

FIRST
FREE
CHURCH



**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2021 >>>>



A WORD FROM **PASTOR MARK**



Dear First Free Family,

I feel so blessed to be at First Free Church serving as one of your pastors. Looking back at 2021, I am encouraged by all that God has done through First Free considering all the challenges we have faced. Thank you to all of our amazing staff and faithful volunteers who made all of this a reality!

Our desire for 2021 was to grow deeper as a church. You saw this focus in our Sermon on the Mount series where the call to follow Jesus, regardless of the cost, was our primary emphasis. I think there was a strong sense that these messages, though challenging, were very necessary in light of our world today. I want to give a shout out to our talented teaching team who love Jesus and unashamedly preach His Word week in and week out. You are all awesome!

A big part of growing in Christ includes developing meaningful relationships with other Christians. First Free Groups was the result of our emphasis on getting people connected to one another, and we're so encouraged by the results. Prayer also plays a key role in our relationship with Christ. To see people experience the presence and power of Jesus in the Prayer Room, and to hear the miraculous stories of healing...amazing! Praise God for how the prayer ministry has grown in 2021. And let's not forget about our kids and youth ministry. There are literally hundreds of volunteers who sacrificially give of their time and energy to pour into the future leaders of the church. I know they're there because they see the value in every kid or youth, and they want to see them grow and mature as disciples of Christ. Thank you for serving.

There's so much more I could say about the beautiful things that have happened through First Free in 2021, but I want to end by thanking you for your commitment to Christ and for your incredible generosity. To see the amount of money that has come into our church, and how we have been able to meet so many needs in our community with it, blows me away! You are such an amazing group of people and I thank God for you.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Brockberg
Executive Pastor



2021

IN REVIEW

JAN

FOCUS CONFERENCE

107 people attended this conference focusing on the bible.

STUDENT REVIVAL NIGHT

220+ students and leaders attended, including youth groups from neighboring churches. This event was led by students at First Free!

FEB

NO REGRETS MEN'S CONFERENCE

114 men attended.

MAR

RECEIVE!

188 people attended this inner healing and restoration event.

IF: GATHERING

87 women attended.

APR

EASTER WEEKEND SERVICES

1,932 people attended over 2 services and 2,006 households tuned in online.

WORSHIP NIGHT + ART GALLERY

384 people attended this event, which included a fundraiser where pieces of art created by the creative arts team were sold to raise money for area schools in need of art and music supplies. \$2,135 was raised.

MAY

SPECIAL PRIME TIMERS LUNCHEON

After 15 months without gathering, 107 Prime Timers attended this special lunch served by the staff members at First Free.

WORSHIP NIGHT + BAPTISM EVENT

394 people attended and 55 people were baptized.

JUN

RECEIVE!

69 people attended this inner healing and restoration event.

JUL

YOUTH ROAD TRIP TO KENTUCKY

20 students and 6 leaders took a 5-day road trip to Kentucky to visit the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum.

AUG

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

116 people attended.

SEP

WORSHIP NIGHT + BAPTISM EVENT

305 people attended and 25 people were baptized.

MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

71 couples attended the Marriage Conference with speaker Ted Cunningham.

OCT

FALL MEN'S EVENT

91 men attended.

AWANA TRUNK OR TREAT

350+ kids participated and 19 volunteers handed out candy.

NOV

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

338 gift boxes were collected at First Free and were sent off to kids all over the world!

DEC

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

1,655 people attended over 2 services and 1,004 households tuned in online.

FIRST FREE CHURCH BY THE NUMBERS

WEEKEND SERVICES

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

1,362

PEOPLE PER WEEKEND

TOTAL LIVESTREAM VIEWS

63,268

INCLUDES FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE, WEBSITE & APP

FIRST

FREE

YOUTH

AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE

52

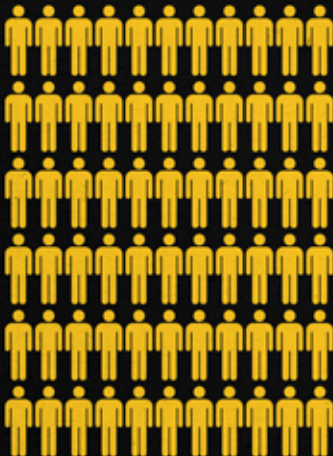
STUDENTS



AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

245

KIDS



ON AVERAGE, IT TOOK

132

VOLUNTEERS

TO MAKE OUR 3 SERVICES
HAPPEN EACH WEEKEND!



