

JULY 2021

# Freedom

# THE ECHOES

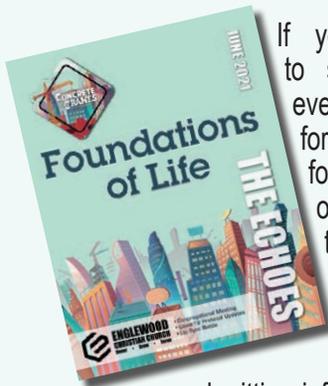


**ENGLEWOOD  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Honor • Grow • Serve

- VBS: Concrete & Cranes
- Immerse
- Mission Spotlight: Smith Family

This year, Independence Day falls on a Sunday. Independence Day is the day our country celebrates the freedoms gained by our first military veterans and the unalienable rights established by our founding fathers. Ironically, as believers in Christ, we get to celebrate our freedom from sin each Sunday as we gather together. This month, as our nation reflects on our independence, our staff articles have taken a spiritual angle to the topic of freedom and all we have in Christ. Our independence as a nation is certainly worth celebrating, but let us not forget the ultimate freedom we all have in Christ.

## DEADLINES



If you would like to submit articles, events or activities for consideration for the next issue of *The Echoes*, the deadline is **Friday, July 16.**

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](mailto: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](http://www.eccjax.com)



[www.facebook.com/eccjax/](https://www.facebook.com/eccjax/)



@ECCJAX

GET OUR APP!



WORSHIP  
Every Sunday  
@ 10:30am

PRAYER GATHERING  
Wednesdays  
@ 6:30pm

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 June 20, 2021

### General Fund

2020-2021 Year End Budget ... \$517,244.00

2020-2021 Year End Totals ..... \$483,425.27

2021-2022 Week 3 Budget..... \$ 31,497.00

2021-2022 Week 3 Totals..... \$ 21,424.70

### Faith Promise

Week 12 Budget..... \$ 68,902.40

Week 12 Giving.....\$113,280.00

## ECC Statistics

Morning Worship	Sunday School	Wednesday Night
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### Sunday, May 30

153	94	75
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### Sunday, June 6

174	118	59
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### Sunday, June 13

187	120	65 (VBS)
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### Sunday, June 20

181	100	100 (Lip Sync)
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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

## CALENDAR JULY 2021

### GriefShare

Mondays at 6:30pm

### Quilting/Sewing Group

Wednesdays at 1:00pm

### Middle School Camp

June 27-July 2

### Young Adults' Bible Study

#### Kicks Off

Thursday, July 1

### Prime Timers' Dinner & Movie

Friday, July 2

### T-Shirt Sunday

Sunday, July 4

### ECC Office Closed

Monday, July 5

### CFW Circle Meetings

Tuesday, July 6/  
Saturday, July 10

### Elementary Camp

July 11-14

### CIY Move

July 12-16

### CFW Boot Camp & Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 13

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, July 17

### e-city kids Hillbilly Olympics

Saturday, July 17

### ECC Out & About

Tuesday, July 20

### Young Adults' Movie Night

Friday, July 23

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## Thank You

To our partners at Englewood Christian Church,

The Englewood Elementary Administration and staff would like to extend our gratitude for our partnership this year. From the jackets to the treats on Teacher Appreciation Week, our community has been blessed with your generosity. Thank you, Ms. Maerkl for helping organize. We look forward to continuing our partnerships in the next school year.

Grateful,

Principal Luisa Reis

# Freedom

## IN TRUTH



by Pete Ramsey, Senior Minister

I love to play Monopoly. More specifically, I love to play against my twelve-year-old son, Joel, and beat him down until he's completely out of money and every piece of property is mortgaged! Of course, there is the random odd occurrence when he does that to me, but let's not talk about that right now. There are

rules to follow in the game of Monopoly which make the gameplay move quicker and try to simulate real life circumstances, but in reality, they are a distant and far cry from the truth. For example, there are several "Get out of jail free" cards within the game of Monopoly. Who ever heard of such a thing?!?! And here's another, FREE PARKING and the cash which goes along with it (which, technically isn't even in the official rules, but always is in



my "house" rules). Can anyone tell me where I can find a parking spot in this real life which will help me get not only all my taxes back, but everyone else's taxes, too? And finally, investing all your assets in real estate and properties! Really? Who's giving that advice? I mean, I know the housing market is up right now, but in the long run, I think there are better ways to increase your worth.

These three little lies help illustrate a truth I think we all can invest in: Real freedom is found only in the truth.

Let me explain. Have you ever told a lie or been a part of a deception? Let me help you out; have you ever tried to pull off a surprise party or tried to keep a secret for someone? And in the process had to come up with a "cover story" about what was really going on? I mean, you didn't really mean to lie, and you weren't trying to hurt someone, but it's a great example of the burden we carry when we practice deception and reside in untruth. It gets more and more complicated the more and more you have to make things up.

A cover story for where you are going while getting the party set up.

A cover story for why none of your friends want to join you for "dinner" that night.

A cover story for why you have to take a particular route when there is clearly a quicker way.

A cover story for why you had to dress up just to go out to Wal-Mart.

A cover story for why you have voice mail messages from all your spouse's friends and family, but none of them are calling him/her.

A cover story for why you've been so jumpy lately every time your spouse enters the room.

...Ring a bell, anyone? See how crazy it is and how burdensome it is to keep coming up with untruths?

Now, this example is harmless, in most cases, and usually leads to forgiveness (I hope so) and a great party, but when we parlay this example into real life circumstances – broken relationships, missed responsibilities, dishonest practices, illegal activities, selfish desires and more – we quickly see how complicated, stressful and entangling it can all be. Who wants to live a life always in fear of being found out? Who wants to try to exist every day juggling the lies they've told and the deceptions they are a part of? Why would anyone want to choose to punish themselves with that kind of burden?

On the other hand, as Jesus says in John 8:31-32, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." By living according to the teaching of Jesus and the commandments of God, we are living a life of truth. Within that life of truth are some true statements which keep us free, in particular free from our sin, free from deception and free from worry.

**1. Truth is always the same!** – You'll never have to think about or try to remember what "story" goes with what circumstance.

*Continued on page 9.*



# CHOOSE Freedom

by Angela Hastings, Office Manager

I can't help but think about Isaiah 61 when I hear the word freedom. It was one of the scriptures God used to confirm my calling as a missionary to Romania. Here are the first few verses the prophet wrote:

*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.*

I encourage you to read the entire chapter. It's full of promises of the coming Messiah and of His eternal kingdom. In fact, Jesus Himself, quotes this exact Scripture and proclaims it as fulfilled when He is in the temple in Nazareth (see Luke 4:14-21).

The thing about proclaiming freedom and release from darkness though, is the person hearing this proclamation actually has to walk out of that prison and darkness. Sadly, we can get so used to our personal prisons – addiction, dead-end relationships, emotional roller coasters, people pleasing behaviors, downward spiral thinking, and so on – they actually become comfortable to us. We get complacent. The idea of walking out of that situation and living differently seems too hard and like too much work. No thanks. I'll take my "three-hots and a cot" and stay right here in this prison-like darkness.

I think for most of us, when we think of spiritual darkness and prison, we think of our lives before Christ. However, Paul encouraged

the church, those already saved and in relationship with Him, to watch out for returning to those places. In Galatians 5:1, he writes, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then,

and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Don't be burdened **again**. As in, you're already free, but be careful to actually live like it.

Christ didn't set us free so we could go on living in our selfish and harmful lifestyles. He set us free so we could live free. Not to do whatever we want, but to follow Him and live the life we were created to live. A life full of favor, comfort, provision, beauty, joy, praise and righteousness, to show off His magnificence.

For me, freedom looks like choosing joy and peace no matter what is happening in my life. I remember being encouraged to smile more when I was in high school. I remember being stressed

