

# INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

April 21, 2009

## SENIOR PASTOR INFO

Time marches on doesn't it? This weekend I will be traveling back to my home area to meet with my brother and sisters and my elderly Mom. Mom has moved into an assisted living facility in Langdon, ND. So we have to clean out the house where she and Dad spent their last years together and where she has lived alone since Dad died in 1983. But now, it's time for the transition. Mom is ready and happy to live in her new home. For me and my siblings this closes another chapter in our life as a family. And this weekend will symbolize how relentless and inevitable the march of time really is, as well as the changes that it brings to our lives. Everyone grows old. Everyone who lives long enough has to go through the inevitable stages of returning again to childhood and systematically losing once again all of the physical capacities that give us independence and freedom to live our lives without constant help and oversight. I read again, just for a reminder, Ecclesiastes 12:1-8. Qoheleth ("The Preacher" – what Solomon the author of the book calls himself in the book – i.e 12:10) literally goes through the list of the progressive deterioration of the various "systems" of the human body that fail to function as we grow older. Our eyes grow "dim," our physical frame "bends over" and we shuffle our feet as we walk. Our ears no longer hear well and we lose our appetite (grinding ones stand idle). The Preacher even mentions that we lose interest in things like physical intimacy. Finally, in his beautiful, poetic fashion, the Preacher says that the "silver cord is broken and the golden bowl is crushed, the pitcher by the well is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed; then the dust shall return to the earth as it was and the spirit will return to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, all is vanity." (Ecclesiastes 12:6-8) His counsel is to "remember also your Creator in the days of your youth..." (Eccl. 12:1)

Life here on earth is so short. It is my growing conviction that it may be even shorter than any of us thinks. I believe the "times and the seasons" of the end of time as we know it ARE UPON US. But even if not, none of us has very much more time in which to invest our lives in things that matter beyond this short stretch of time on this earth. "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last." Remember your Creator today. Serve Him with your whole heart. Keep in mind the very real possibility that this day may be your last one here on this earth. Don't squander your days in foolish, empty, self-indulgent living. Be sober, be alert. Live with your bags packed and ready to go (Matthew 24:42-44).

This Sunday, Mr. Prince Jeyachandran will give the message in my absence. Mr. Prince is Gracia Prischmann's father and has for many, many years headed up the education division of Child Evangelism Fellowship International for all of India. I am very pleased that our FEFC family will have this opportunity to hear the Word of God taught by a faithful and proven servant of Jesus Christ like Mr. Prince. Maranatha, PTK <<

## THE EVENT @ THE COFFEE HOUSE

The next event is on **Sunday, May 3rd at 6:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited for this great time of contemporary Praise & Worship! There will also be a Q & A time with Pastor Terry Kern!

## HATS OFF TO YOU Women's Mini Retreat

The FEFC Women's Ministry Team is inviting all ladies to "hang your hat" at our annual mini-retreat on **THIS SATURDAY, April 25 from 10 am to 3 pm at FEFC** as special guest, Beth Thompson shares a few tips from her "hatbox" with us. Lunch will be served so call to register your attendance with Elaine Schelhaas!

## THE BIG EVENT

Don't forget, CEF – Child Evangelism Fellowship presents "The Big Event" this Saturday, **April 25th from 1-4PM** at the Civic Center Exhibition Hall. This is an outreach program and children are encouraged to bring their friends. Please bring a nonperishable food item for the local food pantry. You may sign up at the door or visit [www.cefkids.net](http://www.cefkids.net) for a registration form. Questions call Linnet Walter 223-3330.

## AWANA FUN FAIR & 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 29th.**

## RUMMAGE 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 or email [gayle@firstefree.com](mailto: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 by May 6, 2009.

## FAMILY TIME EVENT

The next event is planned for Wednesday **May 13, from 6:30pm-8:00pm**. at the church. More information is to come. Questions call Linnet Walter 223-3330.

## CELEBRATE THE LIFE AUDITIONS

We are ready to start shooting footage for the 2010 Celebrate the Life Video narration! We have our story and a general script for the video. We already have several of the main characters selected. But we need "actors" 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) A Father : adult man, 40 to 60 years old, loving gentle, character who has cancer; 3) Three 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. If you are interested in auditioning, email [wendy@firstefree.com](mailto:wendy@firstefree.com).

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's that time again! **VBS!!!** "Crocodile Dock" is the theme and all the action begins on **Monday June 1st – Friday June 5th** from 6:30pm-9:00pm. We will do the preschool program this year if we get enough volunteers. If you would like to help out with this exciting outreach, a sign up sheet will be at the VBS table located in the foyer beginning Sunday, April 26th. To register your child, please pick up a registration form at the same location or download it at [www.firstefree.com](http://www.firstefree.com). T-shirts and CD's will be for sale May 17th. Questions call Linnet Walter 223-3330.

*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@firststefree.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

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

If you have items to sell or give away, the classified ad service is for you! A classified ad service for our FEFC attendees is being provided. Detailed information is posted on the bulletin boards in the community room and next to the library.

**WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO**

- THU - April 23 Young Adult Bible Study—7:00 p.m.  
Men's Revelation Study - 7:00 pm
- FRI - April 24 Joy Club @ McDonald's (by K-Mart) - 9:30 am  
Friday Night Singles - 6:30 pm
- SAT - April 25 Women's Retreat (Hats off to you) - 10:00 am
- SUN - April 26 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 27 Living Stones Men's Study - 6:30 am  
Council of Overseers - 7:00 pm
- TUE - April 28 Women's Bible Study - 6:30 pm  
Hope In A Hostile World Study; 7:00 pm
- WED - April 29 412 R.A.G.E. & The Example - 6:30 pm  
All Church Prayer - 6:30 pm  
AWANA Fun Fair - 6:30 pm  
Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm  
Women's Bible Study - 6:30 pm  
Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:45 pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**First Evangelical Free Church  
205 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE  
Bismarck, ND 58503**

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