

The Word on the (F) Street

We Are Called to Export Disciples, Not Import

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

Neil Cole made a statement similar to this, in his book *Organic Church*, that the church is called to export disciples for the ministry not import them. Today, we often see churches looking to find the next leader, and yet we are called, throughout the Bible, to be intentional about raising up leaders for the ministry, both locally and globally.

Jesus told his early disciples, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* - Acts 1:8. Clearly, we are to be dependent on the Holy Spirit for the work of ministry, done here in the neighborhood, as well as around the world.

Jesus also told us to pray for this work, specifically to pray for the workers, *"The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."*

Yet Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:11-12 that God has gifted the church with people to do the work of equipping people for ministry. *"Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ."*

Taking just these three texts, we see that we need to be prayerfully dependent on God for the work that we do here, as we strive to equip one another for ministry. It is not enough for us, as a church, to have a heart for the neighborhood if we are not going to be ministry. We are yet to come out of are striving as a church to the neighborhood. We are yet to come out of are striving as a church to do all that we can to raise up leaders for the ministry in the neighborhood, as well as sending people throughout the city, our country, and the world, for the sake of the Good News that we have experienced in Jesus.

"...the mighty warriors that God has for this neighborhood are yet to come out of the neighborhood."

The following are just a few of the things that we currently have in place to help people be equipped in ministry. I ask that you pray for each of these ministry opportunities, as well as ask if there are things that you can do to be equipped yourself. All of us need to be prepared for the great work that God wants to do.

Immerse

As we wrap up our fourth summer of Immerse, it is easy to celebrate the things that these students (from all over the United States) have accomplished. Yet, they are not here to simply help us minister to the neighborhood, they are here as a part of something that, I think, is bigger.

They are here as part of our desire to fulfill the call that God has for his church - to equip the saints. Immerse seeks to bring in students, from around the country, and give them experience and training that helps them



A Place of Acceptance and Direction
"F" Street Neighborhood Church

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Calendar for August 2019

- 1st: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 4th: Sunday Service
- 6th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ
- 7th: **Happy Birthday Chelsea Pfeiffer**
- 7th: 6pm Youth Group
- 8th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 10th: **Happy Birthday Matthew Greenfield, Michael Mann**
- 11th: Sunday Service
- 13th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ; **Happy Birthday Tad Stryker**
- 15th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Jose Lopez, Elouise Schowalter**
- 18th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Judy Gruidel**
- 19th: **Happy Birthday Michael House**
- 20th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ; **Happy Birthday Tory Moghadam**
- 21st: 6pm Youth Group; **Happy Birthday Nondo Moreno**
- 22nd: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 25th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Stephen Mailand**
- 26th: **Happy Birthday Abigail Heerspink**
- 27th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ
- 28th: **Happy Birthday Kristina Findley**
- 29th: 6:30pm FoodNet

Please keep us up to date on birthdays & anniversaries! If you aren't sure that we have your information, talk to Jane Mailand or simply fill out a Welcome Card and hand it to her. In addition, if your address, phone, or email has changed, let Jane know.

to see the opportunities that abound, along with their gifts, and potential to meet those needs.

It is our hope that these students go home with a new passion for ministry, and that they will begin to minister in their own churches, schools, and towns. We also hope that they will be motivated to consider ministry as a calling, either full time, or as part of their lives. There are stories that we get to hear about how students go home with a new passion for ministry, and we love seeing some of them return Lincoln to serve again with us.

Thanks to everyone here at “F” Street Church who have helped to make this another great summer of Immerse: from Beth Heerspink and her leadership, to those who have them over for dinner, and those who share their testimonies. Immerse is a group effort.

Interns

Immerse also gives us a great set of Interns, who give two months of their summer, where they are trained and encouraged as they work with the people of our neighborhood. Some of them come back to do it again, and others even stay here to become residents.

Special thanks to this year’s interns:

Sarah Siglar, who came back for a second year to serve here, and hopes to call Lincoln home, after graduating this next year from Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa.

Jordan Classon, came here, and in the first week got engaged to her boyfriend Johnny, who is a Jr. High Youth Pastor in Omaha, YEA. Jordan is in her final year of schooling at University of Northern Iowa, and hopes to move to Omaha after getting married, then serve in ministry there.

Evan Bomgaars, came to Lincoln with an Immerse group last year as a student, and came back this year as an Intern. He will be returning to NW Iowa, where he is from, and continue in his job as an auto mechanic.

Morgan Kramer was an Intern last year, before getting married and starting her career as a teacher. She returned this year to take on some special aspects of Immerse (shopping, Neighborhood Bible Club, mission field trips, etc.)

Residents

Residents are those who are giving a year to be equipped for ministry, through practical experiences that help train them for ministry in a wide variety of positions. This year we have four Residents who will be serving “F” Street Church, as well as in our community.

Meg Arbogast, who has already been working with Youth and Children’s.

Art Wilson, who will be working with preaching, and helping us to strategize our evangelism and discipleship.

Kayla Wison, who will be working with our Team Leaders, and the culture of those team leaders.

Savannah Clapper (arriving at the end of August), who will be working with ATLAS: Lincoln, and Community Development.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a resident at “F” Street Neighborhood Church, please come and speak with me.

