



February 4, 2024

Volume XXXII—Issue 5

### EPIC FAIL

Vincent Van Gogh's life was marked with failure. That sounds surprising, but throughout his entire career as an artist, we're told he only sold one painting, and he died penniless. He only gained acknowledgement as a painter after his death. Van Gogh's first job was as an art dealer. However, he wasn't successful and was fired. He then worked briefly as a schoolteacher in England. When that didn't work out, he started working in a bookstore back in the Netherlands. At a later stage, Van Gogh became devoutly religious and tried to pursue a life in the clergy. However, the church dismissed him because of his overly enthusiastic commitment to his faith. Later, Van Gogh decided to be an artist and produced over 900 paintings without any formal training. One of his most famous paintings, *Starry Night*, was painted in a psychiatric hospital. However, in his lifetime, Van Gogh made no money from painting. He was financially supported by his brother, Theo Van Gogh, for his entire life. Amazingly, today Van Gogh's fame is worldwide, and his paintings are sold for record-breaking sums in the most prestigious art auctions! In 2022, 132 years after his death, *Orchard with Cypresses* sold for a staggering \$117.2 million at Christie's New York. <https://www.itravelwithart.com/iconic-van-gogh-art/>

Life isn't a respecter of persons, Van Gogh or otherwise. Failure and disappointment are a cruel reality for all people. The Bible makes that clear and doesn't attempt to hide or gloss over human failure. Matter of fact, the Bible is very open and real about the failures of its most prominent characters like Adam and Eve, Abraham, David, Paul, and many more. There's a lot to learn from these examples we read about in the Bible and we hope to learn those lessons. Just like these Bible characters we will study, you've experienced your fair share of failure and disappointment. How did you handle it? Probably not as well as you could have. Thankfully, Jesus offers hope, restoration, and redemption. Our God can take our failures and disappointments and turn them into lessons for our good (Rom. 8:28-30). Over the next several weeks, we are going to look at examples of EPIC FAILURE in the Bible and the lessons we can learn that will help us mature in our faith.

On Sunday nights, we will begin a study of 1 Samuel. This book chronicles the end of the judges, Israel's transition from a theocracy to a monarchy, and records the anointing of the first two kings: Saul and David. 1 Samuel is named so for its central character, Samuel, and is a historical narrative that records some of the most well-known events of Biblical history. Our time on Sunday nights will not be a verse-by-verse study but a study of the key narratives found in the book. I don't know where you are in your Bible reading but you might like to skip ahead and read 1 Samuel.

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

February 4, 2024

**Elder of the Day** Butch Merriman

**Communion Leader** Felipe Solis Jr.

### 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
- “**Fruit 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.



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### Elders

Scott Blake  
Mac Brockman  
Mark Freeman

Butch Merriman  
Marty Miller  
Raymond Walker

### Staff

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

**Youth** Jordan Fontenot  
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**Children's Coordinator** Janna Wilkerson  
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**Office Manager** Karen Ardito  
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### Deacons

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

**Children's Programs** Richard Hyde  
**Education** Matt Fitzgerald  
Mike Arnold

**Family Life Center Fellowship** Chris Davis  
Tim Riggs

**Finance** Jeff Fleming  
**Foreign Missions** Paul Gidden  
Adam Fracht

**Information Technology Involvement** Al Ardito  
Frank Kerze

**Networks/Special Ministries** Jeremy Haynes  
**Serving Hearts/Hospital Visits** Steve Baker  
Mike Stevens

**Sharing** Kyle Gordley  
Bradley Welborn

**Reaching Out/Welcome Center** Gavin Dao  
Bryce Caldwell

**Ushers** Tony Bloom

**Homebound/Men's Ministry** Robert Shock

**Worship** Eric Kirkland  
Bill Malone  
Jordan Blake  
Brant Mathis  
Todd Watrous  
Daniel Fair  
Trent Tadlock

**Youth**

**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](http://woodlandoaks.org), under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

### Contacts:

#### Last Week's Attendance

##### Sunday, January 28, 2024

9:00 AM Bible Class	390
10:15 AM Worship	590 @ WOCC 226 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	249
Contribution	\$30,983.65

##### Wednesday, January 31, 2024

7:00 PM Bible Class	277
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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 January 31, 2023 are \$1,915,387 compared with a budgeted amount of \$1,687,180 produces a surplus of \$228,207.

