

# NEWSLETTER

## January 2022

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH  
2015 NORTH ST. JOSEPH AVE.  
HASTINGS, NEBRASKA 68901

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### A Prayer to Keep God First This New Year

By Debbie McDaniel

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." – {2 Cor. 5:17}*

Dear God,

Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways.

We ask that you would keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with you.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for you, living independent of your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride and selfishness wreak havoc over our lives. Forgive us for not following your ways and for living distant from your presence.

We confess our need for you...fresh...new...again. We ask that you make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year. We pray for your refreshing over us.

Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, as you remind us we are safe with you and your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground.

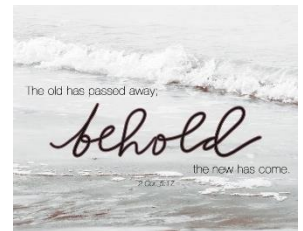
We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own. May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of your spirit be evident in our lives - your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. To you be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

{from [Crosswalk.com/devotionals](http://Crosswalk.com/devotionals)}



### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Members and regular attenders are encouraged to attend the Annual Congregational Business Meeting

Sunday, January 23 at 6:30 PM

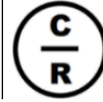
Agenda and meeting materials will be available prior to the meeting

**ENCORE** meets Thursday, January 20, 1:30-3:00 PM in the Youth Room. Our guest speaker will be from Mary Lanning Hospice and Palliative Care. There is no cost to attend and light refreshments are served. The mission of ENCORE is to help adults 60+ connect with each other, grow in Christ, and glorify Him by crossing life's finish line well. Contact Jane Rose-Barton 402-984-7358 or Pastor Matt Sass 402-705-4712.

### HASTINGS E-FREE YOUTH

Every Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00 our Jr. & Sr. High Youth meets for games, worship, and Bible study. If you have questions, contact Pastor Daniel @ 402-305-5731 or daniel@hastingsefc.org.

**NOT ALONE** ministry typically meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 12:30pm. January 2 they will meet at 11:00 AM in the Youth Room. **Not Alone** is for women who attend church alone for varied reasons.



Celebrate Recovery meets Saturdays at 7PM. CR is for anyone struggling with a hurt, habit, or hang-up. Contact Larry Mohlman if you have questions.

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**AWANA** meets each Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM for children, 3 years old thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cubbies</u>	<u>Sparks</u>	<u>T&amp;T</u>	<u>Theme</u>
Jan. 5	Bear Hug 13		Unit 3.1	Pizza @ 6:00
Jan. 12	Bear Hug 14		Unit 3.2	Regular Night
Jan. 19	Bear Hug 15		Unit 3.3	Crazy Hair Night
Jan. 26	Bear Hug 16		Unit 3.4	Paper Airplane Night
Jan. 30	*****AWANA GRAND PRIX RACES *****			



**GRAND PRIX RACE**  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30  
3:00 PM

Are you interesting in reading the Bible through in this new year? If so, available on the Welcome Desk are a couple different guides to use if you want.

**GriefShare** will begin a 13-week series on January 11, 2022, meeting from 1:30-3:30 PM at First St. Paul's Youth and Family Center, 4th Street & Lexington Avenue. We would like reservations either online at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) or by calling First St. Paul's Church at (402) 463-1329.

## January 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 7:00 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Recovery
2 10:00 AM Worship ** No SS/ABF 11:00 AM 'Not Alone' 1:00 Hisp. Worship	3 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Ch./Plains reh. 8:00 Men's Gr.	4 6:30 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Rec. Ldrs.	5 6:00 AWANA Pizza 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA 6:30 Prayer (Zoom)	6 5:45 Worship Team	7	8 7:00 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Recovery
9 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM SS/ABF 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 Hisp. Worship	10 7:00 Ch./Plains reh. 8:00 Men's Gr.	11 6:30 AM Men's Gr. 5:30 Sm. Gr. 5:30 Elder Board	12 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA 6:30 Prayer (Zoom)	13 5:45 Worship Team	14	15 7:00 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Recovery
16 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM SS/ABF 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 'Not Alone' 1:00 Hisp. Worship	17 7:00 Ch./Plains reh. 8:00 Men's Gr.	18 6:30 AM Men's Gr. 5:30 Sm. Gr. 7:00 Property Cmte.	19 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA 6:30 Prayer (Zoom)	20 1:30 ENCORE 60+ group meets 5:45 Worship Team	21	22 7:00 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Recovery
23 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM SS/ABF 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 Hisp. Worship 6:30 Congregational Business Meeting	24 7:00 Ch./Plains reh. 8:00 Men's Gr.	25 6:30 AM Men's Gr. 5:30 Sm. Gr.	26 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 AWANA 6:30 Prayer (Zoom)	27 5:45 Worship Team	28	29 7:00 AM Men's Gr. 7:00 Cel. Recovery
30 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM SS/ABF 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 Hisp. Worship 3:00 Grand Prix	31 7:00 Ch./Plains reh. 8:00 Men's Gr.					

Scott DeWitt, Senior Pastor  
Daniel Meade, Student Ministries Pastor  
Website: [www.hastingsefc.org](http://www.hastingsefc.org)  
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Kristy Stoeger, Children's Ministry Director  
Phone: 402-463-1441  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30AM-5:00PM