

homepage

May 2010 - homepage newsletter

Missional, Missionary or Missinitall?

At our annual meeting we discussed some Course Corrections needed to stay on course with God's movement. These are not brake-smokin', tire-skiddin', U-turnin' reversals. We envision using the momentum from GIEFC's faithful past to move forward with continual, incremental, directional adjustments. These Course Corrections can be compared to the constant steering adjustments a good driver makes as they move down the highway.

We highlighted four anticipated Course Corrections:

- Redirect worship – from consumer to worshipper
- Refuel mission – from come to go
- Retool community – from collecting people to connecting people
- Refocus unity – from uniformity to unity

We summarize these as Going Missional. We use the term missional as an outwardly bound directional indicator. There is a directional difference between what some call the Seeker Church and how we envision the Missional Church. The Seeker Church depends upon a program driven ministry to invite people to come and see. The Missional Church acts on Jesus sending commission to seek and save as we go and make disciples.

There are both theological and cultural realities that set ministry direction. The theological reality is that God is the

continued on page 4

Building Fund Faith Goal

Twenty-seven months ago the congregation moved into a desperately needed building addition. In addition to the Chapel, the ministries serving Children, High School, College/Career age, and Adults benefited from this expansion. This past year significant headway was made with the Building Loan - reducing it from \$813K to \$599K.

This Faith Goal would greatly expand the missional ministries of the church

An aggressive Faith Goal was presented at the Annual Community Life Meeting. Should God choose to move his people, it is hoped that the Building Loan would be reduced to \$150K by this time next year. The church family is asked to consider how it might participate in this faith effort. since this announcement there has been increased giving to this effort.

Freeing up these building funds would greatly expand the missional ministries of the church both here and abroad.

A Bit Greener

The walls of the church building won't be painted green any time soon, but efforts to be a bit more green are underway within these walls. Recycling aluminum cans on behalf of Habitat for Humanity have been underway for nearly ten years. To reduce waste, the church office continues to recycle papers. New recycling containers have recently appeared at key locations throughout the building offering easy recycling of papers, aluminum cans, and plastics.

Living green may be trendy, but the ultimate goal is to honor God by carefully utilizing resources with which He has entrusted us.

Church custodial staff have made concerted efforts at keeping thermostats low during the winter and higher during the summer when facility space is not being utilized. These efforts have resulted in very surprising cost and energy savings for our church family.

continued on page 4

Inside Info

Congregational Meeting -----	2
New Men's Group-----	2
College World Series -----	3
Emergency Information -----	4

Missional, Missionary or Missinitall? (Cont. from pg. 1)

seeker – not man. People are not seeking God; He is seeking them. And, Jesus commanded His followers to do the same! The current cultural reality is really a byproduct of that truth but it shows up in this way: The people we are called to seek are not seeking church programs and events – only church people are seeking and expecting those! People in our culture may not even realize it but they are lost without two spiritual realities: Truth and relationship.

So what? So, we must personally reach out to the people in our community and adapt our ministries language and media, to them meet them where they are at, introduce them to Jesus Christ, and connect them in discipling relationships – usually before they ever walk through the doors of our church. If (since) that is true, then we must also train people differently since they are really the missionaries and their neighborhood, work and relational networks are the mission field – not the church!

If you are interested, Below are some links relating to this discussion.

<http://www.redeemer2.com/resources/papers/missional.pdf>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvFbzpAwHdw>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Gi0jWNAe6M>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXqRMa-iWmw>

Greener (Cont. from pg. 1)

Less paper is being used through the increased use of email newsletters, church communications, online contributions and registrations, and children's ministries check in procedures.

Living green may be trendy, but the ultimate goal is to honor God by carefully utilizing the financial and environmental resources with which he has entrusted us.

Emergency FYI

Planning for the Unexpected

Security of Personal Items - It is wise to keep valuables out of sight in your car while parked. Also, note that free digital lockers are located just off the Gathering Place for your convenience in securing personal items.