FIRST FREE CHURCH BY THE NUMBERS

ONLINE



16 weeks **32,557 views**
MOST WATCHED SERMON
 The Armored Life: Part 1
 2,557 views



7 weeks **10,528 views**
MOST WATCHED SERMON
 Ephesus
 2,066 views



9 weeks **9,945 views**
MOST WATCHED SERMON
 The Sense in Suffering
 1,239 views



16 weeks **26,697 views**
MOST WATCHED SERMON
 Killing Murder
 2,133 views

J F M A M J J A S O N D



FACEBOOK

390 new page likes
470 new followers
6,300 total page likes
6,907 total followers



WEBSITE & APP

197,260 website visits
2,169 new app downloads
7,192 total app downloads
38,437 media views



YOUTUBE

70,159 views
32,211 hours
437 new subscribers
2,966 total subscribers



INSTAGRAM

214 new followers
2,378 total followers



APPLE PODCASTS

1,398 streams
145 listeners



SPOTIFY

2,813 streams
279 listeners

FIRST FREE CHURCH BY THE NUMBERS

MINISTRIES

FIRST FREE
CONNECT

377

VISITORS
PERSONALLY
FOLLOWED UP
WITH IN 2021

FIRST FREE
GROUPS

46

GROUPS IN 2021

466

GROUP MEMBERS

**BECOME A
MEMBER**

AT FIRST FREE CHURCH

69

NEW MEMBERS IN 2021

429

TOTAL MEMBERS

Alpha

78

PEOPLE COMPLETED
THE ALPHA COURSE
IN 2021

first free
Prayer

59

PRAYER TEAM
MEMBERS IN 2021

198

ONLINE PRAYER
REQUESTS IN 2021



The
PRAYER ROOM
AT FIRST FREE

30

AVERAGE ATENDEES

345

HOURS DEVOTED TO PRAYER

FIRST FREE CHURCH BY THE NUMBERS

MINISTRIES



17

KIDS CHOSE TO FOLLOW CHRIST DURING A SERVICE IN 2021

25

KIDS DEDICATED IN 2021



245

KIDS IN AWANA

102

AWANA VOLUNTEERS



94

AVERAGE WEDNESDAY STUDENT ATTENDEES

25

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



COLLEGE COMMUNITY

30

AVERAGE COLLEGE STUDENT ATTENDEES



314

AVERAGE ATTENDEES

341

AVERAGE LIVESTREAM VIEWS



8.1K

APPLE MUSIC STREAMS

27.4K

SPOTIFY STREAMS

35.8K

YOUTUBE STREAMS

BAPTISMS



80

PEOPLE BAPTIZED IN 2021



FIRST FREE CHURCH GENEROSITY

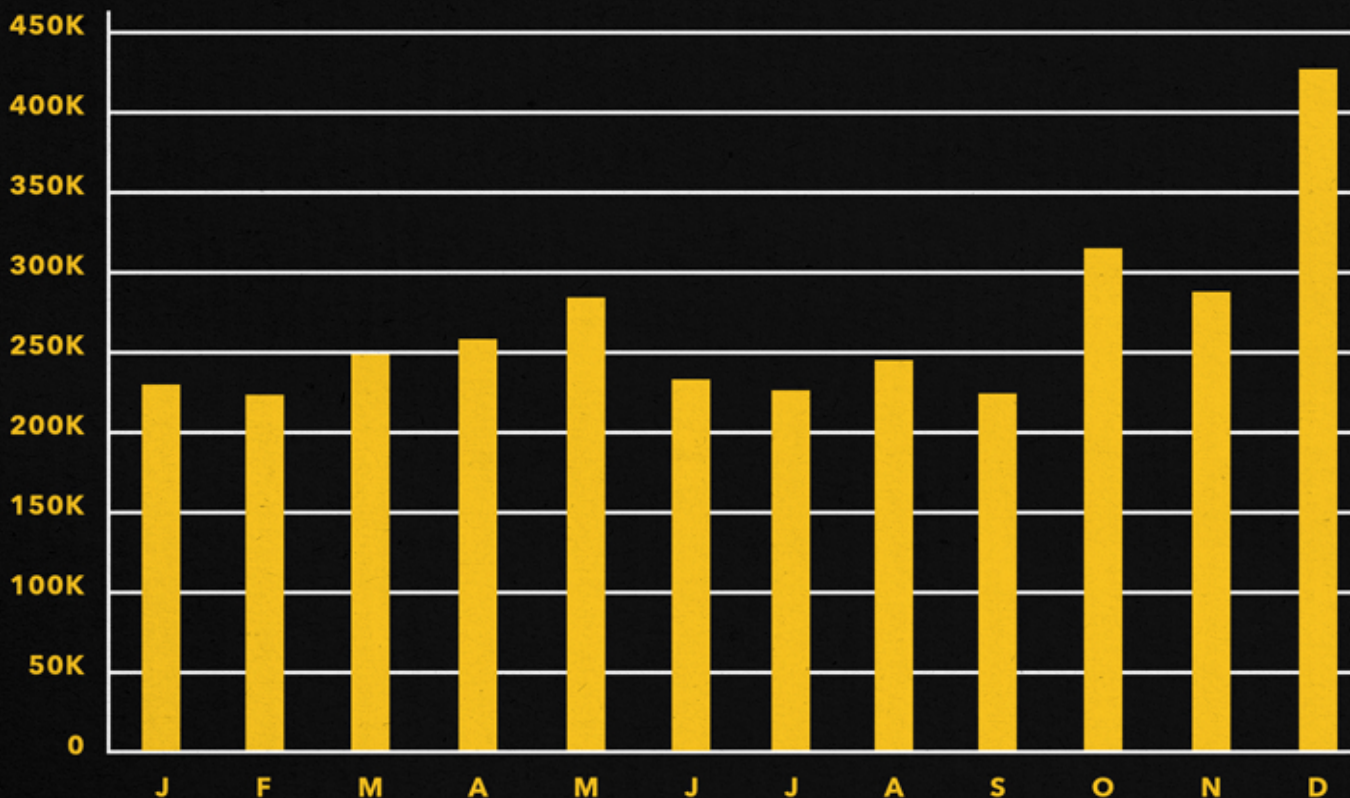
GENERAL FUND GIVING IN 2021

\$3,207,471

1,009 CONTRIBUTORS

238 FIRST-TIME GIVERS

2021 MONTHLY GIVING



FIRST FREE CHURCH GENEROSITY

BENEVOLENCE

\$291,472

RAISED FOR OUR BENEVOLENCE FUND

184

FAMILIES SERVED
THROUGH BENEVOLENCE

\$267,570

DONATED OUT OF OUR BENEVOLENCE FUND

484

FAMILIES SERVED
THROUGH FOOD PANTRY

\$173,128 DONATED TO **26** LOCAL CHARITIES

GLOBAL MISSIONS

**TOTAL RAISED FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
IN 2021**

\$35,561

FIRST FREE
STORE

1,645

ITEMS SOLD

\$2,500

RAISED FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS



newlife
HOUSE

\$17,483

RAISED FOR THE
