

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

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

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

Jessica Westlund, Office Manager officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Laura Engelstad, 8:30 Music Director

Jason Robeck, 10:45 Music Director

Giving for December 22, 2024

Weekly Giving: \$ 10,961

Weekly Need: \$ 15,986

Giving YTD: \$ 790,210

Needed YTD: 815,286



Remaining Mortgage: \$ 65,357.89

Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, December 22, 2024

311 onsite | 46 screens / 10 states

SS: 12 kids | 5 Youth | 37 adults

Connection Cafe & Misc: 17

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 **efcbsm** to **94000**

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

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Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.



They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:3-4 (NIV)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.

Welcome to E-Free Bemidji

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Combined Worship Service - 9:30 AM

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer of Adoration

Joy To The World (Hymn #146)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain (Hymn #151)

Angels We Have Heard on High (Hymn #152)

Offering & Prayer

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-11, Scott Engelstad

Message: Seasons of Life: What We Learn from Moses

Paul T. preaching

All Glory Be To Christ

Benediction

Pick up a FREE Advent Devotional

Make the most of the upcoming Advent season with a FREE devotional. Copies are available in the Connection Cafe. One copy per household, please.

Bibles and One-Year Devotional For Sale

We have a variety of NIV Bibles for sale in the Connection Cafe. Prices range from \$20 to \$35. We also have a new one-year devotional called Everyday Gospel available for \$10. Use the included envelope for payment. Pick one up to give as a Christmas gift or to start a Bible-reading habit in the new year.

There are many ways to give at E-Free Bemidji.

1 Visit www.efcbemidji.org/give or by scanning the QR code (back page)

wi-fi: EFCB_Guest | password: efreebemidji

Now Hiring: Facility Supervisor

Please pray for our Search Team as we look for our next Facility Supervisor. The job description is 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.

The Deeply Devoted Podcast - Episode 018

This week on the podcast, Pastor Eric offers some practical tips on developing a Bible reading habit in 2025. New episodes are posted every Tuesday. Visit efcbemidji.org/podcast or listen via your favorite podcast app. Email podcast@efcbemidji.org with comments or feedback.

Senior Connection Potluck

Let's welcome the new year with a virtual trip to Africa with Jan Parham, our speaker for the Senior Potluck on Jan. 10 at 11:30. This is Part 2 of a journey she shared with us last year. Bring some food to share, and come enjoy fellowship with old and new friends. As always in January, keep an eye on the weather; we will let you know if anything changes. Call Laura with any questions, 218-209-8190.

Next Sunday, January 5, 2024

Message: 12-year-old Jesus

Luke 2:41-52, Pastor Jerry R A Johnson

Kids & Youth Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 29

NO KIDS OR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL OR KIDS CHURCH

Wednesday, January 1

NO KIDS OR YOUTH MINISTRY

Tuesday, January 7

6:30 pm - Trail Life (Gym)

Wednesday, January 8

5:00-5:45 pm - Family Meal: Hot Dogs, Chips, Carrots

6:00-7:45 pm - Kids Club, PreK - 5th Grade (Lower Level)

Youth Group, grades 6-12 (Youth Room)

E-Free Kids

Sunday School

Today, Dec. 22nd at 11am

All Kids are welcome.

PreK/KInd (PreK Room)

1st-5th grade (5th grade classroom)

Kids Club

E-Free Kids Club welcomes all children ages 4 through 5th grade!

Join us for dinner at 5pm. Use our Secure Child Check-In and drop your children off in their classroom by 6:00pm. Pickup your children in their classrooms by 7:45 pm.

We meet each week in small group, large group Bible teaching, worship, snacks and games.

Contact Amy with questions:

agraf@efcbemidji.org

Thank you!

To all the volunteers, parents, grandparents, staff, etc:

Thank you so much for the incredible gift of a new guitar!

I am overwhelmed by your generosity and love. My heart overflows with gratitude for each of you. I have amazing volunteers, and parents. I get to work with a great staff, and I have a deep love for each of your kiddos. Looking forward to using my new guitar to help lead worship at Kids Club!

Have a Blessed New Year!

Youth Ministry



Youth Group

E-Free Bemidji Student Ministry welcomes all 6th - 12th grade students! Most Wednesdays throughout the school year we meet for Youth Group for time with Jesus, Bible, fellowship, worship, and fun. Most Sunday mornings we have Sunday School during the Sunday School hour to connect, and pray about our week and have class. See Shelly Mustful or Danny Paddock with questions.

shellymustful@gmail.com or paddocksonsaautorepair@gmail.com

Holiday Break

Youth group resumes Wednesday, January 8th. Have a Merry Christmas! No Sunday School on the 29th.

