



ECPC Newsletter ~ February 7



To the Ends of the Earth!

Sunday we considered taking the gospel to Samaria. The Samaritans were despised by the Jews, so much that they wouldn't even travel through the region. But Jesus and the Apostles move toward them with the gospel, challenging the norms of their religious culture and ceremonial purity. As members of a religious community, we face similar challenges with who we associate with and bring into the church. It's time to move past these norms and bring the harvest in!

This Sunday, Monte Starkes, Director of Life on Life and Global Outreach at Perimeter Church, will take us to Matthew 9:35-38 where Jesus moves through the villages ministering to the sick and spreading the gospel. What's important about the text is what Jesus saw! The text says, "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." These were normal people with work and family responsibilities. They had strong political opinions and religious beliefs.

They were people just like us, but Jesus saw something different. He saw their suffering and their weakness. Everyone has a story! Everyone has an explanation for who they are today. James Hetfield, lead singer for a well-known rock band, grew up in Scientology with strict religious beliefs. As a thirteen year old his family fell apart as his parents divorced. Not long after, his mother passed from cancer without treatment since Scientology rejects modern medicine. His story and hardened personality explains his aggressive music and anti-religious lyrics. But often, all Christians see is his anger and offensive behavior.

Jesus models compassion and patience looking beyond the hardened exterior of his neighbors and seeing their suffering and weakness. So come Sunday and consider what it means to "see" people.

~Pastor Tim

Upcoming Events

Jan 21 - Feb 11	Missions Emphasis Month
February 9	Parent Night Out
February 10	Membership Class
February 11	Donuts & Prayer for the Summers & Gregoires
February 11	International Street Fair
March 2 - 3	Express Your Faith
March 4	Covered Dish Luncheon Honoring Dennis Carter
March 8 - April 19	Communicants' Class
March 16 - 18	Women's Retreat

Session Minutes

Click [here](#) to read a summary of the Session's minutes from their January meeting.



Missions Emphasis Month Announcements

Donuts & Prayer - This MEM Sunday we will meet prior to worship from 9:15-9:45am in the Loft (located above the sanctuary) to pray specifically for Summers & the Gregoires. Please join us this Sunday for donuts and prayer in the Loft!

Missionary Reports - During the service we will hear reports from Summers (MTW- Panama), and a video from the Gregoires (MTW-Slovakia).

International Street Fair - This Sunday, February 11, from 5-7pm, the Missions Ministry Team will be hosting ECPC's bi-annual International Street Fair - a celebration of God's love for all nations through food and activities for kids. This event is free. However, donations will be collected and funds will go to the Panama Mission Trip.



Love Gift

Many of our missionaries are in need. Each year we like to bless them with a "Love Gift". **ECPC will accept contributions for this offering through February 11.** This is additional giving over and above your normal offerings. Our goal is \$10,000.

To contribute you may go to ecpca.org, and click on the GIVE ONLINE at the bottom of the home page. Select Missionary Love Gift on the designation drop down menu. You may make a check payable to ECPC, write "Love Gift" in the memo line and place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning.



Express Your Faith @ ECPC

Express Your Faith is a method of effectively sharing your faith developed by Randy Pope, lead teaching pastor of Perimeter Church. Randy's wonderful communication style helps participants easily learn the tools of sharing the gospel with friends and family in a non-threatening and effective manner. These culturally relevant tools are perfect for transitioning conversations from secular to spiritual and stimulating curiosity about the person of Jesus Christ with an appealing, attractive approach. The class fee is \$35. This price includes all materials and refreshments.

Dates: Friday, March 2, 7-9:30pm (check-in begins at 6:30pm)
Saturday, March 3, 8:30am-12:00pm.

[First time attendees sign up here.](#)
[Alumni sign up here.](#)

Communicants' Class starting March 8

Parents, Jordan Ross, our Student Ministries Director, will be holding a Communicants' Class for ECPC children who have come to faith. We'll meet on Thursday afternoons 4:45-5:45pm at the church, March 8 - April 19 (omitting April 5 during spring break). Each student will receive a book with weekly homework which will need to be completed before class. Cost of \$10 will cover the book and snacks. [RSVP here.](#)



Parent Night Out, February 9

Proceeds benefit the Panama Youth Mission Team.

Take your honey out for Valentine's AND help support a great cause! That's a win-win!

For more information and to sign up, click [here!](#) Sign up deadline is Thursday, February 8 at 4pm. *Sign up soon, limited space.*

Membership Class, February 10 - Deadline to Register is Today!

If you are new to ECPC and want to learn more about us, please consider attending our next Membership Class on Saturday, February 10, from 8:30am - 1pm. The class provides a look at the beliefs and ministry philosophy of the church and a chance to ask questions and meet other newcomers. The class is required for membership, but attending it does not obligate you to join. Today is the deadline to register, so click [here](#) or contact Donna Minday in the church office at (770) 973-4114 x100 or donna@ecpca.org. Lunch is provided, and child care is available on request



Panama Mission Trip Silent Auction

The Panama Mission needs your help! We are starting our annual Silent Auction Fundraiser in February - if you have items, services, gift cards, etc. you would like to donate for auction then please

contact Jordan Ross at jordanross78@gmail.com.

