

# EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH of BEMIDJI

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

**November 19, 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**      “Give Thanks”      Pastor Jerry Johnson  
                         Psalm 107:1-43

**8:30 Choir Anthem**      All Creation Sings His Praise

## **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** 9:45 a.m. Christmas Tea Hostess Mtg – Conference Rm  
12:15 p.m. Thanksgiving Potluck – Multipurpose Room  
6:00 p.m. Vespers – Youth Room

**Mon.** 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study – Youth Room  
6:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting – Conference Room

**Tues.** 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting – Conference Room  
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

**Thurs. – Fri.** Office Closed

## **FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**SUNDAY:** Pray for all attending today's potluck meal.

**MONDAY:** Pray for our Global Partners Karl and Indigo Nelson as they serve with International Messengers.

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

**THURSDAY:** Pray for friends and family traveling this holiday weekend.

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

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

## **NURSERY STAFF for TODAY**

8:30 Gene and Joni Lund  
11:00 Sharna Johnson and Justine Guderian

## **NURSERY STAFF for NEXT WEEK**

8:30 Dawn Carpenter and Tracy Parthun  
11:00 Sharna Johnson and Hannah Carpenter

## **MINISTRY GIVING**

### **General Ministry Fund**

November 12 giving: **\$11,885**

Budgeted/week: **\$12,496**; 46 weeks: **\$574,816**

Received through November 12: **\$534,402**

### **Global Partners Fund**

November 12 giving: **\$2,137**

Budgeted/week: **\$1,449**; 46 weeks: **\$66,654**

Received through November 12: **\$60,484**

## **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](http://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](mailto: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.



**No Youth Group This Wednesday, Nov. 22 for the Thanksgiving break!!!!**

**Game Night November 26 6:00 p.m.**

- All Students grades 6-12 join us for a game night Next Sunday Night at 6:00 p.m. in the CLC.

### **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**

- Middle School will be meeting in the Youth Room.
- High School will be meeting in the 5:11 Lounge.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

If you would like to give to our scholarship fund please mark Youth Fund Scholarship on your offering.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Please prayerfully consider putting your name on one of the lines below.



### **KIDS CLUB Wednesday nights**

1 leader for 2nd/3rd grade: \_\_\_\_\_

1 helper for 2nd/3rd grade: \_\_\_\_\_

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

1 helper for pre-schoolers: \_\_\_\_\_

### **BEGINNER'S CHURCH Sunday mornings (ages 3-5)**

2 adults: \_\_\_\_\_

2 teens: \_\_\_\_\_

### **BAY POINT Sunday mornings (K-5th grade)**

1 adult: \_\_\_\_\_

### **NURSERY**

8:30 a.m. on Sundays needs 2 adults: \_\_\_\_\_

11:00 a.m. on Sundays needs 6 adults:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* If you'd be willing to help, please contact Pastor Albin at (218) 751-8834 ext. 111 or email [PastorAlbin@efcbemidji.org](mailto:PastorAlbin@efcbemidji.org)**



# 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, join us TONIGHT, November 19.

**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 gratifying music, challenging lessons and peer-fellowship. Hope to see you there!**

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

We rejoice with Aaron and Erin Johnson on the birth of their daughter. Isla Clare was born on Monday, November 13, weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounce and measuring 20½ inches long.

## **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please have all bulletin announcements to our Secretary, Ashley, by 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 21.

## **NEW SERIES FOR MEN**

Our Men's Sunday Morning Small Group, led by Paul Porter and Matt Myrick, is beginning a new video-based series called "33: A Man and His Design". The focus of the series is what Jesus teaches us about God's design for authentic manhood. There will be time for stimulating group discussion on how to grow and glorify God as men. The group meets from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings in Community Life Center Room 3.

## **SERMON SNEAK PEEK**

November 26, "Giving to God"

December 3, "Twas the Year Before Christmas," Luke 1:5-25  
Scott Engelstad preaching

December 10, "In Joseph's Sandals; Reflections from Joseph's perspective," Matthew 1:18-25

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **STACY FERRIN THANK YOU**

Let's thank Stacy Ferrin for three years of faithful service as our church's Children's Ministries Director! Please join us in the Fellowship Hall TODAY, November 19, for cake and a chance to thank Stacy in person for her service to the children and families in our church and community.

## **ATTENTION CHRISTMAS TEA HOSTESSES**

There will be a **hostess meeting** TODAY, November 19, at 9:45 a.m. in the conference room in the Church Office. If you are hosting a table at this year's Christmas Tea please plan to attend this meeting.



## **CHRISTMAS TEA**

LADIES: CHRISTMAS TEA TICKETS are on sale TODAY, while tickets last. Tickets are \$15 again this year. The Tea will take place, Friday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. We will hear an inspiring testimony from Terri Erickson of Hibbing, and the “Kangas girls” will bless us with their music. Please join us!

