

MARCH 2020

David...
**A Man After God's
Own Heart**

THE ECHOES



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

- March Sermon Series - The Gospel According to David
- Faith Promise Missions Conference Results
- MS/HS Happenings

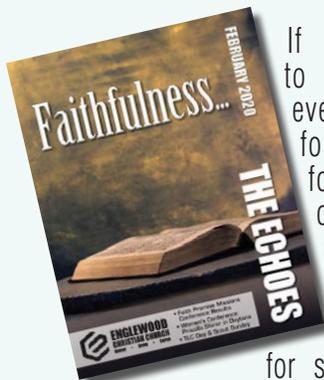
The Echoes

MARCH 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 **Friday, March 13.**

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.



Paralleling our sermon series, this month's *Echoes* theme is the life of King David. For all his highlights and victories, there seem to be just as many lowlights and defeats, but through it all, we see a man with a hunger to live for God – failing along the way, but always getting back up. Enjoy this month's edition of *The Echoes* and reflect on just how much each of us are like David, a man after God's own heart!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Teen Bible Bowl
8:00 a.m. • Room 314

Sunday School
9:00 a.m.

Worship Service
10:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Dinner
6:00 p.m.

Adult Bible Studies
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Youth Group (MS/HS)
7:00 p.m.

E-City Kids (2 years – 5th grade)
7:00 p.m.

Child care is provided during all services.

Connect with Us Online!

www.eccjax.com

www.facebook.com/eccjax/



WEEKLY CHOIR SCHEDULES

Adult Worship Choir
Sundays at 11:30 a.m. in room 314

Vocal Explosion
Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. in 314

Jesus' Worship Kids
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in room 314

Wee Praise
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
drop-off and pick-up at room 303

Contributions

February 23, 2020

General Fund

Week 39 Budget..... \$406,458.00
Week 39 Totals..... \$ 379,566.31

Faith Promise

Week 48 Budget..... \$173,660.76
Week 48 Giving..... \$157,504.00

ECC Statistics

Sunday, February 2, 2020

SS	MW	WED	ADD
166	226	91	1

Sunday, February 9, 2020

SS	MW	WED	ADD
172	238	104	

Sunday, February 16, 2020

SS	MW	WED	ADD
163	240	98	

Sunday, February 23, 2020

SS	MW	WED	ADD
160	252	91	1

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

Anointing of David by Samuel

by Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister



In 2001, Peter Jackson made many fans of J.R.R. Tolkien extremely happy when he produced a high-quality, film version of the great book series, *The Lord of the Rings*. The first film, and book, is titled, *The Fellowship of the Ring* and encompasses the creation of a diverse group of specially chosen individuals to go on an adventure to save the world. The main character of the story is a Hobbit named Frodo Baggins. He is joined by a wizard named Gandalf. At one point of the journey, Frodo and his Hobbit friends encounter a stranger who has the appearance and demeanor of a potential enemy, but turns out to be a tremendous help not only to them, but to all of Middle Earth (If you're confused, then by all means, sit tight and it will all make sense soon!).



The stranger happens to be known as Strider, and he is a "Ranger of the North," who wanders all throughout the land protecting borders and dealing with criminals. Strider is a friend of Gandalf and was asked by him to join the four hobbits and provide protection and direction on their way. Later on (spoiler alert!), it is revealed that Strider is actually Aragorn, a descendant of the ancient kings from generations long ago, and he is the rightful heir to the throne.

How surprising and shocking it was to discover this outcast and rugged wanderer would one day be the heir to the throne! And yet, if you've read the books, you might not have been so surprised. There is a poem written about Aragorn (Strider) by Tolkien which gives us a hint. It's known by most Tolkien fans as "The Riddle of Strider," and it goes like this:

*All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.
From the ashes a fire shall be woken,
A light from the shadows shall spring;
Renewed shall be blade that was broken,
The crownless again shall be king.*

The basic premise of this riddle is to remind both the characters in the story and the reader of the likelihood we all have of looking at the outward appearance and making a quick decision regarding the value, worth and potential of that person. In the case of Strider, it was thought he was just a "gun for hire," offering protection as a

job, but some knew there was more to this man than meets the eye.

In 1 Samuel 16 we find the account of the prophet Samuel anointing David as the next king of Israel. In chapter 15, we read of the account of the Lord rejecting Saul as king because of his sinful and selfish actions. This moves the Lord to bring the next king onto the scene. The Lord tells Samuel to go to the house of Jesse of Bethlehem because He has chosen one of his sons to be king. Samuel makes his way to the house of Jesse and begins to meet several of the sons of Jesse. The oldest, Eliab, came by and Samuel thought to himself, "Surely, this is the next king before me."