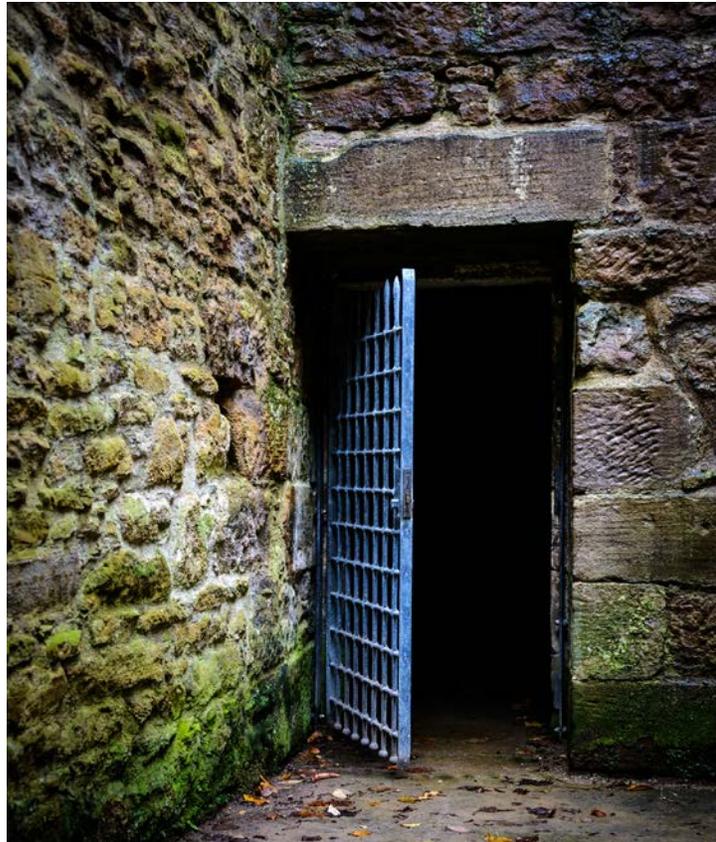
about little things and being overwhelmed by big things when I was in school. When I was a teacher, I remember meltdowns (not the students', but mine) and not being able to stop crying for what seemed like hours. I remember telling a friend several years ago if something didn't change, I wasn't sure if I'd make it.

I had to change. I had to walk in the Spirit and let joy and peace be a bi-product of trusting Him. I had to "take heart" like Jesus encouraged His disciples in John 16:33. I had to learn the hard truth I can be okay even if everything around me is not okay.

Sure, I still have my days. Don't we all? But they're really just moments. They're not all-consuming. I'm free to have joy and peace and to keep functioning no matter the circumstances.

What prisons and darkness do you need freedom from? Jesus came to set us free, and we're called to live like it.

Choose freedom.



# Freedom FROM LONELINESS

by Serena Maerkl, Children's Director



The transition from the school year to summer break is always a difficult one for me, and this year was especially hard for my oldest son, as well. In fact, the other night he asked me, "Mom, do you think there'll be any time that I'm alone in the house this summer?" While some people may think this sounds like a strange question, I knew exactly what he meant. Like me, he's definitely an introvert. The 180° change from his peaceful hours of solitude four days a week (while virtual schooling at home) to the sensory overload of having almost your entire family in the house 24/7 is overwhelming. Because, for an introvert, alone time is what recharges our emotional batteries, and my son was communicating to me he needed a break from all of us. We talked through it for a while, and I did my best to give him advice on how to balance his need for peace while living in what can be at times, a very un-peaceful household.

It's sometimes a little too easy to tip the scales from needing to be alone to being lonely. This last year and a half of precautions has shown us this. The more time we spent without plans, the easier it got to avoid accepting them, and our smaller our circle of friends. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is a theory in psychology which names and prioritizes the things people need and therefore will seek out. It starts off with your major life or death needs like food, water, air, and sleep. As you go higher in the pyramid, the needs switch from basic physical needs to things which help nurture our emotional needs. One such emotional need is the need for companionship (which is quite a conundrum for us introverts, let me tell you). Genesis 2:18 points out God didn't make us as solitary beings; "It is not good for man to be alone." It was at this point He made Eve, so Adam would have a partner. Because of this, we are innately wired to desire to seek out other people. It's one of the reasons why rooting yourself in a church body is so important. You can never be alone with the church at your back, lifting one another up and encouraging each other.

Then there are those times in life when being surrounded by people becomes more of a burden than a blessing. When this feeling comes over me, I'm drawn to two things. Jesus and music. Sometimes all I need is a drive in the car, music blaring, and ending it with prayer when I get back to in my driveway. It's comforting to know my desire for time alone, doesn't mean Jesus has taken a break from me. In 1 Kings 19, Elijah felt a similar need



to flee from his current situation. After taking down all the prophets of Baal, he was overcome with fear and sorrow. In verse three it says he "ran for his life." He was told by the Lord to stand on the mountain in Horeb. While in there, it is said Elijah witnessed a great wind, an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in any of them. God came to Elijah in a gentle whisper, in the peace and the calm. Elijah may have wanted, and maybe even needed to be alone, but the solitude came with the whisper of the Lord's presence. Following God, means freedom from loneliness, even when you have to selfishly take time to be alone. So the next time you feel yourself struggling with a similar desire to run for the hills, remind yourself God may just be giving you the chance to hear His quiet voice. Give yourself permission to take the time to listen.

