



*Woodsfield Church of Christ*  
860 Lewisville Road  
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793  
Phone: 740.472.5321

[www.woodsfieldchurchofchrist.org](http://www.woodsfieldchurchofchrist.org)  
"Serving others as we serve Jesus."

**Scott McFarland**  
Minister

**Keith Jones**  
Family Life Minister

**Sunday**

Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.  
Worship.....10:00 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Class.....7:00 p.m.

Sunday Evening Bible Class....6:00 p.m.

Office Hours – Sherry Lallathin – Mon – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Elders**

**Jeff Bettinger**  
**Bob Burrow**  
**Keith Jones**  
**Duane Landefeld**

**Deacons**

**Ronnie Beardmore**  
**Eric Carothers**  
**Dan Christman**  
**Shawn Howell**

**Brent McConnell**  
**Jeff Seidler**  
**Howard Spengler**  
**Jesse Stalder**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Greg Ferrell (Spike Ferrell's son, Spike is a friend of Julie Huffman); Harold Lallathin neck surgery recovery; Eleanor Lallathin hip replacement surgery Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>; Tiffany Comstock (Gary & Bev Jones's daughter), epileptic seizures; Sandy Resecker; widows and widowers of the congregation.

**Those battling cancer** – Don Bunting; Parker Miley, leukemia; Sue Hooper, colon cancer; Lisa Jones (stage 3 lung cancer); Logann Kehrer (a friend of Bob Burrow's co-worker), diagnosed with terminal cancer; Marion Gorrell, stage 4 cancer (former co-worker of Carla Rose); Andy Copley; Patty Norris (friend of Keith Coss); Donna Hughes (friend of Naomi Ault); Tammy Carter (friend of John Ackerman); Nina Christman; Misty Robinson, friend of Grace Miles.

\* **Please update the office of any changes to those on the prayer list.** We update the prayer list periodically, removing names if we have not received recent updates on that person.

**2024 Budget Meeting-**

The 2024 Budget meeting for Elders and Deacons will be held Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the main auditorium.



The Woodsfield church of Christ youth will be competing in the Miami Valley Bible Bowl, March 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in Marion, Ohio. The team consists of Kiernan Bates, Jaren Friday, Willow Bates and Riley Britton. We have been studying the book of Exodus, chapters 1-20 on Sunday evenings.

Please encourage these youth for their yearning to learn God's word and their dedication.

As a practice round, the teens and their teachers will have a competition round during Sunday evening services, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Please attend and support our youth.

## Married For Holiness

A few weeks ago, I introduced our “Living as You Are Called” series with a sermon questioning the purpose of marriage and why people get married. Most people get married with the idea that it will or should make them happy, then become disappointed when this isn’t the immediate result. I argued that marriage is actually designed to make us holy—to be made more in the image of God than we were before. This morning, we’ll continue that thought and look at the covenant of marriage. When we get married, we stand in front of a bunch of people and say a lot of seemingly ritualistic, traditional words: the vows, the ring ceremony, the “I dos.” All of these, while steeped in tradition, are extremely purposeful. There is an incredible amount of meaning behind the words being said—they aren’t just for pageantry! Covenants like marriage ultimately reflect the kind of agreement God made with His people in the Bible. I found the below explanation of a covenant helpful. Modern society often misunderstands the ideas behind covenant.

*In modern times we define a host of relations by contracts. These are usually for goods or services and for hard cash. The contract, formal or informal, helps to specify failure in these relationships. The Lord did not establish a contract with Israel or with the church. He created a covenant. There is a difference. Contracts are broken when one of the parties fails to keep his promise. If, let us say, a patient fails to keep an appointment with a doctor, the doctor is not obligated to call the house and inquire, "Where were you? Why didn't you show up for your appointment?" He simply goes on to his next patient and has his appointment secretary take note of the patient who failed to keep the appointment. The patient may find it harder the next time to see the doctor. He broke an informal contract. According to the Bible, however, the Lord asks: "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!" (Isaiah 49:15) The Bible indicates the covenant is more like the ties of a parent to her child than it is a doctor's appointment. If a child fails to show up for dinner, the parent's obligation, unlike the doctor's, isn't canceled. The parent finds out where the child is and makes sure he's cared for. One member's failure does not destroy the relationship. A covenant puts no conditions on faithfulness. It is the unconditional commitment to love and serve. —Bruce Shelley (<https://www.sermonillustrations.com/a-z/c/covenant.htm>)*

Join us this morning as we look at the marriage covenant, and how our modern misunderstanding of covenant is part of our misunderstanding of the divine intention for marriage!

Scott McFarland

January 28, 2024

**OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

January 21, 2024

Sunday Morning Bible Classes 66  
Attendance at the building 120

Sunday morning Live feed views 30  
Post-Sunday sermon online views 43

Bible Hour Attendance 26  
Sunday night Bible Class 49

J.O.Y. Bus Attendance  
1 Rider 2 Workers

Wednesday night Bible Class 37

Budget \$ 5,100

Contribution \$ 3,593



**Office Hour Updates**

Keith will be out of the office February 5<sup>th</sup> through February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Offices will be closed Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents Day.

Scott will be out of the office Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. He will also be out of the pulpit Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> to fulfill his National Guard requirements.