

Men of the Word

JUNE 2020

THE ECHOES



**ENGLEWOOD
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Honor • Grow • Serve

- Reopening: What to Expect
- June Sermon Series: Back to the Start
- Mission Spotlight: Kenny & Kristen Beers

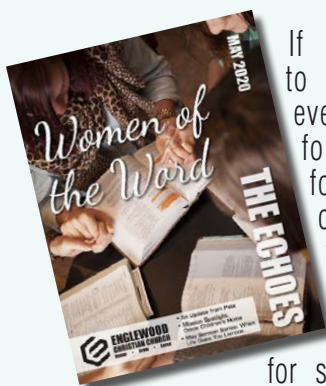
The Echoes

JUNE 2020

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DEADLINES



If you would like to submit articles, events or activities for consideration for the next issue of *The Echoes*, the deadline is **Monday, June 15.**

The deadline for submitting information for the weekly e-newsletter is each **Wednesday at 5:00 pm.**

Please email all submissions to angelah@eccjax.com with any coordinating artwork or graphics.



During the month of June, our articles will emphasize some of the godly men of the Bible and what we can learn from them. As we recognize and honor fathers later this month, let us also be sure to remember and recall the great truths and examples our fathers have been to us. And most of all, may we all live each day to bring glory and honor to our Heavenly Father. Enjoy and SEE you soon at church!!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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REOPENING: Englewood Christian Church

Sunday, June 7 is the scheduled day for the reopening of our building and the resumption of live worship services. NOTE: There will be a new schedule for the month of June. There will be TWO (2) worship services to allow for proper social distancing and separation of generations/medical concerns. The first service will take place at 9:00am and will be completed by 10:00am. The second service will take place at 10:45am and will end by 11:45am. **PLEASE NOTE THESE TIME CHANGES.**

Addition

5/17 Baptized
Anastasia Butler

Contributions May 31, 2020

General Fund

Week 53 Budget.....\$552,366.00

Week 53 Totals.....\$515,514.46

Faith Promise

Week 14 Budget.....\$49,031.78

Week 14 Giving.....\$48,900.00

ECC Statistics

Sunday, May 3, 2020

201+ Online Attendance

Sunday, May 10, 2020

211+ Online Attendance

Sunday, May 24, 2020

193+ Online Attendance

Sunday, May 31, 2020

177 + Online Attendance

ECC Church Staff

Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister

Josh Colvin, Student Minister

**Karissa Hardin, Worship
Ministry Director**

Serena Maerkl, Children's Director

**Brittany Kellar, Community &
Connections Director**

Angela Hastings, Office Manager

Kim Owens, Publications Director

Mary Worth, Bookkeeper

Sherrie Boger, TLC Director

Running with Grasshoppers

by Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister



Forty days earlier, Moses had sent twelve brave men to spy out the land of Canaan – the mysterious Promised Land which had been spoken about and referred to for more generations than anyone could possibly remember. After all that had been done for the fledgling nation of Israel by Yahweh, the Lord God Almighty, the anticipation of exciting news was building each day as the people awaited the report of the spies. Surely it would be full of good news. Most certainly it would describe clear paths to conquest and beautiful lands in which to live. It would absolutely involve some combination of milk and honey, too.

Then the caravan appeared in the distance on the horizon. A slowly rising anxiousness of excitement began to move among the people as word quickly spread of the return of the spies. When they approached, many were amazed at a particularly large and heavy cluster of grapes that took two of the men to carry (Numbers 13:23). People began to get excited. They started packing. They started talking about what their crops would be like, where they would build their homes, how their great-grandchildren would inherit their estate and flourish in this new land.

Then it all ended. The spies reported, *"It does flow with milk and honey and here is its fruit, BUT the people who live there are powerful and the cities are large and well defended. There are even giants in the land and the inhabitants are everywhere!"*

But hope flickered through the words of one man, Caleb. *"We should go up and take possession of the land, for we certainly can do it!"*

And even quicker than that, hope was seemingly extinguished as the others reported, *"We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes and we looked the same to them."* (Numbers 13:33) This news was so shocking and disconcerting to the Israelites they responded with rebellion against their leader Moses and God for leading them this far only to be killed by the sword (Numbers 14:3).