At this point, let me refer back to the poem from Tolkien's work, "All that is gold does not glitter, not all who wander are lost." I can't help but think of David in this perspective. For the rest of this account, the Lord works in Samuel to see past the outward appearance (all that is gold does not glitter) because that is not what matters and to trust the Lord who sees the heart. I also find it interesting to see how the Lord waits until eventually the youngest son of Jesse – David the shepherd boy, who some believe was as young as 11 at this point in time – returns from the fields wandering around with the sheep (not all who wander are lost). What an interesting parallel of seeing what man sees in contrast to what God sees. We witness this not only through the eyes of Samuel the prophet, but even the eyes of Jesse, his own father, who had not even called him in from the fields to possibly consider David for this special occasion.

May we all see more clearly with the eyes of the Lord and see the potential in each person and the Kingdomwork which can be accomplished, rather than the shallow judgment of the outward appearance. May we not overlook those standing even right in front of us as we seek to find those willing to do the Lord's work. And let me take this a step further and offer the challenge to you – Are you overlooking even yourself as you stand before the Lord? Do you not know of the Lord's ability to use even YOU to accomplish His will? If He can use a young, unkempt "ruddy" boy like David to be the future king of Israel, then I'm pretty certain He can use you. Remember, "Not all those who wander are lost." Let the Lord take you on your journey and lead you to new adventures you never thought possible in the service of your King!



Lord, Make Me Brave!

Brittany Kellar, Community & Connections Director

When I hear the word brave, my mind instantly thinks of the firefighters who run into a blazing building to save a family, or Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King, Jr. I think about the men and women who are fighting overseas for freedom and justice. I think of missionaries who are in countries where, if you speak the name of a Jesus, you can be imprisoned or killed. Even people who skydive, though they may be a bit crazy, are totally brave in my opinion!

When I have to describe myself, the word BRAVE is far from the top of the list. I was and still am the girl who holds the backpacks while others in my group ride the roller coasters. I will take pictures while the other people in the group jump into the river and truth be told, I still sleep with a night light! However, two years ago, I surprised myself and did go on a zip lining adventure. Soaring through the East Texas tree lines was a scary and exciting test of bravery!

Sure, I would like to be braver, take more risks and be more carefree. Who wouldn't? You may be wondering why I would dedicate a whole article to something I'm not really skilled at. Although I'm not super brave, I do know a few things and the Bible has a lot of good insight, so maybe by the end, this sleep deprived momma can be encouraged and encourage you to be brave.

I grew up watching pretty much every Disney movie available. I was surrounded by the image of strong, brave and beautiful princesses. Belle was smart and displayed bravery when she traded spots with her dad as a prisoner in the Beast's castle. Ariel was brave when she surfaced, against her dad's wishes, and saved Prince Eric. Mulan displayed extreme bravery when she fled in the middle of the night and took her father's place in the emperor's army. Jasmine was brave and trusted Aladdin to board the magic carpet and fly around the city.

True, these are fictional movies. However, long before these princess movies were entertaining little girls like me, there was a true story, that is even more inspiring, about a young boy named David. Long before he became king, he was entertaining the Philistine army and a particularly angry and nasty giant, named Goliath. In 1 Samuel 17 we can learn a few lessons from the brave shepherd boy, turned war hero, who eventually became king.

- 1. Bravery requires a strong internal conviction.** Just like the other great heroes in history who had an internal conviction for peace or justice or equal rights, David was convicted to act on behalf of the nation of Israel because of the hatred and defiling remarks the Philistines and the giant were hurling out (verse 8-11). He couldn't sit by and do nothing. What current family, social or political issues are testing your beliefs and convictions? Do you hear the Holy Spirit stirring in you?
- 2. Bravery requires trust.** David didn't put trust in material things. He laid aside his armor and sword, and he put his trust in the one thing that wouldn't fail; he put all his trust in God! Verse 47: *"All those who gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give all of you into our hands."* Are we people who trust in God completely?
- 3. Bravery comes at a high price.** David left his immediate responsibilities of caring for the sheep and delivering food to his brothers for the important responsibility which was before him. Sometimes being brave and following the Holy Spirit's leading requires us to give up all our earthly comforts and sometimes even our life. David was willing to give up everything, are we?
- 4. Bravery requires action.** As I said earlier, I know things about being brave. I've heard the speeches, I've read the verses, but until I put what I know into action, it's worthless. David knew God was for him; David knew God could be trusted because David trusted God in the past and God's history can be trusted. Verse 37: *"The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will secure me from the hand of this Philistine."*

What is your Goliath? Where do you need God to make you brave? If we ask Him, He is faithful to provide what we need, it may not be easy, but taking the step and trusting God to make us brave will be worth it.

