

Announcements!

Weekly Bible Study We invite each of you to attend the mid-week Bible Study, held upstairs each Tuesday evening beginning at 6 pm. We encourage you to attend these vital and exciting studies!

Children's Church Our Children's Church is being reorganized and will soon be re-launched. If you have questions or concerns, please see Sarita Agee.

Member Registration We are updating our member registration, and we need your help. Please complete a member registration card and return it to Sis. Joyce Harris.

Words of Wisdom: I've Learned...

I've learned-that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I've learned-that if you don't deal with a problem, it won't go away.

I've learned-that regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.

I've learned-that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences. They are also the people who see the world with compassion.

I've learned-that money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I've learned-that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I've learned-that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

I've learned-that sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I've learned-that if you want a relationship to work, you have to work at it. And if one thing you try doesn't work, you try another until it does.

I've learned-that true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.

I've learned-that just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.

I've learned-that maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had, what you've learned from them, what you do with those lessons and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I've learned-that the members of your family may not always be there for you. It may seem funny, but people you aren't related to can take care of you and love you and teach you to trust people again. Families aren't biological.

I've learned-that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.

I've learned-that it isn't always enough to be forgiven by others. Sometimes you are to learn to forgive yourself.

I've learned-that no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn't stop for your grief. And some people will just never "get" your grief or pain.

I've learned-that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.

I've learned-that just because two people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do.

I've learned-that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I've learned-that you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret. It could change your life forever.

I've learned-that two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I've learned-that sometimes you need to accept that a relationship didn't turn out like you wanted. And sometimes letting go of that relationship is the best thing to do.

I've learned-that no matter how you try to protect the people you love, they will eventually get hurt and you will hurt in the process.

I've learned-that your life can be changed in a matter of hours by people who don't even know you or circumstances out of your control.

I've learned-that even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you, you will find the strength to help.

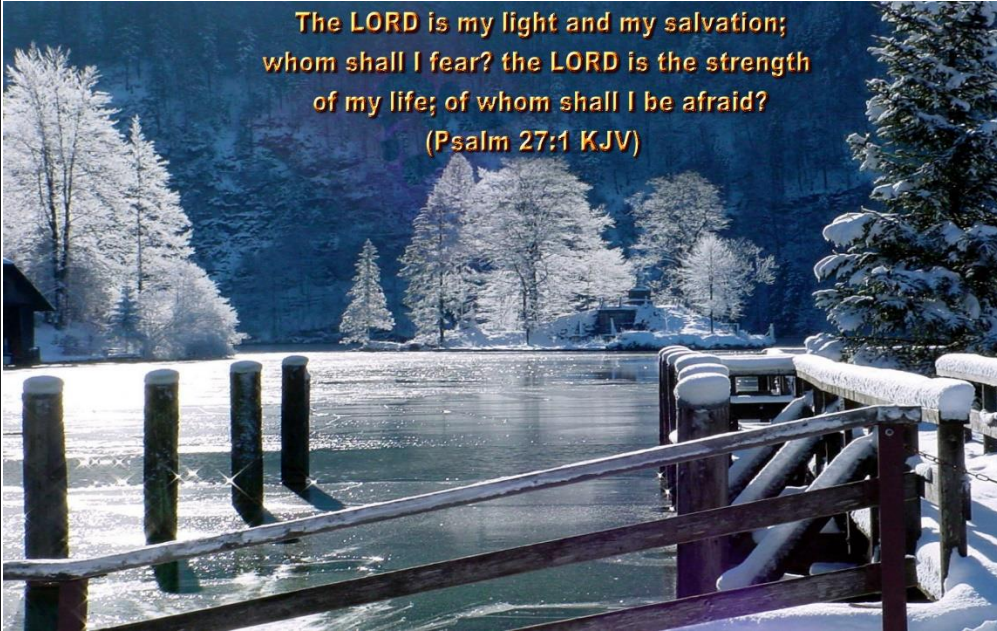
I've learned-that credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being. Neither does age.

I've learned-that the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon. Don't waste a day by not telling someone you love them.

I've learned-that believing in the good does more to help the world than choosing to dwell on the bad. So believe in the good - the goodness of people, of life, of God, of love...