## **NOVEMBER 19 THANKSGIVING WORSHIP**

TODAY, November 19, you will have the opportunity during the morning worship services to express thanks to God for his goodness. Please come prepared to share briefly with others how God has shown his love to you.

Join us at 12:15 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room for a potluck meal. We will also enjoy a short program with prayer, thanksgiving songs, and sharing from Kevin Lauderbaugh.

## **ADVENT WREATH**

Beginning next Sunday, November 26, we will light our Advent Wreath during worship services. If you have not had the opportunity to participate in lighting the wreath and would like to help on a Sunday during Advent, please contact Ashley, (218) 751-8834 ext. 101. Be sure to tell us which service you attend.

## **ATTENTION PARENTS**

During Sunday School hour next Sunday, November 26, children ages 3 – 5th grade will be rehearsing for the Children’s Christmas program in the BayPoint Room.

## **CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG**

Prepare your heart to celebrate our Lord’s birth by joining in a special Christmas sing-a-long next Sunday. At 9:45 a.m. on November 26, the first Sunday of Advent, Ken Wold will lead us in a special Sunday School hour. We will meet in the Youth Room at the west end of the Community Life Center. (There will be no regular Sunday School classes held that Sunday.)

## **55+ CLUB HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

The 55+ Club will meet on Friday, December 1, at 11:30 a.m. for our Holiday potluck luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. We will be singing Christmas Hymns and be accompanied by Jan Collette playing the piano. Please come, bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.



## **SAVE THE DATE**

Plan now to "Radically Begin" the New Year and join us Friday, January 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel for a ladies night with Emilie Gibbons (one of our Global Partners serving in France and Mom to our own Naomi Shindelar).

Emilie will speak on the topic "Radical Beginnings" and you won't want to miss this challenging and encouraging message! Don't forget to bring a friend!

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **GRIEFSHARE AND DIVORCECARE SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS SESSIONS**

A Community Holiday Remembrance service will be held on Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30 at the United Methodist Church.

A two hour DivorceCare support group will be held on Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church.

A two hour GriefShare support group will be held TODAY November 19 at 3:00 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church and then repeated on Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m.



### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

OCC shoeboxes are due today. Did you forget your box? We will be open Monday, November 20, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### **COMMUNITY HOLIDAY MEAL**

First Lutheran Church will host the 38th Annual Community Holiday Meal at noon Thursday, November 23. There is no cost and everyone is invited to attend.



### **BEMIDJI CHORALE**

The public is invited to the Bemidji Chorale 39th Annual Christmas Concert Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m. *and repeated at 7:00 p.m.* at EFree Bemidji. Our own Ken Wold is a part of the Chorale. There is no admission fee for the concert; a freewill offering will be taken.

## *CHRISTMAS CARING TREE*

For the past several years we have assisted many families and individuals from our church family who have had financial needs during the holiday season through the Christmas Caring Tree. This program is designed to assist people in our own church. However, you do not have to be a member to be eligible.



If you are facing financial difficulties this year, we need to hear from you! Maybe there just isn't enough money to buy the kids presents this year; maybe there's not enough food in the house or heating fuel in the tank; maybe you lack winter clothing or boots; maybe you have a car repair problem; or maybe you have a medical bill you just can't pay. Whatever problem you are facing, we would like to help. Please be assured that your privacy will be protected and your identity will be kept in strict confidence.

If you are facing a need, please contact Micah Carpenter or Ashley Joren at (218) 751-8834. Or, if you prefer, you can make your request in writing by using the request cards on the counter in the church office. Just follow the directions on the decorated box and drop the card in the box when you finish.

Starting Sunday, November 26, The Christmas Caring Tree will be set up in the Fellowship Hall and decorated with cards that describe the needs of each family/individual. (No names will be on the cards.) Others will have an opportunity to look at the cards and choose how they would like to help. **But . . . we can't help if we don't know the needs. So let us hear from you as soon as possible!**

# ***Give Thanks***

Psalm 107:1-43, 11/19/17

Pastor Jerry Johnson

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story...”

Psalm 107:1-2a

Our LORD has a \_\_\_\_\_ of enduring love. (vv. 1-3)

We should Give Thanks to the LORD...

1. ...because He \_\_\_\_\_ us and meets our daily needs.  
(vv. 4-9)

2. ...because He \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ to Himself.  
(vv. 10-22)

3. ...because He \_\_\_\_\_ us when we're at our \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.  
(vv. 23-32)

4. ...because He can \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ any circumstance.  
(vv. 33-42)

The wise will \_\_\_\_\_ this advice and take time to \_\_\_\_\_ our LORD's loving deeds. (v. 43)

