

The ECC Messenger

Everglades Community Church, Everglades City, FL

September 2007

VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.evergladescommunitychurch.com

THE SUMMER is rapidly drawing to a close and for some of us it can't end soon enough. It has truly been a long HOT summer. But the good news is that there are very few mosquitoes so far. All of us that stay year round are looking forward to the return of our Northern friends. It just does not seem right with so many empty seats. Please hurry back to our special little church in our special little town! And keep your eyes on our Web Site for future change!



ADOPT A CHAPLAIN PROGRAM GOING STRONG. ECC entered the Adopt-A-Chaplain program a little over five months ago. To date we have mailed close to 100 boxes of food, treats and clothing items to our Chaplain Eric Spicer to distribute among his unit. He has informed Chris Ammerman, our Missions Chairman, how much this has meant to him and his soldiers. If you would like to help, our greatest need is affording the postage. Please send a check marked "Adopt-A-Chaplain postage" to the church, or place it in the offering plate. You can also obtain a list of items to put in the boxes by contacting Chris Ammerman, church office or on the table in the fellowship hall.



**MISSIONS
at home
& abroad**

We continue to support our monthly mission, Lighthouse of Hope Ministries. We have also recently helped several of our local people in need. One of our local men lost his father and needed assistance with a plane ticket to go home to the funeral; our church stepped up and purchased a round trip ticket for him. Another of our local men was involved in a car accident and was unable to work while recovering; our church again stepped up and helped cover some of his bills. We also had a local family suffer the unexpected loss of our own church member Delores Grimes, who attended with her sister Mary Demere. This family also needed our assistance. Along with Reach Out Everglades and the Church of God and with Pastor Bob working with the funeral home, we were able to help the family cover the costs. We also, with the help of the Catholic Church and Collier Harvest, keep our food pantry running every week. Lou Ann Tankersley and Judy Barton have shared the duties this summer of being at the church every Saturday morning to keep our pantry open and it has been a blessing to the community during this tough summer for them.

This year we are also highlighting a different mission each month. As with all worthy missions they CAN NOT happen without YOUR support. Our mission's team is asking you to search your hearts and donate the price of one dinner out each month. As

you look at your own lives and families you can see God's blessings everywhere. We are asking you to open your missions' heart. God commands us not to store up goods on earth but to use the blessings he gives us to take care of His people. Pick the mission that touches your heart or just put missions on your check. We can not all go into the mission field personally but we CAN all help those who can. God has so blessed us that we forget there is another world out there that does not enjoy even the smallest comfort we have. We can at least put their souls in the right place. May the Lord continue to bless you and yours.

FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON was held June 17th at the Seafood Depot where Ladies Auxiliary treated the men to All You Can Eat Fried Chicken. Nineteen folks enjoyed lunch, desert, and great fellowship.

ANONYMOUS GRANT RECEIVED for Reach Out Everglades to provide Summer Camp opportunities for 45 school age children and to provide new school clothes for 100 students. Everglades Community Church applied for and administered this grant. Together we were able to provide these blessings to our local community. This allowed Reach Out to put on the best summer camp our local kids have had the privilege to attend. This grant also provided Reach Out the opportunity to again take our local children school clothes shopping. The difference this year was that we were able to include more children than before. We were able to take 93 kids shopping one recent Saturday and the families were blessed with funds to do their clothes shopping. We have since included 7 more kids. It was a blessing to those of us involved to see the excitement and appreciation of these families.



THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN EVERGLADES CITY was one of the best! It was held Sunday, July 1 in the park with a parade, lots of food and cold drinks, music and games, raffle and arts and crafts sale. Everglades Community Church gave free popcorn and ice pops to all. Again Reach Out Everglades had their wonderful "Chocolate Key Lime pies on a stick" for the coolest dessert you'll ever put in your mouth!! Lots of fun and excitement with a huge fireworks display.



HISTORICAL DESIGNATION. A resolution has been requested from Everglades City Council to designate Everglades Community Church as a Historical Site in the city of Everglades City. Also the application process is being started to have the church classified as a Florida Historical Site. This application form is quite extensive and we are starting this process this summer. Our restoration plans are awaiting the decision of the Barron Collier Foundation if a grant will be approved to restore the exterior of Everglades Community Church to its original state. The decision is expected by December.