The grumbling and complaining was reaching a climactic point when Joshua and Caleb, the two spies who saw the same land and same people and same cities as the other ten spies, but saw them all through the lens of faith rather than fear, spoke up. *"Do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them."* (Numbers 14:9)

Unfortunately, the nation did not heed the advice of these two men, and they rebelled against God. The ending result was a forty-year sentence of wandering in the wilderness, just out



of sight of the Promised Land and the promise that the entire generation, except for Joshua and Caleb, will not live to see the Promised Land.

In fact, the ten spies who shared the negative filled report with no faith perspective were struck down by the Lord with a plague (Numbers 14:37-38).

But Caleb was faithful and when those forty years had passed, a new leader of Israel, Joshua, led the people into the Promised Land. The entire nation, like a swarm of grasshoppers, came into Canaan and with the hand of the Lord before them, drove out the giants, tore down the walls, overwhelmed the cities and ravaged the enemies, just as the Lord had promised.

And finally, at the ripe, yet according to Caleb himself, "vigorous" old age of eighty-five, Caleb drove out the final enemies in the land specifically promised to him by the Lord and settled down with his family to enjoy his inheritance (Joshua 14).

A journey of faith. A journey of patience. A journey of blessing. Caleb had to wait 45 years to get to it, but in the end it was all worth it. Remember, it all came about because Caleb was able to look at things through the eyes of faith instead of the eyes of fear. When you do that, you see God can use even grasshoppers to overcome giants.

What giants are you facing today? What crisis makes you feel like a grasshopper? What are you doing to make sure you look at things through the eyes of faith rather than fear?

Put your faith in the perfect love of Christ because *"perfect love drives out fear"* (1 John 4:18).

(based on a devotional thought in a book by R. Mark Webb)

**"perfect love
drives out fear"
(1 John 4:18)**



Sneaky Kindness Ninja

by Brittany Kellar, Community & Connections Director

A few years ago, we started intentionally teaching the girls about kindness. Not flashy kindness, displayed for the world to see, but kindness which is sneaky, discreet and often goes unnoticed. We coined the phrase “Sneaky Kindness Ninja” because truly, if you add the word “ninja” to any title, it makes it sound so much cooler.

The goal is to research who might have a need and discreetly provide for the need without them noticing. It's been really fun to watch their little wheels turn. About three years ago, while on a “Sneaky Kindness Ninja” mission, we were almost discovered. The look on the girls' faces as we were running back to the getaway car (A.K.A. the mom minivan) before anyone noticed was priceless. They were only three and six at the time, and they may not remember, but I will never forget.

When I think of kindness and a humble provider in the Bible, I immediately think of Jesus. He was the ultimate *Sneaky Kindness Ninja*! Some scholars have said Boaz is an Old Testament representation of Christ. There are several parallels that we can glean from Boaz about how we can become Sneaky Kindness Ninjas.

1. Welcome Outsiders: Boaz welcomed Ruth and Naomi. He didn't mind that Ruth wasn't part of his community; he welcomed her anyway. Similarly, Jesus welcomes all, not just the Jews, but the Gentiles, men and women, slaves and free. *“For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him”* (Romans 10:12). How do we feel about people who are “different” from us? How do we behave when we come into contact with them?

2. Provide for Physical and Emotional Needs: Boaz first noticed Ruth when she was gathering crops. He noticed she was physically in need of food and was physically and emotionally distant from the others. She didn't belong, and she knew it. She was a widow, without children, from another tribe, from another land. She was alone with only her mother-in-law, who was also widowed.

Both Ruth and Naomi were in a desperate, helpless, hopeless situation, which seemed to be their destiny. That is until Boaz noticed and brought Ruth into the community and allowed her to pick crops with the other women. He provided food and water for her, as he did the other workers. He gave her a place – a community, a purpose, and a hope. *“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.”*⁵ *There are different kinds of service, but the same*

*Lord.*⁶ *There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work”* (1 Corinthians 12:4-6). What gifts has God given you to help provide for others' physical or emotional needs?

