

# Evangelical Events

Evangelical Free Church of Lena

June 2011

*"Preparing People with Purpose"*

## Summer Precept Study

Precept will begin a new, shorter class on Thursday, June 2 from 9—10:30 a.m. "Loving God and Others."  
See more details on page 5.



**June 5—August 29**  
8:45-9:45 a.m. ABF hour  
10 a.m. Worship Service

## Mark Your Calendar: Church Camp-out Dates for Lake Le-Aqua-Na

June 10, 11, 12                      August 19, 20, 21  
July 22, 23, 24                      September 23, 24, 25  
No sign-up required—all are welcome to come and camp out or just come spend the day. Questions, give Dawn Crichton a call at 815-369-4946.

**Important Hometown Nazareth VBS information on page 5.**  
**Be sure to check it out!**

## HELP NEEDED!

The Coffeehouse ABF needs volunteers to get the drinks/treats ready and put out on Sunday morning and to make sure it all gets cleaned up and put away afterwards. Don't worry if you don't know how to run the coffee maker, it's easy and we'll show you how.  
If you'd be interested, give the office a call, or mention it to Vicki Klopping or Jean Paisley.

## Table of Contents

"From the Pastors Pen" .....page 2  
Student Ministries.....page 3  
Missions Moments.....page 4  
June Activities.....page 5  
Library Corner.....page 6  
Small Groups/Thank You.....page 7  
Monthly Schedules.....page 8  
Calendar.....page 9

# From the Pastor's Pen



In his fine little book Fully Human, Fully Alive, author John Powell relates a true story. It didn't happen to him but to a friend of his while he was vacationing in the Bahamas.

*What attracted the friend's attention was a large and restless crowd that had gathered toward the end of a pier. Unable to restrain his curiosity, the man began to walk down the pier and investigate the cause of all the noise and commotion. Powell explained, "Upon investigation he discovered that the object of all the attention was a young man making the last minute preparations for a solo journey around the world in a homemade boat. Without exception everyone on the pier was pessimistic. All were actively volunteering to tell the ambitious sailor all the things that could possibly go wrong. 'The sun will broil you!' 'You won't have enough food.' 'That boat of yours won't withstand the waves in a storm.' (And of course, those familiar words) 'You'll never make it.' When my friend heard all these discouraging warnings to the adventurous young man, he felt an irresistible desire to offer some optimism and encouragement. As the little craft began drifting away from the pier towards the horizon, my friend went to the end of the pier, waving both arms wildly like semaphores spelling confidence. He kept shouting: 'Bon Voyage! You're really something! We're with you. We're proud of you!'"*

Words have real power in our lives. Either we can build up the people around us with healthy doses of encouragement or we can tear them down. We can give our loved ones words that bring life or we can mortally wound them with words that tear down and destroy. It is particularly important that Moms and Dads look for ways to encourage their children. This means fighting the impulse to be negative and critical with our children, which seems to come far more easily.

The Apostle Paul told the Thessalonians, "*For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and*

*charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory."* (1 Thessalonians 2:11-12)

How can we do this? I want to suggest three simple ways. **First, choose your words wisely.** After a long, tiring day when you are extremely fatigued, it is easy to become negative and critical. Fight the urge! Instead, pick out one or two encouraging things to build up your spouse or children with. Share those encouraging words genuinely and verbally. It is a great pick-me-up.

**Second, get excited about their life.** Spend some time discovering the interests and hobbies of the important people in your life. Go to their baseball game and cheer like crazy. Spend time at the swimming pool, encouraging their efforts. Notice the magazines they are reading. Ask questions.



**Third, affirm them for their uniqueness.** God has made us all different and that is a good thing. Don't wonder why they aren't more like you. Praise God for the uniqueness and be thankful that we are not all the same. God loves variety and uniqueness and so should we!

When we spend the time cultivating a relationship of encouragement, the exhorting and charging are much more readily accepted.

Because He Lives,

Pastor Jim



# Student Ministries

Last week our youth had the opportunity to hear from Gary and Sandy Wittevrongel, two missionaries they are helping send to Europe. Gary and his wife shared with us that less than 1% of Europeans are Evangelical Christian.

While the church in Africa and Asia are exploding with growth, Europe is in spiritual decline. The European landscape is filled with churches that have closed down, been converted into community centers, and many are considered tourist attractions.

