

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH of BEMIDJI

*"To promote the supremacy of Christ
by celebrating His love, obeying His truth,
and enlarging His kingdom."*

August 20, 2017

WELCOME! It's great to worship the Lord with you today. Please take a minute to fill out a **Welcome Card** located in the chair back pocket. We hope you feel right at home here.

Please stop by our Welcome Table in the main foyer with your completed Welcome Card and exchange it for a free church mug filled with chocolates and information about the ministries here.

Worship Services: 8:30 Traditional & 11:00 Contemporary

Message "Choosing Sexual Purity" Pastor Jerry Johnson
Genesis 39:6b-23

NURSERY: For children age 3 and under

We thank God for families and children! In order to help serve your needs we provide a staffed nursery at the 8:30 and 11:00 services, and during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 when noted on schedule. The nursery is located at the far end of the Fellowship Hall and to the right. The ushers will be glad to direct you. Please be sure to sign in your child and pick up a pager each week.



KIDS OPTIONS: QUIET PACKS AND ACTIVITY CART

Children third grade and under: Quiet Packs are available at a table in the Fellowship Hall. These packs are for use during the worship services. Please sign out your packs and return them after the service so they are available for future use. Thank you.

Children fifth grade and under: An activities cart is in the Fellowship Hall. Please use these items in the Fellowship Hall and put them back on the cart when done.

Beginner's Church and Bay Point will not be offered during the 11:00 service this summer. Join us again in September.

NEED PRAYER?

A member of our Prayer Team will be happy to pray with you this morning. Please come to the Prayer Corner on the right side of the platform after the worship service. All prayers will be kept confidential.



OUR CHURCH'S WEEK

**Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
(closed Mondays)**

Mon.	6:30 p.m.	Trustee Meeting – Conference Room
Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting – Conference Room
	10:30 a.m.	Bone Builders – Chapel
Wed.	6:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study – Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group – Eastling's Home
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Women's Campfire Chat – Fire Pit
Fri.	10:30 a.m.	Bone Builders – Chapel
Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Q/A with Jim Hodgson – Fellowship Hall

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SUNDAY: Pray for those in our church who are looking for work or better jobs. Pray that God will provide for all their needs.

MONDAY: Pray for the Trustee Board as they meet tonight.

TUESDAY: Pray for opportunities to witness to our community.

WEDNESDAY: Pray for the hungry and homeless in our community. Pray that their physical and spiritual needs will be met.

THURSDAY: Pray for the financial needs of our church and the global partners we support. Pray that all our needs will be met.

FRIDAY: Pray as we prepare and recruit for our fall ministries.

SATURDAY: Pray for our Global Partners Troy and Michelle Glass as they serve with eMi (Engineering Ministries International).

NURSERY STAFF for TODAY

8:30	Pam Erickson and Justine Guderian
11:00	Peter and Kay Sue Eriksson

NURSERY STAFF for NEXT WEEK

8:30	Jan Mauer and Sharna Johnson
11:00	t.b.d. and t.b.d.

MINISTRY GIVING

General Ministry Fund

August 13 giving: **\$11,267**

Budgeted/week: **\$12,035**; 33 weeks: **\$397,155**

Received through August 13: **\$382,768**

Global Partners Fund

August 13 giving: **\$480**

Budgeted/week: **\$1,449**; 33 weeks: **\$47,817**

Received through August 13: **\$40,694**

CAN I DESIGNATE MY GIVING TO THE CHURCH?

Yes! For example, our church's Global Partner's Fund is kept separate from our General Ministry Fund. That means that all gifts contributed for missions go only for missions, but it also means that gifts need to be designated on your envelope or check for the Global Partners Fund. Any contributions that are not designated go to the General Ministry Fund.

Please do not overlook our General Ministry Fund. It covers all of our weekly ministries such as our youth ministries, Sunday School, worship services, and pastoral ministries.

Envelopes for your offerings are available on the counter in the church office. Listed on the envelope are the main areas for giving and a place to designate special donations. Forget your checkbook? You can give online at www.efcbemidji.org and also by texting (218) 216-8560 with the amount you would like to contribute, including the dollar sign (ex. \$25).