Let Me Tell You 'Bout My Best Friend



by Josh Colvin, Student Minister

*People let me tell you 'bout my best friend,
He's a warm-hearted person who'll love me till the end.
People let me tell you 'bout my best friend,
He's a one boy cuddly toy, my up, my down, my pride and joy.
People let me tell you 'bout him he's so much fun
Whether we're talkin' man to man or whether we're talking son
to son.
Cause he's my best friend.
Yes he's my best friend.
— Harry Nilsson, "Best Friend"*

To those of you familiar with this song, you're welcome! I'm happy to be able to help you get a song stuck in your head for the rest of the day. As you are either reading or singing the words to this song, there is a strong possibility you are thinking about the person or people who are your best friends. We all have them, and some of us even have more than one.

Our best friends come and go. I remember having the same best friend throughout my entire high school career. However, after we graduated, we grew apart. We are still friends but not as close as we once were. We all have those people in our lives who were once our best friend, but as time went on, one if not both of us changed, and we grew apart. There is nothing wrong with changing best friends or having more than one best friend.

We choose that person, or those people, to be our best friend(s) based on a number of factors. Some of those factors may include: someone you enjoy spending time with, someone who you trust with sensitive information, someone who has your best interest in mind, someone who would be there for you no matter what, and more than likely, someone who is in the same stage of life as you are.

Throughout this month's edition of *The Echoes*, we are looking at different points in David's life. In Scripture we see David not only had a best friend, but he had a best friend with whom he made a covenant. That takes being a best friend to a whole new level.

Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever'" (1 Samuel 20:42).

Jonathan and David came from different backgrounds, but that did not stop them from becoming best friends. They were both men of great faith who served the only living God. God provided them with His strength and courage, and they needed each other. It was almost like their friendship was God ordained.

David married Jonathan's sister, Michal, to become Jonathan's brother-in-law. Jonathan saved David's life from Jonathan's father, Saul, when Saul wanted to kill him. God chose David to be king of Israel instead of Jonathan. Even through all of this, Jonathan and David shared a deep and undying brotherly love for each other. To honor Jonathan, David took care of his son, Mephibosheth, who was lame in both feet; he ate at David's table "like one of the king's sons."

When it comes to friendship, we need to understand these things:

- 1. Friendship is a gift from God.**
- 2. A true friend is true.**
- 3. A true friend loves you as he/she loves himself/herself.**
- 4. A true friend helps you find strength in God.**

The friendship David and Jonathan had was true and genuine. Their friendship is an example to us. Friendships come and go, but we all need to find those friends with whom we can do life. Find friends who are going to build you up, who are going to be there for you through thick and thin, and ultimately who will help you grow in your walk with the Lord and vice versa. No matter how old or young you are, it is never too late to have a best friend(s).

"Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art ... It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things which give value to survival."

— C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*



What Are You Dishing Out?

by **Serena Maerkl, Children's Director**

As the oldest child in my house growing up, I had quite a bit of experience dealing with annoying siblings. There were four of us, and I often was responsible for watching them when my mom had to work. My brother Ian was usually the one who got on my nerves the worst. He was always messing with my stuff, and I got pretty creative at getting back at him. I remember I was leaving once for a trip, and he had gotten into my room again and ripped up a couple of my books, which for me was the most heinous of offenses. I was so mad and knew he'd get away with it (like all younger siblings seemed to). So before I left I told him, "Good luck finding what I took out of your room." There may have been an evil laugh thrown in for good measure. I don't think I've ever seen him so worked up. It drove him absolutely crazy. My mom called me halfway through the trip and begged me to tell her what I'd taken because he wouldn't let it go. Fun fact: I didn't take anything at all. Needless to say, he didn't mess with my room for a while. It may not have been the most mature moment of my life, even if he did kind of deserve it.

Whenever we feel wronged by someone, often one of our first thoughts is how we can possibly rectify the situation. If we're having a particularly human-minded day, rectify is code for another r-word, "retaliate." Lashing back at someone who has done us wrong is too often one of our first lines of defense. A slammed door during an argument, a cutting remark when we feel insulted, or an angry e-mail to some poor customer service rep after a bad retail experience. If you've ever been around children for any length of time, you'll observe this often. They hit when someone has snatched their toy, or they bite when someone gets in their space. One of their favorite comebacks is tattling. They'll snitch on someone today to get back at them for something that might have happened last week. So how do we fight back against this childish need we have to balance the scales?

