

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: Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:45 am - 10:45 am; 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Ministry Staff

Jerry Johnson, Lead Pastor pastorjerry@efcbemidji.org

Eric Nygren, Associate Pastor pastoreric@efcbemidji.org

Shane Fleming, Youth & Young Adults Pastor..... pastorshane@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

Lex Zylka, Office Manager officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Luke Hockenson, Church Custodian..... facilitysupervisor@efcbemidji.org

Laura Engelstad, 8:30 Music Director

Jason Robeck, 10:45 Music Director

Giving through November 9, 2025

Weekly Giving: \$28,970

Weekly Need: \$15,986

Giving YTD: \$665,000

Needed YTD: \$719,370

Roof Funds Received: \$77,874



Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, November 9, 2025

263 onsite | 39 screens / 9 states

Sunday School Hour: 92

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

64 adults, 69 children, 62 youth

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 **efreeprayer** to **94000**

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

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.



BECOMING DEEPLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS TOGETHER

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Welcome to E-Free Bemidji

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Traditional Worship Service - 8:30 AM

Prelude: Kay Sue Eriksson, piano

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer of Adoration

Welcome Him With Many Crowns (#92)

Majesty (#98)

King Of Kings Majesty

Ministry Moment: Fall Fling Highlights

Offering & Prayer

Offertory: Handbells, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Dismiss for Beginners/Kids Church

Scripture Reading: Josie Fultz, Luke 8:26-39

Message: Somebody Testify! , Pastor Eric Nygren

My Jesus I Love Thee (#101)

Benediction

Join Our Christmas Choir

We'd love more singers for our Christmas Mini-Cantata on Dec. 14. Singing together is a great way to celebrate our Lord's birth! Join us for rehearsal on Tuesdays at 7:15PM on Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9. We are finished by 8:30 PM. Talk to Ian Trosen (952-607-9095) or Laura Engelstad (218-209-8190) for more info.

The Deeply Devoted Podcast: Episode 052

This week The Deeply Devoted Podcast visits Senior Connection! In this week's episode, Pastor Eric chats with Dave Vogel about his life, his faith, and the Lord's faithfulness over the years.

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

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

wi-fi: EFCB_Guest | password: efreebemidji

Contemporary Worship Service - 10:45 AM

Prelude: Chain Breaker

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer of Adoration

Rooftops

This is Amazing Grace

Graves into Gardens

Ministry Moment: Fall Fling Highlights

Offering & Prayer

Offertory: Handbells, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Dismiss for Beginners/Kids Church

Scripture Reading: Joel Hoover, Luke 8:26-39

Message: Somebody Testify! , Pastor Eric Nygren

At Your Name

Benediction

Give Thanks

In preparation for Thanksgiving later this month, we would like to video record a variety of brief testimonies and words of thanksgiving that we can share at our services on November 23rd. If you would like to share a short message of thanksgiving, please contact Pastor Eric to schedule a time to record.

Giving to our Roof Fund

Our church roof suffered significant damage in the June 21 storm. If you would like to give a financial gift, above and beyond your regular giving, to help toward these repairs, please designate it as "Roof Fund."

Next Sunday, November 23, 2025

Unclean and Unwanted to Adopted and Redeemed

Luke 8:40-56, Randy McKain

Kids & Youth Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 16

- 8:30 am - Kids/Beginners Church (Lower Level, dismissed during service)
- 9:45 am - Kids Sunday School (Lower Level)
- 9:45 am - Youth Sunday School (5:11 Room)
- 10:45 am - Kids/Beginners Church (Lower Level, dismissed during service)

Wednesday, November 19

- 5:00-5:45 pm - Family Meal: Hotdogs
- 6:00-7:30 pm - Kids Club, PreK - 5th Grade (Lower Level)
- 6:00-7:45 pm - Youth Group, grades 6-12 (Youth Room)

E-Free Kids

Sunday, November 23rd

Kids Leading Worship Music

8:30am service - the kids from the 8:30am Kids Church Service will be leading the song, "I Thank God" at the end of the service. We will rehearse during Kids Church in the Assembly Room.

10:45am service - Kids will be leading 2 songs at the 10:45am service. "Jericho Song" and "I Thank God" at the beginning of the service. We will rehearse at 10:20am in the Sanctuary.

Volunteers Needed!

We are in need of volunteers for Beginners Church and Kids Church. Please consider serving once per quarter.



November Is:

Adoption Awareness Month

Please be praying for all of those touched by adoption. Here are some facts:

- *1 in 35 children in the United States is adopted.
- * More than 50,000 children are adopted through foster care every year.
- *As estimated 100,000 children are adopted through all adoption types every year.
- *More than 1.2 million children are living with at least one adoptive parent.