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Technology Committee has several projects under way such as installing a larger monitor in the Fellowship Hall, having a live feed from the sanctuary to the monitor, and upgrading our wireless Internet access (when complete there will be a public access available to all).

If you would like to designate a special onetime gift to help fund these projects and more, please mark your offering as "Technology". Your financial help would be so appreciated.

EFCB STUDENT MINISTRIES

END OF THE SUMMER BASH!!!!

Please join us this Wednesday, August 23 at the Eastling's House (4727 Monroe Ave SW) for our last summer youth group!!! We will be having a grill out with hamburgers, hot dogs and other delicious items! If you are interested in coming please bring a dish or dessert to share! We will be starting around 6:00 p.m.

Join us for some food, fun and our last talk about 5 faith skills! Hope to see you there!!!

YOUTH GROUP IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!!!

Our leader meeting is September 6, if you are interested in helping this year please contact Pastor Albin ASAP at (218) 751-8834!!

Student Ministry Kick off is September 13



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



VBS: WHAT A WEEK!

We had the most incredible week at VBS, as we learned about the remarkable people of Peru. We also learned about the marvelous gifts we have been given

by God.

We spent our evenings celebrating His patience, peace, love, and joy. We made many new friends, saw many new faces, and reached out beyond ourselves as our missions focus gave us the opportunity to provide clean water to our friends thousands of miles away.

Thank you for praying for our leaders. We had a strong showing and the relationships that were formed with the kids who came was most extraordinary. Thank you for helping to providing snacks for the week. They were greatly enjoyed. Thank you for praying for the kids who attended. We had such an energized crowd, with many new families who visited us for the very first time.

MISSIONS MATCH OPPORTUNITY

During our week at VBS, our missions focus was on providing clean water to children in Peru. Every \$5 we received provided a child in Peru with clean water for an entire year. The children of VBS now challenge you to match their giving. If you would like to be apart of their efforts, you can drop off your gift in the locked box at the VBS table in the Fellowship Hall.



MOVING FORWARD INTO FALL

Before you know it, fall will be here! We are looking for co-leaders for all of the areas of children's ministries. Please consider how you might be willing to serve as a co-leader in children's Sunday School, Bay Point, Beginner's Church, and Kids Club (our midweek ministry).



While other opportunities will arise during the year, these are essential as we head into fall launches. In addition to these co-leadership roles, we are looking for small and large group leaders for Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. A hour or two per week can make such an impact in a child's life!

EFCB YOUNG ADULTS

“Our Mission is to engage Young Adults where they are. With Christ centered, biblically driven, meaningful conversations and encouragement.”

Young adults, you are invited to a special evening worship service just for you starting September 17.

The 17th will be our Kick Off Sunday. We will go through a series called “Good Questions”. This will be focusing on what the Bible has to say about the questions that we are asking as Young Adults.

These services will be held on the first and third Sundays of each month starting at 6:00 p.m. here at the church.

This is not taking the place of Sunday morning church, but will give us a time that we can grow together.

Join us for sobering music, challenging lessons and peer-fellowship. Hope to see you there!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

ASSOCIATE PASTOR CANDIDATING WEEKEND

We are pleased to announce Jim Hodgson as our candidate for Associate Pastor! Please join us for his candidating weekend August 26-27.

On Saturday, August 26, join us for donuts and coffee and Q/A time with Jim in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Then, on Sunday, August 27, Jim will preach in both services. Between services there will be a Q/A time in the Youth Room at 9:45 a.m.

There will be a special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 27, at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary to vote on Jim as our Associate Pastor.

WELCOME

WELCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS!

We want to give a warm welcome to new and returning students at Bemidji State University, Northwest Technical College, Mokahum Ministry Center, Leech Lake Tribal College and Oak Hills Christian College. We hope that as you begin your school year you can also get connected with our church family. Please stop by the Young Adult Ministries table in the Fellowship Hall after the service to learn about ways you can get plugged in.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Included in today's bulletin is a "Service Opportunities" insert. Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve in our church. Check the ministry areas in which you have an interest.

