

WELCOME

To E-FREE Bemidji - Aug 23, 2020

NEW HERE?

Check out www.efcbemidji.org for more information about our church. Feel free to reach out to us with any questions. We'd love to get to know you more!

LIVESTREAM

Both of our regular Sunday services are livestreamed at our normal times. Join us online at 8:30 am for a more traditional service or at 10:45 am for a more contemporary service.

For Your Information

Young Adults and College Students!

As the Fall kicks off, we just want to welcome you! If you are interested in young adult ministry here at our church please reach out to Pastor Albin Sterneman on any social media platform or email pastoralbin@efcbemidji.org.

High School Youth Group This Fall

This fall .High schoolers will have their own youth group time on Wednesday nights starting at 7:30 PM in the youth room. We will have worship, games, teaching and small groups till 9:00. Masks will be required inside the building until further notice. We look forward to this time of fellowship knowing that even if it's not perfect, we still get to meet! See you Sept. 16th for our kick off!

*If your family is coming to the Family worship nights, the chapel & the 5:11 will be open for homework. Snacks will be provided!

Let's pray for our church - Vision 2024

If you would like a copy of our most recent Vision 2024 Prayer Letter, please contact the church office, or grab a copy in the church foyer between the bulletin boards

Eastling Anniversary Celebration:

The children of Brian and Becky Eastling invite you to an open house celebration of their 25th anniversary on Saturday, September 5 from 2-4PM. Their address is 4727 Monroe Avenue SW, Bemidji, MN 56601. This will be an outdoor event so please bring lawn chairs and face masks. Come enjoy cupcakes and beverages. Several lawn games will also be available to enjoy (cards only, please). Please RSVP by September 2 to Teddy Eastling at 218-333-3963.

Faith and Fitness Women's Event:

Ladies, come enjoy a summer evening outdoors with a Faith and Fitness event led by Leanne Frost, Wednesday August 26, at 6:30PM at Martin's Landing (203 Irving Beach Dr. SW) in the Irvingboror neighborhood behind Leukens South. All levels welcome provided you are able to get up and down from the ground. Please wear layers and bring sunglasses, a towel or blanket, and a yoga mat (there will be some available if needed). Please contact Kristie Kangas via text or phone at 218-766-0620 with questions and to RSVP. Hope you can join us!

WORSHIP SERVICE

August 23: A Woman to be Praised
Proverbs 31:10-31

SUNDAY MORNING ACTIVITIES

Here is some information on regular Sunday morning activities that you can still do from home!

BULLETIN

If you would like a paper copy of the bulletin mailed to you, please let the church office know. You can also find the bulletin online at: www.efcbemidji.org/watch-read/resources.

SERMON

If you would like a copy of the sermon transcript mailed or emailed to you, please let the church office know. You can also find the sermon online at: www.efcbemidji.org/watch-read/resources/.

Tune in on Sunday mornings during our regular service times on your TV, phone or computer to watch our livestream services! Find out more on how to do this on our website.

Baby Birth!

Congratulations to Kyle & Michele Sorenson, who welcomed their new son, Leighn Vince on August 14th! He's 10lbs and 20" long, and sporting some fabulous hair!

Senior Connection Lunch:

Senior adults are invited to a picnic lunch at Diamond Point Park on Friday, August 28 at 11:30 AM. Please bring your own lunch. Scott Englestad will share a devotional. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Kay Sue Eriksson at 218-766-9991. If it is raining, we will postpone the event.

Church Membership Classes:

For those registering for our membership class taking place Tuesdays August 25 and September 1 from 6:30-8:00 PM via Zoom, please pick up a copy of the Membership Handbook in the church office, or ask to have one sent to you by mail or email. To register, visit www.efcbemidji.org/events

8/16/2020 Livestream Attendance:

8:30 Service - 46 screens in 5 states
- 63 onsite attendees
10:45 Service - 37 screens in 6 states
- 95 onsite attendees

GIVING

Check out our website for a list of your giving options including: giving over the phone with Vanco, mobile-app giving, text-to-give, mailing in a check, giving online, and setting up automatic giving withdrawals.

FELLOWSHIP

It's still important to stay connected with one another! Take some time this week to reach out to others and catch up on life together by calling, emailing, or texting.