NEW LIFE HOUSE
IN LAOS

A WORD FROM **PASTOR SHANE**



Dear Church Family,

I want to start by telling you how grateful I am for you! The reality of Covid continues to bring many challenges to the world at large, but also to the church world. Thank you for how faithful and flexible you have been as we have tried to ride this out, and adjust on the fly to new and changing realities. There has been great potential for division surrounding Covid - we have witnessed much of this in our world. The sad reality is many churches have also experienced much division as well - so thank you for your love and grace for one another. Thank you for fighting for the unity of the faith, and not allowing division to creep into this beautiful spiritual family!

As we approach this new year, we will seek to provide many opportunities for each of you to connect with one another in meaningful places of service and growth. Our goal is to have programs and groups available to meet people where they are. My personal focus as your senior pastor will be to dig deep in prayer and the study of God's Word, to be able to do my best to serve everyone that calls First Free Church their church home. We all see how quickly the world is changing, and darkness is growing. My sense from Jesus is that He is wanting me to co-labor with Him to help His people be equipped to stand strong in this present cultural climate.

I will always have a heart to see the lost be found, but more and more I sense Jesus directing me to help His people go deeper. As the end draws nearer, the darkness is and will continue to grow. Jesus made it clear that wickedness would increase as the end of this time of history drew to a close, and He also said because of the increase of that wickedness, the love of many would grow cold. As your pastor, I want to do all I can (with His help and grace) to make sure that's not you!

To that end, we will begin an extensive study of the Gospel of John in our weekend services, and I will be bringing a study from the Book of Revelation to each of our monthly Worship Nights. The goal of that study will not be to just "know" end times events better - the goal is to know Jesus better. To fall deeper in love with Him, and to be more equipped and prepared to stand strong as evil and immorality grow in the culture.

I am looking forward to a year of us growing in passion and love for the beautiful man behind the plan we will learn about in the Book of Revelation!

With much love and gratitude,

Shane Holden
Senior Pastor

