



December 8, 2024

Volume XXXII—Issue 49

JESUS' FAMILY

On any given day, Jesus taught people the expectations of the Father. On one particular day, Luke tells us that when Jesus was teaching, his mother and brothers came looking for him.

“Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, ‘Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you.’ But he answered them, ‘My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it’” (Luke 8:19-21).

According to Mark, the reason Jesus' mother and brothers were looking to seize him was because they thought Jesus was out of his mind (Mark 3:21). I suppose since Jesus' brothers didn't believe in him (John 7:5) and perhaps Mary didn't quite understand Jesus' ministry and what he was trying to accomplish, they thought it was best for the family to find Jesus, take him home, and let him rest. Mary and Jesus' brothers find him but they are not able to get near him, so they relay a message to him hoping he will stop what he's doing and come see them. Instead, Jesus responds in a very different way. *“Jesus, your family is here and they want to talk you.”* *“My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.”* I wonder if Jesus' words spoken to Mary over a decade earlier rang in her ears, *“Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business”* (Luke 2:49)?

In this gentle and respectful rebuke of his family, Jesus wasn't attempting to sever ties with his earthly family, He was a man on a heavenly mission teaching about spiritual relationships. Spiritual relationships are just as binding as physical ones and would be the basis for the community he was building; the Church, the family of God! Jesus offers people an intimate family relationship with Him, and those who can have a relationship with Jesus are those who hear the word of God and live by it. They listen, they learn, they allow God to change them, and they put His word into practice. Obedience is the key to being part of God's family. *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”* (John 14:15).

Ultimately, Jesus was teaching that in His spiritual family, relationships are more important and longer lasting than those formed in your own physical family.

God loves you!
Shawn

Keep reading your Bible! You have 24 days to finish!

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 8, 2024

Elder of the Day Mark Freeman
Communion Leader Steven Talbott

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

“The Bible Quoting the Psalms Book 2” (Ages 18-25) by Andrew Isherwood
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.



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Elders

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Involvement Al Ardito

Networks/Special Ministries Frank Kerze
Serving Hearts/Hospital Visits Jeremy Haynes

Steve Baker
Mike Stevens

Sharing Kyle Gordley
Bradley Welborn

Reaching Out/Welcome Center Gavin Dao
Bryce Caldwell

Ushers

Homebound/Men's Ministry Robert Shock
Worship Eric Kirkland

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, under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, December 1, 2024

9:00 AM Bible Class	432
10:15 AM Worship	601 @ WOCC 214 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	194
Contribution	\$70,576.57

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

7:00 PM Bible Class	315
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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 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

Announcements

Those signed up to attend **Senior Saints: Les Misérables** will depart WOCC TODAY immediately following the morning assembly to eat lunch at Harris County Smokehouse (14243 Farm to Market 2920, Tomball, TX 77377). The play begins at 2:00 p.m. at Lone Star College Tomball, Performing Arts Center.

Men's Prayer Breakfast will be this Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 a.m. at Dosey Doe on Research Forest.

There will be a **Young Professionals Devo** on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Please bring a drink, entree, side, or sweet for a potluck dinner. We will eat together, share thoughts on Scripture, and sing. There will also be a "knick-knack gift exchange" - if you'd like to take part, bring a small, wrapped gift that is either something you own or something \$5 or less. Contact Andrew Isherwood or Karen Isherwood with any questions.

All Ladies are invited to attend our annual **Ladies Christmas Gift Exchange** on Friday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Bring a wrapped ornament or décor item, no more than \$15, and a holiday finger food to share.

There will be a **L2L Boys Song Leading Class** for those signed up to participate in song leading for L2L on Sunday, December 15 at 5:00 p.m. in room A101.

Everyone is invited to the **Cookies and Cocoa Sunday Social** on Sunday, December 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the FLC. We will decorate gingerbread men cookies, while also having a cookie swap where everyone will get to go home with a small container of a variety of holiday cookies. This event is open to the congregation. Please bring a tray of your favorite holiday cookies to share with others.

Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck will be Monday, December 16 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center.

