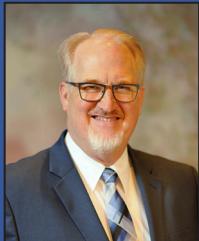


NOVEMBER 2018 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Dr. Gerald Stigall
Senior Pastor



Scot Hintermeyer
Director of
Administration
and the Arts



David Preston
Director of Youth
& Young Adults



Tim Beyer
Director of
Children's &
Parenting
Ministries



Why should the church be involved with missions? Why should we try to reach those

beyond our reach - those at "the end of the world"? I mean, really, what do those in the jungle of Brazil and those in Madagascar have to do with us? Aren't there needs right around us to which we should give focus?

The Bible deals with these honest questions forthrightly. Consider the following three reasons why supporting missions is so important:

1. We support missions because ... Jesus said to! Jesus told us to "go and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:18).

This mandate wasn't reserved for career missionaries. Rather, it was a call to every Christian. Each of us is to be involved in God's redemptive mission in the world. The Apostle Paul said, "we are Christ's ambassadors" and that "God has given us this task of reconciling people to him" (2 Corinthians 5:18).

What is more, our Triune God models this mandate. The Bible proclaims that "God (the Father) so loved the world that he sent his only Son" (John 3:16). Jesus was sent into the world to reveal God's love. In turn, Jesus said to his apostles, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). Jesus foretold that His disciples would be empowered by the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth (Acts 1:8). God does not want anyone to perish (II Peter 3:9). In

God's grace he chooses to involve us in rescuing those from every tribe and nation.

2. We support missions because ... it is a tool of discipleship. As we stretch ourselves financially and perhaps by leaving our familiar surroundings to participate on a short-term missions endeavor, our faith develops. Oftentimes we'll see God at work in the world in a new way. We learn how to trust God at a new level of dependence. Mission involvement becomes a great catalyst for faith development. And as we have said, reaching out in this way involves not simply crossing the seas, it includes crossing the street reaching out to our neighbors.

3. We support missions because ... it requires that the whole body participate. In other words God has uniquely gifted each of us for the benefit of the whole body of Christ. That implies that we are to share our time, our talents, and our treasures for the benefit of the whole worldwide Church. Supporting missions is a way to foster this connection to the larger Church.

This month we'll celebrate the importance of missions in various ways. Already last month we heard ways that the Gideons spread the Word of God throughout the World. This month we'll be gathering and dedicating our Christmas Child Boxes. On November 11, we'll have our Annual Missions Conference. On that Sunday during the Bible Hour we'll hear testimonies from those who serve nearby and far away. We'll be encouraged to learn how the monies, prayers, and "hands-on" involvement have borne fruit.

During the worship service on that Sunday we'll be challenged by Ted Esler of MissioNexus (son of John and Rosemary Esler). I've enjoyed learning about MissioNexus from their website. Their stated mission is "To advance the effectiveness of the Great Commission community in North America in global mission." On that Ingathering Sunday, like farmers harvesting wheat, we'll have the opportunity to submit our Faith Promise anticipated giving in the coming year. Doing so will guide the Missions team as they direct our giving in strategic ways.

Fellow missionaries, may we each be faithful as together we joyfully obey the calling of the Lord to make disciples by reaching and teaching ALL people with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Gerald

Pastor Gerald

P.S. Be sure to plan staying for the noon luncheon on November 11th!

