

NEWSLETTER



EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF BEMIDJI

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 10

- 9:30 am - Worship Service - Communion
- 11:00 am - Kids & Adult Sunday School
- Second Sunday Prayer (East Chapel)

Monday, May 11

- 6:30 pm - Softball practice (softball field)

Tuesday, May 12

- 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (Fireside Room)
- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- Barnabas MENA (Green Room)
- 6:00 pm - Trustee Board Meeting (Conference Room)
- 6:30 pm - Global Connections (Fireside Room)

Wednesday, May 13

- 7:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm - Evans' Life Group (Conference Room)

Thursday, May 14

- 10:00 am - Halverson's Life Group (Fireside)
- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 6:30 pm - Men's Life Group (Fireside)
- Trosen's Life Group (Nursery)

Saturday, May 16

- 10:00 am - Not Forgotten, Adult Grief Support (Room 10)

Sunday, May 17

- 9:30 am - Worship Service - Graduation Highlight
- 11:00 am - Kids & Adult Sunday School
- 3:00 pm - Choir/Handbells Finale (Sanctuary)

May 10: Wealth That Won't Wear Out
Luke 12:13-24

May 17: Your Future, His Will
Proverbs 3:5-6

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Giving Through
 May 3, 2026

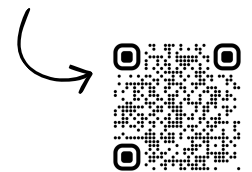
Weekly Giving:
 \$10,974

Weekly Giving Need:
 \$15,790

Giving YTD:
 \$236,571

Needed YTD:
 \$284,220

SCAN HERE TO
 GET CONNECTED



Elder Update

As many are aware, the Elders met with the North Central District regarding the transition period for our church, as we are without a Senior Pastor. As the Elders learn and process our next steps, the information will be shared with the congregation.

We are looking to fill the Office Manager position. Currently, Jessica Westlund is the Interim for this role, and Connie Aguillo is a volunteer. In addition, we are looking to fill the position of Church Treasurer, as our current Treasurer will be retiring soon. In addition, we need a Church Clerk for quarterly business meetings.

If interested, please contact the Board of Elders (elderboard@efcbemidji.org).

wi-fi: EFCB_Guest | password: efreebemidji



LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3

1. Like Jesus' parable, we often turn to stories to illustrate examples of greed. What characters, stories, or films come to mind that depict this attitude well?

2. Read Luke 12:13-14. Why do you think Jesus warns the crowd to be on guard against the deceitfulness of greed rather than just say, "Don't be greedy!"?

3. Read Luke 12:15-21. Where do you think the rich farmer went wrong? When do you think good business sense morphed into greed?

4. What do you think it means to be "rich toward God"? (v. 21). How is that related to seeking his kingdom? (v. 31).

5. Read Luke 12:22-28. Where do you see examples in everyday life of God's good provision? How might these be an antidote to worry?

6. Read Luke 12:29-34. How would you answer these questions for yourself:

- Where is my treasure?
- What does this reveal about my heart?
- Where does my treasure belong?

Our Life Groups are all about learning together and loving one another. Visit www.efcbemidji.org/lifegroups for more info.

MAY 3RD ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Prelude: Piano, Laura Engelstad

My Savior My God

Holy Forever

Offertory: Handbells

Communion

Scripture Reading: Luke 12: 13-34, LaDon Howes

Message: Wealth That Won't Wear Out

Seek Ye First (Hymn #447)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Book

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Mildred A. Lashlee, a Memorial Gift was presented by her family and friends in June 2013.

Fraud Alert

Please be careful NOT to respond to any email or text messages supposedly coming from one of the church staff that asks you to purchase gift cards or give contact information. This is a scam. Please contact the church office with any questions or concerns. Staff will never ask for things this way.

Bemidji Food Shelf

We can really use toothpaste and personal care items. E-Free has been so wonderful in providing volunteers! From after hours stocking, to assisting customers, to working in the warehouse and being on the Board, we are represented. Thank you for serving the community! If you are interested in volunteering, contact Linda Shutter with questions 218-766-7171 .

Totals for April:

Total Households served: 1,071

Total Pounds distributed: 76,988

Total Individuals: 3,220

First Time Ever Household Visits: 54

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Global Partners

Would you like to have an important role in missions while still being home in Bemidji? You can take part each month in one of three functioning prayer meetings:

- 1) For the Limariis in the Pacific: This is by zoom every third Sunday of the month at 7 pm. Contact Maria Raukar at (218)210-3980.
- 2) For Adopted People Group. Contact Kay Sue Eriksson at (218)766-9991 or Peter Eriksson at (218)368-1355.
- 3) For Middle East/North Africa (MENA). Meeting at 10:30 the first Tuesday each month in the Green Room. Contact Paul T. at (218)759-9026 or Karin T. at (218)209-5627.

Building Access & Reservations

If you need a room reserved or access to the building please contact Jessica in the Church Office at least 2 weeks in advance. officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Church Softball League

Spring is almost here and so is church softball! Here is the next practice: 5/11 at 6:30 PM at E-Free. Ages 14+ are welcome to join, no experience necessary. Contact Matt Myrick with questions 218-242-0822. The game schedule will be out soon!

