

Welcome to E-Free Bemidji

Sunday, September 10, 2023

Message: Whoever Wants to Follow Jesus (Luke 9:18-26)

Pastor Jerry Johnson

Traditional Worship Service - 8:30 AM

Prelude: Kay Sue Eriksson & Mary Severseike; Piano/Organ Duet

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

My Hope Is In The Lord (Hymn #482)

O How He Loves You and Me! (Hymn #479)

Choir Anthem "Come To Jesus"

Offering

Prayer for Start of School

I'd Rather Have Jesus

Scripture Reading (Luke 9:18-26): Paul Thomas

Message

I Have Decided To Follow Jesus (Hymn #576)

Benediction

Nursery - 8:30, 9:45, & 10:45 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 - 9:45 AM

Join us in the Connection Café for refreshments and a time to connect with others. Sunday School classes are available for all ages. See the upcoming events inserts for the current schedule.

wi-fi: EFCB_Public | password: efreebemidji

Contemporary Worship Service - 10:45 AM

Prelude: You Get The Glory

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Set Free

Battle Belongs

I Will Follow

Ministry Moment: Kids, Youth and Adult Ministries

Dismiss For Beginners/Kids Church

Offering & Prayer

Scripture Reading (Luke 9:18-26): Jennifer Berg

Message: Whoever Wants To Follow Jesus

Build My Life

Benediction

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

Before the sermon at the 10:45 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 classrooms on the lower level.



Secure Child Check-in

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

Next Sunday, September 17, 2023

Message: Why Did God Choose a Particular People? (Romans 9:1-5)

Pastor Jerry Johnson

E-Free Kids

Kids Club

E-Free Kids Club welcomes all children age 3 through 5th grade! 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 teaching, worship, snacks & games. Contact Amy with questions: agraf@efcbemidji.org

Sunday School and Kids Church

9:45 am - K - 5th grade in the Kids Assembly Room (lower level) Starting Sept. 17th.

10:45 am - Beginner's Church Age 3 - Kindergarten (lower level)

10:45 am - Kids Church 1st - 5th grade (lower level) Please use our Secure Child Check In.

Kickoff

Kids Club begins this Wednesday, Sept. 13th with a meal at 5:15 pm and Kids Club from 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm. It is a Family Worship Night where we start in the Sanctuary & will transition to classes. It's going to be a great year of learning to follow Jesus!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10

10:45 am - Kids/Beginners Church (lower level)

Monday, September 11

6:30 pm - Foster Care/Adopt Support Group (Connection Café)

Wednesday, September 13

5:15 pm - Meal (Gym)
6:00 pm - Family Worship
Night Kids Club | PreK - 5th (sanctuary)

Saturday, September 16

All Day - Trail Life Hike/Cookout Bemidji State Park

Sunday, September 17

9:45 am - Kids Sunday School (lower level)
10:45 am - Kids/Beginners Church (lower level)

*children age 0-5 may be in the Nursery during the Sunday School hour.

**children must be toilet trained or parents need to remain in the building if child needs to be changed.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group

E-Free Bemidji Student Ministry welcomes all 6th - 12th grade students! Each Wednesday throughout the school year we meet for Youth Group for time with Jesus, fellowship, worship, and fun. Each Sunday morning we have Student Life Group during the Sunday School hour to connect and pray about our week. See Pastor Douglas with questions. pastordouglas@efcbemidji.org

Youth Group Kickoff

Youth Group is starting this upcoming Wednesday, September 13th. It is for all students 6th - 12th grade. Dinner starts at 5:15 pm with Youth Group from 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm. Please check in when you arrive using our check in system.

Fall Fling

Fall Fling at Camp Shamineau is near! We will be going Sept. 29th - Oct. 1st. Fall Fling is a time when Middle & High School students can get away, have fun in the woods, learn more about Jesus, & connect with their peers. More info can be found at the parents' table by the gym entrance.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10

12:00 pm - Youth Band Practice (Youth Room)

Wednesday, September 13

5:15 pm - Meal
6:00 pm - Middle School & High School Youth Group (CLC)

Saturday, September 16

All Day - Trail Life Hike/Cookout Bemidji State Park

Sunday, September 17

9:45 am - Middle School & High School Sunday School (CLC)

Tuesday, September 19

6:30 pm - Trail Life (Gym)