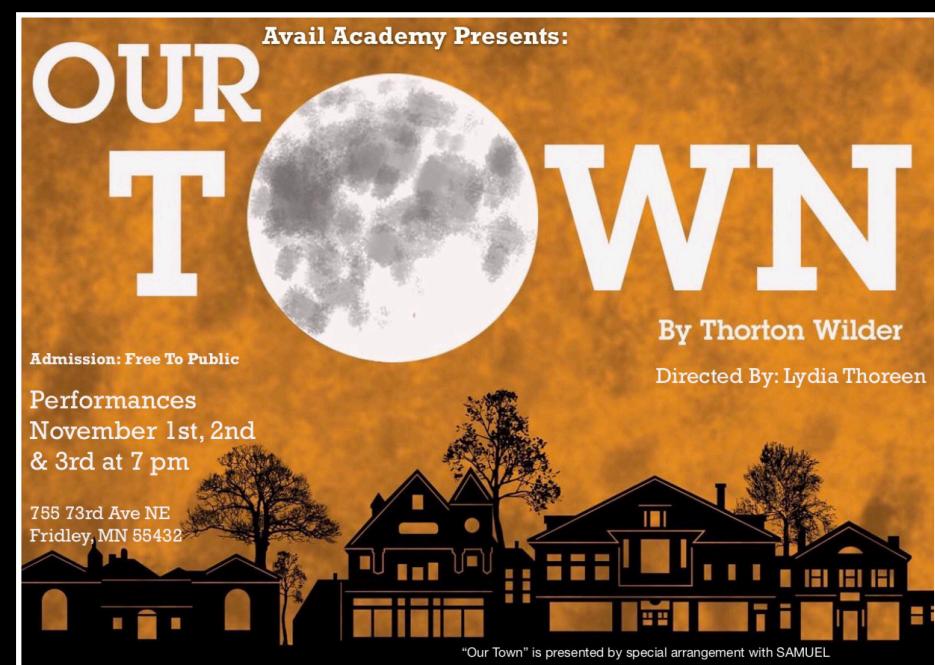
CREATION MUSEUM/ARK ENCOUNTER TRIP

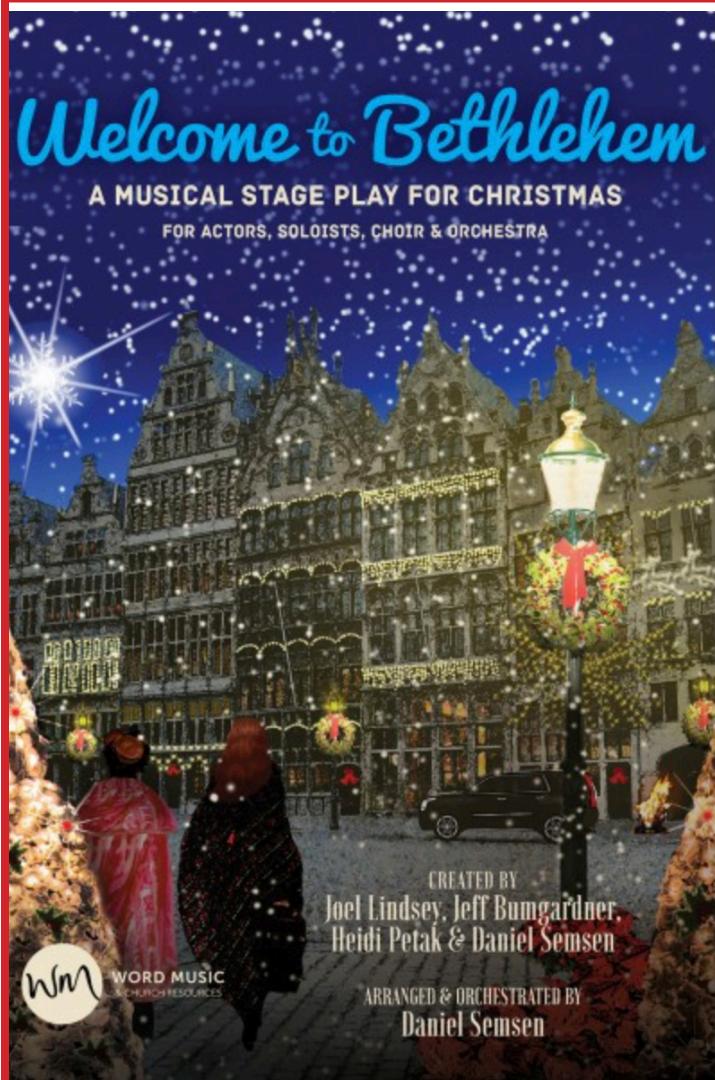


What fun it was to travel together! The Creation Museum, the Aquarium (for some of you), the Ark Encounter, the Zoo, the Brian Regan DVD's, I Can Only Imagine movie, even card BINGO! And what about the great meals! Photo (above) was taken of the group touring the Ark Encounter last month.