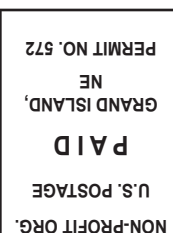
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Grand Island
Evangelical Free Church



Special Quarterly Congregational Meeting

This Special Quarterly Meeting will address two proposed Constitutional changes. One proposal would make it possible to ammend the Constitution with a more reasonable quorum (1/3 of the members, instead of the presently required 1/2 members). Future changes would pass with a 2/3

Special Quarterly Congregational Meeting
9:35 a.m. Sunday, May 23 • Church Gym

affirmative vote as opposed to the unanimous (without abstentions) vote. The second proposal would adopt the denomination's updated Statement of Faith, putting our church in step with our local EFC District structure. Lastly, a final decision on the proposed Sports Fields (located on the eastern edge of the church's property) will be made. Proxy voting is available to those serving in ministry during the Sunday School hour, and for active members who will be out of town. Proxy ballots were mailed to members this week.

Spring Middle School Service Day



On April 10th, 24 middle school students went out to Timberlake and helped get the camp ready for summer. They collected and burned large quantities of fallen limbs, piled lumber, picked up trash, and helped clean out the horse barn. The theme verse for the day was 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, which is a reminder to work and train for Christ's Kingdom just like an Olympic athlete would train for his event. It was one of our best service days!

Looking for a Few Good Men



June 4th, at 6:30 p.m. is the first of four men's events this summer aimed at men who are serious about their relationship with God. Men who want to go further and deeper as they learn to walk and relate to God on a daily basis. The first **Summer Men's Challenge** will take place at Brian McMahon's home (3481 West Schimmer Dr - 384-2074) starting with a barbecue, a time of worship around the campfire and digging deep in the Word for God's challenge to his sons. We hope there are a lot of men at this event. Please sign up on your Communication Card or RSVP to Pastor Paul Canady 382-1898.

Upcoming Events

May 23
Special Quarterly Congregational Meeting - 9:30 a.m.
Middle School taco Feed 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

May 31
No Sunday School
Adult Communities

June 2
VBS Training
June 14-18
Vacation Bible School

June 19
Guys College World Series Trip

July 23-25
All Church Campout

Men's Ministries



Summer Men's Challenge

June 4

- Real Men Barbecue 6:30 pm at Brian McMahon's - 3481 W Schimmer Dr., Grand Island - 384- 1074
Indicate interest on your Communication Card

July 9th

- Out of Our Comfort Zone

August 20th

- The Power

Sept. 10th

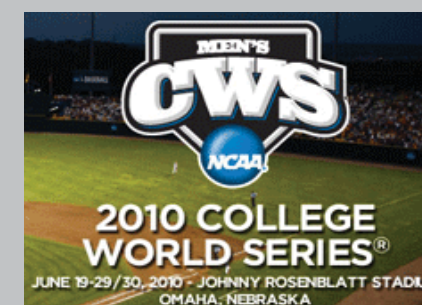
- Unleashing Caged Christians

(Date to be announced)

- Fall Men's Ministry Kickoff

Guys College World Series Trip

Saturday, June 19



\$39

2 games

Charter bus

Last season at Rosenblatt

Middle School Service Trip Taco Feed



The Middle School Denver Service Team will be hosting a taco lunch on this Sunday from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the gym. A free will offering will help cover some of the trip expenses.

Serving the World:

Summer Missions Updates

Kevin Hiegel returned last week from **Zambia** assisting Paul and Lori Schlick.

Dick Strickland arrived in **Zambia** this past week to serve at the Gospelink Bible School.

Diana, Andric and Pastor Paul Hofrichter travel to **Germany** next week for 21 days of ministry with the Janz Team.

15 Middle School students and staff will be serving in **Denver** June 4-11

The City (College/Career) group will serve with Habitat for Humanity in **Florida** in June.

The 4 member **Germany** Team serves at the Janz Team English Camp July 25 – Aug 8.

High School Students will be serving at the Rock Church in inner city **Chicago** for 2 days in July.

9 members of the **Mexico** Team serve in Tlanchinol July 17-24.

The **Project Hunger** teams will serve 1 meal in June and 2 in August at the Salvation Army.

Once each month a Children's Ministries family assists in serving a meal at **Salvation Army**.