

Masquerade

OCTOBER 2021



Being Authentic
in a World
Full of Masks

THE ECHOES

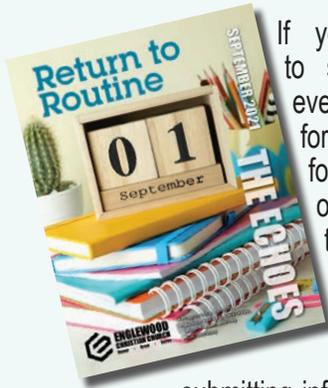


**ENGLEWOOD
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Honor • Grow • Serve

- Fall Festival
- 63rd Homecoming

You can't have a masquerade without masks. Such a touchy subject in our pandemic world. But when it comes to our faith, it's another story. Our masks can be very concealing, but also quite revealing. What is it we are trying to hide? What things need to come unmasked? We hope you enjoy the unveiling of the important things in life in which we must be true and authentic.

DEADLINES



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



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:30am - 5:00pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School
9:00am

Worship Service/Children's Programming
10:30am

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

6:00pm Dinner

6:30pm Prayer Gathering

7:00pm Programming for all ages

Connect with Us Online!

www.eccjax.com



www.facebook.com/eccjax/



@ECCJAX

GET OUR APP!



WORSHIP
Every Sunday
@ 10:30am

Scan the QR code to check in on Sunday mornings – get the bulletin, prayer list, online giving and connection card all in one place!



Contributions September 26, 2021

General Fund

Week 17 Budget..... \$178,483.00

Week 17 Totals \$155,527.95

Faith Promise

Week 30 Budget..... \$129,192.00

Week 30 Giving..... \$156,418.00

ECC Statistics

Morning Worship	Sunday School	Wednesday Night
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Sunday, August 29

146	80	n/a
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Sunday, September 5

154	75	n/a
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Sunday, September 12

156	93	56
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Sunday, September 19

161	83	69
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Sunday, September 26

157	84	82
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Totals include estimated online attendance

ECC Church Staff

Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister

Josh Colvin, Student Minister

Karissa Mead, Worship
Ministry Director

Serena Maerkl, Children's Director

Angela Hastings, Office Manager

Kim Owens, Publications Director

Mary Worth, Bookkeeper

Sherrie Boger, TLC Director

Weekly Choir Schedule

Wee Praise

Wednesday @ 7:00pm in 314

JWK

Wednesday @ 6:00pm in 314

Vocal Explosion

Wednesday @ 5:45pm in 208

Adult Worship Choir

Sunday @ 11:30am in 209

CALENDAR OCTOBER 2021

Quilting/Sewing Group
Wednesdays at 1:00pm

Sunday, October 3
ECC Homecoming Sunday

Monday, October 4
GriefShare – Covid & Grief
Week 1

Tuesday, October 5/
Saturday, October 9
CWF Circle Meetings

Saturday, October 9
Family Corn Maze

Monday, October 11
GriefShare – Covid & Grief
Week 2

Tuesday, October 12
Office Closed in the
morning
CWF Board Meeting
Men's Quarterly Dinner
Meeting

Friday, October 15
Prime Timers – Dessert &
Entertainment

Saturday, October 16
Men's Breakfast
ESM – Camp Clean Up

Wednesday, October 20
Blood Drive

Thursday, October 21
Young Adults Bowling
Tournament

Saturday, October 23
North Florida Camp
Fall Festival

Sunday, October 31
ECC Annual Fall Festival

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

What's Behind the Mask? Living an Authentic Faith in a Faithless World

by Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister



Have you ever seen someone from a distance, thought you knew who they were, began to approach them to converse with them, then realized at the last moment it was not who you thought it was? Yeah, me, too. With the pandemic creating the need (whether mandated or self selected) to wear a mask, I've had even more experiences in this. It's one thing to recognize someone you think you know when you can see their entire face, but it's an even tougher challenge to see if you can recognize them by their forehead (or I guess maybe the eyes might be good to look at, too)!