REMEMBER
to set your clocks
back one hour
before bedtime on
Saturday,
November 3rd





YOU ARE WARMLY WELCOME AND
SPECIFICALLY INVITED TO ...

“Welcome to Bethlehem”

A Musical Theater Production

Saturday, December 1, 2018 - 7:00 PM

and

Sunday, December 2, 2018 - 3:00 PM

Christmas is a time for joy and bringing hope to a hurting world – which is what the staff at the Bethlehem Inn strive to do every day of the holiday season for its guests!

Throughout this musical, the theme of hope shines through as various characters in the story face difficult, real-life circumstances. From a couple struggling financially, to a teenage runaway needing help when she finds herself homeless,

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM encourages us to remember a timeless truth... “when it seems you just can’t go on, there’s always hope.”

There is no admission charge.
An offering box will be at the door.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Grace Evangelical Free Church - 755 73rd Avenue North East, Fridley, MN 55432

Explore the Christian Faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.
No pressure. No follow-up. No charge.

*Classes meet in the Library, Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m.,
facilitated by Stephen & Marisha Schletty.*



November 7

How Does God Guide Us?

November 14

How Can I Resist Evil?

November 21

Class Cancelled, *Praise, Prayer, and Pie at 7 pm*

November 28

Why and How Should I Tell Others?

Sweetwater Revival's

ANNUAL Hallelujah Homecoming!

with special guests
Greater Vision




DON'T MISS THIS
NIGHT OF GREAT GOSPEL MUSIC
& UPLIFTING TESTIMONIES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018, 6PM

DISCOVER CHURCH 14300 BURNSVILLE PARKWAY, BURNSVILLE, MN 55306

Tickets can be purchased online at: www.SWEETWATERREVIVAL.COM or by phone: 651-538-6333
Advanced Artist Circle \$28 Advanced General Seating \$22 / Groups of 10 or more \$20 General Seating at the Door \$28

Dinner for Eight
Sat., November 17th, 6:00 pm

Everyone is welcome -
Families with children,
Couples, Singles

Sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center
for both participants, and those who
would like to host a group.

For more information
contact Pam Schlemmer
at 651-247-4309



STRUGGLES OF LIFE SUPPORT GROUP



A support group for those experiencing difficulties in their lives
will meet **every other Tuesday, 7:00-8:30 pm in the Library.**
November meetings will be: November 6th & November 20th.

The purpose of this group, facilitated by Mary Perras, is to help individuals share their stories and move forward in their lives.

Contact the office 763-784-7199 or office@gracefree.org for more information.

CHILDREN'S AND PARENTING MINISTRY

November 2018

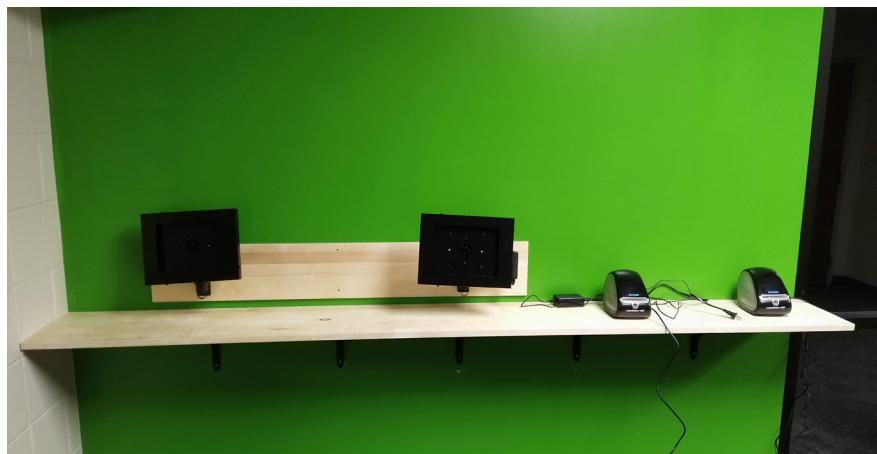
Serve!

