



MAKING JESUS KNOWN – TOGETHER.

10:00am – September 17th, 2023

Children's Ministry (birth – 6th grade) available

Welcome/Prayer	Pastor Brian
Worship in Singing	Worship Team
* 5 th -6 th graders leave for class (last room on left in Education Wing)	
Bible Teaching	Pastor John
Worship in Singing	Worship Team

Special Upcoming Opportunities

UPCOMING SPECIALIZED GROUPS FOR LADIES:

- Mending the Soul (for women healing from abuse) **2 new groups launch in Oct.** Info & to enroll: Mendingthesoul518@gmail.com
- Post-Abortion Support Group (7-wk session) **Saturdays 9am** starting in October. Info & to enroll: Michelle.butler19@aol.com

MEN'S FALL RETREAT @ CAMP OF THE WOODS (2 openings left!)

- **Fri 9/29 – Sun 10/1.** Lodging, meals, activities included for \$200. Partial scholarships available. **Sign up in foyer – see pastor john!**

DISCOVERING OPEN ARMS Luncheon: Sunday Oct 29th 11:30-2:30pm

An opportunity to learn: our vision, beliefs, history & future direction. Hear how to connect/grow in your faith w/others. Led by the pastors. Pizza lunch included (GF option). **Sign up online or in foyer today!**

KIDS' PLAYDATES: Tues mornings 10-noon (*outdoors – bring trikes*)

INDOOR SPORTS/REC COMING IN OCT: Mon: Men's basketball.

Tues: Coed volleyball. **Wed:** Coed pickleball. Dates/times/info soon

Everyday Life at OAC

NEW GUESTS: Please visit the **Welcome Booth** in café after service to receive a gift! We also invite you to fill out the **Connection Card** (*seat pocket in front of you*) & drop in the box at the **Booth** in cafe.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: "Where am I now with Jesus? What would help me to move forward with Him?" Whatever your answer, we'd love to partner with you! (resources, connections, etc.) *website: /reaching*

BAPTISM: Baptism is a special time to celebrate your journey of faith & obedience to Christ. Contact a pastor to tell of your interest.

EVERYBODY SERVES: Let us help you serve the Lord as you serve others; 30+ ways to make a difference! *website: /ministries*

PRAYER: Join with others on **Sundays 9-9:40am** and/or the **2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:30pm** in the last room on the left in the Education wing.

GIVING OPTIONS: 1) Drop in offering boxes by worship center doors
2) Check by mail. 3) Use link on website / app. *website: /egiving*


For more information & other opportunities, visit us at:


OpenArmsChurch.com

 **YouTube** [openarmschurchnewyork](https://www.youtube.com/openarmschurchnewyork)

 **Open Arms Church**

 **Open Arms Church App**

 **OpenArms_NY**

 **openarmschurchny**

God Declares All Christians Agree on this One Thing

God at Work – Acts 15:1-35 (ESV)

- See back for Bible text and teaching outline –

Groups Available this Fall – Enroll on Walkway

Opportunities to connect with others & grow in your faith

Monday's:

- 1) **Men's Group** 6:00-7:30PM. Begins Oct 9th.
Topic: To be determined – Growing as a Godly Man
Facilitator: Jeff Monte & Friends
Meet in Kids Church

Tuesday's:

- 2) **Women's Group** 6:00-7:30PM. Begins Oct 3rd every other...
Topic: "He's Where the Joy Is" - Getting to Know the Captivating God of the Trinity. *Buy: Amazon, CBD, Lifeway (\$17-20).*
Facilitators: Molly St. John & Kirsten Baker.
Meet in Kids Church

- 3) **Coed** 6:00-7:30PM. Begins Sept 26th every other...

Topic: Book of Colossians: That in All Things Jesus has 1st Place
Facilitator: Pastor John
Meet in Kids Church

Wednesday's:

- 4) **Coed** 10:00-12:00noon. Begins Sept 20th
Topic: Digging into previous Sunday's Scripture text
Facilitator: Gordon Tucker
Meet in Kids Church

- 5) **Coed** 6:30-8:00PM. Begins Sept 27th

Topic: Understanding the Old Testament
Facilitator: Pastor Kevin
Meet in Kids Church

Thursday's:

- 6) **Men's Group** 6:00-7:30PM. Begins Sept 21st every other...
Topic: Various Bible Topics
Facilitator: Mark Dahl
Meet in Kids Church

- 7) **Women's Group** 6:30-8:00PM. Begins Sept 21st every other...

Topic: An overview study of the Minor Prophets
Facilitator: Donna Shappy
Meet in Café

Friday's:

- 8) **Women's Group** 10:00-11:30AM. Begins Sept 29th every other... (9/29; 10/20; 11/3; 11/17)
Topic: Book of James: Learning to Live Out What You Believe
Facilitators: Nancy Nuding, Jen Dutcher & Friends
Meet in Café

All Christians Everywhere Must Agree

Acts 15:1-35 (ESV)

1) The dissension that must be dealt with. v1-5

¹But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “**Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.**” ²And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. ³So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “**It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.**”

2) The distinctions God makes on who can be saved. v6-11

⁶The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. ⁷And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days **God made a choice** among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸**And God**, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as He did to us, ⁹and **He made no distinction between us and them**, having cleansed their hearts by faith. ¹⁰Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹**But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.**

3) The defense comes from what God has said & done. v12-18

¹²And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders **God had done** through them among the Gentiles. ¹³After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has related **how God first visited the Gentiles**, to take from them a people for His name. ¹⁵And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:

¹⁶‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, ¹⁷that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things ¹⁸known from of old.’ (Amos 9:11-12)

4) The discernment that promotes peace w/o offense. v19-29

¹⁹Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, ²⁰but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from

sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. ²¹For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues. ²²Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers, ²³with the following letter:

“The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the brothers who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. ²⁴Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, ²⁵it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: ²⁹that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.” (reflect on Romans 14 for principle of not stumbling a weaker brother)

5) The delight amongst the church then & today. v30-35

³⁰So when they were sent off, they went down to Antioch, and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. ³¹And when they had read it, **they rejoiced because of its encouragement.** ³²And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words. ³³And after they had spent some time, they were sent off in peace by the brothers to those who had sent them. ³⁵But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

notes: