

# 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 for December will be announced soon, so make plans to attend and help.

Children's Village Please don't forget "stuff a stocking" for CHILDREN's village this year. The stockings have been purchased but we need your help to stuff them. Please think of these items as you shop - items for girls and boys (ages 8-18): Gift cards, Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Toiletries (travel size), Watches, Wallets, Ink pens, Socks, Jewelry, Nail polish, Hair accessories, Chapsticks / lip gloss, or any item that will fit neatly in a regular size Christmas stocking. We will put them all together on TODAY for CHRISTMAS DELIVERY! Thank you for your help and support! Any questions see Sarita Agee.



## Words of Wisdom: HOW TO REDUCE STRESS...

1. Pray
2. Go to bed on time.
3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
4. Say No, to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health.
5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
6. Simplify and unclutter your life.
7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.)
8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places.
9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together.
10. Take one day at a time.
11. Separate worries from concerns. If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you to do and let go of the anxiety. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases.
13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.,
14. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut). This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.
15. Do something for the Kid in You everyday.
16. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line.
17. Get enough exercise.
18. Eat right.
19. Get organized so everything has its place.
20. While driving, listen to a tape that can help improve your quality of life.
21. Write thoughts and inspirations down.
22. Every day, find time to be alone.
23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
24. Make friends with Godly people.
25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good "Thank you, Jesus!"
27. Laugh.
28. Laugh some more!
29. Take your work seriously, but yourself not at all.
30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).
31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most).
32. Sit on your ego.
33. Talk less; listen more.
34. Slow down.
35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
36. Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before.




Welcome to the

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Follow Us:  "The Everlasting Covenant Church", Birmingham, AL  
 "THE\_ECC2015"

**Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor**  
 December 18, 2016

### 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 — 10:45 A.M.

- Devotion ..... Deacons & Congregation
- Responsive Reading ..... Pastor & Congregation
- Youth Inspiration
- 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

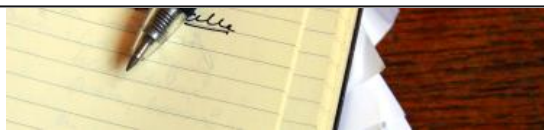
## BENEDICTION



## RESPONSIVE READING: 1 JOHN 4:1-20 (NLT)

- 1 Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.
- 2 This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God.
- 3 But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here.
- 4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.
- 5 Those people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them.
- 6 But we belong to God, and those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception.
- 7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.
- 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.
- 9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.
- 10 This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.
- 11 Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.
- 12 No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.
- 13 And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us.
- 14 Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
- 15 All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God.
- 16 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.
- 17 And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.
- 18 Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.
- 19 We love each other because he loved us first.
- 20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? 21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

## SERMON NOTES



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

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

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

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