

## Prayer Requests

Leigh Honnell, mother of Lauren Reed, is doing very well. Should be discharged Fri. Initial reports from tests look really good, praise God!

Cathryn Cates is in Dardanelle Hospital for rehab. Please keep her in your prayers for health to be restored again.

Bob Clark needs continued prayers for ongoing health issues, and for Lynda as she cares for him.

Ethel Jackson, mother of Nancy Freeman, has been moved to St. Mary's rehab. Prayers of thanksgiving that she is doing very well! Continued prayers for her to keep improving towards her recovery.

Wayne Baker, brother of Margaret Grant and Vicki Betterton is still in rehab, but is doing better. Please continue to pray for complete healing.

Cindy Jones had a recent procedure for neck pain. Although doing better, prayers would be appreciated for continued improvement.

Amy Vanderheiden is having some complications from her incision. Please keep her in your prayers for it to heal and for a quick recovery.

Carina Ortiz had wrist surgery on Monday. Please pray for a good and healing recovery.

## Prayer Request Cont'd

Oliver Blankenship is having health issues while waiting for a new heart. Please keep him, his family and the doctors in your prayers.

Kay Larsen is confined to a wheelchair at home, with a fracture and a cracked heal. Please pray for her to heal quickly.

Kristy Jackson has Covid. Please pray for her healing and for her family to stay well.

Mark Reid is having some family issues, and is needing prayers for faith and strength



*There will be a Wedding Shower in honor of Jacob Reed, (grandson of George and Wanda Reed) and his fiancée on Sunday, September 18th, at 2pm in The Rock. Jacob and Emily (Roy) are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Amazon, Target, and Wal-mart.*



"A SWEET FRIENDSHIP REFRESHES THE SOUL."  
PROVERBS 27:9

### Sunday September 18th

Andrea Henson 2 doz donuts  
Brooke Strasser 2 doz donuts

### Sunday September 25th

Linda/Brittany Loudon 2 doz donuts  
Beth Sorrels 2 doz donuts



### September schedule

9/21 Sue Ann Jernigan  
9/28 Brooke Strasser

Please have your cookies ready at  
Renew each Wednesday at 6pm.

## Attention Volunteers!

We are looking for volunteers to help with the worship service. Anyone looking to be a leader, on the praise team, lead a prayer, help with communion etc, we want you! Please reach out to Zach Taylor if interested at 479-264-3067 or zctaylor14@gmail.com



## KIDS CORNER

*by Kaitlin McCormick*

*This month in KFC, friends Barbara Builder and Believer Beaver are helping us learn about Creator God.*

*Main Idea: On day 4, God made the sun, moon, and stars. On day 5, He made birds and fish.*

*Bible Verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" – Gen. 1:1*

*Song: Days of creation song (Video – Saddleback kids – creation (stories of the bible))*

*Other Scriptures: Gen. 1:14-23*

### **Sunday Morning Children's 9am Bible Class Fall Quarter Schedule**

Cradle Roll/1 yr olds - Nursery  
2 & 3 Year Olds - Room 16  
4Yr/Pre-K - Room 12  
K-2nd Grade - Room 19  
3rd-5th Grade - Museum Room  
WSYM - 6th-12th grades - Cornerstone

## ONLINE CONNECT CARD

We would love to connect with you! Please fill out our Online Connect Card at...

[westsidear.org/connect](http://westsidear.org/connect)



### Last Week

Giving: \$ 16,112	
Class - 108	Weekly Budget:
Worship - 255	\$13,380
Wednesday Night	YTD Giving:\$ 448,364
Bible Study - 67	YTD Budget:\$ 495,074



# Welcome to West Side!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

September 18, 2022

## The Jerusalem Conference

by Tim Tripp

The story told in Acts 15 about the gathering of church leaders to discuss a challenging doctrinal issue in the early church is an amazing narrative. I believe that it is so important for us to observe how the apostles and others who had been close to Jesus dealt with troubling, unclear and potentially divisive issues.

The issue at this point in Acts is that Jewish Christians from Judea have traveled to Antioch and have been taught that Gentile Christians must be circumcised (and follow the law of Moses) to be saved. That was likely the majority belief among Jewish Christians at the time. I can only imagine that growing up with the teaching that you had to follow the law of Moses to please God would make it very difficult to believe that anything but that would be acceptable. Jewish men bore a mark on their bodies that identified them as a member of God's holy people. That important symbol, received with bloodshed, was sacred to them. They could not conceptualize any way that someone could be received by God without it. How do you just arbitrarily strike clear commands of scripture to make following God easier? Who said it was supposed to be easy?

Paul and Barnabas opposed them vigorously, confident that Gentile Christians were not required to become Jews to be saved. The real issue was whether or not Christianity was to be a religion set apart from Judaism. The Jews did not want to accept that possibility. They decided to take the controversy to Jerusalem and let the elders and apostles discuss it and make a ruling.

When they arrived, Paul and Barnabas told the assembly all that God had been doing through them among the Gentiles. They had clearly seen the Holy Spirit of God move and work amid people who had not been circumcised. Then some Christians who were affiliated with the Pharisees spoke, insisting that the Gentiles would need to be circumcised and follow the law of Moses to be saved.

The apostles and elders met to discuss the question. Peter spoke among them reminding them of how the Holy Spirit came upon Cornelius (8) and the other Gentiles seemingly granting them a full indwelling of the Spirit without being circumcised. Peter made the statement that they believe that it is through the grace of the Lord Jesus that men were saved (11). Paul and Barnabas spoke of signs and miracles done among the Gentiles and James (the elder and brother of Jesus) spoke, quoting from the book of Amos about how the Gentiles would bear God's name. James then gave his view that Gentiles would not be required to be circumcised to become followers of Jesus (20-21).

They penned a letter that Paul and Barnabas were to take around to Gentile churches and have the decision read. In the letter it spelled out their verdict saying that it seemed good to them and to the Holy Spirit. No doubt they listened and discerned from the Holy Spirit to make such an earth-shaking decision. No doubt, the Holy Spirit was the true leader there.

Listening to both sides and consulting the Holy Spirit should still be the hallmark of godly decision making both in the church and in the home. He is in charge and we would all do well to remember that.

## Shepherds

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