

E-FREE BEMIDJI WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



BECOMING DEEPLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS TOGETHER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 20

- 9:30 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 am - Kids/Beginners Church
- 11:00 am - Q&A with Ken Polley, Interim Pastor Candidate and Connection Time (Gym)
- 2:00 pm - Golf Scramble for Missions

Monday, September 21

- 6:30 pm - Women's Overflow (Fire Pit)

Tuesday, September 22

- 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (Fireside Room)
- 10:15 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 6:30 pm - Celebrate Recovery (Room 10)

Wednesday, September 23

- 7:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)
- 5:00 pm - Wednesday Night Meal - Pizza (Gym)
- 6:00 pm - Kids Club/Youth Group

Thursday, September 24

- 10:15 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 6:30 pm - Music Team Practice (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm - Women's Bible Study Fellowship (Chapel & Room 4)

Sunday, September 27

- 9:30 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 am - Kids/Beginners Church
- 11:00 am - Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- Connection Time (Gym)

Visit efcbemidji.org/events
for the complete calendar

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Giving through September 13, 2026

Weekly Giving: \$9,168
Weekly Giving Need: \$15,790

Giving YTD: \$491,554
Needed YTD: \$584,230



Visit efcbemidji.org/give to learn
about ways to give.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

9:30 am - Worship Service

Prelude: Kay Sue Eriksson

10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

Be Thou My Vision (Hymn #532)

Living Hope

Offertory: "Proclaim the Glory of the Lord" Choir

Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:10-20, Jack Frost

Message: Ken Polley, Interim Pastor Candidate

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Hymn #60)

Upcoming Sermon Schedule

September 27th: United With Christ, Romans 6:1-14

Mark Your Calendars

Oct. 25th, All-Church Potluck 11:00 am (Gym)
Congregational Meeting 12:00 pm (Sanctuary)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Prayers Requested

Please pray for our Nominating Committee as they prepare a list of candidates for the church offices of Elders, Trustees, and Church Clerk. Voting will take place at our Quarterly Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Oct. 25th at noon.

Please lift up the Trustees in prayer as they develop a proposed budget for 2027.

Ken Polley Interim Pastor Candidate



A Note from the Elders

We are pleased to announce that we have a candidate for our interim pastoral position. His name is Ken Polley. He has a lot of experience working with churches in transition including Calvary E-Free in Walker, MN and Faithbridge Church in Park Rapids, MN. He was recommended to us by the North Central District of the EFCA. Ken and his wife, Lorelei currently live in Warren, MN.

Ken has already met with the staff, and he will candidate with us on **Sunday, September 20th**. Ken will preach at the 9:30 am Worship Service, and there will be an opportunity for Q&A with him following the service in the Gym at 11:00 am.

If all goes well, we will have a Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, September 27th** following the 9:30 am Service to vote on Ken. We will only call him to serve here at the Bemidji E-Free church if he garners a 75% majority.

Ken will be able to help us with organizational structure, with reviewing our strategic plan, and with processing the events that we have had to endure over the past year. If we, as a church, decide to move forward with getting a more permanent pastor, he will help us with that process, too. His job is not to be our lead pastor, nor would he be the primary preacher (Pastor Eric will still do the majority of the preaching). He would be hired to work 25-30 hours per week to guide us as we continue to serve Jesus Christ in Bemidji, in Minnesota, and around the globe!

Memorial Book

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Jerry Hannah, a Memorial Gift toward Foster Care Ministry was presented by his wife Mary, Dec 2024

Membership Class

Join us on **Monday, Oct. 5th, 6:30-8:00 pm** for a group discussion on what it means to become a member of a local church and why it's important. This membership class is the first step in the membership process at E-Free Bemidji. Please contact the church office if you plan to attend. Copies of the Membership Handbook are available in the office or on our website at efcbemidji.org/believe.

Ways to Give

We invite you to prayerfully consider worshiping 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.

September Women's Overflow

Ladies - **Monday, September 21st** is our first Overflow, so bring your camp chairs! We'll be meeting at the fire pit off the youth wing side of the building from **6:30-8:00 pm** to hear about the Gospel from Lindsay Nygren, sing some campfire worship songs and roast s'mores. Stop by the Women's Ministry table and let us know if you're coming. See you there!

Now Hiring: Office Manager

Please pray for our search for our next Office Manager. The job description is available in the office or on our website (efcbemidji.org/jobs). Applicants can email efree@paulbunyan.net with a letter of inquiry and resume.

Text **efree** to **94000** join our text notification system.

YOUNG ADULTS



We will resume ANCHOR in the fall. Please talk to Pastor Shane if you have questions.



SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

All BSU, NTC, and OHCC students are invited to attend a co-ed bible study on Thursday evenings at 7:30. It will be held in the leadership center in Hobson Memorial Union (HMU 255). If you have any questions, please email Terry Hewitt (terryleehewitt@gmail.com).

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Youth Sunday School

We are prepared to walk through "Becoming People of Worship" as our theme. Pray for us as we grow and 6th -12th graders join us for Youth Groups from 6:00pm-7:45pm

E-FREE KIDS

Kids Club has kicked off! This year, we are starting at the beginning, and will be making our way through the Bible the next 3-4 years, using "The Biggest Story" curriculum. We are very excited to dive deeper into Scripture, memorize verses and the Books of the Bible, and share the Good News of God's Truth with others.

YOU ARE INVITED to PRAY, SERVE, ENCOURAGE, TEACH, SHARE YOUR FAITH, and MAKE AN IMPACT THAT COULD CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE FOREVER!!

Volunteers Needed for Wednesday Night Kids Club!

- *Nursery/childcare helpers
- *Substitute small group leaders
- *Supply/craft/snack coordinators
- *Substitute Awareness Team
- *Classroom support/helpers
- *Leaders for the P.O.P. - Place Of Prayer - (This is a place for kids to come for prayer). They can "POP" in and "POP" out when needed and be prayed for by a leader.

If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, please contact Amy Graf - agraf@efcbemidji.org 218-751-8834

Thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers. Kids are longing for people to talk with them, teach them something new, share with them, disciple them, build relationships with them, encourage them, love them, and have a safe place that they can be themselves and learn about the love, grace, and truth of Jesus.

follow [@efreekidz](https://www.facebook.com/efreekidz) | www.efcbemidji.org/kids

Text **efreekids** to **94000** join our E-Free Kids notification system.

E-FREE KIDS Continued

Sunday School - Beginning October 4th - 11:00am - 11:45am. Please (re-check in) your child for 11:00am Sunday School with a new check-in tag.

***PreK - 1st Grade Sunday School** will begin October 4th at 11:00am in the PreK Classroom on the lower level.

Family Sunday School for all ages.

Beginning Oct. 4th, there will be a Family Sunday School offered in the youth room at 11:00am, for anyone. Singles, families, youth, kids, (must attend with a parent or guardian) anyone can attend. This is an 8 week study/practice of different spiritual disciplines.

"Practicing the Way" is a practical way to practice prayer, Biblical study, solitude, sabbath, serving, healing, confession, fasting, giving, community, and communion. This will give us an opportunity to share how God is working in our lives each week through these daily/weekly practices.

SAVE THE DATE!! October 30th - E-Free "Trunk or Treat"

Anyone can sign up to host a vehicle, give out candy, and share God's love.
More details to come.