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Sunday

8:30 AM Traditional Service onsite and online
9:45 AM Adult Discipleship Study
10:45 AM Contemporary Service onsite and online

Monday

6:30 PM Women's Bible Study

Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Prayer Meeting

Wednesday

Thursday

7:00 PM Worship Team Practice

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2-4 - Missions Strategy Weekend

SERMON SNEAK PEAK:

August 30: Will You?
Job 1:1-22
(Mark Little Elk preaching)
September 6: Patience Often Feels Like Death
James 5:7-11
(Matt Graf preaching)

Aug 23, 2020 at E-FREE CHURCH OF BEMIDJI

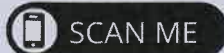
BECOMING FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF
JESUS AS WE GROW IN WISDOM TOGETHER

E-Free Church Online

www.efcbemidji.org | Instagram & Facebook: @efcbemidji

Other Info

Looking to connect at E-Free Bemidji? Tear off and fill out the included Connection Card in the bulletin or complete our online Connection Card. Visit efcbemidji.org/connect or scan the QR code with your smartphone.



Livestream link:

www.efcbemidji.org/live

Email pray@efcbemidji.org to share a prayer request or to join our church email prayer chain.

Wi-Fi password: efreebemidji

Leadership

To see a full list of our ministry staff and leaders, visit our website at www.efcbemidji.org/about-us/our-leadership or stop by the foyer bulletin board.

115 Carr Lake Rd. SW, Bemidji, MN 56601 - www.efcbemidji.org

GIVING

For August 16, 2020

WEEKLY GIVING:

\$9,812

WEEKLY NEEDED:

\$14,923

GIVEN YTD:

\$454,965

NEEDED YTD:

\$492,459

Go to our website to find out more ways to give at:
www.efcbemidji.org/give

Church Office

(218) 751-8834

efree@paulbunyan.net

Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 8am-12pm;

1pm-5pm

Sun: 8am-10:45AM;

12pm-12:45PM

WE'RE
GLAD
YOU'RE
HERE!

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And now... introducing...
Our new Audio/Visual Supervisor!



We are pleased to announce that we have hired **Dan Evans** as our new Audio/Visual Supervisor! Our sincere thanks go out to Steven Miller who has faithfully served in this role!

Dan will now oversee all of our Sunday morning service technology. He has prior experience helping volunteer with technology at two previous churches. Dan is excited to

begin serving our church family at E-Free Bemidji.

Dan's experience includes car salesman, credit union employee, customer support work, and sales associate at a computer store. He is currently taking online courses toward an IT degree. He has also taken college level classes in Music Education and Business Administration. Dan has experience singing and playing piano with a worship team and has a good ear for sound mixing.

Dan is friendly, good with people, and not intimidated by technology. We are so pleased that he has agreed to serve in our technology ministry and to lead our technology team.

Dan came to faith in Jesus Christ in 4th grade at a Vacation Bible School. He is continuing in his growth as a more fully devoted follower of Jesus each day. Dan and his wife, Karissa (Capes) have a daughter, Bentley. They've been attending E-Free Bemidji for a while now.

Let's all join together in making him and his family feel welcome in his new role!

“Please pray for peace in Beirut. The Lebanese have been protesting government corruption since October. Since then, the government has become almost entirely dysfunctional. Their currency has lost 80 percent of its value; banks are limiting withdrawals; salaries have been cut; groceries are becoming scarce and expensive; and COVID-19 impacted the country significantly. Many people are suffering. Our friends in Beirut are exhausted, shocked and gravely sad. They are asking over and over for prayer.”

-EFCA.org

ReachGlobal Crisis Response is beginning immediate relief efforts, working to equip their worldwide partners to minister in the aftermath of the catastrophe. They are asking us to join with them in praying for the city of Beirut and the people they are sending, and to help financially where we can.

“As always, ReachGlobal Crisis Response maintains a long-term objective. Our focus will be on discipling and church planting—all while leaning into the leadership of local partners as we support ministry in their context.”

-EFCA.org

On Tuesday, August 4, a massive explosion tore through Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. The extent of the destruction is devastating...

Help ReachGlobal Crisis Response share Christ's love in the mission field created by this crisis.

JOIN US

Pray

- For provisions of food, water and shelter for those impacted.
- For God to be glorified, even through the destruction.
- For leaders of our partners, as they determine the short and long-term needs of their communities.
- For ReachGlobal Crisis Response as they assist with the next steps in ministry in the wake of crisis.

For gospel impact in the lives of those affected.