Ways to give

We invite you to prayerfully consider worshipping God and supporting the ministries of E-Free Bemidji through regular financial giving. A portion of every gift goes to support the ministry of our Global Partners. You can find out more about the various ways to give by visiting our website at www.efcbemidji.org/give or by scanning the QR code with your mobile device.

Welcome New Members!

The following people were welcomed into membership at our April 26th Congregational Meeting: Deborah Brown, Rachel Eastling, Alex & Sylvia Johannes and Matt & Shelby Myrick. If you would like to learn more about church membership, please contact Pastor Eric.

YOUNG ADULTS

Sunday, MAY 10

9:30 am - Worship Service

Tuesday, MAY 12

6:30 pm - Anchor (Youth Room)

Thursday, MAY 14

7:30 pm - CRU (BSU, Hobson Memorial - Crying Wolf Room)

ANCHOR

Our Anchor group continues! Tuesday evenings from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM in the Youth Room. Join us for fun, fellowship, bible study, and occasional Pie Nights at Perkins!



Open to all BSU, Oak Hills, NW Tech, Leech Lake, and Red Lake Nation students. We meet Thursday nights from 7:30-8:30 pm in Memorial 240. We also have a Tuesday Night Men's Bible Study and Monday Night Women's Bible Studies.

See Mark C. or Terry H. with questions:
mhockeymd@gmail.com
Terryleehewitt@gmail.com

E-FREE KIDS



Sunday, MAY 10

9:30 am - Kids/Beginners Church
(Lower Level, dismissed during service)
11:00 am - Kids Sunday School

Wednesday, MAY 13

5:00-5:45 pm - Family Meal: Tacos
6:00-7:45 pm - Kids Club, grades 6-12 (Lower Level)

May is Foster Care Month

We want YOU to get involved. Follow along the next 4 weeks, find Amy Graf or Mandi Buchan on May 31st and summarize the 4 different announcements and you can get a prize! Only 1 per family.

May 10th foster care globally:

- Many countries still utilize orphanages. But some are transitioning to a kinship model/home based model. According to homeforverychild.org, there are more than 147 million orphans in our world today. Every year 12 million children become orphans.

Save The Date for VBS!!

AUGUST 9TH-12TH, 6pm - 8:15pm.

Theme: KINGDOM QUEST - an EPIC JOURNEY to DISCOVER GOD'S KINGDOM

VBS Volunteer Opportunities

Decorations (Prior to VBS - plan, build, decorate, create)

Crafts (plan, order, and teach crafts each day)

Games (plan, set up, and run games each day)

Small Group leaders (1 adult and 1 teen per group of 8-10 students)

Small Group activities coordinator (plan activities for small groups, and prepare activities for backpacks)

Tech (Run ProPresenter/computer/slides each night during large group)

Sound Tech (Run sound/microphones)

Kitchen Crew (Make food /serve/clean up - can choose one night, or multiple nights)

Snacks (plan, order, organize, and serve snacks each night)

Awareness Team (walk around, make sure no kids are running astray, hiding in bathrooms/rooms)

Clean-Up Crew (Wednesday night clean up crew - come in at 8:15pm, & begin taking down decorations)

Marketing (Get the word out about VBS)

There might be other volunteer opportunities available, if there isn't one that stands out for you. Please let me know how you would like to help/serve. agraf@efcbemidji.org

If you can't volunteer the week of VBS, but would love to still help, please let me know. We would love your help prior to VBS.

Thank you for considering to serve at VBS!

Amy Graf and VBS Lead Team

follow [@efreekidz](https://www.efreekidz.org) | www.efcbemidji.org/kids
Text **efreekids** to **94000** join our E-Free Kids notification system.

STUDENT MINISTRIES



Sunday, MAY 10

9:30 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

11:00 am - Youth Sunday School (5:11 Room)

Wednesday, MAY 13

5:00-5:45 pm - Family Meal: Tacos

6:00-7:45 pm - Youth Group, grades 6-12 (Youth Room)

Youth Sunday School

We finished up our Bad Advice series and are moving into Proverbs - or Good Advice! Each Sunday we will be tackling a new chapter of Proverbs and discussing the wisdom and discernment that we have been given through this wonderful book.

Sunday School Volunteers Needed!

if you are willing/desire to lead a discussion with our 6th-12th Grade students, let Pastor Shane know. We are looking for more male and female leaders to help guide/teach our Sunday School Group.

Youth Group

We are in the Book of Ephesians and this series will be called "To The Glory of His Grace". Each week we will be tackling a different part of each chapter as we interact and learn from such a beautiful, powerful, and foundational portion of God's Word.

High School or College

If you are graduating or know someone from our church who is graduating from High School or College, please let Jessica in the church office know. Please send a graduation photo and party information to officemanager@efcbemidji.org.

follow [@efcb_sm](https://twitter.com/efcb_sm) | www.efcbemidji.org/youth
Text **efcb**sm to **94000** join our Student Ministries notification system.