



The eFree Press

Sheboygan Evangelical Free Church

December 2019

Volume 26, Issue 12

Missionaries Serving Around the World

Avant

Awana

Tim & Sherry Thomas

The Evangelical Alliance Mission

Fellowship International Mission

Global Serve International

Literacy and Evangelism Int'l

Bob & Mary Emily Mulloy

Ethnos360

Rich & Karen Brown

Derrick & LaShawn Dobbs

Lloyd & Mary Wapp

Pioneers International

ReachGlobal

Abraham & Maria Mudidi

Howard & Marilyn Plucar

Nubako & Claudine Selenga

Lonnie & Debbie Smith

Teachbeyond

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Jon & 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.



Cocoa & Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 6PM

This family favorite is sure to warm you from heart to toes! It's an evening of singing favorite Christmas carols and listening to special music, all while sipping hot cocoa and enjoying Christmas cookies.

Christmas Concert

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 6PM

A Thrill of Hope, presented by the Concert Choir, retells God's plan for our redemption through a mix of contemporary and traditional Christmas music along with Scripture. From the loss of hope in the Garden of Eden, trace God's promise of new hope from Abraham through the royal line of David to an ordinary girl named Mary. Hear of hope restored by the birth of a Baby . . . And share in the thrill of hope that is ours through Christ!

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and family to hear the gospel. Refreshments to follow.

Christmas Eve Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 6PM

This service will set the tone for your Christmas celebration as we ponder together the hope given to us by God in His Son, Jesus. Enjoy special music, a children's story time, and a devotional message. The service will conclude with our traditional candle-lighting finale accompanied by the singing of *Silent Night*.



Equip in December

Combined Equip Special Feature Missionary Update

December 1 at 9:30am, Sanctuary

Join us as we enjoy a time of fellowship and hear an update and testimony from some of our missionaries. Come hear how God is moving in these parts of the world!

December Combined Equip Series The Carols of Christmas

December 8, 15, & 22 at 9:30am, Sanctuary

Everyone loves a Christmas Carol. These songs are played year after year and yet have a timelessness that others do not. They evoke warm memories and remind us of the importance of friends, family and the birth of our Savior. Join us as we come together to celebrate the surprising stories behind some of our cherished holiday songs and to hear personal testimonies from our elders.



December in Student Ministries

December 1, 8 and 22 — Teen Bible Fellowship (TBF) will be revisiting the scenes of Bethlehem through the eyes of Mary and Joseph, Herod and the Magi, the shepherds, and the people of the city itself. Join us for a series that will refocus our minds and hearts by discussing the familiar story from different perspectives.



December 15 — We'll have the opportunity to hear from our Student Ministries Pastor candidate, Robert Lee, during TBF! Students (and their parents) are invited to join us at 9:30am.

December 18 — This year's seniors will be hosting our annual Student Ministries Christmas Party from 6:30-8pm. All 7th-12th grade students are invited.



Happy Birthday/Anniversary in December

Names omitted.

This and That

Awana, Youth Group, and Bible studies will not meet on Wednesdays, December 25 and January 1.

As we celebrate Christmas and the New Year, the **church office will be closed** on December 25, 26, and January 1. The office will be open until 12pm on December 31.

Join us as we **commemorate the Lord's Supper** in all three of the morning services on December 29.



December 4
Layer Night

December 11
Christmas Mitten Tree Night

December 18
Reason for the Season Night

December 25
NO CLUB
Merry Christmas!

If weather would cause an event delay, downsizing or cancellation, announcements will be posted on our church website homepage, as well as at the following:

- WHBL 1330AM radio/website
- WTMJ Channel 4
- 620TMJ radio/website
- WITI Channel 6 (Fox 6)

Decisions on Sunday events will be made at 6am with announcements to the media shortly thereafter. Ministry leaders will be called by their overseeing program staff. Decisions on weekday evening events will be made by 3pm with calls to media and ministries thereafter.

Pastoral Candidate Weekend Scheduled

Mark your calendar for December 13-15, the weekend when Robert & Tiffany Lee will candidate with us as the potential new Pastor of Student Ministries.

