

JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Encouragement For a New Year

Scripture Reading – Joshua 1:1-9

“Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” {Joshua 1:9}

On the first day of a new year many of us wish each other a “Happy New Year!” But as we begin a new year, we need more than a hopeful greeting from the people around us. We need to listen to what God told Joshua about 3,400 years ago. As Joshua was about to lead God’s people into the Promised Land, he had reason to be afraid. He had an enormous task ahead of him, and he was well aware of the dangers that he and the people would soon be facing. He needed God’s encouragement. A new year brings lots of questions: Will I be able to hang on to my job? Will I get into the right school? Will I live to see the end of this year? Will the economy improve? Will there be a terrorist attack or some natural disaster that takes me or my loved ones? The Creator of the universe comes to us and says, “Don’t be afraid; don’t be discouraged.” What happens in this coming year is not left to chance. God is in charge, and He promises to stay close: “The LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” Many years later, the Lord Jesus made the same promise when he said, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). That’s the reason we can wish each other a “Happy New Year!”

Prayer

Father in heaven thank you for the gift of a new year and for your promise to stay with us. We ask for your guidance and wisdom each day. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

From: <https://today.reframemedia.com/devotions/encouragement-for-a-new-year-2006-01-01>

From Pastor Scott...



I have a serious issue I want to talk to our church about. During announcements in our Sunday services on December 22, Pastor Matt asked our people to please consider parking in the Medical Clinic parking lot for our Christmas Eve services to make room for visitors. Then, about 15 minutes before our 3:30 PM service began on the 24th, I looked in the sanctuary to see several hundred people sitting down waiting for the service to begin. I then looked out in the parking lot and it looked half empty. I was puzzled, until I looked toward the Medical Clinic parking lot and saw it mostly full with cars (ok, mostly SUVs and trucks)—your vehicles!

Ending our 2019 year with selflessness sets us up well for a great 2020 at the church. I guess I shouldn’t have been surprised to see all those cars over there since I have seen such attitudes in you all for a couple of years now. What could God do with us this year if we continue down this slippery slope towards greater expressions of selflessness? What if our church culture was bent towards watching out for others as our default, go-to expectation? Most importantly, how might we honor the Lord this year by showing we are his disciples by our love? I guess in 365 days we will find out what kind of difference it could make.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, January 19th @ 6:30 PM

We will first conduct our church business.

We will elect elders, vote on members, and conclude the time with prayer. Please join us!

Sanctity of Life Sunday

Many churches recognize the third Sunday in January as Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Please join us Sunday, January 19th, as we celebrate Sanctity of Life. We will have **Child Dedication** in our worship services on this date.



If you want to have your child dedicated, please contact the church office at 402-463-1441. One of the Pastors will meet with you prior to dedication Sunday to answer any questions you may have.

‘We are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.’

~ Eph. 2:10

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.’ ~

Jer. 1:4

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

TEACHER · LINDA BROWN



STARTING THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 13TH, 2020
10:00 AM & 7:00 PM
LOCATION TBD

EIGHT ECLECTIC STUDIES FOR WOMEN AGES 12 TO 100 INCLUDING:

- *NAMES OF GOD AND JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND NEW TESTAMENT*
- *JOHN 15*
- *THE VINE AND*
- *JONAH, DANIEL AND HABAKKUK*

CALL THE CHURCH AT 402-463-1441 TO REGISTER!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY SATURDAY NIGHTS!

7:00 pm – Worship and teaching or testimony
8:00 pm – Men's and Women's groups meet
9:00 pm – The Cove Café

'NOT ALONE' MINISTRY

The 'Not Alone' ladies group meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Contact Sandra Kennel or Pam Aanas if you have questions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sparks / T&T Unit</u>	<u>Cubbies Unit</u>	<u>Theme</u>
January 1	*****	NO AWANA	*****
January 8	Unit 2.7 / Unit 2.8	Bear Hug 13	Buddy Night
January 15	Unit 2.8 / Unit 3.1	Bear Hug 14	Regular Night
January 22	Unit 3.1 / Unit 3.2	Bear Hug 15	Crazy Hair Night
January 29	Unit 3.2 / Unit 3.3	Bear Hug 16	Regular Night

LADIES COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

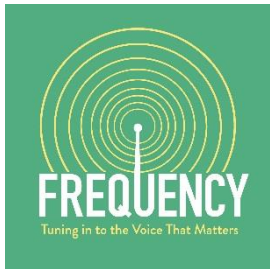
Our next Ladies Coffee will be Saturday, January 25th at 9:30 AM at the home of Carol Hungerford, 219 E. Plum in Doniphan. All ladies are invited!



HASTINGS E-FREE YOUTH

Our Jr. & Sr. High Youth meets Wednesday evenings from 6:15-8:00. They meet for a light meal first, followed by games, and then worship and Bible study. In January they'll meet on the 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th. If you have questions, contact Pastor Daniel @ 402-305-5731.

On January 2nd several youth will venture out on a ski/snowboarding outing.



Disciple NOW is coming February 28-March 1!

D-NOW is a weekend retreat for Jr. High and High School students without ever having to leave town! Students will spend Friday evening through Sunday morning primarily with their small groups with intermittent large group times for teaching, worship, activities, food and fun.

If you would be interested in hosting 6-12 teenagers and their small group leaders for two nights, please contact Pastor Daniel.



We will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 28th, from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Sign up information will be available at the Welcome Desk or you can go to the Red Cross website www.redcross.org to preregister your appointment.

One in four people age 65 or older has a fall each year.