3. Provide for Spiritual Needs:

Boaz was a man of good standing in the community. He was faithful to the community and the Lord. He shared his faith with his employees and others in the town. Boaz's faithfulness was carried on from generation to generation. He was the great-grandfather of David, in the line and ancestry of Jesus, mentioned in Matthew 1, after all! People knew who he was, and more importantly, who he served through his actions.

Jesus...was the ultimate
Sneaky Kindness Ninja!

Once people's physical and emotional needs are provided for, then you can speak to their spiritual needs. Ask any faithful missionary; they will tell you it is much easier to speak to people about Jesus once they are clothed and their bellies are filled.

Our church reputation of being faithful and humble providers doesn't just happen. Becoming a Sneaky Kindness Ninja takes work. Boaz put in the work. What will you do? How will you create a reputation of faithfulness and humility for the name of Christ for His Kingdom?

Final Words of a Father

by Angela Hastings, Office Manager



Before the days of Netflix, Prime Video, Disney+ and DVR, we planned our television watching with intentionality. Friday nights were filled with *TGIF*. During summers when we could stay up later, it was *Nick at Nite* with all the black and white reruns. There were quite a few shows which depicted fathers and their children, specifically fathers and their sons, such as *The Andy Griffith Show*, *Leave It to Beaver*, *Dennis the Menace*, and *My Three Sons*. Undoubtedly in most episodes of any of these shows, a son would get into trouble, and by the end of the show, he was having a heart to heart with his dad, learning huge life lessons.

The fathers and sons of the Bible offer great lessons as well. There's David and Solomon, great kings in Judah & Israel's history. There's Abraham and Isaac, the patriarchs of faith. In the New Testament, we see a different kind of fathers and sons appear with spiritual children. The Apostle John refers to his audience in 1 John as "dear children." But I can't think of a better biblical example of a spiritual father and son than Paul and Timothy.

Paul addresses Timothy as his *true son in the faith* and *dear son* in the letters he recorded for Timothy. He also describes him as a son to the church in Philippi (Philippians 2:20-22). We first meet Timothy in Acts 16 in the town of Lystra. The brothers of that area spoke so well of Timothy that Paul wanted him to come along on their missionary journey. Timothy's mother and grandmother were believers, making Timothy a second-generation Christian. In modern terms, we could say Timothy grew up in the church. He is described as having a *sincere faith* (2 Timothy 1:5) and *from infancy* knew the Word (2 Timothy 3:15). He probably would have brought home a Bible Bowl trophy or two! At one point, he served as a leader in the church of Ephesus, and much of 1 Timothy is advice pertaining to serving and leading the church.

Timothy was also the recipient of what we understand to be Paul's last letter. Paul had been arrested by Emperor Nero; he knew his time and the opportunity to pour into his spiritual son was coming to an end. For me, even just saying goodbye when moving or leaving a job becomes a time of purposeful conversation, making sure the people I have grown to know and love are left with a word of encouragement. Let's look at some of Paul's last words to Timothy not only as a personal message to a son in the faith, but also timeless declarations fundamental to our faith.

Work hard to spread the gospel - always. With three different metaphors, Paul tells Timothy to endure, like a soldier, like an athlete and like a farmer. He tells him to keep reminding the church of truth. He tells him, "*Preach the Word. Be prepared in season and out of season...with great patience and careful instruction*" (2 Timothy 4:2). Sharing the truth about Christ is hard work, but keep at it, even when it's inconvenient.

Don't get caught up in petty chatter and quarrels. Some people like to argue for argument's sake. Others can get caught up in minutia – trivial matters that mean nothing in the grand scheme of things. Paul urged Timothy to avoid such topics and to keep the main thing the main thing.

Things are going to get worse. Paul was already in prison, and the church was being persecuted. Yet his message was clear, and it should be a wakeup call for us as well. "*There will be terrible times in the last days*" (2 Timothy 3:1). I know it can be so discouraging to look at what is going on in the world, but unfortunately it should not be surprising. As followers of Jesus Christ, we need to be cognizant of the spiritual undertones in these last days. Jesus is coming back, and until His arrival, it's going to keep getting worse.