During the weekend, the Lees will meet with the leadership boards and their wives, participate in Saturday activities with students and student ministry leaders, teach TBF on Sunday, and be introduced to the congregation. The weekend will conclude with a Sunday potluck lunch with 7th—12th grade students and their families.

The search committee will use this time as an extended interview, after which a recommendation will be made to our senior pastor.

Your Year-end Gifts Are Vital to Ministry

As we come to the end of 2019, we want to **thank you for your generous gifts throughout the year to support the ministries of Sheboygan eFree**. This was a breakthrough year for our church. We have seen great growth in several ministries. We have taken the bold step toward an even greater growth in outreach as we stepped into the Master Plan Reach capital campaign.

Our church body has a strong history of special year-end giving that empowers us to step into new areas of ministry as well as meet current needs. December is a wonderful time to pray and stretch, sowing seeds that will empower current ministries through Regular Offering.



Sowing a year-end Master Plan gift will help us begin Phase I, which will also empower future ministries. Our vision is to build space specifically designed for worship, provide a large gathering area for welcome/hospitality, offer a secure children's area and provide flexible meeting/teaching rooms.



Just like what happened after the 1989 addition, this will create new opportunities for ministry and outreach. Your gifts can help make this vision a reality, and make the difference in so many lives!

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can make a huge difference with a special year-end gift. Gifts can be made by cash, check or online. To take a deduction

for the gift on your 2019 tax return, your gift must be postmarked or received by the church on or before December 31, 2019. You can also donate online until 11:59 pm on December 31, 2019.

Thank you again for being a part of what God is doing through our church family.



Uniting Ministry and Facility . . . All for God's Glory

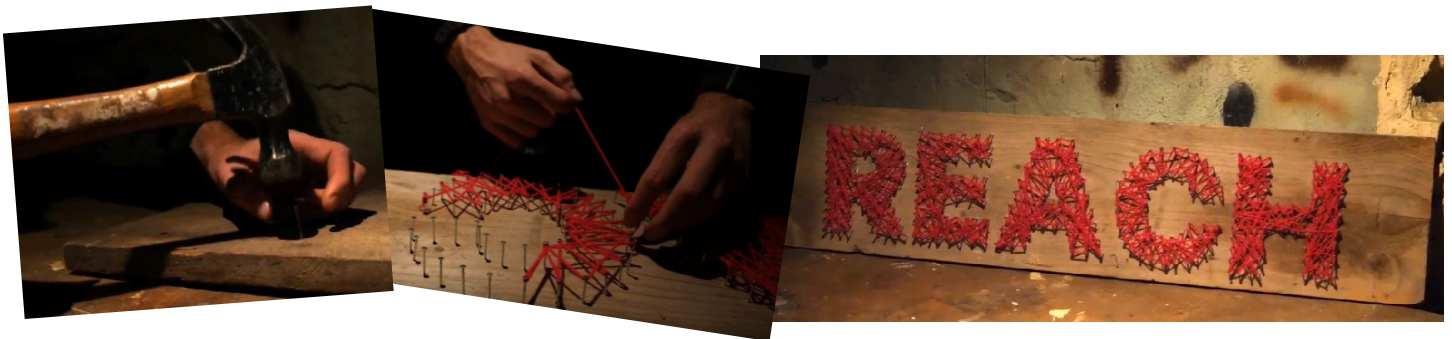
At the Body Life Update on November 17th, Pastor Gary again shared the vision of Full-Spectrum Discipleship for our church and how each action we are taking, from ministry work to the REACH campaign, is helping to facilitate this ministry. Enjoy this reminder and encouragement!



In 2015, we provided an expository series on Sunday mornings entitled Full-Spectrum Discipleship. With Matthew 28:16-20 serving as our starting point, we explored the nature of the Great Commission, recognizing that God has called us to lead people to Christ who will in turn lead people to Christ. This is a philosophy of multiplication, not simply addition. This would include inviting people you are investing your time and energies to our worship services and additional educational ministries, so that they would come to know God, grow in their knowledge of God, and then in turn lead others through the same process of growth in Christ.