God gives us a great example in 1 Samuel 24. David, along with his army of men, is hiding from Saul in a cave. Saul had been hunting David in order to kill him for quite some time. He didn't want David to take over as king and was willing

to do whatever it took to stop that from happening. David was given the perfect opportunity to preserve his own life and solve all his problems when Saul came into the cave alone to "relieve himself." Saul's guard was down, he was unprotected, and David's men were right there encouraging him to go through with it. Instead, David just cut off a piece of Saul's robe. He spared his life because he knew at that moment it would be wrong to kill "the Lord's anointed." In fact, David felt incredible guilt for even cutting the robe. This is the part of the story which really resonates with me, because that's the kind of petty little things I did to get back at my brother. I didn't outright hurt him, but I'd somehow find that one small thing to make the biggest impact (like painting his nails while he slept and hiding the polish remover). I wanted him to know I could have done more but chose not to.

That's exactly what David did; he went to Saul after he came out of the cave and confronted him. He showed him that piece of fabric to prove he had every opportunity to kill him, but chose not to. Saul's words back to David were, "*You are more righteous than I. You have treated me well, but I have treated you badly... the Lord delivered me to your hands but you did not kill me. When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed?*" (1 Samuel 24:17-19). Saul understood the magnitude of what happened in that cave and asked David to spare his descendants once David was king.

When we follow Jesus, we must leave the plotting to God, because He is much better at it than we are. David acknowledged that, even if he was tempted to push things along. He didn't kill Saul, even if the opportunity was there, and he didn't exact revenge, even if it was justified. The popular saying that "revenge is a dish best served cold" has no place in our Christian walk, no matter how tempted we may feel. We're much better off being more like David and not serving it at all.

Take a moment to think about the "Sauls" you may have in your life. How can you alter the course you are serving? Will you choose to serve up revenge or will you offer them a nice warm helping of love and grace?

IN A STRANGE LAND



by *Guest Contributor, Angela Hastings*

Have you ever found yourself in a season you never expected to see? What about in a job completely different from what you ever saw yourself doing or preparing for in college? This was me in March 2017. After over ten years in missions and ministry and a short sabbatical, I needed to find the next thing, or at least something to pay my mortgage. The strangest job fell into my lap and kept falling into my lap for a little over a year. Throughout our lives, we can find ourselves in weird seasons or in strange lands we never would have chosen, but for some reason, that's where we landed, wide-eyed and bewildered.

My friend contacted me about a seasonal position with a company which sets up golf vacations. They were looking for someone to cover the phones and do administrative work while a sales associate was out for medical leave. I could be polite on the phone. I could do some stuff on Excel. I could shred three-year old paperwork. I could spend weeknights at my parents' or a friend's; Ponte Vedra is 40 miles from Orange Park, 55 minutes on a good day, and I wasn't going to drive that every day.

A couple of weeks after I left my "seasonal" work, the manager invited me back. Someone resigned, and they needed me until they hired and trained someone else. They'd give me a pay raise, they'd let me work from home and they'd let me keep the vacation days I already had planned. Additionally, after Hurricane Irma, I reached out to them to see if they needed my services. They did, and I ended up helping them through busy season and a period of transition until the following April.

I never would have selected that season or job for myself, but I learned some important lessons and skills, and I don't think I would be here at ECC if I hadn't spent time in that strange land.

David found himself in a strange land at one point of his life as well. In fact, he actually moved into enemy territory for a little over a year. We read the account in 1 Samuel 27: *"The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines' David and his men settled in Gath with Achish."* Gath. The land of the Philistines. The land of Goliath. The land of the enemies of Israel.

As I studied the scriptures covering this season of David's life, I noticed a few lessons we can take away for our strange land experiences.

Make the most of the season you're in. When you are bamboozled by your current situation, the temptation can be to shut down or get stuck in a rut. Keep using your talents and skills. Keep growing. Do what you know to do. David was a warrior and a leader, and he continued to use his skills to that end. *"Now David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites and the Amalekites"* (1 Sam. 27:8). I'll venture to add, learn something new and build your character.

Be a blessing to the land you're in and the people you're with. Instead of pining for days of old or wishing for tomorrow and all that it holds, be a blessing right where you are. We learn *"Achish trusted David"* (1 Sam. 27:12) and considered him *"reliable"* (1 Sam. 29:6). He even told David *"you have been as pleasing in my eyes as an angel of God"* (1 Sam. 29:9). I can only assume that David was a blessing to Achish.

