

INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

April 14, 2009

SENIOR PASTOR INFO

Easter Sunday was not only an amazing worship opportunity and experience, it was also an incredible time of encouragement and "equipping" for our entire FEFC family. The "Youth Service" (our version of a "sunrise service") was a great time. Our FEFC Student Ministries did a great job of leading in worship, presenting a very effective drama about sharing our faith in Christ with our friends in a natural and personal way, and reminding all of us through the reading of the Scriptures of the person of Jesus Christ and His work (death & resurrection) that we celebrate and glorify on Easter. Then came the Baptism Service! There were some who questioned the wisdom of holding a baptism service on Easter Sunday morning. I recognize that it flew in the face of "tradition." But from the response of the people emerging from the Worship Center after the service, I would say that it truly honored and pleased our Lord in some wonderful ways. People shared how touched and moved and taught and challenged they were by the baptism testimonies and service. Some said that they have never attended a church service like that one. Men and women alike came out weeping; explaining that God had touched them in some amazing and personal ways. One of the ones baptized said that "something amazing occurred in her life while she stood there in the water waiting to be baptized." One came and hugged me after the service and asked if she could be baptized, she was so moved toward obedience by the service. Another expressed that, while she had attended church her entire life, she has never been quite so impacted by "church" as she has since she began attending here. A man stood groping for words to try to describe how impacted he was. He simply couldn't describe it. And I could tell you more, but I think the point is clear. God honors even our feeble attempts to honor Him and to obey His Word.

In addition to all that, it turned out that it was a very historic day for FEFC. The attendance and card response sheet that is distributed throughout the church office on Monday mornings always accounts the attendance. This week's attendance total was 1,037. I remember when an Easter Sunday morning attendance at FEFC topped 300 for the very first time. I remember when we went for quite a number of years before our Easter Sunday morning attendance topped 500 for the first time. I remember 600, then 700, then 800. I don't remember a 900. I think we just skipped that one. Of course, I realize there is some double counting from the first service to the second. But that has always been the case. But this was a milestone that I am both grateful for and by which I am sobered. I am sobered because I realize that the Lord is entrusting to our care and keeping and teaching more and more people. I am sobered by the fact that we have a sacred trust as a church family to do an excellent job of offering quality, sound teaching, training, encouragement and love that helps move everyone in our church family through the stages of discipleship to each one being a fully developed Disciple of Jesus Christ who is

helping others also become believers, disciples and then fully developed disciples as well.

I do look so much forward to seeing you this Sunday. We return to our normal Sunday morning worship services this week and to the "Complete In Christ" sermon series. May the Lord give you a wonderful week of celebrating and serving Him. See you, D. V. Maranatha, Pastor Terry Kern <><

ADULT COMMUNITY

Victorious Living - Seven week DVD series with Raymond Duntton is starting April 26. Topics include: worldview, identity, character of God, forgiveness, overcoming fear. The leaders will be Jon and Phyllis Hanson and Bruce and Judy Johnson with a surprise visit by Raymond and Tuggy at one of the sessions.

RUMMAGE SALE AND BAKE SALE

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) will be having a rummage sale and Bake Sale on Friday, May 1 from 12 - 7 and Saturday, May 2, 8 - 3 in the FEFC Community Room. If you have any items you would like to donate, call Gayle Bakken at 223-3330 or email gayle@firstefree.com.

CHILD DEDICATION

The next dedication service is on Sunday, May 10, 2009. If you would like to dedicate your child, please contact the church office at 223-3330 by May 6, 2009.

CELEBRATE THE LIFE AUDITIONS

We are getting ready to start shooting footage for the 2010 Celebrate the Life Video narration (soldier video replacement)! We have our story and a general and tentative script for the video. We already have several of the main characters in the video selected. But we need "actors" who do not have a major dramatic role in CTL, for several supporting roles. 1) A young girl, 5-8 years old: this will be for a short scene depicting a delightful Saturday morning breakfast between the father and his little girl; 2) Father roll: adult man from 40 to 60, loving gentle, character who has cancer; 3) three nurses: one for a scene in which the nurse is caring for the father while he is hospitalized, the other two nurses are Hospice nurses. All three nurses can be any age, must have the ability to "look and act" the part of a nurse and, preferably, have some nursing background. We will hold reading auditions on May 13, at 6:00 p.m. at the church (we will provide a short script for each character for the reading audition). If you are interested in auditioning, please email wendy@firstefree.com.

AWANA FUN FAIR AND HOT DOG SUPPER

Cubbies, Sparks and Truth & Training Clubbers. This year we are serving a hot dog supper with the Fun Fair! For \$1.00 you will receive a hot dog, chips and cookie. Parents, you are welcome. The supper and Fun Fair will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. on April 29.

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)



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.

E-MAIL 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!

April 22 - Stroganoff, vegetables, fruit and dessert

April 29 - NO COOKS NIGHT OFF



HATS OFF TO YOU MINI SEMINAR

This mini-seminar has been rescheduled for April 25.

Women, please sign up or confirm your reservation at the Information Center.

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - April 16 Men's Revelation Study - 7:00 pm
- FRI - April 17 Joy Club @ McDonald's (by K-Mart) - 9:30 am
Friday Night Singles - 6:30 pm
- SAT - April 18 Men's Event PK Adventure - 9:00 am
- SUN - April 19 Worship Service - 9:00 am
Sunday School/Adult Community - 9:00 am
Fellowship - 10:15 am
Worship Service - 10:45 am
Children's Sunday School - 10:45 am
- MON - April 20 Living Stones Men's Study - 6:30 am
Student Ministry Team Meeting; 6:30 pm
Missions & Outreach Board - 7:00 pm
- TUE - April 21 Women's Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Hope In A Hostile World Study; 7:00 pm
- WED - April 22 MOPS - 9:00 am
Cooks Nite Off - 5:00 pm
CTL Production Team Meeting; 5:15 pm
412 R.A.G.E. & The Example - 6:30 pm
All Church Prayer - 6:30 pm
Awana - 6:30 pm
Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Women's Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:45 pm

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Bismarck, ND 58503
 PERMIT NO. 183

First Evangelical Free Church
 205 43rd Avenue NE
 Bismarck, ND 58503
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED