

FREE NEWS

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 7
SEPTEMBER 2011

We're on the web gefco.org

Current sermon series:
Paradise Redeemed
A study of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible)

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AWANA News

The AWANA leaders are preparing for a year of great harvest. AWANA leadership will make final plans and preparations on Wednesday, September 7th beginning at 6pm. Pizza and soda will be provided. ALL 2011-2012 leaders are asked to attend. This final night of planning will prepare for a seamless start to the new season. **NOTE:** This is a night of club **WITHOUT** the kids.

AWANA will then officially kick-

off for the students on Wednesday, September 21st. This year club will begin at 6:20pm and end at 8:00pm.

There will be an Adult Sunday School Elective available for all AWANA leaders and other interested adults. The focus will be on families and children with an opportunity to discuss AWANA. This exciting new elective will begin on September 11. Watch the bulletin for sign-ups and details.

14th Annual Uniquely & Wonderfully Made Women's Retreat



**5:45 PM
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 8**

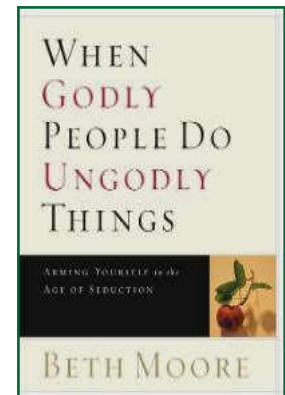
Doors will open at 5:30 PM.

Guest speaker:
Sarah Chapman McManus
presenting....

Chocolate Spa for Body & Soul Rest, Renew, Rejoice

Watch the bulletin for registration information coming soon!

We're Doing A Beth Moore Bible Study



Are you ready to face the enemy? Christians are still subject to Satan's attacks. He is determined to disrupt the lives of believers, destroy their ministry, and steal their joy. Sadly, those who have "fallen" may not recognize the devil's schemes until they have been caught in a snare of defeat. This 7 session video driven study is written in three parts.

The study will be held on Thursdays from 9-10:30 AM and 6:30-8 PM beginning September 29th. Childcare will be available for infants & preschool age children at the morning sessions only.

Cost of materials is \$15 if ordered & paid for by September 18 or \$20 if ordered and/or paid after September 18.

You may register and pay at the Welcome Center in the foyer.

So,
What Is
ELEVATE?

The Sr. High ministry at GEFC has changed it's name, but its mission to call teens to conform their life to the image of Christ remains the same. We chose the label **ELEVATE** because it is a name that embodies the desire of our ministry: that students would act on the call of God to take the next step in their relationship with Jesus, whatever the student's spiritual background and wherever they are currently in their faith (or lack thereof).



Just like each of us, every student has a next step towards Jesus. For some it might be reading their Bible everyday, for some it could be thinking through the importance of sharing their

faith with their peers, and for other students it may be to actually think through for the first time who they actually believe Jesus is. Each student's next step is different, but each student has a chance to take a next step up, or **ELEVATE**, in the direction of Jesus.

ELEVATE meets on Sundays from 6:00pm-8pm, our current series is "THE JESUS YOU NEVER KNEW", looking at what Jesus said about tough spiritual topics.

Calling All Sr. High Students' Parents



Mr. & Mrs. Sr. High Parent

If you are a parent of a High School student, I'd like to invite you to a special Parent's Night at ELEVATE, our Sr. High ministry, on Monday, September 12, from 6:30-8:30 PM here at GEFC. You will hear our vision for ministry for the 2011-2012 school year, how you can stay updated on what is happening, and how we can partner with you in ministry to your teen. We'll

also be discussing a question on every parent's mind: **HOW DO I HELP MY TEEN CHOOSE THE PLAN AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.** We'll have resources for you to look over on how to find the right college, how to work towards scholarships, and what timeline should be in your mind if your teen isn't a Senior yet.

Did I mention food? We'll be enjoying AJ's relatively famous chili with all the fixins'!



Mothers In
Touch
International
Prayer Groups
available in
Geneseo

Mothers In Touch International

Mothers In Touch International (MITI) is a world-wide organization encouraging local moms to gather and pray for their children, schools and community. Mothers, grandmothers or any woman who is willing to intercede for a specific child and Geneseo school is invited to join a small

group of moms praying each Friday morning for one hour. Are you interested in meeting weekly, praying for the next generation? Would you like to know more about the local group that meets on Friday morning or possibly starting your own prayer group? For more information on MIT and the Friday morning Geneseo

prayer group that meets for one hour each week during the school year contact Lori Gilmore at dlkc@mchsi.com or Jennifer Mills at mills5@geneseo.net.

Pouring It Out All Out for Others

by Gary Dawson, Elder Chairman

Paul's use of the drink offering as a metaphor (Phil 2:17 & 2 Tim 4:6) always stirs my heart. It conveys completeness – a total emptying of what was in the vessel. Some months back I looked up the various Old Testament sacrifices and their purpose. The drink offering was an offering of worship, thanksgiving, and joy that accompanied Meal and Burnt Offerings. While the whole of the animals was not given to God (some was reserved for the priests), none of the drink offering was held back for the priests or the giver. It was all poured out to God. Paul's use of the metaphor served

as a complement to the Philippians' faith and service which Paul likens to a sacrifice. Paul expressed worship, thanksgiving, and joy at seeing Philippians serving Christ and each other. Paul expected his own blood to be poured out in martyrdom. It was just another of his spiritual acts of worship.

