



# WONDER

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH *of* LETHBRIDGE

# WELCOME!

Welcome to E-Free! Our purpose is Making Disciples of Christ. Join us on the journey and let's take our next step toward Christ together.

**INFO CENTRE:** Our Info Centre hosts are available to answer questions, give you more info about your areas of interest, or just help you find your way around.

**CONNECTION CARDS & OFFERING:** Please fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering or bring it to the Info Centre, or visit [efreelethbridge.ca/connection](http://efreelethbridge.ca/connection). Guests are welcome to give during the offering but it is primarily intended for those who make E-Free their church home.

**DISCOVERING JESUS:** Dig into the claims of the Bible and learn how a relationship with Jesus can transform your life. Stop by the Discovering Jesus kiosk in the lobby for a free Bible and resources.

**COMMUNION:** Everyone who has accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour is welcome to participate in communion as we remember together the sacrifice made by Jesus. We typically celebrate Communion the first Sunday of the month. If needed, gluten free wafers are available from the servers.

## CONNECT

**INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK** | Saturday, December 8 at 6 pm | Gym

Celebrate Christmas with friends from around the world! Please bring a dish of food to share. This would be a great time to bring food that would be part of a celebration in your country of origin!

**PRIME TIMERS CHRISTMAS BANQUET** | Monday, December 10 at 6 pm | Gym

A time for those age 55+ to gather together and fellowship; enjoy a great meal and sing some Christmas Carols led by Dave & Julie Acree. Tickets (\$20) will be available at the morning services TODAY or from Bonnie Bateman (403.317.3099; [bbateman@shaw.ca](mailto:bbateman@shaw.ca)).

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**CONTEMPORARY SERVICES (WORSHIP CENTRE)**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 AT 6:00 PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 AT 3:00, 4:30, AND 6:00 PM

Engaging drama and lively carols to celebrate Christ's birth and capture the imagination of all ages.

**LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE (GYM)**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 AT 3:00 AND 4:30 PM

An hour of scripture readings and carol singing, with a short message.

Note: On Sunday, December 23 all morning services will be offered as usual, including 9:15, 11:00, and Traditions, however there will be no Church at 6.

---

### SUNDAYS AT E-FREE

9:15 & 11:00 am | Worship Centre

9:15 am | Traditions (Gym)

6:00 pm | Church at 6 (Gym)

### SUNDAYS IN THE KIDS ZONE

Nursery (age 0-2) & Preschool (ages 2-5) | All services

Grade 1-5 | 9:15, 11:00

Grade 1-3 | During the message at Church at 6

*To learn more about how you can connect at E-Free every week—youth, young adults, worship arts, prayer, care ministries, and more—visit [efreelethbridge.ca](http://efreelethbridge.ca).*

# SERVE

## FIRST SERVE

Looking to get involved but aren't sure where you fit? We have lots of places you can try out right away! Whatever your gifts, passions, and availability, we have a place for you to get connected! Swing by the Info Centre, visit [efreelethbridge.ca/volunteer](http://efreelethbridge.ca/volunteer), or use your Connection Card to get the conversation started.

## ALPHA PROGRAM TEAM

The Alpha course is a welcoming, friendly place where people can come and ask questions to explore the Christian faith. We are planning to run an Alpha course starting January 28, pending commitments from people willing to serve in a variety of critical roles. These include the welcome team, food services, tech support, decor, room set-up, and prayer team. To learn more about how you can support Alpha, contact Natalie Indenbosch ([duane.nataliei@gmail.com](mailto:duane.nataliei@gmail.com)) or sign visit [efreelethbridge.ca/volunteer](http://efreelethbridge.ca/volunteer) to express your interest.

## SUNDAY SNOW REMOVAL TEAM

Join as individuals, as a family, or corral your small group and commit to keep our sidewalks clear one Sunday a month over the winter (December–March). You only have to shovel if it snows overnight Saturday or Sunday morning! For more information or to sign up, contact Audra Enns (329.3125; [audra.enns@efreelethbridge.ca](mailto:audra.enns@efreelethbridge.ca)).

# GIVE

**2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP IN THE LOBBY TODAY.**

## GIVING UPDATE

We believe that everything we see and have is owned by God and He provides for us according to His will and plan. Our aim is to become Christ-like in our generosity (2 Cor 8:9-10), making it an intentional piece of regular worship and service to our King.

