

Grothen
Kristina



ELIC

As we begin a new academic year, part of the reality of life overseas is the transition of teammates, teachers and staff. At the same time, it is a joy to welcome fresh, new, excited people! We have some leadership transition as well, and I will be serving as one of three China National Directors who will provide leadership for our 350+ personnel in China. Please ask for vision, wisdom and unity for our China Leadership Team as we lead. One of the new areas I will be leading is something we are very excited about — the sending of Chinese abroad! This is BIG! Twenty . . . or even ten years ago, it seemed like a far-off dream that China would be at this place. The process of recruiting, training, placing, and working with local groups is a pioneering work and the battle taking place has been evident. We rejoice that He prepared the right person, Cindy, to be placed in a country west of China's borders where she will join a team we have there. Please remember Cindy as she studies language and acclimates to life in a very different culture. She is a special young lady! Recently, I had an unusual experience of a conversation with a Buddhist monk; another day, I was stopped on the road by a young lady trying to recruit me into a dangerous branch of false teaching. Because her supervisor was not able to understand English, I was able to give a few counter references and urge her to read His words for herself. I can't remove these encounters — and these faces of those so deceived — from my mind. And, I don't want to. I walk through the piles of ashes in the park every morning as I head to the bus stop which represent placing hope in ancestors. And, I daily see others in this important capital city placing their trust in their own success or that of the leaders of this land. After a week like this, the fatigue is real. But, so is the joy and confidence that he is powerfully working. We know and see it so clearly through Cindy's story and in many other ways. I am grateful that these faces drive me to never forget why I am here and the urgency of each life. I am so thankful for your partnership and your petitions for the people in this place.

FAMILY MATTERS

PRAYER

Our appointment with the doctor for Kim's pituitary tumor is Oct. 12. The cyber-knife surgery is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 17-24. Pray for calm nerves and successful procedures. (Dave & Kim St. Martin)

Pray for my two-month-old great-granddaughter Abigail, who is in Children's Hospital with a UTI that had spread to the blood. Pray she will be able to be discharged on Monday as planned. (Pat Gehrke)

PRAISE

Praise God that Global Partner Judy Anderson's cerebral aneurysm was found to be a pseudo aneurysm at Mayo Clinic last week! She just needs to follow up again in six months. (Chris Keller)

FAMILY NEWS

We extend our sympathy to Phyllis Dean and family in the loss of her brother, Dale Tinkham, who passed away on Oct. 2, 2017.

FIRST FREE SUNDAY MORNINGS

(Unless otherwise noted in *This Week at First Free*)

WORSHIP SERVICES

Blended - 9 a.m.
Contemporary - 10:45 a.m.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Great attention is given to provide the best possible care for our infants through Pre-K. Silent paging, security IDs, and a separate nursing mothers' room help to make a safe and secure environment for your little ones.

Birth-Age 5 - 9 & 10:45 a.m.

ELEMENTARY/YOUTH

Sunday School Grades K-12 - 9 a.m.
Kids Choir Grades 3-6 - 10:15 a.m.
Chapel Time/Kids Choir Grades K-2 - 10:45 a.m.

PRAYER MEETINGS

The First Free family is invited to join together in prayer. God hears our prayers! Some pray silently, others pray out loud. Everyone is welcome!
Sundays: 8:30 a.m. & 5 p.m. - Room 202
(Times subject to change; see *This Week at First Free*.)

SERMON RECORDINGS

Recordings of this morning's message (and any prior Sunday's message) can be found on our website, or a CD may be ordered by emailing Tara Larsen (tlarsen@firstefc.org).

ADULTS

Mini-Congregations are our Sunday morning adult Bible study and fellowship groups. Get to know a group of people more intimately as we encourage one another to be fully devoted followers of Christ.

9 a.m.	Room
The Bridge	101
CrossTrainers	102
Body Builders	103
@the.CORE (2 nd , 4 th /5 th Sundays)	201

10:15 a.m.	Room
The Point Gathering	JH Youth Center

10:45 a.m.	Room
Bereans	201
Disciplemakers	202
Faithful Followers	204
Koinonia	HS Youth Center

INFORMATION TABLES

For more information on the following ministries, visit the table(s) in the lobby:

- Women's Luncheon
- Men's Shoot & Grill
- Trunk or Treat

PRAYER NETWORK for urgent requests
Paige Lincoln (651.785.8220)
Carol Jaehnert (651.776.9859)

PRAYER, PRAISE OR FAMILY HAPPENING
Submit by filling out a gold communication card. Drop it in the offering plate, the box at the Welcome Center, turn it in to the church office, or email bfreiling@firstefc.org.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE
Must be in writing or email to bfreiling@firstefc.org by noon on Tuesday.

