



INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

March 04, 2008

SENIOR PASTOR INFORMATION

We were praying together. Everyone was praying so earnestly for our Lord to be honored by CTL and for the Holy Spirit to draw people to the Lord – to believe in Jesus or be strengthened in their faith – through attending CTL. But at the same time, everyone had weariness and heaviness in their voice. We had all shared about all the challenges, stressors, & pressures in our lives prior to our prayer time. No one was complaining or griping – we were simply seeking to encourage one another with our sharing. As we prayed my mind went to the Scriptures. The passage that I was dwelling on was the passage in Philippians 3 in which the Apostle Paul lifts us out of the 'mire of life's challenges' by reminding us that all that is really important in life is knowing Him (Jesus Christ. Paul said, "that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death....I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:10, 14) Paul's relationship with His Lord served as a kind of giant gyroscope for his life here on earth. You know how gyroscopes work, right? The "gyroscope effect" (actually something called 'precession') is the scientific principle that helps you stay upright on your bicycle or motorcycle, or helps submarines stay rightly oriented, and makes air travel safe (from airplanes, to space shuttles to space stations, etc.). Gyroscopes help counter the gravitational pull "downward" and help things stay upright and properly oriented with regard to the earth and sun. Well, Paul stayed oriented in his trouble-filled, challenging, dangerous, life here on Earth by staying properly focused on the Son. When the heavy gravitational pull of the pressures and struggles of life would serve to drag him down, the Apostle to the Gentiles "gyro-ed" back to "rejoicing" by focusing on building his relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ ("...that I may know Him....) and living his life completely for Heaven ("...I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God..."). If you know much about the book of Philippians, you know it is a book of joy and a call to every Christian to rejoice. Even when life seems overwhelming and the challenges far greater beyond that with which you think you can cope. Turn to your 'giant gyroscope' – your relationship with the Blessed and Only Savior. Let your life in Him and hope He gives, give you "perspective" and keep you "rightly oriented." You and I – as believers in Jesus Christ – aren't living for the "good times" in the "here and now." We are living for the "glory" in the "then and there" (I know the prosperity preachers and the Joel Osteen's of this world tell you God wants you to be successful, happy, wealthy, etc. in this life but, I don't read that kind of teaching in the Word of God). So "press on" dear friends. Rejoice in the Lord, my dear Brothers and Sisters. And keep your eyes on Jesus – the Author and Finisher of your faith .

This Sunday we will celebrate the Lord's Table together. They are always such richly rewarding and encouraging times together. Let's all prepare ourselves for this incredible time together. I look forward to seeing you and worshipping and studying God's Word together this Sunday D.V. Maranatha Pastor Terry Kern <><

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

For those who are thinking ahead and are wondering when we turn our clocks forward one hour for Daylight savings, the date is March 9.

POWER OF PRAYER CTL

Just a reminder for those who signed up Sunday to pray once a day for Celebrate the Life from today until the last day of performances (March 21, 2008). If you did not sign up please remember to pray for CTL.

412 MINISTRIES COFFEE HOUSE

During the CTL Production we will be having a Coffee House/Snack Bar for those who attended the production and would like to visit afterwards about what they had seen or ask questions of the cast and crew. We need volunteers to help, If you can, please contact Pastor Jamie today!

PALM SUNDAY AND

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday March 16th we will be presenting CTL for our church family at 10:00 a.m. This is not a ticketed event.

The Sunday Schedule for Easter Sunday will be as follows:

8:45 a.m. - Youth Service

9:45 a.m. - 412 Ministries Carmel Roll Fund Raiser

10:45 a.m. - Worship Service

**Annual Meeting
March 31
at 7:00 p.m.**

BROTHERS IN BATTLE - INFO TO THE TROUPS

The Brothers In Battle (BIB) coat-of-arms is a symbol of strength and unity. The shield and helmet alludes to the battle we are in. It also represents the armor God instructs us to "put on" in order to "do all" to stand in the battle. There are two crosses, one carried by the eagle and the other on the shield. Additionally, three elements across the top of the shield represent the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The center of these elements, the red rose, represents our Lord Jesus Christ

and His blood which was shed for us. The BIB lapel pin is a simplified version of the coat of arms. The key elements make up a superimposed cross on the shield.

