

Welcome to E-Free Bemidji

Sunday, August 25, 2024

Message: What to Pray for (When You Don't Know What to Pray For)
Ephesians 3:14-21, Pastor Eric Nygren

Combined Summer Worship Service - 9:30 AM

Prelude - Laura Engelstad, piano

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer of Adoration

This Is Amazing Grace

To God Be The Glory (Hymn #72)

Offering & Prayer

Only A Holy God

Dismiss for Beginners/Kids Church

Scripture Reading: Luke 11:1-13, Joel Hoover

Message: What to Pray For
(When You Don't Know What to Pray For)

Communion

Be Thou My Vision (Hymn #532)

Benediction

Nursery - 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Our nursery is available for children aged 3 and under. Please use our secure child check-in system in the main foyer to print a name label and security tag before taking your child to the nursery.

Sunday School & Connection Time - 11:00 AM

Join us in the gym for refreshments and a time to connect with others. Sunday School classes are available for adults. Kids Sunday School will not meet over the summer.. See page 7 for the current schedule.

wi-fi: EFCB_Guest | password: efreebemidji

Notes:

Beginners (ages 4-5) & Kids Church (1st-5th Grade)

Before the sermon at the combined 9:30 Service, kids age 4 through 5th grade are dismissed for Beginners and Kids Church. Parents and guardians can use our secure child check-in system in the foyer and escort their children down to their designated spot: Ages 4-5 at the top of the stairs by the Nursery, 1st - 5th Grades at the top of the stairs by the office.



Secure Child Check-in

To take part in our Sunday morning and other Kids Min activities, we ask that families register with our check-in system. Scan the QR code, use the Church Center App or visit www.efcbemidji.org/kids to get started.

Next Sunday, September 1, 2024

Message: Lessons From Nineveh
Nahum 1:1-8, Pastor Jerry R A Johnson

E-Free Kids

Kids Ministry Volunteers Needed

Sunday School helpers:

We need 4 adults to help kids Sunday School.

(Helpers assist the teacher with activities and being a support in the classroom)

Beginner's Church - Leaders/Helpers
(1 time per month)

Kid's Church - Leaders/Helpers
(1 time per month)

Nursery - Adult volunteers
(1 time every 2 months)

Kids Club Leaders -
Kindergarten/1st/3rd grade leaders
(weekly on Wednesday nights)

Please prayerfully consider serving in Kids Ministry. We keep adding to our number of kids, and we need more volunteers to keep kids safe, invest in their lives, teach them God's truth, and love them deeply.



Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 25

10:00 am - Kids/Beginners
Church (Lower Level)

Tuesday, August 27th

5:30pm - 7:30pm
Family Park Night
at Diamond Point Park

Wednesday, September 11

Fall Kick Off
5:00-5:45 pm - Family Meal
Hot Dogs (Gym)
6:00-7:45 pm - Kids Club
PreK - 5th Grade
6:05-7:30 pm - Oasis (Green)
6:15-7:30 pm - Adult Life Groups

Family Park Night

August 27th is our last Family Park Night for the summer!

Please join us to minister to those at Diamond Point Park and to connect with one another.
August 27th @ 5:30pm.

Would love to see you all there!
Let's share the love of Jesus with those in the park!

Youth Ministry

Summer Youth Group:

The final summer Youth Group will be on Wednesday, August 28th at 6:30pm at E-Free. We will continue with our study, How we got the Bible in English.

Youth Leaders Meeting

We will be meeting on Wed, September 4th from 6:15-7:45pm. If you are interested in helping with the youth group please see Shelly Mustful
shellymustful_mn@yahoo.com or
Danny Paddock
paddocksonsautorepair@gmail.com

Youth and Young Adult Pastor Search Team

Please pray for us as we begin searching for our next Youth and Young Adults Pastor. Our team includes: Danny Paddock (chair), Bethany Anderson, Caleb Caster, Jerry Drebelbis, Amy Graf, Pastor Jerry Johnson, Shelly Mustful, Pastor Eric Nygren and Alexa Zylka,



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 27

Family Park Night
5:30pm - 7:30pm
at Diamond Point Park

Wednesday, August 28

6:30 pm - Summer Youth Group
(Youth Room)

Wednesday, September 11

Fall Kick Off
5:00-5:45pm - Family Meal
Hot Dogs (Gym)
6:00 pm - Youth Group
6th-12th Grade
6:05-7:30 pm - Oasis (Green)
6:15-7:30 pm - Adult Life Groups

Young Adults

ANCHOR

Anchor is our young adult life group. We meet on Tuesday nights for food and fellowship regularly during the school year and anyone who considers themselves a young adult is welcome. Anchor will start meeting regularly soon. Please email pastorjerry@efcbemidji.org with questions.