BUILDING USAGE
All building use must be reserved through the church office by completing a Reservation Request form. Forms can be found on our website or picked up in the church office.

Welcome

FIRST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH SERVICES | 9 & 10:45 A.M.

We exist to glorify GOD by making and maturing disciples of JESUS CHRIST to minister to the world with the Gospel by the HOLY SPIRIT

THE REFORMATION: SOLI DEO GLORIA

ISAIAH 42:8
PASTOR TODD OLSON

HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

MEN'S SHOOT & GRILL



If this is your first time at First Free, you are our special guest, and we extend a warm WELCOME to you! Be sure to pick up a Welcome Gift and a copy of *FirstLook* at the Welcome Center, filled with information about ministries at First Free!



Join us for COFFEE & fellowship in the Lobby between services.



HEARING Assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center.



Please silence all MOBILE DEVICES during the service.



**FIRST EVANGELICAL
FREE CHURCH**

2696 HAZELWOOD STREET
MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109
P 651.777.5180 WWW.FIRSTEFC.ORG



Please let the pastoral staff know when you are admitted to a HOSPITAL by calling 651.777.5180

MEN'S MORNING STUDY

Thursdays | 6:30 – 7:30 a.m.
Pastor Todd's Office

Fellowship and study each Thursday morning with Pastor Todd. We are currently studying Psalm 34. Contact Kevin Watters (kevoowatt@gmail.com) or Todd (tolson@firstefc.org) for more information.

WIDOW/WIDOWER DINNER

Mon., Oct. 9 | 6 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

If you are a widow or widower, we invite you to join Pastor Todd and Sharon for a light dinner and fellowship. Please RSVP to Ann Fenderson (651.288.1064 or afenderson@firstefc.org).

CRESCENT PROJECT TRAINING

Sat., Oct. 14 | 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Rockpoint Church

Crescent Project offers a unique training perspective based upon decades of serving Muslims, with an emphasis on understanding and gentle boldness. Crescent Project equips thousands every year through the highly-regarded Bridges curriculum and through conferences and seminars held throughout the year. At the end of this training, we will have the opportunity to hear from Muslim-background believers sharing their testimonies. This a free training and lunch is provided. To register contact Maridee Farrow (maridee@farrowmedia.com or 612.816.6871).

THE CREATOR'S CRAFTERS

Thu., Oct. 19 | 9 a.m.
Lower Fellowship Hall

A ministry of compassion for women who like to sew and craft, benefiting our local community and other areas of the world. Contact Kally Walcott (651.330.1954) with questions.

CARE FUND

Gifts to the Care Fund on Sun., Oct. 15 will go to the EFCA Hurricane Relief fund.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Sundays, Oct. 8, 15 & 22
9 a.m. | Room 106

Interested in learning more about First Free? Or interested in becoming a member of this local body of Christ? In this three-part class we cover the beliefs, convictions and history of First Evangelical Free Church. Contact Pastor David (651.777.5180 or dcapistrant@firstefc.org) to let us know if you plan to attend.

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATIONS

Sun., Oct. 29

Parents, if you are interested in dedicating you and your child, contact Ann Fenderson (651.288.1064 or afenderson@firstefc.org) to begin the process of participation.

URGENT NEEDS PRAYER NETWORK

Join our urgent prayer network. We believe in the power of prayer, that is why we have our urgent prayer network. This network is designed to pray for the body of First Free during crisis or emergencies. Would you join us? It is as simple as praying once you get the prayer request emailed to you. That's it! Please sign up by emailing Lorri Whorton in the office (lwhorton@firstefc.org). If you have an urgent prayer request that needs immediate prayer, call Paige Lincoln (651.785.8220) or Carol Jaehnert (651.776.9859).

TRUNK OR TREAT

Tue., Oct. 31, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Church Parking Lot

Bring your kids to "trunk or treat" around the parking lot full of decorated cars, or sign up to volunteer! You can decorate your car and pass out candy or serve at other stations. Candy donations accepted at the lobby table as well! Sign up at the Lobby table or contact Tyler Bakker (tbakker@firstefc.org) if you want to help.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TRAINING

