



The eFree Press

Sheboygan Evangelical Free Church

January 2018

Volume 25, Issue 1

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.**



Get Equipped!

Join us as we begin 2018 with the next 5-week Equip series, beginning Sunday, January 14. Equip is relational and intergenerational, and the topics are varied and timely. We'd love to have you!

Attend the Equip Preview Session on Sunday, January 7:

- 9:30am — Join us in the Welcome Center for a Connections Fellowship, followed by the Preview Session in the Sanctuary.
- 11am — Join us in Cafe 19 for a Connections Fellowship and the Preview Session.

Topics:

- Stronger Parenting I
- Walking with God in Hard Times
- Sermon Application
- Ruth
- All In



Also at these Preview Sessions, Marty W. will share about his recent short-term mission trip. Register for a topic at the Preview Session or on the church website.

Security System Upgrade

Starting January 2, we will regularly use the security system at Entrance B (the church office entrance) during office hours. Exceptions will be made during high traffic ministry periods, such as Wednesday morning Bible Studies and HEARTH Thursdays. If you arrive to find the inner doors locked, please press the "call" button on the intercom in the Entrance B foyer to speak to the receptionist. Key holders were notified of this in mid-December.

By using this system, it will allow for a more secure work environment for our church staff, and for those meeting in the facility.

Take a Virtual Trip to Israel!



That's right, a trip to Israel including 1st Class seating! Sponsored by Forever Faithful, and open to adults of all ages, the flight departs January 11, with a boarding time of 6-8pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Our on-board tour guide, Dr. Walt Kaiser, will present slides and commentary on Biblical sites.

And there's more: complimentary casseroles, salads, desserts and fruit will be served . . . IF you sign up in Equip classes or on the Welcome Center bulletin board!

In-flight entertainment will be the Lee R. family singers. Frequent fliers are encouraged to bring a friend!

Pray for Districts 2018!

Many of our students and leaders will be attending this year's annual Districts Youth Conference in Green Bay on January 5-7. Please pray for safety, and for God to soften hearts and change lives!

Names of attendees omitted.



Empowered to Connect Simulcast

Empowered To Connect, together with Show Hope and The Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development at Texas Christian University, will host the 2018 Empowered To Connect Conference — two days designed to help adoptive and foster parents, ministry leaders and professionals 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.

We are scheduled to host a Live Simulcast of the conference on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14 from 9am-5pm in our Multi-Purpose Room. It will feature Trust-Based Relational Intervention[®] (TBRI) methods developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. David Cross to help bring attachment and connection in families. The content is ideal for adoptive and foster parents, those considering adoption or foster care, and those who are serving and supporting others, including social workers, agency professionals, church staff and ministry leaders, counselors, and therapists.

This year's conference will feature a revised program and new material for those who have attended multiple years. Speakers include Daren Jones, Ryan and Kayla North, Dr. Casey Call, and Sarah Mercado. The cost is \$20 per person. Watch for registration details in future newsletters.

Happy Birthday/Anniversary in January

Names omitted.

This and That

The **church office will be closed** on Monday, January 1.

The next **Hand-in-Hand Adoption Ministry** gathering is Friday, January 12 at 6:30pm in Café 19.

As you get ready to prepare your taxes, please note that **2017 giving statements** will be mailed by the third week in January.

Our church will host a **Bible Quiz Meet** on Saturday, January 20. Come cheer on our home team!

2018 offering envelopes continue to be available for pick up in the church library through mid-January.

In the event of **inclement weather**, cancellation announcements will be posted on our website homepage, as well as at the following:

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



January 3

Inside Out & Backwards Night

January 10

Parents Night

January 17

100% Dues Night

January 24

A Soup-er Night

January 31

S.O.S. Night

MC18 Kids for Missions

Missions Conference 2018 is right around the corner and kids in grades K-3 will have the opportunity to learn about deserts, make desert-related crafts and enjoy desert-themed food. Egypt will be the country of focus, and they'll learn songs and be reminded of how God met people in the desert and gave them new purpose for their lives.

Kim B. will again lead the Kids for Missions program on Friday and Saturday, February 16 and 17. Sign-ups will begin Sunday, January 28 at the Guest Services counter. There is no charge to register your children, but parents are encouraged to sign up early to ensure sufficient food and supplies.



