

Reaching UP in our LOVE for God!
 Reaching IN in our LOVE for one another!
 Reaching OUT in our LOVE for the world!

Uniquely & Wonderfully Made Women's Retreat

The Wellness Committee of GEFC is pleased to invite you to the 11th Annual Uniquely & Wonderfully Made Women's Retreat. Although this annual event is often on the same day as elections, this year it's a presidential election. So, on Tuesday November 4 after the hustle & bustle of a busy day (including making it to the polls) we encourage you to come and spend the evening with us as Carol Ledbetter presents Who Am I Now: Growing Through Life's Changing Seasons.

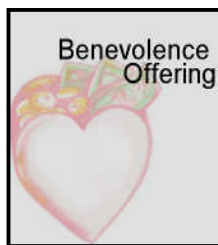
Top 10 reasons to attend the Retreat (in no particular order)

1. Catered meal (and no you aren't the caterer)
2. Men wait on you (yes, really they do!)
3. No dishes to wash or

dishwasher to load

4. Time with friends (meet new ones or invite old ones)
5. Relaxing
6. Spiritually refreshing
7. It's cheap (\$10 per person)
8. No political commercials
9. Inspiring message from God's Word
10. Marie Donaldson's homemade iced sugar cookies

Reservations are necessary for this retreat and space is limited. EACH participant must fill out a registration form and submit it to the church office with \$10 per person by October 27th. ☞



If you would like to make a cash offering to the Benevolence Fund there are envelopes available at the Information Center in the foyer. Please feel free to pick one up and use it for your cash offering. It is not necessary to use them for donations made by check, just note 'Benevolence' in the memo. ☞



Don't forget to exercise your privilege to vote on Tuesday, November 4! Make time to become an informed voter before going to the polls ☞

Dining Out Together

Join us at Danny Boy's Pizza immediately following 2nd service on Sunday, October 26. The doors will open early just for us. As always everyone is welcome to participate in the meal and fellowship. Everyone is responsible for the cost of their own meals.



Please register on the Welcome Card if you plan to participate. ☞

Chix Mix: Something New for Women

by Rita Ford

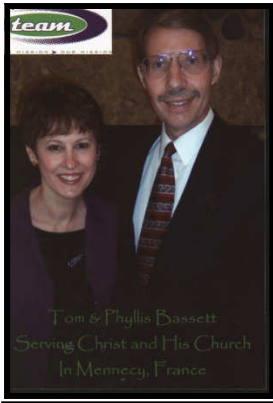
Women's Ministry is introducing something new for women. We're calling it Chix Mix. It will be a time of eating, talking and laughing, women getting together just to hang out. No agenda just hanging out together. These times will be very casual and always fun!

Jan Andersen will be the hostess for our ministry ground breaking on Thursday, October 9 at 7:00 pm. We'll meet in Jan's home (1626 U.S. Rt. 6 East, Geneseo—phone number 489-

4175). There will be nothing to bring—this time. It will be the choice of each month's hostess as to what we do and when and where we meet. It may be a Saturday brunch, a cook out, or just snacks. We are hoping that this time will allow some of you moms to unload the kiddos on a responsible adult so that you can join us. And of course it's always fine to bring a guest! See you Chix soon! ☞

Reaching Out Through Missions

by Ken White



Tom & Phyllis Bassett serving in Mennecy France

They do not go out as much with gas prices hitting the equivalent of \$8.50 a gallon.

As a missions team we have been praying for a long time for much needed space and for additional workers at the church in Mennecy France where Tom and Phyllis Bassett serve. Please pray for the below requests. While they were in the states this summer they saw God raise up a number of churches and individuals who gave sacrificially to the Mennecy Church project. The church was able to begin the remodelling project. The Bassetts would like to say thanks to so many who stood with them in this project.

