

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.

(Translated by Bob Tang)

SEATTLE CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE | 9/22/2024

Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Congregational Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
Worship through the Word
Worship in Response
Doxology & Benediction
Welcome and Announcements

*Offering is a part of our worship to God.
Free-will offering boxes are located at the sanctuary entrance and exits.
Online Offering: <https://eccseattle.org/en/give/>*

Message from Pastor Jeff Ting
"Love: the Toughest Verb"
1 Corinthians 13:1-7

*Missed a sermon or want to share it? Listen to it at
www.eccseattle.org/en/sermons*

	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SPEAKER	Jeff Ting	Solomon Liu
MODERATOR	Grant Kwong	Lydia Liu
WORSHIP	Matthew Khor	Amanda Shu
PA TECH	Brian Yao, Benjamin Yang	Ray Li, Titus Goh
LIVE STREAM	Ellen Liu, Roland Zou	David Li, Kylie Cheung
DOOR ROTATION	Bruce Chang	King Lam

Prayers for Our ECC Community

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

REDMOND YOUTH CONGREGATION

- This past Summer, we had 2 fantastic retreats!
- 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.

"My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

2 Corinthians 12:9



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLD CONCERN BANGLADESH COUNTRY DIRECTOR SHARING

TODAY | 11:15-12:30PM | SEATTLE CAMPUS, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BLDG.

The Care Ministry is sponsoring Glorious Gragory Das, the World Concern (WC) Bangladesh Country Director, to speak today. In recent years, ECC has supported WC by participating in their annual "Free Them 5K" and provide grants to WC for "One Village Transformed" projects in Laos and South Sudan. Please come and be blessed in learning how God is using World Concern to impact, change, and transform our world.

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.

FIRST STEP CLASS FOR CHRISTMAS BAPTISM

The First Step class for Christmas Baptism will start on Sept. 29th. We will be meeting in the office conference room. If interested, please contact Elder Victor Lee (victorklee@hotmail.com) or Jennie Li (jennielseattle@gmail.com).

YOUTH CAMP POST RALLY

SEPT. 28 (SAT) | 7:00PM | ECC SEATTLE MAIN SANCTUARY

Calling all Youths - Post Rally is coming up! Come and remember the good times at Youth Camp, see everyone from all of ECC, and kick off the new school year! Invite your friends!

2024 TAIWAN MISSION PINGLIN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEAM SHARING

SEPT. 29 (SUN) | 12:30PM | REDMOND CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HALL (ROOM W106)

Join us for a time of sharing about our recent Taiwan missions trip as we reflect on God's work during our trip.

FIRST ANNUAL SEATTLE CAMPUS WORSHIP MINISTRY TRAINING

OCT. 5TH (SAT) | 9:30AM - 2:30PM | ECC SEATTLE SANCTUARY | FOOD PROVIDED!

Join us for our 1st annual Seattle Campus Worship Ministry training! We will be going over our ministry's vision/mission for biblical worship, reviewing standards and protocols, as well as being trained/re-trained on equipment usage. This is required for worship ministry members. This is also an opportunity for those who are interested in worship to learn about serving! Register by Oct. 1st!

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/ECCworshiptraining24>

Questions? Contact Amanda Shu or Nathan Goh for more info.

2024 ECC CALENDAR *(For the yearly calendar, please check www.eccseattle.org)*

10/12 (SAT)

ActsNow Conference (Edmonds Campus)

SUNDAY SCHOOL	TOPIC	TEACHER	LOCATION
NURSERY	9:45 am — Parent and Me, 11:00 am — Childcare		
Preschool	9:30 am — Worship, 11 am — Sunday School		
Elementary			
YF (JR. HIGH)	Sermon Questions	Counselors	YF Room
YSF (HIGH SCHOOL)	Sermon Questions	Counselors	YSF Room

SEATTLE ENGLISH MINISTRIES CONTACT

*COUNCIL CHAIR

Pastor	Solomon Liu	solomonliu@eccseattle.org
Minister	Steve Moy	stevemoy@eccseattle.org
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Local Evangelism	*Bruce Chang	brucepchang@gmail.com
Membership	Geoffrey Wong	hkgeoffrey@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sam Perng	sam.perng@live.com

SEATTLE-ENGLISH FELLOWSHIPS/MEETINGS

FELLOWSHIP	MEETING TIME	CONTACTS	EMAIL
Kidz Klub	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Albert Ang	albertangyl@hotmail.com
YF (Junior High)	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Steve Moy	SteveMoy@eccseattle.org
YSF (High School)	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Steve Moy	SteveMoy@eccseattle.org
Common Ground (College)*	Fridays	CG Core	CGCore@eccseattle.org
Living Water*	Wednesdays	Matthew Khor	genxswordsman@hotmail.com
Ark (Bilingual)*	2 nd & 4 th Fridays	Jeffrey Chan	arkcore@googlegroups.com
Family North	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Natalie Liu	eccfamilynorth@gmail.com
Family West	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Elsa Hwee	hwee.elsa@gmail.com
Family Classic	1 st & 3 rd Saturdays	Daphne Tang & Jennie Li	tangdaphne@comcast.net jennieliseattle@gmail.com
Roots	Every other Saturday	Geo & Brit Wong	hkgeoffrey@gmail.com

**This small group serves members from both SEA & RED campuses*