Prayers

- ✚ **Roger McDonald**/malignant melanoma was found/additional testing will be Monday, December 9.
- ✚ **Peggy McKee**/has a compression fracture in lower back/experiencing pain/more medical treatment to come.
- ✚ **Ryan Bates**/former member/last drain pulled December 2 and expected to move to regular hospital room/no dialysis as of yet.
- ✚ **Erika Phillips**/next chemo treatment was Thursday, December 5/please pray for skilled nurses and doctors and for another successful treatment.
- ✚ **John Temple**/friend of Betty Kody/struggling with ascites.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Dennis Daulton, Valerie Lowry, Cleve McMillion, Laurie Riggs, Gina Talbott, Denise Tolbert, Betty Yovanovich.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Shannon & Gary Ditterline, Lacy Hunter, Mary Lou McClung, Debbie Newsom.**
- ✚ Members battling cancer: **Bill Blumenshine, Tania Cantu, Pharis Fowler, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Terri Lowry, Erica Lunn, Bob McDougal, Marsha Owens, Jeanne Riggs, Janice Tadlock.**
- ✚ Friends & family battling cancer: **David Bloh, Lisa Geerman, D'Ann Norwood, Erika Phillips, John Singletary, Sabrie Stamper.**

Youth News

There will be a **Youth Invasion** TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly at Mod Pizza (Woodlands Pkwy & Kuykendahl).

The next **Bible Study** will be this Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Watrous Home.

WOCC Youth have been extended an invitation by the Enterprise Boulevard Church of Christ to participate in their weekend **Youth Rally** on February 21-23, 2025. WOCC Youth deacons will need a RSVP by Sunday, December 15 (Extended Deadline) in order to facilitate planning. Find more information & RSVP at basicyouthministry.com.

We are thrilled to invite you to a **Youth Singing Event at Heritage Oaks** on December 21! We will be leaving promptly at 2:30 p.m. to ensure we arrive in time for the 3:00 p.m. singing. After the event, we'll make a fun stop for ice cream on our way back to WOCC.

Treehouse Kids

Sprouts Storytime will meet this Wednesday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m. Wear your PJs!

Dorcas Bible Class (for girls K- 6th grade) will meet Saturday, December 14 in the room A101 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. For more information, please see Jane-Ann Fleming

The **Treehouse Kids will be Caroling** and delivering candy cane treats to the residents of Worthington Manor in Conroe on Saturday, December 21 at 10:30 a.m. We will meet there inside the foyer area at 10:20 a.m. Parents are responsible for their child's transportation, and are asked to stay for the entirety of the event. If you would like to pick up your child's Caroling Songbook prior the event so your child can make sure they're familiar with the songs we will be singing, please pick up your songbook on December 17 from the Welcome Center. Please only take one songbook per child. Worthington Manor is home to several WOCC members such as the Malones and Mr. Howard Yates, and we are excited to visit with them. Please let Janna Wilkerson know if you are planning to attend.

Our **Memory Verse** for this month will be found in James 1:17. Our Memory Verse Check-In will take place on December 22.

Please click the QR code to access the **December Newsletter** and find more information about upcoming events.



There will be **NO Bible Builders** for the remainder of the year. We will resume in January.

Thank you

I just wanted to say thank you for the college bag! It really means so much to be loved and known and supported by everyone!

Elle Montandon

It is so wonderful to have such an awesome church family that we can rely on. Thank you so much for the cards, texts, phone call, meals, and most importantly prayers. It is so comforting to know I have such a large church family on my side.

John & Denise Tolbert

This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Senior Saints—Les Misérables @ Lone Star
	5:00 p.m.	L2L Debate Prep
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship TX Bible Bowl Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Invasion—Mod Pizza (Woodlands Pkwy)
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball-Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball
Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast—Dosey Doe (Research Forest)
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study—Watrous Home
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Sprouts Storytime—Wear your PJs!
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery Basketball
Friday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies Christmas Gift Exchange
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Dorcas Class

Upcoming Events

December 15	Sign Up for Youth Rally Due L2L Boys Song Leading Class Sunday Social: Cookies & Cocoa
December 16	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper
December 17	Men's Luncheon
December 18	Quilting Group
December 21	Youth Service
December 22	Youth Invasion
December 23-27	Church Offices Closed
December 25	NO ACTIVITY @ WOCC
December 26	NO Celebrate Recovery
December 31	Youth Progressive Dinner
January 1	Church Offices Closed Combined Devo—No Children's Classes/No Meal
January 3	Senior Saints Progressive Dinner
January 4	Men's Breakfast Kylie McLeod & Caleb Myers Reception Youth Service
January 5	Congregational Singing High School Devo
January 9	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Whatley Home
January 12	Youth Invasion
January 14	Youth Bible Study—Watrous Home
January 19	Junior High Devo
January 24-25	Men's Advance

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 pasta sauce & canned fruit.

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