



September 17, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 38

### God Loves The Church

I think Paul's letter to the Ephesians is one of the most beautiful letters ever written. I love Paul's use of language. I appreciate his words, phrases, and encouragements. Even more, I love the way Paul speaks of the Church. Paul uses several significant images to describe the Church. He refers to the Church as God's workmanship (2:10), one new man (2:15), the household of God (2:19), a holy temple (2:21), and a body (4:4,12). Each of those is packed with rich meaning. Paul begins this letter an outburst of praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (1:3). Within his praise to God, Paul describes the Church with phrases that illustrate God's strong love and commitment to His Church.

- Blessed in Christ (v3)
- Chosen before the foundation of the world (v4)
- Holy and blameless (v4).
- Predestined (v5)
- Adopted as sons through Jesus Christ (v5).
- Redeemed through the blood of Jesus (v7).
- Lavished with the riches of grace (v7,8)
- Given an inheritance (v11)
- Sealed with the promised Holy Spirit (v13).

From the first chapter of Ephesians, we get a Spirit centered definition of the Church. The Church is a predestined group, chosen before the creation of the world, who are holy and blameless adopted sons, redeemed by the blood of Jesus, lavished with grace, and sealed with the Holy Spirit who is the guarantee of their inheritance. Wow, what a beautiful image of the Church. After reading Ephesians there is no doubt that God is committed to and loves His Church. The declarations of Paul about the people of God should really cause us to stop and evaluate our own love and commitment to the Church!

God loves you,  
Shawn

Keep reading your Bible!

## 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

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

September 17, 2023

**Elder of the Day** Mac Brockman  
**Communion Leader** Brandon Smith\*

### Adult Bible Classes:

- “**Biblical Archaeology Journey: Can You Dig It?**” by Marty Miller/Doug Dobbs  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium
  - “**A Study of Church History**” by Steve Baker  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101
  - “**One Nation Under God or Man?...Christianity in a Culture of Chaos**”  
by Mark Freeman—Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102
  - “**John, Jesus, & Discipleship**” (Young Professionals) by Rocky Rutledge/Mike Stevens  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)
  - “**From Milk to Meat (Various Topics for Christian Living)**” by David Sparks  
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 Room A102
- ### Teen Bible Classes:
- “**Romans**” (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-107
  - “**Genesis**” (7th –8th) by Brant Mathis  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-101
  - “**1 & 2 Thessalonians**” (9th –12th) by Jordan Fontenot  
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107
  - “**Apologetics**” (7th –8th) by Bryce Caldwell  
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	A107
3 years/Pre-K	A108
Kindergarten	B200
1st grade	B202
2nd grade	B203
3rd grade	B207
4th grade	B208
5th grade	B206
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.



Woodland Oaks Church of Christ  
7300 Crownridge Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77382  
Phone/Voicemail: (936) 273-0010  
Email: [information@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:information@woodlandoaks.org)  
[www.woodlandoaks.org](http://www.woodlandoaks.org)



### Elders

Scott Blake  
Mac Brockman  
Mark Freeman

Butch Merriman  
Marty Miller  
Raymond Walker

### Staff

**Pulpit** Shawn Montandon  
[shawn.montandon@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:shawn.montandon@woodlandoaks.org)

**Youth** Jordan Fontenot  
[jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org)

**Children's Coordinator** Jennifer Tolbert  
[jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org)

**Building Manager** Larry Brabham  
[larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org)

**Office Manager** Karen Ardito  
[karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org)

### Deacons

**Administration** Joel Blake  
**Audio/Visual & Media Building & Grounds** Mark Jetton  
Larry Brabham  
Todd Watrous

**Children's Programs Education Preschool** Richard Hyde  
Matt Fitzgerald

**Education Grade KG–2** Steve Baker

**Education Grade 3-6** Quinn Tolbert

**Family Life Center Fellowship** Chris Davis  
Tim Riggs

**Finance** Jeff Fleming  
Brandon Smith

**Foreign Missions** Paul Gidden  
Adam Fracht

**Information Technology Involvement** Al Ardito  
Frank Kerze

**Networks/Special Ministries Sharing** Jeremy Haynes  
Kyle Gordley  
Bradley Welborn

**Reaching Out Serving Hearts** Gavin Dao  
Daniel Fair

**Ushers** Tony Bloom

**Welcome Center/ Visitor Contacts** Robert Shock

**Visitation - Hospital & Homebound/Men's Ministry 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](http://woodlandoaks.org), under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

### Last Week's Attendance

#### Sunday, September 10, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	442
10:15 AM Worship	589 @ WOCC
	218 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	301
Contribution	\$60,379.52

#### Wednesday, September 13, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	300
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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 July 31, 2023 are \$1,068,753, compared with a budgeted amount of \$986,840 produces a surplus of \$81,913.

### Notes

## Announcements

Please check the **Lost & Found** table in the foyer TODAY. All unclaimed items will be donated.

**Men's Luncheon** will be this Tuesday, September 19 at 11:30 a.m. at Caffe Di Fiore.

The next **Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper** will be this Tuesday, September 19 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and join us in the Chapel Center.

The Senior Saints are invited to attend a **Lost in the 50's Concert** by the Hometown Opry Band this Friday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the East Harris County Activity Center (7340 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505). We will meet at 4:00 p.m. at the Church to ride together and stop somewhere to eat on the way. The tickets are available to purchase presale for \$12 [here](#) (You must create an account). Tickets at the door are \$15. Please sign up in the foyer by this Wednesday, September 20. See Denise Tolbert for more information.

**Smile for a Child** filled boxes are due Sunday, September 24. Don't forget the \$5 for shipping and handling!

Please join us for a **Baby Shower for Tarah Splawn** on Sunday, September 24 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Tarah & John are expecting a baby boy and are registered at Amazon.

