

E-LIFE NEWS

EVERLASTING LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



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 & 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.







WEEKLY SERVICES

- ◆ **SUNDAY** 10:00 AM & 11:00 AM (Please check [CALENDAR](#) for location)
- ◆ **MONDAY MANNA** (Adults) 7:00 PM (VIA ZOOM) - (Children 6:30 PM -7:00 PM)
- ◆ **WEDNESDAY WORD** 12:00 PM
- ◆ **THURSDAY** 8:45 AM—WOMAN TO WOMAN BIBLE STUDY CONFERENCE CALL
- ◆ **SATURDAY** 8:30 AM BI-WEEKLY MEN’S DISCUSSION VIA ZOOM—SIGN UP!

THIS EDITION INCLUDES:

- ◆ Announcements
- ◆ Articles
- ◆ Prayer for this Season
- ◆ Word of Encouragement & State of the Ministry by Pastor Stephen Elect Lady Cyntria Lyons

 Everlasting Life Christian Church
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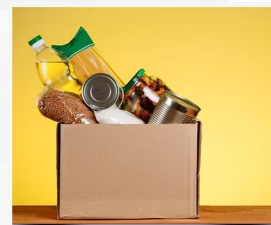


ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUTREACH & UPDATES



The “Blessings Box” has been off to a great start for 2025! Min Gray and Sharyn have teamed up to serve the families, in our community on a **first come—first serve basis**. Who is our community? Anyone who shows up to receive. We ALL have a need. Your need may be to meet a financial goal and find areas where you can save money. Grocery prices are unpredictable and we all need to eat. So, if you are desiring to eat more vegetables and save money, check [ELCC Calendar](#) for updates. Complete our [Blessings Box form](#) with any specific items needed and we will do our best to meet those needs. ***Blessed to be a blessing!***



Blessing Boxes
Sign Up Here!

SAVE THE DATE - WALKING ELCC PROPERTY

ELCC family and friends will meet on the ELCC property in Willow Springs, NC to walk and pray, Sunday, February 16th following the 11:00 AM service at Evangel Church. Check [ELCC Calendar](#) for details.

SHOUT OUT!



The Children of ELCC! We are beyond proud and thankful for your willingness to share your God given gifts to serve during 2024 Christmas service as we shared the Good News, the birth of our Saviour, with the skits and musical selections!

Keep being the Light in this dark world! You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Continue to stand firm on the Word of the

Lord. He will NEVER FAIL. Praying your faith in God remains strong. We are proud of all the hard work you all did to serve, just imagine what your Father in heaven thinks of you! *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.—Proverbs 3:5-6.* (Actors: S,S,A,F,M,M,M,C—Initials of the children)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONGRATULATIONS!

Overseer Aileen Lyons completed the two-year course (2023-2024) in Biblical and Ministry Studies at the Empowered for Purpose School of Ministry. We are ONE BODY. Any opportunity to continue in the Word of the Lord is encouraged. May all our desire be to continue learning and come to an understanding of the Truth.

Psalms 91:4b, "His Truth will be your shield and buckler."



SHOUT OUT!

We served at Evangel Church for Christmas and New Years Eve 2024. It's one thing to pray for your leaders, or have concern for them, and take those concerns to the throne. It's another thing, a blessing, to have those who have never met him, speak to those exact areas of his life, pray for, and encourage him on this journey. The Lord is not unaware. The Lord knows what He's doing. He is truly JIREH! He works the details. His desire for us is obedience. ELCC is in a special 'building' season.

May our foundation be sure. We are thankful for a leader who is transparent about the vision God has given him for ELCC.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 is a Bible verse that encourages people to pray for those in authority, including kings and other leaders. The verse states that praying for leaders is pleasing to God and helps people live peaceful lives.

How to pray for leaders:

- ◆ Pray for leaders to make good decisions that benefit others.
- ◆ Pray for leaders to have wisdom and discernment.
- ◆ Pray for leaders to have a positive impact on families, schools, and communities.
- ◆ Pray for leaders to have a heart change and salvation.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELDER ORDINATION



A special ordination service was held at Unity Outreach in Lillington, NC on Sunday, December 8, 2024. ELCC now has two elders: Elder Percy Woods, Jr and Sterling Porter, II. Thanks to their dedication and service to ELCC over the years, using their gifts to uplift the body of Christ, preaching the Word, and supporting the ministry.



