

ANDERSON
Gary & Judy



Wycliffe Bible Translators

Praise God! The Atianga (name changed due to sensitivity) Bible that was dedicated last spring is having a huge impact as more and more people encounter God's Word for the very first time. At the dedication, the translation team heard several pastors share how important it is to have God's Word in their own language. It proves that Christianity isn't a foreign religion, but that it's for the Atianga people too. One team member shared a story from when he was working on Proverbs with the Atianga translator, who is Muslim. At one point the translator said, "This book is amazing! I have three daughters. If only I could have read this book to them when they were young. Everyone needs this book!" Similarly, a pastor shared that no other book in Atianga talks about the value of women, about how to have a good marriage, how to know what God is like, and that people can see God through the words and ministry of Jesus. This is why, after 33 years we are still passionate about serving in support of Bible translation. God's Word changes lives! Many of the remaining languages without Scripture are in very sensitive areas of the world and require unique strategies. In spite of the many obstacles, translation starts are happening more quickly now than ever before. Praise that the Manado New Testament has already been downloaded off the Google Play Store over 10,000 times and people are reading it! Pray for the continued use of the Discovery Bible Study materials that are helping new believers around the world grow in their faith. Thank you again for your faithful partnership in ministry.

FAMILY MATTERS

PRAYER

We are both moving forward with our medical treatments. Beth has begun a stronger regimen of chemo and will go for eight more weeks. The oncology clinic is pleased with how well the first round went. She has also completed several weeks of physical therapy. Jack has finished his cardiac rehab, and has regained strength and stamina. He continues to consult with his replacement in Budapest by email and on Skype. Thank you very much for praying for us. Your prayers are making a difference. (Jack & Beth Thompson)

Pray for my recovery from multiple bypass heart surgery on April 4. Thank you and God bless you, too. (Bill Alwell)

Many will remember Ken & Jen Clarke who used to attend First Free. Pray for Ken and family as he recovers from a heart attack he experienced on April 1. He had significant blockage in three arteries and had stents put in. He is doing well and was able to go home on April 4. (Chris Keller)

FAMILY NEWS

We extend our sympathy to Bob Lee and family in the loss of his mother, Joanne Lee, on April 1, 2018.

Thank you for the beautiful hydrangea plant. It's a lovely reminder of spring and blossoms to come. (Beth Thompson)

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 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:

- 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***

JESUS-THE GREAT ONE!

HEBREWS 4:14-16
PASTOR KENNY KING

HIGHLIGHTS

SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

GLOBAL IMPACT SUNDAY

SENIORS ENCORE



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.

HARVEST GARDENS KIDS BIBLE CLUB INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Mon., April 9 | 7 p.m.
at the home of Jon & Louise Addington
1204 Berwick Lane, Mahtomedi

Anyone interested in hearing more about serving in Kids Club this summer over at the Harvest Gardens is invited to come talk about and pray for this ministry. With questions, contact Jon or Louise Addington at jadding@gmail.com.

WIDOW & WIDOWERS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

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

Please sign up at the table in the Lobby or contact Rose Wald at 651.330.2618 if you would like to attend. Indicate if you need a ride, are willing to provide a ride and if you would be willing to host either the salad or main course for 4-10 people. We will be meeting in small groups for the first two courses and all be together for dessert.

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 on Sun., April 15.

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.

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.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

TODAY, April 15 & 22 | 10:45-Noon
Room 106

This three-part class is for people who are new, interested, or intending to become members of First Free. Membership Matters covers the beliefs of the church and the importance of the office of church membership.

HARVEST GARDENS

FIELD PREPARATION
April 14, 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.

SPAGHETTI DINNER YOUTH FUNDRAISER
CHALLENGE

TODAY, APRIL 8

Gym 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

Recommended Donation:
\$5 per person or
\$25 per family

Proceeds will benefit students attending the Challenge '18 youth conference in Kansas City, MO, June 30-July 7. We look forward to serving you!!

Get your First Free Family T-shirt before they're all gone! Only \$5!

GLOBAL IMPACT SUNDAY
APRIL 22, 2018

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

without BORDERS
A Conference for Christian Women

If she's not my enemy, who is she?

crescentproject.org

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 8

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
11:45 a.m. - Spaghetti Dinner - Gym
5 p.m. - Prayer Meeting - 202

Monday, April 9

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

Tuesday, April 10

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

Wednesday, April 11

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
Marriage Class - 106
8 p.m. - High School Gr. 9-12 - Gym

Thursday, April 12

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

Saturday, April 14

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 1, 2018

GENERAL GIVING*

Offering: \$48,514
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

receive
grace
and find
mercy