Cru is back on BSU campus for the Fall Semester! Join us Sunday August 25th for a bonfire night to kick off the school year! Open to all BSU, Oak Hills, NW Tech, Leech Lake, and Red Lake Nation students.

See Mark Carlson
(mhockeymd@gmail.com)
or Terry Hewitt
(TerryLeeHewitt@gmail.com)
for more information.

Carlson address:
51140 County 29
Bemidji, MN 56601

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 25

9:30 am - Combined Service
and Communion
11:00 am - How We Got Our
Bible - Part 6 (Chapel)

6:30 pm - CRU Bonfire night at
Mark Carlson's home:
51140 County 29
Bemidji, MN 56601

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Did you know...

By 1972 the church began to go through tough times. Attendance was only 69 and giving was falling. Pastor Adams left in 1973, and an Oak Hills student, Dave Sommerfield, filled in part-time. But this did not stabilize the church. By April 1974 there were only 17 voting members, who decided to keep the church open by a vote of 11 to 6. They continued to look for a pastor.

Memorial Book Entry

Back in June of 2003 to the glory of God, in loving memory of Linda Benson, a memorial gift toward the Building Fund was presented by Allen Benson.

Calling all bakers!

Our Kitchen Crew is looking for 10-12 volunteers to bake a pan of bars or a batch of cookies for our September 8th Kickoff Sunday. If you love to bake, please let the church office know what you'll be making.

Now Hiring: Youth and Young Adults Pastor

Please pray for our Search Team as we begin looking for our next Youth and Young Adults Pastor. The job description is now available online, including our church website, and in the church office. If you or someone you know may be interested, please connect with us soon or email: efree@paulbunyan.net.

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Summer Sunday School 11:00am, Nursery Available

Aug 25: How We Got Our Bible
Part 6 (Chapel)

E-Free Choir

Tayler Borders and Ian Trosen are looking for new members for our EFC Bemidji Choir. Join us if you want to

- Praise the Lord through music,
- Make new connections, and
- Work hard and learn together.

All people and skill levels are welcome! Come make music with us from 7:15-8:30PM sharp on Tuesdays starting Sept. 3.

Questions?

Contact Ian, 952-607-9095 or Tayler, 218-851-9627.

Building Access

If you need a room reserved or access to the building please contact Jessica in the Church Office at least 2 weeks in advance. It is helpful as we continue to serve God together. officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Musicians & A/V Forum

We're trying something new! The Worship Committee would like to invite all of our Sunday morning musicians and A/V team members (staff and volunteers) to join us for our first Musician & A/V Forum. Grab some goodies in the gym and join us next Sunday, September 1st at 11 am down in the Chapel. We want to hear from you—your ideas, your feedback, your questions, your input.

Northwood Pregnancy Center

Check out the wonderful updates about our local pregnancy center on the community bulletin board in our Connection Cafe.

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Communion

Today, Sunday, August 25th, the Lord's Supper will be served during our 9:30 Combined worship service. We will be using our non-alcoholic communion juice and gluten free bread. All who trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior are invited to celebrate with us. Please take time to reflect upon your walk with the Lord and relationships with other Christians. 1 Corinthians 11:28 urges, "We ought to examine ourselves before we eat of the bread and drink of the cup." The Lord's Supper represents Christians' union with Jesus and unity with other believers.

Benevolence Fund

If you or someone you know from our church family is experiencing a financial hardship, please contact one of the pastors or elders about our Benevolence Fund. This fund exists to help with unexpected financial burdens (utility bill, repair bill, medical bill, etc.).

Take 60 Seconds to Pray

Watch for a weekly text message with daily prayer prompts for our church and its ministries. Then take 60 seconds every day to pray. If you're not subscribed to our text notifications, send a message with the word efree to 94000 to sign up. (Note: This is not the Prayer Chain list).

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 25

- 8:30 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)
- 9:30 am - Combined Summer Service
- 11:00 am - How We Got Our Bible - Part 6 (Chapel)

Tuesday, August 27

- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 5:30 pm - Family Park Night (Diamond Point Park)

Wednesday, August 28

- 7:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)

Thursday, August 29

- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice (Sanctuary)

Friday, August 30

- 7:00 am - Men's Discipleship (Chapel)

Sunday, September 1

- 8:30 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)
- 9:30 am - Combined Summer Service
- 11:00 am - Musician and A/V Forum (Chapel)
- 12:15 pm - Youth Pastor Search Committee Meeting (Conference Rm.)

Sunday, September 8

- Kickoff Sunday
- 7:30 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)
- 8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am - Ministry Fair with Donuts (Gym)
- 10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service
- 12:00 pm - Tailgate Cookout

Wednesday, September 11

Kickoff for Kids Club and Youth Group, see pages 3 and 4 for details.

There are many ways to connect and grow at E-Free Bemidji. Visit

9 www.efcbemidji.org/events for a complete calendar of events.

