



1985-2011

The Evangelical Free Church of Sycamore-DeKalb

*Our mission is to develop followers of Christ who love God, love others and impact their world.*

# The Disciple

## Fall Sermon Series: Romans Gold

*"They are without doubt among the greatest and most glorious chapters of the whole New Testament. They portray our Christian privilege, the privileges of those whom God has 'made new', those whom He has 'justified', that is, declared righteous and accepted in Christ." John Stott, Men Made New: An Exposition of Romans 5-8, IVP*

### ***"I am righteous"***

How could a person wake up in the morning and say, "I am righteous"? Would it be arrogant or rude, or is it true? This righteousness, of course, is not based on our performance or merits, but on Christ's—not the work of the redeemed, but the work of the Redeemer. Thank God, I am righteous! Romans 1-4 explains our position as sinful and broken until God overcame what we could not. Now we have a new position. "I am righteous" is the truth of being in Christ. We say it with humility and gladness. Unfortunately some believers never drink enough of the gospel to fully realize their righteousness in Christ.

### ***A gospel gold mine***

This fall we will study Romans 5-8 together and it will be the gospel cup at our lips with more good news to drink. Many see the gospel as simply the door to the Christian life. Instead, it is a whole new order of life, including sanctification and heaven. Some think the journey is essentially over once we initially embrace Jesus as Savior and Lord. If it is then we would not have Romans 5-8. We are all just beginning to dig into the unfathomable depths of the gospel. Romans 5-8 is like walking into a gold mine with nuggets more valuable than all the precious stones on earth.

There are no easy quips and tricks in spiritual growth. Life is not one, two, three—all problems solved. Relationships just do not work that way. Instead, we need to understand and receive what God the Spirit would personally apply to us from his Word. This leads to foundational certainty instead of serial failure and bondage. It means a new order of life in experiencing

Christ. It means trading in a nominal life for the Christ-filled life—a cup overflowing into a God-centered and outward-focused life. Our pockets overflow with gold.

### ***Others too***

Romans 5-8 relentlessly expresses why all people need Jesus Christ, including those who already believe. As a result, our minds and hearts are enamored with Christ. We experience a relationship with God that keeps spilling over. Because of what Christ did in us, we think: *What about my good friend or family member? They just don't seem to need or want this.* We all feel this from time to time. But Christ so enamors us that we keep the thrill of telling those we care about, "Here he is, Jesus Christ. He is my peace. He is my God. Here is life with him. He is glorious." Our loved ones may or may not get it. Yet. But we keep experiencing and explaining life with Christ before them as the glory of Christ draws them behind the scenes.

The book of Romans is not primarily about reaching our neighbors, yet it happens as the believer is revived. Life can get sucked out of us, but a church focused on Jesus Christ's plan and filled with people that have a deep passionate life with God naturally helps others. The glorious gospel works; Jesus provided it and we get to know and discover its fruits.

Fill your pockets full of the gold in Romans.

Praying for you,  
Pastor Brad



## Evergreen Village Outreach

We are so excited about the connections we were able to make at Evergreen Village last month! We were able to provide five nights of Summer Reading Vacation using curriculum from Neighbor's House. Dozens of kids came out to spend time together – reading, playing games, doing activities, and joking around – there were smiles everywhere. And at the end of the week, we were able to provide school supplies for all the kids who came.

This came about due to the numerous volunteers. E-Free people spent their evenings playing with kids, talking with parents, setting up and taking down.

...continued on page 6

**Our Vision:**

To be a God-centered, outward-focused people who are building bridges to individuals in our local community and beyond, through authentic relationships and practical service, with a goal of connecting people to Christ and His community, and developing and multiplying followers of Christ.

## Have you longed for a deeper prayer life with God?

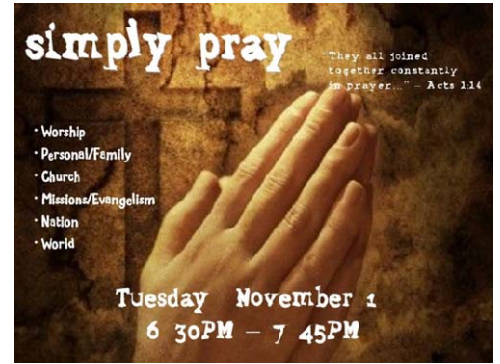
Come be a part of a praying community that seeks to connect with our God.