### Notes

## Announcements

Congratulations to **James Dillard** who was baptized Friday, January 26. Welcome to the family James!

Please welcome our AIM team this week as they serve our congregation as part of **AIM Challenge Week**. This team will be heading to Monrovia, Liberia for their mission field. You will definitely want to get to know this fantastic group of young men and ladies: Hunter Baird, Malachi Hindman, Charlie Moore, Madelyn Pirkle!

VBS will be here before we know it, and we need your help in order to make it a success! Please consider signing up to help **Volunteer** for these special days in order to share God's love with our children. The **VBS Volunteer Informational Meeting** will take place TODAY from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in the Chapel Center. For more information, please contact: Jordan Fontenot, Janna Wilkerson, or Daniel Fair.



There will be a **Corporate Congregational Meeting** TONIGHT. The meeting will begin at 6:50 p.m. following the conclusion of our evening assembly. Among the topics for discussion will be the 2024 budget, Missions, and Lightpost.

**Men's Luncheon** will be this Tuesday, February 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Lupe Tortilla.

If you have wondered what **Celebrate Recovery** is about, we invite you to attend a Bible class on Wednesday evenings starting February 7. This is a wonderful way to learn about Celebrate Recovery in a Bible class setting without having to devote an additional evening per week to meetings. This is a **Celebrate Recovery Step Study**, in which we work through a curriculum in striving to trust God on a deeper level and perhaps unlock answers to struggles in our lives. Please sign up in the foyer at the Celebrate Recovery table TODAY.

The **Church Office will be Closed** Friday, February 9.

The **Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck** will be Monday, February 12 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and join us in the Chapel Center.

**Sweetheart Banquet!!!** Calling all sweethearts 65 years or older whether single or not, to sign up to be served a fine luncheon by the sweethearts of our Youth Group. Younger spouses are absolutely welcome to join too. The sign up list is in the Worship Foyer near the name tag board wall. The banquet will be Saturday, February 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Any questions, please contact Todd Watrous.

Please review and update your **Involvement** selections in Lightpost as some categories have been updated. This will be a huge help to our deacons!

## Prayers

- ✚ **Darren Brooks**/was taken to ER Tuesday, January 30 and is at MD Anderson Hospital Downtown/Please keep Darren Brooks.
- ✚ **Ingrid Quigley**/friend of Barbara Dickinson/diagnosed with cancer/please keep Ingrid in your prayers.
- ✚ **Gina Talbott**/released and at home/blood pressure still low/will have follow up testing/please continue to pray for Gina.
- ✚ **Debi Hix**/abdominal surgery scheduled for February 5/please keep her in prayers.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Dennis Daulton, Skip Foreman, Jeri French, Jettie Huff, Peggy Kirby, Eric Kirkland, Marty Miller, Jeanette Malone, Laurie Mangham, Cherene McDonald, Laurie Riggs, Robert Shock, Don Southall, Gina Talbott.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Dean "Jr" Guyton, Glenn Talbott.**
- ✚ 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, Dorcas Dillard, Paul Hendrickson, Phil Martinez, Paul Melton, Christal Ortiz, Rose Talbott.**

## Youth News

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

The next **Youth Girls Dinner Devo** will be TOMORROW, February 5 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Montandon home. Please RSVP to Elise Fair or Emma Montandon.