The pouring out of the drink offering reminds me of a slightly more modern metaphor – that of an hour glass. We all have a date/time stamp. Each sand grain of our lives is poured out for something - work, hobbies, service to God and others. In Romans 12:1 Paul asked the Roman Christians – and the

Holy Spirit urges us- "to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." We make such offerings by time spent serving Jesus and others not in word or tongue, but in deed and truth (1 John 3:18). Good intentions, kind words, sympathy, and encouragement are important but loving deeds and actions are more important. GEFC has a reputation for meeting needs and serving others. May God help us to prioritize our time so that our legacy, like Paul's, is one of being poured out in Christian service to others.

Good intentions, kind words, sympathy, and encouragement are important but loving deeds are more important.

Small Groups Starting Soon

Small Group season is here again! GEFC Fall Semester for Small Groups will start the last full week of September, and run through mid-December. Watch for sign-ups beginning August 28th during services. Several sessions will be offered throughout each week. Small

Groups will complement the church-wide emphasis on Pastor Greg's on-going sermon series, "Paradise Reclaimed." Prayerfully consider joining your church in this Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out opportunity. Be looking for weekly sign-up announcements

in the bulletin or please contact David or Lori Gilmore, small group coordinators, at dlkc@mchsi.com



Sign-ups for Small Groups begin August 28.

Bible Study Fellowship

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) is a comprehensive, interdenominational Bible study providing the tools needed to grow in the knowledge of God and His Word, and to apply Scripture to daily life. Classes meet weekly, September through May, and will be registering and starting soon for the 2011-12 study of the book of Acts of the Apostles, including several of the epistles. At BSF, children study the same Scripture passages as their parents, at an age-appropriate level. The day class provides a children's program for newborns through age 5, while the

evening classes provide programming for 1st-12th grades. Materials are made available at no charge. In the Quad-City area there are three BSF classes.

Thursday Women's Day Class

First Evangelical Free Church, 3321 7th St., Moline, IL, 9:10-11:00 am
Class Contact: Sandy Nass 563/676-9881

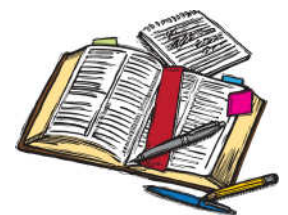
Monday Men's Evening

Bettendorf Presbyterian, 1-74 & Middle Rd, Bettendorf, IA, 6:55-8:45 p.m. Class Contact: Duane Truman 563/332-9865

Monday Women's Evening

Edgewood Baptist Church, 2704 38th St., Rock Island, IL, 6:55-8:45 p.m. Class Contact: Joni Ketelaar 563/332-9865

Classes in the Quad-City area will begin the week of September 12th. You can learn more about BSF by contacting Lori Gilmore at 913/206-5336 or Jane Alexander at 944-1105 or visit www.bsfindernational.org.



Bible Study Fellowship begins the week of September 12th

Food Pantry News



Geneseo Food Pantry is about more than food.

An Open House
Sunday,
September 18
from 2:00-4:00
p.m.

School started on August 17th, and donations from the community and surrounding area helped to make sure that all client children had new supplies to start the school year. Without your help, many kids would be without many of the things they need to be successful in school. Thank you for being generous.

Because the weather continues to be very hot, donations of new fans are still appreciated. Also, the Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program, sponsored by Project Now, was not funded by the state of

Illinois this year. In the past, between 30-35 households have benefitted annually from financial help with utility bills, both for cooling and for heating.

This summer, many families are struggling to keep their utility bills current because they do not have this extra help. If you are able, please consider making a donation to either the Geneseo Food Pantry or Municipal Utilities. In the memo section of your check, please write "utility assistance". Our clients very much appreciate the support

you provide through your giving.

Because cool weather is just around the corner, donations of outgrown and no-longer worn clothes for fall are needed for all ages, especially children and teen-agers. Light weight jackets, jeans, and sweatshirts for chilly mornings are always popular items.

Food needs for this month are: pancake syrup, spaghetti, macaroni, cake mix, cereal, soda crackers, graham crackers, snack crackers, and instant mashed potatoes.

Food Pantry Open House

We would like to invite the community to an open house at the Geneseo Food Pantry on Sunday, September 18, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Our building has a new roof, as well as freshly painted windows and trim. Because the Food Pantry is "more than just food", we would like to tell you about the services available to clients who are in need of help. Please join us on September 18th. Hope to see you then!

Reading Connection

The Reading Connection, is an informal book group for women. Women are welcome to begin participating at any time throughout the season.