# Freedom

## TO SERVE



by Josh Colvin, Student Minister



**H**ave you ever met someone who loves to serve? Or maybe they do not love to serve, but you always see them serving in some sort of capacity and putting their best into it? You could say they have a servant's heart or a servant's attitude. You're probably thinking of someone who fits that description right now. The person who comes to mind as I am typing this is Henry Pratt. It always seems like he is doing something for someone else. It does not matter how big or small the project is, if he has time he will help that person out. Just last month he was up at the church in ninety-five-degree weather, working on a broken pipe in the bathroom. It is safe to say, Henry has a servant's heart and servant's attitude. Anyone who knows him knows he's not doing it for recognition, but rather for the kingdom. He is living like Jesus. He's probably not going to be amused I talked about him here, but that's okay.

Ephesians 2:10 says, *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do."* This idea about freedom to serve only comes from Christ himself. What we do, our activity, only happens because we were saved by grace through Jesus Christ. As believers in Jesus Christ, we have work to do for His kingdom. God has a plan for our lives.

One thing my wife always tells me is if I am doing something, like serving, to get the approval of others, then I am doing it for the wrong reason. We are to serve to give all the glory to God. We are to serve to let His light shine in us and for everyone to see. We are to do so humbly and with love in our hearts. Galatians 5:13 says, *"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."*

When we've examined our heart, gotten ourselves out of the way, and exalted Christ, then we are free. We are free from ourselves and our selfish desires, and we are free to serve. When we understand this, then we are free to accomplish the plan God has laid out before us with no agenda, but out of a heart motivated by love for Him. We don't serve Him to get brownie points from Him. We serve Him because we love Him. If you read the parable of the vineyard workers in Matthew 20, you can plainly see it does not matter how long you have been serving God; one day, ten days, one year, ten years, etc..., we will all get the same reward no matter how long we have been serving and following God.

In the dictionary, freedom is defined as "the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint." Christ has given us this. Because of His death, burial and resurrection, we have the freedom to serve. Because of Christ, there is only one thing left for us to do and that is to LIVE. We live to serve. We live to love like Christ. We live to be Christ each and every day. Galatians 5:1 says, *"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."*

You are no longer slaves. According to Paul, you are no longer burdened by that weight of slavery because of the freedom we have in Jesus Christ. Enjoy your freedom. Live the life Christ has freed you to live. Live a life with the freedom to serve.

# Freedom IN THE CROSSROADS

by Karissa Mead, Worship Ministry Director



As I'm writing this article, I am less than twenty-four hours past a trip to Disney. I hadn't been to Disney since September 2019, and I forgot just how much physical and spiritual effort it takes just to be on-property. My own effort was tested several times physically – my feet got achy, blisters on my toes, sunburn on my face... all the while trying desperately to have a “magical” time. The worst was my mental energy: it was so overwhelming to have an abundance of things to do and feel like we had no time to do them. NO TIME. Each park was open for at least twelve hours, if not more, but I still walked into that weekend worried about how we were going to get through the whole park in a day. I was constantly thinking about which way to take, so we wouldn't encounter as many people. I wanted to plan every moment!

On the fourth and last day of our trip, we visited Magic Kingdom. I hadn't been to Magic Kingdom for at least three years. Before we got to the park, I asked Chris what the plan was. Where would we go? What were we going to ride first? All he said at first was we'd get to the park entrance and turn left. I thought, “Okay – First of all, honey, that didn't answer my question. Second of all, what good is heading left going to do for us if we don't have a plan for what we're going to ride first?”

My husband is a genius, in more than a few ways. He's got a knack for figuring things out quickly, and it comes in handy when I get stuck on the broken record of my own thoughts. So, we got to the castle ready to take the loop around Magic Kingdom, and we turned left. “Turns” out, the majority of visitors to the park take the right-hand side of the loop. Because Chris was astute enough to

take the path less travelled, we were able to do the first half of the park in *one hour*. We saved so much time! By the end of the day, we had ridden every ride we wanted twice, and some three times.

Sometimes the “right” choice is not always the right one. The choices we default to – whether influenced by upbringing, culture, habit, or necessity – may not always be the right ones. I firmly believe the world's culture is rapidly turning into a culture which wants to worship the self. Even worse, it is telling us the worship of



the self is the only right choice. Those who just want to tour through life and experience the best of it will try to convince us to take that way because it is what's best for us. God warned the Israelites about this kind of worldview which knows no shame: “*Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in*

*it, and you will find rest for your souls*” (Jer. 6:16).

