

# 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!

**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.

**School Supplies** We will be collecting school supplies and snacks for Children's Village until the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in September. Thank you for your donations!

## Words of Wisdom: SCARS...

Some years ago on a hot summer day in south Florida a little boy decided to go for a swim in the old swimming hole behind his house. In a hurry to dive into the cool water, he ran out the back door, leaving behind shoes, socks, and shirt as he went. He flew into the water, not realizing that as he swam toward the middle of the lake, an alligator was swimming toward the shore. His mother in the house was looking out the window saw the two as they got closer and closer together. In utter fear, she ran toward the water, yelling to her son as loudly as she could.

Hearing her voice, the little boy became alarmed and made a U-turn to swim to his mother. It was too late. Just as he reached her, the alligator reached him. From the dock, the mother grabbed her little boy by the arms just as the alligator snatched his legs. That began an incredible tug-of-war between the two. The alligator was much stronger than the mother, but the mother was much too passionate to let go.

A farmer happened to drive by, heard her screams, raced from his truck, took aim and shot the alligator. Remarkably, after weeks and weeks in the hospital, the little boy survived. His legs were extremely scarred by the vicious attack of the animal. And, on his arms, were deep scratches where his mother's fingernails dug into his flesh in her effort to hang on to the son she loved.

The newspaper reporter who interviewed the boy after the trauma, asked if he would show him his scars. The boy lifted his pant legs. And then, with obvious pride, he said to the reporter, "But look at my arms. I have great scars on my arms, too. I have them because my Mom wouldn't let go."

You and I can identify with that little boy. We have scars, too. No, not from an alligator, but the scars of a painful past. Some of those scars are unsightly and have caused us deep regret. But, some wounds, my friend, are because God has refused to let go. In the midst of your struggle, He's been there holding on to you.

The Scripture teaches that God loves you. You are a child of God. He wants to protect you and provide for you in every way. But sometimes we foolishly wade into dangerous situations, not knowing what lies ahead. The swimming hole of life is filled with peril -- and we forget that the enemy is waiting to attack. That's when the tug-of-war begins -- and if you have the scars of His love on your arms be very, very grateful. He did not and will not ever let you go.

Welcome to the



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Follow Us:



"The Everlasting Covenant Church", Birmingham, AL

"THE\_ECC2015"

**Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor**

August 20, 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*

**BENEDICTION**

## SOLAR ECLIPSE...

Taken from <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/solar-eclipse.html>

A solar eclipse is a spectacular sight and a rare astronomical event. Each one is only visible from a limited area.

An eclipse of the Sun happens when the New Moon moves between the Sun and Earth, blocking out the Sun's rays and casting a shadow on parts of Earth.

The Moon's shadow is not big enough to engulf the entire planet, so the shadow is always limited to a certain area (see map illustrations below). This area changes during the course of the eclipse because the Moon and Earth are in constant motion: Earth continuously rotates around its axis while it orbits the Sun, and the Moon orbits Earth. This is why solar eclipses seem to travel from one place to another

There are 4 different types of solar eclipses. How much of the Sun's disk is eclipsed, the eclipse magnitude, depends on which part of the Moon's shadow falls on Earth. Partial solar eclipses occur when the Moon only partly obscures the Sun's disk and casts only its penumbra on Earth. Annular solar eclipses take place when the Moon's disk is not big enough to cover the entire disk of the Sun, and the Sun's outer edges remain visible to form a ring of fire in the sky. An annular eclipse of the Sun takes place when the Moon is near apogee, and the Moon's antumbra falls on Earth. Total solar eclipses happen when the Moon completely covers the Sun, and it can only take place when the Moon is near perigee, the point of the Moon's orbit closest to Earth. You can only see a total solar eclipse if you're in the path where the Moon's casts its darkest shadow, the umbra. Hybrid Solar Eclipses, also known as annular-total eclipses, are the rarest type. They occur when the same eclipse changes from an annular to a total solar eclipse, and/or vice versa, along the eclipse's path.

Solar eclipses are only visible from within the area on Earth where the Moon's shadow falls, and the closer you are to the center of the shadow's path, the bigger the eclipse looks.

Solar eclipses are usually named for their darkest, or maximum, point. The exception is the hybrid eclipse.

The darkest point of solar eclipses is only visible from a small area. In most places and for most of the duration, total, annular, and hybrid eclipses look like a partial solar eclipse.

For a solar eclipse to take place, the Sun, the Moon, and Earth must be aligned in a perfect or near perfect straight line—an alignment astronomers call syzygy. This happens around New Moon every lunar month.

So, why isn't there a solar eclipse every New Moon night? There are 2 reasons: The New Moon has to be near a lunar node. These nodes are 2 points where the plane of the Moon's orbital path around Earth meets Earth's orbital plane around the Sun—the ecliptic. The paths meet because the plane of the Moon's path around Earth is inclined at an angle of approximately 5° to the ecliptic.

The Sun must also be close to a lunar node so it can form a perfect or near-perfect line with the Moon and Earth. This alignment occurs a little less than 6 months apart, and it lasts, on average, around 34.5 days. It is only during this time—the eclipse season—that eclipses can take place.

When there is a Full Moon during the eclipse season, we see a lunar eclipse.

# SERMON NOTES

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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