

**HALSETH**  
**MATT & JENNI**  
 NATHAN  
 ABI  
 JOSH  
 RACHEL



**Reign Ministries**

Every summer we have students who join our mission teams from various churches all over the U.S. and even the world! You'd expect it to be quite a challenge to unify such a diverse group of students to have a singularly focused mission. However, I am continually amazed at the fact that even though we have different backgrounds and may even talk a little differently, Jesus is the common bond that brings us together. It is a beautiful picture of harmony and unity within the body of Christ, unlike anything this world can offer. Our Uganda mission team represents participants from fourteen U.S. states and four countries. Yet we all have one faith, one Lord, and one mission this summer. Pray for us as we step out in faith to bring students and our family to Uganda for the sake of Christ. Pray for all of our relationships with the Lord to be vital, and that we'd all have an effective ministry. Some will be teaching, preaching, witnessing, and following up. Pray for the Ugandan government situation to be favorable toward us. In particular, for our outreach efforts in Kampala and the surrounding villages. From training camp to ministry this trip goes from June 23-July 28. Your prayer and partnership mean so much!

**FAMILY MATTERS**

**PRAYER**  
 I humbly ask for your prayers. I am going to Australia on July 9 for two weeks to greet my children and I will miss you all during my vacation. God be with you. Thank you. (Becky Gallati)

**FAMILY NEWS**  
 Thank you so much for the many prayers, cards and phone calls these past months. God is answering prayer as I am beginning to see more out of my eye since having the cornea transplant in May. (Char Kelly)

No more sleeping in, no more wonderful lattes before training, and no more living out of our suitcases. On Sunday afternoon we arrived in Phonsavan in Northern Laos. It is much cooler here and it rains just about every day. However, it is beautiful with mountains all around us. We met our Teach Trainees and are working hard at preparing our lessons. Demands on our time are increasing as we are preparing three lessons every day, as well as some additional activities. We continue to covet your intercession with our Father. (Jeff & Susan Snicale)

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**  
 Summer Rest K-12 - Classes resume Sept. 9

**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. **Please note:** due to a summer break, only these classes are currently meeting. The others will resume Sept. 9.

10:45 a.m.	Room
Bereans	JH Youth Center
Koinonia	HS Youth Center

**INFORMATION TABLES**  
 For more information on the following ministries, visit the table(s) in the Lobby:  
 • VBS Registration and Help  
 • Widows and Widowers Barbeque

**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

JULY 8, 2018  
**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***

**THINK IT RIGHT, LIVE IT RIGHT**  
*Think Mystery*

EPHESIANS 3:1-13  
 PASTOR JORDAN MONSON

**HIGHLIGHTS**

BAPTISM CLASS

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

CHANGING CHINA REPORT



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.

## BIBLICAL STUDY PROGRAM

Biblical Study Program to Turkey and Greece: If you are interested in the Journeys of Paul and Churches of Revelation study program scheduled for April 26–May 9, 2019 please contact Pastor Todd at [tolson@firstefc.org](mailto:tolson@firstefc.org) or 612.756.3888.

## BAPTISM CLASS

TODAY, July 8 | 9 a.m., Room 202

Baptism is a testimony that you love and trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of your life. If you are a believer and would like to be baptized, attend this class to be a part of the August 12 outdoor baptism service.

## HOT DOG DAY!

Sun., July 22  
10:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Parking Lot

Hot dogs, chips and lemonade outside! \$1! Proceeds go to support the Guys' Rock Ridge Work Trek.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SUPPORTERS

The OCC collection box will be out on July 15 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month. Now is a good time to buy school supplies and there will be good sales at Walmart, Target and Dollar Tree. Items needed:

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Crayons            | Notebooks         |
| Colored pencils    | Pencil sharpeners |
| Pencils            | Erasers           |
| Pens               | Glue sticks       |
| Paper lined or not |                   |

Also needed small toys, especially dolls and small cars. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause for the children around the world, for eternity.

## KOINONIA MINI-CONGREGATION

Pastor Jim will be teaching in the Koinonia mini-Congregation for the remaining weeks in July on "Living by Faith." It will be a study of the foundational role of walking by faith in our great God throughout all of our days – being pleasing to God and finding refreshment in our soul.

**KIDS SUMMER READING PROGRAM**  
Unmask the **S**uper **R**eaders in you!  
**PRIZE SHOP OPEN:**  
July 29 / August 19

## ELDER PRAYER FOCUS FOR JULY

Please join the Elders as they pray for:

- Church mission trips
- Unity in the body
- July 4 Encounter: Family Festival
- Vacation Bible School

## HOME SCHOOL PROGRAM IN MEXICO

El Monte, Mexico is in the process of getting a home school program up and running for their Mexican staff kids and for the kids of missionary students in the Camp Counselor Training program. They're looking for a short-term missionary to oversee the home-school program. Knowledge of Spanish is necessary. Please contact Global Partners Paul & Roxanne Wilson ([paul@wilsonnews.net](mailto:paul@wilsonnews.net)) if you or someone you know may be interested.