God wants what is best for His *Kingdom*. He wants His people to have open ears to hear Him. He also wants them to follow the direction He gives. For us, this means discerning between what the world is trying to convince us is right and what it is God is telling us. It also means surrendering whatever need for control we have over the choices we make. He knows it's not going to be easy when we stand at those crossroads and choose the path less travelled, and He knows not everyone will agree with it. That's why Jesus told us to enter through the narrow gate, because it's not the way everyone else will want to take.

*Continued on page 9.*

## Anthony & Elizabeth Smith

*Englewood Christian Church has partnered with Pioneer Bible Translators on several different occasions. This current partnership through PBT is with Anthony and Elizabeth Smith. We have been fortunate enough to have the Smith family visit with us each of the last two years as they have geared up for their field work through intense language and cultural training, constant fundraising and even a six-week long exploratory trip to Africa. They recently returned from this trip with their eyes opened up to several new directions from the Lord. Pete was able to talk with Anthony and Elizabeth and get a little bit of insight to their upcoming departure.*

### 1. What's the timeline and where are you going?

Our launch date is the end of August. We will live in northern Uganda, just outside a refugee camp with over 120,000 South Sudanese refugees and work both with refugees there and with South Sudanese people in South Sudan. From this location the trauma healing team is able to serve the needs of all the refugees there. The Juba Arabic Bible translation team is also based here, employing several local translators from the camp. Our location outside the camp also provides access to important resources for living and working in the area, as well as homeschooling and raising our family.

### 2. What people group and language will you be working with?

Anthony will be working on the Juba Arabic Bible translation. Juba Arabic has well over one million speakers and is the primary language of South Sudan. In fact, it is the unifying language of South Sudan. South Sudan has over sixty languages. Juba Arabic is the only language they all share. So, in towns and cities and churches all across South Sudan, as well as in refugee camps with South Sudanese people, Juba Arabic is spoken. Despite being such a large language, there is no scripture in Juba Arabic. Not even a verse of scripture. Anthony will work with a team to translate the entire Bible into Juba Arabic.

### 3. With Elizabeth's crisis counseling background, what will she be able to provide in the field?

Liz will oversee and support a trauma healing team of nearly seventy trauma healing teachers who work primarily with South Sudanese refugees. Life in such a war-torn land has brought suffering to the people, leaving deep wounds. This trauma often



becomes a barrier for the gospel in their lives. The trauma healing program provides biblical teaching on suffering, forgiveness, reconciliation, and the love of God. This program has impacted over 20,000 in the last year and seen many, many, come to Christ.

### 4. Once you arrive in Uganda, what can we specifically be praying for?

Our most urgent prayer needs right now are for our travel plans and transition to life overseas. There are so many details to which we must attend, while also trying to ensure we don't land in Uganda in desperate need for time off! Please pray for wisdom, rest, and perseverance as we do all of these things. Please pray, also, for our team of supporters who stand faithfully with us on this journey!

*Before the Smith family departs to Uganda to begin their work, they are making one last trip to visit family in Florida and also connect with some of their partner churches. We are fortunate enough to have them fit a visit to ECC in their busy calendar. They will be with us on Sunday, August 1, and we'll be sure to have an extended time of conversation with them as they prepare to follow the call of God to continue and complete the work of translation.*



ENGLEWOOD  
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MISSIONARY FUND  
SERVING ONE WORLD

# A Moseley Family Update



For more years than we can count (seriously, we can't count it, because it makes us cry again!), Charles and Harriett Moseley have been active and faithful members, leaders and servants at Englewood

Christian Church. During that time, Charles was an elder, SS teacher, servant, TLC board member, volunteer camp dean/faculty, camp board member and so much more. Harriett has worked off and on at the TLC since its inception and has always persisted in instilling a ministry mindset at our TLC. She, too, was a SS teacher, Bible study leader and prayer warrior for many, many years. She was always the literal hands and feet of Jesus to each child and family who came in the door of the TLC each day.

