

**WILSON**  
PAUL & ROXANNE



**WEC**  
INTERNATIONAL

We've waited for two months for the legal review in the Federal Civil Court when suddenly, for unknown reasons, we're informed our case has been shifted to a different section of the court with a new judge. This means they will have another 90 working days to render a verdict. While this is an unusual move, we believe God continues to answer prayers. Humanly speaking, we had our doubts about the previous judge's integrity. Now he will no longer be the one making the decision. We trust that God continues to "move the pieces" and order our steps. We just finished two very special weekends in a row with El Monte marriage retreats. There was great fellowship and much encouragement from the Word of God. One man trusted Christ while he was here! His wife had trusted Christ a couple weeks ago with some of our El Monte staff. All of a sudden, church groups are back, calling and reserving dates for their camps. Pastors and church leaders are showing fresh interest in our El Monte sponsored programs as well. Next weekend we are offering the churches a camp program training event and we've had to cut off registrations at 109 preregistered participants. We've never in our history had to cut off registrations! God clearly is doing a "new thing" and it is "already happening!" In November, the El Monte team began talking about continued development of the facilities. The overall vision for this multi-ministry center is huge and will take years to build! For now, our focus with "VISION 2020" is on the next steps for continued growth for the Missionary Training Center and the Camp Ministry. There is a short-term team coming in March and we trust the Lord to be able to replace the roof of the CCT classroom with a new insulated metal roof. The current roof has iguanas living in there—a real distraction at class time. By the end of May, we trust we'll be able to replace the leaking roof of the current eight-unit missionary student apartment building. Rainy season begins in late May. Our plan is to install a sheet-metal roof. Because of how God has led us through this past year and how he continues to affirm and show us that he's not finished with El Monte, we believe moving forward with construction and ministry development is faith that pleases our Lord. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

**FAMILY MATTERS**

**PRAYER**

Pray for Deanna. In addition to the serious back and leg pain she suffers, she now has vertigo. Prayers would be appreciated, as it is debilitating for her. (Mark Dembouski)

Pray as I meet with my 16-year-old granddaughter, that I might rely on the Lord and not myself as we talk about spiritual things. (Nancy Verley)

Pray for Pearl Ramslund, a former pastor's wife from many years ago. She is in a nursing home and is very ill. Also pray for her daughter Dawn, age 61, who is fighting Parkinson's. If you wish to send greetings, Pearl is at The Birches at Trillium, 14585 59th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446. (Dar Dexter)

February was a hard month. I'm tired in a deeper way than sleep can solve. It feels like my brain is forgetting old words in Russian just as fast as it is learning new words. And through everything, God has been a constant, ever-present help in time of need. (Caity Buege)

**FAMILY NEWS**

Thank you for your thoughts and beautiful cards for my 90th birthday. It was very much appreciated. (Audrey Behymer)



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

**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
Faith Connections	102
Body Builders	103
@the.CORE (2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> 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:

- ELIC Summer Trip Opportunities
- India Prayer Team

**PRAYER NETWORK** for urgent requests  
Paige Lincoln (651.785.8220)

**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 lwhorton@firstefc.org.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE**  
Must be in writing or email to ckeller@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.



**FIRST EVANGELICAL  
FREE CHURCH**

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

# 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***

**ANOINTING OF JESUS**

MATTHEW 26:6-13  
PASTOR TODD OLSON

**HIGHLIGHTS**

YOUTH SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

ENCOUNTER

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



If this is your first time at First Free, you are our guest, and we extend a warm **WELCOME** to you! Be sure to pick up a Welcome Gift at our Welcome Center and plan to join us at a Newcomer's Lunch, offered monthly.



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.

**NEWCOMERS LUNCH**  
TODAY | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Gym

If you are new to First Free and are interested in getting more connected, please join us for a spaghetti dinner in the Gym.

**ENCOUNTER: A NIGHT OF WORSHIP & PRAYER**

TONIGHT, March 4  
5:30 p.m. | Gym (meal)  
6 p.m. | Youth Center (worship)

We invite the church family to Encounter: A Night of Worship & Prayer. Childcare provided through grade 5. Coffee and a light meal will be served.

**OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY**

Linda Leonard is one of our Global Partners. She is looking for someone who would be available to pick up two sisters, one preschool and one in third grade, to attend church. They live on Agate just north of Larpenteur and west of 35 E. If you can help out please contact Linda at leona005@umn.edu and she can introduce you to the family.

**WITHOUT BORDERS**

May 4-5 | Cost \$54.99 by March 4  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Without Borders is a women's conference that supports and equips Christians in building new friendships with Muslim women. Teachings, workshops and testimonies help break down walls of suspicion and prejudice in order to better understand and engage Muslims. The cost goes up after March 4. See website for more information [crescentproject.org](http://crescentproject.org) or contact Maridee Farrow at 612.816.6871.

