



**FIRST
FREE**

FIRST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

First Evangelical Free Church
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July 2008

In The First Place...



The Velvet Revolution is a term that refers to a non-violent revolution in Czechoslovakia that occurred from November 16 to December 29, 1989, resulting in the overthrow of the Communist government.

On November 17, 1989, riot police suppressed a peaceful student demonstration in Prague. That event sparked a series of popular demonstrations from November 19 to late December. By November 20 the number of peaceful protesters assembled in Prague had swelled from 200,000 the previous day to an estimated half-million. A two-hour

general strike, involving all citizens of Czechoslovakia, was held on November 27.

With the collapse of other Communist governments, and increasing street protests, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia announced on November 28 that it would relinquish power and dismantle the single-party state. Barbed wire and other obstructions were removed from the border with West Germany and Austria in early December. On December 10, President Gustáv Husák appointed the first largely non-Communist government in Czechoslovakia since 1948, and resigned. Alexander Dubček was elected speaker of the federal parliament on December 28 and Václav Havel the President of Czechoslovakia on December 29, 1989.

In June 1990 Czechoslovakia held its first democratic elections since 1946. (Although Czechoslovakia remained a single country at that time, tensions between the majority Czech and minority Slovak populations made this situation unsustainable. On January 1, 1993, the two countries separated in a peaceful 'Velvet divorce'.)

I share this information as background to the following: The nine individuals who comprise this year's Outreach English Team will spend the Fourth of July in the Czech Republic. Knowing we will be overseas at this time we have chosen freedom as a prominent theme for our team sharing. While thinking of our own history, however, we recognize the need to be aware of the history of our Czech friends. Although historical backgrounds are different, both of us have significant reasons to celebrate the cherished privilege of freedom that we enjoy.

Of course the greatest freedom that our team will celebrate is the freedom that is ours as believers in Christ. What a privilege to experience the realities of this wonderful truth along with friends in the Czech Republic. As brothers and sisters in Christ together our teams make a major investment in an Outreach English Camp each year for the distinct purpose of inviting others to come to know Christ personally, experiencing His marvelous freedom themselves.

What a privilege! Thank you for your prayers while we're away.

Pastor Dick

COMING UP AT FIRST FREE

Single Worship Services

Sundays, July 20, 27, and August 3, and 10
10:00 - 11:15 p.m.

Business Meeting

Sunday, July 27 at 5:00 p.m.
in the Worship Center.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAYS...AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILY WORSHIP!

I am looking forward to the Single Service Sundays the last two Sundays in July and the first two in August. The services are being planned with families in mind! It will be a wonderful time of multi-generational worship and studying God's Word together.

The services will be from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. The donut table will be ready at 9:00 sharp! I hope each of you will plan now to make these services a priority for your family. Childcare is available for children ages 4 and under.

What are some things you can do to help make church more meaningful for your family? Here are some things for you to consider:

- Make it a habit. Be a family that always attends when you are in town. Children are less likely to say "I don't want to go" if they know it is a non-negotiable. Be a family who always attends church. Be wary of recreation and sports that take you out of town on Sundays. Corporate worship is an important part of our spiritual health!
- Make it happy. If you grumble about going, you can be sure your children will too! Speak highly of your church and the people at church in front of your children. Talk about their teachers and friends at Sunday School. Plan Sunday lunches with church families you would like to get to know better. Pray for the pastors and staff by name and be sure your children know who their leaders are.
- Make it holy. God established His church and we should teach children that this isn't like other places we go. We are commanded to worship corporately with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are urged to build up the body in things that we do and say. We are taught to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ especially well. We are encouraged to give cheerfully.
- Make it healthy. When it is possible, begin your family preparations for Sunday on Saturday night. We wouldn't think of keeping children up late on school nights or letting them wake up at the last minute before going to school. In the same way we should be thoughtful to what children need to have a good morning at church. Our Sunday School teachers have prepared excellent lessons and wonderful experiences for your children and they are ready to receive them at 9:00!

For the Single Service Sundays, take some time the week before to read the passage in James and talk about it as a family. Talk about ways your family can "walk the talk" in practical ways.

Our dedication service for the new children's wing will be August 10 during the morning worship service. The whole service will concentrate on children and the importance of teaching them God's word. I want you to know how seriously the entire children's ministry staff takes the responsibility of teaching children. But our responsibility is not as great as yours! I hope the summer has provided you with many opportunities to enjoy God's creation and His word as a family. I'm praying the single service Sundays will be a highlight of your summer.