Early Education (Nurseries, 2s & 3s)

Visit this [link](#) to view your serving schedule and confirm your volunteer dates. Questions? Contact Christina at christina@ecpca.org or text 540-538-9237.

EARLY EDUCATION VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

- Please [click here](#) view the volunteer schedule for Children's Ministries winter quarter. There are a number of dates on which volunteers are still needed. If you're available to serve, please email christina@ecpca.org, or click [here](#) and select the OPEN tab to sign up.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

- If you've been looking for a place to get plugged in, we'd love to add you to our Early Education serving team in 2018! Volunteers must be members of ECPC and must go through our security screening. We are hoping to add 3-4 new volunteers each to our infants, toddlers, and 2- and 3-year-old classes. Volunteers will serve twice a quarter (that's only 8 Sundays a year!). Contact Christina Fisher (christina@ecpca.org) to find out more.

Serving February 11:

Purple Lambs (infants): Joyce Leonard & Kathy Grady

Yellow Lambs (toddlers): Scott & Stacey Porter

Green Lambs (2s): Trapnell family

Blue Lambs (3s): Nancy Hull & Teresa Staley

Assistant: Caroline & Andrew Porter

Serving February 18:

Purple Lambs (infants): Jason & Lindsey Rhyne

Yellow Lambs (toddlers): Mary Ghasemi & Patty Robinson

Green Lambs (2s): Brian, Natalie & Sarah Wallace

Blue Lambs (3s): Nancy Hull, Teresa Staley & Carter Wallace

Assistant: Kaitlyn Wallace



Women's Ministries

For more information on our studies and upcoming events visit go to ecpcwomen.com.

Bible Studies

TUESDAY EVENINGS at 7:15-8:45pm / meets in conference room A101

Revelation study: The Returning King

The study looks at Revelation's core message and ensures that its details do not cloud the big picture. The author shows Revelation to be a picture book, not a puzzle book, relevant and applicable to the daily lives of Christians. Click [here](#) to order your book.

THURSDAY MORNINGS from 10-11:30am

[Amazing Collection, Year 3: From Romans to Revelation / meets in the conference room, A101](#)

Get a 30,000 foot view as we study one book a week and see the pieces of God's Word fit together. Weekly reading and prep work required. Newcomers welcome! For book ordering info, please contact Becky Loechl (bloechl4@gmail.com) or Mara Retzlaff (mara@retzlaff.org).

[The Envy of Eve: Finding Contentment in a Covetous World by Melissa Kruger / meets in the Loft](#)

The Envy of Eve guides readers to understand how desires grow into covetousness and what happens when this sin takes power in our hearts. Covetousness chokes out the fruit of the Spirit in our lives, allowing discontentment to bloom. The key to overcoming is to get to the root of our problem: unbelief - a mistrust of God's sovereignty and goodness. Click [here](#) to order your book.



Women's Retreat March 16-18, 2018

Escape with us to Callaway Gardens as we study *Friendships Rooted in the Garden of the Gospel*. Get details and register [here](#) (ecpcwomen.com/2018retreat).



Student Ministries

Check out our new youth ministry website (www.eastcobbyouthministry.com) for all things ECPC youth news, calendars, event registration, mission trip donations and more!

JUNIOR HIGH LIFE

If you are interested in signing up for our JHL text reminders, just text @easypeazy to 81010!

- **Jr High Life** - Feb. 11 - NO JHL - Come to the International Street Fair at 5pm.
- **JHL Spring Retreat** - March 16-18. Ridge Haven Camp with some awesome optional activities (paintball, climbing tower, gaga, bubble ball, ridditch, archery, bubble soccer hiking, campfires, etc.) and an amazing speaker coming down from Maryland! Stay tuned for more details. To register, sign up on our youth ministry website: www.eastcobbyouthministry.com.

SENIOR HIGH LIFE

If you're interested in signing up for our SHL text reminders, just text @JordanRoss to 81010!

- **Sr High Life** - Tonight from 7-9pm with fast food hangout following.

Giving Status as of 01/31/2018

Ministry year started July 1.

Budget Income:	\$547,912
Tithes & Offerings:	\$511,212
Variance:	(\$36,700)

Giving on the Go...from your phone!

You can give even from your mobile phone whether you are in or out of town. From your phone, go to the church website, ecpca.org, click Give Online, and you'll see the new simple online giving page. Just enter the amount of your gift, choose the fund to give to, enter your credit card number and some basic information, and you're done! It's that easy.

[Click to Give Online at ECPC](#)

STAY CONNECTED



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