Give

- Give to Beirut Lebanon Response.
- You can also mail a check with "Beirut Lebanon Response 21709-39833" in the memo line to:

**EFCA
901 E 78th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55420**

What is happening this fall with Kids Min and Youth Group?

First and foremost, Gerri Thorsgard and Pastor Albin are working hard to make this fall the best we can for all ages. We have been prayerfully considering how we can do effective ministry and still stay within our safety guidelines. The following is a brief plan of action.

Family Worship Nights

This fall we will not have traditional Middle School Youth Group or Kid's Ministry on Wednesday nights. We will be combining them into one service for whole families, including parents. These nights will be designed to have families eat, play, worship, grow, and learn together. Families with kids up to 8th grade are welcome to bring all members!

Here is how the night's two main parts will look:

5:00-5:50 PM: Family meal in the Gym (FREE!). Each family will have a separate table. Food, dishes, and settings will all be provided.

6-7 PM: Worship service in the Sanctuary. This service will have worship, family games, skits, object lessons, teaching and more! This will go from Sept. 16th through Nov. 18th. Missing Oct. 14th for MEA. We will be covering the book of Acts, following the same path as Sunday mornings.

Every Thursday morning you will receive a video from the previous night's speaker going into more detail how you can take the lesson and teach it throughout the next week. YOU ARE YOUR KID'S #1 TEACHER! We will offer support, teach and show your kid's what it means to follow Jesus but it is up to YOU to help them along the way!

But why are we going with this model?

With the COVID-19 safety guidelines and unknown future we feel this is the best opportunity for us to do ministry in the midst of everything. This allows us to use less volunteers and gather resources to better serve you as a whole family. It is not perfect nor is it long term, but we feel it is where the Lord is moving us for the fall.

For more information or questions please email

Gthorsgard@efcbemidji.org or PastorAlbin@efcbemidji.org

9:45 A.M. Sunday School/Formation Groups

Typically the fall season is the time when we relaunch all of our ministries that have taken a break over the summer. This fall, we feel we need to take a different approach.

We have decided that the best course of action is to delay the start of our 9:45 A.M. Sunday Discipleship Ministries. This means that **we will not be resuming Sunday School and Formation Groups for all ages this September for the time being.** Our plan is to reevaluate things later this fall in hopes that we will be able to safely resume these discipleship opportunities in the near future.

In the meantime, we are encouraging all of our adults to prayerfully consider joining a **Life Group** this fall. A Life Group is a small group of 8 to 12 adults who are committed to meeting regularly for the purpose of growing in discipleship. Life Groups are designed to be a place where people can learn together and can love one another.

This fall, you will have the option to join a Life Group that meets in person at the church or one that meets virtually online. Life Group sign-ups will begin **Sunday, September 13th.**

You can find out more about Life Groups and how to join one on our website at www.efcbemidji.org/lifegroups or you contact Pastor Eric for more information.

Please join with us in praying for wisdom as we continue to plan for this fall and beyond as we seek to become fully devoted followers of Jesus together.

In Him,
Pastor Eric

pastoreric@efcbemidji.org

Sermon-based Discussion Questions

"A Woman to be Praised" from 8/23/2020

Proverbs 31:10-31

*SPOILER ALERT: You may not want to read these until
AFTER you have heard the sermon.*

1. As you were growing up, what were you taught to look for in a future spouse? Why do you think that our society has such a broad range of opinions about how we define manhood and womanhood?
2. As you read through Proverbs 31:10-31, which particular verses jump out to you? Why? Is anything surprising?
3. How do you think that Christians can make sure that we are rightly understanding and living out godly manhood and womanhood in today's society? What advice would you give to someone who is wrestling with a proper understanding of femininity or masculinity?
4. If you are a woman, what advice or reminder would you give to men about women? If you are a man, what advice or reminder would you give to women about men? How about to a fellow man or a fellow woman?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 and Matthew 19:12. How do you think these verses compare and contrast with Proverbs 31:10-31? How would you summarize the potential value in remaining single as a Christ-follower?
6. Proverbs 31:30 warns that "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting." How does this compare and contrast with places in the Bible like Esther 2:12-17 and the Song of Songs? How about 1 Peter 3:3-4 which refers to the beauty of your inner self?
7. What are some practical ways that men and women can value each other in wise, God-honoring ways? How can we pray for each other this week?

A Woman to be Praised

Proverbs 31:10-31

8/23/2020 – Pastor Jerry Johnson