Having to wear masks has forced many to hide more than half of their face behind it, thus leaving the rest of us wondering, "Who is that person behind the mask?" I did see one creative solution to this, though. I walked by someone in the grocery store recently who was wearing a custom made mask had an image of their mouth and nose on the mask. In fact, not until I was quite close was I able to figure out they were actually wearing a mask!

Hopefully, the day is coming soon when we can all put our masks aside and walk around with the ability to have everyone see our whole face! Too bad we don't choose to do the same with our faith. You see, unfortunately, many of us wear masks not only on our face, but over our heart and soul, trying to hide who we really are from the rest of the world and even worse, trying to hide it from God. We are afraid of what people may think of us if they really knew who we were. We are afraid of the price we may pay when it comes to our relationships or our careers or our finances if we are forced to come clean and live life outside of the masks to which we so strongly cling. We are full of fear about being completely honest with everyone and with God about who we truly are.

In 1 John, the apostle helps us see the need we have to remove our masks and to "walk in the light." A mask is nothing more than

a device designed to keep something hidden or unrevealed. You could even say, to keep it in the darkness. It's time for us to come out of the darkness and come into the light.

1 John 1:7 says, "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."

Let us come out of the darkness, out from behind the mask, and live in the light; the light that is Christ. The

best way for us to be authentic is to live life mask free. We need to remove the masks of self-doubt and insecurity. We need to take off the masks which hide our weaknesses and faults. We need to cast aside the masks which so feebly hide our sinful habits and mistakes. We need to throw away the masks and live our life in the light.

Anthony Smith, a mission partner of ours, recently shared a devotional thought he heard from one of his fellow team members on the field. Here is what he said:

On Mondays we have staff devotions. One of the local translators provided the lesson and it was very good. Here it is, in part.

When God made the trees, he spoke to the ground. When God made the fish, he spoke to the sea. When God made man, he spoke to himself. A tree without earth dies. A fish without water dies. So, too, a man without God has no life.

Simple and profound.

Let's remember how to be the most authentic we can – by living in the light. Let's stop playing a game of masquerade and start living a real, authentic life found only in Jesus. We have nothing to hide, nothing to keep secret and nothing to fear when we live our life for Him and in Him.



Authentic Relationships

by Josh Colvin, Student Minister

There has been a longstanding debate about best friends. Can you have more than one best friend? I have had this debate numerous times with students in the youth group. Everyone is split 50/50. I'm on the side of yes, it is possible to have more than one best friend. Here's why: different people in our lives meet the different needs we have in our lives. My wife, Julie, is my best friend for obvious reasons, but I have three or four guys whom I would consider my best friends as well. There are things with which I can go to Julie which I won't go to my best guy friends for. There are different things I will go to my guy best friends for which I won't necessarily go to Julie with because they are guys. Those people meet the different needs in my life. What side of the debate do you fall on?

As I am writing this, Julie and I have some friends who are visiting from Indiana. They are two people whom we would consider our best friends. We concluded the best kind of relationship/friendship to have is that which takes little to no effort to maintain, meaning no one has to be "on" in the friendship. Everyone is comfortable around each other, and even if you haven't seen each other in over a year, the relationship picks up right where it left off. No awkwardness, no fakeness, just authenticity, love and care for one another. Who you see is who you get.

I guess you could say a group of your closest, or best, friends would be considered part of your "Inner Circle." As many of you know, I am a huge fan of professional wrestling – the scripted and not fake wrestling. Here in Jacksonville is a promotion called All Elite Wrestling, within which is a faction called the Inner Circle. They are a group of wrestlers who go everywhere together, who wrestle together, and who have one common goal, and that is to be the best in AEW. If this wasn't scripted and in real life, you could say they are doing life together.