Phyllis mentioned in this months newsletter—"Praise the Lord. We are in our new building now. Our Sunday school has enough class space and our sanctuary space has doubled. Yet our remodelling is blocked by a company that needs to reroute a major pipe and is dragging their feet. We would like the work to be done soon for the sake of safety now. The children go to their Sunday school rooms and have to walk over this pipe, not to mention the rest of the

ceiling renovation. We are so grateful for the enlargement but now the loose ends are becoming a hazard." **Please pray that the work is completed soon.**

They need more Sunday school teachers. The ideal is 4 teachers that rotate each week. We now have 3 for each class but we need more teachers especially for the junior high age group. Need we say more: **WE NEED PRAYER THERE!**

Their theme for this year is discipleship. We have had many new faces and visitors especially since we have remodelled. There are two new women that are attending our church from Mennecy: Marie Navarro & Sylvie. They both need to be discipled. Phyllis will start meeting with Marie this fall. Sylvie meets with H el ene for now. **Please pray for wisdom for the leadership team.**

Tom and Phyllis had a bit of excitement in August. Their friend from Moody (April) was in France for the birth

of her nephew. She came up from the language school in Albertville to Paris with her mom and her (very pregnant) sister. They planned on staying with the Bassetts overnight. Can you guess what happened next? They knew where the maternity ward was in the neighbouring town but now they were all going to see it. Phyllis and Tom translated for the mom and her family. Although Hudson William Fluid was born through c-section, Mom and baby are fine. So, they all had more company than was expected for a few more days. It was a week to remember I am sure.

Great news-after 15 years in France , Tom and Phyllis have just been allowed to apply for the first 10 year residence card on the 29th of August. **Please pray this request is granted.**

Tom and Phyllis noted they are very encouraged by many of you who pledged more financial support this year. They are so very grateful for answered prayer. They are still under budgeted by \$500.00 a month. The price of doing ministry in France is expensive. They do not go out as much with gas prices hitting the equivalent of \$8.50 a gallon. Yes, you read that right \$8.50 a gallon. They unfortunately do not invite people for a meal as much as the price of food in France has sky rocketed. This is where we have had to cut corners. **Please pray for God's provision in their finances.** ☞

October Prayer Focus

by Teri Walters

Pray for the two people who will be chosen to be America's new president and vice president for the next four years.

Romans 13:1 tells us "there is no authority except that which God has established—the authorities that exist have been established by God" and in 1 Timothy 2:1-2 we are urged by the apostle Paul "that requests, prayers, intercession and

thanksgiving be made for everyone — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".

Let God use you and me as we vote on November 4 to elect His choices of authority for this time in history. Pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. ☞



GEFC Online Bible Class: What is Christianity All About?

by Pastor Greg Chenoweth

Last Spring we took ten weeks to summarize what we believe as an Evangelical Free Church. I can't tell you how frustrating that series was for me. Each truth contains so much treasure and raises so many intriguing and confounding questions that I agonized each week over what to share and what to leave out. Well, I'd like to invite you to feel my pain; actually, to experience my gain. It was joy to be flooded with the riches of God's truth. It's a good agony to have so much great stuff to share that I can't share it all.

I would like to offer a unique learning experience for you. Let's get together online – at our new Website – to study the Bible. Over seven months we'll study seven different areas of Theology (which is another way of saying,

the study of God and His Word). Each **month** we will focus on one of the following areas: the Scriptures; God; Humanity; Jesus Christ; Salvation; the Church; Future Events.

Each **week** you will have a reading assignment (usually between 15-30 pages and at the most 41 pages). At the end of the reading assignment you will choose one to two questions to respond to online. You will also have opportunity to ask questions online to the other participants. Each **month** we will offer round table discussion groups to hash out issues that you read about that month. You will be able to choose between two meeting times. These will be facilitated by one of the Pastors – Greg, Cliff or Michael. To help you integrate your study, you will be encouraged to memorize three verses

each month related to the month's topic.

I would estimate that the average time required for the course will be 1 to 2 hours each week. Because we're conducting the class online, you will have the convenience of reading and responding on your own time. So, there's no scheduling conflicts for meeting with the rest of the group.