This reminds me of another time when the people of God were encouraged to make the most of living in a foreign land. *"Also seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper"* (Jeremiah 29:4-7). When you find yourself in a strange land, be a blessing to those around you.

Keep seeking the Lord. Personally, when things aren't going my way, and I find myself in difficult seasons, I get frustrated. My prayers become shorter and maybe even harsher, but I keep praying. I keep seeking the Lord. So did David. In the middle of this strange land, when faced with huge trial and no one to turn to, *"David found strength in the LORD his God"* (1 Sam. 30:6). No matter where you are or what your trial looks like, keep seeking the Lord.

Do you find yourself in a strange land? Which lesson from David's time in Gath rings true for you?



Honoring God in Prayer

by Karissa Hardin, Worship Ministry Director

Our mission statement as a church is Honoring One God, Growing One Faith and Serving One World. Private and public prayer is a wonderful opportunity to a) honor God, b) live out our faith and c) serve those around us by praying on their behalf. There are many examples and models for prayer throughout scripture – the most famous one being the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus gave us this template for prayer to teach us the appropriate manner in which to address God in our prayers to Him. Another great example of this can be found in David’s prayer in 2 Samuel 7:18-29.

Just prior to this, David had expressed his guilt that he had a permanent residence and the Lord had a temporary one (7:2). In response to David’s concern, God spoke to the prophet Nathan concerning His dwelling place. It is in this passage God makes a promise to David: “*Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever*” (7:15). It is in response to God’s message David prays (7:18-29).

The first thing David did in this prayer was acknowledge the characteristics of God. He addresses God as Sovereign Lord, and throughout he references God as Great, Trustworthy, and All-Knowing. Out of all those characteristics, David recognized God’s sovereignty over his life. He did not immediately say, “Lord, this is what I need from you.” His first priority was addressing God properly and with respect. In contrast to his ‘lifting up’ of God, David also admitted the state of his own life. Repeatedly, he admits that he’s only a mere human, and because of that, it was a great thing the Lord chose him and his house to rule over Israel. David’s conversation with the Lord was not only focused on himself

or even his immediate family. In addition to his house, he kept in mind all of God’s plan for all His people, and also remembered the things God had already done for them (7:22-24). Finally, in response to God’s promise to him, David asked God to keep His word, *so that the people will acknowledge that He is Lord* (7:26). David did not ask God to do this for his sake, but for the sake of the people – so they would know whose God was ruling over Israel.



I don’t know about you, but it’s really easy for me to wait to talk to God until I need something from Him. At mealtimes I thank Him for my food. During times of stress, I ask for patience and rest. On Sundays I thank Him for the good that He’s done in

my life and the lives of the people around me. Most of the time, my prayers are usually me-focused, and the subjects of my prayer are the things that I desire and the things I need in that moment. While I was reading David’s prayer, I wondered how often the church (including myself) prays in such a way as David did, or even as Jesus did! Do we use their examples in prayer in addition to any other aspect of our walk with God? Instead of exclusively approaching God in order to meet our needs, how much more will our prayers honor Him if, in addition to asking him for what we need, we also acknowledge His characteristics (*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name*), we admit and remember the state of our own life (*forgive us our sins*), we keep in mind God’s intention for all of His creation (*Your kingdom come, Your will be done*), and we ask for things with desire and intent that through God’s answer of that prayer, people will know the God we serve?



LIFE GROUPS
 6PM - 8PM
 @ THE COLVIN HOUSE
 MARCH 8, 2020
 MARCH 22, 2020




CIY PIE FUNDRAISER
 Sunday, March 1st



ROAD TRIPPIN'
 MARCH 9-13
 HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE TOUR



Middle School/High School Happenings

There are five months left until **CIY MOVE**. If you are in 8th-12th grade, then make plans to attend this high-energy conference! We will be heading to Lee University July 5th-11th. The cost for the entire trip is \$450. A \$50 deposit is due no later than March 8th. If you have questions, see Josh. Be on the lookout for more details.

Last year's **CIY Pie Sale Fundraiser** was a huge success. This year it will be happening on Sunday, March 1st. Each **HOMEMADE** pie costs \$10. They will be sold on a first come, first serve basis in the Fellowship Hall starting at 10am and after the Worship Service. Each sale goes to help cover the cost of a student going to CIY MOVE.

