

A monthly publication of the Sheboygan eFree Church

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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

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 Good News Jail & Prison Ministry The Family Radio

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



Thanking the Lord Together

We're looking forward to celebrating our annual Thanksgiving eve service, but in a little different way this year. Please consider sharing a brief video of yourself/ family testifying of the Lord's faithfulness in your life. Use your preferred social media platform with the hashtag #ThankfulAtEfree by 7pm on November 25 to see how God has been blessing our church family.

Let's give God glory for who He is and what He's done for us during this season!



Fall Body Life Update

We are exercising our creative juices to bring the church family, once again, a Body Life Update by video. As of Sunday, November 15, you'll be able to hear stories of God at work in our church family, as well as updates and vision casting from our pastors, our Elder and Deacon chairmen, and our Master Plan Team via the



church's YouTube account. A link will be sent through the usual Friday email to everyone on the church's contact list.

> As we did in the spring, we will offer an on-site opportunity to view the video in the library for anyone without access to a computer. Details to come on day and times.

New Logo Merchandise Now Available!

In addition to the stoneware mugs carrying the new church image, it is now possible to purchase online a variety of items in your choice of color, size, and style according to your timetable and budget. Items currently include t-shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, hoodies, tote bags and more.

Now through November 15, you can access the store at https://efreechurchapparel20.itemorder.com/. (This link can also be accessed via our church website by scrolling down on the homepage or under Resources.) Items will be received at church within 2-3 weeks of the closing date.



Pause & Ponder

As the news around us continues to swirl and the weight of life feels heavier than usual, it's important that we tether our souls to our steady, faithful, immovable Rock.

Ladies, we invite you to "Pause & Ponder" on Friday evening, December 4 at 7pm. This hour-long event is a collective opportunity to quiet our hearts before the Lord; to worship, soak in scripture, and pray.

This physically distanced event will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room. While there is no charge, registration is required and can be done online (www.e-free-family.com/ministries/womens-ministries/).

We believe that God will use this evening to spark your love for Him and fill you with a deep joy and peace as you anticipate the Christmas season.

Capital Improvements Approved

The Deacons recently approved the purchase of several items not included in the FY2021 budget:

- upgraded sound/video technology to improve our livestreaming capability
- a new drinking fountain with touchless bottle filling station (already installed by Doug Rice in Entrance B)
- an electrostatic disinfecting system, which will kill a multitude of viruses and bacteria, and help with cleaning rooms for back-to-back use
- improved lighting for Café 19
- modern thermostats to better regulate our heating and cooling in a number of rooms/spaces in our church building

Happy Birthday/Anniversary in November

Names omitted.



Schedule In Advance, Please

If you would like to use a room in the church building for your ministry or personal use, please reserve it in advance by contacting Mary Dulmes at mary.d@e-freefamily.com at least 48 hours in advance. In the near future, you will also have the opportunity to complete the room reservation form via the church website.

An advance reservation will ensure that your room is open, heated and set according to your request – you won't be surprised by a locked door, a double booking or a cold/dark room.



This and That

Daylight savings time ends at 2am on Sunday, November 1. Remember to set your clocks back (so 10pm becomes 9pm) before going to bed on October 31.

Awana, Youth Group, and evening Bible studies will not meet on Wednesday, November 25. Take time to share your family's story of thankfulness with our church family! #ThankfulAtEfree

The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26. Please note that his moves the bulletin announcement deadline up to Tuesday, November 24. Regular office hours (9am-5pm) will resume on Friday, November 27.

Forever Faithful will not meet in November, but looks forward to reuniting in January 2021!

As your family begins to anticipate the Christmas season, make sure to check out Focus on the Family's Family Advent Guide:

www.focusonthefamily.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/09/ final_advent_calendar.pdf



November 4

Operation Christmas Child continues

November 11

Operation Christmas Child concludes

November 18

Orange You Glad Jesus Loves You?

November 25

NO CLUB

Flu Shots Are Recommended

Every fall and winter, hospitals see an increase in patients due to the



flu. This year, due to the global pandemic, it's especially important to get the flu shot to protect yourself and reduce symptoms amid this Covid-19 season.

Our Faith Community Nursing ministry has posted flyers listing the times and locations of numerous flu clinics in Sheboygan. You can find these flyers on the bulletin boards at Entrances B (office) and D (west parking lot). They are also listed on the FCN page of our website.



Winter Weather Plan

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

- WHBL 1330AM radio/ website
- 620TMJ radio/website
- WITI Channel 6 (Fox 6)
- WTMJ Channel 4
- Decisions on Sunday events will be made at 6am that day with an-

nouncements 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.

National Adoption Awareness Month

Each year, November is recognized as National Adoption Awareness Month. While all adoption-related issues are important, the particular focus of this month is the adoption of children currently in foster care. During the month, adoption is celebrated as a positive way to build families. Activities and observances across the nation shed light on children in need of permanent families.

- There are over 122,000 children and youth waiting to be adopted who are at risk of aging out of foster care without permanent family connections.
- Approximately one in five children in the U.S. foster care system waiting to be adopted are teens.
- Only 5 percent of all children adopted in 2019 were 15 18 years old.
- The risk of homelessness and human trafficking is increased for teenagers in foster care.
- Of the 122,000 children and youth waiting to be adopted, the average age is eight years old and the average time in foster care is 31 months.

Visit AdoptUSkids.org for more information or contact one of our ministries/partner agencies listed below to see how you can help support adoption, children in need, and keeping families together.

BABYCARE is a ministry of our church to underprivileged babies/toddlers and their families in Sheboygan County. There are two branches of BabyCare:

- Newborn Layettes A gift-wrapped box of onesies, blankets, clothes, diapers and a New Testament to referred families of newborns.
- Diapers We are part of the National Diaper Bank and provide diapers to referred families.

Contact the church office for information on how you can help!

ANCHOR OF HOPE is a partner organization located in Sheboygan. It is a non-profit, licensed facility staffed and supported by medical professionals. It is a life-affirming clinic encouraging healthy sexual choices and sharing the hope and truth found in Jesus. They also offer parenting classes and material support for families with children age two and under. Visit hope@anchorofhopewi.org for more information.

Our partner organization, EVANGELICAL CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY, provides hope and healing to children, adults, and families through compassionate, Christ-centered, quality social services from a biblical perspective. ECFA's vision is to improve the quality of life for individuals and families, and to protect and nurture abused, neglected, and dependent children. To find out more visit ecfawisc.org.

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Building on knowledge and experience gained over the past 10 years, Show Hope's Empowered to Connect Conference is being recast and retooled as the HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY CONFERENCE. Our church will host the live simulcast on Friday, April 9, 2021.

The aim of this one-day simulcast event will be to shepherd parents and everyday caregivers to a deeper understanding of their children's needs. As more and more families have responded to meeting the needs of vulnerable children by adopting and providing foster care, the demand for practical and proven resources and tools continues to grow. "In alignment with Show Hope's mission to care for orphans by engaging the Church and reducing barriers to adoption, our faith compels us and our experience informs us as we work to re-imagine our conference. We are prayerful that the Hope for the Journey Conference will help meet these needs and further resource churches in their endeavors to be beacons of hope and encouragement for families in their congregation and surrounding communities."

We invite you to set aside the date and make plans to be with us! Contact the church office if you have any questions. Interested in receiving more information about providing respite or foster care? Contact Sheboygan County's Foster Care Coordinator, Kristy Pahl, at 459.3236.

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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