To participate in the online class you will need to purchase Wayne Grudem's *Bible Doctrine*. If you are interested please email me at pastorgreg@gefc.org and I will order a book for you. Our first online week will start October 26.

Your Student Teacher,




Senior Pastor,
Greg Chenoweth

The hopeful news of the Scriptures is that this powerful God wants us to relate to Him and to experience His life-transforming power.

Keep in Touch with Our College Students

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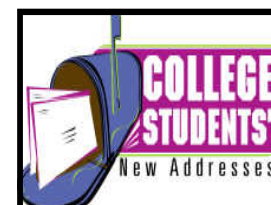
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As much as our college students love text messages, emails and phone calls they

still treasure good old fashioned snail mail. They truly look forward to notes and cards received from home. So, consider dropping them a note of encouragement the old fashioned way today. ☺



What's New in the Youth Ministry

by Pastor Michael Mauriello



We've had a lot of change in the youth ministry over the last several months.

Senior High Youth Group: On Sunday nights, our senior high students have started a new band (comprised of Anna Mason, Brennan Fox, Laurel Donaldson & Josh Lodge). We've moved our small groups to church, and we now have three healthy and productive small groups. Our attendance has jumped from 12 to 26. Many students are back and many are inviting friends.

Senior High Sunday School: Right now, we are studying 'The Everyday Christian Life.' Our students ask about how Christian doctrines intersect with their everyday lives, so we've actually been asking, "What is an Everyday Life?"

and taking it apart so we can actually understand the questions we're asking. Lessons will include the goals, patterns, people, powers, providence, and settings in the everyday life. We'll also talk about what role I play in my everyday life, and what happens when crises interrupts the everyday life.

Junior High Youth Group: This semester we are doing more small group oriented work as we study the book of Revelation together. I like Revelation because we can focus on very big pieces of the theological framework of the Bible while going through an exciting book. The kids are asking great questions about God, I look forward to seeing some kids drawn either into a saving

knowledge of Jesus or a deeper walk with God.

Junior High Youth Group: Ken and Pam are doing awesome work! This semester our students are learning how to discern God's will for their lives, exploring different religions, and wise women of the Bible! Ken and Pam make the Bible exciting for our students, and I'm so glad to be next door to them downstairs.

I remind you as parents and as teenagers that a youth program is only as helpful and good as you make it. Please take advantage of what our church is offering. We promise to be faithful as we minister to your students in the name of Jesus. ✝

Please take advantage of what our church is offering.

Partners in Prayer Adds a New Dimension

by Debbie Rogers

The Partners in Prayer ministry would like to announce an opportunity for interested people to become involved in the ministry. The Partners in Prayer (PIP) ministry has operated for a number of years to provide prayer support for our pastors and worship services. We pray regularly for our pastors and staff and also supply the prayer room on Sunday mornings during worship services. Participation has been down over the last couple of years. We would like to change that by extending an invitation to anyone who would like to be a part of our prayer ministry to consider a couple of opportunities.

We are starting an early morning prayer time on

Sunday mornings before 1st service. Anyone who would like to participate is invited to come any time it fits their schedule to pray from 7:45 to 8:05 am for the days worship services including pastors, leaders and tech people. There won't be a schedule, just come when you can.

We would also like to expand the coverage during each worship service. Our short term goal is to have enough people to schedule at least one person in the prayer room during each service. We intend to start this new expanded schedule on February 1, 2009. Please let us know if you're interested so we can start to work on a schedule. In time we would like to build

our prayer support coverage to a point where we have at least two people in the prayer room for each service.

As the ministry prospers we look forward to offering training so that we can have one person in the prayer room after each service who would be willing to meet with people who are looking for someone to pray with about a situation in their life or to share the Gospel with them.