In partnership with Memorial Christian Counseling Center we will be hosting a **Parenting Workshop** Sunday, October 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch and childcare will be provided. This presentation will provide parents with tools that ensure they are utilizing the best practices for parenting. emphasizing the importance on helping children develop purpose and connection as research has shown this to be vital in reducing depression and anxiety symptoms. Registration is required by Wednesday, October 4.



Save the Date! **Faithful Fathers Father-Son Retreat** will be October 20-22 at Frontier Camp Retreat Center in Grapeland, TX. Fathers and one son, ages 7 - 18 (not yet graduated high school), are invited to attend. The cost is \$100 for each father-son pair. Please sign up and find more information at the table in the foyer!

## Thank You

Thanks for the calls, messages, and visits during my recent hospital stay for gallbladder surgery.

John Charleston

Thank you so much for your generous donation of school supplies to the Impact Children. The kids were so excited to receive the supplies and can't wait to start school prepared this week. Thank you for your long time support of the Lord's work at Impact.

In Him,  
Caroline Morales  
Impact Children's Minister

Dear Saints,

Thank each and everyone of you for your phone calls, text messages, and get well cards. The well wishes are greatly appreciated. Alison and I have received your outpouring of love and encouragement. We miss worshipping with you and we can't wait to rejoin you in worship soon. I am recovering well from knee surgery. May God continue blessing the Church at Woodland Oaks COC.

In Christ, Tony Bloom

We would like to thank our church family for all the prayers, cards, love and support after the loss of Jasper's father. We are so blessed to have a supportive church family.

In Christ, The Lovoi Family

## Youth News

The next **Youth Invasion** will be TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly at Whataburger (6203 FM 1488, Magnolia, TX 77354).

The next **Youth Girls Dinner Devo** will be this Monday, September 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Kendra Blake's home. Please RSVP to Elise Fair or Kendra Blake.

**Tuesday Bible Study** meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at Market Street.

There will be a **High School Event** this Friday, September 22 at 6:00 p.m. We will have a game night in the Chapel Center. Bring a game!

**Please pick up a Calendar at the Youth Info Board in the foyer!**

## Treehouse Kids

**Sprout's Craft Time** meets every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. for science, craft and playtime! Preschoolers and homeschoolers welcome! Meet in the Worship Center Foyer. Pack a lunch and stay a while!

**Bible Builders:** Children ages 2yrs-Kinder will be dismissed at Sunday evening assembly to go "through the Bible in a year" and learn about how God has interacted with His people throughout the ages.

## Texas Bible Bowl

**Bible Bowl Practice** meets Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Grades 3rd—6th will meet in the Magnolia Room C106. Grades 7th—12th will meet in the Chapel Center Auditorium.

## Prayers

- ✝ Please keep **Richard Hyde's 4-year-old cousin** in your prayers/He is hospitalized in California awaiting a heart transplant.
- ✝ **Mary Williams**/was hospitalized Friday, September 8 after a fall/She was not seriously injured but bruised and is undergoing tests.
- ✝ **Michele Isherwood**/had her follow up appointment and doctors now know what is causing the pain/Please continue to pray for her pain management/The Isherwood family is thankful and so very blessed to have everyone's prayers.
- ✝ Please remember our members: **Margaret Campbell, John Charleston, Debi Hix, Richard Hyde, Nell Love, Jeanette Malone, Tyrone Mynhier, Laurie Riggs, Gary Smith, Don Southall, Debra Thompson, John Tolbert.**
- ✝ Please remember friends & family: **Glen Evans, Kathlene Gaither, Felisha Young.**
- ✝ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Pharis Fowler, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Bob McDougal, Marsha Owens, Joanie Roberts, Pam Garner, Janice Tadlock, Scottie West, Mary Young.**
- ✝ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Joel Boone, Darren Brooks, Judy Chandler, Tesa Cornett, Dorcas Dillard, Dan Fayweather, Paul Hendrickson, Melissa Hightower, Phil Martinez, D'Ann Norwood, Jerry Smith, Barbara Starr, Nancy Stewart, Rose Talbott.**

## Sympathy

Heartfelt condolences to Sharon Mynes at the loss of her sister, **Susan May**, Saturday, September 9. The funeral service was held Tuesday, September 12 at Norway Avenue Church of Christ in Huntington, West Virginia. Please keep the family in your prayers. You can read the obituary and find more information at: <https://www.ehallfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Susan-Lyn-May?obId=28957379>.

## This Week

Day	Time	Event
Today	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Bible Bowl Practice
Monday	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Invasion—Whataburger
	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Kendra Blake's Home
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	11:30 a.m.	Men's Luncheon—Caffe Di Fiore
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group
	10:00 a.m.	Sprouts Craft Time
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Meal
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class
	6:15 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	9:30 a.m.	GriefShare
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
Friday	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery Basketball
	4:00 p.m.	Senior Saints Lost in the 50's Concert
	6:00 p.m.	Youth High School Game Night

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event
September 24	Baby Shower for Tarah Splawn Smile for a Child Boxes Due Youth Invasion
October 1	Congregational Singing Youth Devo
October 2	Men's Luncheon
October 3	Registration Due for Parenting Workshop
October 7	Men's Breakfast Dorcas Class
October 14	Fall Festival
October 15	Parenting Workshop Speed Fellowship
October 17	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Dinner
October 19	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Lindy Haynes' Home
October 20-23	Faithful Fathers Father-Son Retreat
October 20	Junior High Night

## New Members

Dan & Allyson Culbert

Margie Lindsey

Mike & Sonnie Norwood

## Expectant Families

Lindy & Jeremy Haynes

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 Boxed Potatoes, Cake Mixes, Cookie Mixes

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