We're glad
you're here!



Welcome! If you're our guest this morning, we would invite you to fill out a Connection Card online at efcbemidji.org/connectioncard or by scanning the QR Code with your mobile device and letting us know that you joined us for worship today. Be sure to stop by the Welcome Center in the foyer to pick up a free gift. Watch our calendar for an upcoming Newcomer's Lunch—a special event just for you!

Watch our services online

Every Sunday, we offer a live stream of both of our services on our website. Visit www.efcbemidji.org/live on your computer or mobile device. Our live stream is also available on Roku, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV. Connect to the BoxCast through your streaming device and search for E-Free Bemidji.

Sermon and Worship Service Archive

Check out our Worship Service Archive at www.efcbemidji.org/archive to watch any of our worship services from the past 90 days. Past sermons are also available online at www.efcbemidji.org/sermons or on our YouTube page (@efc_bemidji). Sermons are available on our website in video, audio, and transcript format. Please contact the church office if you would like to request a sermon transcript be sent to you via mail or email.

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.



Evangelical Free Church of Bemidji

115 Carr Lake Rd. SW, Bemidji, MN 56601 | www.efcbemidji.org



Church Office

Email: efree@paulbunyan.net | Phone: (218) 751-8834

Office hours: Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am - 8:30 am; 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Ministry Staff

Jerry Johnson, Lead Pastor pastorjerry@efcbemidji.org

Eric Nygren, Associate Pastor pastoreric@efcbemidji.org

Amy Graf, Kids Ministry Director agraf@efcbemidji.org

Support Staff

Corbin McCray, Facility Supervisor..... facilitysupervisor@efcbemidji.org

Dan Evans, A/V Supervisor..... efcbemidjitech@gmail.com

Tom Halverson, Visitation Caregiver..... tom.halverson63@gmail.com

Jessica Westlund, Office Manager officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Jason Robeck, 10:45 Music Director

Giving for August 18, 2024

Weekly Giving: \$ 11,772

Weekly Need: \$ 15,986

Giving YTD: \$ 487,340

Needed YTD: \$527,538

Remaining Mortgage: \$ 117,410.00



Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, August 18, 2024

329 onsite | 26 screens / 6 states

SS: 0 Kids | 88 adults

Misc: 42

Sign up for text notifications

Stay connected by signing up to receive our text notifications.

General notifications: text **efree** to **94000**

E-Free Kids Ministry: text **efreekids** to **94000**

Youth Ministry: text **efcbesm** to **94000**

Prayer chain: text **efreepayer** to **94000**

efcbemidji.org | (218) 751-8834 | efree@paulbunyan.net

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.



Lord, teach us to pray.

Luke 11:1



SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.



KICKOFF SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH

BACK TO TWO SERVICES
8:30 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE
10:45 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

**WEAR YOUR
TEAM COLORS
TO CHURCH**

MINISTRY FAIR
9:45 AM IN THE GYM

LEARN ABOUT
OPPORTUNITIES TO
GROW, SERVE,
AND PLUG IN

**TAILGATE
COOKOUT**
12:00 PM

ENJOY SOME PULLED
PORK, SIDES, AND
DESSERT

What to Pray For
(When You Don't Know What to Pray For)

Ephesians 3:14-21 on August 25, 2024

Pastor Eric Nygren

Visit www.efcbemidji.org/sermons to listen, watch, or read today's sermon. You'll find an archive of past messages on our website as well.

Dear Brother or Sister in Christ,

August 24, 2024

Our church's 100th anniversary celebration is getting so close! Please be in prayer for all of the preparations for October 10-13. Pray that our church will REMEMBER God's faithfulness over these past 100 years, RECONNECT with those who've been part of our church over the years, and RECOMMIT ourselves to serving Christ and those around us for as long as the Lord allows. Please pray that each activity will bring God glory and accomplish His purposes:

Thursday, October 10 – Global Partners Night

(Which will include onsite visits from some of our partners as well as exciting updates from those who can't make it. We'll also recommit to our adopted people group by signing a renewed adoption certificate together.)

Friday, October 11 – 11:30 a.m. Senior Adult Potluck

(Which will include a special presentation of remembrances by Sarah Friesen/Page)

Friday, October 11 – Through the Decades Variety Night

(Which will be a fun night of remembering God's faithfulness through the past 10 decades of history. We've invited a broad range of special guests who will share memories and testimonials along the way. Come ready to remember what people drove, how they dressed, and how our church continued growing together as followers of Jesus over these years.)

Saturday, October 12 – Community Day

(We're inviting our Bemidji neighbors to enjoy a free meal of shredded pork sandwiches with us, as well as fun activities like bouncy houses, a petting zoo, art sketches, balloon animals, church tour, and a few other surprises....)

