

# EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH of BEMIDJI

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

**October 29, 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** "Giving Thanks to the One Who is Always Faithful"  
Psalm 100:1-5 Brian Farone

**Ring Jubilant Praise Handbell Choir**  
"His Eye Is On the Sparrow"

## **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 Small Group hour at 9:45. 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.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL & SMALL GROUPS FOR ALL AGES – 9:45 A.M.**

**Children age 3 through 5th grade:** meet in the lower level of the Worship Center.

**Adults and youth:** meet in the Community Life Center. Small Group and Sunday School options and locations are listed on the bulletin boards in the foyers.

## **KIDS OPTIONS: BEGINNER'S CHURCH & BAY POINT – 11:30 A.M.**

**Children age 3-5:** Beginner's Church meets in lower level room 6/7.

**Children K-5th grade:** Bay Point meets in lower lever room 3/4.

Both ministries will dismiss from the second service around 11:30.

For all children's ministries, if your child is first grade or younger, we ask that you accompany them to and from their destination.

## **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. Potluck Meal – Multipurpose Room  
1:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary  
2:30 p.m. Youth Group Tentative Return time  
6:00 p.m. Reformation Video Series – Sanctuary
- Mon.** 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study – Youth Room
- Tues.** 10:30 a.m. Bone Builders – Chapel  
5:45 p.m. Handbell Practice – Fellowship Hall  
7:15 p.m. Choir Practice – Sanctuary
- Wed.** 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Fireside Room  
8:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study – Tea & Gift Shoppe  
6:20 p.m. Kids Club – Lower Level  
6:20 p.m. Youth Group – Community Life Center
- Fri.** 10:30 a.m. Bone Builders – Chapel

## **FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**SUNDAY:** Pray for the Youth as they return from Fall Fling at Camp Shamineau.

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

**TUESDAY:** Pray for all who participate in our adult and handbells choirs. Pray for their ministry at our services and that many will be blessed.

**WEDNESDAY:** Pray for our Wednesday evening ministries and all who attend.

**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 for our Global Partners Darwin and Darlis Anderson as they serve with International Messengers.

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

## **NURSERY STAFF for TODAY**

- 8:30 Jan and Reed Carlson  
11:00 Aaron and Sharna Johnson

## **NURSERY STAFF for NEXT WEEK**

- 8:30 Bob and Karen Carlson  
11:00 Aaron and Sharna Johnson

## **MINISTRY GIVING**

### **General Ministry Fund**

October 22 giving: **\$11,887**

Budgeted/week: **\$12,496**; 43 weeks: **\$537,328**

Received through October 22: **\$500,419**

### **Global Partners Fund**

October 22 giving: **\$2,207**

Budgeted/week: **\$1,449**; 43 weeks: **\$62,307**

Received through October 22: **\$55,992**

## **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](http://www.efcbemidji.org) and also by texting (218) 216-8560 with the amount you would like to contribute, including the dollar sign (ex. \$25).

## **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](mailto:pray@efcbemidji.org) and typing "Subscribe" in the subject line.

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



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

- Find us on Facebook at *EFCB Student Ministry*
- Please be praying for us as we are finishing up Fall Fling and are traveling back TODAY, October 29.
- Card fundraiser ends November 8!!! Get out and sell boxes!

## **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](mailto:pastoralbin@efcbemidji.org) to get on the parent mailing list.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:45 a.m.**

- Middle School meets in the Youth Room.
- High School meets in the 5:11 Lounge.

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

Our Youth Scholarship Fund is designed to help students attend special youth events that they might not otherwise be able to afford. Any donation you could make above and beyond your regular church giving and Global Partners support would be much appreciated. Please indicate "Youth Scholarship Fund" on your giving envelope.



On Behalf of our Youth, Thank You, Pastor Albin

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

We still need more help in our children's ministry. Please look below for open opportunities.

**KIDS CLUB:** Looking for 2 more small group co-leaders for 2nd and 3rd grade helpers.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Looking for classroom teachers and helpers for Pre-School and elementary age kids.

**BAY POINT:** Looking for some people to help on Sunday mornings. This ministry operates for kids in grades K-5 during the last half of the second service.

**BEGINNER'S CHURCH:** We need 2-4 more adults to help this ministry that is held during the last half of the second service for kids ages 3-5.