Wednesday, September 20

5:15 pm - Meal
6:00 pm - Middle School & High School Youth Group (CLC)

Fri. Sept. 29 - Sun. Oct. 1

4pm depart - Youth Fall Fling Camp Shamineau

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

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

Young Adults

Anchor

The Young Adult Life Group, Anchor, meets on Tuesday nights from 6:00pm-9:00pm. We start with food and fellowship. We start into the Bible Study portion at 7:00pm. Anyone who considers themselves a young adult is welcome to come. See Lydia Johnson or Pastor Douglas for more information and location. pastordouglas@efcbemidji.org

Cru

Cru is a college ministry that is open to all college students at BSU, OHCC, NTC, and LLTC. We have Bible Studies on campus at BSU and meet each Thursday night from 7:00pm - 9:00pm in the Crying Wolf Room on BSU's campus. See Pastor Douglas for more information. pastordouglas@efcbemidji.org

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 12

6:00 pm - Anchor

Thursday, September 14

7:00 pm - Cru at BSU

October 6-8

Cru Fall Retreat

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Trail Life

Christ-Centered. Boy-Focused. Trail Life USA is a Church-Based, Christ-Centered, Boy-Focused mentoring and discipleship journey that speaks to the heart of a boy. Established on timeless values derived from the Bible and set in the context of outdoor adventure, boys from Kindergarten through 12th grade are engaged in a Troop setting by male mentors where they are challenged to grow in character, understand their purpose, serve their community, and develop practical leadership skills to carry out the mission for which they were created.

Trail Life meets at E-Free twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Contact Allen Caster with questions allen.caster@yahoo.com

Handbell Practice

The E-Free Handbell group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 5:45 pm beginning September 19th. If interested please contact Laura Engelstad: sengel@paulbunyan.net Training opportunities are provided.

Adult Sunday School

We've got two great options for Adult Sunday School starting up next Sunday, September 17th. The Adult Bible Study resumes at 9:45 am on the Book of Ruth in Room 10. Join us for prayer, fellowship, and discussion as we explore together what it means to live a life worthy of the Lord. We will also be starting a three-week class at 9:45 am in the East Chapel on the topic of Worship. We'll be exploring why we worship, who we worship, and how we worship. Our Nursery will be open and we'll have Sunday School for kids and youth as well. Make 9:45 am a part of your Sunday Morning routine!

Choir Practice

The E-Free Choir meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:15 pm. All singers are welcome! The choir sings twice a month typically at the 8:30 am Worship service. Please plan to join us and celebrate our Lord in music. Contact Ken Wold with questions: knnthwold@gmail.com

Looking for a way to use your gifts to serve others? Visit www.efcbemidji.org/serve to discover opportunities for you to serve.

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Men's Breakfast

Guys! Join us on Saturday, September 16th from 8:30-10:00am for stuffed French Toast, lots of bacon, fresh coffee, and a great morning of fellowship and spiritual encouragement. If you would like to help with serving in the kitchen that morning (6 volunteers needed), please contact Pastor Eric at 218-751-8834 or pastor.nygren@gmail.com

Foster The Family Support Group

Interested in or already involved in foster care or adoption? E-Free has a support group that meets monthly in the Connection Cafe. Please join us tomorrow, Sept. 11th at 6:00 pm. Please contact Mandi Buchan 218-766-9106

Bemidji Food Shelf

The food shelf is in need of some items: Canned tuna, canned fruit, shampoo, toothpaste, & containers for leftover food. These items can be dropped off in the baskets located outside the church office.

Womens Overflow

The women of E-Free are invited to our first Overflow women's event on **Monday**, September 25th from 6:30-8:00pm. Join us as we kickoff the new year with s'mores, worship, and a God story. Bring a camp chair and roasting sticks if you have them!

