

First Free News

First Evangelical Free Church
5150 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis
Visit our website at www.firstfreechurch.org

April 2002

Surprised by God

Have you ever been surprised by God? Last Fall God surprised me when I received a phone call from Jerry Fisher, Chairman of the Pastoral Search Committee. I didn't know about First Free Church—becoming the Senior Pastor here was not on my radar screen. But as the door continued to open, God's surprise became His leading and today I sit at my desk in the office as the new Senior Pastor at First Free Church.

I find a lot of surprised people in the Bible. *Think about it.* . . how surprised do you think Moses was when he came across the burning bush? Or David when Samuel passed by all his brothers and ended up anointing him as the next king of Israel? Mary was in denial when the angel gave her the surprise announcement that she would give birth to the Messiah. Then there is Saul (soon to become the Apostle Paul) caught completely off guard on the road to Damascus, and the list goes on!

The great news is that when you are surprised by God, you realize once again that He is active and working in your life and in your world. He is still in control, and He cares about the small details of your life.

Maybe right now you are thinking of some ways God has surprised you in the past. As you do, can you begin to pray for God to once again surprise us here at First Free Church? What does He want to do? How will He move us as a church in this next chapter? **Don't be surprised if He surprises us!** —Pastor Joel Sutton

I KNOW THAT MY
Redeemer
LIVES
J O B 1 9 : 2 5

- Spring Highlights -

Sunday, April 7th (Communion)

Installation Service for Pastor Joel Sutton
6:00 PM Small Group Bible Study—Chapter 9

New Sermon Series—Pastor Joel

Sunday, April 14th

Whose House Are We Building? Part 1

Text: Haggai 1:1-11

6:00 PM Small Group Bible Study Chapter 10

Sunday, April 21st

Whose House Are We Building? Part 2

Text: Haggai 1:12-15

6:00 PM All Church Prayer & Praise

Sunday, April 28th

Whose House Are We Building? Part 3

Text: Haggai 2:1-5

6:00 PM Small Group Bible Study— Chapter 11

Sunday, May 5th

Whose House Are We Building? Part 4

Text: Haggai 2:6-9

6:00 PM Small Group Bible Study— Chapter 12

Sunday, May 12th

Whose House Are We Building? Part 5

Text: Haggai 2:10-19

6:00 PM Small Group Bible Study—Chapter 13

*Women's Night Out
Monday, April 15
7:00-10:00 PM
at Church*

- ◆ Bring along a project you are working on
- ◆ Or just come to visit
- ◆ Open to women of all ages
- ◆ Call Beth Brown or Jill Rose for questions

*Let's Seek God Together
Sunday Evening
April 21st at 6:00 PM*

- This is an all church gathering for praise and prayer to seek God's plan for the future of our church – *let's build God's church together!*
- All are welcome before the throne of God, there are no age restrictions.



Engagements

Congratulations to:

Peter McWilliams and Jessica Kender
who became engaged in December, 2001.
A July 6, 2002, wedding is planned.

Susan Mondy and Eric Stabnow
who became engaged in March, 2002.
A December 21, 2002, wedding is planned.

*This is Your Invitation
to Pray for
the Twin Cities
May 19th, 6:00-9:00 PM*

- Mark your calendars early to join others in seeking God for revival in the Twin Cities and beyond.
- For more information, call 612-278-1728 or go to www.prayertransformation.com.