



“From the Garden to the Cross”

Christmas did not begin in the New Testament with the birth of Christ. We actually get its first glimpse back in the Garden of Eden. God told Adam and Eve they could eat anything in the garden and then added: “but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die” (Gen 2:17).

At this point, there were not ten commandments; there was only one. But as history will show, we don't like to be told what to do. We want our way. This is where God's story introduces us to Satan: “Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” (Gen. 3:1).

Satan uses three tactics to convince Adam and Eve to disobey. First, Satan questions God – “did God really say.” Second, he denies God – “you won't die.” Third, he reverses what God says – “you won't die, but your eyes will be opened and you will be like God.” Adam and Eve both ate of the fruit from the tree and everything changed in the world: “Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves” (Gen. 3:7).

They hadn't realized they were naked up until now because they were living in complete innocence. They now experienced the feelings of guilt and shame for the first time. Their first reaction to sin was that they wanted to hide themselves (Gen. 3:8). We have all tried to hide from God. We know God knows it, but we try to hide it. Sin distances us from God. Sin also strains our relationships. God asked Adam and Eve: “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it” (Gen. 3:11-12). Adam blames Eve and then he blames God. Both Adam and Eve were equally guilty, but this starts a legacy of strained relationships. Relationships become damaged due to sin. Sin also brought physical and natural suffering. Childbirth was now painful (Gen. 3:16) and work that was designed to be fulfilling and refreshing will now be painful and frustrating (Gen. 3:17-18). Also, the world now begins to decay. Due to sin, we live in a fallen world. Yet in the midst of the curse, we are given a glimmer of hope.

God has a curse for Satan (Gen. 3:15). There will be a descendant of Adam and Eve someday who will deal a fatal blow to Satan. Satan will bruise Jesus' heel on the cross of Calvary, but make no mistake, Jesus will crush the head of Satan when he rises from the dead. Gen. 3:15 is the first declaration of the gospel. In the midst of sin in the garden, we get a glimpse of the Christmas story. She [Mary] will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:20-21). There is symbolic foreshadowing next when God kills the first animal and covers Adam and Eve with its skin (Gen. 3:21). God is saying: man can't pay for his own sin. Only God can do this. “... without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins” (Hebrews 9:22). Jesus will one day restore our brokenness. One day Satan will be crushed for good and the power of sin will be over.

Mark

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Arlington Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another

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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
Nov. 25	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>

Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and
inform the Family of God

Sunday, December 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

Deacons: Jay Estes - *Helping Hands Ministry*
Jason McDougal - *YPYF/Vacation Bible School*
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

Our sympathy is extended to... Marcia Thornton and Michael Chumas as they mourn the death of their father, John Chumas.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers: Diana Yarborough recovering from surgery; Ben Cavin; Rick Case; Ronnie Weldon; Carolyn Starks; Danny Davis; Danny Rider; Roger Mink; Terry Trent; Tom & Anita Drinnen; Clovis Taylor; Jerry Fittro.

Friends and Loved ones: Jerry Tallman; Danny Davis' grandson, John Kazewell; Marge Percell's sister, Carolyn; Ted Fields; Jerry Brackney; Gordon Norman; Michael Maddox; Lisa Potter's sister, Radha Smith; Linda Graybeal; Edith Weldon's neighbor, Paul Phelps; Missy Essary; Deb & Rob Colones; Faith Tindell; Heather Ream's mom, Linda; Janie Johnson's mother; David Hunter; Brad Owens; Joyce Sanders' dad; the Werkheisers; Mark's friend, Troy Butler; Helen Monroe's brother, Shorty Nipper; Jalen Green; David Price's boss, Galen Gray.

Shut-ins: Rosaline Davis; Lynda Elliott; Peggy Mehlhorn; Kathryn Norman; Jessie Rutherford; Dan Trent.

Missionaries: Tom & Angie Langley; Tommy Drinnen.

Coming Soon

- **Hope Church**, this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. They meet at the Cansler YMCA.
- **YPYF small group**, today at 5 p.m.
- **Hope Central - Just Lead**, tomorrow afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- **Elders/Deacons meeting**, this Tues., Dec. 4, 6 p.m.
- **Ladies prayer group** this Thurs, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Christmas banquet** this Sat., Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Wear your best Christmas attire and bring a covered dish to share.
- **Present Hope**, Sun., Dec. 9, 2 p.m. Parents of our Hope kids will come & Christmas shop for them. Children will also get to shop for their parents. This event is hosted at our building.
- **Small groups**, Sun., Dec. 9, 6 p.m.
- **Senior Servants** will prepare and deliver Christmas baskets, Tues, Dec 11 They will meet at Chick Fil A at 9 a.m. then to the building to prepare baskets
- **Christmas caroling** at Hillcrest Nursing Center, Thurs., Dec. 13, at 6 p.m.
- **Women's brunch and devo** at the Tiller's home, Sat., Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. Bring your favorite brunch dish. See Lori Tiller for details. All of our ladies are invited.
- **Connection Night** Sun., Dec 16 5 pm
- **Men meet at Shoney's** for breakfast Thurs., Dec. 20, 8:30 a.m.
- **Joe Croteau and Christina Stepien wedding**, Sat., Dec. 29, 2 p.m.



Family News

Sermon Topics Today
Sunday Morning:
Christmas Lesson One
"From the Garden to the Cross"
Sunday Night:
NO Services This Evening

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

Serve @ Table:

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

Opening Prayer: Eli Griffin

Preside at Table: Jay Estes

Greeters: Tim & Paige Mallicoat

Nursery: Cathy & Meredith Norris

Security: R Riggs & B Campbell

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAYS
THIS WEEK

Dec 2 Haylee Owens
Dec 7 Penny Snowden



Happy
Birthday!!



Family Matters


Holiday Schedule

Arlington Christmas Banquet

Saturday, Dec 8, 6 p.m.

Wear your best Christmas attire and
bring your favorite covered dish

Present Hope

Sunday, Dec. 9, 2:00 p.m.

At ACOC Volunteers needed
See Tommy Drinnen for details

Senior Servants prepare and deliver Christmas baskets

Tues., Dec. 11

Meet at Chick Fil A at 9:00 a.m.

Christmas Caroling at Hillcrest
Nursing Center, Thurs., Dec. 13, 6:00 p.m.

Teen/College & families Christmas Party

Sat., Dec. 22, 6 p.m. Bring a pair of
Christmas socks for a gift exchange

No Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal on Dec. 23

No Evening Services on:

Sunday, December 23

Sunday, December 30

Collecting socks and candy canes
to be distributed to KARM residents
Put them in the collection box in the lobby