ALTAR FLOWERS. There are a number of open Sundays on the Flower Chart. If you would like to have the flowers on the altar, please sign up on the chart outside the church office, or drop a note to Virginia Kanning at the church address. Enclose a check or money order for \$30 and let us know who the flowers are to be given for.

LADIES AUXILIARY. The ladies are planning the painting, cleaning and modernizing the appliances for our fellowship hall. Have you noticed the water color painting of our church that hangs in the fellowship hall? It is an artist rendering done in the 1970's by Bob Klotz, father of Virginia Klotz, and she has given us permission to sell prints and note cards. These prints were digitally produced for our use and on display in the fellowship hall. Unframed prints are \$5; framed prints are \$10. and 5 note cards in a pack for \$5. Consider using these note cards for your thank you notes and correspondence. Please see Virginia Kanning to take advantage of this opportunity.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS.



The next 4 stained glass windows are currently being worked on by the artist, and scheduled to be completed around the first of September. The 4 plate glass protective windows have been installed and await the soon-to-be completed stained glass windows.

OUR RECENT GRADUATE. Kate Slaybaugh, church choir member and all around helper is now a college student. She received the Devoe auto dealership full four-year scholarship to Gulf Coast University and FGCU Valedictorian Scholarship and Better Men's Association Scholarship. Congratulations, Kate!

BLESSINGS. If you have any blessings to share, please let us know.



We are praying for..

OUR CURRENT PRAYER LIST starts with all of our military as they proudly serve and protect 'One Nation Under God'. Our current additions include:

Terry Berry, Juli Calderone, Pat Clements, Nathan Cox, Daniel, Shane Daniels, Elva Eyers, Ryan & Kerry Giguere, Walter Gorecki, Tony Hickman, Barbara Honert, Judy Keller, Greg Lang, Gloria Leo, Gary McMillin, Nichole, Sherri Poltrock, Barbara Portz, Faith Reed, Jean Robinson, Claire Southerland, Chaplain Eric's father, Suzanne, Noah Trochessett, Sue Tucker and family and friends of Ms. Francis Hodge due to her passing.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS which has been on hold for the summer to give us all a break, especially Pastor Bob, will be starting again real soon. Pastor Bob does such a great job and you really miss a learning experience if you do not attend. Please join us in September.

BIRTHDAYS for September & October listed on our Birthday chart:

Sept. 6 – Doug Flohre

Oct. 10 – Virginia Kanning

Sept. 14 – Adela Butler

Oct. 27 – Peyton Beebe

Oct. 28 – Darrell Hicks

(**Note:** If we do not have your birthday listed, please let us know so we can add it to our Birthday Chart.)



A Word from the PASTOR



You don't need me to inform you of this being a hot...hot...Summer, because I believe it has been hot no matter where you have been this Summer. We have certainly missed so many of our friends who have been away for these past few months and are looking forward to all of their safe return. We have been blessed to have Mitch Peters back at the piano and organ during this time and he will be with us until December. Therefore, those of you who have not heard him will have an opportunity do so if you are back by November. Those of you who sing in the choir will be happy to know the choir will back in the choir loft beginning in October. For those of you in the Adult Sunday School class, that will also begin again in October. There are so many so many good things being planned for the coming year I know you will want to be a part of them. One final word. If you have been away for the Summer months, please be aware that our offerings tend to drop off during this time. If you have not made an offering to the church during this time, please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your regular offering. It will really help us in this time of slender attendance. During season, we have had as many as 150 in attendance on Sundays. During the Summer months we have had as few as 25 worshipping with us. You can see how that big a drop can really cut into the monthly budget. So, please, make your offerings to ECC as if you attended every Sunday. You will be blessed, and so will ECC. Jane and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you as we begin another wonderful year with you. Hurry back, and if you were with us throughout the Summer, it has been a wonderful time leading you in worship and bringing you God's Word each and every Lord's Day. God bless all of you wonderful people at ECC. Without God's Word, the people perish.

Faithfully, Pastor Bob+

Everglades Community Church
 P.O. Box 177
 Everglades City, FL 34139