“keep on keeping on”

Keep the faith because Heaven is coming. Several times throughout this epistle, Paul reassures us with the promise if we “keep on keeping on,” there will be a reward. He uses words like “continue,” “keep,” and “endure” repeatedly. Paul knew with certainty that a crown of righteousness awaited him, and Jesus would “*bring (him) safely to His heavenly kingdom*” (2 Timothy 4:18), and he assured Timothy the same is in store “*to all those who have longed for (Christ's) appearing*” (2 Timothy 4:8).

As we look at these last lessons to Paul's spiritual son, Timothy, let's remember to keep our lives fixed on what is most important and to endure to the end because Heaven is coming.



It Takes Just A Little Faith

by Josh Colvin, Student Minister

Over the past few months, I have had a lot of time on my hands when getting home from work. I'll come home, kiss the wife and kids, eat dinner, hang out with the wife and kids, put the kids to bed, and then go to bed myself all by 7:30pm. Before I actually fall asleep, I turn on the TV and watch two or three episodes of the show I am watching at the time.

Currently, I am watching "Chuck," which is a show I have seen several times. To me, it's one of those shows that no matter how many times I have seen it, it never gets old. It only lasted five seasons, but it's one of the best shows I have seen. To make a long story short, "Chuck" is about a guy named Chuck Bartowski who is a Nerd Herder (Geek Squad) for the Buy More (Best Buy). He doesn't live a very exciting life. He doesn't have the greatest job, and when he isn't working, he's playing video games with his best friend, Morgan. He's a nerd who is super timid with no courage. Then one day an old college friend who is working for the CIA downloads all of the CIA's secrets, which is called the Intersect, and sends them to Chuck. Chuck watches a video and because he watches it, the Intersect is downloaded into his brain. So, because of that he starts to work for the CIA and gains the skills of a real spy. It takes him a long time, but eventually he has enough courage and confidence to be a real spy.

Which is really a miracle if you think about it.

There are two reasons why I explained this show:

1. You will go and watch all five seasons right away.
2. You can see how Gideon was similar to Chuck.

The story of Gideon (Judges 6-8) is actually one of my favorite stories in the Bible. He was one of the judges of Israel. When God called him, he was hiding from his enemies on a threshing floor. God called him to save the people from the Midianites who were looking to destroy them. Here's where we learn about Gideon being timid and not really believing God at first. He told God he would lead the people only if God put dew on a fleece he laid out instead of on the ground. After God did this, he told God again he would believe him when he put dew on the ground instead of the fleece. And after God did this again, he told God once more, to do the opposite.

So Gideon finally agreed and gathered 32,000 men to take on the Midianites. However, according to God that was too many men. Through different tests from God, Gideon's army went from 32,000 men all the way down to only 300. Because of this, Gideon knew he had to rely completely on God for a miracle.

The defeating of the Midianites is the coolest part of this story. With 300 men, Gideon led his army to defeat the Midianites, not by invading the Midianites or attacking them, but by making as much noise as possible by blaring trumpets and smashing jars around the Midianite's camp. This caused the Midianites to turn on each other and kill each other because they were so discombobulated and didn't know who was for or against them. God came through for Gideon and the Israelites, in my opinion, in the most unique and excellent way possible. All it took was a little bit of faith and first step of obedience from Gideon.

When it comes to our relationship with God, we need to understand God can work with a little bit of faith, but even with a little bit of faith God still wants us to trust Him completely. In our lives God may not give us 32,000 men. He may want us to trust Him enough by only using 300 men. Sometimes we will be put in a place where we have to trust Him completely. When our numbers are reduced to 300 men, we have to rely on God to do for us what we thought was impossible before.

What are you holding onto? What is causing you not to trust in God completely? Allow God to use the bare minimum, like Gideon's 300 men, to strengthen your faith in Him. He wants you to follow Him, so why not surrender and allow Him to use the bare minimum to do great things in your life?



NERD HERD

Parenting Against the Grain

by Serena Maerkl, Children's Director



Most parents agree parenting is hard. Every stage of development your children reach brings its own set of challenges, and each child struggles with them in different ways. I often have days where I feel like a complete failure as a mom, days where feeding them and still getting a bedtime hug are wins. There are so many decisions you have to make, and so many different ways to question those decisions. Being a Christian parent means every choice I make needs to be put through the "Jesus filter" first, which means what my husband and I decide often conflicts with what culture says is okay. If you find yourself struggling with this, there are three great lessons we can learn from Noah.



