

**Loving God** (reprint)

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30).*

It's one thing to say you love God, but try loving God all day long. This can be challenging when the struggles of life hit. But God wants us to love Him even in the difficult moments. To love God with all of one's being (heart, soul, mind, and strength) means to give God all that we are and to bask in His loving presence. We love because we have been loved.

Jesus first says to love God with all of your "heart." The "heart" is the center of one's affections. What is it in life that motivates you? What is it that gives you a reason for getting up in the morning? It might be your friend, child, a job, or your spouse. Whatever it is, offer these to God. Don't allow these affections to dominate over God, for in so doing, they become idols of your heart. Rather, surrender these to the loving care of God so you can better love others and serve them.

Jesus then says to love God with all your "soul." The "soul" is the center of your spirituality. God wants the core of your life. What kind of time are you communing with God in prayer, Bible study, quiet time of reflection, or serving others? Offer your soul to God.

Next, Jesus says to love God with all your "mind." The "mind" is the center of our rationality. Most of us need things to make sense. Logic and understanding is important. Consider all the different functions of the brain, both the voluntary and involuntary functions that keep us alive (various systems of the body) and growing (intelligence and wisdom). Give all that you will think about today to God.

Finally, Jesus says to love God with all your "strength." Scot McKnight says that "the word strength refers to our whole being, our strength and our might and our wealth and all our resources" (*40 Days Living the Jesus Creed*, 10). This means to love God with everything! Loving God is offering the gift of us. We truly already belong to God, for He made us. But we get to offer ourselves back to Him in order to give Him all the glory He deserves.

As a young child, I obeyed my parents due to my fear and respect of them as being in authority over my life. I knew they loved me by their actions. If I disobeyed, I suffered the consequences. As I got older, my obedience was motivated by freedoms. As I handled more responsibility, I was given more freedom. But now as a grown man, my love for my parents is not based out of fear or reward, but out of sheer appreciation and gratefulness for what they have done for me. The same should be for God. We love because He first loved.

# Arlington Church of Christ



***Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another***

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Knoxville, TN 37917  
865-523-1764

e-mail: [office@acoc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@acoc.comcastbiz.net)  
Website: [www.arlingtonchurchofchrist.org](http://www.arlingtonchurchofchrist.org)

 Find us on: **facebook.** Arlington Friends  
Arlington Church of Christ Youth Group

**Welcome**

We pray you will be encouraged and uplifted  
as we join together in worship.

**Guest Information**

- There is a **staffed nursery** available for children under age 2. There is also a **parent/child training room** at the rear of the auditorium.
- An optional **children's worship** is available for ages 3 to 8 during morning worship. Children will be dismissed before the sermon. Please pick up your child after worship
- If you are visiting, **please complete a visitor card** so we have a record of your attendance.

**Weekly Meeting Times**

**Sundays:**  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

**Wednesdays:**  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**Weekly Statistics**

	weekly budget	\$4,062
May 13	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>
	154	\$2,889

## Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and  
inform the Family of God  
Sunday, May 20, 2018

**Elders:** Mark Brackney Ph: 622-0376  
Leland Price Ph: 925-4424  
Danny Rider Ph: 705-9713  
Wayne Shannon Ph: 742-0517  
Gregg Summers Ph: 223-4515  
David Tiller Ph: 607-1945

**Deacons:** Bud Norris - *Worship Participants*  
Charles Owens - *Bldg & Grounds/Security/Treasurer*  
Keith Tatum - *Education/Picture Board/Family Camp*  
Ronnie Weldon - *Attendance/Communion Prep/Bldg*

**Minister:** Mark Brackney Ph: 523-1764

**Secretaries:** Becky Johnson Jennifer Tatum

**Missionaries:** Tom & Angie Langley - WEI  
Tommy Drinnen - Hope Central

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers:** Betty Weaver; Sharon Galbreath and family; Danny Rider; Ben Cavin; John Burka; Roger Mink; Terry Trent; Casey Owens; Tom & Anita Drinnen; Ben and Heather Ream; Mark & Sammie French; Garry & Karla Loftis.