Jesus, the person whom every Christian is supposed to represent and emulate, had an inner circle of best friends He did life with. Most people consider Peter, James and John to have been part of Jesus' inner circle. He took these three to big events the other nine didn't go to. He took them to the transfiguration. He took them when he healed Peter's mother-in-law. He took them when he went to heal the daughter of the synagogue ruler. While

praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, He took them to a place He did not take the rest. Look at John. He was referred to as the "one Jesus loved" in Scripture. We weren't there, but I think it is safe to say these three men were probably Jesus' best friends. He made them better and poured into these guys and

did life with them, all the way up to the time He was taken into Heaven.

When it comes to your friendships/relationships, is your inner circle making you better or less than your best? Is it building you up or tearing you down? Ultimately, when it comes to our "best" friends, or the people who are in our inner circle, we should be building one another up and helping each other grow. These friendships/relationships should not be hard. They should not be awkward. They should not be exhausting. They should not be fake. These friendships/relationships should be authentic. In them, we should be and actually need to be open and honest. Who is in your inner circle? Who are you sharing and doing life with?

And finally, is your relationship with Jesus fake or authentic? Is your relationship with Jesus awkward or exhausting? Are you investing in your relationship with Jesus and allowing Him to change you? Only you know that answer.

You're my best friend!

You're my best friend!

My monthly challenge for all of us is to pray for an opportunity to have an authentic relationship with just one person and also to have an authentic relationship with Jesus.

Christian Mom Guilt



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

This one Wednesday in September started just like any other day in my house. Instead of the blaring sound of my alarm clock, I woke to the familiar sound of my children arguing. Proverbs 31:28 says, "Her children arise and call her blessed." While I had definitely arose, I did not feel so blessed at that particular moment. In fact, I felt downright afflicted. I thought to myself, surely I must be doing something wrong as a parent. My friends' kids can't possibly act this way. While I know that isn't the case, it's those times when my kids are acting their worst that I judge myself the most. The worst part about it is, as a Christian parent, we feel even more guilt when we struggle. We hide those failures away from some of the people we depend on the most – our church family. We fear that by revealing our vulnerabilities as parents, we will somehow be diminishing our "Christian-ness." So how can we be a good witness if we're not willing to disclose all the parts of our testimony?

As a mom, I can admit to struggling with what I call "Proverbs 31 guilt." Throw a pebble in a Hobby Lobby, and chances are you'll hit a tote bag, pillow, or wall art with a quote from that particular part of scripture. It can be quite intimidating when you start comparing yourself not only to the ladies who buy these items, but the very nature of the woman in this passage. I mean, come on, look at the title, "The Wife of Noble Character." When I read through it, I can't help but see a list of things I'm doing wrong. I was definitely not feeling very noble when I was helping my youngest with her homework two nights ago, and I really didn't sound noble at all when my boys were banging on the living room walls at 11:00 at night last week. Somehow in my mind, I've let that scripture about generalized character traits, become bigger than all the examples of actual Godly women mentioned in the Bible. None of those women checked off all the Proverbs 31 boxes, so why do I feel like I'm a terrible Christian mom if I don't either?

Galatians 1:10 asks, "Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ." Are my feelings of inadequacy coming from my desire to validate myself for others, or from a genuine desire to have my actions align with God's expectations for me? To figure that out, I have to be willing to study Proverbs 31 through a different lens. Instead of reading it like a grocery list, I need to look at it more like a list

of hiring qualifications. Buying groceries means checking all the things off the list. When looking for a job, there are always going to be equitable skills, things which may not be specifically outlined in the job description, but are still an asset based on other experiences. Verse 31 says, "Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Your honor isn't defined by a specific list, but by the collective skills God gifted you with, and your willingness to use them for His honor.