"Simply pray" encourages the church to embrace the simplicity and faithfulness of prayer. The desire of the evening is to spend an hour or so interceding for the needs of our families, church, mission, nation, and world.

You are invited to join together in unity with others in the congregation to seek the Lord in prayer.

*"The prayer of a righteous person has great power..." – James 5:16*

**Tuesday, November 1, 6:30PM – 7:45PM, EFC**



## Boxes of Love



Last year, Operations Christmas Child, a project of the international Christian relief organization, Samaritan's Purse, delivered more than 8 million gift filled shoe boxes to needy children in 130 countries.

This is a great time of the year to start collecting school supplies and small seasonal toys to put into an Operation Christmas Child shoe box. The campaign will begin at the end of October and continue into November.

Information sheets will be available soon. For more information, call Pete or Marilyn Trott or [pete.mare@comcast.net](mailto:pete.mare@comcast.net).

Visit [www.Samaritanspurse.org](http://www.Samaritanspurse.org) to see pictures and read more about the impact of these boxes of love.

## Missions Conference 2011 "Should I Not Be Concerned?"

God is concerned about all people everywhere and we are called to this same mission.

On Saturday, November 19th at 6:30 p.m. as the Global Connections Team will be sponsoring this year's Missions Conference built around the words God said to Jonah (4:11), "Should I not be concerned about this great city?"

Working with the Senior High Youth and the Community Connections Team, we will be challenged to reach out to people in our families, community, and world with the glorious gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Join us for a night of worship and prayer as we encourage one another to fulfill the Great Commission and share God's concern with all people. After the service, stay to enjoy dessert and visit with many of our ministry partners in the fellowship Sunday school area.

**November 19 & 20—Mark your Calendars**

## DIVORCE Care®

Why have "DivorceCare" at E Free ?

*"There aren't many people around you who understand the pain your separation or divorce has caused to you, your family, [or] your friends."*

DivorceCare is open to everyone in our community. The support group will meet weekly.

The adult sessions will be held in room 109

Divorce Care for Kids (ages 5-12) sessions will be in Room 115.

Child care will be provided through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

The sessions consist of video seminars, Biblical teachings, discussions and group support.

For more information or to register: call the church office at 815-756-8729 or David Vikse (leader).

9:45am-10:45am Just past the coffee service!

## The Heidelberg Catechism Jim Mistry

The Heidelberg Catechism is the most widely used and most warmly praised catechism of the Reformation period. Jim will lead you through it with guidance in how to interpret scripture, see the beauty and authority of scripture, and grow in love of the person who calls Himself The Truth. You will be learning scripture in a question and answer format. Although open to all, this class is recommended for adults and families with older children.

## Life Together: Grace-Based Parenting Greg and Kim Wheaton

Using family topics like marriage and parenting as a springboard, this group aims to foster God-centered relationships with an outward focus. All ages and walks of life are welcome, and we will be basing our discussion around the book, Grace-Based Parenting by Tim Kimmel.

## Evangelism Is Relationships Dave and Rennie Garda and Pastor Gary

As we follow Jesus, together we encourage and support one another with sharing our life with Jesus in our RSI. Our Relational Sphere of Influence includes our unique family, neighborhood, career, school and/or work place. Join us for six weeks to discover God's prompting, power and the ways we support each other as we share Jesus, together. We'll look at God's strategy for sharing the Gospel from the outline of John 3:16 - intercede, invest, intersect and invite. The inter-generational experience will be led by Rennie and Dave Garda with Pastor Gary. Prayerfully consider joining with us in an interactive, round table environment for High School through Adult Disciplemakers of any age. Cost \$5/participant for class and take-home materials. This course is being co-sponsored by the Adult Discipleship team, Student Ministries and the Evangelism Team.

## Spiritual Gifts for everyday followers of Jesus. Begins later in the semester

Join us to discover and develop your God given special abilities as followers of Jesus. Discover over seven weeks how God has uniquely gifted you to support each other in the context of life of following Jesus, together. This is an interactive, round table environment led by Dave and Rennie Garda for High School & college students and adults of all ages. We'll experience ways that God empowers, equips and prompts us to encourage, support and affirm life as a mutual community.



## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fall Sunday School has started and we would love for your children to come join the fun!

Children ages toddler- 5<sup>th</sup> grade will enjoy classes with carefully chosen curriculum that will help them love and follow the Lord Jesus.

Our teachers do their best to makes Sunday mornings a fun and Christ centered part of your child's week.

Sunday School meets from 9:45- 10:45 and there are classes for all ages!

- Infants: childcare in the Infant Nursery
- Toddlers (through age 3): in the Toddler Nursery
- Preschool/K (4's - kindergarten): Room 114
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Room 115
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade: Large group in the Worship Center



## HATE RAKING?

Even if you answered yes to only one of those questions, you can help! Kids going to church camp would like the opportunity to rake your yard in return for a donation!

## HELP KIDS "LEAF" FOR CAMP

When the leaves begin to fall... look for the raking sign-up sheet in the church lobby or call Kathy Stice.

## THANK YOU!



## Family Life

Romans 12:15 (NIV)

*Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.*

### Condolences

Wendell Hueber's brother Roger went home to be with the Lord on September 8th.

### Congratulations

Lacey Lynn Fry, was born August 17. Lacey's parents are Jake & Dana and big sister is Jocelyn. She is Lyndia & Gary Fry's granddaughter.

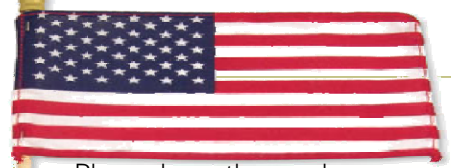
Leon Paul Halatek III was born to Leon and Julie on September 11.

## Together

Disciple makers practice...

Scripture Study  
**PRAYERFULNESS**  
*Extravagant Love*  
 Life of Worship

Won't you join us?



Please keep those who are serving our country, as well as their families, in your prayers.

New!

- ◇ Tony Freeland  
(Tony played drums in E Free praise team is in the Navy serving in Guam.)
- ◇ Mark Barnhorst  
(Lenny and Bonnie Mack's grandson-in-law)
- ◇ Nathan Doering  
(Cindy and Keith Doering's son)
- ◇ Kyle Ericson  
(Susan and Don Willrett's grandson)
- ◇ John Gibson  
(Ericka Howard's brother)
- ◇ Matt Gibson  
(Ericka Howard's cousin)
- ◇ Brian Graves  
(Marilyn and Pete Trott's grandson)
- ◇ Josh Harmon  
(Julie Ross' cousin)
- ◇ Sarah Harmon  
(Julie Ross' cousin)
- ◇ Phil Menard  
(Dennis and Toni Sheppard's son)
- ◇ Jamie McQuiniff  
(Marilyn and Pete Trott's nephew)
- ◇ Matthew Ross  
(Phil and Julie Ross' nephew)

Please let us know of others.

Call the church office  
 815-756-8729 or  
 e-mail: sb.efc@comcast.net

## Second Saturday

begins its third year on October 8th!

All adults, 50-ish and better, are invited to the "Second Saturday" breakfast on October 8 from 8am - 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

There is no charge and no agenda. The idea is to just come, talk, relax, and enjoy each other.

All food and drink is provided.

**See you on October 8!**

Questions, call Gary or Lyndia Fry



Scan this code and send us your thoughts!

# Ladies' Night Out



Take a break from the day to day... no cooking, cleaning, folding laundry, and bed time routines.

Join us for food, fellowship, and laughs on Friday, October 21 at Taxco in Sycamore.

We will be meeting at the restaurant at 6:30pm.

Please sign up in the foyer so we can make reservations.

Questions? Call Melissa Clack



## November Fellowship Mug Run

Join us for our annual Ladies Mug Run!

Saturday November 5th at 4:00pm. Bring your own mug and an empty stomach. With five different pit stops... you are going to need the extra space!

Each House Hostess will be serving one of the following: Appetizers, Soup, Salad, Entrée and the last stop will be at church for dessert and coffee.

