

INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

Dec. 16, 2008

SENIOR PASTOR INFO

Have you been able to “dig out” after the winter storm? I finally got the old International “M” (it is a 1946 Model – it’s older than I am ☺) fired up last evening and spent about 2-3 hours moving snow. I got some frostbite on my feet and my nose in the process but it was good to get it done and to get the “workout” of trying to steer that old tractor around in the snow (it is from the old days back on the farm when ‘power steering’ was a couple of strong farmer arms). I couldn’t help but reflect a bit as I got back inside and started rubbing my feet to warm them up. I was overwhelmed with gratefulness to the Lord. God is SO GOOD! Our Father has given/gives us SO MUCH for which to be thankful. He told us that if we have food and covering (shelter from the cold and clothing to cover our body) we should be content. As the ‘biting’ subsided in my feet, my wife told me that she had some hot soup and a sandwich made for me to eat. I sat down in a comfortable, warm house to eat the delicious food, with my feet now toasty warm tucked away in wool socks and slippers. But the goodness of our GOOD GOD certainly doesn’t end there. It goes so far beyond having food and covering. We live in the most luxuriously blessed country in the world - now or EVER. God’s goodness and His good gifts to Americans are so unfathomable and innumerable that it is beyond our ability to grasp. But then, after all that, we have to consider His “Special Spiritual Blessings.” It is this time of year when we celebrate God’s greatest, long-promised, most lovely and “indescribable gift” (II Corinthians 9:15), our beloved and precious and wonderful Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. In my preparations for speaking on Isaiah 9:6-7, I have been doing a lot of reading about the Millennial Kingdom (clearly the focus of this beautiful passage in Isaiah 9). Folks, I don’t know how to say it except to say “WOW!” What the “Son-Child” King (promised in Isaiah 9:6-7) has in store for the world and for “us” when He comes back here to set up His Kingdom – well it is just fun to think and dream about. God gives us enough information about His Messianic Kingdom to thrill us with anticipation and desire. Of course, it is very important that we prepare for it by living for Jesus NOW – 100%!

Well, obviously, we had to cancel our services this past Sunday due to the storm. I waited until the very last minute and got counsel from as many people as I could – but finally became convinced that it was the wisest course. I was unsure until I tried to get back home from the church after having made all the calls, etc. The east/west road leading to our house from Washington Street was completely blocked and I very nearly got stuck – and couldn’t get back to the house (thank God for 4-wheel drive – I wonder if Al Gore and the global warming people have ever tried to get around in a North Dakota snow storm?) I do sincerely look forward to seeing you this Sunday. We have one more Sunday morning together before Christmas. We will rejoice together as we celebrate His birthday, worship Him and give thanks to God for His “indescribable gift” D.V. – Deo Volente = God Willing! Maranatha Pastor Terry Kern <><

ALL CHURCH CAROLING

We are having our 2nd Annual All Church Caroling this Sunday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. Then we will come back to church for some Sloppy Joes, hot chocolate, hot cider, chips and wonderful time of fellowship.

CHAD GOLDADE BENEFIT

The Chad Goldade benefit that was postponed this past Sunday due to the weather has been re-scheduled to this coming Sunday, December 21, from 9:00am-2:00pm at the Eagles Club in Mandan.

SINGLES

All singles 35 and older are invited to a Christmas social on December 19th at 6:30 p.m. at FEFC to meet other singles and learn more about a new singles ministry starting up on January 9, 2009. Come and have a great time with plenty of food and fellowship as we celebrate the Christmas season together.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Parents and Guardians of Sunday School children (K-6th), this month our virtue is **Generosity** – making someone’s day by giving something away. We have four needy children from the Bismarck area for whom we will be buying Christmas gifts. There are tags on the “Generosity Tree” located in the Community Room that your child may take or we will also be taking a separate offering (put offering in envelope and write “Generosity” on it) at Sunday School. Deadline for both of these options is Sunday December 21. If you have any questions please contact Linnet Walter .

FAITH AND FAMILY DAY

For those of you who may still have vouchers for the “Faith and Family Day” that was supposed to happen this past Sunday, but was postponed due to the weather, you can still use them for either of the Dakota Wizards games this coming weekend. The Wizards will play the Los Angeles D-Fenders on Saturday, December 20 at 7p.m., and the Reno Bighorns on Sunday, December 21 at 6 p.m. The Faith & Family events, including the Preachers 'n Sneakers game, is postponed to a later date that has yet to be determined. There are still plenty of vouchers available for one of the two upcoming games. Please contact Pastor Kevin at the church during the week or come to the Welcome Center this Sunday and pick up your \$1.00 voucher for one of the games. Your family will never see a Wizards game for such a low price! Bring a neighbor or friend!

YOUNG COUPLES

Starting in January, a new young couples community group will be meeting during the 9 o'clock hour. We will be covering various topics relevant to young couples/families. The first will be *Fireproof Your Marriage*. This six-week series will challenge you to love better, to love first and to love for a lifetime! If you are interested in attending the class, sign up at the Information Center. There are participant guides (about \$8) to accompany this series and we will be ordering them soon.

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2008

at 5:30 p.m.

December 28, 2008

One Worship Service at 10:00 am

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 Merged with Campus Crusade

Tuesdays for college students (18 - 20 something) at 8:00 p.m.
at BSC in the Student Union.



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



COOK'S NIGHT OFF

Wednesday from 5:00-6:00 p.m.! Sign up at the Information
Desk on Sunday or call Sandie at 223-3330.

\$2.00 per person with a \$10.00 per family maximum!

Dec. 17 - Sloppy Joes, chips, fruit and dessert

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you next year!!

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - Dec. 18 Young Adults; 6:30 pm
- FRI - Dec. 19 Joy Club @ Mc Donald's (by K-Mart); 9:30 am
35+ Singles Christmas Party; 6:30 pm
412 Ministries Christmas Party; 6:30 pm
- SUN - Dec. 21 Worship Service; 9:00 am
Adult Community/Sunday School; 9:00 am
Fellowship; 10:15 am
Worship Service; 10:45 am
Children's Church; 10:45 am
Goldade Benefit; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
All Church Christmas Caroling; 5:00 pm
- MON - Dec. 22 Men's Study; 6:30 am
Council of Overseers; 7:00 pm
- TUE - Dec. 23 Griefshare; 6:45 pm
Worship Team Rehearsal; 7:00 pm
- WED - Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service; 5:30 pm

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