Foster Closet

Our foster closet is in need of 3T girls clothes and 5T boys and girls clothes. Also, new socks and underwear. And, New or "like new" shoes. Please drop off any donations at the church office.

Youth Ministry

Youth Sunday School

Sunday School- New series: Bad Advice. We are going through a series on listening to Jesus and how His voice cuts through the noise (Bad Advice from others) and gets to the heart. Join us for this 3 week series! (6th-12th Grade)

Thanksgiving Break

There will be no Youth Group on November 26th due to Thanksgiving.

Fall Fling Highlights

Fall Fling was FANTASTIC! Over 30 students and 10 leaders joined us at Camp Shamineau where we enjoyed fellowship, games, and great messages! We learned about how Christ comes into our lives and gives us a new heart - now that we are alive, let's make the most of it!

Small Group Night Out

Small Group Night Out was a BLAST! Lots of fun, great fellowship, and memories were made. Make sure to stay posted for the next SGNO in the spring (6th-12th Grade).



Young Adults

Sunday, November 16

- 8:30 am - Traditional Service
- 10:45 am - Contemporary Service

Tuesday, November 18

- 6:00 pm - Anchor (5:11 Room)

Thursday, November 20

- 7:30 pm - CRU (BSU, Hobson Memorial 240)

ANCHOR

Join us at 6:30 - 8:00 PM on Tuesday evenings in the Youth Room. We enjoy bible study, fellowship, and occasional Pie Nights at Perkins - and more! Come join us as we are currently going through the Gospel of Mark. (Ages 18-30)

Thanksgiving Break

There will be no Anchor on November 25th due to Thanksgiving.

CRU

Cru is back on BSU campus for the Fall Semester! 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. As well as having 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

📷 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, November 16

- 8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am - Baptism Class (Room 3)
- 9:45 am - Adult Bible Study: Gospel of John (Room 10)
- 9:45 am - Survey of Church History (West Chapel)
- 9:45 am - Old Testament Survey (East Chapel)
- 10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service
- 2:00 pm - Grief Share (Chapel)

Monday, November 17

- 6:30 pm - Women's Overflow

Tuesday, November 18

- 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (Fireside Room)
- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)

Wednesday, November 19

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

Thursday, November 20

- 10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
- 6:30 pm - Women's Bible Study Fellowship (Youth Room, East Chapel, West Chapel, and Classroom 4)

Sunday, November 23

- 8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am - Adult Bible Study: Gospel of John (Room 10)
- 9:45 am - Survey of Church History (West Chapel)
- 9:45 am - Old Testament Survey (East Chapel)
- 10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service
- 2:00 pm - Grief Share (Chapel)

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

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. Our Benevolence Fund is managed by our elders and is there to help our church family with unexpected financial burdens (utility bill, repair bill, medical bill, etc.).

GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays event

GriefShare will be offering a Surviving the Holidays event with 3 options to attend. If you or someone you know is grieving the death of a loved one, and are nervous about the coming holidays, consider attending this event and bringing a friend. Fee \$10.

Nov. 22 or Dec 13, from 2-4 pm, at EFree Church Bemidji
Dec. 6, 2-4 pm, in Red Lake at St. Mary's Mission

Memorial Book Entry

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Ethel Lysdal, a memorial gift was presented by a friend, in May of 1991.

Baptism

There will be an opportunity for baptism at our December 7th 9:30 am Combined Worship Service. If you are interested in being baptized or you would like to learn more about it, please join us today, Sunday, November 16th at 9:45 am for a Baptism Class. Children interested in baptism should have a parent join them for the class. For more info, contact Pastor Eric.

Women's Overflow

LADIES! The November Overflow will be meeting tomorrow Monday, November 17th from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Connection Cafe and will focus on the persecuted church. We'll hear from a speaker and create/write some notes of encouragement to send to our global partners. Stop by the women's ministry table in the Connection Cafe and let us know you're coming!

Somebody Testify!

Luke 8:26-39 on November 16th, 2025

Pastor Eric Nygren

Your story _____ God's glory.

Your story _____ your discipleship narrative.

_____ on your our story can _____ your hope,
_____ your joy, and _____ your peace.

Your story _____ the gospel story.

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.