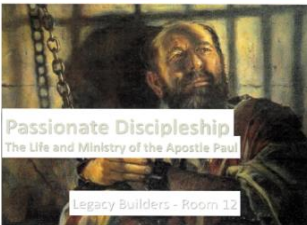
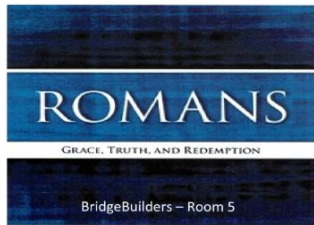
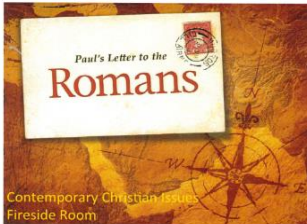
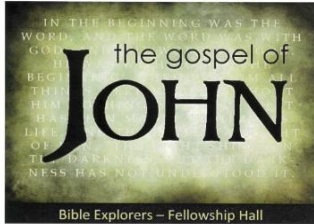
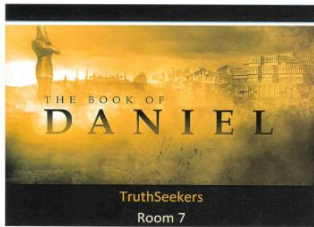


Don't be one of them!

Our Health & Wellness Ministry is offering a 7-week "Stepping On" Workshop on Tuesdays, January 14-February 25 at 1:30-3:00 PM here at Hastings EFree. *Stepping On* can help you avoid a dangerous and costly fall so you can keep doing the things you love to do. One in four people age 65 or older has a fall each year...don't be one of them! Sign up at the Welcome Desk today if you want to attend. If you have questions contact Janis Johnson (402-762-5447).



Adult Bible Fellowships – Winter 2019



Adult Bible Fellowships (ABFs)

- 9:45 – 10:45 am Sundays
- Mid-sized groups – 15-40 people
- Open to all adults
- Biblical teaching/personal connection

FAMILY NIGHT AT LINCOLN SCHOOL

It is that time of year again. We are looking at having the family party for the people at Lincoln school. They are always very grateful for the support our church has given to them. The purpose of this event is to celebrate the family in a time when winter closes in on everyone. To that end, we hope to have the polaroid family picture, snack, and games. Maybe even storytelling and other activities.

Look for sign-up sheets by the welcome center closer to the date of January 21, 2020 from 6:30-8:00 pm (workers get there 6 pm). What is needed outside of people to help and prayer are: food is graham crackers, decorating icing, pretzel sticks, marshmallows, other decorating items. Crazy hats and things for the photo booth. Crafty things for decorating frames. We will take game ideas – Big Jenga, corn hole, password, etc. For details contact Lorraine @ lorraine.atwater@hpstigers.org.

TRANSFORM 2020

The Annual EFCA Midwest District Conference will be held February 17-18 at Brookside Church in Omaha. Those interested in attending can register at www.efcamidwest.org/conference. Additional hotel information is available on their website also.

Speakers for the event include Huron Claus, President/CEO of CHIEF Industries, Kevin Kompelien, EFCA President, Alex Mandes, Executive Director of EFCA All People Ministry, and Alvin Sanders, President/CEO of World Impact.

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 No evening activities	2 Youth Ski-Snowboard outing	3	4 7:00 AM Men's Group 7:00 Celebrate Rec.
5 8:15/11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday school 11:00 AM Not Alone Gr. 1:00 Hispanic Worship 7:00 Young Adults study	6 8:00 Men's Group	7 6:30 AM Men's Group	8 6:15 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA	9	10	11 7:00 AM Men's Group 7:00 Celebrate Rec.
12 <i>Communion</i> 8:15/11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday school 1:00 Hispanic Worship 7:00 Young Adults study	13 7:00 Finance Committee 8:00 Men's Group	14 6:30 AM Men's Group 5:30 Elder Board	15 6:15 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA	16	17	18 7:00 AM Men's Group 7:00 Celebrate Rec.
19 <i>Sanctity of Life Sunday</i> 8:15/11:00 AM Worship w/Child Dedications 9:45 AM Sunday school 11:00 AM Not Alone Gr. 1:00 Hispanic Worship 6:30 Annual Business Mtg. 7:00 Young Adults study	20 8:00 Men's Group	21 6:30 AM Men's Group 5:30 H&W Ministry 7:00 Property mtg.	22 6:15 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA	23	24	25 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:30 AM Ladies Coffee Fellowship 7:00 Celebrate Rec.
26 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday school 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 Hispanic Worship 7:00 Young Adults study	27 8:00 Men's Group	28 6:30 AM Men's Group	29 6:15 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA	30	31	

CENTRAL
STATES
CREATION
CONFERENCE

MARCH 27-28, 2020

Mark your calendars; don't miss this opportunity to hear clear evidence of the accuracy and authority of the Genesis accounts from the Bible.

Sessions will be appropriate for grade school and older.

Speakers from:

Alpha-Omega Institute
Institute for Biblical Authority
Creation Instruction Association

If you have questions, please speak to Dr. David Demick.

FOR IN SIX DAYS GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM. EX.

20-11

Scott DeWitt, Senior Pastor
Matthew Sass, Adult Ministries Pastor
Daniel Meade, Student Ministries Pastor
Nathan Huyser, Children's Ministries/Worship Director
Edith Wheeler, Office Manager
Audrey Mars, Receptionist
Kristy Stoeger, Children's Ministry Asst.
Sanny Munnell, Bookkeeper
Steve Atwater, Janitor
Makenzie Sommerfeld, Computer Tech.
Don Mars, Building & Grounds Maintenance

Phone – 402-463-1441 Website – www.hastingsefc.org
Email – evangelicalfree@hastingsefc.org Facebook – HastingsEFree
Guest WiFi – 4024635072 Office Hours – M-F 8:30AM-5:00PM

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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