We will be meeting at the church and then will carpool to each stop.

### Help with the FUN!

We are looking for 4 House hostesses as well as 2 volunteers per house to cook. Detailed information is in the foyer.

Sign up is a must so that we have enough food for everyone.

Any questions... Please call Melissa Clack



## MALI news

### **Baptism** : a symbol of your new life as a Christian.

Two of our international friends were baptized on June 12, 2011.

"Although I didn't know what Christianity was back when I was in \_\_\_\_\_, God had already started to work on me and change my life.

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ from the U.S. were both my teachers there. They were the first two Christians in my life. When I came to the U.S. and was encouraged by \_\_\_\_\_ to attend EFC, I was so surprised to meet Julie and Leon there and find it was their church home!

How amazing God is!

I have been attending EFC now for about 1 year, because EFC is like my spiritual home. I enjoy every Sunday worship and the Sunday school classes with Christian friends, listening to God's words and growing in his love."

Another said "Christianity Explored/Discipleship classes got my interest in church, and association with close Christian friends got my interest in pure love and the Bible".

### **Congratulations—**

to two of our international friends who graduated from NIU in August.

One said "I want to give others testimony that the more I research, the more I know the power and mercy of God".



We thank and praise God for revealing himself to people in truly marvelous ways and saving them from every tribe and nation!

Get to know more internationals in next month's newsletter!



## Man Up Weekend 2011

Save the dates for the men's retreat.  
November 11-13



Pictures from last year's retreat

OPERATION Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse

## Boxes of Love

Last year, Operations Christmas Child, a project of the international Christina relief organization, Samaritan's Purse, delivered more than 7.6 million gift filled shoe boxes to needy children in 90 countries.

This is a great time of the year to start collecting school supplies and small seasonal toys to put into an Operation Christmas Child shoe box this November.

Information sheets will be available soon. For more information, call Pete or Marilyn Trott or [pete.mare@comcast.net](mailto:pete.mare@comcast.net).

Visit [www.Samaritanspurse.org](http://www.Samaritanspurse.org) to see pictures and read more about the impact of these boxes of love.



## Evergreen Update continued from page 1...

There is an energy in Evergreen. We are a catalyst for healthy community and the residents love it. As we build relationships, we are able to share the truth about who we are – sinners who have found forgiveness and hope thru Jesus.

We need your prayers! We believe a next major step is to provide weekly homework nights at Evergreen. Kori Mauch and others are working thru how and where this can happen - in coming weeks, we hope we'll need help setting up facilities. Reach out to Kori if you are interested in sharing yourself and some of your evenings with kids at Evergreen. We are continuing other ways to build relationships with the Evergreen community. If you would like to be involved (picnics, holiday food distributions, bible studies, etc.), let us know!

-Andy Olsen for the Community Connection team: Salvador Arguello, Sylvia Burchell, Margaret McCann, Cindy McKay, Josh and Tracy Minnihan, Jim Mistry, Brad and Sue Osborn.

