

E-LIFE NEWS

EVERLASTING LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY SERVICES

- SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.
(VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON BY REGISTRATION ONLY)
- MONDAY 7:00 P.M. BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM
- WEDNESDAY WORD 12:00 P.M.
- THURSDAY 8:45 AM WOMAN TO WOMAN BIBLE STUDY—CONFERENCE CALL

ABOUT US

EVERLASTING LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH WAS BIRTHED ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 AS A SMALL CONFERENCE CALL BIBLE STUDY. IT QUICKLY GREW FROM LOCAL PARTICIPANTS TO STATE-WIDE, AND EVENTUALLY COUNTRY WIDE CALLERS. A DECISION WAS MADE IN JANUARY 2011 TO MOVE FORWARD IN MINISTRY AND BEGIN OFFICIAL INCORPORATION AND TAX-EXEMPT STATUS AS A CHURCH UNDER FEDERAL AND NC STATE LAW.

EVERLASTING LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (ELCC) DERIVES ITS NAME FROM JOHN 4:14 AND ROMANS 6:22. BOTH VERSES SPEAK OF AN ETERNAL LIFE AWAITING ALL THOSE WHO WALK IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LIVE ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF GOD UNTIL JESUS CHRIST RETURNS.

MISSION OF ELCC

Our mission is to train, teach and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those in our community through outreach and love according to Mark 16:15-18. This involves ministry to the whole person – body, mind and spirit.

Q: Why a newsletter?

A: To keep you, leaders, members, and donors, informed on events, to encourage you, and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

“AND JESUS CAME AND SAID TO THEM, ‘ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH.’”

MATTHEW 28:18

“PRAY ALWAYS. PRAY CONTINUALLY.”

- 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-17 NIV

THIS EDITION INCLUDES:

- * Outreach & Community Services
- * Article Entries
- * Pastors Word of Encouragement & State of the Ministry

Sunday, July 28th—Pastor Stephen Lyons is preaching at St. Mark Church in Everett, NC.

CALENDAR EVENTS—WEBSITE

- * Children Bible Study—Monday 6:30p

PRAYER REQUEST—MESSAGE US!

We appreciate your prayers and support. Let us know how we can pray for you. We know God hears every prayer.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

“BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER.”
ROMANS 12:2

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Donations for meal distributions for families this summer went well. We understand some needs extend beyond meals. If you have any resources that you believe would be beneficial to families in our community (Wake County), please contact us. Our desire is to provide helpful resources for the whole person (Bible studies, employment, housing, food, and health services).

BE STRONG AND OF A GOOD COURAGE; BE NOT AFRAID, NEITHER BE THOU DISMAYED: FOR THE LORD THY GOD IS WITH THEE WHITHERSOEVER THOU GOEST.

—JOSHUA 1:9

BE OF GOOD COURAGE—ELDER STERLING PORTER

Be Strong & Courageous is repeated multiple times as we read through the accounts of Joshua. There is a reason why we hear this saying repeated, and should take note. We have to be reminded of this, **Be Strong & Courageous**. Obstacles can be discouraging and we may feel the pressure to respond, make a decision, make a stand. We have the flight or fight response, resist or surrender mentality, when we are stressed or facing opposition.

God wants us to be ‘strong and courageous’. What does that mean? In one word, **TRUST**. We are to **TRUST HIM**. John 14:6 says, “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” Jesus also sent back the ‘**Comforter**’. What is the Comforter? For believers, we have the Holy Spirit, our comforter, and we must trust Truth. Trust God is and will ‘lead us into all truth’. Not some truth, **ALL TRUTH**.

In the same chapter, Joshua 1, God told them He would give them the land. Joshua believed what God said, even after seeing who currently occupied the land. He believed God. Joshua 1:5, “No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. 6 **Be strong and courageous**, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.” **Trust the Lord**, no matter what You see.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ROMANS 12:2

READ YOUR BIBLE! — ANONYMOUS

We hear this so much! Read your Bible! Then, we pick it up and begin to read, only to fall asleep or become discouraged because we cannot seem to grasp what ‘King James’ is saying. Do not let that discourage you. Keep picking it up. Find a topic, research the Bible as if you are preparing to write a paper. If you find yourself in this rut, pray and ask the Lord to give you understanding. Read and study, one verse at a time. #Meditate. Start with scriptures that speak of His promises.

Let us start with the Great Commission, **Matthew 28:16-20**:

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

TRANSCENDENT WORK—BEING BEYOND COMPREHENSION

FAITH TO FINISH—MIN DALLAS LYONS

The work is completed! Our faith should align with the end of the work. Faith aligns us with what is **Finished!**

Acknowledge, sometimes you don’t need more resources, a mentor, a blueprint, a short cut, an answer. You just need **FAITH TO FINISH!**

In **Romans 8**, picture two natures: 1. Sin Nature 2. Spirit Nature

We are all born in sin, in a sinful world. Psalm 51:5-10 says ‘shapen in iniquity’. This ‘sin nature’ is **hostile** towards Christ. Let your ‘**spirit nature**’ reign, the Holy Spirit guide you. **Slow Down and Listen! Abide. Wait. Rest.**

(Notes from ELCC Study April 2024: “Faith to Finish” from Pastor Stephen Lyons series: God’s Resurrection Power Completed the Work. Ephesians 3:17-18 and Romans 8.)