If you hear God calling you into such a ministry and would like more information please call Debbie Rogers at 944-4131. ✝



A Word From Our Treasurer

by Dan Leigh, Treasurer

The Administrative Council and the Elders are preparing the budget for next year. The budget process identifies the needs of the church to continue the ministries for another year while we, the church, put our faith in God the money will be donated to support those ministries. Sometimes we forget that God owns it all and he allows us to manage the money for him. One way of managing his money is by returning a portion to the church. As the Treasurer, it is exciting to see God provide when we're not sure how accounts will balance. This is a direct reflection of people doing their part by tithing to the church.

One way to assist families with tithing was the creation of an electronic giving program within the church. We now have the ability to accept donations via electronic fund transfers. The money transfers directly from your bank account to the churches account. You are in full control of the amount you wish to donate and when you want to donate. No pre-authorization is required and anyone can begin donating at anytime. The process is user friendly, secure and completely automated, creating a streamlined process. Each donation will receive an online email receipt plus your donation will be included in your year-end statement from the church. To access the online giving website visit our website at www.gefc.org and click on Stay Connected,

Donations link. Two programs are available for online giving: one program accepts debit/credit cards and the other program makes an electronic withdrawal from your checking or savings account. No up-front fees are required by the contributor. The donation goes into the General Fund to support the ministries at GEFC. This service is provided for your convenience.

It's the Treasurers responsibility to keep accurate financial records of the income and expenses within the church. A financial record software system is used to manage the finances. After a budget is adopted by the congregation, the Treasurer is authorized to make disbursements of the church funds. Money is donated to either the General Fund or Designated Accounts. The General Fund supports the budget of the church. Designated Accounts support specific ministries such as the Benevolence Fund, Missions, and Special Relief Offerings that come up during the year. A few of the special funds set up in 2008 were: New Orleans Missions Trip, Midwest Flood Relief, Mynamar Disaster Relief and the latest, Georgia Relief.

Among the Designated Accounts is one called **Rising Above**. This is a capital improvement fund for miscellaneous repairs and improvements within the church, above what is allocated in the yearly budget. Rising Above is

an account with on-going needs. You generally don't hear much about it until a specific need arises and/or the balance is depleted. We are currently replacing a refrigerator, freezer, air conditioners and furnaces from the Rising Above account. These purchases will fully deplete the current balance of this account. To give to Rising Above or other designated accounts just make a note in the memo field of your check, otherwise your contribution goes directly to the General Fund to support the budget.

It's a pleasure serving as the Treasurer at GEFC. I couldn't do it without the help of Catherine Sommers, who keeps me organized, and the Counting Committee: Steve Rogers, John Hemminger and a special thanks to Roland Eklof for his many years of service who was replaced by Craig Henkhaus. I owe a special thanks to my wife who refers to herself as the Treasurer's widow as she belongs to an ABF while I'm working in the office. Some of you have noticed that she takes good care of me by bringing me a coffee and treats during the ABF hour. If you have any questions feel free to email me at treasurer@gefc.org



Sometimes we forget that God owns it all and he allows us to manage the money for him.



How to Pray For Our Pastors



Senior Pastor
Greg Chenoweth



Associate Pastor
Cliff Gilleland



Youth Pastor
Michael Mauriello

The best way to build your church and fire up your pastor is to be personally involved and pray for them constantly and continually. Our pastors face many opportunities and challenges each day. They are called upon to balance the stresses of ministry while they are expected to research and write sermons, manage the affairs of the church, go to countless meetings and counseling others that are struggling with significant issues as well as manage their home effectively and be a contributing citizen in their community. Not only are all these expectations placed on them but in addition they are expected to do it with a smile, and never to complain or get angry and they are to do it all quickly and efficiently. I don't know about you but I think this is a pretty tall order. They need our help and more than anything they need our prayers and support.

Consider praying for our pastors in these areas:

For Their Life

- **Protection from sin and personal holiness**—just as you don't send a soldier out to battle without protection from his enemies, you can't send your pastor out to battle without standing beside him in prayer to protect him.
- **For God's provision**—Pray that God will provide supernaturally for him and his family.
- **Time Management**—There are many demands on a pastor's time. Pray that God will help them prioritize the

use of their time, and find ways of avoiding entanglements that will waste time.