As a culture, the United States tends to follow Europe. We too are experiencing major spiritual and moral decline. Many churches that were at one time vibrant have let go of essential Bible doctrines, failed to penetrate the culture with the gospel, and have consequently had to shut their doors. In a pursuit to become relevant to the culture,

many churches have become irrelevant.

In light of these problems, Gary and Sandy challenged us to be so transformed by the gospel that we not only believe it for salvation, but also live it before a world that has been deeply affected by sin. Political turmoil, wars, and godless worldviews have ripped apart the people of Europe. What Europe needs are Christians living among them who are ready to forgive, love, and share the good news of Jesus Christ. The United States is no different. All around us are people whose lives have been ripped apart by sin.



Through this man  
**forgiveness of sins**  
 is proclaimed to you...

**Acts 13:38**

The only solution for their sin and ours is the grace and forgiveness found in Jesus Christ. Let's make Him known and see to it that future generations have every opportunity to hear and respond to the glorious gospel.

Pastor Scott

## Announcements

**Summer Kickoff, June 3, 2011: 6:00 – 10:00 pm.** All Jr. and Sr. High students are invited to the Myers farm for a night of cooking out, games, and an interactive devotional!



**Sunday June 12, 2 PM** – Softball  
 Dodd's Park: Adults and youth  
invited.

**Sunday June 26, 2 PM** – Softball at  
 Dodd's Park: Adults and youth  
invited.

## Thank you!

Our youth ministry would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Grad Banquet a success!

We sincerely appreciate all the time and energy people put into decorating our room and preparing the delicious meal. We would also like to thank all those who donated food for the event! And thank you to everyone who came out to prayerfully support the students during the program. Our seniors and their families were blessed!



## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who donated towards our youth ministry garage sale. We raised \$1,000 that will be used towards spreading the gospel in our community! In the coming days our youth will be meeting to pray and brainstorm ways to use this money to bless others.



# Missions Morsels



## *Rich Sicard*

Rich Sicard and students are finishing up the school year. They had 36 scholars and their families who visited Park Hills the end of April. Among them was a special group of Chinese champions who are in Madison for nine months. Many won gold/silver medals in the Olympics or World Championships. Rich asked one student to invite as many as he could for the weekend. The student said he didn't have to. They heard about the weekend in China! By the time you read this, Rich and a team of medical students will have been to Honduras and back again. Rich and his team are very grateful for the meds that were donated for the trip. Their daughters, Caire - 8th grade, and Olivia - 12th grade, are graduating this year and are having a party on June 12, from 1PM to 5PM. Everyone is invited to stop by if in Madison, 4512 Wakefield St. It's not hard to find. The street runs west off of Midvale.



## *Ben Beckner*

Ben Beckner and a French Colleague and pastor from the south of France have traveled to Ukraine. Their goal is to recruit students from various universities for their French outreach camp this summer to be held in the historic city of Yalta in the Crimean peninsula the end of July. They'll be visiting among French camp alumni. At the end of the trip, Ben will be giving the wedding homily for one of their FSF board members, William, who is marrying one of their Ukraine alumna, Natalie, in the capital of Crimea. They request prayer for their wedding where there will be many nonbelievers from Natalie's family as well as many French camp alumni. Ben asks prayer for their visit to university French departments at the National and Christian universities in Odessa, Zaporozhye, Simferopol, and Yalta. Also, pray for a possible revisit to a bilingual Russian-French high school in Odessa, for their visit to the Baptist camp facility near Yalta, and lastly, for their French team, Paul, Sandra, Daniella, Jonathan, Christine and Ben.



## *Mark and Athlee Bowman*

May 11 marked the second month since the earthquake disaster in Japan. Mark and Athlee request prayer that the love shown by Christians who give themselves in various ways will cause people to want to know God,

the author of that love. A group from their area, called "hokumin", travel to the earthquake area for five days each week to do relief work. Mark plans to join them on one of their trips soon. They also request prayer for the English students, cafe regulars, and the college students to know Jesus as their Savior. Pray for their fellow workers, John and Eby who returned to the USA, May 25. Pray they will find the right work and for their future living situation. The Bowman's have people coming to work short term this summer. Pray for the adjustment of staff leaving and coming as well, that God's peace would be felt by all concerned. Athlee's brother, Mark, had emergency brain surgery at Denver University Hospital on April 4. He remains hospitalized at a nearby facility. His recovery is making slow progress. Pray for his recovery, his medical insurance situation and to remain stable. Pray that Athlee will have the opportunity to visit her brother. The Bowman's request prayer that they remain in peace throughout the summer busy-ness ahead.



## *Ross and Mary Hunter*

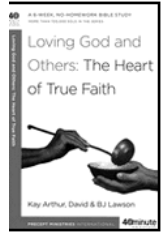
Ross and Mary Hunter in Riobamba, Ecuador, ask prayer for Mary, who is still in Ohio caring for Ross' mom. Ross is planning to take a quick trip to bring Jennifer to Mary at the end of May. Their son, Jonathan and wife, Maggie are applying for a Youth ministry position in Costa Rica. Pray that God's will be done. Their daughter, Jennifer volunteers once a week at the Ark, a children's home in Riobamba. She helps feed the babies, including Romina who can't see, walk or talk, but can hear. Jennifer sings and plays with her. Pray that "Romi" may learn everyday tasks and feel loved. Their daughter, Christine will be working with urban youth in a ten week internship with Inner City Impact (ICI) in Chicago this summer. Christine is a junior majoring in Youth Ministry at Moody Bible Institute. She needs a total of \$2750 for the summer which is about \$40 a day. She requests prayer for God to provide quickly, prayer for adjustment to urban culture, connection with the team she will be working with, finances for the summer and her last year at Moody, and openness in the heart of the students. If you would like to help her financially or commit to pray for her, please e-mail her at [chunter@moody.edu](mailto:chunter@moody.edu).

*Linda Lindstrom*

# June Activities

## Summer Precept Study

Precept will begin a new, shorter class on Thursday, June 2 from 9—10:30 a.m. “Loving God and Others” will help answer the question ‘What does God really want from you?’ It’s easy to get confused about how to please God. Loving God and Others looks at how, as you rest in the certain knowledge of what God calls you to, you will be challenged to live these commands out, and discover how obeying Jesus’ simple commands will transform not only your life but also the lives of those around you. Sue Leverton will be guiding this class and it will go until the end of July. Cost is \$8. per book. If you have any questions, give Amal Tawfik a call at 815-369-5102.



## Park Services

The Saturday night Park Services at Lake Le-Aqua-Na have begun. They begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Hickory Hill Campground. Join campers and others in praising God surrounded by God’s beautiful creation!

June 4	Lena Free Worship Team
June 11	Professions of Faith
June 18	LuAnn & Michelle
June 25	Red Bird Country
July 2	Tyger Johnson
July 9	Warren United Methodist Praise Team
July 16	Dave Ruter Ministries
July 23	Kingsmen Four
July 30	Kim Pool
August 6	Martintown Worship Team
August 13	Tricia Vandenburg and the Father’s House Worship Team
August 20	Men in Accord
August 27	The Wilson’s
September 5	Debbie Leininger



## W.O.W. Women’s Study

Ladies, join Suzy Erb on Saturday, **June 25 at 8 a.m.** at the Lena Family Restaurant. They will discuss “Lies Women Believe” over breakfast. All ladies are welcome!

## Hometown Nazareth VBS

Our church will be turned into “Hometown Nazareth” during the week of July 18 – 22, from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. and preparations are beginning now. This is an amazing opportunity for our church body to come together and share their talents with one another. Do you work with wood? Do you sew, cook or clean? Do you work with animals? Do you work in the fields? Are you mechanically inclined? Do you like to laugh and have fun? Please think about a talent that you have and how you can share that it in the shops of Nazareth. Every night will feature a variety of shops in village. The children will go around and see skills being demonstrated and even try their hand at what is being done.

### Hometown Huddle Leaders:

We are looking for 12 adults and 12 teens to lead our Hometown Huddle groups throughout Nazareth.

### Canopies Please:

We are in need of 7 to 10 canopies to be used for the entire week of July 18 – 22 this summer so that we can construct the village of Nazareth.

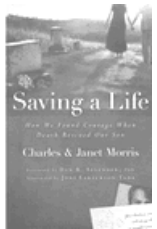


- ◆ More information will follow in the bulletin in the next few weeks. We look forward to this summer and know that it will be an incredible experience of growth and excitement for our kids as learn about Jesus’ life and calling. Come be a part of this amazing adventure. You won’t want to miss out on this!

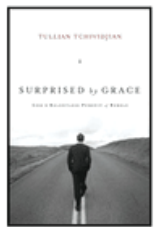
# Church Library



**Bound by Guilt** is C.J. Darlington's second stimulating novel. The plot thickens as Roxi, a rejected teen run away, gets involved in theft and murder. When Roxi can stand the hunger and cold no longer, she is offered a job on a ranch. Roxi finds more than relief from her physical pain. For the first time in her life Roxi feels love from the ranch owners, Jan and Keith. The burden of guilt lays heavy on Roxi's heart, until she reveals her secret to Jan. Roxi's admission of guilt brings danger to herself. Even though forgiven, the payment for wrong doing is yet to come.



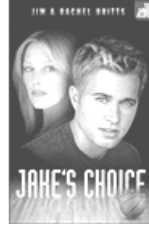
Jeff Morris was a son who caused his parents much pain. Jeff suffered from depression. Jeff never fit in with other children. His parents moved him from to school, hoping to find a place where Jeff could excel. Charles and Janet Morris prayed and pleaded for their son. They took Jeff to doctors and pastors, but Jeff's behavior grew more and more destructive. Jeff's young life came to an end by a self induced overdose. **Saving a Life** (92 Mor) is the honest, heart wrenching account of two parents turning their despair into hope. Charles is involved with Haven Today Ministries.



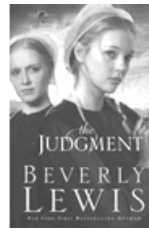
**Surprised by Grace** by Tullian Tchividjian, (224.9 Tch), is a book written about the book of Jonah. The author proclaims that Jonah is not a story primarily about a man swallowed by a fish. Instead, it's a story that reveals God's heart and ours. Pick up this intriguing book and be ready to identify with Jonah. Be prepared to learn the deeper lessons God reveals through Jonah.



We have two new picture books written by Lee Strobel's daughter Ali, and her husband Dan Morrow. **That's Where God Is** and **That's When I Talk to God** are understandable answers to two hard to explain questions that children may have.



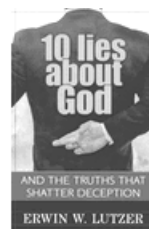
**Jake's Choice** by Jim and Rachel Britts is the continuation of the story, **To Save a Life**. Jake is in college and subjected to the temptations common to college basketball players. His faith is shaken as Jake must face popularity pressure. I hope this is an encouragement for teens trying to live a Godly life. Adults can benefit by the book also.



**The Rose Trilogy** book two is here. **The Judgment**, by Beverly Lewis begins where **The Thorn** leaves off. Hen and Brandon's marriage is in serious peril when Hen insists on staying plain. Rose discovers she still loves Nick, who has left his Amish roots, but she is engaged to Silas. If you read Lewis, you'll like this one.



An anonymous note, "I know what you did," sends Zoe into a tailspin that unravels her well being. As the notes become more frequent, the threats begin. Danger lurks around the corner for Zoe. I thought the book started slowly, but the pace quickened and excitement built after a few chapters. Then I had no problem reading until the end. You will enjoy traveling to Cajun territory in Kathy Herman's novel, **False Pretenses**.



The purpose of the writing of **10 Lies About God** (211 Lut), by Erwin Lutzer, is to understand God as He has revealed Himself, not as we think He ought to be, dispelling some of our ideas about God. Consider this. If God knows our decision ahead of time, then we will make the choices God knows we will make. Thus if God knows the future is "fixed"? Lutzer's answer is found on cpt. 7.

Submitted by Carol Corp



## Dig Deep Into God's Word!

### Join a Small Group!

**Mondays** with the Baker Group: **369-5393**  
(every other Monday)

**Tuesdays** with the Tawfik Group: **369-5102**  
(1st & 3rd Tuesday)

**Wednesdays** with the Erb Group: **369-9733**  
Will be meeting the 1st Wednesday of each  
summer month for a shared meal! Anyone is  
welcome to join them!

**Thursdays** with Precept Bible Study: **369-5102**  
*"Loving God and Others: The Heart of True Faith"*  
led by Sue Leverton

**Thursdays** with the Dawson Group: **248-4518**  
(meet at members' homes, scheduling as they go)  
*"The Forgotten God" by Francis Chan*

Thursday with the Hansen Group:  
745-2579 (every other Thursday)  
*"The Reason for God" by Timothy Keller*

**Thursdays** with the Hubner Group: **821-3804**  
Will be taking the Summer off. Watch for start up date!

**Fridays** with the Don Visel Group: **369-9036**  
Taking the summer off. Watch for start up date!

**Saturdays** with the Walter Group: **369-4072**  
*"Radical" by David Platt*

**4th Saturday** with Women of Wonder: **369-9733**  
(meets at 8 a.m. at Lena Family Restaurant -led by Suzy Erb)  
*"Lies Women Believe"*

To our Lena E-Free family,  
Thank you so much for the beautiful plant you sent our family  
with the loss of Ian's mother. It is so comforting at times like  
these that we love a God who loves and cares for us.

Thank you again!  
Ian, Amanda, Dillon & Dionne McIntosh

Thank you for all your prayers and support with the passing of  
Nancy's father. Thanks also for the lovely plant. All was most  
helpful and appreciated.

Richard and Nancy Plager

Hey! My first school year in Honduras is complete, and I am  
home for the summer. Now I can take a breather and look  
back on the past 8 months. I see God's faithfulness... ex-  
pressed through you! Thank you so much for your prayers and  
support! I am humbled and awed that God has allowed me to  
be a part of a local church family like y'all. Thank you for  
letting Him use you to touch my life and, through me, many  
lives in Honduras!

In God's love,  
Miranda Walters )=

Thank you to all of the people that helped make the Easter Egg  
Hunt a success this year. God was very faithful and many  
people were blessed through the hunt and the story of Jesus  
told through the Resurrection Eggs. This year we had over  
6,000 eggs in the yard and around 300 adults and children.  
We continue to grow each year and are looking for a group of  
people to come together to work on the hunt. Planning for  
next year's hunt will need to begin in January. The following  
are areas of need:

- Purchasing/Collecting Eggs
- Refreshments
- Counting Eggs
- Purchasing Prizes
- Set-up
- Clean up
- Greeting and Welcoming

Please be in prayer about how you can help. If you are inter-  
ested, please contact the church office.

Thanks to the church and friends for prayers, cards and beauti-  
ful flowers from my stay in the hospital. Thanks to God I am  
recovering and feeling well.

Praise God,  
Karl Byerley

## 2011 Graduates

### High School

Gabrielle Barton  
Cassandra Leopold  
Kirsten Mancosky  
Kaitlin Oberle  
Michael Welch



### College

Cindy Smith from Lewis University  
Mark Visel from Bethel University  
Daniel Myers from Moody Bible Institute  
Amanda Paisley PharmD from Drake  
Jason Heinrich from NIU

*Our congratulations to all our graduates!*

# Schedules for



## Nursery - ABF/Sunday School hour 8:45 a.m.

June 5	Rhonda/Tracy Schoeny
June 12	Miranda Walters
June 19	Kay Russell
June 26	Andy & Ginger Hubner

## Nursery - 10:00 a.m. service

June 5	Brett & Becky Anderson
June 12	Melody/Sam Welch
June 19	Nancy Plager/Kendra Becker
June 26	Ray & Elizabeth Gable

## Children's Church

June 5	NO CHILDRENS CHURCH
June 12	Nancy Plager/Kirsten Mancosky
June 19	Donna Hornung/Kendra Becker
June 26	Carol Corp

## Greeters - 10:00 a.m. service

June 5	Pete & Mari Conway
June 12	Roger & Vicki Kloepping
June 19	Vee Clair & Donna Hornung
June 26	Doug & Kris Visel

## Ushers for June(\* head usher)

### 10:00 a.m. service

Ron Watson\*  
 Dave Becker  
 Bill Hills  
 Andy Hubner  
 Tim Schoeny



**Hi!** I know you all remember me, Mr. Bulletin. I'm playing hide and seek. If you can find me somewhere in this newsletter, and be one of the first three people to call the church office (815-369-5591), you will win a prize! All ages can play along with me!

# June Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays

June 7	Bill Crichton Rhonda Schoeny
June 8	Bonnie Rillie
June 9	Pete Conway Ben Duncan
June 10	Gertrude Booth
June 12	Delvin Trost
June 14	Chuck Diffenderfer Chris Holverson Donald Krahmer
June 15	Marilyn Gilmore
June 17	Leanna Julius
June 18	Linda Dotson
June 21	Tristan Fox
June 22	Dennis Shultz Dan Tsao
June 23	Reid Huneke
June 25	Kirsten Mancosky
June 26	Byron Baker
June 27	Jacob Fox Chad Krogman
June 28	Kendra Becker Joseph Tsao Paul Wedige

## Anniversaries

June 4	Chad & Sarah Siefken
June 5	Jeff & Cindy Smith
June 8	Boyd & Marie Boyer
June 15	Delvin & Mae Trost
June 21	Mark & Kathy Diffenderfer
June 22	Jim & Suzy Erb
June 23	Tom & Jean Paisley
June 24	Bob & Carol Curtis
June 25	Roger & Mary Lobdell
June 26	Herbert & Gerturde Booth
June 27	Don & Amy Visel
June 29	Dennis & Laurie Walters



# June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ← Pastor Scott out  6:30p Erb Small Group  7p Jr & Sr High Youth Group 7:30p College Study	2 Of the office →  7p Hansen Small Group 7p Families Anonymous	3  6p. Youth Summer Kick-off at Myers Lindstrom/Whitlow Wedding Rehearsal	4  Lindstrom/Whitlow Wedding 6:10 p.m. 6:30p Park Service: EFC Worship Team
5 Communion	6  6:30p Tawfik Small Group  7p Baker Small Group	7 6:30 a Prayday	8  6:30p Erb Small Group  7p Jr & Sr High Youth Group 7:30p College Study	9  7p Hansen Small Group 7p Families Anonymous	10  Church Camping →	11  6:30p Park Service: Professions of Faith 7p Walters Small Group
12  2p Youth-Adult Softball at Dodd's park  →	13	14 6:30a Prayday  7p Elder Meeting	15  6:30p Erb Small Group  7p Jr & Sr High Youth Group 7:30p College Study	16  7p Hansen Small Group 7p Families Anonymous	17	18  6:30p Park Service: LuAnn & Michelle
19 Father's Day	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  6:30p Tawfik Small Group  7p Baker Small Group	21 6:30 a Prayday	22  6:30p Erb Small Group  7p Jr & Sr High Youth Group 7:30p College Study	23  7p Hansen Small Group 7p Families Anonymous	24	25 8am W.O.W. at Lena Family Restaurant  6:30p Park Service: Red Bird County 7p Walters Small Group
26  2p Youth-Adult Softball at Dodd's park	27	28 6:30a Prayday  7p Ministry Leader Meeting	29  6:30p Erb Small Group  7p Jr & Sr High Youth Group 7:30p College Study	30  7p Hansen Small Group 7p Families Anonymous		

BRING YOUR CHANGE FOR LIFE BOTTLE BACK ON FATHER'S DAY!

# *EFC of Lena*

720 North Freedom Street

Lena, IL 61048

(815) 369-5591

FAX: 369-4886

office@lenafreechurch.org

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

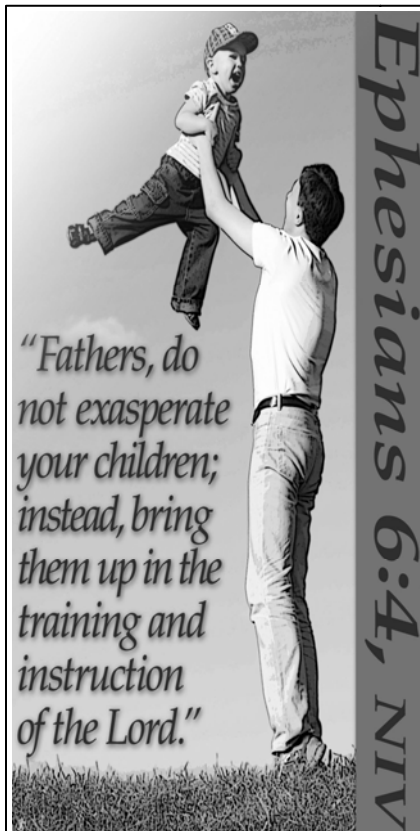
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CAR-RT-SORT



*"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."*

## *EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF LENA*

### Summer Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday

### Student Ministries

Jr. High Youth Group

Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.

### Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Assoc. Pastor of Youth

Assoc. Pastor of Senior Ministries

Church Secretaries

### Sunday School and

Adult Bible Fellowship

8:45-9:45 a.m.

Awana Clubs Age 3 - Grade 8

Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

September - April

Jim Erb (815) 369-9733

Scott Wilson (309) 371-4645

Dwight Bennett (815) 789-3307

Cathy Graham

Jean Paisley

Contact us at: office@lenafreechurch.org