



June 4, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 23

Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide?

Do you remember Pinocchio, the wooden puppet who comes to life? In the movie, Jiminy Cricket attempts to teach Pinocchio how to make good decisions; to discern right from wrong. Jiminy Cricket tells Pinocchio, “*Always let your conscience be your guide!*” Is that healthy advice? Should we always let our conscience be our guide? The short answer is no, and there’s a good reason why. Let’s consider a few things the Bible teaches us about our conscience.

First, we need to understand what our conscience is. The Bible word translated conscience comes from two words that mean “to know with.” Our conscience is like an internal thermostat, except it doesn’t gauge hot and cold, it helps us discern right and wrong based on our value system and world view. My conscience helps me choose the right thing to do based on how I have decided to view the word. In other words, it bears witness to what I have already decided to be right and wrong (Rom. 2:15; 9:1). When I violate my conscience, I feel guilt and shame, but when I follow my conscience, I feel peace and satisfaction. With that in mind, it’s not a good idea to ALWAYS let your conscience be your guide because my conscience can be formed and influenced by ungodly values and lies.

Second, my conscience can be conditioned/influenced by sin. Paul says my conscience can be defiled (Titus 1:14) and seared (1 Tim. 4:2). My conscience can be so conditioned by sin that I start to believe wrong is right, and I can be at peace with a choice that would normally violate my conscience and make me feel guilt and shame. A defiled and seared conscience does not function correctly. For that reason, my conscience isn’t always a safe guide.

Third, my conscience is a trustworthy guide only when it is conditioned and ruled by God and His word. David asked, “*How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word*” (Ps. 119:9). Two verses later, he says, “*I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you*” (Ps. 119:11). A good and clean conscience is powered by the Holy Spirit. Jesus said when the Holy Spirit comes, “*He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment*” (John 16:8). God’s word is truth (John 17:17) and when we allow the Word of God to condition and form our conscience, then it becomes trustworthy.

Fourth, you might be surprised that God says it’s a sin for you to violate your conscience. When you know the right thing to do and you don’t do it, it’s sin (James 4:17). Paul says when you go against your conscience and don’t act in faith, you sin (Rom. 14:23). When your conscience is conditioned by the word of God and you’re thinking about making a decision that violates your conscience, PAY ATTENTION TO THAT!

Thankfully, in Jesus, not only are my sins washed away, but my conscience is also purified by his blood (Heb. 9:14), so don’t have to live with shame and guilt. Your conscience may have been corrupted or even seared, but Jesus can make it good. That’s what redemption is all about. Allow your conscience to be cleansed by the blood of Jesus, conditioned by the word of God, and powered by the Spirit.

God loves you,
Shawn

Did you read your Bible this week?

Welcome to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ

We are honored you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Thank you for visiting us today! We look forward to meeting you!

Schedule of Services

Sunday	9:00 AM	Bible Classes
	10:15 AM	Morning Assembly
	6:00 PM	Evening Assembly
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bible Classes

June 4, 2023

Elder of the Day Mac Brockman
Communion Leader Bob Klemm

Adult Bible Classes:

- “**Isaiah; God’s Greater Deliverance**” by Chris Wright
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium
- “**From the Sermon on the Mount to the Ascension**” by Bob Klemm
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101
- “**A Study of Galatians**” by Morgan Whatley
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102
- “**Both Jew & Greek; God’s Battlefield**” (Young Professionals) by Michael Yanochik
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)
- “**Everything We Need**” (2 Peter 1:3-11) by Various Teachers
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium
- “**Young Adults**” (Ages 18-25) by Andrew Isherwood & Ross Riggs
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center Room C201

Teen Bible Classes:

- “**High School Bible Class**” (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-107
- “**Jr High School Bible Class**” (7th –8th) by Nathan Ray
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-101
- “**Boy Bible Class**” (7th –12th) by Nathan Ray
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107
- “**Girls Bible Class**” (7th –12th) by Various Teachers
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-101

Treehouse Kids Bible Classes:

0–1 year	A103
1 year	A105/A106
2 years	C106
3 years/Pre-K	A108
Kindergarten	B200
1st grade	B202
2nd grade	B203
3rd grade	B206
4th grade	B208
5th grade	B207
6th grade	B209

A **Facility Map** and other information is available at the Welcome Center.

A **Secure Check-in System** is active for children ages 0 to 4 years.

A **Nursery** is available during Sunday morning worship for children 0-23 months. For children 24 months and up, there is a **Training Room** available at the back of the auditorium, behind the glass windows.



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Elders

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Deacons

Administration Joel Blake
Audio/Visual & Media Mark Jetton
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Todd Watrous

Children’s Programs Richard Hyde
Education Preschool Matt Fitzgerald
Education Grade KG–2 Steve Baker
Education Grade 3-6 Quinn Tolbert
Family Life Center Chris Davis
Fellowship Tim Riggs
Finance Jeff Fleming
Brandon Smith

Foreign Missions Paul Gidden
Adam Fracht

Information Technology Al Ardito
Involvement Frank Kerze
Networks/Special Ministries Jeremy Haynes
Sharing Kyle Gordley
Bradley Welborn

Reaching Out Gavin Dao
Serving Hearts Daniel Fair
Ushers Tony Bloom

Welcome Center/Visitor Contacts

Visitation - Hospital & Homebound/Men’s Ministry Robert Shock

Worship Eric Kirkland
Bill Malone
Kevan Taylor

Youth Brant Mathis
Scott Simpson

Contacts:

Faithful Fathers: Chuck Bryant
Celebrate Recovery: Nathan Ingram

Missions

For updates regarding the mission efforts supported by WOCC, please visit our church website, woodlandoaks.org, under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

Last Week’s Attendance

Sunday, May 28, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	512
10:15 AM Worship	339 @ WOCC 188 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	206
Contribution	\$31,926.43

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	269
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You may give online at:

<https://woodlandoaks.givingfire.com/>

Or mail contributions to our PO Box at:
Woodland Oaks Church of Christ
6700 Woodlands Parkway Suite 230-252
Spring, TX 77382

Budget

Actual unrestricted contributions through April 30, 2023 are \$613,146 compared with a budgeted amount of \$573,004 produces a surplus of \$40,142.