**Friends and Loved ones:** David Giles' mother recovering from hip surgery; Hoyt Box's friend, Bill Hadder; Laura Owens' dad; Carolyn Stark's brother-in-law, Gary McEwan, in kidney failure; Gordon Norman; Michael Maddox; Shane Mink; Ronnie Weldon's brother-in-law; Edith Weldon's cousin; Missy Essary; Deb & Rob Colones; Greg & Lisa Dyer; Heather Ream's mother, Linda; Janie Johnson's mom; Jason McDougal's mother & Tina's brother; Olivia Britt; Angie Langley's brother; David Hunter; Sheila Riggs co-worker, Amy Smith; Tracey Hart, Betty Weaver's daughter; Brad Owens undergoing tests.

**Shut-ins:** Lynda Elliott; Edna Hullender; Peggy Mehlhorn; Kathryn Norman; Jessie Rutherford; Dan Trent.

**Missionaries:** Tom & Angie Langley; Tommy Drinnen.

## Coming Soon

- Please take a moment to **pick up a card or two** to mail this week from the Card Ministry table.
- **Tonight's Connection Sunday**, is cancelled. We will not have services at the building this evening.
- **Fourth Sunday Fellowship**, May 27, following morning worship. Please bring food to share. Our visitors are invited to join us for lunch.
- **YPYF small group**, Sunday, June 3, 5 p.m. We are studying I Corinthians 5. We will meet in the misfits classroom.
- **Knoxville work camp**, Sunday night through Thursday night, June 3-7. See Mark for details.
- **YPYF hike** up Mount Leconte, Saturday, June 16. More details to come.



### Teenage Christian Camp

We have received our first information for the 2018 edition of Teenage Christian Camp (TCC). The application process is all on-line this year so they will not be mailing paper applications as in past years. There are six weeks of camp this year for all ages. And you can register and pay in advance to receive a discount on the weekly fee. See the teen board for additional information and/or go to [www.teenagechristiancamp.org](http://www.teenagechristiancamp.org) for details.

## Family News

**Sermon Topics Today**  
**Sunday Morning:**  
*Guest Speaker - Grant Standefer*

**Sunday Night:**  
*Connection Sunday cancelled*  
*No evening services*

### SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

**Serve @ Table:**  
Jedidiah Cavin, Bruce McQuaig  
Jonathan Brackney, Joshua Brackney  
Kevin Gillispie, John David Potter

**Opening Prayer:** Carroll Coomer  
**Preside at Table:** Keith Tatum  
**Greeters:** Mark & Sammie French  
**Nursery:** Lori Tiller & Sara Sykes  
**Security:** B Gilliam & J Hoff

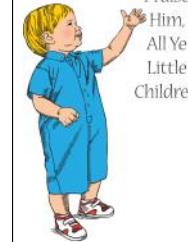


### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 21 Camille Rider  
May 22 Kim Jones  
May 24 Ronnie Weldon  
May 24 Andrew James  
May 25 Laura Owens  
May 26 Tom Drinnen  
May 27 Dave Dewitt

Happy Birthday!!

## Family Matters



Praise  
Him,  
All Ye  
Little  
Children

### Optional children's worship...

is available for ages  
3 to 8 during morning  
worship. Children will be  
dismissed before  
the sermon.

Please pick up your child  
after worship.

### Caring Cards Ministry

The Caring Cards Ministry provides  
cards for our sick and shut-ins, as well  
as friends and family members.  
Please see the information on the  
table in the hallway

leading to the office for additional  
information. Your participation is  
needed to send cards as  
well as to  
provide information  
regarding those who would  
benefit from  
receiving cards.

Please talk to  
John or Barbara Hoff  
for more details.



Caring Cards