MC18 Fundraiser to Benefit Weiss Project

The church where Jon and Stephanie Weiss and their family worship in Tanzania has no programming for children. Nor does it have any space for children's activities. Jon and Stephanie would love to have a covered shelter and some basic toys and books for the children there.

The Missions Committee is excited to present this heart's desire to the congregation as the MC18 Saturday night fundraiser on February 17. Below is a partial list of what's needed:

- Lego set and bin of mixed Legos
- Match box cars
- Black baby dolls
- Coloring books, colored pencils and sharpeners
- Swings
- Storage bins
- Ezra Jack Keats books
- Street soccer balls

The goal is \$2,100 – this would purchase not only the above, but also provide materials for a small children's shelter and outdoor play area. Plan now for your brat fry-style supper and the opportunity to give to meet children's needs.

Africa Vision Team

Please join us in prayer as the Missions Committee sends a vision team to Africa on January 12-22.

The team will go to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (January 13-17) in order to observe various ministries, including Tabitha Centers, associated with the Selengas for the purpose of prayerfully considering how our church family may partner with them in our shared purpose of multiplying followers of Jesus. On January 17-21, the team will visit Jon and Stephanie Weiss and their family in Tanzania.

The team consists of Steve E., Pam H., Deb K., Pastor Jon MacDonald and Lyn N. Also, Alex A., professional videographer and the daughter of Brad & Sharon, will accompany the team to prepare a presentation for the missions conference.

Incident Report Forms Updated

Last month, we updated numerous forms, two of which are related to accidents/incidents that occur on church property.

- *Incident Report - Minors* — to be used to report physical injury or abuse to minors or special needs adults. This form is printed on spring green paper.
- *Accident/Incident Report* — to be used to report physical injury or abuse to adults or property damage. This form is printed on light blue paper.
- Forms will be provided in the church office, the work room, the lower level kitchen, and Cafe 19. Copies of both forms will also be provided for any outside use of the facility. If you have any questions about these forms, please contact Briana Ringel or Heather Tempas in the church office

Find Out How You Can Be Debt Free!

Starting January 16 at 6:30pm, the Financial Peace University course is being offered again! This nine-week course teaches Dave Ramsey's Baby Steps for creating a budget, getting out of debt, and making a plan for the money you earn. The cost is \$129 (no matter whether an individual or a couple). Register at <https://fpu.com/1054559>. Childcare will be provided. Your 2018 can be a new financial year for you!



Debt Reduction—Giving for God's Glory

When the church purchased the large property to our west as part of the campus expansion plan, the deacons found it prudent to borrow the money in order to use our cash reserves for future, smaller property purchases to the south. While this has turned out to be a wise decision, the church is still left with a debt of \$438,565.

Our church has a rich history, and one of the hallmarks of that history is the speed with which debt acquired by the church has been retired. It is a testament to the faith of the members who have given over and above the tithe to free us up for the vision God has given us.

We would like to continue this wonderful legacy, so we have established a special "Debt Reduction" account to which our church family can give to specifically address this debt. Gifts over and above the tithe can be directed to debt reduction in the following ways:

- Designate "Debt Reduction" on the "other" section of the offering envelope
- Write "Debt Reduction" in the memo line of a check
- Use the online giving portal on the church website
- Use the new Text-To-Give electronic giving option



In I Chronicles 28 and 29 we read of the gifts offered by the people to build the temple, given with both joy and sacrifice, to thank and glorify God, who had rescued them. May our response to Him be the same!

BabyCare

Beginning Tuesday, January 2, approved clients can simply walk in to the Annex at 1726 N. 16th St. (formerly the Quasius Co. building) and request diapers from the Diaper Bank arm of the church's BabyCare Ministry. The Diaper Bank will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12pm-4pm.

Client families can receive a quantity of diapers up to 12 times in a 12-month period. They also will receive brochures about church programs (Awana, Easter, Sunday School, VBS, etc.) as well as a New Testament the first time they come. They'll also find a warm welcome from volunteers who are ready to give a listening ear, and answer questions they may have about the love of, and faith in, Jesus.

BabyCare Ministry is a member of the National Diaper Bank Foundation. Because of monetary donations from the church family, the community and a few local corporations, BabyCare is able to purchase diapers at the lowest price possible.

Thanks to Marge V., BabyCare Coordinator, and the 13 regular and substitute volunteers, underprivileged babies in Sheboygan County can have some of their physical needs met. We pray that this act of love will bring more families to know Jesus personally.

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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