HS College Road Trip – If you are in high school and trying to figure out which college to go to, then make plans to come on a road trip to visit different Christian universities. Visiting these colleges will give you a little taste of what attending a Christian university is all about. The road trip is March 9th – March 13th. Don't miss out! See Josh C. for more info.

Youth Life Group will be on the 8th and 22nd this month. Make plans to come hang out at the Colvin House and dive into God's Word. Don't worry, there's food too!

The famed **Humans vs. Zombies** is back. This time there will be a twist. Instead of using Nerf guns, the hunting will be Laser Tag. All MS/HS students are more than welcome to attend. Cost is \$15. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Happy hunting!

Youth Sunday will be Sunday, March 29th. The students and adult volunteers of the ECC Student Ministry will be leading worship that Sunday. Make plans to attend to support this ministry.

CFA Spirit Night – Who doesn't love Chick-Fil-A? Who doesn't love helping students? You can do both! Have dinner at Chick-Fil-A near Tinseltown on Thursday, March 26th, simply mention you are with ECC and part of the sales will go to help out with summer camp and CIY for students.

HUMANS VS. ZOMBIES





YOUTH SUNDAY
 SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020




SPIRIT NIGHT

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
 5PM - 7PM




Proceeds go to benefit Englewood Student Ministry's Summer Camps. (NFSC & CIY)






**Prime Timers' Savannah Trip
Tuesday, March 10 • 7:30am-6:00pm**

Brunch at Mrs. Wilkes Dining Room
1 ½ - 2 hour trolley ride around the city



\$25 cash required for the trolley, as well as money for brunch. Contact the Arnolds for more details.

**Prime Timers' Luncheon
Chicken and Fixin's
Sunday, March 29**

After the Morning Worship Service In the Fellowship Hall • Watch for the sign-up sheet!



**Prime Timers' Movie & Lunch
Tuesday, March 24**

Prime Timers, we'd love for you to join us for the faith-based film *I Still Believe* based on the life of Christian recording artist, Jeremy Camp. Look for the sign up sheet in the foyer, and contact Bill or Beverly Arnold for details.

VBS 2020

Currently seeking a team of hard working, highly motivated, and energetic work crew!

Sign-Up Today!

DATES: May 31-June 4
FIRST MEETING: April 5

**Family Baptism Class
Sunday, March 22**



This class is open for all children in grades K-5 who are interested in learning more about baptism and their parents/guardians. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:45am to go over any questions you may have about the process here at Englewood, as well as materials to help your child learn more about what baptism means for their life. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up no later than Wednesday, March 18.



**Easter Egg Hunt/
Candy/Volunteers**

We are currently collecting candy & volunteers for our Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11 at 10am.



GAME NIGHT

All K-5th graders are invited to bring a snack and your favorite hand held gaming device (and age appropriate games) as we join forces to see who has what it takes to be a gaming champion.

Friday, March 20th

6:00-8:00 pm

Room 301



Ladies' Sunrise Beach and Breakfast Trip

There is nothing like seeing a new day dawning and worshipping our Savior at the beach! Meet us on **Saturday, March 28 at 6:45am, on Jax Beach** in front of the lifeguard station, right off of 3rd Street for a time of worship. Bring your own chair or blanket and money for breakfast at Panera afterwards.

Calling All Moms, Aunts, Grandmas and Little Ones!

Meet at Mandarin Park
14780 Mandarin Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32223, Friday, March 13th from 10:30am-12:00pm for some playtime and a picnic with your little ones. Kids of all ages are welcome (DCPS Spring Break).

Invite a friend and let's have some fun!



Want to find out more about Englewood Christian Church? Do you want to know more about what we believe and practice as a New Testament Church? Want to know more about membership and partnership with us in our pursuit to "Honor ONE God, Grow ONE Faith and Serve ONE World?" Do you want to find out how to begin a life changing relationship with Jesus Christ while being a part of an amazing, loving faith community?

All these questions and more will be answered at our CONNECT class. This class is geared for visitors, new members and anyone with questions about our church, our faith and our practices – but everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact the church office via email or phone, or sign up on the connection card any Sunday you are here, and we'll add you to the list. In March, we'll be meeting on **Sunday, March 8 at 9:00am in room 106. Breakfast provided!**

Babysitting Safety Certification Course



ECC is hosting a Babysitting Safety Certification Course on Saturday, March 28, from 12-5pm, taught by Safety First CPR & Safety Training. This course is for youth ages 10-16 and teaches important safety skills for young babysitters, for youth who want to assist with younger siblings, and even for youth who just want to learn how to stay home alone more safely. Childcare skills are also taught. Upon completion, students will receive an official certification from the American Safety and Health Institute. Cost is \$50/student and space is limited, so don't wait. Register online at www.mar28babysitting.eventbrite.com. For questions, please contact Carrie Taaca at info@safetyfirstjax.com.