## DISCOVER YOUR CITY TOUR

Sat., Aug. 18 | 8:45 a.m.–1:45 p.m.

Save the date and join us to see for yourself how the city of St. Paul has changed and how the Christian Church is responding. First Free and City Vision offer a 5–6 hour bus tour of religious sites in St Paul. Cost is \$20 plus the cost of lunch at the Hmong Village. Focused prayer is a part of this tour as well. For more info contact Charles Farrow at 612.247.6871 or go to [www.cityvisiontc.org](http://www.cityvisiontc.org).

## WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS BARBEQUE

Sat., July 21 | Noon–2p.m.

Pastor Todd and Sharon Olson invite all the widows and widowers of First Free to their home for a barbeque. Please sign up in the Lobby on Sunday July 8 or 15. Or you can call Karen Choe at 651.337.1496 and leave a message or send an email to [choekaren@gmail.com](mailto:choekaren@gmail.com) to let us know you are coming. We will meet at the church at 11:45 a.m. to carpool to the Olson's home.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Sat., July 14 | 9 a.m. | Room 204

This class is for people who are new, interested, or intending to join the church at First Free. Membership Matters covers the beliefs of the church and the importance of the office of church membership. Contact Lorri Whorton (651.777.5180 or [lwhorton@firstefc.org](mailto:lwhorton@firstefc.org)) to let us know if you plan to attend.

## CHANGING CHINA REPORT

Sun., July 15 | 6–7:30 p.m. | Activity Center

Join us for dessert as our Global Partners  
Lynnette Christensen  
Kristina Grothen  
Mike & Amanda Keller  
share about the many changes  
of life in China.

## CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Wednesdays, 7–9 p.m. | Begins July 11  
Youth Center

Who is Jesus? | What did he accomplish? | How do we respond? This is a course for those who want to know for themselves who this Jesus was, what he said about himself, and what he did. Do you have friends who are seeking spiritual truth, but inviting them to church is too much for them? Invite them to this course and attend with them.

It's a 7-week walk through the stories and teachings of Jesus—all in the book of Mark. Come to get to know those from the Encounter event who attend the course, and bring your colleagues, classmates, and friends who want to know more. There's no pressure, no follow-up, no singing, and no praying.

## Babylon

Daniel's Courage in Captivity

### Vacation Bible School 2018

Sun.–Thu., July 22–26

**REGISTER**  
today in the Lobby  
or on our website!  
Free event for  
age 4–incoming Grade 6

**VBS CRAFT ITEMS NEEDED**

- 1 or 2 liter pop bottles (smooth sided, clear)
- water bottles
- milk bottle caps

*Just six more group leaders and VBS will be fully staffed! Thanks to all who are praying for the work and ministry of VBS!*

### VBD Snack Donations Needed

4 bags apples	10 bags white sandwich bread
8 lbs green grapes	2 containers cinnamon
6 bags baby carrots	1 4lb bag sugar 5 bags naval oranges
2 seedless watermelon	4 lbs red grapes
7 boxes graham crackers	25 bananas
16 pkgs Hershey bars	5 boxes KIX cereal
4 boxes Honey Teddy Grahams	5 16oz packages blueberries
5 bags mini marshmallows	4 bags slivered almonds

Please check the VBS table to see what snack donations are still needed.  
Contact Heather Greenwalt call or text 651.332.4907 with any questions

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST FREE

### Today, July 8

8:30 a.m. – Sunday Morning Prayer – 202  
9 a.m. – Blended Worship – WC  
Nursery, Preschool  
10:45 a.m. – Contemporary Worship – WC  
Nursery, Preschool  
Adult mini-Congregations  
9 a.m. – Baptism Class – 202  
5 p.m. – Prayer Meeting – 202

### Monday, July 9

6:30 p.m. – Men's Basketball – Gym

### Wednesday, July 11

7 p.m. – Men's Bible Study – 202  
7 p.m. – Christianity Explored – YC

### Thursday, July 12

7:30 a.m. – Men's Prayer Meeting – 202  
9 a.m. – PALS – 212  
6:30 p.m. – Men's Basketball – Gym

### Saturday, July 14

9 a.m. – Membership Matters – 204

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

## SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Monday 9:15 a.m. – 1:15 a.m.  
Wednesday 9:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.  
The Library will be closed July 16 & 18.

### RESTROOM RENOVATION

PROJECT COST	THIS WEEK	TOTAL RAISED
\$140,000	\$6,120	\$80,203

## 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

JULY 1, 2018

**GENERAL GIVING\***  
Offering: \$34,377  
Receipts: \$1,713,920\*\*  
Expenditures: \$1,691,635\*\*  
Net change: \$22,285

**SHORT-TERM MISSIONS**  
Offering: \$130  
Receipts: \$94,479\*\*  
Expenditures: \$71,480\*\*  
Net change: \$22,999

\* Average weekly need is \$35,403 to meet our 2017/18 budget  
\*\* For the period 7/1/17–5/29/18