Checking next to a ministry area does not obligate you to help but indicates that you are willing to be contacted with more information as needs arise. Only help as you are able.

Put your completed form in the offering plate or in the basket in the Fellowship Hall.

SERMON SNEAK PEEK

August 27, "Bless Bemidji," Jeremiah 29:4-7

Jim Hodgson preaching: Candidating Weekend

September 3, "An Outstretched Hand," Matthew 14:22-33

Pastor Albin preaching

September 10, "Trusting Our Sovereign God," Genesis 40-50

UPCOMING EVENTS

55+ CLUB LUNCHEON

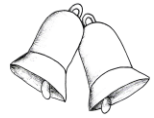
The 55+ Club will not meet in August. We will meet on September 22. Have a good rest of the summer!

SUMMER RECITAL SERIES

The Bemidji Area Church Musicians welcome everyone to a recital featuring Jennifer (Paquette) Ellis on piano and fold harp, Wednesday, August 16, at 12:00 noon at Calvary Lutheran Church. A freewill offering will be received to support BACM music scholarships. Lunch is served following the concert. Costs will vary.

WEDDING RECEPTION INVITATION

Becca Shindelar and Kyle Herbstritt were married in Myrtle Beach, SC on August 4. They would love to invite the church to celebrate with them when they return.



They will hold a reception at Eckles Town Hall on TODAY, August 20 from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. Eckles Town Hall is located at: 9735 Cardinal Road NW.

Kyle and Becca are registered at Target, Ikea, and Zola.com.

CAMPFIRE CHATS

Ladies, you are invited to come and sit by the camp fire at the church fire pit at 7:00 p.m. on this Thursday, August 24 for fellowship, guitar music, marshmallow roasting and to hear from some ladies what God has been doing in their lives. Bring a chair and a friend!

MEN'S SHOOTING DAY

Attention men: come join us at Gordy Buchanan Memorial Range near Cass Lake for a fun filled day of shooting on Saturday, August 26 from noon – 3:00 p.m.

Bring your rifle, pistol, or shotgun, plus your own ammo. (This is a great opportunity to sight in your rifle for hunting season.) There will be a grill so bring your own meat and something to share.

If you would prefer not to shoot, feel free to come anyway for the food and conversation. There will be a \$5 charge to cover the cost of the range. The range is located at 6683 140 Street NW, Cass Lake. For more information please contact George Neill at george.timber.bay5@gmail.com.

MINISTRY FAIR – SEPTEMBER 10 TABLE REQUESTS

Would you like to host a table to promote your ministry at our Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 10? Please contact Micah Carpenter or Pastor Jerry at (218) 751-8834 before the end of August to learn more.

ABUNDANCE CONFERENCE

Ladies, you can still register for the Abundance Conference on September 29-30. Please contact Robin Hewitt at (218) 556-4847 to do so. We still have a few seats left on the bus....is one of them yours?! Partial scholarships are available.

ADOPTED PEOPLE GROUP – RENEWAL DOCUMENT

Earlier this month, our church was blessed to learn more about how God has been at work among our Adopted People Group. To learn more, stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall to read the adoption renewal document and sign it if you'd like to join us in continued prayer and support.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45-10:45 a.m.

All sessions will be held in the Youth Room unless otherwise noted. Please note that events may be subject to change. Follow the bulletin for updates.

TODAY, August 20 – Paul and Karin Thomas - Come and learn more about Paul and Karin Thomas' work overseas and about what life is like in that country.

August 27 – Q/A with Jim Hodgson - Come with questions for our Associate Pastor Candidate Jim Hodgson.

September 3 – Fellowship Hour and Summer Ministry Reports

- Come and connect with one another over a cup of coffee and a breakfast treat. Please bring coffeecake/muffins/ donuts to share. Hear stories of those who have taken part in summer ministries, including Stacy Ferrin and others regarding Vacation Bible School. We will also hear reports from local camp ministries.

