

Escalón Pres

August 2013

SEEK: *to bring others to Faith in Jesus Christ*
SUPPORT: *personal Growth through God's Word*



SERVE: *in Mission locally and globally*
SUSTAIN: *a Christ-Centered Fellowship*



No Other Gospel

Our Sermon Series on Paul's Letter to the Galatians

I've really enjoyed our summer walk through the Book of Galatians, as we've discussed together the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I think Eugene Peterson's preface to his translation of Galatians captures the heart of our discussion in helping distinguish true from false gospels:

When men and women get their hands on religion, one of the first things they often do is turn it into an instrument for controlling others, either putting or keeping them "in their place." The history of such religious manipulation and coercion is long and tedious. It is little wonder that people who have only known religion on such terms experience release or escape from it as freedom. The problem is that the freedom turns out to be short-lived.

Paul of Tarsus was doing his diligent best to add yet another chapter to this dreary history when he was converted by Jesus to something radically and entirely different--a free life in God. Through Jesus, Paul learned that God was not an impersonal force to be used to make people behave in certain prescribed

ways, but a personal Savior who set us free to live a free life. God did not coerce us from without, but set us free from within.

It was a glorious experience, and Paul set off telling others, introducing and inviting everyone he met into this free life. In his early travels he founded a series of churches in the Roman province of Galatia. A few years later Paul learned that religious leaders of the old school had come into those churches, called his views and authority into question, and were reintroducing the old ways, herding all these freedom-loving Christians back into the corral of religious rules and regulations.

Paul was, of course, furious. He was furious with the old guard for coming in with their strong-arm religious tactics and intimidating the Christians into giving up their free life in Jesus. But he was also furious with the Christians for caving in to the intimidation. His letter to the Galatian churches helps them, and us, recover the original freedom. It also gives direction in the nature of God's gift of freedom--most necessary

guidance, for freedom is a delicate and subtle gift, easily perverted and often squandered."

As we enter into the final month of our Summer Sermon series, I'm excited to dive largely into the final two chapters of the Book, in which we hear Paul discuss what it means to walk in the Spirit, which is how our freedom is preserved and enjoyed rather than squandered. I look forward to seeing you in August!

COMING UP:

Aug 4: Gal 4:8-20 – Two Religions, Two Ministries

Aug 11: Gal 5:1-15 – Gospel Freedom

Aug 18: Gal 5:16-25 – Gospel Character

Aug 25: Gal 5:26-6:5 – Gospel Relationships

Sep 1: Gal 6:6-18 – The Harvest of the Gospel



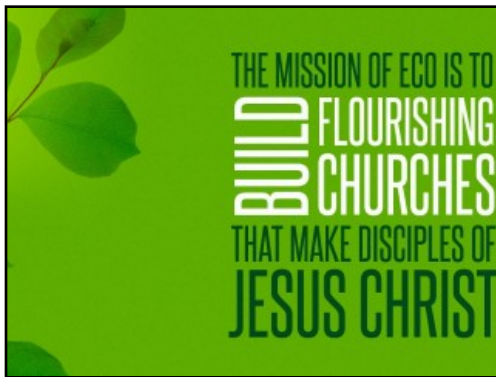
A Crescendo Of Praise

By Joel Adams

Music pours into this world and the effects are evident. We, who are created by God, create and offer up tunes and texts to glorify the One who has existed before time began. This is profound and deserving of real contemplation. God has created unique and gifted individuals that have the opportunity to use those gifts to glorify the One who gave the gifts. We don't have the gifts apart from the Creator. These varied and wondrous gifts are given, but we cultivate and continue to change and develop these gifts. It is our choice how we use them. God is pleased when we use our gifts to bring joy, encouragement, and strength into people's lives thru music. This happens every day and in countless ways throughout our lives. The street musician performing to make a living, yet brings music into the lives of those passing by. The orchestra member that practices tirelessly to deliver an evening of music for the classical music lover. The young pianist at a recital, who practices thru the tough parts of a piece in order to bring joy to guests and family. The college student who plays in a band with friends, reveling in the opportunity to reveal their sound to peers at a local get together. The situations and settings are countless, but important to the people playing/singing and those listening as well. The world is a better place with music!

As a church musician and director here at EPC, I am honored to be a part of creating and leading music for the church. Our music ministry mission is to "Glorify God, Inspire and Encourage Others, and Enrich Our Own Lives through Excellence in Music." This statement is grounded in our high calling to glorify God and encourage the Church, but also acknowledges the personal satisfaction that comes from being a church musician. We are part of the community of musicians around the world who sing and play for the encouragement, joy, and benefit of others. Gladly, we are also part of the community of church musicians who lead and communicate songs that have God as the subject and object. Church music, both classic and contemporary, is unique and wonderfully "not of this world". Glorious hymn tunes, moving and vibrant praise melodies, choral anthems, and majestic introits fill the sanctuary and give us the opportunity to join with heart and voice. It is a crescendo of lavish praise that soars to the heavens and pleases our Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

EPC welcomes singers and instrumentalists to consider participating in the music ministry. We begin our full music program, including Chancel Choir, Wednesday, August 21st at 7pm. Our first Sunday in worship will be Sunday, September 8th. Please contact Joel Adams with any questions at 765-9742.