Notes

Announcements

Congregational Singing will be TONIGHT during the evening assembly.

Men's Luncheon will be this Tuesday, June 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Republic Grille at Panther Creek.

Heart Moms: We are beginning the process for planning next year. Please look in the Lightpost App and fill out the survey.

There will be **NO Wednesday Fellowship Meals for the Summer.** We will resume in the fall.

Celebrate Recovery will not serve meals for the summer. The meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Those who signed up for **Family Camp 2023**, please join us this Wednesday, June 7 for a meeting. You will receive your cabin assignments and important information about Family Camp. Family Camp is this Friday—Sunday, June 9-11!

Canoes are Needed for the Faithful Fathers Canoe event in July. Please contact Steve Aloway if you can help.

Prayers

- ✝ **Debra Thompson**/upcoming neck surgery.
- ✝ **Larry Voorhees**/was admitted to the hospital May 30/Larry has been diagnosed with dementia and has other health issues/he is expected to be released from the hospital to a nursing home.
- ✝ **Pam Sharp**/biopsy done May 30 for new area of concern/surgery May 31 for previously diagnosed cancer/thank you all for the love, support, and prayers.
- ✝ **Gina Talbott**/knee replacement surgery June 1/Please pray for a successful surgery and easy recovery.
- ✝ **Shelia Hooks**/mother of Brandon Hooks/surgery June 1 to remove non cancerous growth.
- ✝ Please remember our members: **Melissa Farris, Bobby Joyner, Penny Murdaugh, Laurie Riggs, Jolene Rhodes.**
- ✝ Please remember friends & family: **Jordan Bowlby, Danielle Grace, Pat Higginson.**
- ✝ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Bobbie Fellabaum, Pharis Fowler, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Roger McDonald, Bob McDougal, Joanie Roberts, Pam Sharp, Janice Tadlock, Scottie West, Michael Williams.**
- ✝ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Darren Brooks, Judy Chandler, Tesa Cornett, Dorcas Dillard, Paul Hendrickson, Melissa Hightower, Toni Mansker, Phil Martinez, D'Ann Norwood, Jerry Smith, Barbara Starr, Nancy Stewart, Rose Talbott.**

Youth News

Those attending **Camp Bandina**, meet at WOCC TODAY at 8:00 a.m. Please bring money for food on the way there and back. One group will return to WOCC Saturday, June 10. A second group will meet at Family Camp Friday, June 9. Please let Jordan know if you are attending Family Camp.

There will be a **Jabberwacky** area wide youth devotional at Abell St. Church of Christ (Wharton) Monday, June 12. The van will leave WOCC at 5:00 p.m. and will return around 10:00 p.m.

There will be a **Youth Invasion** Sunday, June 18 immediately following the evening assembly at Cane's (1488).

There will be NO Tuesday Bible Study for the summer. We will resume in the fall.

Summer Camps

Registration for this year's summer session at **Camp Red Oak Springs** is now open. Visit www.campredoaksprings.com to register. We attend Session 5, which runs from July 3 thru July 8. A packing list and other details can be found on the camp website. If anyone has questions, please contact Matt Fitzgerald.

Camp Wyldewood: July 9—20 Find more info and register at: <https://www.campwyldewood.org/>.

Uplift at Harding University: Session A - June 17-22 - Register at: <https://www.ultracamp.com/clientlogin.aspx?idCamp=401&campcode=mcl&lang=en-US>. See Jordan Fontenot with any questions.

Expectant Families

Katy & Jacob Britton
Angel & Matt Houser
Tarah & John Splawn

A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of soups & crackers.

This Week

Today	8:00 a.m.	Youth Depart to Camp Bandina
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship—Congregational Singing
	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
Tuesday	11:30 a.m.	Men's Luncheon—Republic Grille (Panther Creek)
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class—Joe Barnett (Adult Class)
	8:00 p.m.	Family Camp Meeting
Thursday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
Friday	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery Basketball
	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced) Family Camp
Saturday		Youth Return from Camp Bandina

Upcoming Events

June 12	Jabberwacky—Abell St. CoC (Wharton)
June 17-22	Uplift
June 18	Youth Invasion—Cane's on 1488
June 19	Jabberwacky—Graeber Rd. CoC (Rosenberg)
June 20	Senior Saints w/Youth Group Game Night & Potluck Supper
June 23-July 1	Elevate
July 1	Men's Breakfast
July 2	Congregational Singing Youth Devo
July 4	Church Offices Closed
July 9	Guest Speaker—Jim Cranfield Youth Invasion
July 9-20	Camp Wyldewood
July 10	Jabberwacky—Champions CoC
July 15	Faithful Fathers Canoe Event
July 16	Youth Invasion
July 17	Jabberwacky
July 21-22	Youth Mission Printing
July 23	Youth Invasion
July 24	Jabberwacky—Fulshear CoC
August 2-6	Camp Awesome
August 5	Men's Breakfast
August 6	Congregational Singing Youth Devo
August 7	Jabberwacky—Hosted by WOCC
August 11	JR High Night
August 13	Youth Invasion
August 19	Back 2 School Bash
August 20	Speed Fellowship
August 27	Impact CoC Meal
September 4	Church Offices Closed

If you could use meals during times of need, please contact the church office at 936-273-0010 or information@woodlandoaks.org