



“Dealing with Bitterness”

Looking at the life of Joseph affords many lessons we can gain about life. One of those lessons is how to deal with bitterness. If anyone had a right to be bitter, it was Joseph. But instead of hanging on to hurts from his past, Joseph released them to God which allowed him to love and serve his brothers who wronged him. So, Joseph, after spending thirteen years as a slave and prisoner beginning at age seventeen, is now in the palace and second in command of all Egypt. After one setback after another, we are told: “The Lord was with Joseph.” It may look like God was not with Joseph, but he was. It may not feel like God is with us, but he is. It may appear that struggles in life are indicative of the absence of God, but this is not the case. Joseph grew to recognize that in both the good and the bad, God was always with him. So, Joseph is put in charge of overseeing the storage and distribution of grain during the seven years of famine.

Joseph is now around the age of thirty-eight when he starts selling the grain during the first year of the famine. One day he recognized ten of his brothers who came from Canaan to Egypt at the request of their father, Jacob, to get food before they all starved. Joseph talks to them through an interpreter and they do not recognize Joseph. He learns of his younger brother Benjamin and comes up with a series of tests to find out if Benjamin is doing well and if they have learned from their past mistakes. Joseph accuses them of being spies and imprisons one of them, Simeon, until they return with their younger brother, Benjamin, to prove they are not spying. This causes the brothers to confess among themselves that what they did to Joseph twenty years earlier was coming back to haunt them (Genesis 42:21-22) and God was paying them back. Joseph, overhearing their words, is moved to the point of tears because he now knows that they realize their sin. For twenty-two years these brothers have been living in a prison of their own.

Eventually, they do bring Benjamin back with them to get more food and to gain the release of their brother who has been left behind. Jacob does not want them to go out of fear of what would become of Benjamin, but he relents. Judah takes responsibility for Benjamin. Upon returning, Joseph has been eagerly waiting their arrival. They bowed down to Joseph, one of four times, just like his dreams foretold at a young age. Simeon was released to them and a meal prepared for everyone. After the dinner, Joseph’s silver cup is placed in Benjamin’s grain sack, making it look like Benjamin was stealing from him. Benjamin’s sack was opened by the Egyptian authorities and Benjamin was arrested. One of the older brothers, Judah, said, “Don’t take Benjamin, take me. I offer my life in his place.” One of Judah’s ancestors would later do the same thing – Jesus.

Joseph finally revealed his identity. Joseph is not going to be defined by what was done to him, but by the purpose of what God had for his life (Genesis 50:20). He looks at his story through the lens of God’s redeeming work. His brothers intended to hurt Joseph, but God was writing a bigger story. Joseph never became bitter nor sought vengeance. Joseph had confidence in God’s plan for his life. Let us do the same when we encounter discouragement and obstacles.

Mark

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Arlington Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another

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Knoxville, TN 37917
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Website: www.arlingtonchurchofchrist.org



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
Feb. 24	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>
		\$1,609

Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and
inform the Family of God
Sunday, March 3, 2019

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



See our prayer request insert for the most current prayer list. Please contact the office for updates, changes, and/or deletions.

Please take a moment to pick up a card (or two) to mail this week from the **Caring Cards Ministry Table**



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



Coming Up...

- **Worship with Central Church of Christ**, today, 3:30 p.m. We will help assist with children's classes. 1944 Woodbine Ave., Knoxville, 37917.
- **YPYF Bible study**, today at 5 p.m.
- **Hope Central/Just Lead**, tomorrow from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- **Deacons/Elders meeting**, this Monday, March 4, 7 p.m.
- **Ladies Prayer group**, this Thurs., March 7, 6:30 p.m.
- **Daylight Savings time**, move your clock **forward** one hour Sunday, March 10, at midnight.
- **Home church**, Sun., March 10, 6 pm.
- **Senior Servants Bible study and lunch**, Tues., March 12, 11 a.m.
- **Ladies Brunch/Prayer Group**, Sat., March 16, 10:30 a.m.
- **Connection night**, Sun., March 17, 5 p.m. Bring finger foods to share.
- **Men's breakfast** at Shoney's, Thurs., March 21, at 8:30 a.m.
- **Fourth Sunday Fellowship**, March 24, after morning worship. Please bring extra food to share. All visitors are invited to join us for lunch and we will have the campus minister and several college students joining us from the UT Christian Student Center.
- **Celebration of the Arts**, Sunday, March 31, 5 p.m. Please bring finger foods to share afterwards. Our theme: peace. Please let Alan Groves know if you can present something that night.



Family Matters

Sermon Topics Today

Sunday Morning:

Lessons From the Life of Joseph
#6 *Dealing With Bitterness*

Sunday Night:

No evening services tonight

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

Serve @ Table:

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

Opening Prayer: Eli Griffin

Preside at Table: Jay Estes

Greeters: Tim & Paige Mallicoat

Nursery: Cathy & Meredith Norris

Security: Bud & Tyler Norris



BIRTHDAYS

Mar 3 Billie Bayles
Mar 5 Savannah Estes
Mar 6 Christine Brackney
Mar 7 Seth Owens



Happy
Birthday!!



Family News



Come join us for Yoga every Tuesday night from 7 to 8 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Cost is \$8 per session. See Teresa Combs for details.



Please add to your directory as we welcome back: **Karen and Zack Johnson, Tony & Nickolas Swymer.**

242 Dogwood Lane,
Maynardville, TN 37807,
Phones: 865-745-1780 h,
540-748-5910 (Karen cell),
540-603-6742 (Zack cell)
Birthdays: Karen 3/31, Zack
10/29, Tony 8/17, Nick 4/28
email:

primpmyetgroomergal@gmail.com



New to Our Family

We also welcome **Donna Pettitt** to our Arlington family. Donna is the mother of Kelly Hunter.

She was originally in Texas and is currently looking for a new home but you can send mail temporarily to the Hunter's address.

Her phone number is
432-756-7467 and her email is:
djpettitt98@gmail.com.

Donna enjoys quilting and yard work.

WELCOME to the family, Donna!!