

**STONE**  
David & Jul



**Bethany International Ministries**

In Minnesota, we talk about having two seasons: Winter, and Road Repair. Our life seems to be something like: On The Road (or air), and Catch-Up. On the road is traveling to teaching assignments for cross-cultural workers and an occasional work-related conference, and catch-up is everything else—house, car, and health maintenance, bills to pay, getting initiated into Medicare from afar, fresh reading and rethinking our teaching materials, arranging upcoming teaching trips, fellowship with local ‘family,’ building relationships with local friends who have yet to hear, see, and understand the good news, and prayer. Our mostly catch-up season is wrapping up. God has been changing us through prayer, and changing the people of this country, by faith, through prayer. Also, the first steps of a breakthrough are happening in a poor, struggling family (Mr. S) whom we have helped for years in neighboring Indonesia. David was finally able to facilitate an initial contact with Mr. S’s family. With much prayer, we definitely see hope and life in view. Pray for Mr. S, his wife and two sons. The end of March we taught a seminar with Indians working mainly among their Muslim people groups. With the world’s largest Hindu population, India’s minority Muslim population is still massive. April 10-12 we will be teaching a seminar with a group of Indonesian pre-field workers, and probably also our group of North American interns studying in Indonesia. One reason for fewer trips lately has been due to security reasons in one of our destinations. But being at home more has given us opportunity to focus our prayer and attention more on the country’s majority ethnic group, the Malay. Thank you for praying that the earthly and spiritual powers that keep the Malay from the Gospel will be broken.

**FAMILY MATTERS**

**PRAYER**

Pray for things to get squared away with my health. (Shirley Almberg)

Pray for our Global Partners here and around the world. Like us, they each have challenges of life, whether it’s health, loneliness, finances, busyness or homesickness. (Chris Keller)

**FAMILY NEWS**

Thank you for the beautiful hydrangea plant from Easter. It really perked me up. (Janet Plefkey)

Dear First Free, as a parent, there is nothing we hope for more than for our children to embrace their faith as their own. When they leave home we hope they make the choice to find a church home, even though nobody is making them. We are so thankful that our daughter made the choice to attend First Free while she attends college there. We are deeply grateful that you make that possible by providing a shuttle service for students. We had the privilege of being there while we visited her this past weekend. We were blessed to see Christ’s body moving in the Spirit to minister in the world. God bless your church family. (Parent of a College Student)

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:

- Widow/Widower Progressive Dinner

**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 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***

**THIS GRACE OF GIVING**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-7 & 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10

PASTOR TODD OLSON

**HIGHLIGHTS**

GLOBAL IMPACT SUNDAY

SENIOR ADULTS ENCORE

CHINA PRAYER EVENT



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.

## WIDOW & WIDOWERS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Fri., April 20 | 5:45 p.m.

Today is the final day to express your interest in attending and/or hosting a course (salad or main) for our Progressive Dinner. We will be meeting in small groups for the first two courses and all be together for dessert. Please sign up at the table or contact Rose Wald at 651-330-2618.

## NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT ENCORE SPRING CELEBRATION

Mon., April 23 | 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15

Adults 55 and older are invited to the Encore Spring Celebration at Constance EFC in Andover, MN. Dr. Marcus Bachmann will speak and the Benson Family singers will provide music. Registration forms are available in the church office. Transportation provided from church at 8:30 a.m. If you have questions, contact Harry or Louise Swanson (651.777.6878) or Lorri in the church office.

## NOMINATION CARDS

Church members: Nomination cards for openings on the Nominating Committee for Elders are due TODAY.

## PARENT/CHILD DEDICATIONS

Sun., April 29

Parents, if you are interested in dedicating you and your child, contact Ann Fenderson (651.288.1064 or afenderson@firstefc.org).

## BABY SHOWER

Mon., April 30 | 6:30 p.m. | Room 201

Help welcome Adam & Natalie's new little girl, Olivia by showering her with toys and books! Natalie is the daughter of Dave and Gina Schad. They are registered at Target. With questions, contact Patti Gregerson at 612.201.3077.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD FUNDRAISER

Wed., April 25 | 5-8 p.m.

Eat at CHICK-FIL-A, located at 3045 White Bear Ave. N., Maplewood, and they will donate 15% of all sales for Dine In, Take Out, or Drive Through toward shipping costs for Operation Christmas Child. With questions, contact Carla Nakamura at 651.773.8216.

