

INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

Aug. 25, 2009

SENIOR PASTOR INFO

I have received a number of emails and comments from people regarding some of the things I said this past Sunday. Of course, the decision taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America this past week (Friday, August 21st) portends another very grim day for American Christianity (listen to the message at www.firstefree.com). On Sunday afternoon, I received a couple of emails informing me of something that occurred in downtown Minneapolis on Wednesday of last week that really shocked me. At precisely 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon (August 19th) a tornado appeared virtually out of nowhere in downtown Minneapolis. It was completely unexpected and unpredicted by any weather service. It appeared at precisely the time at which the Lutheran National Convention Schedule read: "Consideration: Proposed Social Statement on Human Sexuality." The tornado did no damage whatsoever – EXCEPT it tore up the roof of the Minneapolis Convention Center, broke off and split the steeple of Central Lutheran Church and destroyed the tents on the church grounds (all sites where the ELCA Convention were being held). The tornado appeared and disappeared mysteriously. The news media didn't report that the tornado appeared and damaged those buildings at the ELCA Convention at the precise moment they were scheduled to discuss the issue of ordaining openly proclaimed and practicing homosexuals. But the news media did report the decision that very convention made two days later – to ordain practicing homosexuals. Did God send the tornado as a kind of "warning" to the Lutherans that He IS THERE and WATCHING? I think so. I believe so. Obviously, the majority of the Lutherans did not interpret that tornado appearing at that time as God issuing a warning to them. Is every tornado a message from God? NO, of course not! But this one seems to me to have clearly been a message from heaven. But the Lutherans did not listen. I do fear for them and for the America that "condones what God condemns." I received an email from a dear brother quoting one of my favorite passages; Isaiah 5:20. It says: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!" Do we actually think God doesn't notice? Do we actually say we believe in God and the Bible and then completely ignore what God says in His Word? I suspect that for many of the Lutherans who voted for the resolution, God's Word is so dismally absent from their life and thoughts that they voted far more on the basis of what is politically correct in our times than on the basis of what God says. I believe that is a dangerous and foolish way to live. But we all know that is how the vast majority of Americans are living their lives these days. God willing, that is NOT ME nor is it YOU! I want to live and do the Will of God. Regardless of the consequences I face from human beings, I want to honor God with my life and my decisions. I have a great deal more "fear" of the Almighty God than I do of humans. Jesus said; "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28) That is some sobering stuff

to consider isn't it?

I do hope to see you this Sunday and I do look forward to worshipping, studying God's Word and fellowshiping together with you this Sunday, D. V. Maranatha, Pastor Terry Kern <><

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool – 6th Grade Sunday School Registration forms for 2009-2010 are now available. Registration forms can be picked up in the Foyer at the registration table. If you would like to help out in the preschool area, please contact Nanette at 223-3330. If you would like to help out in the K-6th grade area, please contact Linnet at 223-3330.

FFFEAST FUNDRAISER

We will be having a fundraiser for our new FFFeast program on September 6th after the family service. Because this is a new program for our church, we do not have a budget for it. Please come and help support this new and exciting change. For more information on FFFeast, please check out the churches website.

ADULT COMMUNITY THE GROWING YEARS

Formerly known as the Young Families/Couples group, this group will be starting up again September 13, the Sunday after Labor Day in Room 301 during the 9:00 hour. In the first series, we will be using materials by Florence Littauer. Incorporating humor, we will be exploring how our God-given personalities impact our spouse, children, and spiritual walk. Resources are \$2 per person. For more information please contact Jayna Wiens .

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Life Line Screening will perform a variety of different health screenings at First E Free on Monday, September 14. The screenings that are available are: stroke/carotid artery screening; abdominal aortic aneurysm; ankle brachial index; bone density screening (both men & women); atrial fibrillation; single finger-stick blood test for heart disease and diabetes. Each test takes about ten minutes and costs \$30-\$45/test. Appointments start at 9:00 a.m. Pre-registration is required call 1-800-324-1851 and mention source cod ISC-4957.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

My dear fair lady, come to Buckstop Junction for My Lady Fair September 1 at 6:30 p.m. Tour the town, spend a buck or two at the fair exhibits, sing uplifting songs, be inspired by a fair lady's testimony, silently bid in the auction, plus a lot more fun activities. Sign up at the Information Center on Sunday or call Laurie .

**One Worship Service
September 6 at 10:00 a.m.**

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



EMAIL INFO CENTRAL

The church office is looking for ways to help save costs. If you have an email account, we would sure love to put you on our email list for the newsletter. If you do not have an email account, we would love to keep mailing you the newsletter. To start receiving Info Central via email, please email Wendy Backman at wendy@firstefree.com.



If you no longer wish to receive Info Central please contact the church office at 223-3330 or email Wendy Backman at wendy@firstefree.com.

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - Aug 27 First Place for Health - 6:00 pm
Young Adult Bible Study - 7:00 pm
- FRI - Aug 28 Joy Club @ McDonald's (by K-Mart) - 9:30 am
Friday Night Singles - 6:30 pm
Camp Out at Cross Ranch
- SUN - Aug 30 Worship Service - 9:00 am
Sunday School/Primetime/Adult Comm. - 9:00 am
Fellowship - 10:15 am
Worship Service - 10:45 am
Sunday School - 10:45 am
- MON - Aug 31 Living Stone Study - 6:30 am
Nursery Volunteers Meeting - 6:30 pm
Council of Overseers- 7:00 pm
- TUE - Sept 1 Motorcycle Run @ Clark Station Exit 161 - 6:30 pm
Women's Event @ Buckstop Junction - 6:30 pm
- WED - Sept 2 MOPS Steering - 9:00 am
412 R.A.G.E. - 6:30 pm
412 The Example - 6:30 pm
All Church Prayer - 6:30 pm
Men's Bible Study - 7:00 pm
Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:45 pm

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