September 10 – Ministry Fair - Visit tables to learn more about how you can participate and opportunities to serve, while enjoying snacks, coffee, and fellowship. (Fellowship Hall)

KEEP IN TOUCH

Pastoral Emergency Care Phone: (218) 760-7424

Wi-Fi Information: Username: EFCB-Public Password: efreebemidji

www.efcbemidji.org: Visit our website to keep up to date with what is going on in the church as well as getting the bulletin, sermons, calendar, and staff emails.

pray@efcbemidji.org: Email or call the Church Office, (218) 751-8834 with your requests. Join our prayer team by emailing pray@efcbemidji.org and typing "Subscribe" in the subject line.

Hearing Assistance: Church hearing assistance system receivers are available in the church office.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HELP NEEDED – FOOD SHELF

The Bemidji Area Food Shelf is in need of people to do food rescue from area stores on Mondays from 8:00-11:30 a.m. You can do this alone or with a friend/spouse. Choose a schedule that works for you – do all Mondays or two a month using your own vehicle or the Food Shelf van. You must be able to lift 35 pounds. Some training will be provided. Call Mary Mitchell at (218) 444-6580 or (218) 556-3249.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

NOW is a great time to purchase school supplies for OCC Shoeboxes! Did you know that in many areas of the world children are not allowed to attend school if they don't provide their own school supplies? You can help children receive an education (something we often take for granted). With school just around the corner, deals on school supplies are easy to find. Some of the items I like to include in my shoeboxes are: spiral notebook or notebook paper, pencils and pencil sharpeners, erasers, pens, compass, protractor, colors, color pencils, etc.

I also like to include an item of clothing, bar of soap, washcloth, toothbrush, and a WOW item – stuffed animal, toy, sports item, homemade item, flip flops/shoes, musical instrument. If you want to find out more, go to www.samaritanspurse.org or call Anna Johnson, (218) 444-7256. Also, don't forget that a donation of \$9.00 for each shoebox helps defray shipping costs.

Choosing Sexual Purity

Genesis 39:6b-23, 8/20/17

Pastor Jerry Johnson

1. _____ is part of God's good design.
(Gen. 39:6b-7)

2. _____ is part of God's good design.
(Gen. 39:8-9)

3. Resisting _____ requires a daily strategy.
(Gen. 39:10-12)

4. Choosing sexual purity brings God's _____.
(Gen. 39:13-23)

Resources to help you pursue Sexual Purity

And the Bride Wore White by Dannah Gresh, Moody Publishers, Chicago, IL, 2012.

Conquer DVD Series, developed by Dr. Ted and Diane Roberts, founders of www.PureDesire.org

www.CovenantEyes.com (Internet Accountability and Filtering)

Every Man's Battle by Fred Stoeker, Steve Arterburn, and Mike Yorkey, WaterBrook Press, Colorado Springs, CO, 2000.
(See also *Every Young Man's Battle*)

Every Woman's Battle by Shannon Ethridge, WaterBrook Press, Colorado Springs, CO, 2003.
(See also *Every Young Woman's Battle* and *Every Single Woman's Battle*)

www.NetSmartz.org is a great resource for teens and parents who want to thrive in a 24/7 "wired world."

Passion and Purity: Learning to Bring Your Love Life Under Christ's Control by Elisabeth Elliot, Revell, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002.

Preparing for Adolescence by James C. Dobson, Regal Books, Ventura, CA, 1989. (Search for other family resources by Dobson as well)

The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges, Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, IL, 2006.

Transgender by Vaughan Roberts, The Good Book Company, 2016.

Understanding Gender Dysphoria: Navigating Transgender Issues in a Changing Culture by Mark A. Yarhouse, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2015.

Say Yes!

Check out the Say Yes! bulletin board located in the fellowship hall!

There are several nursery and children's ministry volunteer opportunities available for ages 13 and up. This ministry is a great way to help serve the families in our church. It is so fun to watch the little ones grow!

Currently, we are looking for about 20 nursery workers that will be placed on a one Sunday every eight weeks rotation.

Please contact Stacy Ferrin at (218) 751-8834 or Sharna Johnson at (218) 308-5066 if you have any questions.

