



# INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

May 27, 2008

## SENIOR PASTOR INFORMATION

I suspect that you have all heard of the recent diagnosis of a malignant tumor in Senator Edward (Ted) Kennedy's brain. I have been praying for Senator Kennedy since I heard the news. I have had such disgust for so long with the things for which Senator Kennedy stands. But when I heard this news and the bleak prognosis he has, I felt a great deal of compassion for him. I have been praying that the Lord would bring someone into his life who can help him make his peace with the Lord before he loses his capacity to think and make decisions. Also, on Memorial Day (just yesterday as of this writing) I had the opportunity to pray the prayer at the Memorial Day Observance ceremony at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery. I shared the platform with Adjutant General Dave Sprynczynatyk, Governor Hoeven, and Senator Kent Conrad and Representative Earl Pomeroy. In fact, I sat next to Representative Pomeroy. Again, I have been so disgusted with many of the things that our entire North Dakota Congressional delegation believe and for which they stand and cast their votes in the US Congress. In fact, it was only a couple of years ago that I led an effort to gather the names of forty or so Bismarck Pastors of all faiths to take out a full page ad in the Bismarck Tribune publicly challenging our two senators to support traditional, biblical marriage and reject legislation to redefine marriage to include same-sex unions. I have several reasons to believe Senator Conrad remembers that ad and the fact that I spearheaded the effort to publicly expose his beliefs. But, I tell you all that to say that yesterday was another opportunity for me to realize that even though we disagree strongly with these men, our disagreement ought to spur us on to praying for them. I read a verse from Psalm 119 this morning that struck me. It is Psalm 119:158. It says: "I see the treacherous and am disgusted because they do not keep Your Word." I realized that I am certainly not the first person to be "disgusted" by those who do not "keep" God's Word. Their actions reflect their lack of faith and lack of love for God and His Word. Their rejection of God's "commandments, ordinances, statutes, testimonies, words, etc." reflects how much they need our prayers on their behalf. God is still sovereign, they are in the positions they are in as leaders because God has allowed them to be there. And God has called us to acknowledge and to submit ourselves to those who are in authority over us (Romans 13:1-7; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17). Of course, we know that humbly, fervently and consistently praying for them is something that is extremely important as well.

Please remember the Pantry Shower for both the Lardy and the Thompson families. Please be generous in your welcoming these two ministry families to our community and to our FEFC family. This Sunday we will enjoy another great opportunity to worship and study the Word of God together. I look forward to seeing you (Hebrews 10:25).

Maranatha

Pastor Terry Kern <><

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School begins in just a few days. If you ordered t-shirts and goggles you can pick them up at the registration table on Sunday. I did order a few extra t-shirts and goggles if your child is interested in getting one. Thank you to many of you who have brought in donated food items. I still have some food items that are needed if you would like to donate something. If you have questions please call Linnet.

Congratulations to Ashley Gerving, Tiffany Bencker and Claire Cavender. They were the winners of the pre-registration drawing and will receive a free t-shirt and goggles.

## WELCOME PANTRY SHOWER

The new Northern Plains District Superintendent Rev. Darrell Thompson and his wife Beth will begin their ministry on June 1st. Kevin Lardy, our new Associate Pastor of Adult Ministries, and his wife, Anita, and their children (Zach (16), Sarah (14) and Josh (6)), will be arriving at the end of May. Everyone is invited to help welcome them to Bismarck. We will be collecting pantry items for both families for the next 2 weeks and plan to present them to the families on June 1st. Suggestions: non-perishable pantry items or gift cards. You can drop them off at the Information Center in the bins marked Lardys or Thompsons on Sunday mornings or during office hours Monday through Friday.

## CHILD DEDICATION

The next child dedication service is on Sunday, June 15, 2008. If you would like to dedicate your child, please call the church office by June 11, 2008, at 223-3330.

## CHINA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

The past two out of three mission trips that FEFC has sent to China have been to a little village in Sichuan Province called Wenchaun. Yes, this is the same Wenchaun that was the epicenter of the recent earthquake that will have claimed the lives of over 80,000 Chinese. Since many of those who died were students and teachers of the schools that collapsed, we can only assume that many of the friends we made there have now perished, and can only hope that the work we started had an eternal impact. Recently one of the leaders of the group that we work under, the EFCA, said, "I am convinced that a huge door has opened to our work in China as a result of the Sichuan earthquake tragedy of May 12<sup>th</sup>. I see God using the relief effort in the Sichuan area to reveal God's love to many, including those in the government, those in China and those in the West. I am amazed how quickly God can bring the great and mighty to their knees before Him. The openness to the West through this tragedy is unprecedented in China. As believers join together from the West and the East in sharing the love of Jesus through these earthquake relief efforts, who knows what impact will be made for the gospel. An impact that will be felt for years if not for a generation. I believe this tragedy and the potential for God's glory through the recovery efforts is on a scale that a generation could be impacted in China." Due to all the visa difficulties in visiting China this year during the Olympic activities, we had already made the decision not to send a team. However, we will be taking up an offering for the relief efforts the Sundays of June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup>. Money sent from this offering will be used by EFCA personnel living fulltime in the earthquake region - people who can best treat both the short-term and long-term needs and who can use it effectively for the growth of the church in China.

## MEN'S WED. EVENING STUDY

The men's group will continue through the summer with the study of Revelation. The summer hours will be from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All men are welcome.

## SUMMER WOMEN'S STUDY

Tuesday morning study will begin at 9:30 a.m. on June 10th, and they will be studying "Conversation Peace: The Power of Transformed Speech" by Mary Kassian. Child care is provided. To sign up please contact Elaine Schelhaas. The Tuesday evening study will begin at 6:30 p.m. on June 10th, and they will be studying "Discerning the Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks" by Priscilla Shirer. To sign up please contact Sandy Broschat.

## *412 Ministries*

### **Primetime**

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

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

### **R.A.G.E.**

Jr. High (7th & 8th grades)

### **The Example**

Sr. High (9th & 12th grades)

### **C Life College Ministry**

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

### **We need water!**

The 412 Ministries will be handing out water at Cottonwood Park on June 18th. We really need your donation of bottled water in single-serving sizes (16 oz or less). Please contact Pastor Jamie for pick-up or you can leave it in the kitchen clearly marked for 412 Ministries service project.

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### **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](mailto:prayer@firstefree.com)

#### **PHONE PRAYER CHAIN CAPTAINS INFO**

DAYTIME : Catherine Grosz ]

EVENING : Doris Ann Van Beek ]

### **WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO**

- THU - May 29 Motorcycle Run Super Express @ Exit 161; 6:30 pm  
Young Adult Bible Study; 7:00 p.m.
- FRI - May 30 Joy Club @ Mc Donald's (Country West by Burnt  
Boat Drive); 9:30 a.m.  
VBS Setup
- SAT - May 31 VBS Set Up
- SUN - June 1 Worship Service; 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School; 9:00 a.m.  
Discover FEFC; 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.  
Discover FEFC; 12:00 p.m.  
VBS; 6:30 p.m.
- MON - June 2 Men's Bible Study; 6:30 a.m.  
VBS; 6:30 p.m.  
Fellowship & Caring Board; 7:00 p.m.
- TUE - June 3 VBS; 6:30 p.m.  
C-Life College Ministries; 7:00 p.m.
- WED - June 4 All Church Prayer; 6:30 p.m.  
VBS; 6:30 p.m.  
412 R.A.G.E.; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
412 The Example; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
Men's Softball @ Cottonwood #3; 6:30 p.m.  
Men's Bible Study; 7:00 p.m.  
Worship Team Rehearsal; 7:45 p.m.

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