



FIRST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
5150 CHICAGO AVE S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO 32622

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS NEXT DOOR

February 20-21, we'll be highlighting some of our local ministries during Outreach Weekend. Carl Nelson, President from Transform Minnesota, will be our keynote speaker.

Saturday, February 20:

Join us for brunch and hear from representatives of ministries in our city to get an overview of what they are up to. 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Contact office@firstfreechurch.org if you need childcare.

Sunday, February 21:

Worship Gatherings: Carl Nelson (Transform Minnesota) preaching

Community Groups will have a chance to hear a more in-depth overview from some of our local ministries.

9:15 a.m.

Living Life
Faith Builders
Youth Group

Brandie Perez from New Life Family Services
Sherry Mohamed and Mike Neterer from Arrive Minnesota
Dan Puumala and Dave Osborne from Outpost Ministries

11:00 a.m.

Real Talk/Embark
Agape & Junior Church
Seniors

Brandie Perez from New Life Family Services
Sherry Mohamed and Mike Neterer from Arrive Minnesota
Dan Puumala and Dave Osborne from Outpost Ministries

There may be volunteer opportunities and information on specific prayer needs.

There may be opportunity to invite one of the ministries to your small group. Contact the church office (office@firstfreechurch.org) for details.

First Free's Mission — To help individuals become Christ-centered and Christ-sent together. www.firstfreechurch.org

God's Heart for the City BY PASTOR JOEL

God has a heart for the city.

Jonah, God's prophet is sent to the foreign, pagan city of Nineveh and to call them to repentance. Jeremiah instructs the Israelite exiles in the evil city of Babylon to "build houses and settle down...Also seek the peace and prosperity of the city...And to pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper".

In the book of Acts, most of the action takes place in the famous cities of the Greco-Roman world—cities like Ephesus, Philippi and Rome. In Acts 17, the apostle Paul travels to Athens, the intellectual center of the empire and to Corinth, one of the commercial centers. By reaching the city, Paul reached all segments of society.

John Stott writes, "It seems to have been Paul's deliberate policy to move purposefully from one strategic city-centre to the next". The significance of cities lies not only their growing size but also in their growing influence. When Christ gets planted in the city, the gospel spreads—regionally and globally.

Tim Keller in his book "Center Church" says, "Cities,

quite literally, have more of the image of God per square inch than any other place on earth. How can we not be drawn to such masses of humanity if we care about the same things that God cares about."

As a Christ-centered and Christ-sent church, we at First Free have been strategically placed by God in South Minneapolis. Like Jonah, like the Israelite exiles, like Paul...you and I have been called to purposefully pray for, bless, and reach the city of Minneapolis for Christ.

This month during our Outreach Weekend, February 20-21, we will be focusing on our city. Our topic is "Unreached People Groups Next Door". Carl Nelson, from Transform Minnesota will preach on Sunday morning and there will also be various speakers through the weekend who will expose us to other ministries happening around us in the city.

Two weeks later, on Sunday morning, March 6th, our children's ministry will be presenting the musical, "God of this City" during both worship gatherings.

Our prayer is that both of these weekends will open our eyes to God's heart for the city.



OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES: FLOURISH! THRIVING IN OUR HOSTILE WORLD

Feb. 7 *The Safest Place in a Scary World* - Daniel 6
Feb. 14 *The Son of Man and The Beast* - Daniel 7
Feb. 21 *Outreach Weekend*
Feb. 28 *Amazing Prayer* - Daniel 9

OUR MISSION:
TO HELP
INDIVIDUALS
BECOME
CHRIST-CENTERED
& **CHRIST-SENT**
TOGETHER

WANT MORE INFO?

Visit www.firstfreechurch.org

Visit our Facebook page!
Find us on Twitter
@FEFCMpls

FIRST FREE STAFF

JOEL SUTTON
SENIOR PASTOR
joel.sutton@firstfreechurch.org

JAY POUND
ASSOCIATE PASTOR
jay.pound@firstfreechurch.org

JASON PENSA
STUDENT PASTOR
jason.pensa@firstfreechurch.org

BETH BROWN
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR
beth.brown@firstfreechurch.org

MIKE GRAFF
WORSHIP PASTOR
mike.graff@firstfreechurch.org

DEE HUANCA & MAUREEN JUAREZ
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES
nurses@firstfreechurch.org