Recently, Charles stepped down from his role of elder, and Harriett retired from working at our TLC day care center. Here is a short letter from them addressing the current Moseley life transition:

*In the summer of 1998 Harriett and I purchased a condominium in St. Augustine. It was our plan to move there once I retired. I retired in August of 2001, and we soon learned that God had other plans for our lives.*

*In October of 2001, we became guardians of three little children. This was also a time when our mothers needed us to care for them in their last days. Then cancer hit and there were treatments, and praise God I am still in remission. These were opportunities for growth on our part that God put in our path which have all turned into blessings of gratefulness BECAUSE we had the Englewood Family walking along side us during these times.*

*We are now heading in the direction of moving to our condo in St. Augustine.*

*Englewood Christian Church is deeply rooted in our hearts and souls. All of you are our friends and mentors. We are a loving family. Englewood is our home. Lately we have worshipped with you on Sunday morning virtually.*

*We are stepping down from some of our responsibilities at Englewood and seek your prayers as we head to St. Augustine. At this time, we do not know the plans that God has for our lives, but we do know that Englewood Christian Church will always be our home.*

To sum up, the Moseley's are finally enjoying the blessings of a long life full of hard work, faithfulness and

commitment to loving those around them, no matter the cost. As they shared in their letter, they are not gone forever, they are still part of our family, but we may just see them less often as before. Let us pray fervently for Charles and Harriett as they make this transition. Let us also honor and thank them for their dedication to the Lord and long service here at ECC. When asked how we could honor them, they were adamant about not having a reception, cake, guest speakers, walks down memory lane or anything like that. They just want to continue to humbly serve God and give all glory to Him. Our appreciation, thanks, gratefulness and love go out to Charles and Harriett Moseley. May the Lord bless you and keep you (Numbers 6:24-26)!



*Continued from page 3.*

## **"Freedom in Truth" by Pete Ramsey**

**2. Truth never leads to bondage.** – We have spiritual freedom from sin and death in Christ. We have emotional freedom from fear, discouragement and anxiety. We have physical freedom from stress. Truth does not overburden us, but lightens our load.

**3. Truth offers safety and protection.** – When we remain in the truth, we are protected from the weapons of the enemy. When we reside in truth, the guardrails of our faith do not limit our life

experiences, but enrich and enhance them, while protecting us from harm.

Knowing what we know about the truth and knowing the lies which are prevalent in our culture and society, let us be faithful in our pursuit of the truth, so we can escape the entanglements of untruth and fully experience the freedoms found only in the truth.

*Continued from page 7.*

## **"Freedom in the Crossroads" by Karissa Mead**

So when we come to our crossroads each day, each moment, each choice, will we turn left or right? Will we stand, look, and ask where the good way is? Will we walk in it and find rest? My prayer for each of you is with each choice you make, you seek out the Father and ask Him where His good way is for you.

When we come to the crossroads and have to make that choice, we will need to be intentional. We'll need to surrender our need to

control the choice. We'll need to fight the temptation to default to a choice influenced by people who are not our Creator. We'll need to be brave and be ready to give a reason for the choices we make. We'll have to rise to the challenge of overcoming our fears. All it will take is for us to ask God for the way, and when He shows us, to trust Him and walk in it.



**SATURDAY, JULY 17 AT 9:00AM  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL  
DONATIONS ACCEPTED & APPRECIATED**

The first Men's Breakfast was a hit. Mark your calendars for every third Saturday at 9:00am. It's a free event, but donations are accepted and appreciated.

# UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

SUMMER SERIES AT ECC

During the month of July, we will continue in our summer sermon series, "Under New Management" which helps us recognize our need to submit our lives to the sovereignty of God. Here is the tentative schedule of topics for the month of July:

- 7/4 – Wealth Management: Stewardship
- 7/11 – Project Managers: Obedience
- 7/18 - Branch Managers: Family First
- 7/25 – Time Management: Priorities

## ECC VISION



First, it was a youth fundraiser in May at Blaze Pizza! Then, it was a rainy Tuesday night at 4Rivers BBQ. We came. We ordered. We ate. We fellowshiped. That about sums up the purpose of our Out and About events. It's a great chance to eat



**OUT&ABOUT**  
WITH ECC

out with all your church family. We simply select a pre-determined location and date and all just show up to be a blessing for a local business and create an opportunity for fun, food and fellowship for our ECC family. During the month of July, we will meet at **Jason's Deli** (off Southside Blvd near Tinseltown) on **Tuesday, July 20 from 6:00pm-7:30pm**. Hope to see you there!

## PROGRAMMING UPDATE

At this point in time, Englewood Christian Church has resumed all regular programming. This means all our Sunday morning and Wednesday evening programs are running at full capacity with no restrictions. As per CDC recommendations, those who wish to wear masks can do so as they deem necessary. We also will maintain several of our hand sanitizer stations around the campus. Communion will continue to be the disposable prepackaged version. For those uncomfortable with the large crowds on Sunday mornings, we are livestreaming the service on Facebook and making it available to watch in our Fellowship Hall.