First, it's okay to say no. Noah was described in Genesis 6:9 as a *"righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God."* In stark contrast to this, verse 11 describes the world as *"corrupt in God's sight"* and *"full of violence."* There would have been no way for Noah to be the man God sought out if he went along with what everyone else at the time was doing. That meant he had to say no a lot. Sometimes I have to tell my kids they can't do something even though it seems like everyone around them is doing it. It means at times they miss outings, they don't get to play the same video games, and sometimes that means they're not in the same extracurriculars as their friends because the schedule conflicts with church activities. Saying no to the influences of this world is hard, but the reward of God's favor is worth it.

The Bible doesn't really go into detail about what it must have been like for Noah, but I can't imagine it would have been easy for him to build that boat. Everyone around him would have most likely judged his actions as crazy. Maybe they thought he was self-righteous, and they may have even mocked him. We don't really know for sure, but if we look at how people tend to treat those who are different throughout history, we can make an educated guess. It takes a lot of courage and conviction to stay true to God's word. In Genesis 6:13 God told Noah he was going to wipe out everything on earth, and He wanted Noah to build an ark for himself, his family and a whole lot

of animals. Then Noah did it. It doesn't say Noah questioned God or had doubts. It just tells us that Noah made it happen. I like to imagine those closest to Noah, at the very least, bringing up a question or two, but it wouldn't have stopped him. I've had parents come right out and ask me why I don't let my kids do certain things, or try to convince me to let them participate in activity even after I've politely declined. As Christians, this will happen all the time. Don't let it get to you, and just remind yourself what Noah may have dealt with.

The other part of this story that holds so much meaning to me is that Noah's family was a priority. God told Noah to load his whole family on the ark, and not just his wife. His children were adults and had wives of their own at this point, yet they all were included.

Continued on page 9.

Camp Registration is Open

Registration for North Florida Christian Camp is open. They are limiting the number to 50 students per session. There is only one elementary session June 28-July 1, and Serena will be there. Josh will be at both middle school sessions the week of June 21-27. Contact Serena or Josh for more details and for information about scholarships!





No Excuses!

by Karissa Hardin, Worship Ministry Director

The prophet Jeremiah had a difficult task: the Lord called him to bring a message to His people on His behalf. The message was one of doom – the Lord would destroy Jerusalem – and one of hope – the Lord would restore and rebuild. When Jeremiah was called to do this by the Lord, his response was less than satisfactory. His excuse (similar to Moses's) was that he could not speak. His reason, however, was that he was too young. It's believed because Jeremiah was young and unmarried, his status was not one worthy of respect. Therefore, Jeremiah's concern was people would not listen to what he had to say.

Have you ever known what God has called you to do with your life and either put it on hold or given Him an excuse as to why you couldn't do it? Even more so, have those reasons been completely valid to you? I don't know about you, but my personal limitations have hindered me from doing God's work in the past.

There's a saying that has been going around for ages: "God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called." While this statement may be partially true, it makes me uncomfortable for two reasons. 1) While in *some* instances it may be true, this is not a quote out of scripture, which calls for cautious examination of its accuracy in relationship to God's character and actions. 2) Sometimes statements like this are a little misleading as to how God works in the lives of those He's called – qualified or not. In fact, it may be a just a little more complicated than a coffee-mug blanket statement about God's character, and maybe the intricacies of God's plan for you and me include qualifying those He's chosen for exactly the work He meant for them to do. Maybe God's work involves having a purpose for us before we're even born (Psalm 139).

"Before I formed you in the womb I chose you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations" (Jeremiah 1:5). Whether the Lord had Jeremiah in mind for this from the literal womb or in the metaphorical sense, we see here the Lord has one purpose for Jeremiah: to be a Prophet to Israel and to bring His message to them. In the Old Testament, when a leader is chosen by God, there's usually a pattern that goes something like this:

1. The Lord speaks or appears to the one being called.
2. The recipient voices some reason(s) why he/she is not fit for the task to which he/she is being called.
3. The Lord promises to make up for whatever is lacking, so that they are fit.
4. The person accepts the task or is given his first assignment.