PASTOR WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT & STATE OF THE MINISTRY - PASTOR STEPHEN & CYNTRIA LYONS

Hi Saints, we have made it to the 3rd Quarter of 2024. Thank you, Jesus! 2025 will be here before we know it! The last half of 2024 will be unlike the first half. There will be massive changes and challenges across this country in 4th Quarter that will shock some people and paralyze others; but for those who are in Christ and have their minds on Christ we will not be taken by surprise. Now is not only a praying time, but it's a time where the church MUST be the Church. There's much evil and darkness all around us and the only way we overcome it is by being the light.

Matthew 5:14-16 reminds us, "You are the light of the world – like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

The upcoming election is not about how many Christians we can get to vote Republican or Democrat, but it's about how many Christians will remain in the will of God in spite of the pull and draw in this current climate to go in a direction that is contrary to the will and way of God. There will be many politicians who will use religion in this season to further their agenda and play on the hearts of man. They will say things that will tickle the ears of listeners and stir the imagination of dreamers, but don't be deceived. Be wise as serpents and as harmless as doves in this season (Matt. 10:16). Watch as well as pray in this season (Luke 21:36). Stand for righteousness and stand for Christ's sake in this season! The world is watching the Church to see what we do and how we respond in this season. Don't put your hope in man but put your hope in Christ. He's the only sure foundation.

As we wrap up 3Q'24, I am pleased and proud to inform you that we have finally received approval from the Town of Fuquay-Varina on our site plan. What does this mean? We have the permit necessary to begin site work, and we can now submit our building plan to the town for approval.

We continue to solicit your prayers as we pursue funding to close our construction gap. God has brought us too far to leave us now. Please DON'T STOP giving and DON'T STOP believing God for the fulfilment of his promise. If you haven't done so already, consider giving towards our 2024 Pledge Campaign. It ends October 1, 2024. We don't know what the final construction cost will be or what exactly we'll need once we move in, so we will continue raising funds and hope you will consider becoming a Pledge Partner.



PASTOR WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT &

STATE OF THE MINISTRY - PASTOR STEPHEN & CYNTRIA LYONS

Below is an updated building timeline. The timeline is updated quarterly and may change based on project developments and accomplishments. Dates for outstanding milestones are estimated. Milestone Responsible(s) Target Date Status Obtain well & septic permits Architect & Wake County March 15, 2024.

Your help is needed and welcomed to ensure our outreach programs are a success. If you are interested in contributing to our meals program, child welfare program, or evangelistic efforts please visit our website and use the giving options available there. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer for any of these programs, please let us know.

Visit our website more information on this and other upcoming events.

Take care, and God bless you!

Pastor Stephen L. Lyons

Milestone	Responsible(s)	Target Date	Status
Obtain well & septic permits	Architect & Wake County	March 15, 2024	Completed
Final approval of site permit	Town of Fuquay-Varina	July 18, 2024	Completed
Submit application & drawings for building permit	Architect	July 31, 2024	In Progress
Obtain building loan approval	Pastor & Lender	August 31, 2024	In Progress
Building permit approved	Town of Fuquay-Varina	September 30, 2024	Outstanding
Apply for construction permit	Architect	October 31, 2024	Outstanding
Construction permit approved	Town of Fuquay-Varina	November 30, 2024	Outstanding
Execute construction contract with Builder	Cornerstone Builders & ELCC	December 1, 2024	Outstanding
Complete pre-construction steps and process	Cornerstone Builders & ELCC	January 1, 2025	Outstanding
Building construction begins (6-8 month process)	Cornerstone Builders	January 31, 2025	Outstanding
Building construction ends (6-8 month process)	Cornerstone Builders	July 31, 2025	Outstanding

PRAYER FOR THIS SEASON

*My God, You are faithful throughout the ages (Psalm 119:90). You are Creator of the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1). You made the land and sea. You are God of eternity, with answers before we speak. You are trustworthy and magnificent in all of Your ways. Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts, Your ways are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9). Yet, You are still mindful of man (Psalm 8:4). Although I desire to know every detail, understand 'why', especially in trials, I am so thankful I do not have to know. Help me Lord! I will keep my eyes looking up, to the hills, knowing you will work out **every detail** perfectly (Psalm 121:2). The loads I am carrying, are too heavy to carry. You said your yoke is easy and burden is light (Matthew 11:29-30). Help my soul! Help my soul find in rest in your **FINISHED WORK!***