Those who signed up for the **Youth Winter Retreat** meet at the Chapel Center for a pizza dinner at 4:30 p.m. this Friday, February 9. At this time we will have check in, eat, and load the vans. The vans will leave WOCC at 5:45 p.m. and will return Sunday, February 11 at around 3:30 p.m. Please bring money for a meal on the way back. Registration is now closed. Contact Jordan Fontenot, Brant Mathis, for late registration or more information.

If you are interested in volunteering to help serve at the **Sweetheart Banquet** on Saturday, February 17, please sign up in the foyer.

For those able to volunteer for this year's **VBS**, May 29-31, please sign up by scanning the QR code.



## Treehouse Kids

**Bible Builders:** Children ages 2 to 5 will be dismissed at the Sunday evening assembly to go "through the Bible in a year" in room A109.

**Sprouts Storytime** will meet at 11:00 a.m. this week, Wednesday February 7, in room A109. Join us for a story, craft/activity, songs, and learning more about how God loves us, all while building friendships that will last for years to come!

The annual **WOCC Daddy Daughter Date Night** is right around the corner on Friday, February 23 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.! The fun will include dinner, BINGO, activities, and horse drawn carriage rides. We need a firm RSVP by this Wednesday, February 7. Please sign you and your daughter(s) by scanning the QR code.



The **3rd-6th Grade Boys Dodgeball and Devos** will take place on Tuesday, February 13 from 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Please RSVP and give \$7 to Kevin or Janna Wilkerson by February 11 to cover dinner cost for your child.

**February Memory Verse Challenge** Check-In day will be after Bible class on Sunday, February 25 by the Memory Verse Posters across from the Welcome Center. Our verse of the month is Matthew 22:37 " You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

The **Treehouse Kids "Sweets and Stones" Service Project and Social** will take place from 5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25. We will be painting stones for our WOCC butterfly garden service project. Please bring a tray of your favorite sweet treat to share.

The next **Dorcas Class** (for girls K- 6th grade) will be Saturday, March 2. Meet in room A101 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. For more information, please see Jane-Ann Fleming .

Check out our **February Newsletter** to get the scoop on this month's events for our Children's Ministry!



## 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.

## This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	AIM Challenge Week Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	5:00 p.m.	VBS Volunteer Planning Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship—Congregational Singing Bible Bowl Practice Bible Builders
	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders
	6:50 p.m.	Corporate Congregational Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Combined Youth Devo
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Girls Dinner Devo –Montandon Home
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	11:30 a.m.	Men's Luncheon—Lupe Tortilla
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group
	11:00 a.m.	Sprouts Storytime Resumes
	4:00 p.m.	GriefShare
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Classes
Thursday	6:15 a.m.	CR Step Study Class Begins
	10:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	7:00 p.m.	Community Bible Class Celebrate Recovery Basketball
Friday		Church Office Closed
	5:45 p.m.	Depart for Youth Winter Retreat

## Upcoming Events

February 11	Sign Up for TX Bible Bowl Due
February 12	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck
February 13	3rd—6th Grade Boys Devo & Dodgeball Youth Bible Study
February 17	Sweetheart Banquet
February 19	Church Offices Closed
February 23	THK Daddy Daughter Date Night
February 23-25	Evangelism Conference—Preston CoC
February 24	Youth SNL Devo
February 25	February Memory Verse Challenge Sunday Social/Service Project Youth Invasion
March 2	Men's Breakfast Dorcas Class Youth Service
March 3	Spring Quarter Begins Congregational Singing High School Devo
March 10	Daylight Savings Begins Sunny Glen Donations Due Youth Invasion
March 16	Elevate Hike Day
March 17	Junior High Devo
March 18	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck
March 21	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Trisha Hyde's Home

## Expectant Families

Janna & Kevin Wilkerson  
Meredith & Bryce Caldwell

**A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.**  
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of Canned Meats, Hamburger, Tuna Helper, Macaroni & Cheese  
**Sunny Glen Children's Home:** Baby Wipes, Pamper Pull Ups Size 6, Comet Cleaner, Pinto Beans

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)