

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH of BEMIDJI

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

August 27, 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 “Bless Bemidji”
Jeremiah 29:4-7

Jim Hodgson

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)**

- TODAY** 12:15 p.m. Candidate vote – Sanctuary
- 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
- Fri.** 10:30 a.m. Bone Builders – Chapel

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

MONDAY: Pray for opportunities to witness to our community.

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

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

THURSDAY: Pray for our Global Partners Michael and Emilie
Gibbons as they serve with ReachGlobal (EFCA).

FRIDAY: Please pray for the Limariis as they are packing up their
things to ship to the Solomon Islands at the end of the month.
Pray for joy, peace, courage and strength as they tackle this
huge task. Please continue to pray for God to meet their needs
and prepare the way for Scripture translation and mobilization.

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

NURSERY STAFF for TODAY

- 8:30 Jan Mauer and Sharna Johnson
11:00 Aaron and Sharna Johnson

NURSERY STAFF for NEXT WEEK

- 8:30 t.b.d. and t.b.d.
11:00 t.b.d. and t.b.d.

MINISTRY GIVING

General Ministry Fund

August 20 giving: **\$22,255**

Budgeted/week: **\$12,035**; 34 weeks: **\$409,190**

Received through August 20: **\$405,023**

Global Partners Fund

August 20 giving: **\$2,935**

Budgeted/week: **\$1,449**; 34 weeks: **\$49,266**

Received through August 20: **\$43,629**

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

KICKOFF WEDNESDAY!!!

Our kickoff Wednesday is September 13 at
6:20 p.m.!!

We will be getting together, having fun
spending some time in worship and meeting our
small groups!! Can't wait to see you there!

**KICK
OFF**

STUDENT MINISTRY HAS A LOT GOING ON THIS YEAR!!!



Find us on Facebook at *EFCB Student Ministry!*

Like our page and watch for updates, events, times and
prayer requests. This will be a primary way of communication.

PARENTS

If you would like to keep up to date on things going on in Youth
Ministries, please send me an email at

pastoralbin@efcbemidji.org to get on the parent mailing list.

Otherwise I will be asking for students to give me their parent's
emails so I can get info out to you!

SUNDAY MORNING SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are in need of High school and Middle
school Sunday School Teachers! Please let
Pastor Albin know if you are interested at
(218) 751-8834!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

FALL IS COMING!

Mark your calendars! Kids Club kicks off September 13 and Children's Sunday School resumes September 17! Yippee for Fall!

AND THE WINNER IS....



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 challenged the adults and VBS leaders to match their giving. At the end of our efforts, our VBS attenders gave a total of \$205 and adults gave \$185. In the end, the real winners are the children of Peru, 78 of whom now have clean water resources for the next year.

Thank you to all for changing lives through your generous giving!

SUNDAY SEMINAR WITH DARLENE ANDERSON

How do we reach children for Jesus? What years are the most instrumental years in a child's life? How do we make the Bible real and relatable for kids?

Come spend an afternoon with Darlene Anderson, who has worked tirelessly for decades in the children's ministry arena. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 10 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. No childcare is being provided for this event.



Please RSVP by September 6 with Stacy Ferrin at (218) 751-8834, ext. 104 or sferrin@efcbemidji.org.

SAY YES BOARD

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. These ministries are a great way to help serve the families in our church. It is so fun to watch the little ones grow! Contact Stacy Ferrin at (218) 751-8834 or Sharna Johnson at (218) 308-5066 for more information.

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!

TODAY, 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 TODAY at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary to vote on Jim as our Associate Pastor.

Children's Ministry Transition Plans

Our Children's Ministry Director, Stacy Ferrin, needs to step down from her staff role as her family adjusts to Ryan's new job in Braham, MN. We praise God for His provision of work for Ryan and for Stacy's faithful, hard work these past 3 years – she will be missed!

Our Christian Education Committee will be launching a CE Task Force soon to begin plans for this transition. The plan is 2-fold. First of all, we will make sure that each ministry is temporarily covered as we move into the fall: Wednesday night Kid's Club, Children's Sunday School, Beginner's Church, BayPoint, Nursery, and so on. Secondly, we will update the Children's Ministry Director job description and begin plans for finding our next staff person.

Please pray for our Children's Ministry during this transition time.

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.

CHOIR SEASON!

The EFC Choir will begin practices for the coming season on September 5. New members are welcome. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. The choir sings for the 8:30 a.m. service twice a month. The schedule is available in the church office. Questions? See Kenneth Wold or call at (218) 751-2554. Please sign up soon so we can prepare folders for everyone.

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 basket in the Fellowship Hall.

DIRECTORY FORMS

We need your help! Included in today's bulletin is a Church Directory Information form. We would like a form from **everyone** who considers this to be his or her church home. Sometimes our church staff needs to contact people who prefer not to have their information in the church directory.

For those of you who have been listed in the directory in the past, please fill out the form so we can confirm the information. The completed forms may be placed in the basket in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your cooperation!

SERMON SNEAK PEEK

Sept. 3, "An Outstretched Hand," Mt. 14:22-33 Pastor Albin

Sept. 10, "Trusting Our Sovereign God," Genesis 40-50

Sept. 17, "Disciple Making," Matthew 28:16-20

UPCOMING EVENTS

ABUNDANCE CONFERENCE

Ladies, the **FINAL deadline to register is September 7** for the Abundance Conference on September 29-30. Please contact Robin Hewitt at (218) 556-4847 to do so. We have very limited seating left on the bus, but would love to see you come! Stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall TODAY!



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 by Thursday, August 31 to learn more or to reserve a table.

SUMMER RECITAL SERIES

The Bemidji Area Church Musicians welcome everyone to the final Summer recital featuring Turtle Island Ensemble – Sarah Carlson on piano, Andrew Ronnevik on violin, Jon Romer on native flute, Mike Tangen on guitar and Bob Madeson on euphonium, Wednesday, August 30, at 12:00 noon at First Lutheran Church. A freewill offering will be received to support BACM music scholarships. Lunch is served following the concert. Costs will vary.



WHITE CROSS

Ladies, join us for White Cross Thursday, September 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m. We meet in the Fellowship Hall and work on projects for various missions. This month we will be making blankets and totes to give to various missions in the Bemidji area.

If you have questions please contact Ellen Ward, (970) 373-6548 or Bonnie Munz, (218) 333-3749.

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 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. During the Sunday School hour we will also be honoring Grey Mayer's retirement. (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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

If you are already involved in Operation Christmas Child, or if you would like to know more about what resources OCC has to help you be a part of this ministry, come spend a few hours with the Local OCC Area Team as we walk you through what Samaritan's Purse has to offer. Join us Saturday, September 9 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Community Life Center here at EFC. There will be a short presentation, games, examples, and lots of fun and fellowship.

*For additional information contact **Sarah Schmidt** (Area Coordinator) at sarahschmidtocc@gmail.com, or Anna Johnson at (218) 444-7256 or doug.anna.johnson@gmail.com.*

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.



Bless Bemidji – Community Outreach

Jeremiah 29:4-7, 8/27/17

Jim Hodgson

How to Bless Bemidji:

1. Through our _____ and _____ Lives
2. Through our _____
3. Through our _____ Programs and Partners
4. Through our _____ Programs and _____

Repurpose Your Past: Pastor Robert Gelinas

<https://glsnext.app.link/NyESLkujCF>