



The eFree Press

Sheboygan Evangelical Free Church

April 2018

Volume 25, Issue 4

Missionaries Serving Around the World

Avant

Awana
Tim & Sherry Thomas

The Evangelical Alliance Mission

Fellowship International Mission

Global Serve International

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
Bob and Deb Wolniak

Literacy and Evangelism Int'l
Bob and Mary Emily Mulloy

Ethnos360
Rich and Karen Brown
Derrick and LaShawn Dobbs
Lloyd and Mary Wapp

Pioneers International

ReachGlobal

Ed and Janet Pollasch
Nubako and Claudine Selenga
Lonnie and Debbie Smith

Wycliffe Bible Translators
Jon and Stephanie Weiss

Partner Missionary Organizations

Anchor of Hope Medical Center
Campus Life

Evangelical Child & Family Agency
Good News Jail & Prison Ministry
The Family Radio

***Check the church directory for
contact info on all missionaries
and their sending agencies.***



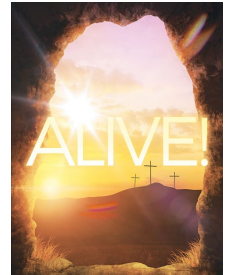
Celebrate our Risen Savior!

Easter is the most important Sunday on the Christian calendar, but sometimes we forget some of the reasons why we should celebrate. The fact of the empty tomb can get pushed aside as other traditions crowd in. On Sunday, April 1, we encourage you to invite a friend or neighbor and join us as we remind one another what Easter is really all about. Why did Jesus have to die? How do we know that Jesus really rose from the dead? And why do we place such importance on Easter Sunday? We will answer these questions and more, giving all of us reasons to celebrate our faithful God.

We have excellent preschool childcare for all three services, and special Easter programming for grades 1-6 during the 9:30 & 11am services. Between services, there will be opportunities to connect with old and new friends over coffee and light refreshments in the Welcome Center. Some people like to come early (or stay late) to enjoy the extended fellowship time. It's going to be sweet!

Whichever service you attend, please invite a friend to join you (8am Traditional, 9:30 & 11am Contemporary). If you have a friend you might like to invite, we have produced several different invitations, including written invitations (available in the church office) and digital invitations (that are easy to download from our Facebook page). Once you download the appropriate digital invitation, you can text it to a friend or "share" it.

Join us as we truly celebrate God's faithfulness to raise Jesus from the dead on the first day of the week!



Empowered to Connect



EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE

Our church will host a live simulcast of the 2018 Empowered to Connect Conference on April 13 and 14 from 9am to 5pm. The cost is \$20/person; registration can be completed via the church office.

Featuring Trust-Based Relational Intervention® methods developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. David Cross from the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development, this conference helps bring attachment and connection in families. This year's topics include:

- A Paradigm Shift
- Connecting: Attachment is Developmental
- Connecting: Healing Through Relationships
- What About You?
- Empowering: Preparing the Body & Environment
- Empowering: Meeting Sensory Needs
- Correcting: Recognizing the Need Behind Behavior
- Advocating for Children

***This conference is designed to help you better understand
how to connect with children from hard places in order to help
them heal and become all that God desires for them to be.***

Awana Grand Prix

Get ready for the annual Awana Grand Prix, where clubbers race their uniquely-designed cars along the track. There will be supper-like concessions and snacks for sale. Bring the whole family on Friday, April 20 for an evening of fun competition and fellowship! Registration and weigh-in is from 5-6pm. The races will begin at 6:30pm.

Car kits (\$6-\$7) will be available for sale in the Welcome Center on Wednesday evenings through April 18.



And the Demo Continues. . .



Continuing on with our vision for facility expansion to better "multiply committed followers of Jesus Christ".

Happy Birthday/Anniversary in April

Names omitted.

This and That

On Easter **Monday, April 2**, the church office will open at 11am.

Mark your calendar for Sunday evening, May 20 as we gather for the **Spring Body Life Update**. Watch the May eFree Press and upcoming bulletins for details!

The next **Parent/Child Dedication service** is scheduled for May 13. If you would like your child(ren) dedicated to the Lord on that day, please contact the church office.

Remember to vote in the **Spring Election on April 3**. As previously decided, Sheboygan's Common Council will decrease from 16 members to 10.