## Congregational Meeting Summary

On Wednesday, June 23, Englewood Christian Church conducted the annual business meeting. There were ministry reports and summaries from staff, and other pertinent news was shared, as well. Financial reports from the previous year and the budget for 2021-2022 were presented by Robert Lee and approved unanimously by the congregation. Leadership for ECC was also unanimously affirmed at this time – Henry Pratt and Robert Lee for the position of Elder and Keith Vincent for the position of Deacon.



CIY is back and we couldn't be more excited. We will be traveling July 12-17 to Lee University in Tennessee. Please pray for every student and adult leader who is going this year:



- Micah Altman
- Alex Davis
- Nathan Hammock
- Bryant Kubisiak
- Brayden Maerkl
- Maddie Jones
- Madison Lakatos
- Rebekah Ramsey
- Mariah Richards
- Josh Colvin
- Julie Colvin



## ECC T-shirt Sunday Sunday, July 4th

Don't have an ECC shirt? Purchase one at the Registration Table!

Sunday, July 4 is our annual ECC T-shirt Sunday! Be sure to wear your ECC T-shirts with pride. For those interested, we do have several ECC shirts available for purchase for \$5 each. Go to the registration table on Sunday for more details or to get yours.



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH**  
**\$35 PER PERSON**  
**EVERYONE INVITED**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 28th. Everyone in the church and their friends are invited to finish out the summer with a trip to Wild Adventures in Valdosta, GA. The cost for the ticket is ONLY \$35 per person. We need at least 15 people signed up to get this DISCOUNTED rate. Transportation will be provided. Please sign up by Sunday, August 22nd.



*If you volunteered on music ministry teams or audio/visual teams in 2021, you are invited to join us for lunch after church to appreciate YOU!*

Lunch will be provided Sunday, August 1st immediately following church service. Let us know you'll be attending by registering for FREE online or on the app.



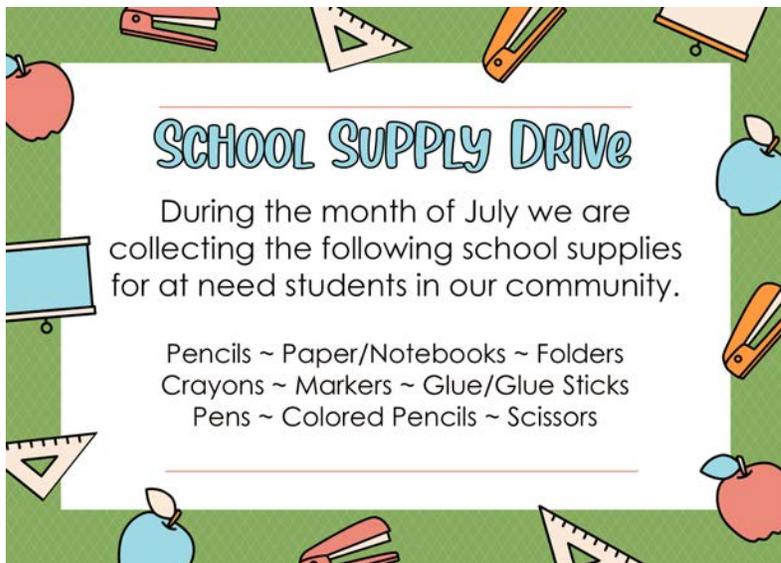
**Friday, July 2**  
**5:00pm**  
**ECC Fellowship Hall**

**Sign up to join us and let us know if you're bringing a side!**



Prime Timers, join us for a night of fun and fellowship in the ECC Fellowship Hall on Friday, July 2 at 5:00pm. We're watching the 1959 classic *North by Northwest*. We will provide the meat. Bring a side if you're able, but it's not required. Contact the Arnolds for any questions, and sign up by calling the church!

During the whole month of July, we will be collecting some basic school supplies for at-need students in our community. We would love to help as many kids as we can start their new school year off on the right foot. If you are able to help us, we have listed the items below that we are asking for. The supplies can be dropped off in the designated boxes in the workroom behind the church office. Thank you for helping us to serve our community in this way!



## SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

During the month of July we are collecting the following school supplies for at need students in our community.