The Next Steps of Grieving

Next Steps is a ministry for people who have lost a loved one or someone close to them. This ministry will offer you techniques and tools to help you manage your grief in ways that honor the relationship you have lost as you re-engage in life with a "new normal." Meeting with others who share the common bond of grieving can also create a sense of community and provide encouragement for you. Prior participation in the GriefShare weekly program is beneficial but not required. Meetings will be the first Monday of each month beginning March 2, 2020 at 7:00pm in room 105. All are welcome. There is no charge for the class and pre-registration is not required. For questions, contact Debbie Pace at 904-635-4653 or Glenda Young at 904-704-7644



Music Announcement

In an effort to make the most of our space, we are sorting through selections of unused music, plays, and musicals in our collection. We have an abundance of music in our library, and would like to share it with you before we consider finding it another home. If you would like to take any of this music home with you, or are aware of any churches, schools, or clubs in need of church music donations, please contact Karissa Hardin before May 30th.



SERMON SERIES The Gospel According to

David

David. David, the Shepherd Boy. David, the King. David, the songwriter. David, the warrior. David, the adulterer. David, the murderer. David, a man after God's own heart. During the month of March, we'll take a look at the life of David and several of the major events in his life. Each pivotal point in David's life will point and connect us with the greater King, Jesus, and the greater rescue He provides by his grace and through our obedience to Him. Join us each Sunday in March as we grow in faith together.



DECISION SUNDAY

MARCH 30, 2020

Are you ready to make a decision for the Lord? Do you need to commit your life to Him and be baptized? Are you contemplating the choice to unite with this faith community in fellowship and become a member of Englewood Christian Church? If so, then be encouraged to know that others will join you on this day we call Decision Day. Make that commitment to Christ and to His church on this special day together. If you have plans to make a decision on this day, please contact one of our ministry staff ahead of time so we can plan appropriately for your (and our) special day!

ECC VISION

WORSHIP
LIFESTYLE

HONORING ONE GOD

SACRIFICIAL
STEWARDSHIP

CONSISTENT
DISCIPLESHIP

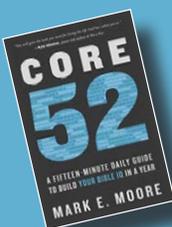
GROWING ONE FAITH

PERSONAL
EVANGELISM

LOCAL
SERVICE

SERVING ONE WORLD

GLOBAL
SUPPORT



Core52 Schedule

Week of March 1 – Chapter 26 – Our Co-Mission

Week of March 8 – Chapter 27 – The Gospel

Week of March 15 – Chapter 28 – Faith

Week of March 22 – Chapter 29 – Rest

Week of March 29 – Chapter 30 – Leadership



Don't forget to check out our weekly blog posts at eccjax.com/blog/

Life GROUPS

Join a Life Group if you haven't done so already. There is still a need for group leaders and host homes.

ADULT LIFE GROUPS

March Calendar

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

Teen Bible Bowl // 8:00am // Room 314
 Sunday School // 9:00 am
 Morning Worship // 10:15 am
 Children's programming during services

WEDNESDAY SERVICE TIMES

Dinner // 6:00 pm
 Programming for all ages, birth-adult // 7:00 pm
 Child care is provided during all services.

Date	Time	Event
1		Sunday Services
1		CIY Pie Fundraiser
2	2:30p	Monday Kids Club
2	7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 159
2	7:00p	GriefShare
2	7:00p	The Next Steps of Grieving
3		CWF Circle Meetings
4		Wednesday Services
5	1:00p	Sewing & Quilting
8		Daylight Saving Time Begins
8	9:00a	Connect Class
8		Sunday Services
9-13		HS College Road Trip
9	7:00p	GriefShare
9	7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 159
10		Prime Timers – Savannah Trip
10	10:00a	Hugs Ministry
11		Wednesday Services
12	1:00p	Sewing & Quilting
13	10:30a	Mommy & Me Park Meetup
15		Sunday Services
15	2:00p	CWF Board Meeting
16	2:30p	Monday Kids Club
16	7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 159
16	7:00p	GriefShare