April 4

Appreciate Your Leader Night

April 11

Nerd for God's Word Night

April 18

Twin Night

April 25

Chocolate Lovers Night

Last night of Cubbies

Equip classes are Sunday morning electives designed to build up the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-16). Our next Preview Session will be April 8 at 9:30am and 11am. Classes will begin on April 15. Topics to consider include:

- *Commanded To Go (Men Only)*
- *Broken & Redeemed (Women Only)*
- *Bring It To Life*
- *Armor Of God*
- *Crazy Busy*



Ladies—This One's for You

Ladies — the eFree Women's Ministries team invites you and your friends to a special event for women on Friday, April 6 at 6:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Our theme is *The Risky Place of Faith*, and together, we will worship, pray, and listen to a prerecorded message from Priscilla Shirer.

We desire to be intentional in growing intergenerational community, and this is a fantastic opportunity to connect with women of all ages. Invite your Bible study, your LifeGroup, your daughters, your sisters, and your friends. It's going to be a sweet night!



Men—This One's for You

We are inviting all of the men and young men (ages 10 & up) of the church together for an evening of fellowship and connecting with other guys, and for an opportunity to invite our hunting and fishing friends to our church friends, and, most importantly, to Jesus Christ.

Who? All men and young men. Whether you hunt or not, you are invited.

What? A shared meal. Whatever you have taken out of the woods this year, make a great dish to pass and bring it along. Many of us don't hunt at all, but we would love to try venison or bear or walleye. If you do not hunt, you can bring a salad or a dessert. Oh, and keep this in mind, we will have a presentation from Tom DuBois of Rugged Cross Outdoors. RCO exists to inspire us to "go out into the outdoor world and share the good news of Jesus Christ." So everyone will hear a great message from Tom that night. In fact, we really encourage you to bring your kids' friends along with you, too!



When? Friday, April 27 at 6:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room

How much? While there is no cost to attend this banquet, we ask everyone to bring a dish to pass and to come prepared to give a small gift to RCO. A suggested donation would be \$5 per person.

We plan for this event to be an outreach. Most of us have friends who are not aware of what it means to truly follow Jesus. This event aims at proclaiming the hope of Jesus Christ to our friends, using God's great outdoors as the starting point of our conversation.

Please contact Denny R. or Jeremy S. for more information.

Recent Giving Reflects Generosity

Praise God – our actual year-to-date giving increased by 5% over the same period last year! Although our giving (\$717,884) from July 2017 through February 2018 was less than budget (\$722,000), year-to-date expenses were also less than expected (\$698,600 compared to \$734,600). Our giving pattern has allowed us to develop a surplus of \$32,000, which will greatly assist with some capital purchases.

We are thankful to so many who have grown in generosity as they have sought discipleship at a higher level. And while our budget certainly reflects this, we all need to continually challenge ourselves whether our giving represents a proper response of gratitude to God for the grace He has given us.

With the vision for growth with which God has entrusted us, we are being called to an even higher level. Our giving is truly an investment in "treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:20), and results in an outpouring of blessing from God (Malachi 3:10).



Staff Celebrate Anniversaries

Several staff celebrated notable hiring anniversaries within the past few months.

Both Mary Dulmes, Worship Coordinator, and Heather Tempas, Church Administrator, were brought on board 15 years ago, in January and February respectively. Both positions started out as a few hours per week, and grew in scope and responsibility. Mary oversees the traditional worship service; trains and schedules tech staff for all three Sunday services and special services; schedules use of the church facility by ministries, individuals, staff, and outside groups; assists the pastors with funeral service coordination; and much more. Heather oversees the office and custodial support staff; serves as board secretary for elders and deacons; manages all HR functions; and serves on both the Finance Committee and Master Plan Team.

Five years ago this month, Briana Ringel was hired for the part-time position of Ministry Assistant, assisting both the Church Administrator and the Family Life Pastor, while also backing up the secretaries. While still handling those functions, Briana is now full-time, and has added several responsibilities – working with the Welcome Ministry, assisting the Worship Coordinator with uploading info for Sunday mornings, participating on the web design team, overseeing the updating of the Administration Manual, and much more.



Mary Dulmes



Heather Tempas



Briana Ringel



Kim Buhr

Kim Buhr joined the office team one year ago the end of January as the Assistant Secretary-Receptionist. Although Kim generally works quarter-time answering the phone, assisting walk-in guests, and tracking various ministry statistics, there were several months this past summer when she was intensely involved in office inventory, including researching/recording Pastor Gary's library. Kim has been a very welcome addition to the staff.

The eFree Press is the monthly newsletter of the eFree Church.

- To submit articles for future issues, contact Kayla Kautzer, Editor (kayla.k@e-free-family.com) or Briana Ringel, (briana.r@e-free-family.com). We reserve the right to edit for space and clarification purposes.
- The eFree Press is primarily distributed via email. If you'd like to join the email list, please contact Briana Ringel (briana.r@e-free-family.com).

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