As Christ-followers we are called to financially support our local church. Your giving allows us to reach others and increase their awareness of the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To achieve this goal, we aim to receive \$53,400 toward our General Fund each week. Currently we are below projected giving goals for this point in the year.

God also calls us to demonstrate mercy and compassion through giving aimed at caring for widows and orphans, the poor and needy, and the foreigner in our community. To this end, we are once again participating in the Advent Conspiracy over the Christmas season. Would you take time this week to prayerfully consider and evaluate what God our Father, through the Spirit, is calling you to give to the church and to the Advent Conspiracy over the coming weeks?

Budget Year-to-Date\*: \$907,865

Giving Fund Receipts Year-to-Date\*: \$760,490

\*As of Nov 25

General Fund Receipts: Nov 4: \$50,513 Nov 11: \$41,166 Nov 18: \$33,861 Nov 25: \$57,997

## GIVING METHODS

When you are ready to give, please choose the method that works best for you:

- During your worship service or at the lobby kiosk
- E-transfer to [giving@efreelethbridge.ca](mailto:giving@efreelethbridge.ca) and contact Natalie with the password (329.3125)
- On the app or online at [efreelethbridge.ca/giving](http://efreelethbridge.ca/giving)
- Contact the office to set up an automatic withdrawal

**NOTE:** *Advent Conspiracy gifts must be made directly to the cause of your choice, not to the church.*

Questions? Contact Natalie vanSchothorst (329.3125; [natalie@efreelethbridge.ca](mailto:natalie@efreelethbridge.ca))



# ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Join the groundswell of Christ-followers who are choosing **to make Christmas what it should be**—a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world around us.



WORSHIP FULLY

SPEND LESS

GIVE MORE

LOVE ALL



# ADVENT CONSPIRACY 2018

This Christmas marks the eleventh year we have been a part of the Advent Conspiracy! By participating in the Advent Conspiracy, we aim to **SPEND LESS** by resisting the cultural pressure to celebrate Christmas through over-spending and over-consumption. Instead, we **GIVE MORE!** That is, we give relational, thoughtful, and meaningful gifts. We then take the money we saved and **LOVE ALL** by giving to those in true need. In all of this, we strive to **WORSHIP FULLY** by keeping our focus on Jesus and participating with Him in what He came to do, bringing hope to a desperate world.

This year, instead of choosing one project to pursue as a church family, we are inviting you to explore your passions, listen for guidance from the Holy Spirit, and invest a portion of your Christmas spending in the cause He lays on your heart. This could mean providing support for a neighbour you notice is struggling, responding directly to a need God opens your eyes to in our community, or giving to an organization that serves the poor and the marginalized.

To learn more, visit [efreelethbridge.ca/adventconspiracy](http://efreelethbridge.ca/adventconspiracy).

## TO JOIN THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY:

- 1) **Prayerfully reconsider and re-direct some of your holiday spending** to the cause that God lays on your heart. Need help finding a cause? Visit the missions kiosk in the lobby or visit [efreelethbridge.ca/adventconspiracy](http://efreelethbridge.ca/adventconspiracy).
- 2) **Give directly to the cause or organization of your choosing.** The church cannot receive gifts designated Advent Conspiracy for 2018. Any gifts to the church designated "Advent Conspiracy" will be returned to you.
- 3) **Fill out a paper ornament to hang on the Advent Conspiracy tree** in the lobby, located beside the coffee bar. We want to know about the people and places you have chosen to support so that we can celebrate how our church family is making a difference this Christmas season.

'TRULY I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF  
THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF  
MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'  
MATTHEW 25:40

# WONDER

December 2, 2018 | Luke Watson | Isaiah 8:19-9:2  
The Wonder of Fulfilled Prophecy and Our Response

Advent means 'coming'

Advent alerts us to the reality that Jesus has come and calls us to anticipate Jesus' coming again.

Wonder was and ought to remain our response to what God has done.

Prophet: a mouthpiece for God

Prophecy: speaking the words of God / revealing God's will

Isaiah's fulfilled prophecy calls us to confront darkness, not avoid it.

*"Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year not because of what's happening but what's happened."*  
– Andy Stanley

Want to hear it again or share it with a friend? Visit [efreelethbridge.ca/messages](https://efreelethbridge.ca/messages).