Welcome to the Everlasting Covenant Church





The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength
of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1 KJV)

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Follow Us:  "The Everlasting Covenant Church", Birmingham, AL
 "THE_ECC2015"

Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor

January 21, 2018

Vision Statement:



Enhancing Our Knowledge of Jesus Christ, Empowering All Believers for Ministry, and Encouraging Continuous Dedication to the Lord.

Order of Services

Fellowship | Refreshments – 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Services – 11:00 a.m.

Announcements & Recognition of Visitors

Call to Worship: Scripture Reading & Prayer

Tithes and Offerings; Prayer of Thanksgiving

Praise and Worship Selections

Sermon

Invitation to Christ

Benediction

The Tabernacle...

Taken from <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/the-tabernacle/>

The tabernacle (mishkan), first mentioned in the Torah in Exodus 25, was the portable sanctuary that the Israelites carried with them in the wilderness. Mishkan comes from the Hebrew root meaning “to dwell”; the tabernacle was considered to be the earthly dwelling place of God. In Exodus 25:8-9, God instructs Moses to tell the Israelites to build a mikdash (sanctuary) where God may dwell, specifying exactly how the tabernacle should be designed.

The Book of Exodus goes into elaborate detail to describe the design and construction of the tabernacle. The tabernacle was surrounded by a rectangular fence with a gate, which enclosed an outer courtyard area. An altar for burnt offerings (sacrifices) stood in the courtyard. Deeper into the courtyard, a screen sectioned off the “Holy Place” from the rest of the area. Even deeper, a curtain created a barrier to the “most holy place,” the Holy of Holies.

This innermost and most holy area of the tabernacle was designated to house the ark of the covenant, the place where the tablets of the law would be stored. The ark was to be made of acacia wood and overlaid with pure gold. The Torah provides precise measurements for building the ark: “two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high” (Exodus 25:10). Acacia poles overlaid with gold were used for carrying the ark through the desert. A cover for the ark was required, with decorations of two gold cherubim (angels), one on each side, facing each other with outspread wings. Additional instructions include the production of ritual items: a table, “bowls, ladles, jars, and jugs,” and an intricately designed six-branched menorah, or candelabra (Exodus 25:29-38).

Exodus 26 details the construction of the tabernacle, which was a tent-like structure covered with 10 strips of linen cloth. The cloth was to be made of blue, purple, and crimson yarn, with the cherubim motif from the ark cover recurring here. The text goes on to detail the exact number of loops and gold clasps by which each cloth should be tied to the next. It adds that 11 cloths of goat hair should cover the tabernacle, connected by loops and copper clasps. Further, ram skins and dolphin skins were to be used as further covering for the tabernacle.

The tabernacle was considered to be the place where God’s presence dwelled among the Israelites, where the divine and earthly realms met. The tabernacle’s design physically represented a gradual increase in gradations of holiness, from the outer courtyard (meant to create a barrier from the profane realm) to the Holy of Holies (only entered once a year on Yom Kippur by the High Priest).

Various commentaries interpreted the significance of the tabernacle in different ways. Maimonides saw the tabernacle as an image of a royal palace. The Zohar, a mystical text believed to have been written in the 13th century, saw the tabernacle as a reflection of the process of the creation of the universe. Indeed, the Zohar points out, the language used to describe how God created the universe in the Book of Genesis is identical to the language used to describe the artist Bezalel’s building of the tabernacle in the Book of Exodus.

The 19th-century Russian-Jewish commentator known as the Malbim provided a symbolic explanation for the relevance of the tabernacle. It was not that God needed a physical sanctuary on earth, but that each one of us is called to build a tabernacle for God in our hearts, preparing ourselves to become a sanctuary for God.

The portability of the tabernacle foreshadows the future movements of the Jewish people in exile, where they built synagogues and houses of study wherever they migrated. The tabernacle also stands as a symbol of the paradox of divine presence in the world: On the one hand, God is believed to be everywhere — or perhaps, as the Malbim argues, in human hearts — but on the other hand, the tabernacle (and later the Temple in Jerusalem and synagogues throughout the world) represents a physical location where humans can experience a connection to God.

Sermon Notes

Scripture: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____
