The Best New Beginning

Reflection

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior. (Titus 3:4-6)

Have you ever wished for a reset? Just rewind to some point in time, then begin again? My wife and I recently attended opening night of a live show. The riveting plot, musical numbers, and choreography kept us glued to our seats. But about 30 seconds into a climactic scene, just 10-15 minutes before the conclusion, the stage darkened and a message flashed to stand by. The crew hit a technical snag and tried multiple times to restart the scene. The audience waited patiently for 40 minutes and was finally rewarded with a smooth and satisfying conclusion to the story.

Redos in theater are possible because the stage is just a simulation. Reality is not always so kind. But the Christmas season is when we celebrate a restart like no other. This past week, we observed the monumental event of God granting mankind a new beginning. He could have left us to wallow in sin and rebellion on a downward spiral toward self-destruction and the darkness of hell. But He chose to send His only begotten Son to live amongst humans and even suffer the penalty of sin in our place. Being granted the opportunity through His incarnation to be reborn and enjoy Him eternally is worthy of commemorating.

In the words of Charles Wesley: Mild He lays his glory by Born that man no more may die Born to raise the sons of earth Born to give us second birth

May the True Light of Christmas continue to shine brightly in your heart and home, in 2025 and all year round!

EDMONDS CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE 12/29/2024 AT 11:15 AM

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

Minister Petros Yeung

"Joseph, The Godfather" Matthew 1:18-25

Worship in Response Doxology & Benediction Welcome and Announcements

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

Servant Team	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
Speaker	Minister Petros Yeung	Elder Daniel Wu
Moderator	Minster Ryan Summers Minster Ryan Summers	
WORSHIP	Hosanna	Ryan's Team
РА ТЕСН	Jonathan Chu Dean Matsen	George Chiu
	George Chiu	Janet Dong Yuyu Ao
USHER	Davy Ouk	Gloria Chiu
FLOWERS		Yuyu Ao
DOOR ROTATION	Lawrence Tung	

Prayers for Our ECC Community

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

REDMOND YOUTH MINISTRY

- YSF has been more consistent this year!
- YFers have been learning and remembering lots from this year on Fridays and Sundays, making connections and deepening their understanding of the gospel.
- The youth have continued to grow together in the community.
- YSF Retreat is coming up. Pray that it will be a great time of fellowship and learning.
- Pray that YSF Sunday school would be effective in teaching about, and spurring youth into, their spiritual formation.
- Pray that the youth would grow in their sense of community with each other.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Based in Florida, Sean and Mandi Miller are international missionaries and area directors for the North Caribbean and Bermuda with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). Responsible for eight nations of the CEF region, they work primarily with nationals in these countries to "evangelize, disciple, and establish a local church." Thank the Lord, Sean's work trip in November ended successfully. Thanks to God for providing nearly 25% of their annual budget in their organization's largest fundraiser! Pray that the Lord supply all their needs next year so that the gospel can be spread and expanded in their area. Thanks also to the Lord for keeping their recognition by the Ministry of Education of St. Lucia, giving them full access to share the gospel in all 85+ public primary schools across the country.

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

- Please continue to pray for the many people of Ukraine who must weather winter without light and heat. May the Lord be merciful to protect those caught in the conflict, be gracious to those who have suffered loss, and raise peacemakers who will bring an end to the nearly three-year -long conflict.
- Please pray for the US West and East coasts as they bear the brunt of winter storms this week. May the Lord grant mercy to those who are traveling during the holiday season and provide shelter to those most vulnerable in the communities affected.

Announcements

2025 Congregational Meeting & Budget Preview Meeting

- We will have our annual Congregational Meeting for all members on Sunday, January 19, immediately following the Sunday Worship services at all three campuses. The meeting will include the following items:
 - A. Approve the 2025 ECC annual budget.
 - B. Re-confirm Elders Elton Lee and Howard Hsu as ruling elders for a three– year term (2025-2027).
- Your attendance is essential. If unable to attend, request an absentee ballot by January 13th from your deacon or the church office. Invitation letters with details will be mailed on January 3rd.
- Members are invited to attend the budget preview Zoom meeting on 1/11 (Sat) at 9:30am to learn more about the various budgets and the modifications on the church buildings.

Meeting ID: 824 8461 7550, Code: 562715

Finance Committee Update

- <u>Guidelines For Expense Reimbursement</u> Please submit all expense reimbursement requests within 60 calendar days after expenses are incurred for accurate accounting. The deadline to submit expense reimbursements for the 2024 fiscal year is 12/31.
- End-of-Year Offering

Please be mindful that contributions to be counted toward 2024 must be dated 12/31 or earlier. We kindly encourage you to fulfill your pledge for the Edmonds Campus purchase by year-end, if possible. Checks sent through the U.S. Postal Service must have a 2024 postmark for them to count toward the 2024 offering. Online Bill Pay service is also available. Please go to https://eccseattle.org/en/give/ for instructions.

Mexico Christmas Short-Term Missions Trip Team

From December 26, 2024, to January 1, 2025, six members from the Redmond Campus Mandarin and English congregations, led by Sister Ting Hong, will partner with Casa Dayspring in Mexico to share God's love and the gospel. Please keep them in your prayers.

Recent Good Samaritan Fund (GSF) Grant Activity.

The Care Ministry team has approved the following grants:

- 1. World Relief: \$10,000 to help resettle refugees in Western Washington.
- 2. Medical Teams International: \$10,000 to provide life-saving medical relief in Colombia, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Ukraine.
- Starfish Asia: \$15,200 to support two Pakistani schools: Holy Shepherd Grammar School and RightWay School.
 Please consider giving to help replenish the GSF fund balance. Thank you and

may you be encouraged and blessed.

Small Group	MEETING TIME	CONTACTS	EMAIL
Breaking Bread	1st SAT, 6-9PM	Milky Chen	milkychen82@gmail.com
Youth Fellowship	Every Sunday 12:30PM	Ryan Summers	rms147@hotmail.com

2024 — 2025 ECC CALENDAR (For the yearly calendar, please check <u>www.eccseattle.org</u>)			
1/26/2025 (Sun)	40 Days of Prayer Campaign (EDS-English)		
2/14/2025 (Fri)	YSF Retreat (Lakeview Retreat)		
3/21/2025 (Fri)	NW Ministry Conference + D6 Family Conference (Northshore community Church)		
3/21/2025 (Fri)	CG Camp (Lakeside Bible Camp)		

EDS-ENGLISH MINISTRIES CONTACTS		*Council Chair
Pastor	Jeff Ting	jeffting@eccseattle.org
Elder	Peter Su *Fangbiao Lin	petercsu@hotmail.com fangbiaolin@gmail.com
Worship	Tracy Stanley	wtwstanley@gmail.com
Resource	John Liang	cissynjohn@hotmail.com
Missions	Jean Zhou	jeanz76@hotmail.com
Local Evangelism	Aaron Zhu	dingzhizhu@gmail.com
Membership	Charles Zhang	charleszhangsse@gmail.com
Facility Management Team	Lawrence Tung	lawrenceltung@gmail.com
Facility/Finance	Vanthy Ouk	vanthyouk@gmail.com
Adult Sunday School	Hannah Matsen	Hannah.matsen@gmail.com
Children	Fenghe Lu	fenghe_lu@hotmail.com
Youth	Ryan Summers	ryansummers@eccseattle.org