## ELDER PRAYER FOCUS FOR APRIL

Please join the Elders as they pray for:

- Church planting
- Youth: Districts and Retreat 46
- Oneness in Christ and unity in the body

## 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 or contact Maridee Farrow at maridee@farrowmedia.com or 612.816.6871.

## HARVEST GARDENS



## FIELD PREPARATION

April 21 | 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Harvest Gardens

All ages can work together to prepare the gardens for the season. Come when you can, leave when you must.

## TAG DAY

Fri., April 27 | 8 a.m.-Noon

Harvest Gardens

Join us to attach name tags on garden plot posts.

## ELDER CORNER

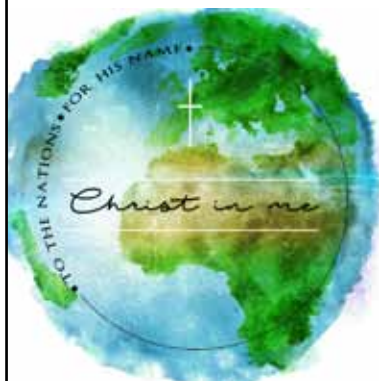
Dear Friends,

As you are aware, First Free is a worship community of believers unashamedly committed to teaching and understanding God's Word. In that spirit of community, we request that everyone in the church body behave compassionately and respectfully toward each other, including on social media. This is especially important when discussing matters concerning the Church, because our interactions on social media serve as a reflection of our community for the general public to see. Please remember our church mission statement: 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. We ask that everyone strives to interact with each other on social media with this spirit in mind. We have set as a prayer focus for April unity in the body, and oneness in Christ. Please pray with us that we would draw closer to that goal.

-In Christ, the First Free Elder Board

## GLOBAL IMPACT SUNDAY

APRIL 22, 2018



Childcare Nursery-Age 5

*Christ in me*

TO THE NATIONS • FOR HIS NAME

REV. KEVIN KOMPILIEN

President of the Evangelical Free Church of America

9 & 10:45 A.M., WORSHIP CENTER

DESSERT EVENING: 6 P.M.-ACTIVITY CENTER

DAVID ROFKAHR

U.S. Executive Director for Recruiting and Apex Global Projects

9 & 10:45 A.M., YOUTH CENTER

DESSERT EVENING: 6 P.M.-ACTIVITY CENTER

# PRAY

*without ceasing*

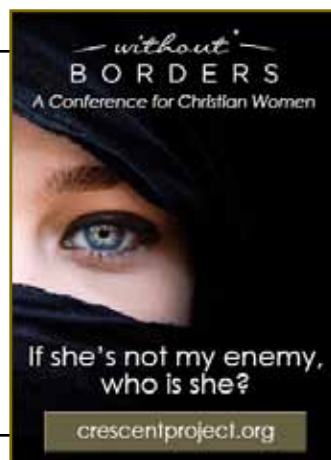
1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

## CHINA PRAYER EVENT

Sat., April 28 | 8:30 - 10 a.m.

Room 201

Come and pray with us as we join with people from at least four Minnesota churches, some Chinese churches and sent Christian workers, all connected online.



May 4-5 | Cost \$59.99 by April 20  
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 April 20. See website for more information crescentproject.org or contact Maridee Farrow at 612.816.6871.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST FREE

### Today, April 15

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

Membership Class - 106

5 p.m. - Prayer Meeting - 202

### Monday, April 16

10 a.m. - GriefShare - 202

6:30 p.m. - Men's Basketball - Gym

### Tuesday, April 17

9:30 a.m. - Women in the Word - YC

7 p.m. - Evening Women In The Word - 201

### Wednesday, April 18

9:30 - 11:30 - 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, April 19

7:30 a.m. - Men's Prayer Meeting - 202

9 a.m. - Mom's Day Away - 212

### Saturday, April 21

8 a.m. - Men's Bible Study - 202

8 a.m. - Field Preparation-HG

AC - Activity Center  
PO - Pastor Todd's Office  
WC - Worship Center

FH - Lower Fellowship Hall  
YC - Youth Center  
HG - Harvest Gardens

## 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

APRIL 8, 2018

### GENERAL GIVING\*

Offering: \$32,190

Receipts: \$1,258,392\*\*

Expenditures: \$1,220,831\*\*

Net change: \$37,561

### SHORT-TERM MISSIONS

Offering: \$1,020

Receipts: \$53,158\*\*

Expenditures: \$46,991\*\*

Net change: \$6,167

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

\*\* For the period 7/1/17-2/28/18

EXCEL  
— in this —  
*Grace*  
— of —  
GIVING