The same pattern can be seen in the calling of Jeremiah. What we see after that is the Lord preparing Jeremiah for the task He has asked him to do by giving him a taste of the vision he is going to share with the nation (and it's not a pretty one). God also reminds Jeremiah that while he will *"go to everyone... and say whatever I command you."* He follows his command with a comforting reminder: *"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you"* (1:8).

"YES, Lord."

The Lord was with Jeremiah – he was qualified because the Lord called him, not because of his status. The same is true for you and me. We have talents and abilities which we must use to glorify the Father, but there should be no hesitation or excuses for the things God has called us to do (speak His message) simply because we feel inadequate. Jeremiah felt inadequate, but God called him to speak, so he did, not because he were qualified, but because he was called, and because he said *YES*. All he needed after that was for God to be with him.

Timothy Willis, in his commentary on Jeremiah, said it this way: "So often, people look for external, physical proof of God's presence in and approval of their lives when the only "proof" he might offer is that He is with them. Such proof cannot be verified; it is only known in the heart of the believer."

So, perhaps our Christianese phrase needs to be re-written. Maybe instead of saying "God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called," we should be saying "God calls us, we answer, and He is with us all the way." Let's learn from history, and simply say "YES, Lord." He'll take care of the rest.

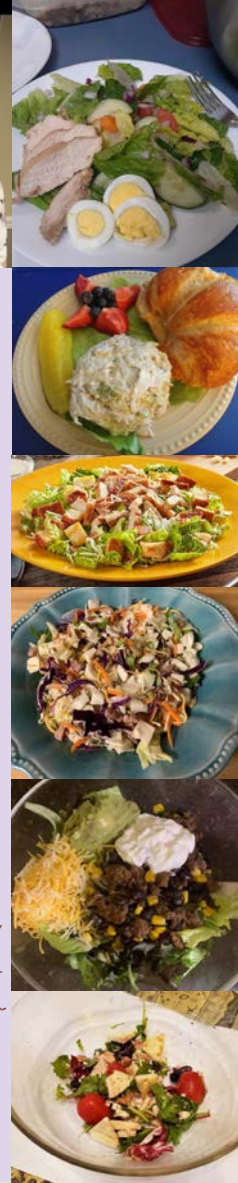


Our 1st ever CWF Virtual Spring Salad Supper via Facebook Live

We didn't let ANYTHING get in our way of serving God... Day by Day! We took care of "business" and came together to enjoy our salads while Sarah Krzaczkowski shared an inspiring message!!! What a great opportunity to grow!!!

2020-2021 CWF Board of Directors & Circle Leaders

- President: **Kim Owens**
 Vice-President: **DD Jewell**
 Circle Program & Worship Chairman: **Mary Bowman**
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 • Day: **Julie Colvin**
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 • Night Circles:
Heather Ramsey & Vangie Solomon;
Jennifer Hammock; Tawnda Schroeder



BACK TO THE START



JUNE SERMON SERIES

During the month of June, we'll take a look at the book of Amos, focusing on how our spiritual walk with God affects our pursuit of righteous justice. How can we return to the basics of Christian devotion? How can we get back to the root of the faith? How can we stand for justice and exude love at the same time? 'Back to the Start' charts a path, taking us to the heart of God's love for us and others.



A dozen ladies joined the virtual game night. It was a fun time of laughter and encouragement.



Continued from page 7.

"Parenting Against the Grain" by Serena Maerkl, Children's Director

Noah didn't just make the ark to save the animals; he was also saving his family. His sons worked alongside him to carry out God's commands and were also right there when God made His covenant with them in Genesis 9:8-11. "Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: *"I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you..."*" By making our families a priority, we are not only influencing our children, but we are working towards establishing a foundation of faith to those who come after.

Being a parent is difficult, and parenting against the grain is even harder, but if we seek the wisdom and guidance of the Bible and those who came before us, we can make it through anything, even parenting teenagers. Just remember Noah. Do your best to say no when you need to, handle opposition with conviction and grace, and put your family and their faith first. Those three things can go a long way in encouraging us to keep our chins up on the hard days of parenthood. If you find yourself second-guessing your decisions, take a moment to silence all those outside voices. At the end of the day, the only voice that matters comes from the Lord.

