

# 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 are involved in a Bible study series entitled "Authentic: The Discipline of Personal Bible Study". 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 September 26, so be sure to attend and help!

## #145: THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD (BLUE HYMNAL)

### VERSE ONE

Would you be free from the burden of sin? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;  
Would you o'er all evil a victory win? There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (Chorus)

### VERSE TWO

Would you be free from your passion and pride?  
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;  
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide –  
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (Chorus)

### VERSE THREE

Would you be whiter, yes brighter than snow?  
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;  
Sin stains are lost in its life-giving flow –  
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (Chorus)

### VERSE FOUR

Would you do service for Jesus your King? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;  
Would you live daily His praises to sing?  
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (Chorus)

### CHORUS

There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder working pow'r In the blood of the Lamb;  
There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder working pow'r In the precious blood of the Lamb.

### Funnies: A Salty Tale...

A seaman meets a pirate in a bar, and talk turns to their adventures on the sea. The seaman notes that the pirate has a peg-leg, a hook, and an eye patch. The seaman asks "So, how did you end up with the peg-leg?"

The pirate replies "We were in a storm at sea, and I was swept overboard into a school of sharks. Just as my men were pulling me out, a shark bit my leg off"

"Wow!" said the seaman. "What about your hook?" "Well...", replied the pirate, "We were boarding an enemy ship and were battling the other sailors with swords. One of the enemy cut my hand off."

"Incredible!" remarked the seaman. "How did you get the eyepatch?" "A seagull dropping fell into my eye.", replied the pirate.

"You lost your eye to a seagull dropping?" the sailor asked incredulously.

"Well...", said the pirate, "...it was my first day with the hook."

# Welcome to the EVERLASTING COVENANT CHURCH

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 "THE\_ECC2015"



## Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor

September 6, 2015

### MISSION STATEMENT

To promote membership in the body of Christ by bringing people to Jesus, enhancing their spiritual growth towards Christian maturity, and nurturing them for their ministry in the church and life mission in the world, thereby magnifying God's holy name.

# ORDER of SERVICES

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

**Praying for One Another:**

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” – Acts 4:31, KJV



## MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:30 A.M.

- Devotion ..... Deacons & Congregation
- Morning Hymn: “There Is Power in the Blood” ..... Choir & Congregation
- Responsive Reading ..... Pastor & Congregation
- Selection ..... Choir & Congregation
- Announcements & Recognition of Visitors
- Tithes and Offerings ..... Deacons  
(Visitors are NOT required to contribute - members are encouraged to do so)
- Prayer of Thanksgiving ..... Pastor
- Selections ..... Choir & Congregation

Sermon  
Invitation to Christ



## BENEDICTION

### SERMON NOTES

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

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

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

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# Words of Wisdom:

## Keep Your Fork!



There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things "in order," she contacted her Pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order and the Pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

"There's one more thing," she said excitedly.  
 "What's that?" came the Pastor's reply.  
 "This is very important," the young woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand."  
 The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. "That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked.  
 "Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the Pastor.  
 The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance! So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them: 'Keep your fork - the best is yet to come.'"

The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled. During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either.

He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come.

## RESPONSIVE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10 (NIV)

- 1 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.
- 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling,
- 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.
- 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.
- 5 Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.
- 6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord.
- 7 For we live by faith, not by sight.
- 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.
- 9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.
- 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.