As Christian women we need to be willing to share more than just our successes. Growing up in a Christian household doesn't exempt our child from the struggles in this world. Christ in His perfection, is still the father to imperfect children, which means my children aren't pinnacles of virtue either. They make mistakes, they do or say things that are hurtful, and quite often embarrass me in public. I'm sure they feel the pressure sometimes of having a mom who works in ministry and a dad who teaches at a Christian school, just like we feel the pressure to present flawless children because of our positions. As much as I would like them to be, my children cannot be "saved by association." Putting on a perfect family front on Sundays isn't helping any of us ladies! What is helpful is surrounding ourselves with other Christian parents with whom to be authentic. Understand the benefits of a think tank so to speak. Those Proverbs 31 skills I feel deficient in, are ones someone else excels in. That whole, "it takes a village" thing applies here. If you feel yourself doubting your own parenting this week, I promise you, you're not alone. There are lots of us moms out here in the trenches with the same doubts, and the same perfectly imperfect families. Remind yourself we're all worth far more than rubies, even when our kids act more like diamonds in the rough.





Expectations and Boundaries

by Angela Hastings, Office Manager

I think it's funny as we get ready to write our articles for *The Echoes* how often my conversations and circumstances tend to circle around our topics for the month. For example, this month I had four different experiences regarding authenticity in the course of a week!

Authenticity is refreshing to me. One of my favorite things is having coffee or a meal with a friend and talking about the important things in life. There's something powerful about unburdening your soul and sharing truth about where you're at and what's going on, as well as being a person with whom others can share. It's so important to answer people honestly rather than with, "I'm fine" when you're not. There's something almost holy about being vulnerable and then boldly approaching the throne of grace together and praying for one another. But let's be honest about being honest. It's not always the easiest thing.

As I was thinking about the idea of authenticity, I came across a definition which really resonated with me: "true to one's own personality, spirit or character." I definitely don't want to express the concept of following your heart or being true to yourself. When we surrender to Christ, we give up the rights to living our own way, and "*the heart is deceitful above all things*" (Jeremiah 17:9), so following your heart isn't what I'm talking about.

I'm talking about being sincere in our interactions, living out our convictions and being responsible with our lives. In order to do that, we have to understand, express and maintain our boundaries. Just like a fence or a moat represents a physical boundary, there are also emotional and spiritual boundaries for which each person is responsible. For example, I'm responsible for my emotions. This means I can't lash out at people even when I'm having a bad day. Being responsible for my emotions also means I can't let resentment build up about unmet expectations or crossed boundaries.

One of the biggest problems I see pertaining to this is often, these expectations or boundaries are not even expressed. In the book *Boundaries*, the authors, Henry Cloud and John Townsend,

teach about ten laws of boundaries, one of which is the Law of Exposure. We have to make our boundaries "visible to others and communicated to them in relationship" (page 103). How many times have you gotten mad about something someone did – or didn't do – but you didn't even talk about it with them? They don't

even know you're upset – or maybe they do because your actions and words are extraordinarily passive aggressive, but they don't know why – but you feel like your boundaries have been crossed, and you're hurt or frustrated. Your boundaries are there whether you express them or not. It is better to bring them out in the open and live authentically, rather than try to keep secret boundaries which no one even knows exist.

Another problem I often see regarding our boundaries is when we say yes to something to which we'd rather say no. I'm not talking about stepping outside of yourself and living in faith or out of your comfort zone and serving others. I'm talking about being *unable to say no* and giving beyond your capacity because you feel guilty into something. I'm talking about being

motivated by fear and not by love. Whether it's fear of loss of love, of another's anger or of losing someone's approval, when we say yes out of compulsion, we are not being honest and sincere. It may be uncomfortable saying no to a loved one, or even to a stranger, but in the long run, it is best to give an authentic yes or no and live from a place of love.

We are called to walk in the light (1 John 1:7). It's up to us to be authentic and open about our expectations and our boundaries. That doesn't always mean we will get what we want, but it does make it possible for us to maintain healthy relationships with others. It's up to us not to give of ourselves begrudgingly. We must sacrifice out of an attitude of love, not fear. This month, practice living authentically, expressing your expectations and boundaries. It may be difficult on you and possibly even on your loved ones. Living true to your personality, spirit and character will take courage and hard work. My prayer is that your authentic living will become refreshing for you and others!