SPECIAL THANKS



Thank you Pastor Mark & LeighAnn Fenn at Evangel Church in Fuquay Varina, NC and Pastor Shirley & Chief Bryant at Unity Outreach Church in Lillington, NC. ELCC leaders, members, children, and visitors have various opportunities to serve, support, and grow spiritually. We do not take it lightly. We are beyond blessed to have churches willingly opening their doors, being able to join and serve with them during worship services, and ELCC children participating in Sunday School classes at both churches.

May the Lord supply every one of your needs, spiritually, physically, and financially. May He answer prayers you haven't spoken yet. May the Lord lead and guide you in all that you do. May your labor of love and service bless you in every way possible.



ARTICLES



TURN THE CHEEK

By Elder Sterling Porter II

Try Jesus, not me... should we really turn the other cheek?

Scripture Reference:

Matthew 5:38-39 - 38 "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' 39 But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

Luke 6:29 - 29 If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them.

1 Peter 2:23 - 23 When they hurled their insults at him (Jesus), he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Deuteronomy 32:35 - "It is mine to avenge; I will repay. In due time their foot will slip; their day of disaster is near and their doom rushes upon them."

Proverbs 25:21-22 – 21 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. 22 In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.

Romans 12:19 – 20 - 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"[d] says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

Fight evil with the word of God, not for personal gain but for the Glory of God. Ask yourself, will this glorify God? His glory should be more important than personal satisfaction. You may gain a brother in the process.

(An excerpt from the Men's Discussion—[Register Here!](#) Scroll to the bottom of the homepage and complete the sign up form. Joining the group, you will have access to more extensive notes and discussion with each topic shared, exegesis of text, and testimonies. Prayerfully, consider joining.)



ARTICLES



DEAR PEOPLE OF GOD

The Father is calling all of us who have accepted Him as our Savior to a HIGHER PLACE. Not a self righteousness, but in Him! It is more important than ever to seek His face, desiring His wisdom and guidance of His Spirit. We can no longer remain stagnant and comfortable but SURE OF OUR CALLING!! By His Spirit only are we able to BE MORE THAN CONQUERS.—Signed, Your Sister

Reference Scriptures:

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters,[a] make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,” - 2 Peter 1:10

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” - James 1:5

LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP

By Overseer Aileen Lyons

Reference Scripture: *Luke 5:1-11*

Little background up to this point in Luke:

Luke is written to the Gentiles and concentrates on all that Jesus did and taught.

In Luke chapter three, John the Baptist baptized Jesus and the Holy Ghost descends upon Him as a dove. A voice came down from heaven and said, “This is my beloved Son in thee I am well pleased.” Jesus is led by the Spirit of God into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. The temptations presented to Him were things in the world, the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life. Jesus’ response to the temptations was “it is written.” Once leaving the wilderness Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit of God. He entered Galilee, taught in the synagogues, and many were excited and glorified Him. He casted out unclean spirits, healed the sick, and cast out devils.

Now we are in chapter five where there are two ships and He calls His first disciples. One of the ship belonged to Simon, Peter. Peter was a fisherman. Peter listened to Jesus’ teaching and Jesus gave him a word to launch out into the deep.

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ARTICLES

LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP (CONTINUED)

The Launch means to propel with force. Peter's response at first was, we've been fishing all night and didn't catch a thing. After listening to Jesus's teaching, he decided to do as Jesus asked.

Remember: Faith comes by hearing, hearing the word of God. Peter's faith was ignited because he heard Jesus teaching and believed. In his obedience he had great success. He caught so many fish that another ship had to come to haul in the fish.

When we have an ear to hear God through His word and obey things change. Life gets better when we apply what we hear. There is nothing God cannot do and He wants us to experience the deep things He has for us. The deep things are revealed by the Holy Ghost. Therefore to know and understand the things of God, we must be born again by the Spirit of God. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10. We worship God in Spirit and in truth when we are born again. John 4:23-24 To launch into the deep things of God, that is where God desires for each of us in 2025. The year 2025 is the year of grace for Grace (John 1:16). Grace came through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. By grace are we saved not by works of our flesh (Ephesians 2:8). Accept and walk in the grace of God and don't take it for granted.

