



December 3, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 49

Helping Our Kids View The Church As Essential

The New Testament makes it clear the Church that belongs to Jesus is essential to the spiritual well-being of every believer. It's through the Church that we fulfill all the "one another" passages. In the Church (but not always in worship) we love, admonish, instruct, forgive, edify, and encourage one another. The Church is the household/family of God (1 Timothy 3:15). The Church is essential, because the Church is the group of people that Jesus is coming back to save (Ephesians 5:23). So how do we help our children to grow up loving the Church and see her as essential to following Jesus?

1. We (parents, grandparents, mentors, other adults) must view the Church as essential and treat her that way. We must make Jesus and His Church THE priority in our life. If our children observe us dismissing Church assemblies when something "more important" or "more fun" pops up, or if we choose to miss assemblies because it's just easier to stay home, we can't be surprised when our children treat the Church the same way. As mature Christians, we must show our children through our actions just how valuable the family of God is to us and how much Jesus loves her.
2. We (parents, grandparents, mentors, other adults) must speak about the Church in a positive and favorable way. Is the Church perfect? Not even close because you and I are part of the Church. If we routinely criticize the Church, our words are teaching our children the Church is a group of people that do nothing but irritate us. Let's show a spirit of wisdom and discernment with our words and talk about the beauty of the Church. Let's promote the Church with our words and love her the way Jesus loves her. After all, WE are part of the family.
3. Trust the Spirit of God to work. After parenting for 19 ½ years, I've accepted the fact that I don't always get it right. I've also learned it's easy to put too much trust in myself and not much trust in the Spirit of God to work. As parents, we need to let God work in the lives of our kids to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit. As we show our kids how to love the LORD and His Church, let's pray and ask the LORD to help our children to love Him, His word, and His people. Let's make sure when we pray for our kids that those prayers are saturate with spiritual content.

Let's prioritize the Church as essential in our lives and speak well of her. She is the bride of Christ. Let's do everything we can to help our kids fall in love with Jesus and His Church. Let's seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33).

God loves you,
Shawn

Keep reading your Bible! Only four weeks left!

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

December 3, 2023

Elder of the Day Mac Brockman
Communion Leader Jim Hodges

Adult Bible Classes:

- “Be Careful” by Scott Blake
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium
 - “David: A Man After God's Own Heart” by Randy Sparks
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101
 - “Daniel—God's Sovereignty” by Dave Short
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102
 - “Handling Money God's Way” by Gary Tannahill & Dennis Chrisco
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center Room B204 Library
 - “Fruits of the Spirit” (Young Professionals) by Tony Bloom & Doug Peak
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)
 - “Amos—The Boldness of Faith” by Scott Logan
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
 - “Judges” (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107
 - “JR High Class” (7th–8th) by Daniel Fair
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
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Elders

Scott Blake
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Mark Freeman

Contacts:

Butch Merriman
Marty Miller
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Deacons

Administration Joel Blake
Audio/Visual & Media Mark Jetton
Building & Grounds Scott Green
John Tolbert
Sam Washburn
Children's Programs Richard Hyde
Education Matt Fitzgerald
Mike Arnold
Chris Davis
Family Life Center Tim Riggs
Fellowship Jeff Fleming
Finance Brandon Smith
Paul Gidden
Adam Fracht
Foreign Missions Al Ardito
Information Technology Frank Kerze
Involvement Jeremy Haynes
Networks/Special Ministries Steve Baker
Serving Hearts Mike Stevens
Sharing Kyle Gordley
Bradley Welborn
Reaching Out Gavin Dao
Bryce Caldwell
Ushers Tony Bloom
Homebound/Men's Ministry Robert Shock
Worship Eric Kirkland
Bill Malone
Kevan Taylor
Jordan Blake
Youth Brant Mathis
Todd Watrous
Daniel Fair
Trent Tadlock

Staff

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Youth Jordan Fontenot
jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org

Children's Coordinator Jennifer Tolbert
jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org

Building Manager

Office Manager Karen Ardito
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Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, November 26, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	351
10:15 AM Worship	476 @ WOCC
	280 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	202
Contribution	\$28,493.30

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	242
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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

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.

Budget

Actual unrestricted contributions through September 30, 2023 are \$1,368,178, compared with a budgeted amount of \$1,241,508 produces a surplus of \$126,670.

Notes

Announcements

If you are interested in singing **Christmas Carols** to the homebound members, please get in touch with Robert Shock. We are looking for all ages.

We are now accepting resumes for the **Children's Ministry and Education Coordinator**. At this time we are only looking within our congregation to fill this vacancy. If you are interested or would like more information about the position, please contact Richard Hyde, Mike Arnold, or Matt Fitzgerald. Please submit resumes by TODAY.

Please join us for a **Bridal Shower honoring Olivia Baker**, daughter of Steve & Stephanie Baker, bride elect of Hunter Briggs, TODAY from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Olivia and Hunter are registered at Amazon & Target.

There will be a **Cookies and Cocoa Sunday Social** TODAY at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Please bring a plate of cookies to share.

Congregational Singing will be TONIGHT during the evening assembly.

Men's Luncheon will be this Tuesday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m. at Red Phoenix on FM242.