For Their Families

- **For their marriage**—That God will bless their marriage with love, companionship and intimacy. When their marriage is blessed, they can serve as a better example for the other couples in the church.
- **For their children**—Often the demands on their time impede their ability to be available for their own family. Pray God's protection over the hearts and minds of their children, that they not be drawn away into a life of sin. Also pray that their family is able to spend quality time together and build each other up in the Lord.
- **Protection from attacks**—As with any soldier on the front line, the attacks are the strongest. Pray that God place a hedge of protection around them, their family, and their home. The less time that our pastors have to focus on fighting for their own lives, the more they can fight for ours.

For Their Ministry

- **Wisdom**—Pastors are often faced with impossible problems in the lives of their flocks. Pray that God give supernatural wisdom to them so that they give godly counsel to those in need.

- **Anointing**—Without the hand of the Holy Spirit and His supernatural power, the pastors are unable to minister effectively. Pray that they be constantly filled to overflowing with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Revelation**—It is not enough to only know the Word of God in our heads, but we need it in our hearts as well. Pray that the Holy Spirit bring to life a profound understanding of each and every principle in His Word.
- **Intimacy with the Lord**—The more time a believer or pastor can spend with the Lord, the more they have to give to others. Pray that the Lord will take our pastors aside for special times of intimacy and refreshing.
- **Armor bearers**—Pray especially that God will provide people who will hold up our pastors in prayer and in practical helps. There is no man who can do it all on their own. Each needs armor bearers to help.

Find out what God's Word says about each of these areas, and declare those blessings over our pastors. Make this a regular part of your prayer life, praying for your pastor each and every day. Not only will they be blessed by it, but you will too 

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 pm	2 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Worship Practice 6:30 pm	3 Homeschool Group 10:00 am Worship Practice 6:00 pm	4
5 Partners In Prayer 7:45 am Sr. High Youth Group 6:00 pm	6 Missions Meeting 7:00 pm	7 AM Reading Connection II 10:00 am	8 MOPS 9:00 am Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 pm	9 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Worship Practice 6:30 & 7:15 pm	10 Facedown Worship Conference 1:00 pm	11 Facedown Worship Conference 7:00 am
12 Partners In Prayer 7:45 am Sr. High Youth Group 6:00 pm	13	14 Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm	15 Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 pm	16 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Worship Practice 6:30 pm	17 Homeschool Group 10:00 am Worship Practice 6:00 pm Crafting @ Mauriello's 7:00 pm	18 Date Night 4:00-8:00 pm
19 Partners In Prayer 7:45 am Sr. High Youth Group 6:00 pm	20 Administrative Council Meeting 7:00 pm	21	22 Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 pm	23 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Worship Practice 6:30 & 7:15 pm	24 Homeschool Group 10:00 am	25
26 Prayer Group 7:45 am Dining Out @ Danny Boy's 12:00 noon Sr. High Youth Group 6:00 pm	27 Annual Budget Meeting 7:00 pm	28 MOPS 6:30 am Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm	29 Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 pm	30 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Worship Practice 6:30 pm	31 Worship Practice 6:00 pm	

Free News

October 2008 Volume 13, Issue 9

Geneseo Evangelical Free Church
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Sunday Worship Services

- Conventional Service - 8:15 am
- Contemporary Service - 10:45 am

Christian Education - 9:30-10:30 am

Senior Pastor - Greg Chenoweth
Associate Pastor - Cliff Gilleland
Student Pastor - Michael Mauriello

The FREE NEWS

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REMINDER

The newsletter will no longer be mailed out after the December 2008 issue. It is already available online at gefc.org where you can subscribe to it and have it delivered to your email inbox as soon as it's posted. Watch the newsletter and the bulletin for step-by-step directions coming soon. For those of you who would rather have a paper copy they will be available at the Information Center in the foyer for you to pick up at your convenience.