If interested please contact Pastor Albin at (218) 751-8834 ext. #111.

## DIAPERS NEEDED

Do you have extra diapers around that your child has outgrown? The Nursery is in need of diapers to have on hand for children attending at various services. Please drop off any donations in the church office or Nursery.



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ALERT!

It's time to be thinking about our annual children's Christmas program which will be held Sunday, December 17, during the Sunday School hour.

This year will feature a mini-drama based on the short story "A Certain Small Shepherd" by Rebecca Caudill.

**PARENTS:** We will be handing out parts and wrapping up other details the next few weeks; make sure your children are in attendance at Sunday School if they would like to be a part of this. Most practices will be during the Sunday School hour, and updates will be given out there as well.

Questions? Please contact Dawn Carpenter at (218) 444-5266.

# Celebrating Reformation Sunday

Today is Reformation Sunday. On October 31, 1517 (that's 500 years ago this Tuesday!) a troubled young monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 complaints about church practices and beliefs to the door of his local church in Wittenburg, Germany. He didn't know it at the time, but this action was like a small pebble which started a huge avalanche. The movement we call the Protestant Reformation swept over Europe, calling Christians to return to some of the most central beliefs of the Christian faith. These beliefs have been summarized as the 5 "Solas" of the reformation. "Sola" is a Latin word which means "alone."



- Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone is our final authority for doctrine and life.
- Solus Christus: Believers are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ alone.
- Sola Gratia: It is by grace alone (God's undeserved favor) that we are saved.
- Sola Fide: God's saving grace can be received by faith alone (trust in Jesus)—not by works.
- Soli Deo Gloria: Our salvation, and every aspect of our life, is for the glory of God alone. Jesus Christ is Lord of all!

These five "solas", which remain essential expressions of what we believe as Christians, were rallying cries of the Reformation. Another rallying cry is Martin Luther's hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." In the midst of many trials and challenges in this turbulent time, Luther clung to the promises of Psalm 46: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear..." Today as we commemorate the Reformation and the Scriptural truths it represents, let us also look to God and put our confidence in his strength as we sing Hymn 43, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."



# 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 Vespers evening worship service just for you. Our next service is November 5. Special guest Jarrod Norvold will be leading worship.

**Vespers is a traditional term for an evening Prayer and Worship Service.**

Vespers will be held on the first and third Sundays of each month 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



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

We rejoice with Steven and Katelyn Miller on the birth of their son. Harvey Owen was born on Wednesday, October 25, at 9:38 p.m., weighing 11 pounds and 4 ounce, and measuring 21½ inches long.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL: PRESCHOOL - 5TH GRADE**

Please come and join us for Sunday School each Sunday morning.

9:30-9:45: games and puzzles in the Bay Point room

9:45 – 10 am: Worship with Mr. Pat Reigert

10am - 10:45: Small Group Lessons with classroom teachers

Teachers include:

Preschool - Mrs. Becky Eastling

Kindergarten: Jan & Reed Carlson

1st & 2nd Grade - Trish Williams & Jane McCannell

3rd & 4th Grade - Kristie Kangas

5th Grade - Joy Tader

We are still in need of one additional helper to work with Becky Eastling in our popular preschool class. Please contact Mishel Carlson at (218) or Pastor Albin at (218) 751-8834 if you are able to help in this ministry.

## **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ALERT!**

It's time to be thinking about our annual children's Christmas program which will be held Sunday, December 17, during the Sunday School hour.

This year will feature a mini-drama based on the short story "A Certain Small Shepherd" by Rebecca Caudill.

PARENTS: We will be handing out parts and wrapping up other details the next few weeks; make sure your children are in attendance at Sunday School if they would like to be a part of this. Most practices will be during the Sunday School hour, and updates will be given out there as well.

Questions? Please contact Dawn Carpenter at (218) 444-5266.



## **PRAY FOR FAMILY IN THE ARMED FORCES**

We would like to print a prayer list of friends and family who are serving in the Armed Forces. If you have a loved one currently serving, please get this information to the church office by Thursday, November 9. We need the name, rank, relationship to church family, and where they are stationed. The prayer list will be included in the bulletin Sunday, November 12. Email information to [ajoren@efcbemidji.org](mailto:ajoren@efcbemidji.org), or call (218) 751-8834.



