



January 22, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 4

A Night With The Frogs

In ancient Egypt, the frog appears as a symbol of fertility, water, and renewal. The water goddess Heket often appeared as a woman with the head of a frog. Frogs were also the symbol of the midwife goddess Heqit, who ruled conception and birth, and Egyptian women often wore metal amulets in the form of frogs to enlist her good favor. Frogs appeared in great numbers each year at the flooding of the Nile, an event which was crucial to agriculture in that it provided water for many distant fields. Frogs thrived in the muddy bogs left by the receding waters, and it is easy to imagine how frogs came to be viewed as favorable symbols of abundance. In fact, the frog became a symbol for the number hefnu, which meant either 100,000 or simply "an immense number." Perhaps it is frogs' impressive fertility combined with their association with water, so important for human life, that has led humans to see them as such potent and positive symbols (https://www.exploratorium.edu/frogs/folklore/folklore_4.html).

Frogs were popular in Egypt, even deified to an extent. But in Exodus 8, frogs become a problem in Egypt. Frogs were the 8th plague sent by God. The Bible tells us frogs were in their homes, bedrooms, beds, ovens, and kneading bowls (Ex. 8:3). Frogs came out of the water and covered the land of Egypt. When the plague ended, we are told the frogs died in their houses, courtyards, and fields. The Egyptians gathered the frogs in heaps and the land stank. I can't imagine countless frogs outside my house, much less the same amount in my home and in my bed. It was a disgusting sight. But the way Pharaoh handles this plague boggles my mind. Moses approaches Pharaoh and says, "Be pleased to command me when I am to plead for you and for your servants and for your people, that the frogs be cut off from you and your houses and be left only in the Nile." Pharaoh answered, "Tomorrow." Tomorrow? I would have said, "Right now!" or, "Immediately!" But tomorrow? There's only one explanation as to why Pharaoh chose a night with the frogs ... PRIDE!

It's evident from the account that Pharaoh was a prideful and arrogant man. Pharaohs were looked at as more than a ruler. They were viewed as gods chosen to lead the people. If you think you're a god, you don't take kindly to someone else telling you what to do. Pharaoh was full of self-pride. Pride and arrogance will prohibit a saving faith from developing and growing. Before the 8th plague, Moses and Aaron go to Pharaoh and said, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before me'" (Ex. 10:3)? Pride and arrogance will stand in the way of wisdom and humility.

The wise man said, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom" (Prov. 11:2). "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18). "One's pride will bring him low" (Prov. 29:23). On the contrary, "The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life" (Prov. 22:4). Jesus said, "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:4). Godly wisdom says it's better to choose humility rather than spend a night with the frogs.

God loves you,
Shawn

ARE YOU CAUGHT UP ON YOUR DAILY BIBLE READING?

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

January 22, 2023

Elder of the Day Mac Brockman
Communion Leader Bryce Caldwell

Adult Bible Classes:

- “A Study of 1st Corinthians” by Dave Short
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium
- “John, Jesus and Discipleship” by Rocky Rutledge
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101
- “Reaching Out– In Christ” by Gavin Dao, Chris Wright, Jeremy Haynes
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102
- “Demolishing Strongholds” by Jordan Fontenot & Shawn Montandon
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium
- “The Bible—From God or Man” 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 the Chapel Center C201

Teen Bible Classes:

- “Demolishing Strongholds” by Jordan Fontenot & Shawn Montandon
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium
- “High School Bible Class” (9th –12th) by Jordan Fontenot
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-101
- “Jr High School Bible Class” (7th –8th) by Daniel Fair
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-106

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.



