



January 29, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 5

Is The LORD Among Us Or Not?

The Israelites have always puzzled me. When they were slaves in Egypt, they cried out to be rescued. God heard them and began to initiate their liberation. The LORD called Moses to lead his people to freedom. Here's what puzzles me.

- The LORD leads them out of Egypt by a visible pillar of cloud by day and a visible pillar of fire by night and one of the two was always visible (Ex. 13:21,22). In other words, there was never a question as to whether the LORD was among them.
- When they came to their first obstacle, the Red Sea, they immediately want to go back to Egypt (Ex. 14:12).
- Moses assures them the LORD will fight on their behalf all they have to do is watch (Ex. 14:14).
- Moses stretches his hands over the sea, the sea parts, and Israel walks on dry ground to the other side, and is saved as their enemies drown in the sea all the while, the pillar of cloud protected them. This salvation provoked a great response from Israel. *"Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses"* (Ex. 14:31).
- The people grumbled because the water at Marah was bitter. The LORD made it drinkable (Ex. 15:25).
- Then the LORD led them to 12 springs of water where they camped (Ex. 15:27).
- Not long after their fill of water, they accused the LORD of bringing them out of Egypt so they could die of hunger. God gives them manna and quail (Ex. 16).

Now the process begins to repeat. In Exodus 17:1-3, the Bible says, *"All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore, the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"* They had already witnessed the LORD's ability to quench their thirst, and now they complain again. Verse 17 says, they tested the LORD by saying, *"Is the LORD among us or not?"* What? As they complained and questioned the LORD's presence, they could look at the pillar of cloud and fire and know the LORD was ALWAYS AMONG THEM!!!

How often do we question the LORD's presence, His care, and His work in our life as we enjoy and consume His constant blessings?

Always remember God loves you,

Shawn

ARE YOU CAUGHT UP ON YOUR 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

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Elder of the Day Raymond Walker
Communion Leader Jordan Fontenot

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.



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Elders

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 Brandon Smith

Foreign Missions Paul Gidden
 Adam Fracht

Information Technology Al Ardito
Involvement Frank Kerze

Networks/Special Ministries Jeremy Haynes
 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

Youth Kevan Taylor
 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 22, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	441
10:15 AM Worship	582 @ WOCC 259 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	285
Contribution	\$37,173.81

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	311
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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 December 31, 2022 are \$1,687,180 compared with a budgeted amount of \$1,488,906 produces a surplus of \$198,274.

Notes

Announcements

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

We are now recruiting **Teachers for the Spring Quarter**. Please speak to Quinn Tolbert, Steve Baker, or Matt Fitzgerald if you can help.

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.

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.

The **2022 Bible Readers' Banquet** will be this 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. The deadline to sign up is TODAY. Please also check to see if you are on the list at the Welcome Center.

Men's Breakfast will be this Saturday, February 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center.

Sunday Socials are a time to enjoy a snack and fellowship before church! Please join us Sunday, February 5 at 5:00 p.m. Trail Mix will be served!

Congregational Singing will be Sunday, February 5 during the evening assembly. Song requests may be listed at the Welcome Center.

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, more information is available at [Prestoncrest.org/story](https://www.prestoncrest.org/story).

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](https://www.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.

Sympathy

Heartfelt condolences to Kristina Meeks at the loss of her grandmother, **Carmen J Rubio**, Sunday, January 22. The funeral was held January 26. Please keep Kristina and the family in your prayers.

Texas Bible Bowl

There will be a **Bible Bowl Study Group & Supper** TONIGHT at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center.

Youth News

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

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 this **Wednesday, February 1**.

The next **Youth Invasion** will be Sunday, February 19 immediately following the evening assembly at Fuddruckers.

Treehouse Kids

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!

Our next **Dorcas Class**, for girls ages K-6th grade, will be Saturday, February 4 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. in room A101.

Daddy Daughter Date Night: Dear Snow Princesses, You and your prince charming (daddy, grandfather, uncle) are invited to attend a magical night of fun and memories Friday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center! Photobooth, crafts, Chick-fil-a, a dessert bar and more! Please RSVP by February 8 so we can plan the food accordingly.

Thank You

I want to send a big "Thank you" to all who helped us in so many ways during June's illness and since her death. There have been prayers, numerous sympathy cards, donations in her memory, meals and notes. What a blessing to be a part of this family.

In Christian love, Roy Davis

Thanks for all your prayers, visits, calls, and cards. They pulled me through! It is such a blessing to have a family of believers. Praise the Lord for His mercy and grace! Love to all.

Roger & Cherene McDonald

Expectant Family

Candice & Matt Fitzgerald

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
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	2:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Russell Smith
	5:00 p.m.	Bible Bowl Study Group & Supper
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship
	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders
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		Registration Closes for Youth Winter Retreat
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group
	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		AIM Students Arrive
	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
	10:00 a.m.	Friday Playdate
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	9:30 a.m.	Dorcas Class
	5:30 p.m.	2022 Bible Readers' Banquet

Upcoming Events

February 3-5	Conference on Evangelism—Prestoncrest Congregation
February 3-10	AIM Challenge Week
February 5	Sunday Social: Trail Mix Bar
	Congregational Singing
	Youth Devo
February 7	Men's Luncheon—Red Lobster
February 8	Sign up for Daddy Daughter Date Night Due
February 10-12	Youth Winter Retreat
February 10	THK Daddy Daughter Date Night
February 12	Bridal Shower for Lacye Neeley
February 17-19	Sheltered In Grace Gathering Ladies Retreat
February 25-26	Ultimate Escape Workshop
March 4	Men's Breakfast
	Dorcas Class
March 5	Congregational Singing
March 12	Impact CoC Meal

Prayers

- ✠ **Mary Nell Bollman**/fell and injured leg/please pray for Mary Nell's recovery.
- ✠ **Darren Brooks**/recent visitor/diagnosed with cancer & awaiting biopsy results.
- ✠ **Marie Jennings**/grandmother of Brandon Hooks/hospitalized after fell Jan. 26/broken femur.
- ✠ Please remember our members: **Karen Farr, John O'Connor, Laurie Riggs, Angie Short, Mary Williams, Patty Yates, Betty Yovanovich.**
- ✠ Please remember friends & family: **Michael Brothers, Kevin Cornett, Vicky Dodson, Myron Stewart, Matt Wolfley.**
- ✠ 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