This philosophy of ministry, Full-Spectrum Discipleship, needed to be united with a philosophy of facility that would be consistent with our vision. Thus, the Master Planning Committee was formed, to help guide us in facility expansion and renovation. Over these years, properties have been purchased to assist us in maintaining a consistent vision strategy. As we project into the future, we trust in God, who is the owner of all resources, to equip us, who are called to be managers of God's resources, to fulfill this vision of multiplying disciples throughout this region for God's glory. Thank you for being part of this vision strategy. As we unite the philosophies of ministry and facility, we seek to expand God's Kingdom in this region and beyond for God's glory.

*Yours In Christ,
Dr. Gary Hylander*



West Parking Lot Complete

The final step has been taken in finishing the west parking lot—the light poles have been activated! Light sensors will turn the lights on automatically from dusk to dawn, according to the season. Feel free to enter via Entrance D whenever you use the west lot. Greeters will be stationed there on Sunday mornings, and that entrance will always be opened whenever all-church events are planned. In the Master Plan, Entrance D will be expanded and get a new welcoming look.

In Search Of: Adult Wheelchairs

FCN welcomes the donation of 1-2 adult-sized wheelchairs, with foot pedals, in very good condition to include in the Medical Equipment Closet inventory. We have many requests for the loan of such equipment. If you can help, or have questions, please contact Kristie Ahlberg, FCN Coordinator, at kristie.a@e-free-family.com.

Missions Conference 2020 Preview

Our annual Missions Conference, set for February 28-March 1, 2020, will center around the theme *No Fear* based on 1 Timothy 1:7. Our focus will be on reaching out to the Muslim world, overseas, here in the USA, and in Sheboygan County. Roy Oksnevad has been confirmed as our Sunday morning speaker. Roy is the founder and director of COMMA (Coalition of Ministries to Muslims in North America). Roy and his wife Darla were last with us at our 2011 conference.



Tickets for the Friday night kick-off supper will go on sale Sunday, February 9. We are excited to have some of our supported missionaries join us for the conference! More details, including Friday night and Saturday speakers, will be announced next month.

Ladies' Precept Bible Study

Ladies — A precept Bible study on the Gospel of Mark will begin January 7 and 8, 2020, and will meet every other week.

The most important question you will ever answer is this: Who do you believe Jesus Christ is? With all the opinions floating around, how can you know who is right? Mark's account of Jesus' life gives you the answer, and it is more action-packed and fast-paced than the other three Gospel records. Rather than rehearsing what people said about Jesus, Mark shows you what Jesus actually did.

As you learn to carefully observe Mark's report, you'll discover that Jesus left no doubt about who He claimed to be.

Workbooks can be ordered in either ESV or NASB, in Precept Upon Precept (\$20.25) or In & Out (\$15.75) versions. Call the church office to indicate your preference. Workbooks will be ordered the first week of December. Contact Lora L. for more details.

2020 Offering Envelopes

Boxes of 2020 offering envelopes will be available in the church library from Sunday, December 15 through mid-January. If you have not used eFree offering envelopes in the past but would like to start, contact Ann at ann.t@e-free-family.com or 452.6520. If you previously used envelopes, but now prefer to give online or by ACH, please inform Ann.

Donations Sought for Gift Bags

Have you wanted to tangibly help someone undergoing chemotherapy? The FCN ministry is beginning to collect donations for gift bags being distributed to congregants undergoing chemotherapy. Please contact Kristie Ahlborg or Heather Tempas if you are willing to donate any of the following items:

- Organic or minimally processed unflavored or vanilla lip balm
- Organic or minimally processed unscented or vanilla hydrating body lotion
- Boxes of peppermint, chamomile or ginger herbal tea
- Peppermint or ginger hard candy, no artificial sweeteners or colors
- Small journal with pen
- Head coverings

FCN will provide the devotional books to be included in the bags. Kristie or Heather can suggest retail sources for any of the above items. Please contact them if you have any questions about the items or potential recipients (452.6520, kristie.a@e-free-family.com, or heather.t@e-free-family.com)



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 Kim Buhr (kim.b@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 Kim Buhr (kim.b@e-free-family.com).

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