Un-Masking Conflict



by Karissa Mead, Worship Ministry Director

I hate conflict. I hate talking about conflict. I am hating writing about conflict right now. I'd rather avoid it, to be honest. That's what I am: a big fat avoider. I don't know about you, but I imagine if you're reading this, you may be like me when faced with a problem: either you bite the bullet



and attack it head-on, or you avoid it and hope it goes away on its own. And to be honest, those are really our only two options when it comes to conflict resolution. But just because these are our only two options does *not* mean we *get* to be mean about it. I want to share with you one of my favorite conflict-resolution stories from Scripture – Jacob and Esau. It gives me courage to handle my own conflicts with others and comforts me when I'm in extended seasons of conflict.

Some of the biggest conflicts we can have with people are about comparison (or jealousy, which is what comparison *really* leads to, right?). Jacob and Esau's major conflict was about comparison in the form of Isaac's inheritance. Jacob looked at Esau's inheritance and birthright and decided he wanted it instead, even though (traditionally) the oldest son was to receive it. They were twins, after all. Not much difference in the way of which twin is older. And what did Jacob do? Over time, he manipulated Esau into handing over his inheritance willingly. Not just that, but he tricked his own father into giving him a blessing intended for Esau. Jealousy and comparison do some terrible things to the heart.

But so does anger. Jesus was extremely concerned about matters of the heart, so when He had an opportunity to teach His disciples about how sick their hearts were, He started by discussing murder. He said, "*anyone who murders will be subject to judgment,*" then said "*anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will [also] be subject to judgment*" (Matthew 5). Jesus takes matters of the heart seriously because the consequences of sin (which begins in the heart) are also quite serious.

It was serious for Esau. He vowed to kill Jacob over their conflict as soon as their father died. It's extreme, but anger leads to some extreme outcomes. Now, if you're like Jacob, you find out Esau wants to kill you and you run. Jacob fled, and during

his self-inflicted exile, he started a whole new life. Esau had to hold on to his anger, and Jacob had to hold on to his guilt. Both did so for years. By the time they were ready to confront each other, Jacob had established a whole clan of his own; with two wives, plenty of children, and plenty possessions.

Imagine *years* of conflict and separation from someone you love. Imagine you are Jacob, who was absolutely in the wrong. Imagine you are Esau, who harbored so much anger in his heart he wanted to murder his own brother. Imagine the possible outcomes of the imminent conflict when the two finally see each other in person again. And what did Esau do? He ran to Jacob, threw his arms around him, kissed him, and wept. Sounds like forgiveness to me.

I'm tearing up as I'm writing this because I see myself in every part of this story *except* the forgiveness part. How much hurt could we avoid simply by forgiving one another? How much pain can we heal by running to each other and asking for forgiveness from those we've hurt so deeply? How much more of Jesus could we share with the world if we stopped holding grudges?

How much time could we save simply by confronting one another in love?

When Jesus calls us to love our enemies, He also reminds us even those who don't love God know how to love those who love them. We are doing no more work than your average non-believer to love other people if we only love those who love us. The same goes for conflict, I think. The church is doing no more work toward resolving conflict than the rest of the world if its people aren't forgiving freely, even to those who don't deserve it in our eyes. The secret to conflict-resolution is forgiveness, and it needs to start with us. Those same people we don't think deserve our forgiveness are the same people the Father has already forgiven.