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



Elders

Scott Blake
 Mac Brockman
 Mark Freeman
 Nathan Ingram

Contacts:

Butch Merriman
 Marty Miller
 Raymond Walker

Deacons

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

Staff

Pulpit Shawn Montandon
shawn.montandon@woodlandoaks.org

Youth Jordan Fontenot
jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org

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

Building Manager Larry Brabham
larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org

Office Manager Karen Ardito
karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org

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 Ben Brockman
Visitation - Hospital & Homebound/Men's Ministry Robert Shock
Worship Eric Kirkland
 Bill Malone
 Kevan Taylor
Youth Brant Mathis
 Scott Simpson

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, January 15, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	385
10:15 AM Worship	584 @ WOCC 227 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	267
Contribution	\$34,411.44

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	304
---------------------	-----

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 November 30, 2022 are \$1,533,008 compared with a budgeted amount of \$1,374,375 produces a surplus of \$158,633.

Notes

Announcements

Please remember that **No Food or Drinks (except water)** are allowed in the **Worship Auditorium or Foyer**.

The congregation is in need of an individual or team to take on the responsibility of preparing the communion trays for the weekly communion service on Sunday morning. The **Communion Tray Preparation** can occur anytime during the week prior to the Sunday morning service. If you are willing and interested in serving in this way, please see or contact Kevan Taylor or Eric Kirkland.

There will be an **Elder/Deacon Meeting** TODAY at 4:30 p.m. in the Magnolia Room.

If you are interested in **Hosting our Summer Intern Nathan Ray** in your home this summer, please contact Brant Mathis, Scott Simpson, or Jordan Fontenot.

Save the Date! The **Men's Advance** will be Friday, January 27 & Saturday, January 28! This year's speaker will be Jeff Jenkins. The cost is \$25. Sign up is now open at the table in the foyer. See Robert Shock for more information.

The **2022 Bible Readers' Banquet** will be Saturday, February 4 at 5:30 p.m. Those who have completed reading the Bible for 2022, please sign up individually at the Welcome Center and indicate whether you will attend by Sunday, January 29.

There is a **2023 Bible Readers' Sign up** at the Welcome Center for those who plan to read through the Bible in 2023.

The Prestoncrest congregation in Plano will be hosting a **Conference on Evangelism** and church growth on Feb 3-5, 2023. For those interested in attending, there is an RSVP/sign-up in the Welcome Center. More information is available at Prestoncrest.org/story.

There will be a 2nd Annual Sheltered in Grace Gathering **Ladies Retreat** on February 17-19 at Camp Blessing in Benham, TX. The cost is \$175. You can register at shelteredingrace.com. See Jennifer Tolbert for more information.

WOCC will be hosting the concluding **Ultimate Escape Workshop** session for teens, parents and those interested in discussing God's plan for sexuality, as well as societal misinformation on Feb 25-26. Steve Holladay from ultimatescape.org will be leading the workshop discussions. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan on attending. There is a schedule available at the Welcome Center. See Jordan Fontenot, the Youth Deacons, or the Elders for more info.

Texas Bible Bowl

Bible Bowl Practice will meet every Sunday night from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center.

There will be a **Bible Bowl Study Group** followed by Supper Sunday, January 29 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center.

Thank You

Words cannot adequately express my gratitude and thankfulness to the WOCC family during Judy's illness and passing. My sincere thanks and appreciation for all your prayers, words of encouragement, support, food and many other acts of service and kindness. Judy loved you deeply! I believe WOCC is the kind of church family Jesus wants. Thank you very much.

Love you. Cleo Tarver and Family

I appreciate all the prayers and support of the congregation. Several of the members have asked about my treatment plan for cancer. I am doing fine. I am being actively monitored by the doctor, with no treatment at this time. Thank you for your prayers, support and encouragement.

In Him, Tony Bloom

Youth News

January Calendar: <https://www.smores.com/kgpq9>.

There will be a **Youth Invasion** TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly at Freebirds (Lake Woodlands).

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

There will be a **Youth Devo** Sunday, February 5 immediately following the evening assembly in the Youth Center.

The **Youth Winter Retreat** will be February 10-12 at Hensel Camp, located outside of Marble Falls, TX. This event is open to students 7th-12th grade. The cost is \$30 per person. Please sign up at the table in the foyer or at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2mmr9zw>. Registration closes Wednesday, February 1.

