



## ALPHA



If you've ever wrestled with life's big questions – or just want a safe space to explore faith – **Alpha is for you.**

From September 24 to November 26, Christ Emmanuel Community Church will be running Alpha. It's a weekly series that explores **life, faith and meaning**. Each session begins with a meal, then a short video, followed by a small group discussion. See you there!

[SIGN UP](#)

[Learn More](#)

**Volunteer for Alpha** - help us make Alpha happen:

-  Food Prep Team - prepare or serve simple meals
-  Clean-Up Crew - help tidy up and reset the space

Register at the sign-up sheet in the foyer or email [alpha@cecctoronto.com](mailto:alpha@cecctoronto.com)



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### CONNECT WITH US!

[Website](#)

[Youtube](#)

[Facebook](#)

[cecc@cecctoronto.com](mailto:cecc@cecctoronto.com)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## Mental Health Workshops (7:30-8:30pm)

Please join us for two online CECC seminars in supporting Mental Health & Neurodivergence coming this Fall. Our guest speakers are from **Hope Made Strong** who are Christian mental health clinicians.



[Sign Up Link](#)

### Sept 10: Caring for Neurodivergent Loved Ones in Church and Family Life

- understanding the range of neurodivergence (e.g. autism, ADHD, etc)
- support caregivers and family members in community life.
- embrace inclusive, strengths-based ministry practices

### December 3: Caring for Loved Ones and Church Family Through Mental Health Challenges

- reduce stigma within our church community
- learn practical, faith-integrated strategies for support
- gain tools for navigating crisis moments with confidence.



[Sign Up Link](#)

**View the full calendar at**  
**[www.cecctoronto.com/events](http://www.cecctoronto.com/events)**

# AUGUST SERMON RECAP

## August 3 The Lamenting King

Pastor Heusen unpacked **Psalms 3**, where David laments Absalom's betrayal. He shows that lament is not weakness but **an act of faith**—honestly naming pain while trusting God's nearness and protection. True faith boldly cries out to God, deepening intimacy and courage in the face of overwhelming circumstances.

### SERMON SPOTLIGHT

It's not about me.  
It's God speaking  
to the next  
generation through  
us older folks.  
Just be obedient.

From the message **Mantle**

## August 10 When We Need Help, We Can Trust God

For the Children's Worship Service following VBS, Pastor Andrew talked about King Jehoshaphat and that we, too, can pray and **ask God for help** whenever we need it.

## August 17 The Parable of the Rich Fool

Guest speaker, **Reverend Dennis Campbell**, encourages us that instead of storing up temporary earthly materials that can be stolen and destroyed, we should **store up treasures in heaven**, where they will last forever.

### August 24 Mantle

Using the story of Elijah's mentorship of Elisha, **Reverend Colin McCartney** encourages us to be leaders not just in the past and present, but also the future, reminding us that leadership isn't a throne to sit on - **it's a mantle to pass on.**

## August 31 Gideon: God's Merciful Deliverance

Are you feeling stressed or anxious about the upcoming school year? Through the story of Gideon, God reminds us that it is ultimately **through Him** that we can overcome our struggles and weaknesses. Remain in God, and He will remain in you.

Visit [our website](#) for full sermons and monthly recaps



# PARENT AND CHILD DEDICATION

We joyfully dedicated three precious little ones – **Axel, Landon and Millie** – to the Lord. Together with their parents, our pastors and church family prayed over each child, committing to walk alongside these families as they raise their children in faith.

To the proud parents, your CECC family is always here to support you as you raise your child. We celebrate with you and stand with you as your children grow in God’s love.



# WASHED END OF SEASON CELEBRATION

Washed closed out their season with a fun end-of-the-season lunch with a traditional, DIY boodle fight. A big thank you to all the players, families, and supporters who made this season special – we’re grateful for the teamwork, fellowship, and encouragement shared both on and off the field!

What’s next? Follow [@washed\\_cecc](https://www.instagram.com/washed_cecc) to find out!