BROTHERS IN BATTLE - SCRIPTURE VERSE

"Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

Ephesians 6:17-18

NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

You can make contributions or purchase CTL tickets using your credit cards. All major credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express) are accepted. Just go to the church office to process your request. We plan to install a Kiosk in the foyer for those who want to use their credit cards.

ADAM SCHMALTZ BENEFIT

Adam was born July 16, 2007, with a form of cancer call Neuroblastoma. Family and friends have come together to organize a fundraiser to help with medical expenses. The benefit is March 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

412 Ministries

EFCA National Youth Conference

Reminder to 9-12th grade students & parents: Challenge 08 is the EFCA National Youth Conference. We will be traveling as a District and joining 7,000 youth in Salt Lake City, Utah June 28-July 4th. Challenge is a growth level conference that you won't want to miss! If you have questions please contact Dawn Meier

C Life College Ministry

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

BACKPACK PROGRAM

Dear FEFC Family - Your food contributions to the Backpack Program have been very appreciated. We ask that you please pray about it and, if God puts it on your heart to continue, please keep bringing more.

Of the 300 "homeless" children only about 170 (depending on donations) are currently receiving backpacks. That means that about 130 children are still going hungry from Friday after their school lunch until Monday morning when they have breakfast at school. Thank you for your consideration.

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@firststefree.com

PHONE PRAYER CHAIN CAPTAINS INFO

DAYTIME : Catherine Grosz

EVENING : Doris Ann Van Beek

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - Mar. 6 CTL Tech Rehearsal; 6:30 p.m.
- FRI - Mar. 7 Joy Club @ Mc Donald's (K-Mart); 9:30 a.m.
- SUN - Mar. 9 Communion/Worship Service; 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School; 9:00 a.m.
412 Primetime; 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship; 10:15 a.m.
Communion/Worship Service; 10:45 a.m.
Children's Church; 10:45 a.m.
CTL Choir Rehearsal; 2:00 p.m.
CTL Full Rehearsal; 3:00 p.m.
- MON - Mar. 10 Men's Bible Study; 6:30 a.m.
CTL Full Dress Rehearsal; 7:00 p.m.
- TUE - Mar. 11 Women's Bible Study; 9:00 a.m.
CTL Tech Rehearsal; 6:30 p.m.
NO C-Life College Ministry; 7:00 p.m.
Men's Top Gun Study; 7:00 p.m.
- WED - Mar. 12 MOPS; 9:00 a.m.
CTL Full Dress Rehearsal; 6:00 p.m.
NO All Church Prayer; 6:30 p.m.
NO Awana; 6:30 p.m.
NO 412 R.A.G.E.; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
NO 412 The Example; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
NO Men's Bible Study; 6:30 p.m.
NO Women's Bible Study; 6:30 p.m.
NO Worship Team Rehearsal; 7:45 p.m.

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Mexico Mission Trip ? June 2008 ?

Informational Meeting

If you are interested in returning with us to Juarez Mexico, this time with ages including High School, Young Adult, and Adult, please join the Molinaro Family for a 45 minute informational meeting in the Community Room this Sunday March, 9th at 12:15. The 10-day trip will involve a VBS, minor construction, cleaning, painting, some major construction, and other opportunities to use your spiritual gifts. Training meetings will begin after CTL is over. (No passport needed yet)
Questions? We hope you come and get more information!

Financial Management

Starting late April, Randy Alexander will teach a series on Financial Management using the curriculum developed by Crown Financial Ministries. Sessions include practical discussion on debt, counsel, honesty, giving, work, saving, investing, and children. Pre-registration with the church office is requested so workbooks can be ordered.

Child Dedication

The next child dedication service is Sunday, April 20, 2008, If you would like to dedicate your child, please email Barb Fredrickson at barb@firstefree.com by February 18th.

Dakota Women's Retreat

Theme: Connecting to God's Heart

Annual Dakota Women's Retreat, April 18-20, 2008 in beautiful Medora, North Dakota with speaker Marilyn Wallberg and musician Jenee O'Connor. For retreat information call Lois Wetzelsky or Evy Monzelowsky. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.dakotawomensretreat.org.

Thank You's

First Evangelical Free Church

Community Action and myself would like to thank you for your continued support. The donations we receive from your church have been amazing. It's so great to know the wonderful people we have in our community. *Thanks Mandy of Community Action*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the love and support we have received. The flowers were beautiful, along with the tables in pink. The ladies did a great job. Pastor Kern was very helpful and did a wonderful job we appreciate all. Blessings *The Wolf Family*