



# Info Central

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

December 27, 2011

## that night according to...

*By Gracia Prischmann-Director of Ministry Resources*

It was almost midnight when I heard the key turn and the door creak open. I saw two people enter. I lay quietly in the corner and watched, too scared to even breathe. They looked like strangers from a different place. I think they were married. The young man came in first while the lady just stood by the door waiting. I couldn't see her too clearly. But in the dim light I could make out that she was young and beautiful. She looked worn out and tired.

In a few minutes, after a bit of shoving and moving of empty boxes, the man called out to the lady at the door and told her that she could come in. She brushed passed me and I realized in excitement that she was going to have a baby! But what in the world was she doing here so late in this cold dark night? Why couldn't they just have stayed home?

My wife was going to have a baby too. But she wasn't out on the road. In fact, I made sure she was comfortable in bed! I looked back and saw her fast asleep, probably dreaming about our soon to come little one! My thoughts were interrupted by the few words in their conversation that caught my ears... "Nazareth", "Angel", "baby" and "Jesus." Well it didn't make sense to me. But I could figure out that they had had a long journey, probably from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Poor lady, I thought to myself. Having to travel all that distance in such a state! But she didn't seem to be complaining at all. She didn't even say a word. She just sat there as if it was the best place on earth. I couldn't help but stare at her in wonder.

Nothing happened for almost an hour. Although by now the lady was going through much pain. Then all of a sudden I heard a cry. The young man jumped to his feet. The baby was born!

Oh, I think he was the most beautiful baby boy I had ever seen. I almost stood up, but I didn't want to intrude. His mother pulled out a few pieces of cloth and wrapped him in it. She then laid him in the place where the hay was stacked. I couldn't take this anymore. I had to tell my wife. Maybe we could help. But I held myself back.

There was something strange about the whole thing. It had all happened so fast. A few days later they left.

I heard only later that King Herod wanted to kill the boy because he thought the baby was going to be a king. Well at least I was privileged to see the baby being born...live! I don't think I will ever forget that night.

My wife and I had our own little lamb a week after that day, in the same place.

We hope you and your family had a Christ-centered Christmas!

## PRAYER SERVICE

Corporate Prayer service **Wednesday Night** at 6:30pm. Please make it a priority and be a part of it! We want to encourage our church family to pray to our Father God and make our praises and requests known to Him on a regular basis! **Join Us!**

## MEN LEADERS NEEDED!!

There is an urgent need for men to be table leaders for the "Teen Challenge" study on Monday evening at 7pm. For more information talk to Ron Aller or Bill Jennings .

## CALLING ALL TECHIE PEOPLE

We are looking for a few good people to help in the Tech Ministry (Sound, Computer, Lights, & Video) just 1 Sunday a month. Let Wendy know what area you are interested in helping or if you have already helped in Tech ministry before and want to get involved again. Please email Wendy Backman at [wendy@firstefree.com](mailto:wendy@firstefree.com).

## WINTER PERIOD OF DISCOVERY ZONE

Register now for the new classes for the Winter Period of Discovery Zone that starts on **January 11th**. Discovery Zones are small groups built around special interests. Adults sharing their hobby with kids+God's Word=a life-changing experience for kids (and adults!)

## THE GROWING YEARS

Starting January 8th, @ 9:00am, Pastor Kevin will be leading us through the series "Sacred Marriage" by Gary L. Thomas. What if God designed marriage to make us holy and not just happy? In this 6-week study, Gary Thomas helps you understand the Lord's intention for matrimony. Discover how respecting your partner, forgiving and accepting forgiveness, engaging in intimacy, and building a history with your spouse can release the nature of Christ in your life!

## FIRST PLACE FOR HEALTH

First Place 4 Health is a Biblically based program that helps you lose weight and maintain a healthy lifestyle. If you are desirous of living a balanced life and growing closer to God in this coming year, contact Beth Thompson at [dbthomps@bis.midco.net](mailto:dbthomps@bis.midco.net) . We will be starting a new 12 week session January 12, 2012.

## YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

E Free's Young Adult Bible Study has started back up on Thursday evenings @ 7:00pm in the gym. This study is for those in their 20's and 30's. Starting January 12, 2012 we will be going through the book of Romans. Hope to see you there!

## **WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO**

WED-Dec 28 Corporate Prayer MTG, 6:30 pm

FRI-Dec 30 JOY Club @ McDonalds by Kmart, 9:30 a.m.  
Chinese Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

SAT-Dec 31 Worship Team Rehearsal, 10:00 am  
Fusion New Year's Eve Party, 9:00 pm  
At Lori Smith's house- Bismarck

SUN-Jan 1 Fellowship, 9:45 a.m.  
Children's Church, 10:15 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:15 a.m.

MON-Jan 2 Closed

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you so much for the beautiful plant: I will enjoy watching the plant grow:)

Kim Roach

## ***FUSION STUDENT MINISTRIES***

**JR. HIGH** (7th & 8th grades)

**SR. HIGH** (9th-12th grades)

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

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT:** 6:30- 8:30 p.m.

### **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 CAPTAIN INFO**

Doris Ann Van Beek

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

*Women please join us as we study Beth Moore's new Bible Study James: Mercy Triumphs. We meet on Tuesday's at the church. Mark your Calendars! Tuesday Morning Bible Study from 9:00-11:30am starting on January 10, 2012. Please call Elaine at 258-9329 or sign up at the Information Center. Childcare is provided for this study.*

*Tuesday Evening Bible Study from 6:30-8:30pm starting on January 17, 2012. Please call Debbie at 223-7206 or sign up at the Information Center. James: Mercy Triumphs - Member Book by Beth. James, Jesus' own brother, started out as a skeptic. See how one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turned an unbeliever into a disciple. Bible scholars compare James to the prophet Amos. In other ways, James more closely resembles the Book of Proverbs than any other New Testament book.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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