

The Grace Notes newsletter



Proposed New Name Opens Doors to the Future

After a thoughtful and prayerful process, the Elders and Pastors have selected a candidate for the new name of the church. After receiving well over 100 submissions of suggested names, narrowing the list through two focus groups working independently of each other, and prayerfully deliberating together over the final form, the name that they are pleased to announce for consideration is "Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church."

As we near a vote on the proposed name, it is helpful to remember why the leadership made the consideration of a new name a priority. One of the main reasons, among sev-

eral, was the feeling that the current name presents a barrier to people in understanding what the church is really about. People in the general culture are unclear about the church when they hear the name, because they have no idea what an "Evangelical Free Church" is. That, in turn, creates discomfort, which makes it less likely that they will be interested in finding out more about the church. A confusing or unfamiliar name does not help to form a positive impression, nor do lengthy explanations. Take the example of the Chi-

nese Gooseberry: you probably bought many more of them after they were renamed the "kiwi fruit!"

While the proposed name does in fact officially include the phrase "Evangelical Free Church," it has the distinct advantage of being able to be shortened to one word in casual conversation: "Cornerstone." This word is familiar to outsiders, comfortable, attractive, and memorable - traits that the present name does not share. When someone asks a member where they attend church, a member cannot now simply answer "Glenview" -

NAME

Upcoming Events

- May 3 Men's Ribfest
- May 4 AWANA awards night
- May 11 Name Discussion Forum
- May 15 Name Forum 9:30 am
- May 15 Baptism / Honduras 6:00 pm
- May 17 Annual Meeting
- May 22 Name Vote 9:30 am
- May 27-28 Assyrian Revival
- Jun 18 Decorating 9:00 am
- Jun 20-24 Pandamania!

unless they only mean to identify the town!

Thus, the proposed name is functional in a way that the present one is not. It can be readily shortened to an attractive, one-word title for the church, but it also can be used in the long form for Free Church "insiders" who are looking for a Free Church (for example, in web searches). In this way it offers the best of both worlds for the various places the church name is used.

In the end, the new name makes it *easier* to talk about the church with outsiders - and

that is a big benefit in trying to attract those outsiders so that they can hear the Gospel message. That desire to be better positioned to fulfill our mission is what ultimately drove the quest for a new name.

There are several upcoming opportunities to discuss the name proposal: May 11 at 7:00 pm; Sunday morning May 15 at 9:30 am; and at the annual meeting on Tuesday, May 17. The vote on the name will take place Sunday morning, May 22 at 9:30. We hope you will join in the dialogue - and the vision for the future!



Pandamania Reigns in June!

That's right - Pandamania is set to break out here in the halls of the church as we once again kick off Family Bible Week starting June 20. This event is always one of the highlights of the year as we welcome more than 100 kids into the building every night of the week. This year's theme will bring home to kids the great truth that God is *wild* about them!

Family Bible Week is per-

haps our biggest and best outreach of the year, and to make it a success, we need your help. We always need group leaders, help with decorations, food servers, and many people to run things behind the scenes. If you can give some time to serve our kids, please see Pastor Tony or Miss Marge.

Watch for more information about this *beary* fun and exciting event!

Assyrians for Christ Hold 2nd Revival at GEFC

The stone the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone...

Psalm 118:22

An exciting event will take place here Memorial Day Weekend: the annual Assyrian revival will be hosted by our Assyrian Congregation at GEFC. The event, also held here last year, is expected to bring together several hundred people of Assyrian background for worship, teaching, and connecting with each other.

Leaders from the Assyrian

group in our congregation have demonstrated a deep commitment to evangelism over the years, and their hope for this event is that it will be another way for Assyrians to connect to Christ and hear the Gospel. We pray together that the time will encourage Assyrian believers as they experience unity in the faith and the encouragement of sharing Christ's love together.

The services, the messages, youth activities, and meal-times are sure to be exciting! There is a need for help with such a large event over the weekend serving so many people. If you could help in facilitating this gathering, please sign up in the foyer. For more information, please contact Martin or Maha Bazi or one of the other leaders in the Assyrian congregation.

A Special Night of Celebration

Sunday evening, May 15th affords us a special opportunity to celebrate God's work among us in two different areas. First, we will celebrate the baptisms of four members of the church family. Baptisms are always a powerful testimony to the work of God in people's lives, and greatly encouraging to those present.

Following the baptisms, we

will retire to the Fellowship Hall for some time together, where the Honduras team will share with us the ways in which God used them during their recent time on the service project. Top it all off with nachos, and you have the makings of a great evening!

We hope that you will join the church family for this outstanding night at 6:00 pm.

**May 24 and 31:
Justin Kron**

Our Jewish Neighbors

- 6:30 pm -