MARCH 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Date	Time	Event
17	10:00a	Hugs Ministry
18		Wednesday Services
19	1:00p	Sewing & Quilting
20	6:00p	Kids Game Night
22		Sunday Services
22	11:45a	Family Baptism Class
23	2:30p	Monday Kids Club
23	7:00p	GriefShare
23	7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 159
24		Prime Timers – Movie & Lunch
24	1:00p	Hugs Ministry
25		Wednesday Services
26	1:00p	Sewing & Quilting
26		Chick-fil-a CIY Spirit Night
27-29		Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference
27	6:30p	HS/MS Humans vs Zombies Laser Tag
28	6:45a	Ladies' Sunrise Beach Trip
28	12:00p	Babysitting Safety Certification Course
29		Sunday Services/Decision Day/Family Sunday
29		Prime Timers – Carry-in Luncheon – Chicken & Fixin's
30	2:30p	Monday Kids Club
30	7:00p	GriefShare
30	7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 159

Additions

2/2 Transfer Jonathan Duffer
 2/23 Transfer Shannon Nyange

Thank You

Englewood Family,
 We would like to thank you for all the cards, thoughts and prayers that were sent to our family during our time of loss. A special thank you to everyone that helped make our dad's service so beautiful. We appreciate the care that you gave. We are blessed to have such a loving church family.

With sincere thanks,
LaRon Pate and the VanDeBoe Family

Thank you for all the prayers! I'm doing much better. – **Madonna Smith**

Thank you for all the prayers during the loss of my Uncle Jody. – **Kim Owens**

Coming In April

Spring Spruce Up
 April 4

Egg Hunt
 April 11

Easter
 April 12

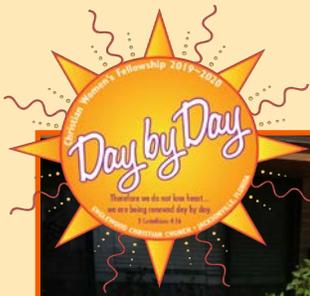
CIY Yard Sale
 April 18

Pantry Needs

Our food pantry is in need of:

- Canned chicken
- Canned tuna
- Cereal
- Mac N-Cheese





The Taaca Family showing LOVE to some of our Cherished Friends



Julie Colvin sharing thoughts on "Loving God More Dearly" with her lovely model, Karissa Hardin, at the February CWF Soup Supper

Growing One Faith



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT/KIDS' MYSTERY NIGHT



THE Game and the 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off



Joel Ramsey for the WIN!!!



2020 Faith Promise Missions Conference Results



The 2020 Faith Promise Conference has come and gone, but the impact left by our faithfulness in "Moving Mountains" has the potential to be felt and remembered for years to come. **In total, ECC committed \$189,768.00 to Faith Promise Mission Support for the 2020-2021 giving year.** Praise God! We were blessed by our great guests and missionary partners who shared with us the message of hope in Christ, challenged us to move mountains and told us about the great Kingdomwork going on around the world. A big thank you to the Callens with Christian Family Services, the Bliffens with Mid-South Bible College and Team Expansion and Michael and Debbie Haubner with Central Brazil Mission.



After recovering from such an energetic and exciting weekend, the missions ministry team met a few weeks later to plan the budget for the upcoming year. Based on the breakdown of giving, special commitments and other factors, our team was able to increase support for several of our mission partners as well as add three new partners to our Faith Promise program. We have added Central Brazil Mission, Anthony and Elizabeth Smith with Pioneer Bible Translators and Cloudland Seminary. Watch for more details as we begin to learn more and more about our new partners and also continue to pray and support all of our mission partners here at ECC. Thank you for your commitment to Christ and His Kingdom.



**ENGLEWOOD
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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Dated Material

(See panel to left)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



March 2020



**Daylight Saving
Time Begins**

Don't forget to set your
clocks forward one hour
on Saturday, March 7!

LOVE TO SERVE ~ SERVE TO LOVE.

Our children's ministry is growing, and we need YOU!
We would love to have you join our volunteer team.
Some of the areas we need help are:
Preschool Leads & Assistants, Elementary Assistants,
and Summer Subs (all ages)
Please contact Serena Maerkl for more information.
We have a place for you!

Spring Spruce Up

Join us on Saturday,
April 4 at 8:30am for our
annual spring cleaning day
for our campus. Breakfast
provided and we will finish
up by noon.

ecc social media

Facebook LIVE – Monday, April 6 @ 11:00am
Weekly Blog that parallels our weekly reading from
CORE 52
Podcast Release Dates:
March 9 – Special Guest: John Bliffen from Team
Expansion
March 23 – Ministry Staff & Current Events –
Relevant discussions about current topics in culture.
This month – Pete & Josh preview the 2020 Major
League Baseball season.