A monthly publication of the Sheboygan eFree Church

Missionaries Serving Around the World

Avant

Awana Tim & Sherry Thomas

The Evangelical Alliance Mission

Fellowship International Mission

Global Serve International

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

Lake Lundgren Bible Camp Marcus & Kaitlyn Murphy

Pioneers International

ReachGlobal Abraham & Maria Mudidi

Howard & Marilynn Plucar Nubako & Claudine Selenga Lonnie & Debbie Smith

Teachbeyond ******

Wycliffe Bible Translators Jon & Stephanie Weiss

Partner Missionary Organizations

Anchor of Hope Health Center
Campus Life
Evangelical Child & Family Agency

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



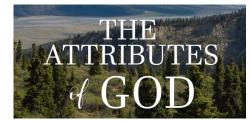
Check the church directory for contact info on all missionaries and their sending agencies.

Get Equipped in 2021!

The new year brings a new Equip series, which will meet Sundays, January 10 through February 7 at 9:30am in the sanctuary. We will be studying *The Attributes of God*.

This study will look at the following characteristics of God:

- His sovereignty
- His holiness
- His grace
- His mercy
- His justice



As we fall into the routines of daily life, it's easy to take these attributes for granted. Let's start 2021 by choosing to recognize how these attributes impact our every day lives. We hope you'll join us!

Start the New Year Focusing on Christ

A new year often symbolizes a fresh start. And how refreshing to recall that God's mercies are new not just every year, but every morning!

What better way to start the new year than by focusing on what the baby Jesus was sent to do . . . Save us from our sins!

Join us on Sunday, January 10 as we commemorate the Lord's Supper together during the morning services.



Young Adults Study Begins

A brand new Young Adults ministry begins January 5, 2021!

This group exists to multiply followers of Jesus Christ among young singles and young marrieds (pre-kids).

The Young Adults group will meet Tuesday nights at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room, with 3 weeks of Bible study and one night of fellowship each month.

The first Bible study will focus on overcoming the fear of what other people think of us, and stepping into our identity in Christ.

Questions? Contact the Young Adults group leadership team: Emily Glewen (emily.glewen@gmail.com), Josh Orth (joshorth7@gmail.com), and Matt Seider (matthew.seider-@cru.org). They're so excited to invite young adults to follow Jesus with them!

Let Your Love Shine in our Sonshine Department



Adults with special needs are indeed SPECIAL! They love unconditionally, don't hold grudges, nor are they envious or jealous. They desire sweet fellowship. And they love Jesus!

The "Sonshine" class has a heartfelt need for staffing. Currently, there is none. The students are waiting for a special person(s), or couple, who sense the Holy Spirit's leading to step forward. Their classroom in room 107 is quiet right now. But it's ready to be filled with joyful love and fellowship once again.

If your heart is tugging to serve in this ministry, please contact Gwen MacDonald in the church office— she would love to talk more about how you can help!

For a start, you can also check out the "Sonshine" bulletin board in the hallway across from 2s & 3s. You'll see a curriculum sample and some student photos.

HANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE...AND A DESIRE TO RECEIVE THEIRS IN RETURN



As you get ready to prepare your taxes, please note that 2020 giving statements will be mailed during the third week in January.

Happy Birthday/Anniversary in January

Names omitted.

This and That

The church office will be closed on Friday, January 1. Happy New Year!

In case of program changes due to inclement weather, announcements will be posted on our church website homepage, as well as 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 that day 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 that day, with calls to media and ministries thereafter.



January 6

100% Dues Night

January 13

Small Group Spirit Night

January 20

A Soup-er Night

January 27

Crazy Hair Night

Fanily MOYIE Night

On January 29, Awana will host a family movie night from 6-8pm in the sanctuary.



Everyone is invited to join us for a fun evening!

Getting to Know our Missionaries

While it is possible both of our new missionary couples may be at our 72nd annual Missions Conference on March 5-7, we want you to know more about them in advance!

Marcus & Kaitlyn Murphy, serving at Lake Lundgren Bible Camp, Pembine, WI

Marcus and Kaitlyn grew up in the Sheboygan eFree Church, in fami-

lies with years of fellowship at SEFC. During the first two years of marriage, they attended New Tribes Bible Institute followed by a two-year internship at Campus Life, Sheboygan. They now serve at LLBC, Marcus as a maintenance technician and Kaitlyn as a homemaker



caring for their four young children. In addition, God has given both of them many opportunities at camp, and in their church, to mentor and disciple young people.

For information about the second missionary couple, please see the church office for printed copy of the newsletter, as some of their work is done with creative access countries.

Hope for the Journey Simulcast

On Friday, April 9, our church will host the live simulcast of Show Hope's *Hope for the Journey* conference.

The aim of this one-day event is to shepherd parents and caregivers to a deeper understanding of their children's needs, particularly those with children who've experienced adoption and/or foster care.

As with the previous Empowered to Connect

conferences, *Hope for the Journey* will continue to teach the TBRI (Trust-Based Relational Intervention) model for caring for children, including a brand-new learning module—TBRI and the Gospel.

The conference will also highlight adult adoptee voices and experiences, offering parents and caregivers greater insight to the often complex needs of children impacted by adoption or foster care.

We invite you to set aside the date now and watch future publications as well as the church website for more details. Questions? Contact the church office.

A Note of Encouragement from our Treasurer

Most months we include a financial report, but since we will have more relevant information next month, I decided to give you the short version: God is faithful. We are on track (or close) with our giving and ahead of our budget.

This is, as are all things, by God's design and providence. Some have stepped up even well beyond the tithe, some have given the same despite financial setbacks, and some have given what they could under new circumstances. And we have enough...no staff, missionary, or ministry cutbacks. God is faithful.

It occurred to me that of all the things that have changed this year, some of them have been very good. We are talking about different things, spiritual things, with everyone, including each other. We are getting very creative in finding ways to express and demonstrate the love of Christ. We are praying more, together and alone. We are seeking answers in God's Word. We are learning the difference between wants and needs. We are learning that we are not privy to God's secret will and counsel, that we are not wise enough to connect the dots.

God has led our church leaders to some great decisions, among them the teaching from Dr. Kaiser on revival and the series on peace from our elders. Having the ability to watch and hear these on video was so important for many of us. We needed that. Another was the decision to continue forward on God's Master Plan for our church despite the circumstances. Our inability to understand how this will happen does not hinder our faith that it will happen.



So how is it these (and many other) good things can come from a year like this? The reason is that we live in hope. Not the wishful thinking that people who don't know Jesus as Savior and Lord have. No, we live in hope that is certain...we know the dates are set, though we don't what they are, for the promises of our sovereign God to be kept.

And they will be. We know this, because He kept His promise to send a Rescuer, a Savior, to solve our sin problem. It's a fitting end to every year, but especially this year, to focus on the arrival of this Savior.

When Habakkuk asked God why He would send the incredibly evil Babylon to punish Judah, the answer was summed up in Chapter 2, verse 4: "the righteous shall live by his faith."

So we go forward together, brothers and sisters, in faith and hope. God is faithful.

The eFree Press is the monthly newsletter of the Sheboygan 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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