

“Perseverance”

There are people I have encountered in my life who have amazing perseverance. It seems like no matter what obstacle has been placed before them, they are not fazed. They figure out a way to solve the problem, or accept the failure and move on. I love this important character trait. As I have been looking at the life of the apostle Paul, I can't help but notice this character trait in his life. Paul seemed unfazed by the many detours and obstacles that were put before him in taking the good news of Jesus to the Roman world. We find several examples of this taking place on his first missionary trip to the region of Galatia in present day Turkey, where Paul and Barnabas went to a series of churches with the gospel: Pisidia Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe.

At his first stop in Pisidia Antioch, many people were excited to hear Paul preach. What we find here is the longest recorded sermon from Paul that we have in the New Testament. This made the Jewish leaders jealous and nervous. They stayed and preached as long as they could before being expelled from the region (Acts 13:50), yet they were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit despite the attempts to dampen their spirits.

The next stop on their journey, around seventy-five miles away by way of the crowd, was Iconium. They preached the gospel here until threats of personal harm came their way, which took them twenty miles further to Lystra. While there, we learn that Paul saw a man who was crippled from birth and Paul told the man to stand up on his feet (Acts 14:8-18). The man stood and began to walk. The people were shocked and believed the gods had come to visit them. The priest at the temple of Zeus brought animals to be sacrificed to Paul and Barnabas, but they were mortified at the thought because they were mere men.

Paul goes on to make an amazing speech that foreshadows a similar one Paul would make in Athens on his second missionary journey. Paul tells them the living God was the one who had made the earth and all that was in it.

All was going good until some rabble-rousers from Antioch and Iconium arrived to win the crowds over. Paul, who earlier had been hailed as a god is now being stoned to death. After his apparent death, he is dragged outside the city walls. Here we see some irony. Paul's conversion began after giving approval for the stoning death of Stephen. Now it looks like his life met the same end as that of Stephen. The new disciples gather around Paul as they wept and prayed. Suddenly, his lifeless body came to life and he sat up. What relief and joy. What Paul does next was amazing. “He got up and went into the city” (Acts 14:20). Paul was courageous and persistent. The next day Paul and Barnabas left the city and travel sixty-five miles to the east to the city of Derbe. Luke simply says of their time there that they “proclaimed the good news to that city and had made many disciples” (Acts 14:21). We don't know how long they were in Derbe. As they left Derbe, instead of leaving the region, they went back to the towns from whence they had just preached the gospel. They went back to places where they were persecuted and asked to leave – Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. Why

did they return? To strengthen and encourage the new disciples to remain true to the faith and to appoint elders. What an example of perseverance.

Mark

Arlington Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another

2206 Tecoma Drive
Knoxville, TN 37917
865-523-1764

e-mail: office@acoc.comcastbiz.net
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
Aug 26	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>
	160	\$3,825

Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and
inform the Family of God

Sunday, September 2, 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; John Burka; Roger Mink; Terry Trent; Casey Owens; Tom & Anita Drinnen; Bobbie Cole.

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 Card Ministry table.
- **No YPYF** small group tonight.
- **No Hope Central** tomorrow due to Labor Day.
- **Small groups**, Sun., Sept. 9, 6 p.m.
- **Senior Servants** will meet for Bible study and lunch, 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:

*Paul's First Missionary Journey
Part Two*

Sunday Night:

No Services Tonight

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

Serve @ Table:

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

Opening Prayer:

Eli Griffin

Preside at Table:

Ben Ream

Greeters:

John & Laura Burka

Nursery:

B Borg & S Bivens

Security:

B DeWitt & B Pruett



**BIRTHDAYS
THIS WEEK**

Sept 4 Roseline Davis
Sept 5 Lydia Yarborough
Sept 7 Gabriel Noe



**Happy
Birthday!!**



Family Matters

**New
to Our
Family**

We rejoice as **Laurie Duncan** has joined the family here at Arlington. Please welcome Laurie and add her information to your directory.

1403 Sutters Mill Lane
Knoxville, TN 37909
Phone: 423-208-1121
Birthday May 6



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.