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." Colossians 3:13-14

MISSION SPOTLIGHT

Ability Ministry

DISABILITY
MINISTRY

Started more than 30 years ago with a vision and purpose put on the heart of Sam Stone from Standard Publishing, Ability Ministry was formed. ECC has supported this ministry for more than 20 years and will continue to do so as they partner with local churches to provide ministry resources for these special children of God. Here is a little more about Ability Ministry pulled from their website (www.abilityministry.com):

Who We Are

As an independent Christian non-profit ministry, we strive to enhance the lives of persons affected with disabilities by providing services for persons with developmental disabilities, including residence, job placement, opportunities for social interaction and spiritual growth. We seek partnership with individuals, churches, and other organizations to meet the physical and spiritual needs of persons with disabilities. We also work to enable others through training, resources, and encouragement to effectively minister. We also manage two residential facilities for adults with disabilities, one in Missouri and the other in Tennessee.

Our Mission

Equipping and empowering disability ministry for churches, families, and individuals affected by disabilities to become who God has created them to be. For almost thirty years, we have ministered to the disability community through direct service, by enabling others through training and resources to effectively minister to persons with disabilities, and through partnerships with churches and organizations to better meet the needs of people with disabilities across the country.

May we continue to be faithful in our Faith Promise gifts so we can be faithful in our partnership with Ability Ministries and all of our Kingdom partners here at ECC.



I M M E R S E

The Bible Reading Experience™

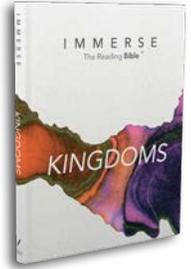
Can you believe we are approaching the halfway point of our fall semester of Immerse?

During the month of October, we will complete the *Immerse: Kingdoms* book and begin the *Immerse: Chronicles* book. This will continue our journey through the history of Israel and take us through the end of God's people as a nation and their return and rebirth after the exile.

If you are joining us on this journey, please be sure to PRE-ORDER the *Immerse: Chronicles* book through the ECC App or at the Registration Table on Sunday mornings. You can also purchase a copy on your own through any mass market book source (Amazon, Christianbook.com, etc.). We will take orders for *Immerse: Chronicles* through Sunday, October 3, then place our order in hopes of beginning distribution of them on Sunday, October 10. We will conclude *Immerse: Kingdoms* on Sunday, October 17 and begin *Immerse: Chronicles* on Monday, October 18.



Being alone isn't easy. Sometimes it's not what we planned for or hoped for. Sometimes it's a challenge. Sometimes it's exactly where God wants us to be at that moment. Lee McDonald and Sheri Smith, two ladies from our church family, are hoping to start a monthly small group comprised of single ladies looking to help each other keep God first, trust Him for the future and be who He created them to be. If you are interested in participating in this group, let us know your availability for meeting times and interest level (you can scan the QR code or click the link in the e-newsletter). This is not a commitment to attend or participate, but an attempt to gather information regarding the interest level for a group like this and if feasible, what the best day and time to meet would be. Thanks for your interest in this ministry endeavor.



Immerse: Kingdoms

WEEK 7 (10/4)

Samuel-Kings

Day 31 pp. 210-215

Day 32 pp. 215-222

Day 33 pp. 222-228

Day 34 pp. 228-237

Day 35 pp. 237-242

WEEK 8 (10/11)

Samuel-Kings

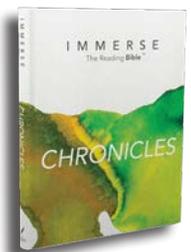
Day 36 pp. 242-248

Day 37 pp. 248-255

Day 38 pp. 255-260

Day 39 pp. 260-267

Day 40 pp. 267-271



Immerse: Chronicles

WEEK 1 (10/18)

Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah

Day 1 pp. A9-2

Day 2 pp. 3-7

Day 3 pp. 7-12

Day 4 pp. 12-15

Day 5 pp. 15-20

WEEK 2 (10/25)

Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah

Day 6 pp. 20-25

Day 7 pp. 25-29

Day 8 pp. 29-33

Day 9 pp. 33-39

Day 10 pp. 39-43

While many of the specific details about this year's Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat are still being decided, there are two things we know for sure. We're going to need a lot of candy and we're going to need cars! We will be collecting bags of individually wrapped candy in the foyer during the month of October, as well as registering volunteers to decorate a trunk and hand out candy during the event.

