

“Dealing with Conflict”

As much as you might hate conflict, there are times you can't ignore it or pretend it doesn't exist. When you read Acts 15, you discover the first major conflict and subsequent theological debate taking place in the history of the

Christian church. This first division would have far-reaching consequences if not solved. What we find is really a debate between the church in Jerusalem and the church in Antioch. The church in Antioch was growing and growing with more and more Gentiles coming into their fold. Paul and Barnabas had just returned from their missionary trip where several of the congregations were made up of primarily Gentile believers. In these churches and in Antioch, these Gentiles were baptized, but not circumcised, just like “God-fearers” in the synagogues had been allowed to worship with the Jews without being circumcised. If a Gentile man wished to fully convert and become a devout Jew, he was required to be circumcised. It was an outward and visible sign of the covenant between God and Abraham's descendants (Genesis 17:11, 14).

Some disciples travelled from Jerusalem to Antioch to express their concerns. They were likely Pharisees who believed that Jesus was the Messiah. Once becoming believers, they did not stop seeing themselves as Pharisees or Jews. Keep in mind that in the first few years of Christianity, most of the followers of Jesus were Jews. Christianity was actually seen as a sect within Judaism. Jewish believers continued to worship at the synagogue, go to the temple, and follow the Law and the oral traditions of Judaism. These disciples wanted to require the Gentile converts to be circumcised and follow the Law.

Paul countered these men by pointing out how Christ initiated a new covenant between God and humanity. This agreement was not just with the Jews, like the Old Covenant, but the Gentiles as well. This new covenant was not based on the Law of Moses, but on Jesus Christ. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God was offering salvation as a gift by his grace, a gift to be accepted by faith, not earned by obedience to the Law of Moses. Once accepted, the believer was to “lead a life worthy of the calling” (Ephesians 4:1). This was a life led by the Spirit where love for God and neighbor was lived out. For Paul, the Mosaic covenant was no longer in force or binding upon either Jew or Gentile (Romans 3:21-22). This is not to say that there was nothing no longer good or applicable about the law. Much of it points to the kind of life God wants his people to live. But there were parts of the law no longer relevant. There was no longer a barrier between Jew and Gentile. They could be one in Christ Jesus.

As you can imagine, there was a theological rift. Due to this, you have the first major church council taking place in Jerusalem. After all the debate James, the Lord's brother and leader of the council, decided that the Law of Moses and the requirement for circumcision were no longer binding upon the Gentile believers. The church accepted James' reasoning and set aside a major portion of the written Law which brought peace and confirmed Paul's authority to preach the good news to the Gentiles. Something that is quite clear about this

council is the importance to deal with differences and conflict. Conflict is a way of life and we must be able to come together in love with God's help to resolve differences.

Mark

Arlington Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another

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Knoxville, TN 37917
865-523-1764

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Website: www.arlingtonchurchofchrist.org



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
Sept 2	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>
	162	\$5,816

Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and
inform the Family of God

Sunday, September 9, 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: Rick Johnson; Rick Case; Ben Cavin; Carolyn Starks; Danny Davis; Danny Rider; Frances Maples; Roger Mink; Terry Trent; Casey Owens; Tom & Anita Drinnen.

Friends and Loved ones: Jason McDougal's dad, John; Sara Sykes' brother, Ted Fields; Mark's dad, Jerry Brackney; Laura Owens' dad; Gordon Norman; Michael Maddox; Shane Mink; Linda Graybeal; Edith Weldon's neighbor, Paul Phelps; Missy Essary; Deb & Rob Colones; Greg & Lisa Dyer; Faith Tindell; Heather Ream's mom, Linda; Janie Johnson's mom; David Hunter; Amy Smith; Brad Owens; Alice Bowen; Joyce Sanders' dad; Cheryl Cassidy having back issues; Helen Monroe's sister-in-law, Marlene Turner, with two broken ankles; Ada Shannon's friends, Gene and Linda Morris; Allison Thomas' friend Kara Casteel and her family; John Caswell; the Wurtheisers.

Shut-ins: Rosaline Davis; Lynda Elliott; Edna Hullender, at Tennova NHC; 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 Caring Cards Ministry table.
- **Small groups**, tonight at 6 p.m.
- **Hope Central Just Lead**, tomorrow afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30.
- **Senior Servants** will meet for Bible study and lunch, this Tuesday, Sept. 11, 11 a.m.
- **Church camping trip**, in Cosby, TN Sept. 14-16. See Jason McDougal for details.
- We will be **hosting a tailgate party** at the Christian Student Center on the campus of UT before the game with UTEP, Sat. Sept. 15. Please see Keith Tatum if you can help.
- **Prison Ministry Conference** at Hardin Valley Church of Christ on Saturday, September 15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. See board for more details.
- **Connection night**, Sun., Sept. 16, 5 p.m. We will get to know three more of our Arlington members. Please bring finger foods to share.
- **Radiant Girls Conference**, Sat., Sept. 29, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. All girls from 6th to 12th grade, Hardin Valley Church, register online at: radiantconferenceknox.com Cost is \$25 for early registration.
- Mark you calendars for **Arlington Family Camp** at Hillbrook on Oct. 5th and 6th. More details to follow.



Family News

**Sermon Topics Today
Sunday Morning:**
The Jerusalem Council

Sunday Night:
Small Groups 6 pm

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

Serve @ Table:

Caleb Brackney, Pat Ramsey
Joe Croteau, David Giles, Bob DeWitt
Jonathan Cavin, Jedidiah Cavin

Opening Prayer: Ray Buttrey
Preside at Table: Casey Owens
Greeters: B Pruet & D Chapman
Nursery: Niki & Lexi Price
Security: R Weldon & P Ramsey

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sept 15 Olivia Price

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