Saturday, October 12 – Coffee/Dessert Night

(This is simply a night to sit and visit with old friends who share a history at E-Free Bemidji.)

Sunday, October 13 – 9:30-11:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service

(This will be a wonderful morning of worshipping God through music, prayer, testimonials, and time in His Word, including some guest speakers. It will be followed by an 11:30 a.m. catered lunch in our multi-purpose gym – please RSVP.)

Sunday, October 13 – Second Sunday Prayer/closing Recommitment Service

(We'll meet in our sanctuary for a closing time of worship and corporate prayer, celebrating the Lord's Table together, and recommitting ourselves and our church to God's service.)

Again, please pray for all of the planning and preparation for each of these events and that each activity will bring God glory and accomplish His purposes.

Praise God for an encouraging congregational meeting back on August 4 including a delicious cookout and a fun cornhole tournament. Praise God for multiple recent baptisms. Praise God for so many various summer events in and through our church including the community outreach through our park ministry at Diamond Point. Please keep various individuals from our church family in prayer who've recently gotten married, or who are struggling with sickness or had recent surgeries, and for those who've recently lost loved ones.

Please pray for our Youth and Young Adults Pastor Search Team composed of: Bethany Anderson, Caleb Caster, Jerry Drebelbis, Amy Graf, Jerry Johnson, Shelly Mustful, Eric Nygren, Danny Paddock (chair), and Alexa Zylka. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we consider multiple applicants. And pray that whoever our next pastor is, he will begin feeling God's prompting toward our church. Also please keep our youth and young adults ministries in your prayers as they approach this fall without a pastor. Pray for the godly volunteers who are stepping up to help lead in the short-term, and pray for Danny Paddock and Shelly Mustful who are taking on a co-leading role as part-time interim youth staff.

Pray for our church's Advanced Strategic Plan which will be presented throughout September and October through a sermon series and various Q & A sessions. Pray that it will be explained well and that together as a church family we will embrace our core values, mission, vision, and discipleship pathway. May God be pleased as we aim to please Him and be in step with His particular purposes for us in Bemidji and beyond.

Please keep our Trustees and Elders in your prayers as they make decisions in the best interest of our church. Pray also for our Nominating Committee as they prayerfully invite various members of our church to consider serving in 2025 and beyond. We need 3-4 new elders, 2-3 new trustees, and a new Church Clerk. Pray for good stewardship of our funds, our buildings, and our ministries. Please pray that we will catch up on our current 2024 budget shortfall of roughly \$40,000 by the end of December.

Please pray for the relaunch of so many different fall ministries, including our Sunday School, Kids Ministry, Choir, Handbells, Youth Ministry, 12 Life Groups, Grief Share, and more. Pray that each one of these ministries will point people toward Jesus, helping the spiritually lost find salvation and the spiritually found grow in greater maturity as deeply devoted followers of Jesus.

As always, let's continue to pray sincerely that God will help our church to become more and more the church that He would have us be.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, thank you for praying!

Together for Christ, Pastor Jerry

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together

Please pray for our Youth and Young Adults Pastor Search Team composed of: Bethany Anderson, Caleb Caster, Jerry Drebelbis, Amy Graf, Jerry Johnson, Shelly Mustful, Eric Nygren, Danny Paddock (chair), and Alexa Zylka. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we consider multiple applicants. And pray that whoever our next pastor is, he will begin feeling God's prompting toward our church. Also please keep our youth and young adults ministries in your prayers as they approach this fall without a pastor. Pray for the godly volunteers who are stepping up to help lead in the short-term, and pray for Danny Paddock and Shelly Mustful who are taking on a co-leading role as part-time interim youth staff.

Pray for our church's Advanced Strategic Plan which will be presented throughout September and October through a sermon series and various Q & A sessions. Pray that it will be explained well and that together as a church family we will embrace our core values, mission, vision, and discipleship pathway. May God be pleased as we aim to please Him and be in step with His particular purposes for us in Bemidji and beyond.

Please keep our Trustees and Elders in your prayers as they make decisions in the best interest of our church. Pray also for our Nominating Committee as they prayerfully invite various members of our church to consider serving in 2025 and beyond. We need 3-4 new elders, 2-3 new trustees, and a new Church Clerk. Pray for good stewardship of our funds, our buildings, and our ministries. Please pray that we will catch up on our current 2024 budget shortfall of roughly \$40,000 by the end of December.

Please pray for the relaunch of so many different fall ministries, including our Sunday School, Kids Ministry, Choir, Handbells, Youth Ministry, 12 Life Groups, Grief Share, and more. Pray that each one of these ministries will point people toward Jesus, helping the spiritually lost find salvation and the spiritually found grow in greater maturity as deeply devoted followers of Jesus.

As always, let's continue to pray sincerely that God will help our church to become more and more the church that He would have us be.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, thank you for praying!

Together for Christ, Pastor Jerry

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together