



Senior Pastor

The First Evangelical Free Church of Chicago
June 2018

Who We Are

First Evangelical Free Church (First Free) is a historic Jesus-loving urban church located on the north side of Chicago in the Edgewater neighborhood. Over the years we have been an incubator for many mission ventures that resulted in sending out hundreds of leaders to serve locally and globally.

Organized in 1880, First Free has a long history of sharing our faith and meeting community needs. We believe God has strategically placed us in a culturally, socially and economically diverse location in the heart of Andersonville, between Uptown and Rogers Park. This presents us with many opportunities to serve our community. We are a diverse group of people united in Christ and by our commitment to bringing the life-changing message of Jesus Christ to our neighborhood, Chicago and beyond.

Our Mission Frame

Our *vision* is to celebrate lives transformed by Jesus Christ.

Our *purpose* is to glorify God and further His kingdom by making disciples of Jesus Christ in the City who worship God in His greatness, reach the world through evangelism and service, and love and train one another to maturity in Christ.

Our *mission* is to make disciples of Jesus Christ locally and globally by proclaiming the Gospel in Word and deed.

We are a historic evangelical church adhering to biblical authority, congregational in polity, and affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America. As a local church, First Free emphasizes proclamation of the Gospel and compassionate outreach.

Primary Position and Responsibilities

The Senior Pastor of First Free gives leadership to the church by:

Church Body

- Caring for the spiritual life of the church as pastor and teacher
- Coaching and overseeing the shepherding, care and training of believers
- Overseeing and providing the preaching ministry for the church
- Providing the message of the hope of salvation to the people of Edgewater/Andersonville and surrounding communities
- Guiding and encouraging transformative discipleship of the church body
- Elevating and modeling prayer emphasis and visibility as a priority of the church
- Directing the church in establishing long-range plans, strategy and policies relative to our established vision, purpose and mission within the framework of the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA)
- Providing oversight in communicating and implementing the church's vision, position, purpose and mission
- Reviewing, refining and implementing the church's strategic plan and its objectives



Staff

- Supervising and overseeing the church staff to include leading regular meetings with all staff for planning, training, and mentorship
- Providing for the spiritual, relational and professional growth of staff

Elder Board

- Maintaining accountability to the Elder Board for all activities of the church
- Partnering with the elders in oversight and care of the congregation
- Working together with the elders in supervising the general operation of the church
- Serving as ex-officio voting member of the Elder Board and an ex-officio voting member of all other committees, ministries, and task forces appointed by First Free church bylaws or by the Elder Board

EFCA

- Representing the church in the community, the EFCA, and other church bodies
- Participating in the ministries and conferences of the EFCA as a member of good standing with the Great Lakes District of the Evangelical Free Church

Ideal Experience

- A minimum of five years of full-time responsibilities in pastoral ministries
- Demonstrated experience, gifting and passion for revitalizing a church
- Proven leadership in overseeing a congregation of 100-300+ people
- Demonstrated experience and passion in a diverse urban environment
- Past experience in mobilizing a church in evangelistic outreach

Ideal Qualifications

- Gifted in the areas of relationship-building, preaching, and staff leadership
- Meets the biblical qualifications of a pastor
- Strong commitment to the authority and application of Scripture
- Excellent management, organization and training skills
- Possessive of a compassionate, visionary, mentoring and collaborative spirit
- Effective communicator in a trusting, credible manner
- Strong ability to cast, and motivate a congregation around, a common vision
- Models and encourages a spirit of discipleship and spiritual growth
- Demonstrates consistent Christ-like character
- Engaged in personal accountability
- Master of Divinity from an accredited seminary
- Ordained, or willing to pursue ordination, as a pastor by the Evangelical Free Church of America
- If ordained through another denomination, at a minimum must agree with the EFCA Statement of Faith