**ELDER PRAYER FOCUS FOR MARCH**

Please join the Elders as they pray for:

- Praise that we met our General Fund financial goals in 2017
- Church planting
- More followers of Jesus

**CRESCENT PROJECT**

June 19-23 | Bethel University  
Sahara Challenge is an intensive classroom training and preparatory course focused on bridging the Gospel to the Muslim heart and mind. Participants include missionaries, pastors, lay workers, and college students, who receive practical tools and an encouraging message designed to spur a lifetime of service. For more information go to [crescentproject.org/sahara](http://crescentproject.org/sahara) or contact Meridee Farrow at [maridee@farrowmedia.com](mailto:maridee@farrowmedia.com) or 612.816.6871.

**ELIC SUMMER TRIPS**

It's not too late to learn about our summer opportunities for short-term trips! Come visit the table in the lobby to hear how you can be a part of The Great Commission!

**LIBRARY MINISTRY**

The church library will not be open during its normal hours from March 8-15. Please utilize the library during both hours on Sunday, March 11 and it will reopen on Friday, March 16 from 8:15 a.m.- noon.

**BAPTISM CLASS**

Sun., Mar. 11 | 9 a.m. | Room 106

If you are a believer and would like to be baptized, attend this class to be a part of the Easter baptism service.



**BROKEN and SPILLED OUT**  
*just for love of you*



**SPAGHETTI DINNER YOUTH FUNDRAISERS CHALLENGE**

**TODAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 8**

Gym 11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Proceeds will benefit students attending the Challenge '18 youth conference in Kansas City, MO, June 30-July 7. We look forward to serving you!!
Recommended Donation: \$5 per person or \$25 per family	

**HARVEST GARDENS**



**GARDEN REGISTRATION DAY**

Sat., March 10  
8 a.m.-Noon | Gym

Join the Harvest Gardens team to welcome 1000+ gardeners for the annual registration process on Saturday March 10. Preparation and instructions at 8 a.m., doors open for gardeners 9 a.m. till Noon. Up to 60 volunteers needed. Contact Jon Addington 651.283.2404 or [jladdington.fefc@gmail.com](mailto:jladdington.fefc@gmail.com).



**PLAY SET NEEDED**

Looking for a used children's play set to be relocated to Harvest Gardens. If you know of one available, please contact Jon Addington ([jladdington.fefc@gmail.com](mailto:jladdington.fefc@gmail.com) or 651 283-2404).

**WELCOME THE GARDENERS**

Donations of cookies and finger food snacks are needed to welcome the gardeners on Sat., March 10. These can be put in the "Garden Box" in the Kitchen prior to March 10.

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST FREE**

**Today, March 4**

8:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning Prayer - 202  
9 a.m. - Blended Worship - WC  
Nursery, Preschool, Sunday School (K-6), 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  
11 a.m. - Youth Spaghetti Fundraiser - Gym  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Newcomers Lunch - Gym  
5 p.m. - Prayer Meeting - 202  
5:30 p.m. - Encounter Meal - Gym  
6 p.m. - Encounter: A Night of Worship & Prayer - YC

**Monday, March 5**

10 a.m. - GriefShare - 202  
6:30 p.m. - Men's Basketball - Gym

**Tuesday, March 6**

9:30 a.m. - Women In The Word - YC  
7:00 p.m. - Evening Women In The Word - 201

**Wednesday, March 7**

9:30-11:30 a.m. - Preschool Playtime - AC  
9:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Bible Study - 204  
10 a.m. - Women's Study of John - 201  
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  
Worship Choir Rehearsal - WC  
8 p.m. - High School Gr. 9-12 - Gym

**Thursday, March 8**

7:30 a.m. - Men's Prayer Meeting - 202  
9 a.m. - Mom's Day Away - 212

**Saturday, March 10**

8 a.m. - Men's Bible Study - 202  
8 a.m. - Noon - Harvest Garden Registration - Gym

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

**2018 FIRST FREE ELDERS**

Jon Addington  
Mike Anderson  
Eric Berglund  
Marty Dennison  
Randy Gnadke  
Harv Hendrickson  
Dan Larsen  
Chris Manrodt  
Caleb Olsen  
Todd Olson

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY**

**Air Force**

Nathan Persons

**Air Force National Guard**

Roger Hall, Jr.  
Taylor Juvland

**Air Force Reserves**

Dale Buetow

**Army**

Sean Brownlee  
Kyle Fenstermacher  
Jonathan Laansma

**Army National Guard**

Andrew Beach  
Matthew Longendyke

**Marines**

Paul Addington  
Peter Gillen

**Navy**

Jarrod Schad

**WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING**

FEB. 25, 2018

**GENERAL GIVING\***

Offering: \$17,837  
Receipts: \$1,146,508\*\*  
Expenditures: \$1,070,742\*\*  
Net change: \$75,766

**SHORT-TERM MISSIONS**

Offering: \$130  
Receipts: \$51,256\*\*  
Expenditures: \$46,991\*\*  
Net change: \$4,265

\* Average weekly need is \$35,403 to meet our 2017/18 budget

\*\* For the period 7/1/17-1/31/18