

**Daily Bible Reading - Wednesday, July 25th 2018**  
Proverbs 25-27

**Sunday, July 22nd**  
Proverbs 16-18

**Monday, July 23rd**  
Proverbs 19-21

**Tuesday, July 24th**  
Proverbs 22-24

**Thursday, July 26th**  
Proverbs 28-31

**Friday, July 27th**  
Ecclesiastes 1-3

**Saturday, July 28th**  
Ecclesiastes 4-6

Website: [www.essexvillage.org](http://www.essexvillage.org)

**Essex Village Church of Christ**  
736 Savage Road  
Charleston, SC 29414

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Deacons:**

Jim Lamm 843.556.6756  
Benevolence

Larry Polutta 843.795.5266  
World Bible School

Eddie Haselden 843.991.5020  
Financial

Durwood Collins 843.603.0120  
Worship & Youth Activities

Scott Fowler 843.513.2009  
Audio/Visual

Andy Streets 843.478.8876  
Facility/Systems

**STOP WASTING YOUR LIFE:  
WHAT I NOTICED WHEN I READ  
ECCLESIASTES**

By Wes McAdams

July 22, 2018

Some books of the Bible are obviously easier to read in one sitting than others; and the extent to which doing so is beneficial varies from book to book. But some books of the Bible simply cannot be understood if they are read piecemeal. Some books must be read in one sitting and when read in one sitting the meaning is clear. The book of Ecclesiastes is a book like that. Pulling a passage out of context in this book almost guarantees missing the point of that passage. Here are some of my observations.

One theme in the book is that from the human perspective, life seems circular. Everything just seems to go around and around in a big meaningless circle. Everything that has happened now, has happened before and will happen again. No progress has been made or will be made. Kingdoms rise and fall. Generations come and go. People are born and people die. From the human perspective, the world is like a never ending merry-go-round. You get on and take the same trip everyone else has taken and then you fall off, just like everyone else, but the merry-go-round keeps spinning and spinning forever. The only two constants for the Preacher of Ecclesiastes is the earth and the Lord. Everything else is just transitory and circular.

Everything else is born just to eventually die, everything is going through the same meaningless cycle day after day, year after year, generation after generation.

\*continued on page 3



**Sermons for Sunday, July 22nd**

Sunday AM:  
*RECONNECTING TO GOD, PART 1*

Sunday PM:  
*RECONNECTING TO GOD, PART 2*

You may visit  
[www.allanhornbuckle.com](http://www.allanhornbuckle.com)  
for archived articles  
and sermons.



**Schedule of Services:**  
Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:00 am Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 pm Wednesday Evening Worship: 7:00 pm

**Elders:**

Howard Streets  
843.766.7727

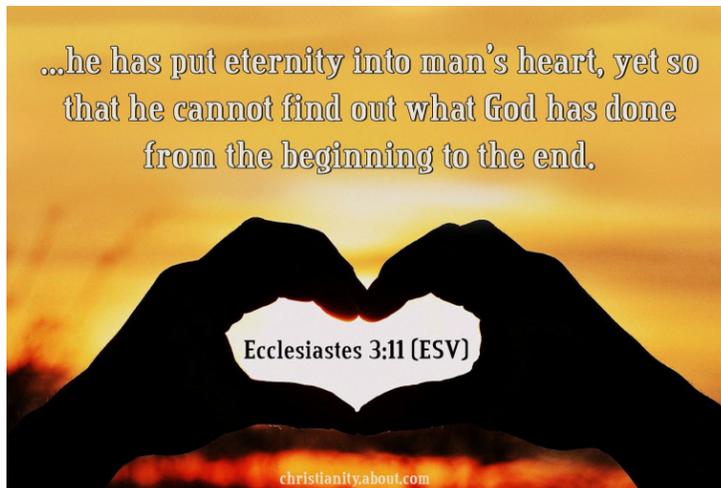
Bill Ragland  
843.810.0227

**Minister:**

Allan Hornbuckle  
804.832.6197

**Office**

843.556.1792



## Week of July 15th

Bible Classes: 65 AM Worship: 105 PM Worship: 57  
Wednesday Evening: 38 Contribution: 3,456.00

## Remember in Prayer

**Bridgette**, a friend of Ginnie, has an aggressive form of breast cancer and has three very young children.  
**Ken & Sue Adams**, friends of Wanda Brown.  
**Steven Boyd** would like prayers for his health.  
**Ken Cooper** had a heart attack.  
**John Cummings** has stage 4 brain cancer and is Terri Fagan's uncle.  
**Tom Dennis**, Penny's cousin, is not doing well.  
**Jeff Dugger**, Dug & Jackie's son, has throat cancer.  
**Linda Dover-Hill** has cancer & is the mother of Brittany's co-worker.  
**Jim & Esther Lamm** - Esther for health & Jim as caregiver.  
**Lillian Loomis** for health.  
**Rick Kirby**, Tara Rucker's father, had surgery.  
**Tom Mangrum** for his health.  
**Brooklyn Mayer**, Dawn's 4 year old niece, has cancer.  
**Mac McLawhorn** - prayers for health.  
**Gary Moody's** mom has cancer.  
**Shane Reese Morey**, Syd Powell's niece, has cancer.  
**Chris Newell**, Stephen's grandmother, for her health.  
**Donna Porter** - for her health.  
**Ray Price** has congestive heart failure and overall health.  
**Jill Rush**, Ronnie & Sharon's daughter, health issues.  
**Earline Smalls** is at home recovering. Cards appreciated.  
**Hoite Sullivan**, Doris' brother-in-law, health.  
**Cleatus Tucker** health.  
**Frances Wakeland** for her health.  
**Earl Watson** has a mass in his back near kidneys.  
**Ana Zink** has a broken collar bone.