Pencils ~ Paper/Notebooks ~ Folders  
Crayons ~ Markers ~ Glue/Glue Sticks  
Pens ~ Colored Pencils ~ Scissors

ECC Young Adults are going to the movies! On **Friday, July 23rd**, we're going to see Marvel's *Black Widow*. We're pre-ordering tickets, so don't miss your chance to join us! Register online or on the app for **\$10 per person by Tuesday, July 20**. Exact time and location to be determined.



**Movie Night**  
**Marvel's Black Widow**



# HILLBILLY OLYMPICS

Saturday, July 17  
2-6 p.m.  
4yrs-5th grade  
**FUN-FOOD-FILTHY!**

On July 17, e-City Kids is fixin' to have one hootenanny of a good time. All kids from age four through fifth grade are invited to participate in our first ever Hillbilly Olympics. It's sure to be a great time, as long as everyone comes dressed and ready to get a little bit messy. Well, maybe a lot messy. These won't be any of your usual summer Olympic games, no siree Bob! Folks can sign up online. We'll be hootin'-and hollerin' from 2:00-6:00pm and will end with a nice cookout supper.




**ECC Young Adults' Bible Study**

We're back! The Young Adults' Bible Study will resume on **Thursday, July 1 at 6:30pm at the Mead's house**. If you or anyone you know is interested in a study on prayer, join us for food, fellowship, and study this summer. Let us know you're interested by signing on the app or website, and contact Karissa for questions.



ENGLEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH



e-City Kids had a great night completing the Lego® challenges!

After a night of tough competition, the winners were crowned as Lego® Masters!





Prayer was a vital part of the ECC Men's Ministry first Saturday Breakfast



ECC Memorial Day Softball Game



TLC VPK Graduation



Class of 2021: Theresa Neiberger & Aynslee Hopkins



ECC Out & About @ 4Rivers BBQ



# VBS Wrap-Up

*This year's VBS may have been smaller than we are used to having, but to say it was mighty would be an understatement. Our kids showed up, and showed out when it came to meeting our offering goal. They were able to smash their \$1,000 goal and collect over \$1,400 for IDES. Every night the kids learned how to build their foundation on Jesus. They brought excitement and energy with them into this building every time they walked in, and we could not have asked for a better time. We are also so thankful for our over thirty volunteers who signed up to help us pull everything off. If you listen in the hallways at church, you can still hear the sounds of our kids singing the songs and carrying those truth-filled lyrics with them wherever they go. I can't wait to pack the house for next year's VBS!*





**ENGLEWOOD  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

4316 Barnes Road • Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: 904-733-2356 • Fax: 733-9096 • T/LC: 737-5669  
[www.eccjax.com](http://www.eccjax.com)

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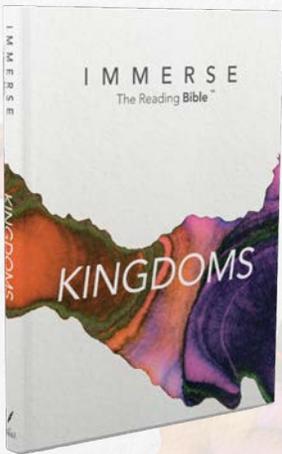
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



July 2021

**I M M E R S E**  
The **Bible** Reading Experience™



During the fall semester, ECC will continue in the Immerse Bible reading program. So far, we have completed the *Messiah* and *Beginnings* books, covering the entire New Testament and the Pentateuch.

This fall, we will continue by completing the next two books in the series, *Kingdoms* and *Chronicles*,

which will continue our journey with the nation of Israel into the Promised Land all the way through until their exile into captive lands (Joshua-Esther, plus a few more books). Each book will be completed in an eight-week reading plan, but don't let the number of books intimidate you. It's actually less material to read than our first book, *Messiah*. Book orders for the first book, *Kingdoms*, can be made through the ECC app or at the Registration table in the lobby each Sunday. Each book costs \$10 if you order through ECC, or you can order them directly (including an e-book option) through their website ([www.tyndale.com/sites/immerse](http://www.tyndale.com/sites/immerse)).



**LIP SYNC**

This Lip Sync Battle was a blast! Thank you to everyone who made this battle possible, including contestants from age four to eighty-nine! The Christmas Lip Sync Battle can't get here soon enough.

**2021 SUMMER LIP SYNC RESULTS:**

1. Plus One! (Pete, Heather, and Joel Ramsey, Julie Colvin)
2. Brayden and Spencer Maerkl  
The Oneders (Bill and Nathan Hercules, Josh Colvin)
3. The Original Colvin Cuties (Annabelle and Corinna Colvin)