Dates to mark in your calendar for the Womens Overflow events:

September 25th

October 23rd

November 27th

January 22nd

February 26th

March 25th

April 22nd

Contact Debbie Johnson with questions at 218-760-4072 or bemidjidebbie@msn.com

Moms in Prayer

Do you have a child in high school or college? We have a group that meets to pray over these students each Friday at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Maria Raukar with questions 218-210-3980

What's Happening at E-Free Bemidji

Scramble for Missions Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 17th
3:00pm Shotgun Start
Greenwood Golf Course

- Cost-\$45/person includes green fees and a donation to the short-term Global Partner fund
- 18 hole Golf Tournament
- No previous golf experience necessary
- 3-4 person teams
- Format is Texas Scramble - everyone on a given team hits their ball from the location of the best previous shot
- Food - BBQ sandwiches provided - please bring a side dish to share. Bring your own beverage.
- Sign up in the Connection Café or call or text Terry Hewitt at 218-760-9164
- Deadline to sign up is September 13th

Volunteer Needs

There are a few remaining needs:
Wed. Night Nursery Worker
Check-In/Welcome Table
Sunday School Teacher/Helpers
Beginner's Church Leaders
Kids Church Leaders
Wed. Night Substitute Helpers
Please contact Amy if you can help: agraf@efcbemidji.org

Fraud Alert

Please be careful NOT to respond to any email supposedly coming from one of the church staff that asks you to purchase gift cards or give personal information. This is a scam. Please contact the church office with any questions or concerns.

Grief Share Support

A GriefShare Support Group will meet on Sundays at E-Free beginning Sept 17th. If you or someone you know is grieving the loss of a loved one, you are not alone. Join a safe community that understands what you're going through. Call Jenny Hodgson with questions about the GriefShare Support Group at 218-556-4250.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10

7:45 am - Prayer (Fireside Room)
8:30 am - Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am - Kick Off Ministry Fair (Gym)
10:45 am - Contemporary Worship Service
12:00 pm - Tailgate Lunch (Gym & Outside)
6:30 pm - Second Sunday Prayer (Fireside Room)

Tuesday, September 12

10:30 am Bone Builders (Gym)
6:30 pm - Global Connections Team Meeting (Fireside Room)
7:15 pm - Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, September 13

7:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)
9:00 am - Women's Bible Study (Fireside Room)

Thursday, September 14

10:30 am - Bone Builders (Gym)
6:30 pm - Womens Bible Study Fellowship (Chapel)
6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice (Sanctuary)

Friday, September 15

7:00-7:50 am - Friday AM Men's Discipleship
2:00 pm - Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)

Saturday, September 16

8:30 am - Men's Breakfast (Gym)

Sunday, September 17

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages begins

There are many ways to connect and grow at E-Free Bemidji. Visit 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 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 - 12:00 pm

Ministry Staff

Jerry Johnson, Lead Pastor pastorjerry@efcbemidji.org

Eric Nygren, Associate Pastor pastoreric@efcbemidji.org

Douglas Daube, Youth & Young Adults Pastor ... pastordouglas@efcbemidji.org

Amy Graf, Kids Ministry Director agraf@efcbemidji.org

Support Staff

Corbin McCray, Facility Supervisor

Dan Evans, A/V Supervisor

Jan Hendrickson, Visitation Caregiver

Jason Robeck, 10:45 Music Director

Jessica Westlund, Office Manager officemanager@efcbemidji.org

Giving for September 3, 2023

Weekly Giving: \$12,060

Weekly Need: \$15,195

Giving YTD: \$496,802

Needed YTD: \$547,020



Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, September 3, 2023

313 onsite | 26 screens / 5 states

SS: - kids | - youth | - adults

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

40 adults, 5 children, 0 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 **efcbasm** to **94000**

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

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

Becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together.



@efcbemidji

BECOMING DEEPLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS TOGETHER E-FREE BEMIDJI

September 10, 2023

Contact Information Update FALL 2023

It's time again to make sure that we've got your latest contact information on file. Please fill out the form below, or complete the form online at www.efcbemidji.org/churchdirectory. Scan the QR code to access the form on your smartphone.



Name: _____
(Last, First) (cell phone number)

email: _____

Spouse: _____
(Last, First) (cell phone number)

email: _____

Address: _____

(city) (zip)

Landline phone: _____

Childrens Names (kids at home)	Grade	birthday mm/dd/yy	allergies, health concerns, special needs

I am presently a college student enrolled at: _____

Please circle which service you typically attend:
8:30am 10:45am in person Livestream

Would you like:

- to receive occasional **text notifications**: weather-related & event reminders? Yes No
- to receive the **weekly bulletin** by email? Yes No
- your information to be listed in the **printed directory**? Yes No

FIND YOUR FIT

Sunday Mornings

Usher ● 8:30 (9 vols. needed) ● 10:45 (12 vols. needed)

- Help worshipers find seating before and after the service has started.
- Direct people to find bulletins, giving options, and other resources.
- Coordinate with the Awareness Team as needs arise.