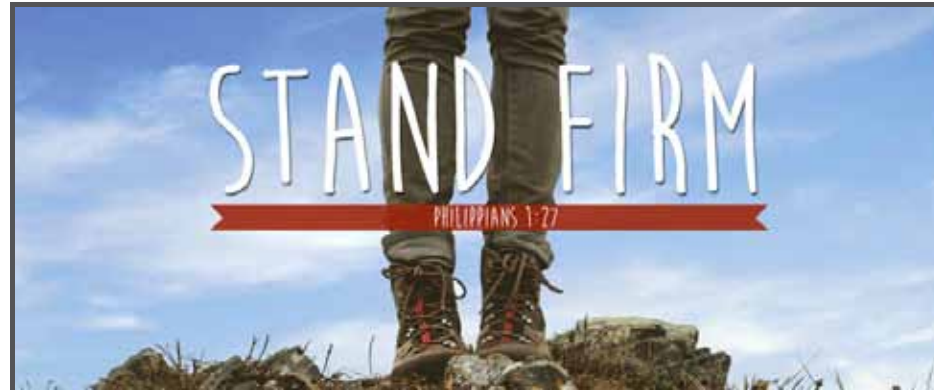
Oct. 26, at 7– 8:30 pm.
Room 202

This training will teach us how to reach out to others during the Christmas season in a loving, non-threatening way, providing an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Joyce Bademan, who wrote the Christmas Gatherings Resource Manual, will demonstrate for us how to effectively lead others to Christ.

OCTOBER

is Pastor
Appreciation Month!

ap•pre•ci•ate > • recognize with gratitude;
• be grateful for



Women's Fall Luncheon
Sat., Oct. 14, 2017
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Activity Center
Cost: \$10. Register in the Lobby or online.
Contact Paige Garcia with questions - pbgarcia2634@gmail.com.

MEN'S SHOOT & GRILL

SAT., OCT. 14 | 4 P.M.
10820 MYERON RD, STILLWATER

COST: \$10 for shells and clay pigeons
BRING: Meat to grill and a camping chair
PROVIDED: Sides & beverages, a short devotional and expert help on the shooting range!



Please sign up in Lobby TODAY!
A map to the location is available on the sign-up table.
Invite a friend who may not know Christ! Come even if you just want to hang out.

HARVEST GARDENS

Clean-up Day
SAT., OCT. 14 | 8 A.M. – 4 P.M.

PLEASE JOIN THE TEAM to put the gardens to rest for the season. *Come when you can, leave when you must.* A perfect activity for the whole family! Contact Jon Addington (651.283.2404 or jladington.fefc@gmail.com) with questions.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST FREE

Today, Oct. 8

8:30 a.m. – Sunday Morning Prayer – 202
9 a.m. – Membership Matters – 106
9 a.m. – Blended Worship – WC
Nursery, Preschool, Sunday School (K-12),
Adult mini-Congregations
10:15 a.m. – Kids' Choir (3-6)
10:45 a.m. – Contemporary Worship – WC
Nursery, Preschool, Chapel Time/Kids' Choir (K-2),
Adult mini-Congregations
5 p.m. – Prayer Meeting – 202

Monday, Oct. 9

10 a.m. – GriefShare – 202
6 p.m. – Widow/Widower Dinner – FH
6:30 p.m. – Men's Basketball – Gym

Tuesday, Oct. 10

9:30 a.m. – Women in the Word – YC
7 p.m. – Evening Women in the Word – 201

Wednesday, Oct. 11

9:45 a.m. – Senior Adult Bible Study – 204
10 a.m. – Women's Study of John – 201
6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal – WC
6:30 p.m. – Expedition Nursery-Gr. 6 – AC
Junior High Gr. 7-8 – Gym
Women's Study of John – 106
Men's Growth through Discovery – FH
Women's Growth through Discovery – 201
8 p.m. – High School Gr. 9-12 – Gym

Thursday, Oct. 12

6:30 a.m. – Men's Morning Study – PO
7:30 a.m. – Men's Prayer Meeting – 202
9 a.m. – Mom's Day Away – 212
6:30 p.m. – Men's Basketball – Gym

Saturday, Oct. 14

8 a.m. – Men's Study – 202

AC - Activity Center
PO - Pastor Todd's Office
WC - Worship Center
YC - Youth Center
FH - lower Fellowship Hall
RR - Reception Room
HG - Harvest Gardens

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Army

Sean Brownlee
Kyle Fenstermacher

Army National Guard

Andrew Beach
Matthew Longendyke

Marines

Paul Addington
Peter Gillen

Air Force

Nathan Persons

Air Force National Guard

Roger Hall, Jr.
Taylor Juvland

Air Force Reserves

Dale Buetow

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OCT. 1, 2017

GENERAL GIVING*

Offering: \$ 44,879
Receipts: \$288,425**
Expenditures: \$302,222**
Net change: (\$13,797)

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS

Offering: \$510
Receipts: \$19,059**
Expenditures: \$5,086**
Net change: \$13,973

MORTGAGE FUND

Offering: \$ 2,756
Receipts: \$17,439**
Expenditures: \$25,059**
Net change: (\$7,620)

* Average weekly need is \$35,403 to meet our 2017/18 budget
** For the period 7/1/17-8/31/17

ELDER PRAYER FOCUS

FOR OCTOBER

Please join the Elders as they pray for:

- The future of church planting
- General fund giving to meet the budget
- The lost and revival