

Evangelical Covenant Church
24 N. Main Street ~ Princeton, IL 61356
Tel: (815) 875-2124 Fax: (815) 872-1958
www.eccprinceton.org

Facebook Page: **Evangelical Covenant Church**
Youth Facebook Page: **ECC Princeton Youth**
Worship Service: 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Church Staff

Derek C. Boggs, Senior Pastor
derek@eccprinceton.org

Jessica Boggs, Pastor of Faith Formation
jessica@eccprinceton.org

Alex Taylor, Pastor of Students & Outreach
alex@eccprinceton.org

Linnea Campbell, Office Administrator/FOCUS Editor
linnea@eccprinceton.org

Happy Hands Preschool Staff

Joyce Johnson, Director & Lead Teacher
happyhands@eccprinceton.org

Paula Ellberg, Lead Teacher

Assistant Teachers: Diane Smith, Barb Jesse,
& Sheena Johnson

Leadership Council:

Rick Peacock, Chair – rpeacock@kbc-inc.com

Pete Swanson, Vice-Chair – pnkswanson88@mchsi.com

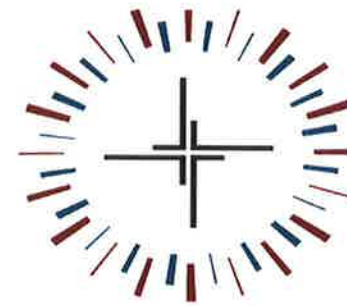
Lynn Stichel, Financial Officer – lstickel@mchsi.com

Diane Smith, Secretary – dianejea.smith@gmail.com



ID: ECC_guest
Password: sanctuary 123

Copies of The FOCUS, our monthly newsletter, are available near the mailboxes on the lower level. If you are new to the church, feel free to take one.



**Evangelical
Covenant Church**

Princeton, IL

5th Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Welcome!



*Inviting people of all ages and backgrounds
into a growing relationship with Christ.*

Sermon series: Exodus: A Wild Journey of Faith

Our faith in God has carried us into many unknowns, even as we go into a new year. We don't know what the future holds, so let us draw strength from the people of Israel whom God led on a wild journey of faith—long before us! We can draw strength from their example.

Prelude *Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord* -Towne -Innes
Though I May Speak -Wood

Call to Worship: **(Bold in Unison)** --based on 1 Timothy 6:12-26

In this season of Eastertide, O Lord Jesus,
We remember that after your resurrection,
You promised us that you would return.

**O Lord Jesus, we long for your appearing,
When you will make all things right in our broken world.**

Until then, teach us to fight the good fight of faith,
And to take hold of the eternal life to which we were called
Until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Which God will bring about in his own time—

**God, the blessed and only Ruler,
The King of kings and Lord of lords
Who alone is immortal,
And lives in unapproachable light,
Whom no one has seen or can see.**

To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

Songs of Praise*: *Death Was Arrested*
From the Inside Out (10:30)

Invocation*

Mission Update: Tim and Helen Smith and the Congo

Kids' Moment Pastor Jessica

Greetings and Offering

Reading of Scriptures (10:30): Reader: Hollie Blakeley

Old Testament: Exodus 32:1-19

New Testament: Romans 6:20-23

Reader: "The word of the Lord"

Congregation: "Thanks be to God"

Sermon: **"Prone to Wander, Lord, I Feel It!"** Pastor Derek

Text: Exodus 32:1-19

Prayers of the People

Hymn* (9:00 and 10:30) #68 *Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Service of Holy Communion:

Call to Communion

Prayer of Confession #907

**Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep
to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgement.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we cannot be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness
and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen**

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Response of Praise **(Bold in Unison)**

Having eaten this bread and drunk this cup,

We have celebrated that great mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Closing Song* (9:00)

From the Inside Out

Closing Hymn* (10:30) #341 *Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound*

Benediction

Postlude *Rise Up and Serve the Lord* -Walter -Harris

***Those able, please stand in praise of God.**

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SERMON NOTES

TODAY, May 2

- Services Broadcasted 10:30 AM each Sunday on WZOE-1490AM Radio

Celebrating 59 Years of Radio Ministry on WZOE

9:00 am Worship Service via Facebook Live

10:00 am Pre-K-1st Grade Mission Kids (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 am Worship Service (WZOE & ECC YouTube)

11:30 – 1:00 pm *Souper Sunday* Fundraiser (Alley)