## PROGRAM OF WORSHIP

**Announcements:** Bill Ragland  
**Song Service:** Thomas Decker  
**Opening Prayer:** Andy Streets  
**Communion:** Eddie Haselden  
**Serving:** Eric Zink Norman Ricker  
Hilton Googe Larry Polk  
**Sermon:** Allan Hornbuckle  
**Closing Prayer:** Eddie Haselden III

## For the Month of July

**Elder:** Bill Ragland  
**Communion Preparation:** Ginnie Fowler  
**Baptismal Garments:** Peggy McLawhorn

## VISITS APPRECIATED

Ruby Cooper Esther Lamm Janet Jenkins  
Evelyn Pack Cleatus Tucker

## MILITARY

Jordan Akers	Robert Bagley
R J Boris	Kristopher Black
Adam Bowles	Kimberly Boynton
Russell Coble	Ryne Collins
James Dalton	Ellis Flenoid
Steven Hilton	Michael Hilton
Matthew Lemieux	Katie Bledsoe
Kevin Mitchell	Shawn Reynolds
Nicholas Ragland	Dylan Such



**Ice Cream Social:** 08/12  
**Ladies Retreat:** 10/26-27  
**Fall Festival:** 11/3  
**Family & Friend's Day:** 11/4



07/01	Grace Haselden Roddy & Kelli Akers
07/03	Michael Boynton Lillian Loomis
07/06	Brian Wakeland
07/08	Kenneth & Debra Scott
07/10	Howard & Brenda Streets
07/12	Ray & Beverly Boynton
07/14	Eric & Michelle Zink
07/16	JoAnne Embry
07/17	Jessie Pahl
07/19	John Such
07/25	Doris Akers
07/27	Kimmy Bollmann
07/28	Jamey Ingram Scott & Ginnie Fowler
	Terry & Nancy Morrow

## BULLETIN BOARD

**Southeastern Children's Home Change for Children:** The SECH "Change for Children" campaign will extend from Sunday, July 8th through Sunday, September 30th. If you would like to participate, please pick up a can from the table in the foyer.

**Wednesday Dinner:** Please join us @ 6:00 pm before Bible study.

**Coffee for Troops:** If you would like to contribute, there is a basket in the foyer to place items in. Please speak to Eric if you have questions.

**Hope Lodge:** If you are interested in helping to prepare lunch on the last Monday of the month for the Hope Lodge, please see Doris or Ray.

## ARTICLE CONTINUED

The Preacher explores why it is just an illusion that some people have an advantage over others in life. From the human perspective, it seems like wisdom, pleasure, strength, toil, or wealth might give you an advantage of others. If you learn enough, gather enough, are strong enough, or work hard enough maybe you can win at life. But in the end, who wins? No one. At the end of every generation, everyone is dead. No one wins. No one survives. And no one is really remembered. All the stuff people accumulated for themselves is given to someone else who will squander it and waste it away. In light of our impending death, all the pursuits of chasing after strength, pleasure, learning, money, etc. all just seem like a monumental waste. All these pursuits are like chasing after wind, even if you ever caught it in your hand, you would still have nothing. The parallel theme is that while from man's perspective, life seems circular and meaningless, God is above all of this. God sees the big picture. God understands that there is a timeline and the story is making progress to some end. The Preacher even says God has given man some inkling in his heart about this eternal timeline, this big picture, but man never lives long enough to understand it.

The only wise choice for man is to submit himself to God and obey God's commandments, because God sees the big picture and we don't. The Preacher understands that even though those who fear God will die and will end up in a grave just like everyone (and everything) else, but it is still worthwhile to fear God and keep his commandments, remains a mystery in this book. The Preacher just assures us God will take care of those who fear him and keep his commandments.

The book of Ecclesiastes is the perfect introduction to the Gospel. Ecclesiastes explains the world from man's perspective, and then the Gospel reveals God's perspective. In the Gospel, God pulls back the curtain and shows us the big picture. God shows us what he has been doing from beginning to end. Right now, everything is in bondage to corruption. Everything, including our bodies, is wearing out and dying. The whole creation is stuck in this seemingly endless cycle. Every single person knows, if he is honest, that what has happened to everyone else will happen to him, he will die. But the Gospel invites us to put our faith in Jesus and look forward to the new creation, the point in time that the cycle of birth and death will be no more. Someday Jesus will return and bring the merry-go-round to a halt. Jesus will raise everyone from the dead, and those who belong to him will live forever as part of the new creation. The Gospel teaches us that the old things are all passing away and everything is being made new. Ecclesiastes invites us to consider that we are wasting our short little lives chasing after the wind. Jesus invites us to stop wasting our lives. He offers to deliver us from this cycle of death. He invites us to devote our lives to following him and promises to give us life in the age to come, an age without death. It's a beautiful thing to read Ecclesiastes in light of the Gospel.