PRAYER FOR THIS SEASON

Lord, you are calling us into holiness. You are holy. We seek your wisdom in all we do in this season! You've taken us this far, and we believe, You have started a good work and will finish it! Use our hands to work the field, may the laborers know without a doubt what they labor for! With You, NO LABOR IS IN VAIN. You are most wonderful, Provider, Counselor, Comforter, our Shield and Buckler. Move in the hearts of our family, friends, and all those we come in contact with. Give us wisdom to serve You and our community, with bold gentleness, strong and confident in our beliefs with kindness and compassion for others. Dear Lord, with all the uncertainty in this world, we trust You, the One who knows our end before we begin. When we stop and give thanks, may we be overcome with assurance and say 'Look what the Lord has done!' We give you the glory, the honor, all praise! We thank you now for the testimonies of how you answer prayer, how you heal and restore, how you provide when we have 'no means'. You are the WAY! The TRUTH! The LIFE! The Light! We come to You, the only way we can be saved. Selah.



WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT & STATE OF THE MINISTRY

PASTOR STEPHEN & CYNTRIA LYONS



Hi Saints, I pray each of you are doing well and are fulfilling the call of God for your life. With the start of this New Year, I have seen God pour out blessing after blessing in my life, my family's life, and the lives of ELCC members. Our faithfulness, your faithfulness, is paying off; and I'm excited about what God is going to do in 2025!

On December 31 we held our first in person New Year's Eve Service in 4 years. I was inspired by the number of individuals who braved the cold weather and the late hour to join us in bringing the New Year in together and in the House of the Lord. Shout out to Pastor Mark and Sis. Leighann for not only allowing us to use Evangel Church to host the service, but for showing up! The topic of my message that evening was, It's Time to Cross Over. I came from Mark 4.

In verse 35 of this chapter Jesus tells the disciples, "Let us cross over to the other side." I want to tell you that, we HAVE crossed over to the other side! I believe we have not only crossed over into a New Year in the natural, but we have crossed over into a New Year in the Spirit. In this New Year and new place God has us in, we must NOT move or operate under our own strength, in our own intellect, or by our own will. This MUST be a year where we follow the voice of God, the will of God, and the way of God. When we follow Christ, he ensures our safe passage to the other side.

A year ago, this quarter we were working aggressively to raise \$200,000 to meet a construction funding gap. For a year individuals gave generously, cheerfully, obediently, and frequently. As a result, we not only raised \$200,000, but we surpassed this amount. We're now in the process of closing on our loan with Stearns Bank. I believe by the time you read this newsletter, we will have already closed on the loan and will have begun construction. Speaking of construction, I want to invite you to join us on our land Sunday, February 16 at 1pm as we walk the land and pray on it ahead of construction. The land address is 6835 Dwight Rowland Rd., Willow Springs, NC. If you cannot be there, you can still pray with us that God will bless our land, give us wisdom throughout this process, lead and guide the Contractor and all those who will have a hand in building our church.

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WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT & STATE OF THE MINISTRY

PASTOR STEPHEN & CYNTRIA LYONS



Below is the updated timeline as of January 26, 2025:

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	Completed
Obtain building loan approval	Pastor & Lender	August 31, 2024	Completed
Building permit approved	Town of Fuquay-Varina	September 30, 2024	Completed
Apply for construction permit	Architect	October 31, 2024	Completed
Construction permit approved	Town of Fuquay-Varina	November 30, 2024	Completed
Execute construction contract with Builder	Cornerstone Builders & ELCC	December 1, 2024	Completed
Complete pre-construction steps and process	Cornerstone Builders & ELCC	February 15, 2025	Outstanding
Building construction begins (6-8 month process)	Cornerstone Builders	March 1, 2025	Outstanding
Building construction ends (6-8 month process)	Cornerstone Builders	October 30, 2025	Outstanding

*** The timeline is updated quarterly and may change based on project developments and accomplishments. Dates for outstanding milestones are estimated.

Based on the Construction contract we signed, the Builder estimated it will take 9 months to complete construction once they begin. This will put us in our building by October/November of this year.

2025 is our year! I can't wait to worship with you in our church in 2025!

In the meantime, be sure to join us on Sundays at Unity Outreach in Lillington, NC at 10am and Evangel Church in Fuquay-Varina, NC at 11am. See the [Calendar](#) on our website to find out where we'll be each Sunday.



PRAYER REQUEST - MESSAGE US!

We appreciate your prayers and support. Let us know how we can pray for you. Although we may not know the answer, we know God hears every prayer.