The Fall Festival will be on **Sunday, October 31st and will begin at 6:00pm**. All other details are TBA. Watch the e-newsletter for finalized plans.



For more than six decades, the vision and mission of the body of Christ known as Englewood Christian Church has been accomplished and completed by God through many faithful members and families. Each year, to commemorate God's blessing on this local congregation, we celebrate our anniversary by having a Homecoming weekend. At this time, we reflect back on what God has done through this body of believers, encourage each other to stay the course in the present work and look ahead with anticipation to what God has in store for us in the years ahead.

Please join us on **Sunday, October 3**, for the 63rd anniversary of Englewood Christian Church. We will have

special guest speaker, "Timothy" of ECC and current Faith Promise mission partner, Christian Arnold, share the message with us during the morning service. Be sure to invite any other previous members, guests, friends or family of ECC to make this a great celebration together. We hope you can join us as we celebrate 63 years of God's faithfulness while looking ahead to what lies in the future! With the Lord's guidance and direction, there is so much more for us to see!! #sixtythreeandmoretosee

NOTE: Due to continued heightened awareness relating to the pandemic, the ECC Leadership has decided not to have the annual Homecoming potluck dinner after the services on that day.

On **October 9**, we are planning a family outing to Amazing Grace Family Farms in Green Cove Springs. Here are a few things you need to know about the registration process:

1. Tickets will need to be purchased from the farm directly. When you register there will be a link taking you to the website to buy them. This is the cheapest option for our families, since the farm has special pricing for pre-sales. We also will not have to limit the number of families that can attend.
2. We will be renting van for any family that would like to ride together. There will be a spot on the registration to let us know your transportation plans. Please note that you must have your tickets in hand in order to ride with us. While tickets can be purchased on site, there is no guarantee that they won't reach capacity by the time we arrive.

We will be meeting at the church at 9:00am and arriving at the farm at approximately 10:00am. Contact Serena Maerkl for details or questions!



Thank You

My family and I want to express our heartfelt thanks to my Englewood Church Family for all the prayers, cards, meals and love for us during this very difficult time. Larry truly loved this church as do I and my family. Our extended family and friends that watched via video commented on the love they felt from our church family.

Doris and the Huebel family



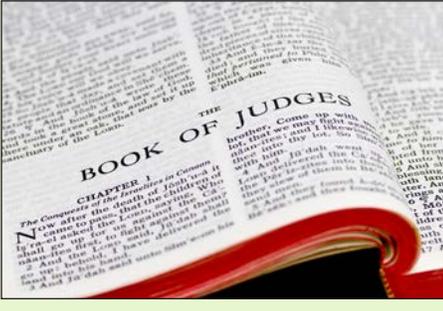
Because we had to reschedule, the quarterly dinner will be on **Tuesday, October 12th at 6:30pm**. Please see Keith Vincent if you would like to help cook, and see Tom Bush for any more details. The cost is \$5. Sign up online! If you signed up for the postponed event, contact Josh Colvin to get signed up and transfer your credit.

Every 3rd Saturday of the month there will be a Men's Breakfast. Breakfast will be on **Saturday, October 16th in the Fellowship Hall** followed by prayer and the return of a short devo. Make plans to enjoy breakfast. Sign up online.



Mark your calendars for the Annual Men's Retreat on **November 5th - 6th at North Florida Christian Camp**. The cost will be ONLY \$65. Dinner is at 6:30pm on Friday night and the retreat will be over at 3:00pm Saturday afternoon. A great weekend is planned. Please plan to get yourself to NFCC. Everything is included with this price. Don't miss it!

Young Adults are doing a RightNow Media Bible Study on Judges at Chris and Karissa Mead's house. We meet at 6:30pm on Thursdays for food, fellowship, and discussion. Join us anytime! Contact Karissa Mead for the address.