I would love to connect you with an opportunity to serve children throughout our children's ministry. A few of the areas to plug in include:

- Nursery Coordinator
- Nursery worker (1 Sunday morning or Wednesday evening/month)
- Grace Kids greeter (20 minutes before Sunday school, 1 Sunday/month)
- Awana Group Leader
- Wee Worship worker (1 Sunday/month)

If you are interested in serving:

- Call church office at 763-784-7199
- Email Pastor Tim at tbeyer@gracefree.org



New Children's Check-In Procedure

You may have noticed that the area next to the Fellowship Hall is now painted bright green and has a new shelf and iPad mounts. This is because in November we will be implementing a new check-in procedure for children on Sunday mornings.

The main reasons we are going to this new procedure is that it will help keep children secure, it will communicate to visitors with young children that we value the safety of their children, and that we have a well established system in place ready to greet them and make them feel welcome. My earnest hope and prayer is that we will start to regularly see new families come through our doors and see new kids in Grace Kids, and I want us to be prepared should God choose to answer that prayer.

Parents of children in Grace Kids should have already received an email detailing how to use the new system. However if you ever have any questions about the system please feel free to contact me.

Grace,
Pastor Tim

YOUTH

Key dates:

- Nov 18th - Youth Sunday & Quiz Meet at Grace EFC, Fridley
- Nov 21st - Prayer, Praise and Pie!
- Dec 5th - NCD Youth Prayer Gathering at New Hope Church
- Dec 8th - Grace Invitation Quiz Meet
- Dec 19th - Feed My Starving Children, Coon Rapids
- Jan 13th - Trinity Quiz Meet
- Feb 1st, 2019 - Dodgeball Tournament at Grace EFC
- April 8th, 2019 - Andover Pizza Ranch



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**Grace Evangelical Free Church
2018 Operation Christmas Child
October 14 - November 11**



Participate in THREE ways:

1. Collect supplies and pack your own box

-If you've never packed a box before, stop by the table in the foyer or look online at:

www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/

-don't forget \$9/box for shipping (pay online and track your box to its final destination or put the money in the top of your box)

2. Donate money or supplies, we'll pack a box for you

Donating supplies:

purchase suggested supplies (on the other side of this form) and drop off in the supply box at the OCC table in foyer on or before October 31.

Donating money:

donate money and we'll put together a box for you

-\$20 will purchase all needed supplies and provide money for shipping, too

-donate any amount, make checks payable to Grace, **note OCC in memo.**

-drop your checks/money at the OCC table or in the offering plate.

3. Help us pack

Sunday, November 4, after the service

Help us pack boxes from those who've donated supplies and money.

Lunch: Bring money for a pizza lunch (\$3.00/adult, \$2.00/child).

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

(Continued)

Gift Suggestions:

****Reminder - NO toothpaste or candy****

TOYS: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS: bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.

ACCESSORIES: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

A PERSONAL NOTE: you enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

DO NOT INCLUDE: toothpaste or candy, damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Stop by the Operation Christmas Child Table in the foyer TODAY:

Sign up:
for the Packing Party on November 4
to help with set up for the November 4 packing party

pick up:

a free shoebox to fill
Information about OCC
coloring sheets to include in your box
prayer cards from Samaritan's Purse

drop off:

your filled shoebox
purchased supplies to fill shoeboxes
a monetary donation

Important Dates to Remember

Wednesday, October 31 - Final day to bring money/supplies for the packing party

Sunday, November 4 - Packing party after church. Sign up at the OCC table in the foyer. Bring \$3.00/adult and \$2.00/child for lunch.