Family News

First E Free Family -

It has been amazing to see the Body of Christ in action and for our family to be the recipients of such love. Thank you for the many expressions of care you extended to us during the recent loss of Ben's Dad. While we know Ron is with our Lord, the daily flood of memories makes his death painful for those of us left behind. How grateful we are for you and for our Lord in whom we can find peace and comfort.

Ben, Cindy, Grant, Adam, Jared, and Caroline Boesen

Dear First Free Family,

Thank you for your prayers for me and my mother in the loss of my dad. God has answered prayer in that my mother has just moved to Wichita, but it was according to His plan, in His time, in His way, and at His place. Rejoice in His sovereignty.

Pat White

Dear First Free Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful plant and for your prayers and comforting support during this time of sorrow. It was very nice to see Pastor Phil and several other members of First Free at Dad's funeral. We clearly felt the love and concern of Christ reflected in their presence and through their attendance. Thanks again


Allen and Gaye Friess

Our First Free Family,

Thank you so kindly for your expressions of sympathy to my family at the loss of my dear brother. Thank you for the beautiful plant. Your prayers are blessing and sustaining us through this difficult time. God bless you all!

*In Christ,
Marcia Slack and family*

First Free Family Zoo Night



DO THE ZOO

Tuesday, July 1st
Sedgwick County Zoo
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

6:00 Picnic Dinner at Prairie Landing (near the bears).

Please pack a picnic dinner/drinks for you and your family.

Cost: Zoo Members and children under 3: Free
Non Members: Adults \$8, children ages 4-11 \$4.50 (pay at zoo upon entering)

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Please note: On Sunday mornings, July 20 and 27 and August 3 and 10, there will only be one service so we will not have FrontLine or BASIC 113.



Here is our schedule of special events for July.

July 2 and 23, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Pool Party at Logan’s home. Guys bring a 2-liter of pop and girls bring a snack. Please arrange to be dropped off and picked up at their home, 1550 N. Willow Ln.

Friday, July 11, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Bigger and Better Scavenger Hunt! We will meet in the BASIC 113 room.

Looking Ahead!

August 1 - BASIC 113 Overnighter – Watch for details to come!



July is a busy month in the FrontLine so here are some helpful reminders for you. Visit the church website, www.firstfreewichita.org for a calendar and more details.

July 6 – Money and registration are due for the Ladies Campout and Guys Canoe Trip.

July 6 – Back to School Retreat early bird deadline for money and registration. Save \$5 by signing up early!

July 10 – 11 – Ladies Campout

July 11 – 13 – Guys Canoe Trip

July 16, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. – FrontLine will be meeting at Beech Lake for a cookout and party. Girls bring a snack or dessert, guys bring a drink.

July 20 – Money and registration due for BTSR .

July 27, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Prayer Party for the Krauses at the Pumphrey’s.

July 30, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Pool Party at the Logan’s. Girls bring a snack, guys bring a drink.

A HANDY WAY TO SHARE JESUS

Would you like to be able to share five key Gospel points using the five fingers of your hand? The “Share Your Faith” Seminar will help you do this. Join many others on September 5 and 6 for a six-hour training session at First Free. The seminar will be held Friday evening, and Saturday morning (includes a continental breakfast) all for just \$25.00. You can register online at www.syfonline.org, or at the church during the month of August. Watch for more details in upcoming weeks. Call Pastor Phil at the church if you have questions.

MORE LETTERS...

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your kind sentiments, sympathy cards, flowers, and the plant that you gave us in the loss of my father, and our children’s grandfather. We truly appreciate all you have done.*

Steve Billings and Family

First Free Women

A TASTE OF...

FIRST FREE WOMEN!

Save Monday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. for a “flavor filled” evening and come have a “taste” of what’s happening in Women’s Ministry this fall. Sample our many delicacies: Bible studies, service opportunities, connecting with women, and planned events. You’ll also be able to “taste test” new recipes and bring home the recipe cards. Come with your appetites, for the evening will be all in good taste!

SCRAPBOOKING

Join us on Friday, July 11, from 5:00 - 10:30 p.m. in the Gym. Bring your scrapbooking supplies, photos, and a snack. Call Mary Lou at the church office if you would like more information or just to let her know you plan to be there.

DAY OF PRAYER



Thursday, July 3

6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Come to the Chapel any time that day to pray.