Congregational Vote

Congregational Meeting - August 11

Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 am: following morning worship at 9:30 am. Due to the importance of this meeting we hope that you will make every effort to attend. We have chosen this date in pursuit of the Presbytery's policy that every reasonable effort shall be made to maximize attendance. Only active members of the Congregation in attendance are allowed to vote in person, and voting will be by secret written ballot.

Ice Cream Social

Church Life - August 25

Mark your calendars and be ready because Church Life is planning an Ice Cream Social for August 25th. This is the time you can get your ice cream freezers out and/or whip up a batch of your favorite cookies to accompany your favorite homemade ice cream. Please sign up in the Faith Center. If you have any questions or would like to help please contact Laura Alcantor at 209-204-3728.

August Youth Nights

August - Mike Fahey

Middle School Youth Night will be meeting Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 9:00pm. For further information contact our Youth Director Mike Fahey. Come join us and have some great fellowship, teaching and fun!



Fall Kick-Off

September 8, 2013

Our Fall Kick-off at EPC is scheduled for Sunday September 8. At this date we will be returning to our regular worship schedule of 10:30 am and start the launch of our fall Sunday School classes and studies. Watch the announcements as we move closer to September 8.

EPC Centennial !!

November 9 & 10 - Mark Your Calendars

EPC's Centennial Celebration will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 9 & 10, 2013. Saturday's celebration will include a catered evening meal and special program at the Escalon Community Center. Sunday's portion of the celebration includes a distinctive worship service, followed by fellowship with homemade pies on the menu.

Women's Studies

September @ 1:30 pm - Women's Circle

Women's Circle will start up on Monday September 9, 1:30 in the Fireside Room.

Mondays @ 7 pm - S.I.S.

S.I.S. Bible Study will start September 9 and will meet Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. Come and join us!

August 2013

July 2013							August 2013							September 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

Escalon Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 6:30 PM Young Adults Study	29 Church Office Closed	30	31 6:30 PM Youth Group (HS)	1	2	3 7:00 AM Men's Fellowship Group & Study
4 C.A.R.E. Sunday – Tuna 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 6:30 PM Young Adults Study	5 7:00 PM Trustees Meet	6	7 6:30 PM Youth Group (HS)	8	9 7:00 AM Men's Fellowship Group & Study	10
11 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 6:30 PM Young Adults Study	12 Church Office Closed	13	14 6:30 PM Youth Group (HS)	15 6:30 PM Deacons Meet	16	17 7:00 AM Men's Fellowship Group & Study
18 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 6:30 PM Young Adults Study	19 Church Office Closed	20 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Session Meeting	21 6:30 PM Youth Group (HS)	22	23	24 7:00 AM Men's Fellowship Group & Study
25 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 6:30 PM Young Adults Study	26 Church Office Closed	27	28 6:30 PM Youth Group (HS)	29	30	31 7:00 AM Men's Fellowship Group & Study

Centennial Pies!

Harvest Ingredients and Bakers Needed

EPC's Centennial Celebration will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 9 & 10, 2013. We will be making pies for the Sunday fellowship portion of our Centennial Celebration. The pies will be made in the Faith Center later this year at a date/ dates to be announced.

If you have fruit and/or nut trees and would like to contribute some of your harvest, please let us know. (This may be a good time to freeze your ingredients) If you have pie making experience and/or want to learn how to make pies, we need your help.

Pie making sessions not only contribute to the centennial celebration, but provide a unique time of fellowship for all involved. More detailed information will follow, as well as sign-ups for pie ingredients needed and for volunteer bakers. Contacts for this project are Laura Alcantor (604-3728) and Lorie Macsenti (838-2600).



FINANCIALS MONTH - JUNE

	Income
Actual Income	\$ 17,376
Budget Income	\$ 20,007
Under Budget	\$ (2,631)
	Expense
Actual Expense	\$ 17,360
Budget Expense	\$ 20,007
Under Budget	\$ (2,647)

FINANCIALS YEAR-TO-DATE

	Income
Actual Income	\$ 118,010
Budget Income	\$ 120,042
Under Budget	\$ (2,032)
	Expense
Actual Expense	\$ 122,879
Budget Expense	\$ 120,042
Over Budget	\$ (2,837)

C O N T A C T U S - L E A D E R S H I P

Escalon Presbyterian

1612 First Street, Escalon, CA 95320
(209) 838-2798

Website — www.escalonpres.org

Office Hours — 9-3 Tuesday - Friday

Pastor — Troy Onsager

• troy@escalonpres.org

Secretary — Kristy Applegate

• kristy@escalonpres.org

Music Director — Joel Adams

• jcadams70@gmail.com

Youth Director — Mike Fahey

• mikefaheysr@yahoo.com

Session

Adult Ministries — Margy Sawyer

Youth Ministries — Ellen Nelson, Sherry Branscombe

Church Life — Laura Alcantor

Finance — Jerry Hougland, Jeff Hood

Mission Outreach — Dick Nelson, Dave Hall

Trustees — Bob McCune, Rick Dodge

Clerk of Session — Jeff Hood

Treasurer — Diane Hougland

Board of Deacons

President — Tom Love

Vice-President — Victor Paz

Secretary — Cheryl Hall

Treasurer — Tisha DeHaven

Lay Leaders — Cheryl Hall

Greeters — Linda Gentry

Shepherding — Marsha Love, Ruth Paz

Prayer Chain — Cheryl Hall

Sunshine — Janet Barton

C.A.R.E. — Tom & Marsha Love

Communion — Victor & Ruth Paz

New Deacons — Stephanie Bruns, Linda Gentry