Kenny & Kristen Beers, Cambodia – New International



MISSION SPOTLIGHT

Serving **ONE** World

Global Support



Here is an update from our Faith Promise Mission Partners, Kenny & Kristen Beers who have been in St. Petersburg, FL since the end of March. They were scheduled to start their furlough in May but returned early due to COVID-19.

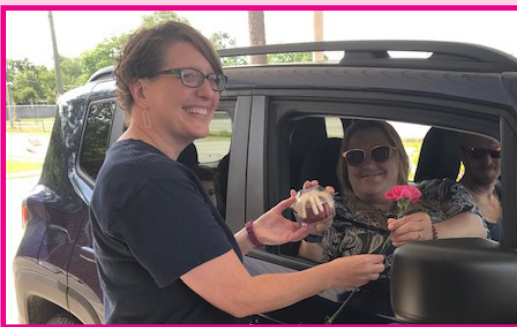
It's wonderful being stateside on home assignment and being able to begin to get around and visit some folks and share all of the good work that God has been doing in Cambodia, and we can't wait to get to come to see all of you and share as well! During our time, we will be resting and spending much needed time with family, as well as beginning our decompression period where we discuss our three years in Cambodia with New International leaders. They will help us process through all the changes that have happened both in Cambodia since we have been gone and here in the States. It's surprising to see how much has changed since we left America, and likewise Cambodia is changing at a rapid pace.

One way that we have seen to be the most effective in terms of growing the Cambodian young people in both maturity, knowledge, and for better leadership in the church is through education. One group we work with is called "New Light Church" in Areyksat Cambodia, a small Peninsula across the river from Phnom Penh. I have known the Roeung family for around seven years, and Kristen has taught English weekly to over 50 children at this church building that also serves as a school during the week.

If you would like to partner with us in helping bless the Roeung family and the church and school at New Light Areyksat, just go to our page at New International and make a note: New Light Building Program. (You can scan the QR code below.)

We are humbled and overabundantly blessed by all our Englewood Christian Church family has done and continues to do to support our ministry in Cambodia. Because of your assistance, we can say that we are effectively able to share the love of God with His children.

In Spirit and Truth,
Kenny & Kristen Beers



Drive-Thru Mother's Day Celebration



LaRon Pate and Rachel Miller were just two of the many mothers who drove by and received a carnation and yummy bundt cake! It was an exciting morning. Many, including the Butler family, had a portrait made to commemorate the day!

REOPENING:

What to Expect During the Month of June

On June 7, Englewood Christian Church will reopen its doors to resume LIVE Sunday worship services. With all we have been through, there are some necessary and expected changes you will encounter upon your return. Here is a brief synopsis of what to expect.

1. Service times – In order to help with crowd control and to provide opportunities for different generations and those with health concerns to meet, there will be **TWO** different worship services each Sunday in June. The **9:00am** service is suggested for our older and “seasoned” members or those who might have health concerns. Children will not be prohibited, but it will be **STRONGLY SUGGESTED** that families with children should attend our second service at **10:45am**. The intent is to create two separate groups of people and avoid any cross contamination as one of our steps to create a safer worship environment.

2. Children’s Programming – Because of social distancing requests and the unfair expectation to maintain such distancing among children, there will be **NO children’s ministry programming** on Sundays during the month of June. This includes programs for children from birth through fifth grade.

3. Programming – There will be **NO ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING** for any age group, including Sunday School, Wednesday PM electives and Circles. Leadership will make a decision at a later date regarding this program.

4. Seating – Seating will be blocked off to create an “every-other-row” seating arrangement. For example, during the first service, people will sit in “odd” numbered rows, and during the second service people will sit in “even” numbered rows. We will clearly mark or communicate the appropriate rows to sit in when you arrive. This will also prevent anyone from sitting in any chair previously occupied by someone earlier that same day. We will also request a “two-seat space” between each family group. In other words, sit together with your family or household, but kindly leave two (2) empty seats between you and the next person/group of people.

5. Fellowship – Unfortunately, as much as ECC loves friendship time, there will be no specific time for fellowship or personal interaction during the services. All fellowship will be encouraged to take place after the services outside the buildings. This also means we are asking all who attend to refrain from any physical contact. Please hold your hugs, fist bumps and handshakes for a later date!

