

INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

April 19, 2010

ASSOCIATE PASTOR INFO BEING LIGHT TO THE WORLD

Psalm 119:105 says, "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." This verse has always provided me with an incredible picture of the rock solid, immovable truth of how God leads and guides all of us through the difficult terrain of this life. When life seems to be full of darkness and littered with land mines, He is always leading us to safety and helping us to avoid being shipwrecked and lost along the way. His Word is the light that guides us!

This verse has taken on a deeper meaning in my life over the last number of years. Some of you know that I collect lighthouses. I never really had any inclination to want to collect anything, but in the late '80's, God was dealing with my heart in the area of trusting Him with my life. It was scary, because all of my life as a believer to that point was about being in control and never taking risks that may involve failure. He took me through a very difficult time in my life, and one I am so grateful for to this day. He literally took me by the hand and walked me through areas of my life that were difficult to give over to Him, but He showed me that I would be safe in the journey. A number of years ago, I performed the wedding ceremony for one of my brothers who was married at what is called the "Mansion" in Duluth, Minnesota. It is an old mansion right along the shores of Lake Superior. It was a beautiful setting with the fall weather being cool and kind of misting throughout the weekend. It was fun to have our whole family together and it all made for a special weekend. What really intrigued me was watching the big ships carrying their cargo on the lake and then coming in to the harbor, which was just down the road from where we were. We had time to take in some of the sights and, for me, the joy was seeing the lighthouse that was at the harbor and to think about the importance of what that lighthouse represented to those ships. Now, I know that, because of modern navigational systems today, lighthouses are useless and are mainly used as historical sites to remember the days gone by when they played a huge role in guiding ships to safety as they traveled shallow waters, along the rocks, in foggy weather and other dangers. I still remember that weekend like it was yesterday. I can still remember the feel of the cold air and the mist in my face as we stood in the harbor and watched a huge ship enter the harbor. It seemed so close that I felt like I could almost reach out and touch it. Everything reminded me once again of God's guiding hand and how He is so faithful to watch over us and to protect us when our tendency is to lose our footing along life's journey.

When I got back to our home, I began thinking more and more about lighthouses and began buying one here and there. People in the church caught on to my love for lighthouses and began giving them to me as gifts for weddings and things that I did for people in the church. So, over time I have collected a few lighthouses. Each one is special to me for what they represent! I think FEFC has been a beacon of light to our community. Having gone through my first Celebrate the Life, I can honestly say how life changing it has been for me to be a part of this church and, more specifically, the

people here. This Sunday we will be celebrating and giving thanks to God for all He has done, through CTL, for people in this community and so many others from all over. God really brings our church family together to pull off something that is much bigger than ourselves. God truly is our Light that guides us as a church and as individuals in making Jesus known to the world. I am reminded of Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven." I hope everyone will be with us this Sunday as we celebrate God's faithfulness to us as our Light that continues to guide us in our ministry to one another and to our community. See you this Sunday! God Bless, Pastor Kevin Lardy

SO LONG INSECURITY

Beth Moore's one-day simulcast event on April 24, "**So Long Insecurity.**" Beth is sure to make yet another remarkable impact on women today and for generations to come as she exposes the lies that have debilitated women for ages. During this simulcast, women will learn to conquer fear and doubt and will discover the liberating confidence and security that can only be found in Christ. Worship throughout the day will be led by Travis Cottrell.

Join us at First Evangelical Free Church for this free women's event. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. and the program will end at 2:30. Go to www.firstefree.com for more information or call 223-3330.

2010 GRADUATES

Graduate recognition is Sunday, May 16. We will have a program in the bulletin listing all our high school and college graduates. If you are a college graduate and would like to be listed, email gracia@firstefree.com. Please include your full name, degree/major, college graduating from, and future plans.

WEDDING INVITATION

"Before us lies the open road... a future filled with adventure and love." Susan M. Griffin and Richard P. Janke joyfully invite you to share in their happiness as they unite in marriage on Saturday, May 15, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. at FEFC. Reception immediately following in the church community room. If you have a motorcycle, bring it along for a short wedding ride. RSVP before May 3, by email at rickandsue@bis.midco.net, or by phone 220-6157.

CTL CELEBRATION/THANKSGIVING

Sunday morning, April 25 will be a CTL Celebration/Thanksgiving Service. We would love to collect any stories and/or testimonies of God at work through CTL. Please email them to barb@firstefree.com or kevin@firstefree.com. Thanks for your help.

All CTL participants/helpers, we will be having a "pot-blessing" after the second service on Sunday. Please bring a main dish and a vegetable or salad. Hope to see you there! Don't forget to return your costumes and choir folders.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

High school and adult instrumentalists we will be playing in the services on May 2, 2010. If you play an instrument and would like to join us please contact barb@firstefree.com. We will be practicing Wednesday evening, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.

412 Ministries

PRIMETIME: Sunday for Jr. High & Sr. High @ 9:00 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

CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Our church has a condominium for sale. It has two bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, a small laundry room, living room, dining room, kitchen, two small decks and a single garage (1,128 square feet). All appliances, stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer are included. Please contact Pat at 223-3330 for more details.

RECEPTIONIST/CLERICAL POSITION

A part-time Receptionist/Clerical is needed at the church. If you or someone you know are interested in working 30 hours per week, please contact Pat at the church office.

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - April 22** First Place 4 Health - 6:00 pm
Escape the Coming Night Men's Study - 6:30 pm
Young Adult Bible Study - 7:00 pm
- FRI - April 23** JOY Club @ McDonalds by Kmart - 9:30 am
- SAT - April 24** First Place 4 Health - 9:00 am
Beth Moore Simulcast - 9:00 am
- SUN - April 25** Worship Service/Sunday School/Primetime/Adult Community/The Growing years - 9:00 am
Fellowship - 10:15 am
Worship Service/Sunday School - 10:45 am
CTL Pot Blessing - 12:00 pm
- MON - April 26** Men's Living Stone Study - 6:30 am
Council of Overseers - 7:00 pm
- TUE - April 27** Men's Study Group - 7:00 pm
- WED - April 28** MOPS Steering - 9:00 am
412 Ministries R.A.G.E. & The Example - 6:30 pm
Band Rehearsal - 7:00 pm
Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:45 am

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.

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.

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