6:30 pm Sr. High Youth Group (Youth House)

Monday, May 3

8:00 - ?? Young Life Flower Pick-Up (parking lot)

1:30 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

8:30 am ECC Prayer Group (Room C)

6:00 pm GriefShare (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 5

6:15 pm Confirmation (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm Mid-Week Devotional (via Facebook)

Thursday, May 6

7:00 pm Facilities & Maintenance (Room A)

Friday, May 7

6:00 am Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, May 8

Sunday, May 9 – Happy Mother's Day

9:00 am Worship Service via Facebook Live

10:00 am Pre-K-1st Grade Mission Kids (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 am Worship Service (WZOE & ECC YouTube)

6:30 pm Jr High Youth Group (Rooms B/C)

6:30 pm Sr. High Youth Group (Youth House)



SEASON OF EASTER:

6th Sunday of Easter (May 9)

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

(Scriptures are taken from The Revised Common Lectionary)

Prayer Requests: Please contact the church office with any prayer requests. The Prayer Team and the Church Staff will pray faithfully during the week. If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the church office at 815-875-2124 or linnea@eccprinceton.org.

~ NEWS OF THE CHURCH ~

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We want to love our neighbors by protecting their health, so we ask you to observe the followings:

- Please wear a mask when entering & exiting the service/building.
- During times of singing, please wear your mask.
- Please refrain from hugs and handshakes – waves will do!
- Please use the Happy Hands (rear) entrance to exit the building unless the elevator is needed.

MAKE A RESERVATION

RSVP for May 9th

Reservation for next weeks 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM services will open at 9:00 AM on Monday. Online access can be found

on the church's web page www.eccprinceton.org (click on the green bar at the top of the home page). If you do not have web access, please contact the church office at 815-875-2124 to reserve your seat. *Thank you.*



PreK – First Grade

10:00 AM

Fellowship Hall

Celebrating Communion

Communion elements were available as you entered today. If you are joining us by Facebook, radio, or live stream today, please have nearby some grape juice or red wine (or whatever juice you have) and some bread or crackers. We will bless these elements over the air and partake of them together



Offering & Emergency Fund: An offering plate will be available as you exit the service today for normal tithing. Our **Emergency Fund** will also receive contributions and a separate offering plate is available in the chapel as you exit. If you have one check, please indicate in the memo line how you would like contributions divided. The ER Funds are used primarily for those in need within our church family & community. *Thank you –*

"SOUPER SUNDAY" CAMP FUNDRAISER

TODAY!

11:30 – 1:00 pm

FREE WILL OFFERING: Every dollar you give directly supports ECC Princeton kids going to Covenant camps this summer!

Drive-through lane begins at Pleasant Street entrance to back parking lot. Homemade soups to-go will be offered until they run out!

- Meatball minestrone
- Wild rice, chicken, and bacon soup (gluten-free/dairy-free)
- Chili
- Tomato basil
- Cheeseburger

Fresh rolls, brownies, and Rice Krispie treats also available!



All Aboard for Vacation Bible School!

Kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade will learn how **Jesus' power pulls us through** at an in-person VBS June 14-18 (9 am to 11:30 am). Our team is looking for station leaders in the following areas: song leaders, Bible teachers, craft leaders, and decorators. Teens and adults

welcome! Get to know your ECC Princeton family better by serving with others on-site at VBS or before as part of the prep and set-up crew. Please contact Pastor Jessica for more information (jessica@eccprinceton.org).

IF: Table Connecting Group



Tues., May 11 | 6:00 – 7:30 PM

ROOMS B/C

Please bring a brown bag meal for yourself. This connecting group is open to all women and is a time to dive deep with people over

life stories and Christ centered conversations. If you have not attended before, it does not matter...JOIN US!



The next session of **GriefShare** will be starting Tuesday, May 4th from 6pm-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is a 13-week video session providing help & encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Contact Chris Cikanek at 815-872-1966 or the church office for more information.

Stewardship remains important during this challenging time.



TITHE.LY

Options on how to give are below & on our website:

- 1) CHECK: Mail your check to the church or drop it in the secure mail slot located just outside our front entrance (to the right)
- 2) ONLINE BILL PAY through your own bank (the most efficient and cost-effective method for the church) –

select **Pay by Check**; or

3) TITHE.LY Click the "Give" button at

<https://eccprinceton.org/giving/> to set up an account with ECC Princeton's secure Tithe.ly service. (Or download the free Tithe.ly app to give easily from your smartphone; search for "Evangelical Covenant Church".) Gifts given via Tithe.ly go directly to the General Fund. If you need to designate your gift, please note in the "memo/note".