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>8:30 am - Worship &amp; 11am 9:45 am - Sunday School 1 pm - Divorce Care 6 pm - Young Adult Small</p> <p>Betty Barnaby</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30pm - SH Study @ Gins</p> <p>Jason Polichnowski</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Allison Smith Jesse Wiemer</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4 pm - Women's Prayer 6:30pm - First Place 4 6:30pm - JH Youth Group 6:30pm - Vocal Team</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30am - Men's Prayer</p> <p>Julie Ross David Favin Isobel Seneczko</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Robert Clements</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:30 am - Worship &amp; 11am 9:45 am - Sunday School 1 pm - Divorce Care 1 pm - SH Ministrv Team</p> <p>Gabrielle Smith Sean Clements</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30pm - SH Study @ Gins</p> <p>Isabella Scmerbach</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Kristian Olsen Grace Waller Cheryl Cheesman</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4 pm - Women's Prayer 6:30pm - First Place 4 6:30pm - JH Youth Group 6:30pm - Vocal Team</p> <p>Deb Bragg Ben Smith</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30am - Men's Prayer 9:30am - Moms Connected</p> <p>Fernanda Arguello Salvador Arguello Jr. Sasha Campbell</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30am - Carpets Cleaned</p> <p>Marilyn Sander</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Bonnie Jones Ruth Hueber Levi Olmstead John Polichnowski</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:30 am - Worship &amp; 11am 9:45 am - Sunday School 1 pm - Divorce Care 6 pm - Young Adult Small</p> <p>Chris Griffith</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30pm - SH Study @ Gins</p> <p>Taylor Dirks Bonnie Cain Dalma Vazquez</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>4 pm - Women's Prayer 6:30pm - First Place 4 6:30pm - JH Youth Group 6:30pm - Vocal Team</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30am - Men's Prayer 7 pm - Elder Meeting</p> <p>Eleanor Barker Kris Hoffman</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30pm - Ladies Night Out -</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:30 am - Worship &amp; 11am 9:45 am - Sunday School 1 pm - Divorce Care 4 pm - Love Inc. Meeting 6 pm - Young Adult Small 6:30pm - SH Youth Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30pm - SH Study @ Gins</p> <p>Jody Kampmeier Angie Shirkey</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Isabella Rigaud</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4 pm - Women's Prayer 6:30pm - First Place 4 6:30pm - JH Youth Group 6:30pm - Vocal Team</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30am - Men's Prayer 9:30am - Moms Connected</p> <p>Renee Olsen</p>	<p>28</p> <p>JH EQUIP Conference</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Vic Graff Katja Wiemer Audrey Guio</p>
<p>30</p> <p>JH EQUIP Conference</p> <p>8:30 am - Worship &amp; 11am 9:45 am - Sunday School 1 pm - Divorce Care 6 pm - Young Adult Small</p> <p>Mike Thornton</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30pm - SH Study @ Gins</p>	<p>Prayer</p>				

Please share your prayer requests.

Email the office at: [sb.efc@comcast.net](mailto:sb.efc@comcast.net)

Call Ann Graham 815-895-5450 or Diane Kerry 815-895-9109

# Evangelical Free Church of Sycamore-DeKalb

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

150 Bethany Road  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
815-756-8729  
www.EFCsycdek.com

Senior Pastor  
Bradley J. Reardon

Worship and Music Pastor  
Paul Rogers

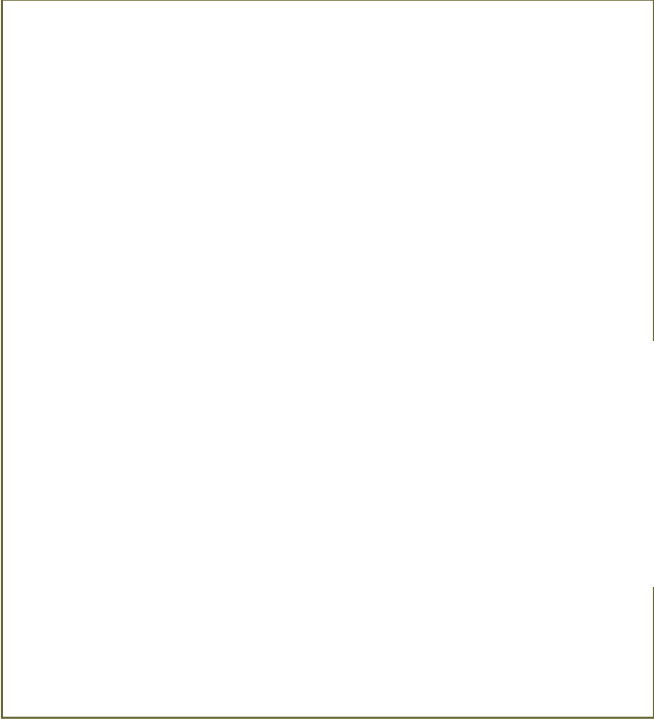
Pastor of Student Ministries  
Gary Lisle

Children's Ministry Director  
Terry Gin

**Sunday Services:**  
8:30am & 11:00am  
9:45am Sunday School



Non-Profit  
Presorted  
Standard US Postage  
Sycamore, IL 60178  
Permit No. 11



## Inside this issue...

**Romans  
Gold**

Fall Sermon Series



Boxes of Love

**DIVORCE Care**

Divorce Care



Ladies' Night Out