

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Wednesday Evening Class We invite each of you to attend the mid-week Bible Study upstairs on Wednesday evening beginning at 6 p.m. We encourage you to attend these vital and exciting studies!

Church Clean-Up We will regularly have monthly church cleanings on the last Saturday of each month, beginning at 10 a.m. The next cleaning day will be on April 29, so make plans to attend and help.

Children's Church Our Children's Church is held upstairs in the Activities Room (up the steps and to the left) each Sunday morning, beginning at 11 a.m. Ages 2-10 are welcome, snacks are provided (we welcome donations), and we ask that you would please sign children in and out. If you have questions or concerns, please see Sarita Agee.

Words of Wisdom: THE CLOSED DOOR...

Praise Him for the Closed Door...We need to learn to praise the Lord as much for a closed door as we do an open door. The reason God closes doors is because He has not prepared anything over there for us. If he didn't close the wrong door we would never find the right door. God directs our path through the closing and opening of doors. One door closes, it forces you to change your course. Another door closes, it forces you to change your course again. Then finally you find the open door and you walk right into your blessing.

The Lord directs our paths through the opening and closing of doors, but instead of praising him for the closed door (which keeps us out of trouble) we get upset because we "judge by the appearances". You have an ever present help in the time of need who is always standing guard. Because He walks ahead of you, He can spot trouble down the road and set up a road block or detour accordingly. But through our lack of wisdom, we try to tear down the road blocks or push aside the detour sign. Then the minute we get into trouble we start crying "Lord how could You have done this to me?".

We have got to realize that the closed door can be a blessing. Didn't He say that No good thing will He withhold from them that love Him? If you get terminated from your job - praise God for the new opportunities that will manifest themselves - it might be another job, it might be school. If that man or woman won't return your call - it might not be them, it might be the Lord setting up a roadblock (just let it go). One time a person had a bank they had been in business with for many years to tell them "No!" to a ten thousand dollar loan. The Lord put in their spirit to call another bank. That bank gave them forty thousand dollars at a lower interest rate than the first bank was offering.

We can sometimes trap ourselves in doubt and discouragement through judging by appearances. I'm so grateful, my friends, for the many times Our Father has closed doors to me just to open them in the most unexpected places. The Lord won't always say in spoken words: "Go to the left, now to the right"... Sometimes He will just close the wrong doors.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." - Psalm 119:105
"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way." - Psalm 37:23

Welcome to the



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Follow Us:



"The Everlasting Covenant Church", Birmingham, AL



"THE_ECC2015"

Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor

April 23, 2017

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

Communion Services

BENEDICTION

April... Taken from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April>

The Romans gave this month the Latin name Aprilis but the derivation of this name is uncertain. The traditional etymology is from the verb aperire, "to open", in allusion to its being the season when trees and flowers begin to "open", which is supported by comparison with the modern Greek use of άνοιξη (ánixi) (opening) for spring. Since some of the Roman months were named in honor of divinities, and as April was sacred to the goddess Venus, her Veneralia being held on the first day, it has been suggested that Aprilis was originally her month Aphrilis, from her equivalent Greek goddess name Aphrodite (Aphros), or from the Etruscan name Apru. Jacob Grimm suggests the name of a hypothetical god or hero, Aper or Aprus.

April was the second month of the earliest Roman calendar, before Ianuarius and Februarius were added by King Numa Pompilius about 700 BC. It became the fourth month of the calendar year (the year when twelve months are displayed in order) during the time of the decemvirs about 450 BC, when it also was given 29 days. The 30th day was added during the reform of the calendar undertaken by Julius Caesar in the mid-40s BC, which produced the Julian calendar.

The Anglo-Saxons called April ēastre-monath. The Venerable Bede says in The Reckoning of Time that this month ēastre is the root of the word Easter. He further states that the month was named after a goddess Eostre whose feast was in that month. It is also attested by Einhard in his work, Vita Karoli Magni.

St George's day is the twenty-third of the month; and St Mark's Eve, with its superstition that the ghosts of those who are doomed to die within the year will be seen to pass into the church, falls on the twenty-fourth.

In China the symbolic ploughing of the earth by the emperor and princes of the blood took place in their third month, which frequently corresponds to April. In Finnish April is huhtikuu, meaning slash-and-burn moon, when gymnosperms for beat and burn clearing of farmland were felled.

In Slovene, the most established traditional name is mali traven, meaning the month when plants start growing. It was first written in 1466 in the Škofja Loka manuscript.

The month Aprilis had 30 days; Numa Pompilius made it 29 days long; finally Julius Caesar's calendar reform made it again 30 days long, which was not changed in the calendar revision of Augustus Caesar in 8 BC.

SERMON NOTES

Scripture: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____

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