

### What Do Deacons Do?

In my 45 years of life as a pastor, I often encourage brothers and sisters to fulfill their civic duties. As Christians living in this world under the grace of God, we should also care about what's going on in the world. I am not one who is particularly keen on politics, but I want to have some idea about current political developments. I spent some time watching the recent presidential debate between the Democratic and Republican candidates. After the debate, huge numbers of comments came from all directions. I didn't have a sense of who will win the race, but I could sense that both candidates were working hard that night to tell the American people: "I can do a better job than my opponent."

Last Sunday, the general membership meeting of our church was successfully concluded and a list of the new deacons for the next term was announced. Thank the Lord, no matter whether they are newly elected or incumbent, we will have a group of deacons serving the church with their gifts at each campus.

ECC's general guidelines for the selection of deacons are based on 1 Timothy 3. When the early church was first established, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, the apostles elected seven deacons to manage the meals. The criterion they put forward was: "*who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom*" (Acts 6:3). Such criterion may make today's pastors and elders feel a little nervous. In fact, among these seven deacons, Stephen, "*a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people*" (Acts 6:8). He later became the first martyr for the Lord in church history. Another deacon, Philip, later became an evangelist. Having said that, the question is whether the standards for serving in ministry is too high and daunting. In Matthew 25, Jesus told the parable of three servants and how they served their master with their talents. In the parable, we learned that God only praised those showing goodness and faithfulness. Goodness is our basic mental attitude as Christians; faithfulness to the Lord is the way in which we should do our work. No matter whether one is the president of a country serving his/her people, or an employee working for an employer, only serving faithfully can s/he please those whom s/he serves. The same is true for Christians before God.

We should all pray earnestly for the deacons and co-workers of the church, hoping that they will all share the same attitude and dedication: "I will strive to do a better job in my service." I am convinced that we have a group of co-workers who will not only work hard to meet the expectations of pastors and elders, but will also have the right attitude to serve God in His mission.

On the other hand, it is not enough just to do things well for people. Thank the Lord, God has been gracious to our church and He gives us many gifted brothers and sisters who have strong abilities in various fields to do good works. We must always be reminded that it is God whom we are serving. Otherwise, we could become biased, insistent on our own opinions, discouraged, or lose our heart in service. It is my hope that fellow deacons will always remember our original intention is to serve God.

**EDMONDS CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**9/22/2024 AT 11:15 AM**

Call to Worship  
Worship through Praise  
Congregational Prayer & the Lord's Prayer  
Worship through the Word

**Pastor Jeff Ting**  
**“Love: the Toughest Verb”**  
**1 Corinthians 13:1-7**

Worship in Response  
Doxology & Benediction  
Welcome and Announcements

*Offering is a part of our worship to God.*  
*Online Offering: <https://eccseattle.org/en/give/>*

<b>SERVANT TEAM</b>	<b>TODAY</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK</b>
<b>SPEAKER</b>	Pastor Jeff Ting	Pastor Solomon Liu
<b>MODERATOR</b>	Ryan Summers	Ryan Summers
<b>WORSHIP</b>	Ryan Summers	WOW Praise
<b>PA TECH</b>	Vanthy Ouk	Yuyu Ao
<b>USHER</b>	Davy Ouk	Vanessa Woodbury
<b>DOOR ROTATION</b>	Vanthy Ouk	

# Prayers for Our ECC Community

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## **PRAISES AND PRAYERS**

### **REDMOND YOUTH MINISTRY**

- Praise that this past summer, we had 2 fantastic retreats!
- Pray for the monthly study series for the small groups to choose from this year: "Spice Mountain Marriage Training," "Bi-Vocational Ministry in the Workplace," "Faith/Hope/Love Caring Training," "Missional Tactics," "How to Build a Healthy Small Group," and "Alpha Outreach." May God use these teachings to strengthen our faith and equip us to live out His will in every aspect of our lives.
- Pray that this school year, we can connect well with the kids and help make YF and YSF feel like a home.
- Pray that this school year, we can provide a great time and space for the kids to learn about their faith and God.

### **PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES**

Alex, Kristi, and their team have served in a sports ministry in Taiwan and other parts of Asia for 33 years. God led and blessed them with a fruitful sports ministry this summer in Kaohsiung. Despite several spiritual warfare incidents and the outside temperature being in the 90s – kids were getting dehydrated from the

heat – God brought 2/3 of the 200 children and youth to Christ.

Please pray for the 30 pastors who will be following up on these new believers and are waiting for a few who are still undecided. Please pray for Pastor Amos Lin and their team. He is the key leader who connects Alex's sports ministry with all the tribal churches. May God direct Pastor Amos to future church plants that started with sports.

### **PRAY FOR THE WORLD**

- Please pray for southeast Asia as it cleans up after Hurricane Yagi. Please pray for God to be gracious to those who have suffered loss in the storm's path and strengthen first responders as they rescue those trapped by the floodwaters.
- Please pray for Lausanne 4 being held in Seoul, Korea, this week. Held every ten years, it is the largest missions conference, bringing thousands of church leaders from around the world onsite and online. May the Lord unite the delegates and help them to discern how to lead their churches and organizations to fulfill the Great Commission.

# Announcements

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## Membership Class

9/29 (Sun) | 1:00-3:00 PM |

Edmonds Campus, Room 109 (Mandarin) & Room 110 (English)

If you are a baptized Christ-follower who has been worshipping with us for six months or more and are interested in becoming an ECC member, we warmly invite you to our membership class. Please inform Charles Zhang (charleszhangsse@gmail.com), our membership deacon, by September 22nd so we can prepare a simple lunch.

## World Concern Bangladesh Country Director Sharing

9/22 (Sun) | 11:15 AM-12:30 PM | Seattle Campus, Education Building

The Care Ministry is sponsoring Glorious Gregory Das, the World Concern (WC) Bangladesh Country Director, to speak at Seattle campus. In recent years, ECC has supported WC by participating in their annual "Free Them 5K" Fund Run (<https://www.freethem5k.org/>) to help thwart human trafficking. Annual grants to WC from the Good Samaritan Fund have helped "One Village Transformed" projects in Laos and South Sudan. Live streaming of the event will be made available via this Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/0922WorldConcern> Those not able to attend in person or watch the livestream event via Zoom will be able to view the recording.

## ActsNow Conference

10/12 (Sat) | 9am-3:15pm | Edmonds Campus

International Christian Response (ICR) serves persecuted Christians around the world, and they will be hosting a one-day conference on Saturday, October 12th, at ECC's Edmonds campus. Registration is required, but for ECC attendees, use the code "ECCFREE" to waive the registration fee on the payment page.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL		
DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION/TIME
9/22/24	1 Corinthians 13:1-7	12:30pm ECC-Edmonds Campus Room 114/115
9/29/24	1 Corinthians 13:8-13	
10/6/24	1 Corinthians 14:1-19	

2024 ECC CALENDAR (For the yearly calendar, please check [www.eccseattle.org](http://www.eccseattle.org))

10/12 (Sat) 9 am	Church Board Meeting
10/12 (Sat) 9am	ActsNow Conference (ECC-EDS)
12/14 (Sat)	Church Board Meeting