WE'RE HIRING! At the February 7th Annual Meeting, the congregation approved the 2021 budget which includes creating the position of **Custodian** at ECC. This is a part-time position of up to 15 hours/week and is designed to supplement the efforts of our volunteer cleaning teams.

The Facilities & Maintenance Team created a position description and will be conducting the interviews. The position description and application is available in the church office or by contacting Linnea.

Student News

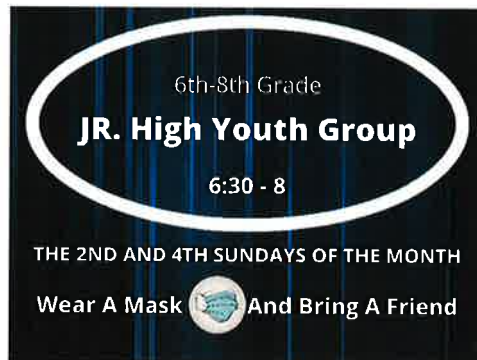
Sr High Youth Group –



Sr High Summer 2021 Mission Trip

That's right! We are planning a mission trip this summer to Kansas City! It will be Saturday, July 17th – Saturday, July 24th. This will be a great time for Students to grow in their understanding of God and how he is working, through us, to love others. If you do not receive my normal texts or emails, but you know someone, or are someone, who would like to go on this trip, please contact me at alex@eccprinceton.org or at 815-875-2124. Forms and deposit are due by June 1st.

Jr High Youth Group –



2nd & 4th Sundays of the month_in Rooms B & C.

Students will be asked to follow appropriate Covid-19 precautions and protocols. Youth Group is a time of fellowship and discipleship as we seek to truly do life together in Christ! We look forward to seeing you there! Questions?? Contact Pastor Alex

Prayer Focus

- + For people in our lives and those around us to come to Christ
- + Those confined to their homes, facing surgeries, health concerns, unemployment/underemployment, marriages/families, troubles adults, troubled teens, unspoken requests

CHURCH

- + For Pam Hand recovering from a lung infection
- + For the family & friends of Marla Thompson who passed away on 4/20
- + For Paul Bomleny who is hospitalized with COVID
- + For those currently serving in our Armed Forces & their families: Jacob Franks (VA), Justin McGarvey (SC), Andrew Pfundstein (Reserves), John Pfundstein (IL Natl Guard), Christian Chavez (VA), Austin Mack (TX), Keaton Burrell (IL Natl Guard), & Nathan Basirico (Coast Guard)
- + For our CovKids Ministry & volunteers
- + Shut-In of the Week: Gary Grady

CENTRAL CONFERENCE / DENOMINATION

- + For Kingdom Covenant Church (Chicago) & Rev David Washington & family
- + For missionaries Hannah & Jared Baker (Middle East/North Africa)
>>see **2020-21 Covenant Missionary Calendar**, page 6
2020-21 Prayer Calendars available in the church office
- + Our Special Interest Missionaries:
 - + Minh & Jen Dao (Thailand), page 15
 - + Eugenio & Pia Restrepo (Latin America), page 47
 - + Tim & Helen Smith (Congo), page 55
 - + Andy Larsen & Cari Conklin (Middle East/North Africa), page 29

STATE/NATIONAL

- + For ongoing healing in areas of racial divides, policing, and other areas of tension
- + For the nation of India as it battles an overwhelming COVID-19 surge
- + For our President & leaders of our nation

GLOBAL

- + Nations of the World*: Eritrea, Ethiopia



Class of 2021

Members & Friends—Graduations are just around the corner...
Please list the name(s) of your children who will be graduating in the
Class of 2021. December 2020 Graduates too!

___ Jr. High School ___ High School ___ Community College
___ College / University ___ Trade School/Military/Other ___

Name _____ School _____

Degree/Certificate _____ Submitted by _____

If you are planning a graduation party, and want that information published in the Focus & bulletin, please provide the following information.:

Date _____ Time _____ Location _____

June FOCUS deadline is **May 20th**. Office deadline is **May 24th**.
Please return this form to the Church Office as soon as possible. *Thank you. Linnea*
ECC Graduation Recognition Sunday is May 30th .



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