



January 12, 2025

Volume XXXIII—Issue 2

### Shepherds Have A Huge Responsibility

It is my opinion that the office of a shepherd (elder/overseer/bishop) in the LORD's church is the highest responsibility this side of Heaven. Paul wrote to Timothy, *"The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task"* (1 Tim. 3:1). Paul says a shepherd must be above reproach (1 Tim. 3:2), and *"care for the Church of God, which He obtained with His own blood"* (Acts 20:28). Here are a few reasons why shepherding God's people is a HUGE responsibility.

- 1. Shepherds look after God's prized possession.** Paul told the Ephesian elders, *"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears"* (Acts 20:28-31). Jesus bought the Church with His own blood and has left her in the care of local shepherds who are spiritually minded.
- 2. Shepherds are subject to the Chief Shepherd.** Peter reminds shepherds they have a shepherd too, and when He returns, they will receive the unfading crown of glory if they have been faithful examples to the flock. *"Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory"* (1 Peter. 5:2-4).
- 3. Judgment will begin at the household of God.** Peter wrote, *"For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God"* (1 Peter 4:17)? God's judgment will begin with the very place that elders are entrusted to oversee, even further suggesting the depth of their responsibility.

We have a responsibility towards our shepherds. Hebrews 13:17 says, *"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."* We need to take these inspired words to heart in the same way that we want our shepherds to be serious towards the role the LORD has given them.

God loves you!  
Shawn

## 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

January 12, 2025

**Elder of the Day** Raymond Walker

**Communion Leader** Morgan Whatley

### Adult Bible Classes:

#### "Are You Growing Spiritually?"

by Mac Brockman—Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101

#### "The Book of Revelation"

by Bob Klemm—Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102

**"Extraordinary Part 2 A Study of Acts: 13-28"** by Marty Miller  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium

**"One Day It's Really Going to Happen: The Day Christ Comes Again"**  
(Young Professionals) by Kevan Taylor  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)

#### "People Watching" by Scott Logan

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium

#### "Ephesians" (Ages 18-25) by Raymond Walker

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in Worship Center Room A102

### Teen Bible Classes:

**"1, 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3 John"** (9th–12th) by Trent Tadlock  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-107

**"Life of Christ"** (7th –8th) by Morgan Whatley  
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-101

**"Ezra, Nehemiah"** (9th –12th) by Jordan Blake, Cameron Gardner, & Kaleb Steinhauer  
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107

**"United Kingdom"** (7th –8th) by Morgan Hughes  
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	C103
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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[www.woodlandoaks.org](http://www.woodlandoaks.org)



### Elders

Scott Blake  
Mac Brockman  
Mark Freeman

Butch Merriman  
Marty Miller  
Raymond Walker

### Deacons

Administration Joel Blake  
Audio/Visual & Media Mark Jetton  
Building & Grounds John Tolbert  
Sam Washburn

Children's Programs Richard Hyde  
Education Matt Fitzgerald

Family Life Center Mike Arnold  
Fellowship Chris Davis

Finance Tim Riggs  
Foreign Missions Jeff Fleming

Information Technology Paul Gidden  
Involvement Adam Fracht

Al Ardito  
Networks/Special Ministries Frank Kerze

Serving Hearts/Hospital Visits Jeremy Haynes  
Steve Baker

Sharing Mike Stevens  
Bradley Welborn

Reaching Out/Welcome Center Gavin Dao  
Bryce Caldwell

Ushers Robert Shock  
Homebound/Men's Ministry Eric Kirkland

Worship Bill Malone  
Jordan Blake

Youth Brant Mathis  
Todd Watrous

Daniel Fair  
Trent Tadlock

### Contacts:

**Faithful Fathers:** Chuck Bryant  
**Celebrate Recovery:** Tom Kernan

### 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.

### Budget

Actual unrestricted contributions through October 31, 2024 were \$1,642,594.34 compared to a budgeted amount of \$1,596,155.80 producing a surplus of \$46,438.54.

### Notes

### Staff

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

Youth Aaron Trent  
[aaron.trent@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:aaron.trent@woodlandoaks.org)

Children's Coordinator Janna Wilkerson  
[janna.wilkerson@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:janna.wilkerson@woodlandoaks.org)

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

### Last Week's Attendance

#### Sunday, January 5, 2025

9:00 AM Bible Class	401
10:15 AM Worship	591 @ WOCC 218 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	201
Contribution	\$36,693.87

#### Wednesday, January 8, 2025

7:00 PM Bible Class	286
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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

## Announcements

The Elders are **Seeking an Additional Shepherd and Additional Deacons** to serve our congregation. Beginning today, January 12, separate Elder and Deacon Nomination forms will be available. Each member is requested to submit signed forms using the box in the foyer by Sunday, February 2. Contact the church office if you need to electronically receive and submit forms.

There will be a brief **Camp Blue Haven Meeting** TODAY at 9:50 a.m. in room A102 for anyone interested in sending their kids to camp. If you have any questions, please contact the youth deacons.

Sign up to **Read Through the Bible in 2025!** Sign up at the table in the foyer.

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** will be this Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00 a.m. at Denny's (I-45).

**Ladies Bible Class** will resume Tuesday, January 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel Center. We will have an introduction to our study and receive books.

The **Quilting Group** will meet Wednesday, January 22 at 9:30 a.m.

The **2025 Men's Advance** will be January 24 and 25. Nathan Ingram will be guest speaker. Please see Robert Shock at the table in the foyer to sign up and for more information.

Save the date! Those who have completed their 2024 Bible reading, the **2024 Bible Readers' Banquet** will be Saturday, February 1 at 5:30 p.m.! Please sign up individually in the foyer and indicate whether you will attend by January 22!