Join ECC's Young Adults for a night of friendly competition and some sweet treats. Meet us at the church, **October 21st at 6:30pm** to carpool. Register for \$5 TODAY!

Join us on **Friday, October 15 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall** for a performance from Let Freedom Sing! Bring a dessert to share.



It's time to give back. Middle school & high school students will be traveling to **North Florida Christian Camp on Saturday, October 16th** to help out as they prepare for their annual Fall Festival the following weekend. After we finish working, the camp will graciously open up some attractions for us to have fun. We will leave church at 8:30am and arrive back to church around 6:30pm. Lunch will be provided.

If you are a high schooler, then this weekend is for you. Take a break from school and get refreshed at a weekend at North Florida Christian Camp. Mark your calendars for **Friday, January 14th - Sunday, January 16th**. The cost for the weekend is ONLY \$100 if you sign up in October!



October 4 & 11 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall - How do you work through grief during a pandemic? GriefShare experts offer helpful insights on how to cope with current social restrictions and anxieties—and what Scriptures to turn to for guidance.

Also, mark your calendars for Monday, **November 1**. GriefShare will be hosting a *Surviving the Holidays Seminar*. Watch the ECC website and e-newsletter for more details.



Everyone had a great time escaping, or at least trying to, at One Way Out!



e-City Kids worked hard at the Church Workday!



The food was great! The movie was great! The weather was even better for everyone to enjoy themselves at the movie night.



e-City Kids enjoying their CFA lunch after pulling all those weeds

ECC WORKDAY

Thank you to all who came out for our Fall Workday last month!



Beginning October 1, our office staff will be transitioning away from our old email formats. All ECC emails ending with "@att.net" will no longer be valid, and you will not be able to send mail to us. Please be sure to check your contact lists and delete these old formats. All our new email addresses follow the same format: first name last *initial*@eccjax.com (for example, angelah@eccjax.com is the email address for Angela Hastings, our office manager).



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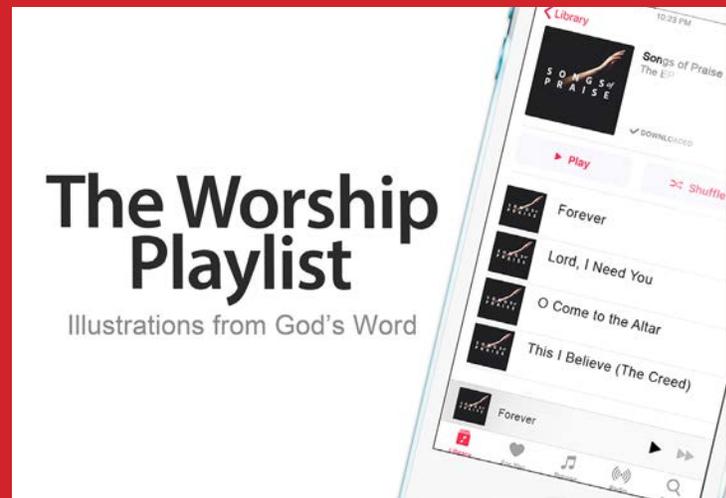
October 2021

Englewood Christian Church Blood Drive

Wednesday, October 20 - 5:00-8:00pm
Green Lot off Barnes Rd

Walk-ups are welcome, but sign ups are encouraged
Watch for details on the app and website!

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers



Even though worship is seen as a lifestyle principle, we still work and move through this aspect of our faith primarily through the use of music and songs. Each week we gather together to worship with the main avenue of uniting in worship coming through the songs we sing. During the month of October, we'll take some time to explore the spiritual truths and beliefs we are learning, repeating and offering to God on a weekly basis – truths such as love, grace, atonement and more.

ECC VISION

Worship Lifestyle | Honoring One God | Sacrificial Stewardship
Consistent Discipleship | Growing One Faith | Personal Evangelism
Local Service | Serving One World | Global Support