ANNE PETERSON
OFFICE MANAGER
anne.peterson@firstfreechurch.org

SHELBY ANDERSON
DESIGN/COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT
shelby.anderson@firstfreechurch.org

SCOTT BECKETT
FACILITIES TECHNICIAN
scott.beckett@firstfreechurch.org

DAVID KRIESEL-KOLL
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
david.kriesel-koll@firstfreechurch.org



SEE MORE INFO AT:
www.firstfreechurch.org

Terrace on Chicago

A Sneak Peek at This Year's Annual Youth Fundraiser

Each year, dedicated student and adult volunteers transform First Free into an elegant destination for good company and restaurant quality cuisine.

We decided to ask several members of the congregation about their time at Terrace on Chicago and what makes this event special!

What keeps you coming back to Terrace on Chicago each year?

Mark & Janet Poston: We keep coming back to support our Youth who want to do Outreach in the summer. Also because the atmosphere is charming, the company and conversation at the tables is great, and we don't have to cook or clean up.

Bob & Lois Chapman: Our commitment to these dear kids whom we love, pray for regularly, and want to see have opportunities to know and serve God better. We want to support them! The absolutely great, over-the-top, job the kids, the volunteers, the cooks (and whoever else) does just makes this evening a delightful way to do this.

Steve & Marie Mondy: When our three teens were in youth group the church body was very supportive of them and their fundraisers, and now we felt it was our turn to carry on and support this generation of First Free youth.

What is your favorite part of coming to Terrace on Chicago?

Bob & Lois Chapman: It's a toss up between hearing these amazing kids tell of where they are going and what they'll be doing, and their enthusiastic service as hosts and hostesses.

Steve & Marie Mondy: For the evening itself, the food, and the fellowship are the best things!

What sets Terrace on Chicago apart from going out on a regular date night?

Mark & Janet Poston: It is different from other date nights because it's close to home, we get to meet Youth we don't know, and the food is always spectacular.

Steve & Marie Mondy: Better food! We get to have a nice time with our friends without having to organize anything, and we get to have great food and support God's work at the same time! What a deal!



A sample of food from the taste testing on January 23rd and a sneak peek at this year's menu.

This Month @ FIRST FREE

Connections: Upcoming on February 17 & 24 and March 2 & 9

Community is like a great pair of pants; it can be hard to find, and the same style won't work for everybody. We get it, and we want to help you—whether you are new to First Free, or if you have been coming here for a while. Connections is new way to help you find the community that is right for you. The Connections Community group will meet for four weeks on Wednesday evenings for a potluck style dinner at Skip and Korey Stoelzing's house from 6:30-8:30 p.m. There you will get the chance to know others from First Free, as well as learn about the different opportunities to get connected.

Find the right fit for you. Try Connections this February. Sign-up via welcome card, by a call to the office, or through our church website.

Quarterly Celebration: February 22 @ 7:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate what God has done and is doing at First Free! Join us for our Quarterly Celebration on Monday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

The Deep: February 24 @ 6:30 p.m.

Worship. Pray. Refresh. Together. Join us for a time of worship and prayer together at The Deep on Wednesday, February 24 at 6:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided.

Outreach Weekend: February 20 & 21

Join us as we hear from local ministries on ministering to unreached people groups in our neighborhoods. We will be hosting a brunch on Saturday, February 20 at 10:30 a.m. with a missionary panel sharing about these local ministries. Sunday, February, 21 our keynote speaker will be Carl Nelson, president of Transform Minnesota. Community Groups will also be able to hear from local ministries New Life Family Service, Transform Minnesota, and Outpost Ministries Sunday morning.

Upcoming this March 6! God of this City Children's Musical

Join us during both worship gatherings for our children's musical, God of this City on Sunday, March 6 at 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

Terrace on Chicago

ANNUAL YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Seatings available at 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE AT 5 PM SEATING

Make your reservation today at the reservation table or contact the church office

Church Family News

Congratulations to the Stabnow family (Eric, Sue, and big brother Levi) on the birth of Daniel John Stabnow, who was born on Wednesday, December 23rd!

Congratulations to the Aunan family (Tyler, Amy, and big brothers William and Weston) on the birth of Avery Vera Aunan who was born on Saturday, January 16th at 1:39 p.m.!