Youth Leaders Meeting

Youth Leaders' meeting in the youth room at 11am today. There will be snacks!

January 5th...

January 5th we're back to Sunday School at 9:45am for 6th-12th grade in the 5:11 Room. We will be starting the series Not a Fan looking at the difference between being a follower of Jesus or just being a spectator cheering for Him. We'd love to have you join us!

Young Adults

Sunday, December 29

9:30 am - Combined Service

11:00am - Treats (Connection Cafe)

ANCHOR

Anchor is our young adult life group. We will meet on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:30 pm resuming in January. Contact Jesse Schmidt at 218-760-5852 or email pastorjerry@efcbemidji.org with any questions.



Cru will resume January 23, 2025. See Mark C. or Terry H. with questions: mhockeymd@gmail.com Terryleehewitt@gmail.com

📷 follow @efreekidz | www.efcbemidji.org/kids

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



📷 follow @efcb_sm | www.efcbemidji.org/youth

Text **efcbasm** to **94000** join our Student Ministries notification system.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 29

8:45 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service

11:00 am - Treats in the Connection Cafe

Youth Group Leaders Meeting (Youth Room)

Tuesday, December 31

10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)

Wednesday, January 1

The Church Office is Closed

Thursday, January 2

10:00 am - Tom Life Group (Fireside Room)

10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)

6:30 pm - Worship Team (Sanctuary)

Friday, January 3

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

Sunday, January 5

7:45 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)

8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service

9:45 am - Adult Sunday School: Church History Survey (Chapel)
Gospel of John (Room 10)

10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Did you know...

The early 1990s were a time of continued growth. In 1991 over 200 people took part in the Walk Through the New Testament program, which really brought the Bible to life. By 1992 the porte cochere and bell tower were added to our south entrance. That covered entrance is much appreciated in cold and wet months!

Memorial Book Entry

Back in August of 2008 to the glory of God, in loving memory of Dorothy Konoske, a memorial gift for the Sunday School Fund was presented by family and friends.

Friday AM Men's Discipleship

Join us from 7:00-7:50 am for Friday AM Men's Discipleship. We are starting a new book this week, Hearing God by Dallas Willard. Contact Pastor Eric for a copy (\$15).

Barnabas groups

In a Barnabas group we are committed to pray and care for one or a few of our Global Partners. A group usually meets for prayer quarterly or bi monthly. Please, inquire with Peter Eriksson or Pastor Eric if you are interested in praying and caring for a specific Global Partner. Call Paul T. 218-759-9026 for any questions.

Mere Christianity

Are you interested in reading Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis in 2025? Pick up a copy for sale in the Connection and join the Podcast Read-along. Each month we'll read a short section of the book and discuss it on an episode of the Deeply Devoted Podcast. Grab your copy and read Book 1 before the January 14th episode is posted. For more info, contact Pastor Eric.

Seasons of Life: What We Learn from Moses

1 Corinthians 10:1-11 on December 29 2024

The below table is used in today's message. Follow along in the message and fill in the blank spaces to complete the table and gain an overview of the seasons of life experienced by Moses.

MOSES					
Season of Life	View of Self	View of Problem	View of God	Attitude	Result
1st Season 0 to 40 Years					
2nd Season 40 to 80 Years					
3rd Season 80 to 120 Years					

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.



1. What has been your experience with the Old Testament? Has it been an aid in your spiritual formation? If so, how? Have you seen the truth of 1 Corinthians 10:11 in your life? Explain. Do you do any regular reading in the Old Testament?
2. The Moses of Exodus 2 seemed to be in a perfect position to free Israel. Acts 7:25 suggests Moses felt he was going to lead the Israelites in a God-directed revolt to freedom. How did his plan work out in reality? Why do you think his hopes were not realized at this time?
3. All the Israelites saw God's incredible power and His concern for them vividly demonstrated in the 10 plagues. Why do you think it did not have the same effect on their faith as it did on Moses' faith? Why is there such an enormous contrast between their two responses as seen in Ex 4:11-12 and Ex 4:13-14?
4. In which of the three seasons of Moses' life do you spend most of your time? Have you ever cycled back and forth between season one and two? What could you do to be in the third season more?
5. How important do you feel our understanding of God is? If our view of God is inaccurate, how might that affect our life? How can our view of God be made more accurate and real, both for ourselves and for our family and friends?

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