# VBS REFLECTION

What an incredible week we had at **True North VBS 2025**! A total of 48 children—14 preschoolers and 34 elementary-aged—joined us to learn from the book of **Matthew** that no matter what they face—wonder, loneliness, powerlessness, or hopelessness—they can always **trust Jesus**. They were also inspired by the story of **Dr. Robert Livingstone Foster**, a missionary doctor who showed how God always provides.

The children didn't just learn about faith—they **lived it out!** Together, they joyfully packed missionary bags filled with supplies that will be delivered to children in **Chile** this Christmas, a beautiful reminder that serving others is part of following Jesus.



God's Spirit was at work in powerful ways. During spiritual coaching, we celebrated with:

- **7** children who accepted Jesus as their Savior
- **17** who found new assurance of their salvation
- **16** who committed to grow through prayer, Bible reading, and worship
- **1** older child who expressed the desire to be baptized

None of this would have been possible without the love and dedication of our **46 amazing volunteers**—many of them former VBS kids now serving with joy. We also thank those who worked quietly behind the scenes, making sure every detail came together beautifully.

We are deeply grateful for the prayers, encouragement, and generosity of our congregation. God blessed us with **safety, joy, and even perfect weather.**



**Truly, as Psalm 126:3 says, "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy."**



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The main door coming from Victoria Park is now partially accessible, with both the ramp and automatic door **fully functional**. Final touches are still underway, including painting the ramp handrails.

The entrance door also required alignment adjustments before the automatic door arm could be installed, and it can now be **operated automatically** using remote physical buttons.

Regarding the inclined platform lift, Estate Elevator is scheduled to complete the final calibration and pre-inspection in **September**. Following that, TSSA and ESA will conduct the on-site final inspection, with the date to be determined based on the pre-inspection results.

Progress has also been made in the **attic**, where painting on the east side wall is complete, and millwork has been installed to reinforce the drop-down ladder.



# MINISTRY IN MOTION

## WHERE FAITH MEETS ACTION

Looking for a way to **serve** and **connect with others**? There are several ministries in need of passionate volunteers! Whether you're gifted in hospitality, teaching, music, or tech, there's a place for you:

### AV Team

Help run sound, slides, and livestream during services.

### Sunday School Teachers

Teach and care for our children as they grow in faith.

### Worship Team

Use your musical talents to lead our congregation in worship.

### Coffee & Snack Team

Prep and serve refreshments for fellowship after service.

### Usher Ministry

Welcome attendees, assist with seating, and support during service.

### Life Group Leaders

Facilitate small groups and build community throughout the week.

**Interested in volunteering or want to learn more?  
Please contact [chair@cecctoronto.com](mailto:chair@cecctoronto.com) and we'll  
connect you with the right ministry leader.**



# PRAYER THREADS

## HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

As a church family, we want to keep lifting one another up in prayer. Here are some ways you can be praying this season:

- For those in our **community** who are walking through health challenges—that they would experience God’s healing, comfort, and strength.
- For our **pastors, leaders, and volunteers** as they serve faithfully during this busy season, especially with the Alpha series underway.
- For our **congregation**, that we would continue to grow in faith and remain united in Christ.
- For anyone facing personal or family struggles—that they would know God’s peace, provision, and presence in their lives.

Please keep **Michael McBean** in your prayers as he has been admitted to the hospital. We ask God to bring healing, strength, and peace for him and his family during this time. Let us continue to lift him up in the days ahead, trusting together in God’s power to restore and sustain.

**“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” – Psalm 46:1**

If you have a **prayer request** or would like someone to **pray with you**, please reach out to our pastors at [pastors@cectoronto.com](mailto:pastors@cectoronto.com). Your request will be kept confidential unless you indicate otherwise.

## FAMILIES OF THE MONTH

PLEASE LIFT UP THESE FAMILIES IN PRAYER

**PAUL CHANG**

**EDITH CHUA**

**ENRIQUE CHUA**

Let’s pray for their health, relationships, faith journeys, and for God’s presence to be strong in their homes.