6. Digital – Due to some advances in our technological capabilities, you will walk into ECC on Sunday, June 7 and only make contact with the seat you sit in and the prepackaged preplaced

communion cup. The bulletin and prayer list are available digitally, and they will not be printed. You can even fill out a connection card or prayer request through the app, as well. Giving can be done online. Scriptures can be viewed through any of the popular Bible apps on your smartphone.

7. Communion – We will not be passing trays during the service, but instead will have preplaced prepackaged communion kits for each chair in the Worship Center. We will all still take communion at the same time, but when you are finished, you will simply place the empty disposable cup in the holder located on the rack of the chair in front of you.

8. Offering – We will no longer be passing offering trays during the worship service. Offering will be placed in specifically marked collection boxes. These will be placed throughout the lobby and back of the worship center. Of course, we encourage as many as possible to take advantage of our online giving portal through our app and website.

9. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) – Masks and gloves are not mandatory to participate in our worship services, but are strongly suggested. Use your own discretion in this matter, but please emphasize what you can do for others by using these items. We are not able to provide either of these items, but feel free to bring your own.

10. Virtual Experiences – During these first few weeks of “reopening,” we know many of you may struggle with the decision to attend or not. In all of these circumstances, we encourage you to decide what is best for you and your individual household. In order to help you feel like you won’t be completely missing out on our services, we will still provide LIVE viewing of our services through the Facebook LIVE platform each Sunday morning during the 10:45am service. It will not look as “clean” as our prerecorded services do, but you will still be able to see, hear and experience worship together with your Englewood family. DVDs of the Sunday morning service will not be available ahead of time.

Remember, in all of this, **let wisdom rule over emotion**. Every. Single. Time. We look forward to seeing you with us again at Englewood, but only when you are ready! We don’t want your worship experience to be worrisome or fearful, but one that bring you hope, joy and encouragement. We are continually praying for wisdom for everyone during this time. Whether you choose to join us in person, or continue to watch online on June 7, you are and always will be a part of the amazing faith community known as Englewood Christian Church.

**ENGLEWOOD
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POSTAL INFORMATION

"The Echoes" (USPS 118270)
Published Monthly by:
Englewood Christian Church
4316 Barnes Road, Jacksonville, FL 32207
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT:
Jacksonville, Florida 32203-9998
POSTMASTER send address changes to:
THE ECHOES, 4316 Barnes Road,
Jacksonville, FL 32207-7099
June 1, 2020 Vol. LXI, No. 1

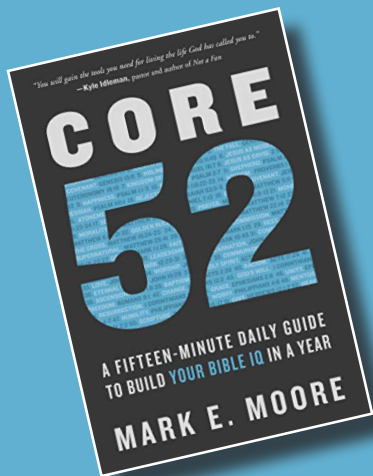
Dated Material

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2020



Core52 Schedule

**Week of June 7 – Chapter 40 –
God's Solution to Racism**

**Week of June 14 – Chapter 41 –
Freedom**

**Week of June 21– Chapter 42 –
Radical Change**

**Week June 28 – Chapter 43 –
Knowing God's Will**

virtual community opportunities



ONLINE SCHEDULE

Every Sunday @ 10:45am - Worship (FB LIVE)

Every Thursday @ 7:00pm - Prayer Gathering (FB LIVE)

Various Times & Days - Adult LIFE Groups –
contact your group leader for specific meeting
details.



Student Ministry Events on ZOOM

(online conferencing app)

Small Groups: June 14 & 28 @ 6:30pm

Youth Group: Every Wednesday @ 7:00pm



E-city Kids Events:

Every Monday @ noon (FB LIVE): Story Time
with Ms. Serena

Every Wednesday @ noon (FB LIVE): What's Up
Wednesday?

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, sign up for our
e-newsletter or check our website and app for current
updates regarding programming, events and activities.