



INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

Jan. 2, 2008

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES INFORMATION

A Happy New Year to you all!

Your car has just depreciated \$1,000 and all your clothes are now last year's!

Isn't time a mysterious entity? I'm amazed that I've experienced 47 'New Year's days' - time has sped by so quickly. For children, of course, time has a different quality; for them eternity is the period between birthdays.

As Jesus spoke to his disciples about his impending death, there were two dominant responses: the earliest - resentment; later - fear. You'll recall that right through Jesus' ministry His friends didn't understand this sort of destiny. They'd been conditioned to believe in another kind of Savior and, therefore, their motives in committing themselves to Jesus were not always what they should have been. Peter, not usually backward in putting his thoughts into words, tried to talk Jesus out of such a possibility, thus re-enacting one of Jesus' greatest temptations. Jesus' response was swift and devastating: "Get behind me, Satan!"

In John 16, Jesus is talking very frankly to His friends about what was soon to happen. There was plenty to be fearful about. They would be persecuted by the Jewish authorities, and even martyred (16:1-4). He was going to leave them - in a world of sin, unrighteousness, and judgment. Like a woman in childbirth, their pain and trauma would be intense (19-22). And in the hour of trial, they would all desert Him (32). Their destiny: suffering (33)!

But the chapter ends with one of the most encouraging and hope-producing words Jesus ever uttered: "In the world you'll have trouble, but don't be afraid, I have overcome the world!" Just as Jesus was identified with us in our defeats and sicknesses and suffering, so, He says, we can be identified with Him in His victory. This opens up some amazing possibilities. His victories we can make our own. If we adjust our life to His, and relate intimately to Him, when He overcomes we can overcome. We actually live by the life and victories of Another. That doesn't imply the absence of trouble, but the great transformation of trouble!

A new year stretches before us. Help us Lord, to redeem the time. And during the New Year may we have enough happiness to keep us sweet, enough trials to keep us strong, enough sorrow to keep us human, enough hope to keep us happy, enough failure to keep us humble, enough success to keep us eager, enough friends to give us comfort, enough wealth to meet our needs, enough enthusiasm to make us look forward to tomorrow and enough determination to make each day better than the day before.

Lord, please help us to use the 8,760 hours of this year the wisest way we can for you, and for your glory.

I hope everyone has a wonderful week. Don't forget that we are back to 'normal' this Sunday. Mike Boyle will be delivering the message for both services. I am looking forward to seeing you all, and, again, Happy New Year!

Pastor Jamie Hamblet

CTL SET CONSTRUCTION

We need help! We need pickups, trailers and vans to haul the CTL set from the storage facility to the church in order to begin construction. If you would like to help, please meet at the church on Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. Contact Ryan Renner if you have questions.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT

Join us Jan. 26, 2008, on "A Journey to Moab" by studying "A message from Ruth." Speaker Kitty Magee, graduate of Providence Bible Institute with a B.A. from Seattle Pacific University and 21 years experience in the mission field, will be taking us on this journey through Ruth's time in history. Kitty, a vibrant and entertaining speaker, is truly devoted to God. There is not one who wouldn't benefit and be stretched by her teaching.

NP DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The 2008 Northern Plains District Conference will be hosted by Trinity Church in Minot, ND on Feb. 22 - 23, 2008. The conference theme is "Reaching Our Samaria" with guest speakers, Dr. William J. Hamel, President of the EFCA and Jackie Redmond, National Women's Ministries Director, EFCA. The business of the Northern Plains District Association will be conducted during the business meeting on Friday, Feb. 22, at 3:00 pm. We need to provide delegates to vote during the business meeting. If you can attend this conference Feb. 22- 23, 2007, please contact the church office by Feb. 3, 2008.

BACKPACKS FOR CHILDREN

Did You Know...There were 300 homeless children identified throughout Bismarck schools in 2006. These children often go hungry in the evening and on weekends while away from school.

Did you know...Community Action program designed to help these homeless children, called "Backpacks-for-Kids" was started. Backpacks are filled with nutritional food items each Friday and delivered to those in need.

Did you know...We can help! A bin will be set up in the church foyer for donated items to be collected. If everyone in our church family bought just one extra item every week at the grocery store and donated it to the Backpack program, we would be able to fill a lot of backpacks. Just think of how wonderful it would be if everyone could donate even just a little more.

If you would like to help feed these children, please bring any of the following items and leave them in the bin. They will be delivered to Community Action weekly. Items needed: peanut butter, bread, juice boxes, jelly, cereal, granola/fruit bars, crackers, cheese, fruit cups, applesauce, cookies, and Chef Boyardee meals.

Please make sure that you purchase items such as juice, peanut butter and jelly in plastic containers and the cereal, crackers and other items (except bread) in single serve packages (like the small cereal boxes and cheese/cracker packages).

If you are planning to make a large donation, please purchase several of the same item. Thank you so much.

412 Ministries

Primetime

Sunday morning for Jr. High and Sr. High 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Night 6:30-8:30 p.m.

R.A.G.E.

Jr. High Youth (7th & 8th grades)

The Example

Sr. High Youth (9th - 12th grades)

Coming in January

WINTER RETREAT!!!

January 11, 12, & 13 at Cooperstown Bible Camp.

For details contact Pastor Jamie

C Life College Ministry

Tuesdays for College Students (18 - 20 something) at 7:00 p.m.
at the church in the youth room downstairs.

PRAYER CHAIN INFO

Please call the Phone Prayer Chain Captains and e-mail your requests to Laurie Grosz at the e-mail address below to activate your prayer requests.

EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN INFO

prayer@firstefree.com

PHONE PRAYER CHAIN CAPTAINS INFO

DAYTIME : Catherine Grosz

EVENING : Doris Ann Van Beek

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- FRI - Jan. 4 Joy Club @ Mc Donald's (K-Mart); 9:30 a.m.
- SUN - Jan. 6 Worship Service; 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School; 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship; 10:15 a.m.
Power of Prayer; 10:20 a.m.
Worship Service; 10:45 a.m.
Children's Church; 10:45 a.m.
CTL Rehearsal for everyone; 2:30 p.m.
- MON - Jan. 7 Men's Bible Study; 6:30 a.m.
Fellowship & Caring Board; 7:00 p.m.
Worship Board; 7:00 p.m.
- TUE - Jan. 8 C-Life College Ministry; 7:00 p.m.
Men's Top Gun Study; 7:00 p.m.
- WED - Jan. 9 All Church Prayer; 6:30 p.m.
Awana; 6:30 p.m.
R.A.G.E.; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
The Example; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study; 6:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study; 6:30 p.m.
Worship Team Rehearsal; 7:45 p.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**First Evangelical Free Church
205 43rd Avenue NE
Bismarck, ND 58503**

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