

In The First Place...

March 2014

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Evening Service and Members Meeting Recap

We are delighted that over 300 First Free people attended our evening service and members meeting on February 9, along with the meal we shared together in between. Thank you to everyone who participated in the planning and accomplishment of all the various parts of a great evening.

Incorporated into the members meeting was a time when those attending had opportunity to interact with our elders. Thank you for your input and questions across a variety of topics. As we reviewed a compilation of notes that the elders took, we identified some common topics. We noted a variety of thoughts pertinent to building needs, some questions regarding financial considerations of any building activity, and interactions related to worship and music.

The building committee, chaired by Ken Bengtson, continues in their preliminary discussion of ministry priorities, both current and future, seeking to evaluate space and facility needs consistent with those priorities. Some conceptual drawings have been done to help evaluate and translate the discussion into facility configuration that best will facilitate our commitments to the gospel going deep and wide. Your input at the members meeting is helpful in sharpening this focus.

We are beginning to think through various opportunities for ongoing input and communication as the building committee progresses in its work. We know an essential step will in time be the approval of the membership of any commitment for facility expansion or renovation, including funding. Because there are many steps between now and then, there will be a variety of opportunities for interaction.

Specific to worship and music discussions please continue to pray for our search for a Pastor of Worship. Filling this position with a full-time staff member is a significant step as we continue to implement our Worship by the Word priorities for corporate worship. The Search Advisory Team has received a number of applications and has begun the process of interacting with selected applicants. Please keep this team and process in your prayers!

Mark your calendars for our next members meeting planned for April 27. We are committed to work diligently in building deeper community, investing in venues that build communication, and continually reminding one another of our dependence on Christ.

On behalf of our elders,
Pastor Dick

How Are You Connected?

Dear First Free,

The elders of our church have taken an intentional role in “knowing” the flock. As our staff team has followed suit, we have realized that we are unaware of how a number of you are relationally connected. Furthermore, we have not done as good of a job as we should have done in knowing all the ministries you currently serve in as well as any outside ministries in which you participate.

In an effort to grow in our “knowing” of the flock, we’re preparing a survey that we’d like you to take.

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Join the 52 Club!

"Trips help students grow in Christ and teach us new and better ways to grow deep in the Word while spreading the Word wide to all nations. Camps and trips introduce us to new friends and help us become closer to friends we already have. They can teach us ways to serve our church in new and better ways."

- David Haag, Class of 2017

"Trips are great to get out of the everyday routine and focus on God and being in his word. Also it's great to be around other people who are focused on him."

- Jayne Roberts, Class of 2015

Student Ministries trips, retreats, and conferences make a difference in the lives of students. This is a message we hear over and over from students who have had the opportunity to participate in a trip. Because we know trips can change lives, we want to provide scholarships and financial assistance for those who need it so they can attend these life-changing events. The 52 Club does this, but we need your help!



So, how can you get involved in 52 Club? The suggested donation to be a part of the 52 Club is \$52 (or \$1 a week). As a member, you'll receive an awesome magnet and the opportunity to benefit from two events in 2014; 52 Club May Mulch Madness and Fall Workday. But first and foremost you'll get the opportunity to help students financially that otherwise might not get the chance to go on Student Ministries trips.

Watch for our informational table on Sundays, March 23 and 30, where you can watch a short video, talk with some students, get your questions answered, and join the 52 Club!

Will you consider joining us and also pray for our ministry and what Jesus is doing to save and transform our students by the power of the gospel?

Jordan Krahn
Associate Pastor of Student Ministries

(Continued from page 1, How Are You Connected?)

The point of the survey is to provide our staff team centralized information about several key connection points including: which elder(s) and staff you're relationally connected to, what ABF or Small Group you're attending, where you're serving (within and outside the church).

We'll be sending the survey out in the next couple weeks, and would love if you'd give us less than ten minutes of your time to let us know how you are connected.

We are praying for you and love you,
Pastor Jeremy and the First Free Staff Team

*We exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ who glorify God
as the grace of the gospel grows deep in God's people and goes wide to all peoples.*

March *Events*

Weekly:

Sundays

Worship Services, 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.
Chinese Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.
Young Adults, 6:00 p.m.
*College, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Choir, 6:00 p.m.
Kids Choir, 6:00 p.m.

Mondays

Men's Basketball, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays

*Precept Studies, 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.
*Tuesday Connection, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesdays

Craft Group, 1:00 p.m.
Prayer, 6:30 p.m.
*Worship Choir, 6:45 p.m.
*Middle/High School, 6:45 p.m.
*Awana, 6:45 p.m.
Chinese Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Thursdays

Love Thru Action, 9:30 a.m.
*First Friends, 10:00 a.m.

Fridays

Chinese Fellowship, 7:30 p.m.

*** These events won't meet the week of March 16-22 due to Spring Break.**

Women's Retreat 2014

March 7-8

Coffee Connection

Sunday, March 9, 10:20 a.m.

Missions Committee Meeting

Sunday, March 9, 2:00 p.m.

Special Needs Moms' Bible Study

Tuesday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.

Mommy & Me

First Free, Shine! Room 202
Wednesday, March 12, 9:00 a.m.

Women's Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, March 12, 12:00 p.m.

Trustee Meeting

Wednesday, March 12, 6:45 p.m.

Craft Club

Friday, March 14, 5:00 p.m.

Elder Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.

Sack Lunch Prayer

Thursday, March 20, 12:11 p.m.

Coffee Connection

Sunday, March 23, 10:20 a.m.

K-3rd Grade Teachers Curriculum Lunch

Sunday, March 23, 12:00 p.m.

Youth Choir Choreography Day

Sunday, March 23, 12:15 p.m.

Special Needs Moms' Bible Study

Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, March 26, 12:00 p.m.

Book Club

Thursday, March 27, 7:00 p.m.

Choir Workshop

Saturday, March 29, 9:00 a.m.

4th-5th Grade Teachers Curriculum Lunch

Sunday, March 30, 12:00 p.m.

Women's Leadership Team

Monday, March 31, 6:30 p.m.

Stay informed, visit us online!

Learn more about these events at our online calendar:

firstfreewichita.org/events

firstfreewichita.org/family-news