The Group meets on the 1st Tuesday morning of most months from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

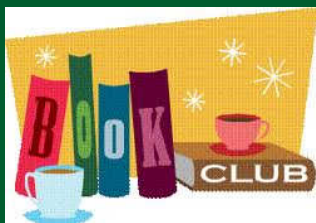
The selections come from a variety of Christian genres and authors.

Selections have been made for the upcoming year. Follow the bulletin for ordering deadlines. The first meeting of this season will be Tuesday,

September 6 at 10:00am at the church.

SELECTION SCHEDULE

- 9/6/11 - **June Bug** by Chris Fabry (drama)
- 10/4/11 - **Levi's Will** by Dale Cramer (amish)
- 11/1/11 - **The Twelfth Imam** by Joel Rosenberg (prophecy)
- 12/6/11 - **Chasing Sunsets** by Eva Marie Everson (romance)
- 1/3/12 - **The Uncommon Woman** by Susie Larson (growth)
- 2/7/12 - **The Veil** by Diane Noble
- 3/6/12 - **The Ambition** by Lee Strobel (suspense)
- 4/3/12 - **Pearl In The Sand** by Tessa Afshar (historical)
- 5/1/12 - **The God Hater** by Bill Myers (allegory)



The Reading Connection women's book group is open to all women of the community.

September 2011

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

It's time to update the pictorial directory. If you didn't get a chance to submit your snapshot or would like to update yours now is the time. Send your JPG image to Catherine at gefc@gefc.org by September 18 to be included in the next directory. If you have address or phone changes, please let Catherine know as well.

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Business Office Closed

Sr. High Concert Event
5pm

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10

Partners-In-Prayer
7:45am

OFFICE CLOSED

Mission Team Meeting
7pm

Reading Connection 10am

Pastoral Search Meeting
7:00 pm

AWANA Leaders Only
Mtg. 6pm

Jr. High Youth Group
6:30p

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Partners-In-Prayer
7:45am

Adult Sunday School
Electives begin 9:30am

Williams Bridal Shower
following 2nd service

ELEVATE 6pm

Mission Team Meeting
7pm

Sr. High Parents Meeting
7pm

Elders Meeting 7pm

MOPS 9am

Jr. High Youth Group
6:30p

Homeschool Group 1pm

Gun Safety & Target
Shooting 9am

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Partners-In-Prayer
7:45am

ELEVATE 6pm

Administrative Council
Meeting 7pm

Pastoral Search Meeting
7:00 pm

AWANA 6:20pm

Jr. High Youth Group
6:30p

Homeschool Group 1pm

25

26

27

28

29

30

Partners-In-Prayer
7:45am

ELEVATE 6pm

Men's Leadership/Elders
study 6:30pm

MOPS 6:30pm

AWANA 6:20pm

Jr. High Youth Group
6:30p

Women's Bible Study
9:00 am 6:30pm

Homeschool Group 1pm

Treasurers Financial Report

July 31, 2011

Annual Budget:	\$365,504.00
GF Contributions	\$224,472.87
Expenses YTD:	\$197,973.39
Emergency Fund	\$90,000.00
Building Fund	\$60,308.48
General Fund	\$62,481.81
Sr. High Ministry	\$2,627.07
Missions	\$1,203.94
ABF's and SS	\$339.76
Gifts and Memorials	\$421.69
GRAND TOTAL	\$217,382.75

Geneseo Evangelical Free Church

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Phone: 309/944-4667

Fax: 309/944-4668

Email: gefc@gefc.org

Web: gefc.org

Senior Pastor, Greg Chenoweth
Worship Director, AJ Reynolds
Sr. High Youth Director, AJ Reynolds

Sunday Worship Services

- Conventional Service - 8:15 a.m.
- Contemporary Service - 10:45 a.m.

Education for all ages - 9:30 a.m.

The FREE NEWS

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Geneseo Evangelical Free Church

Men's Ministry presents

Gun Safety & Target Shooting

Men, you are invited to a special get together on Saturday, September 17 from 9:00am to 12 noon. On that morning we are going to learn from a certified instructor the proper techniques of gun safety and target shooting. Then we will go to the rifle range and see if anyone can safely hit the bull's-eye! Please invite your sons, daughters, grandsons or granddaughters so you can have a special time with them. We'll provide lunch - all for free! You can't find a better deal so reserve that day for someone special! Here are the details.

1. Meet at the church at 9:00 AM. We will drive to the range after the presentation by the instructor.
2. You do not have to bring

anything - the instructor will bring the .22 caliber rifles, ammunition, and the targets.

3. We will have a free lunch after shooting at the range.



4. The child/young adult must be mature enough to hold the rifle by themselves, and listen to and understand the information from the instructor.
5. This event is also an outreach

event for your friends and neighbors. Invite them!

6. Sign up on the back of the Connection Card in the bulletin, indicating the number of adults and the number of children. Please indicate on the card: "Target Shooting."

7. Because of various circumstances, there are young people in our church that might not have the opportunity to attend this event. As an adult, if you would like to invite and help a young person attend, please contact Craig Anderson for information at 944-5783.

8. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Anderson at 944-5783.

- The Men's Ministry Team