Greeter ● 8:30 (3-4 vols. needed) ● 10:45 (4 vols. needed)

- Greet guests and church family as they arrive at the main entrance.
- Assist with doors at the main entrance or the drive-up entrance.
- Direct first-time guests to our Welcome Center.

Welcome Center ● 8:30 (2 vols. needed) ● 10:45

- Welcome guests and help them to find their way around. (2 vols. needed)
- Help answer questions about our facility and ministries.
- Invite guests to fill out a Welcome Card.

Child Check-in ● 8:30 (2-4 vols. needed) ● 10:45

- Assist with registering first-time users of our check-in system. (2-4 vols. needed)
- Demonstrate the check-in process for new users.
- Start up and monitor check-in stations during the morning.

Beginners Church Teachers & Helpers ● 10:45

- Lead/help with Beginners Church (Pre-K & K) during 10:45 Service. (4+ vols. needed)

Kids Church Helpers ● 10:45 (4+ vols. needed)

- Assist at Kids Church (1st - 5th Grade) during 10:45 Service.

Kids Sunday School Teachers & Helpers ● 9:45

- Assist with Kids Sunday School during 9:45 SS hour

Wednesday Nights

● **Nursery Helper** (2+ vols. needed)

● **Wed Meal clean up / tear down** (4+ vols. needed)

Name: _____

Please return this form to the church office or place in one of the giving boxes.
Training will be provided for all positions.

LIFEGROUPS

learning together • loving one another

What is a Life Group?

A Life Group is a small group of 8 to 12 adults who are committed to meeting regularly for the purpose of becoming deeply devoted followers of Jesus together. Life Groups are designed to be a place where people can learn together and can love one another.

Where and when do Life Groups meet?

Most groups will meet in someone's home thanks to the hospitality of our Life Group Hosts. Life Groups often gather around a kitchen table or in a living room setting that provides a good space for fellowship, discussion, and prayer. Groups are encouraged to try and meet weekly if possible. Life Groups will meet from September through May, with breaks for holidays and other special occasions.

What does a typical Life Group gathering look like?

Life Groups meet for around 90 minutes. This allows enough time for gathering and visiting as a group, spending a good amount of time in the Scriptures, and having sufficient time for sharing life and a time of prayer. Groups will often enjoy treats or a meal together.

Is childcare available?

We offer two Wednesday night groups that meet at the church during Kids Club/Youth Group. We provide groups with a list of teens and background-checked adults who are available to help with childcare. Groups will need to make their own arrangements.

How do I sign up for a Life Group?

Sign up in the Connection Café, register online at efcbemidji.org/lifegroups, or by scanning the QR code with your smart phone.

Questions?

Contact Pastor Eric at (218) 751-8834 or pastoreric@efcbemidji.org



LIFEGROUPS

learning together • loving one another

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
4:00 PM Hosted by Matt & Amy Graf (start 9/17)			5:30 PM Hosted by Karl & Dorothy Salscheider (start 9/20)	11:00 AM Hosted at Church by Jerry Drebelbis (start 9/14)
	6:30 PM Hosted by Randy & Mishele McKain (start 9/11)	6:00 PM Anchor / Young Adults Hosted by Lydia Johnson (start 9/12)	6:15 PM Hosted at Church by Dan Evans (start 9/13)	
	7:00 PM Hosted by Tayler & Rissa Borders (start 9/18)	6:30 PM Hosted by Mark & Mishel Carlson (start 9/12)	6:15 PM Hosted at Church by Pastor Eric (start 9/13)	7:00 PM Men's Life Group at Church by John Shindelar (start 9/14)

Sign up in the Connection Café, register online at efcbemidji.org/lifegroups, or by scanning the QR code with your smart phone.





**Monday,
September 25th
6:30pm-8:00pm**

Campfire and Worship

**Join us as we kickoff the new year
with s'mores, worship, and a
God Story.**

**Bring a camp chair and roasting
sticks if you have them!**

*Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to
share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives
as well. 1 Thessalonians 2:8*