



Info Central

A Publication of First Evangelical Free Church of Bismarck, ND

September 27, 2011

SENIOR PASTOR

When I was a young college student at St. Paul Bible College, one of the professors at the college was an elderly gentleman who was very sickly and frail, named Stanton Richardson. He taught theology classes and I remember sitting in class one day when he was talking about his own personal understanding of a verse of Scripture; Galatians 2:20. I remember Mr. Richardson speaking about that verse in such a passionate way and realizing it was very personal and very real to him. I also realized that, although I had read the verse, I didn't have anywhere near the passionate response to it that he did. Down through the years, since that day in class at SPBC, I have read Galatians 2:20 and thought about Mr. Richardson many times. But this past Sunday, I had listed Galatians 2:20 on the sermon outline sheet as one of the two key verses in understanding HOW to live out love (agape). As I was studying in preparation for this past Sunday's sermon, I was personally applying the message to myself and I realized that I was "thinking" of Galatians 2:20 in very personal terms and I was very passionate about the meaning of that verse in my own mind and heart (just as I had seen Mr. Richardson be 40 years ago). I have come to the place in my own spiritual life where this verse of Scripture is one that I do understand personally in my own life (I certainly don't apply it perfectly all the time, but I understand what the passage is teaching). The Apostle Paul was discussing (Galatians 2) how no one could be justified by keeping the Old Testament (Mosaic) Law. He was also about to discuss (chapters 3-5) that the Christian Life cannot be successfully lived out by human effort either. So there in 2:20 Paul says, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Paul is saying that the only way for us to live out the Christian life is to live it out in the "faith walk" of allowing Christ (in the person of the indwelling Holy Spirit - See Galatians 5:16) to live His life out through me. But this obviously requires that the "Flesh" (my fallen nature) be crucified with Christ. My "flesh life" has to be "DEAD" and cannot be nurtured or nourished in any way in my mind or heart. It must be "left dead there hanging on the cross." Then when my "flesh life" is crucified with Christ, it does become true of me that "it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." My Christian life experience becomes one of a "faith walk" of allowing Jesus Christ/Holy Spirit to live both in me and through me. None of us can live out "agape" in our own efforts or by our own strength. Why??? Because, as we read from I John 4:7 this past Sunday, "agape is of God and everyone who agapes is born of God and knows God." So I would like to encourage you to think about Galatians 2:20 in your

life and experience too. The "flesh" has a way of "getting off the cross" and getting right back into the center of our life. I know that I have to stay in the Word and in prayer and not allow anything in my life that would feed or nurture the flesh. Hope this is helpful and I look forward to seeing you on Sunday, D. V. (If the Lord is willing). Maranatha, PTK <>< <>>

LIVING STONES MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Monday morning men's Bible study will be starting a new book on September 19 entitled "*The Coming Economic Armageddon*" by Dr. David Jeremiah. Jon Lee will be facilitating. All men are welcome.

CRAFTMANIA IS COMING!

Craftmania, a crafting and fellowship time, is set for Friday, Sept. 30, 6:30-9:30 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 1, 10:00-4:00 p.m., in the East Activity Room at Edgewood Vista, 3124 Colorado Lane. If you have a craft project you are working on and care to fellowship with others at the same time, please join us. Lunch is on your own or available in the Hazelnut Coffee Shop on Saturday. Call Kathy .

AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Friday, Sept. 30, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Century Baptist Church. Call the church for more info 223-0478

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP STUDY-TWELVE STEPS- A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

This study group is for individuals who grew up in less-than-nurturing or chaotic homes. The study will use the Twelve Steps in a Christian context. *The Twelve Steps-A Spiritual Journey* is a working guide based on Bible truths and emphasizes self-understanding and the unchanging love of God for all humanity. The study will be on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. starting September 19. The study will be held at Patty Tangen's home, Bismarck, ND 58503. Contact Patty with questions.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Rescheduled class will be October 9 at 11:30 a.m. for those of you who have attended the first membership class in September. Pizza will be provided!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MOSES, GOD'S SERVANT:AFTER THE RED SEA

Dig into the book of Exodus to gain insight into following and serving God while facing opposition and difficult circumstances - sounds like living in today's world! **Still welcome to join the study!** Starts September 14 at 6:30 p.m.; ends November 16. Downstairs RM 101.

LOST AND FOUND

If you are missing jewelry, eye glasses, or keys please check the church office. We also have lost and found under the stairs in the basement



WEEKLY EVENTS/MEETING INFO

- WED-Sept 28** MOPS Steering, 9:00 a.m.
Fusion Ministry WT Rehearsal, 4:45 p.m.
Fusion Ministry, 6:30 p.m.
Discovery Zones for kids, 6:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
Worship Team Rehearsal, 7:45 p.m.
- THURS-Sept 29** First Place for Health, 6:00 p.m.
- FRI-Sept 30** JOY Club @ McDonalds by Kmart, 9:30 a.m.
Craftmania, 6:30 p.m. @ Edgewood Vista
Chinese Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.
- SUN-Oct 2** Growing Years/Primetime/Adult Sun School 9:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship, 9:45 a.m.
Children's Church, 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service, 10:15 a.m.
- MON-Oct 3** Living Stone's Men's Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
Women's Small Group Study, 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship & Caring Board, 7:00 p.m.
Worship Board, 7:00 p.m.
- TUES-Oct 4** Morning Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
Evening Women's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

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 CAPTAINS INFO

Doris Ann Van Beek

THE GROWING YEARS

Starting September 11 at 9 a.m.: *Jesus Among Other Gods* by Ravi Zacharias. In a world with so many religions, why Jesus? In this four-week series, Ravi shows how the blueprint for life and death itself is found in a true understanding of Jesus. With a simple, yet penetrating style, Ravi uses rich illustrations to celebrate the power of Jesus Christ to transform lives. *Jesus Among Other Gods* contrasts the truth of Jesus with founders of Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism, strengthening believers and compelling them to share their faith with our postmodern world.

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