzie is a high school student.

**Who is in your family?** Vince, Sharon, and Mackenzie in immediate family. Mackenzie has been a very special addition to our family. Ken and Sharla Van Cleave are Vince's parents, and Steve and Jaunita Stovall are his aunt and uncle. Vince's grandpas were both elders at Westgate for years as well. Sharon's dad is Mark Hall, an elder at Westbury Church of Christ, married to Susan Hall.

#### Who is someone who has impacted or shaped your faith?

Vince: My family worked together as a village to shape my faith.

Sharon: my Gramby and Grandale (my mom's parents) and several special people I admired at Westbury Church of Christ. I have wonderful parents as an example as well.

#### What is a Bible verse you find encouraging/inspiring?

Sharon: most recently it is **Proverbs 31:8** –

*“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.”*

Mackenzie likes **Matthew 5:14-16** –

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Vince: I have trouble picking just one, but I like **Luke 10:19 (NIV)** –

*“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.”*

#### What is a hobby or activity you like to be involved in?

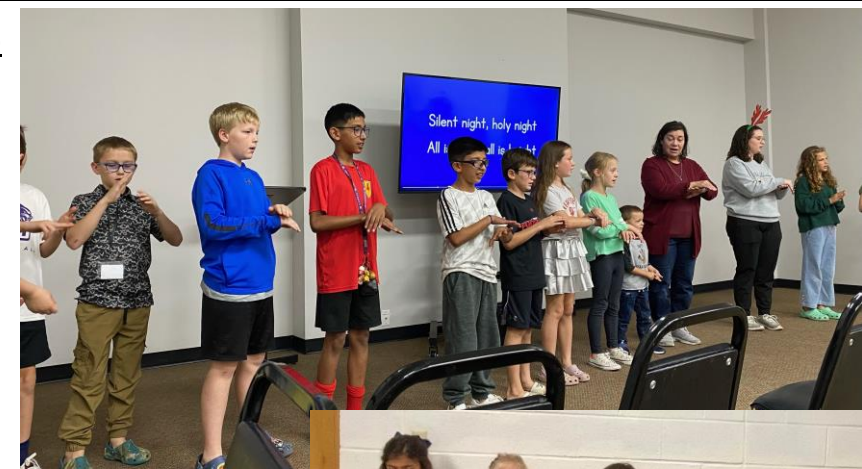
Vince: Hot rods, Corvettes, shooting guns, movies, computers and technical things, outdoors, spending time with Sharon and family.

Sharon: Gardening, reading, guns, movies, outdoors, spending time with Vince and family.

Mackenzie: Reading, swimming, crocheting, baking, doing nails.

### Children's Ministry News

- January Memory Verse: John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that he gave his one & only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
- Busy bags are in the back of the auditorium! Feel free to grab one per child, and make sure to return the bag (and everything inside) to the basket after service.



### Youth Ministry News

Join us on **Sundays at 9 a.m.** and **Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.** for class.

Please mark your calendars for our annual Mystery Trip, which will be **January 18 – 20**, over the long MLK Day weekend.

**Sunday, February 9**, will be a busy day. Join us for both the Senior Valentine Luncheon in the afternoon and the Super Bowl party that evening!

Please pray for our students to have a great start to the semester!

*Thank you to all our students, parents, and volunteers for making 2024 such an amazing year!*

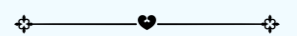
**Services at Westgate:** Sundays—Bible Class 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:00 a.m., 5 p.m. Tuesdays—Ladies Bible Class 10 a.m. Wednesdays—Bible Class 6:45 p.m.

**Church office:** (325)692-2300 westgatecofc@gmail.com

**Offering:**  
**December 29:**  
Contribution: \$5,876.26  
eGive: \$2,440.00  
Total: \$8,316.26  
Budget: \$7,169.00  
Be A Blessing: \$27.80

**Lead Minister:** Brady Horner (325-260-1903) pbhorner@gmail.com  
**Youth Minister:** Clay Howell (615-879-0983) sch16a@acu.edu  
**Children's Education Coordinator:** Emily Clute (325-269-9806) eclute123@gmail.com  
**Elders:** Eric Gumm, Jim MacDonald, John Powell, **Steve Stovall**, Troy Tom, Aaron Winter  
**Deacons:** Manny Carneiro, Jon Cogburn, Adam Lott, Chris Meeks, **Matt Waldrip**

**Nursery Duty:**  
Kari White



**Building Lock-up:**  
Jan.: Jon Cogburn  
Feb.: Adam Lott