Sunday, November 11 - Send off Sunday. Last day to bring in boxes.



Register before October
31st to save \$15

gefcsports.org

Serve

Coach

Head coach or assistant

Referee

Concessions

Evaluations

Help

November 15th and 17th

Scoreboard

operator

Half-time

leader

Other

Visit the Upward table in the commons or email pastor Tim at tbeyer@gracefree.org if you are willing to help!

Grace Calendar

WEEKLY

Sundays:

- 9:15 am Bible Hour, Nursery (0-3 yrs)
 10:30 am Worship Service, Nursery (0-3 yrs), Wee Worship (Age 3-Kindergarten)

Mondays:

- 7:00 pm Adult Volleyball

Tuesdays:

- 6:00 am Fe² Men's Group
 9:30 am Staff Team Meeting
 6:30 pm Men's Veteran Platoon

Wednesdays:

- 1:00 pm Hilltoppers' Small Group
 5:15 pm Kids' Choir
 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner
 6:30 pm AWANA, Student Ministries, Adult Bible Studies, ALPHA, GriefShare, Financial Peace U.
 8:00 pm Orchestra Rehearsal

Thursdays:

- 6:00 am Ladies' Bible Study
 6:30 pm Chorale Rehearsal

Fridays:

- 8:15 am Bread Ministry

Saturdays:

- 7:00 am Men's Basketball
 8:00 am Band of Brothers Bible Study (1st & 3rd)

November 1

- 6:30 pm Chorale Rehearsal CANCELLED
 7:00 pm Avail Academy presents, "Our Town"

November 2

- 7:00 pm Avail Academy presents, "Our Town"

November 3

- 8:00 am Band of Brothers Bible Study - Room 303

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

11:00 am Ladies' Harvest Gathering in Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Avail Academy presents, "Our Town"

November 4

Daylight Savings Time Ends
Communion Sunday

12:00 pm Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

4:00 pm Quiz Practice

5:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

November 5

5:30 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

November 6

6:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

6:30 pm **Men's Veteran Platoon in the Upper Room**

7:00 pm Outreach Influence Team Meeting

7:00 pm Struggles of Life Support Group

November 8

11:00 am Birthday Brunch Bunch at Northtown IHOP

November 9

6:00 pm Second Harvest Food Distribution

November 10

9:00 am GriefShare "Surviving the Holidays"

Missions Conference Set Up

November 11

Missions Conference - NO Bible Hour

9:15 am Updates from Missionaries in Fellowship Hall

10:30 am Worship Service w/Flag Parade and guest speaker Ted Esler

12:00 pm Feast & Fellowship Luncheon

4:00 pm Quiz Practice

5:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

November 12

5:30 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

November 13

6:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

6:30 pm Elder Board Meeting

November 15

6:00 pm Upwards Evaluations

November 17

8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast

10:00 am Upward Evaluations

November 18

Youth Sunday

2:00 pm Quiz Meet at Grace

5:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

November 19

5:30 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

6:30 pm Nominating Team Meeting

November 20

6:00 pm Christmas Drama Rehearsal

7:00 pm Struggles of Life Support Group

November 21

All regular activities cancelled

7:00 pm Praise, Prayer & Pie

November 22

Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed

November 23

Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed

November 25

NO Bible Hour

4:00 pm Quiz Practice

5:30 pm Christmas Drama/Tech Rehearsal

November 26

5:30 pm Christmas Drama/Tech Rehearsal

7:00 pm Outreach Influence Team Meeting

November 27

5:30 pm Elder Board Prayer & Dinner Meeting

5:30 pm Christmas Drama/Tech Rehearsal

November 29

5:30 pm Christmas Drama/Tech Rehearsal

6:30 pm Chorale Rehearsal in Room 301

November 30

5:30 pm Christmas Drama/Tech Rehearsal