Treehouse Kids

Bible Buddy Adoption Fair: Are you wild about Jesus? Please join us for our new Bible Buddy Family Reading Challenge! We have new buddies ready for adoption and a new reading plan that is all about why we love Jesus! When you adopt a buddy, you make a commitment to read and teach your buddy all about Jesus! Pick up your Bible Buddy TODAY from 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. during donut time and after worship in the foyer.

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.

Sprout's Craft Time meets every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in room B201.

Friday Playdates: Meet us at Alden Bridge Park on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for a fun playdate! All ages welcome! Bring a lunch and make a morning of it!

Bridge Kids: Karaoke and Games with Champions: Bridge Kids (Grades 3-6) are invited to join us as we host the Bridge Kids from Champions Church of Christ for a Karaoke and Game Night this Saturday, January 28 from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. in the FLC at WOCC. We will be serving corn dogs and chips. Please bring a box of Capri Suns to share.

Sympathy

Deepest sympathy at the loss of our brother, **Russell Smith**, January 12. The memorial service will be Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m. at Woodland Oaks Church of Christ. Please keep Russell's family in your prayers.

Heartfelt condolences to Daniel Fair at the loss of his grandfather, **Lewis Ralph Fair**, on January 13. The funeral was held January 17 in Lufkin, TX. Please keep Daniel and the family in your prayers. You can read the obituary [here](#).

Expectant Family

Candice & Matt Fitzgerald

New Member

John & Jodi Malanga
Nick, Jack, Alex

A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of breakfast items (cereal, jelly, breakfast bars, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit, juice packs, coffee)
Sunny Glen Children's Home: Liquid Fabric Softener, Toilet Paper, Juice Boxes, White Gravy

This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	9:45 a.m.	Bible Buddy Adoption Fair
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	4:30 p.m.	Elder/Deacon Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship
		Bible Bowl Practice
	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Invasion—Freebirds (Lake Woodlands)
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Men
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Tuesday Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Sprouts Craft Time
	5:30 p.m.	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
	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery
		GreifShare
		Basketball
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
	10:00 a.m.	Friday Playdate
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Advance
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Advance
	5:00 p.m.	Bridge Kids Event: Karaoke & Games with Champions CoC

Upcoming Events

January 29	Memorial Service for Russell Smith
	Bible Bowl Study Group & Supper
February 1	Registration Closes for Youth Winter Retreat
	Quilting Group
February 3-5	Conference on Evangelism—Prestoncrest Congregation
February 3-10	AIM Challenge Week
February 4	Men's Breakfast
	2022 Bible Readers Banquet
February 5	Sunday Social: Trail Mix Bar
	Congregational Singing
	Youth Devo
February 7	Men's Luncheon—Red Lobster
February 10-12	Youth Winter Retreat
February 10	THK Daddy Daughter Date Night
February 12	Bridal Shower for Lacey Neely
February 17-19	Sheltered In Grace Gathering Ladies Retreat
February 25-26	Ultimate Escape Workshop

Prayers

- ✚ **Betty Yovanovich**/heart issues/no visitors please but cards & calls welcome.
- ✚ **Matt Wolfley**/friend of Richard Hyde/ICU/Upcoming surgery.
- ✚ **Diane McConnell**/family friend of Richard Hyde/undergoing cancer treatment.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Karen Farr, Laurie Riggs, Angie Short, Mary Williams, Patty Yates.**
- ✚ Please remember friends & family: **Michael Brothers, Kevin Cornett, Vicky Dodson, Myron Stewart.**
- ✚ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Roger McDonald, Bob McDougal, Joanie Roberts, Janice Tadlock, Michael Williams.**
- ✚ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Judy Chandler, Tesa Cornett, Melissa Hightower, Toni Mansker, Phil Martinez, Diane McConnell, D'Ann Norwood, Jerry Smith, Raymond Smith, Nancy Stewart, Rose Talbott.**

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