Life Group Questions for the week of November 16th

1. Are you a fan of scary movies? If so, do you have a favorite? If not, what don't you like about them? Why do people enjoy these films?
2. Read Luke 8:26-33. When you come across passages like this that speak about the demonic realm, what is your impression? Do these accounts seem real to you, or do they feel more like ghost stories?
3. Are you surprised by the demons' posture in the presence of Jesus? (see vv. 28, 31, 32). What might be the danger in ascribing too much power to the demonic realm? What might be the danger in not taking supernatural evil seriously?
4. Read Luke 8:34-37. How might you have responded if you had been there to witness these events? Do you think you would lean more toward fear or faith?
5. Read Luke 8:38-39. Which of the four takeaways at the end of the message (see the sermon notes) was most helpful in thinking through how this passage might apply to your own salvation story?
6. Have you ever written out your salvation story (your testimony)? Who is one person you would like to share your story with someday?

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



Support the Bemidji Community Food Shelf

The Bemidji Community Food Shelf (BCFS) is a faith based, caring place that listens to those who are experiencing food insecurity.

Beginning November 1, 2025, as many as 440,000 Minnesotans experienced disruptions to their SNAP benefits as a result of the government shutdown.

On November 3, 2025, a new one-day record of 123 households were served in just 5 hours. 22% of those households visted for the first time this year or ever, and **48% of those were individuals under the age 17 or over the age of 64.**

BCFS saw a **41% increase** in the amount of emergency visits used in October of 2025, compared to September of 2025.

As the need for food grows, so does our need for volunteer support. It takes over 110 volunteers each week for BCFS to operate. **We ask for you to prayerfully consider becoming a part of our volunteer team.**

Please reach out to Linda Shutter, our Church Representative at **(218) 766-7171** or Serena Hall, the BCFS Volunteer Coordinator, at **(218) 441-7391**.

Check out our website at bcfsmn.org to see a current list of high need donation items.

ADVENT

CELEBRATING THE SEASON AT E-FREE BEMIDJI

THANKSGIVING WEEK

SUN | Nov 23

8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service, Children will sing finishing song
9:45 am - Adult Bible Study: Gospel of John and Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service, Children are leading worship
2:00 pm - Grief Share

TUES | Nov 25

10:00 am - Women's Bible Study

WED | Nov 26

No Wednesday Kids Club, Youth Group, or on-site Life Groups

THU | Nov 27

Church Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
No Women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) or on-site Life Groups

FRI | Nov 28

Church Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
No Friday AM Men's Discipleship

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

SUN | Nov 30 - First Sunday of Advent

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service - No Kids Church - Nursery is available for 0-3yrs
11:00 am - Christmas Carol Singing in the Sanctuary
11:00 am - Treats in the Gym - No Sunday School
2:00 pm - GriefShare

Tue | Dec 2

10:00 am - Women's Bible Study

WED | Dec 3

5:00 pm - Wednesday Night Family Meal - MN Hotdish
6:00 pm - Kids Club, Youth Group, & on-site Life Groups

Thurs | Dec 4

6:30 pm - Women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)

Fri | Dec 5

6:30 pm - Heart of a Man: Men's Discipleship

Sat | Dec 6

8:30 am - Men's Breakfast

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

SUN | Dec 7 - Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service
11:00 am - Adult Bible Study: Gospel of John and Sunday School for all ages



Mon | Dec 8

6:30 pm - Women's Overflow

Tues | Dec 9

10:00 am - Women's Bible Study

WED | Dec 10

5:00 pm - Wednesday Night Family Meal - Tacos

6:00 pm - Kids Club, Youth Group, & on-site Life Groups

FRI | Dec 12

11:30 am - Senior Connection Christmas Potluck

7:00 pm - Grace Marriage

Sat | Dec 13

2:00 pm - GriefShare: Surviving The Holidays

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

SUN | Dec 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service / Choir Christmas Cantata / Communion

11:00 am - Adult Bible Study: Gospel of John

Kids & Youth Sunday School

Second Sunday Prayer

2:00 pm - GriefShare

WED | Dec 17

5:15 pm - Wednesday Night Family Meal - Chili

6:00 pm - Kids Club, Youth Group, & on-site Life Groups

Fri | Dec 19

7:00 am - Heart of a Man: Men's Discipleship

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

SUN | Dec 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service / Handbells

11:00 am - No Sunday School

11:00 am - All-Church Christmas Movie in the Gym - "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

Wed | Dec 24

5:30 pm Christmas Eve - Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Service

THUR - Fri | Dec 25 & 26

Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

No Women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF), Heart of a Man: Men's

Discipleship, or on-site Life Groups

WEEK OF DECEMBER 29TH

SUN | Dec 28

9:30 am - Combined Worship Service - NO Kids Church

11:00 am - Treats in the Gym - NO Sunday School

WED & Thurs | Dec 31 & Jan 1

Church Office Closed for New Year Holiday

*Have a Very
Merry
Christmas and
a Happy New
Year!!!*