Hip hip HOORAY! **VBS** is coming! If you are interested in serving at VBS in any way, please let Janna Wilkerson know. We have some fun changes coming this year, and we need all hands on deck to make this a success for our kiddos!

**HELP WANTED:** Celebrate Recovery is in need of an additional child care provider on Thursdays, from 7:00—9:00 p.m. This is a paid position. Please see Teresa Hermann if you can help.

We are in need of more **Golf Cart Drivers**. Drivers must be a member of WOCC and at least 21 years of age. If you are interested, please contact Philip Leonardos.

## Prayers

- ✚ **Rodney Burke**/surgery January 10 to remove brain tumor.
- ✚ **Doug Lowe**/father of Katy Britton/hospitalized for heart complications/ received a pacemaker Thursday, January 9.
- ✚ **Nathan Jones**/ brother of Jeremy Haynes/hospitalized with pneumonia and pancreatitis/in critical condition.
- ✚ **Erika Phillips**/daughter of Victor & Graciella Martinez/surgery scheduled for January 16.
- ✚ **Barabara Dickinson**/visitors welcome after 4 pm/Rm E761 at Memorial Hermann Hospital.
- ✚ **Nell Love**/was diagnosed with COVID-19.
- ✚ **Lana Webster**/biopsy rescheduled for January 14.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Janet Foreman, Valerie Lowry, Laurie Riggs, Gina Talbott.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Mary Collins, Steve Harding, Lacy Hunter.**
- ✚ Members battling cancer: **Bill Blumenshine, Tania Cantu, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Terri Lowry, Erica Lunn, Roger McDonald, Bob McDougal, Marsha Owens, Jeanne Riggs, Janice Tadlock.**
- ✚ Friends & family battling cancer: **Glenda Coyle, Lisa Geerman, Ella Kasinger, D'Ann Norwood, Erika Phillips.**

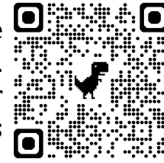
## Youth News

The **Youth Invasion** will be TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly at Whataburger on FM 1488.

**Youth Bible Study** will be this Tuesday, January 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Watrous Home.

There will be a **Junior High Devo** Sunday, January 19 following the evening assembly.

The **Youth Winter Retreat** sign up is now open! The retreat will be February 7-9 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 click/scan the QR code to sign up. Registration closes January 31.



Save the date! The **2025 Senior Banquet** will be May 3!

## Treehouse Kids

**Bible Builders Resumes** TONIGHT. 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.

**Sprouts Storytime** resumes Wednesday, January 22 at 10:00 a.m.

If your son is planning to read scripture or lead a song for our **5th Wednesday assembly** on January 29, please let Kevin Wilkerson know as soon as possible. Thank you!

The **Memory Verse Challenge** will be Sunay, January 26. Our January Bible Verse will be Genesis 9:13 " I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of My covenant between Me and the earth."



Be sure to check out the **January Newsletter** to stay updated and find more details on all upcoming events!

**Dorcas Bible Class** (for girls K- 6th grade) will be Saturday, February 8. Meet in the room A101 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. For more information, please see JaneAnn Fleming.

## Sympathy

Heartfelt condolences to Larry Abston at the loss of his mother, **Nancy Abston**, on Saturday, January 4. A celebration of Nancy's life was held in Little Rock, AR on January 11. You can read the obituary and find more information [here](#). Please keep Larry and the family in your prayers.

Deepest sympathy to Linda Merriman at the loss of her cousin, **David Jarratt**, on Saturday, January 4. Please keep Linda and the family in your prayers.

Heartfelt condolences to Janice Harding at the loss of her mother, **Bobbie Friedhofer**, on December 26. Please keep Janice and the family in your prayers.

## Expectant Families

Lindsey & Doug Peak

Whitney & Jeremiah White

**A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.**  
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of Personal Care Items: shampoo, liquid & bar soap, toothpaste, hygiene products, baby care items.

## This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Elder/Deacon Nominations Begin
	9:50 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Camp Blue Haven Meeting
	5:00 p.m.	Worship
		L2L Debate
		THK Memory Verse Snow Cone Party
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship
		TX Bible Bowl Practice
	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders Resumes
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Invasion—Whataburger on FM 1488
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball-Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball
Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast—Denny's on I-45
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class Resumes
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study—Watrous Home
Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery
		Basketball

## Upcoming Events

January 19	Junior High Devo
January 21	Men's Luncheon—Black Walnut Café, The Woodlands
January 22	Sign Up for 2024 Bible Readers' Banquet Due
	Quilting Group
	Sprouts Storytime Resumes
January 24-25	Men's Advance
January 26	THK Memory Verse Check In
	THK Rainbow Social
	Youth Invasion
January 27	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper
January 29	GriefShare Begins
	5th Wednesday—No Fellowship Meal
February 1	Men's Breakfast
	2024 Bible Readers' Banquet
February 2	Elder/Deacon Nomination Forms Due
	Congregational Singing
	Combined Devo
February 4-10	AIM Challenge Week
February 7-9	Youth Winter Retreat
February 8	Dorcas Class
February 15	Sweetheart Banquet

## Thank You

Thank you so very much for your continued fervent prayers, cards and gifts. Thank you for showering my parents Victor and Grace Martinez with your love and uplifting words.

God has been exceedingly Great! Glory to God, I completed my 4th chemo treatment successfully. I will be having a scan on Monday, January 6th, to confirm progress prior to surgery. I am scheduled for surgery on January 16th. I request your continued prayers for a clean scan, that the tumor may be completely dried up with no other findings and a successful surgery free of any complications with a speedy recovery. Also please pray for peace and calm for my children, my husband and family and that God may guide the surgical team and nurses during the procedure and post-operative care.

Ephesians 3:20-21

With Love In Christ, Erika Phillips

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)