

INFO CENTRAL

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

August 24, 2010

SENIOR PASTOR INFO

School starts this week so I guess that means "summer" is over, huh? Where did it go? I feel like I missed summer this year. It reminds me of Paul's exhortation in Ephesians 5:15-17 – "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." It's almost 2000-year-old counsel and command from God and yet it is as fresh and alive as if it were today's headline. Live carefully. Pick your steps wisely (make your decisions in life with thought and prayer and in accordance with the Word of God). It says to "redeem the time" or literally to "buy back" time. The idea is to take every moment of life here on earth seriously and live to make it count or even better "to invest it." Question: Why? Answer: "...because the days are evil." Nothing has really changed in the last 2000 years – except we are 2000 years CLOSER to the end of this age. That is not a small point. If you make one little observation about biblical history, it "appears" that God does something very dramatic about every 2000 years or so. Creation to the calling of Abraham is a period of "roughly" 2000 years. Abraham to Christ is a period of "roughly" 2000 years. It has been "roughly" 2000 years since Christ ascended back to heaven after His earthly ministry and the Church age began. No one knows God's timing on His Son's return but it is reasonable to expect that God is about to do something significant "again" and there are MANY, MANY signs and biblical prophecies to make us believe that God is "about" to send His Son back to the earth. But in the meantime, while we let summer "fly" past and we don't know where it went, let's NOT let life "fly" past and one day we wake up and realize that we have not "redeemed" our time in this life. Obviously, "redeeming" our time involves "living out our faith" and "serving God and His Church" and "...proclaiming Him to all" that we can. In other words, it is "investing" our life in service to and for the Lord and receiving rewards for that faithful service when Jesus comes again. There are plenty of opportunities to "redeem" some time in the life and ministry of FEFC. As the fall "falls" upon us, we will need volunteers to serve the many and varied ministries of our active church life. Please consider "redeeming" some time by "serving" in at least one or two ministries. The only way to "buy back" time is to "invest it" in faithful service for Christ. By serving in ministries for Him, we are "buying back" time in the sense of laying it away for the life after this one – and that may be much CLOSER than any of us imagine. I do look forward to seeing you this Sunday. I encourage you to read and pray over Genesis 15-19 for this Sunday's message. The focus will be on Sodom & Gomorrah – talk about the "days are evil" huh? Maybe you will see some parallels between Abraham's days and ours. Maranatha PTK

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THE GROWING YEARS

Starting September 12th we'll be going through the 15 week series *Shepherding a Child's Heart* based on the book by Tedd Tripp. Grounded in the Bible's divine plan for parenting, this series defines your goals as a parent and then provides the Scriptural methods for accomplishing them. Please sign up at the Information Center so we can order a workbook for you. We hope to see you on the 12th!

THANK YOU

For The church rose—it was beautiful; For the friends who visited while in the hospital; for the visits, calls, flowers & prayers: For Pastor Kevin's visits & prayers. Thank you all for your kindness and may God richly bless you! Olga Klein

Mid-Week Program

Registration for our children's (preschool - 6th grade) mid-week program will begin September 5th. We will be posting information about the new and exciting program in the bulletin this Sunday, August 29th as well as on the church web sight.

Fall Sunday School Info

(Preschool thru 6th Grade)

If you have not registered your child for Sunday School yet, it's not too late. We will be ordering Sunday School material on Monday, August 30th and we need to get an approximate number of students so we know how many books to order. If you have any questions, please contact Nanette for preschool or Linnet for elementary at 223-3330.

Class Pictures

We will be taking Children's Sunday School class pictures again this year. This is a great way for children to pray for classmates and a great keepsake for baby books. Pictures will be taken during the 9:00am Sunday School class period Sunday, September 26th. If you have questions please contact Linnet at 223-3330.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY

Come Play with Us! September 11, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. at FEFC's backyard
Here's what we need you to do:
Please sign up at the Information Center if your family is planning to join in the fun so we can plan for food. If you want a really cool t-shirt (cost is \$8.00) for this event, you can sign up for that, too! Also, please consider helping with this event for our neighbors and church family. You can call the church or sign up at the Information Center. Thanks for helping us make this a great success!

HOW TO GET OUT OF DEBT IN 5-7 YEARS!

The Financial Health Fair, a non-profit corporation, proudly presents a FREE seminar, with Bob Marett, Thursday, September 16, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sign up now and get your registration packet. Bring a list of your creditors, balance, monthly payments, and bring a calculator. You will leave with an idea of when you will be out of debt. Seating begins @ 5:30 pm. Child care provided. (Love offering will be taken).

CARING MINISTRY

Beginning this fall, our entire church family has a unique opportunity to discover **together** their Spiritual Gifts and learn how to use them in their everyday life. Have you ever had a neighbor or friend diagnosed with a serious illness? Have you ever had a family member lose a job? Have you ever known someone who has a very sick child? Do you know someone going through a divorce? Do you have a friend who is the caregiver of a needy parent? Do you know someone with family problems; having a child out of wedlock, child on drugs, alcohol abuse, or eating disorders? Do you know someone whose loved one has died?

All of us know someone who is going through a crisis. Wouldn't it be helpful to have the right words to say to a person and know how to be helpful in their time of need? Come to the Caring Ministry Information Table to sign up for the education session and Spiritual Gifts assessment beginning this fall:

Spiritual Gifts Assessment:	September 26 th Sunday at 2pm
OR October 3 rd Sunday at 2 pm	
Education:	October 8 th Friday 7 to 9 pm and
Saturday October 9 th 9am to 3 pm	
OR October 22 nd Friday 7 to 9pm & Saturday October 23 rd 9am to 3pm	

412 Ministries

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

COLLEGE MINISTRY College Life @ 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

One Worship Service

Sept. 5	Labor Day Weekend	10:00
Nov. 21	Praise Gathering	10:00
Dec. 26	Christmas	10:00
Jan. 2	New Year	10:00

After serving the Lord in Venezuela for a combined 79 years, Carol and Alan Hillis are retiring and there will be a celebration to honor them Sunday, 09/26/10, in Moline IL. If you would like to send a greeting or a special memory to share with them, you may send an email, card, CD or DVD. We plan to use some of your comments in honoring them. Please send your greeting by September 10th.

Email to zielj@aol.com, or Mail to Joan Cox, Box 682, Orion, IL 61273

WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- THU - Aug 26** First Place 4 Health 6:00 pm
Young Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm
- FRI - Aug 27** JOY Club @ McDonalds by Kmart - 9:30 am
Men & Kids Campout - 5:30pm
- SAT - Aug 28** **Men & Kids Campout**
Back to School Bash 4:00pm
- SUN - Aug 29** Worship Service/Sunday School/Primetime/Adult Community 9:00 am
Fellowship 10:15 am
Worship Service 10:45
- TUE - Aug 31** Motorcycle Run Clark Station @ Exit 161 6:30pm
Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm
- WED - Sept 1** MOPS Steering 9:00
412 Ministries R.A.G.E. and The Example - 6:30 pm
Worship Team Rehearsal 7:45 pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Evangelical Free Church
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