Adopt-A-Family gifts are due this Wednesday, December 6. Please bring wrapped gifts labeled with the child's name to the foyer.

Senior Saint—Holiday Inn: Senior Saints will attend Holiday Inn at the Owen Theatre in Conroe this Friday, December 8. We will meet at WOCC at 4:45 p.m. to go out to eat. The play begins at 7:30 p.m. and the tickets are \$20 each. Sign up is on the table below the name tags. See Denise Tolbert for more information.

The next **Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper** will be Monday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and join us in the Chapel Center.

There will be a **Blood Drive** on Sunday, December 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. Please sign up at: <https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive/schedule/377443>.

The Prestoncrest congregation in Plano will be hosting a **Conference on Evangelism** and church growth on February 23-25, 2024. For those interested in attending, you can register and find more information at Prestoncrest.org/story.

Camp Red Oak Springs has inquired about WOCC anchoring a new week of camp. If you have any interest in helping or learning more, then please fill out the short survey in the link [here](#). The potential new week of camp will be the week of July 14, 2024.

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.

A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.

The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of personal care products (shampoo, liquid & bar soap, toothpaste, hygiene products, baby care items).

Youth News

There will be a **Youth Devo** TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly in the Youth Center.

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

The **Junior High Night** will be this Friday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. at Zero Latency (27700 Interstate 45 N Ste B, Oak Ridge North, TX 77385). The cost is \$25. Please RSVP on the [Youth Website](#) if you will attend.

There will be a **SNL Devo** this Saturday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gidden Home.

The Youth Group will be serving the **Impact Church of Christ Meal** on Sunday, December 10. The van will leave during morning worship and return around 2:00 p.m. Please see Jordan if you are wanting to help!

The next **Youth Invasion** will be Sunday, December 10 immediately following the evening assembly.

The Youth Group has a **Service Opportunity** on Thursday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m. We will be singing with the Senior Residents at Heritage Oaks in Conroe. Singing Hymns and Christmas Songs are a great upliftment to the residents! Contact Randy Sparks for more information.

Treehouse Kids

The next **Dorcas Class** (for girls K- 6th grade) will be Saturday, January 6. Meet in the Chapel Center from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. For more information, please see Jane-Ann Fleming.

Prayers

- ✚ **Betty Fowler**/scheduled to have surgery Tuesday, December 5.
- ✚ **Paul Melton**/friend of Butch & Linda Merriman and Rodney & Myra Burke/ has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer and will be undergoing the treatments at MD Anderson.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Harry Davis, Skip Foreman, Bob & Sandy Klemm, Laurie Riggs, Angel Salas, Lewis Tadlock, Debra Thompson, John Tolbert, Stephen Williams.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Dean "Jr" Guyton, J. Paul Spelce.**
- ✚ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Pharis Fowler, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Bob McDougal, Marsha Owens, Joanie Roberts, Charles Smithson, Janice Tadlock.**
- ✚ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Darren Brooks, Tesa Cornett, Dorcas Dillard, Dan Fayweather, Paul Hendrickson, Melissa Hightower, Phil Martinez, Paul Melton, D'Ann Norwood, Jerry Smith, Rose Talbott.**

Expectant Families

Angel & Matt Houser
Janna & Kevin Wilkerson

This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Winter Quarter Begins
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class
	3:00 p.m.	Worship
	5:00 p.m.	Bridal Shower for Olivia Baker
	6:00 p.m.	Cookies and Cocoa Sunday Social
		Evening Worship—Congregational Singing
		Bible Bowl Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Devo
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball-Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	11:30 a.m.	Men's Luncheon—Red Phoenix on FM242
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Tuesday Bible Study
Wednesday		Adopt-A-Family Gifts Due
	5:45 p.m.	Fellowship Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class
Thursday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery
		Basketball
Friday	4:45 p.m.	Senior Saints—Holiday Inn
	6:00 p.m.	Junior High Night—Zero Latency
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Youth SNL Devo @ Gidden Home

Upcoming Events

December 10	Impact CoC Meal
	Youth Invasion
December 11	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck
December 17	Blood Drive
December 19	Men's Luncheon
December 21	Youth Service
December 22-26	Church Offices Closed
December 24	No Evening Worship (Communion available @ 6 pm)
December 27	Combined Devo—No Meal/No Children's Bible Classes
December 30	Youth Progressive Dinner
December 31	Area Wide Youth Devo hosted by Harding
January 1	Church Offices Closed
January 2	Men's Luncheon
January 6	Men's Breakfast
	Dorcas Class
January 7	Congregational Singing
January 18	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Lindsey Thomas' Home

Thank you

I just wanted to thank the church family for putting together the snack bags and encouraging notes! This is the point in the semester where it is very needed and appreciated. So thank you so so much!

Kelsey Watrous

Our family is so thankful for your prayers, calls and texts for Elmo Collins during his emergency surgery and recovery. About three weeks ago we were able to move Dad and Mom to Heritage Oaks Assisted Living in Conroe. Their new address is:

Elmo and Mary Collins
903 Longmire Road
Apt. 104
Conroe, Texas 77304
281-203-8466
Visitors welcome!

Our love, Peggy and Lou Giles for the family of Elmo Collins

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