## **SERMON SNEAK PEEK**

November 5, “The Glory of Suffering,” 1 Peter 4:12-19

Micah Carpenter Preaching

November 12, “To the Ends of the Earth”

November 19, “Give Thanks,” Psalm 107:1-43

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **CELEBRATE THE REFORMATION**

On October 31, 1517, a monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to a church door and unwittingly set off a revolution that reformed medieval Christianity and reshaped the world forever. This month marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation—a movement based on convictions (such as the authority of Scripture and salvation by faith alone) which are still essential to our beliefs as a church.

TODAY, October 29, there will be an opportunity to watch the last part documentary about the Reformation called *This Changed Everything*. Bringing together many scholars from a variety of perspectives, this video series tells the story of the Reformation and also raises important questions for us to consider in the present time. We will meet in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. with opportunity for discussion following.

## **IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The church's autumn business meeting is usually the most significant congregational meeting of the year because so many important decisions are made. TODAY, we will have a potluck meal at 12:15 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room, with our business meeting starting at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The congregation will receive reports from various boards and committees including an update on our Associate Pastor search. Votes will include new church members, the 2018 budget, and the new 2018 church officers (bios are in the foyer). The nominees are:

**Elders:** Randy McKain, Bill Oakes, Karl Salscheider, John R. Williams

**Trustees:** Richard Anderson, Mike Fritz, Young Son, Todd Guntzel

**Church Clerk:** Edie Heem

**Global Connection Team Chair:** Daniel Carpenter

This meeting is open to anyone, but only church members may vote.

## **CONQUER SERIES FOR MEN**

We are excited to offer a new DVD based Bible Study for men called "Conquer." Come and grow together with other men in the pursuit of godliness and sexual purity. This group is meeting at a private home on Monday nights from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. starting November 6. Anyone interested in more information can email Pastor Jerry at [PastorJerry@efcbemidji.org](mailto:PastorJerry@efcbemidji.org).

## **BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER**

The Northwoods Pregnancy Baby Campaign runs through November 12. Please bring your bottles back to the church office by then. If you have filled your bottle, feel free to grab a new one from the Church office. Thank you very much for participating.

## **CHRISTMAS TEA**



Are you interested in setting and hosting a table for this year's Christmas Tea on December 8? If you are, or if you have questions about what it involves, please contact Linda at (218) 766-6659 or email her at [rolibo@gmail.com](mailto:rolibo@gmail.com). **SAVE THE DATE: Christmas**

**Tea, Friday, December 8!**

## **GLOBAL PARTNER HOLIDAY HOUSING**

Michael and Emilie Gibbons (Global Partners in Toulouse, France) are searching for a home to house their family as they reunite right here in Bemidji for the holidays. They need a place big enough for 8 adults and 2 children from December 20 – January 5. Please contact Naomi Shindelar at (218) 760-3321 or [naomi.shindelar@gmail.com](mailto:naomi.shindelar@gmail.com) if you can help! Thank you!

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **CAMP OAK HILLS SPRING WORK DAYS**

Plan to join us at Camp Oak Hills Saturday, November 4, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (come when you are able). We will be getting the camp ready for winter by raking leaves, stacking firewood, cleaning up brush and trees, maintenance projects, and painting. Please bring a dish to share for lunch. If you are not able to come on the work day, but would like to volunteer on a different day, please contact Scott Buchan to setup a time: (218) 444-4085 or [info@campoakhills.org](mailto:info@campoakhills.org).

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES**

We are now accepting filled OCC shoeboxes. If you have prepared your own shoeboxes, bring them to the table in the Fellowship Hall. Preprinted shoeboxes are also available at the table, but you can use your own shoeboxes. Don't forget to include a note and picture of you/your family, and the \$9.00 shipping fee. Packing brochures are available at the table. Better yet, go to [www.samaritanspurserg.org](http://www.samaritanspurserg.org) to pay online and print the label so you can follow your shoebox.



If you would like to help with covering the cost of shipping for the boxes that we have packed, you can make checks out to Samaritan's Purse and drop them in the lock-box by the OCC table in the Fellowship Hall.

OCC Collection week is coming up fast, and we have a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall for shifts during the week of November 13-20. No experience is necessary and training will be provided. If you are interested in helping, or if you have questions, please contact Anna Johnson, (218) 444-7256.