Lincoln School of Ministry

This is our third year of the Lincoln School of Ministry (LSOM). This is a one-year ministry that exists to help to equip people from the neighborhood for ministry. We believe that many of the greatest ministers for the neighborhood are yet to come out of the neighborhood.

Broken into three trimesters, (Foundations, Ministry, and Leadership) LSOM, for some, is a strengthening of their faith, giving them some knowledge to help them in their current role of ministry. For others, it is a starting point for more schooling, and an affirmation of the call that God has for them.

Whether you are already in ministry, and want to strengthen your knowledge and understanding, or you want to pursue a call in ministry, LSOM may be a good place to start. I would be happy to talk more with you , as classes



begin again on Thursday, September 5. Each attendee must be involved in ministry in the local church, and fill out an application. This is available online at www.fstreetchurch.org, or on the back table of the church sanctuary.

Each trimester costs \$100 to attend. To date, we have graduated six people through the full year, with many taking some of the classes.

Final Thoughts on Equipping

I want to leave you with this thought. These are all just programs that we have in place to be intentional. However, Jesus’ model for this was simply to invite people to walk along side of him as he did ministry. His twelve disciples followed him, experiencing how he loved, healed, and taught people, then were sent out to do ministry in pairs, coming back to debrief. I share that to say that equipping is not just a program, it is a lifestyle that we best learn from experience with others.

I do ask that you pray for these ministries, and that you consider your role in each of these great opportunities for equipping. But most of all, I ask that you get involved in the ministry opportunities that we have here at “F” Street Church. There are the summer Block Parties, Farmers Market, the year-round ministries like Nursery, Journey Group, Youth Ministry, Food Net, Coffee and Bagels, Security, Greeting, Benevolence, Sound, and Worship. One of the greatest ways that we can all grow in ministry is to simply get started by volunteering. It is less a program and more a process that we step into with others. Consider what step you need to take to be equipped for the sake of sharing the gospel. For the harvest is plentiful and sadly the workers are still few.

“...equipping is not just a program, it is a lifestyle that we best learn from experience with others. “

Transportation Team Looking For New Members

Tad Stryker, Elder

We need to replace two of our Transportation Team members. Are you willing to drive the church van once a month to allow other people to come to "F" Street Neighborhood Church? Our goal is to finish our route and arrive at the church between 9:30 and 9:45 a.m. After the service, they will be returned home.

Qualifications for being a Transportation Team member:

- Must have a current Nebraska driver's license
- Exhibits reliability, friendliness, the ability to work positively with others
- Reports for duty unimpaired by drugs or alcohol
- Available to drive people to church (and home again afterward) at least once every month. (approximately 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. availability the day you drive, although days with church dinners or block parties will go later)

If interested, please call or text Tad Stryker at 402-802-0597.

Neighbors, Thankfulness, and Giving

Tad Stryker, Elder

Thanks to everyone who has contributed financially during the summer. We appreciate it, because summer traditionally means a drop-off in local giving. That definitely has been the case at "F" Street Church.

Speaking of summer, I urge you to take advantage of the next few weeks to invest in friendships, especially in your neighborhood. I say that while figuratively looking in the mirror, because it's something I often neglect. God has been convicting me in that area of my life. How are giving to God's work and listening to your neighbors related? I think both are important because they help us focus on the needs of other people. Also, I think both can lead to increased thankfulness in our own lives, because both are opportunities to be involved in what God is doing locally.

If you have strong friendships in your neighborhood, be thankful, and keep cultivating them. If you don't, pray specifically that God will show you who to approach - and how.

Remember that we have a new option for giving, a smartphone app from Generosity Lifeway. And you can give through our website, fstreetchurch.org. If you have questions, ask CeCe Robinson or me.

Have a great rest of the summer! It'll be gone before you know it.

Wingin' It

Kayla Wilson, Team Leader: Hospitality & Discipleship

This phrase, along with "I don't know", are two phrases that my husband and I have become acquainted with. There are a lot of questions we don't know the answer to and there are a lot of

things that require trial and error.

In my position as Team Developer, I would apply these same thoughts. There are a lot of questions I don't know the answer to, and there are goals I want to reach that require trial and error. These thoughts remind me of two things: my lack of ultimate wisdom and ability, and God's total wisdom and ability. I am thankful for a God who promises to be with me and ensures that all things will work out for our good and his glory. I am thankful that in my insufficiency, his goodness is shown, and in my weakness, his strength is revealed. I am thankful that the results and fruit of our work is on the shoulders of God, the creator of heaven and earth.

(If you have interest in joining me on the journey of developing hospitality and discipleship areas of the church, please connect with me.)

Opportunity to Grow With the Next Generation

Meg Arbogast, Resident Director of Youth Ministry

Some of the most impactful years of each of our lives are, without a doubt, the unforgettable years we spend as teenagers. I believe God can use those years, that are filled with struggles and triumphs, to give us hearts for the teenagers who are experiencing similar things.

As we head into a new school year, I am looking for willing adults who would like to serve at our church youth group. Whether you have experiences working with teenagers or not, my hope is simply to have a team filled with individuals who are willing to listen and love on these kids where they are at. As a leader, your level of commitment can be flexible, according to your schedule and how involved you wish to be. The group meets on a bi weekly basis from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The day of the week is to be determined. If you are even a little interested in serving for a semester or the entire school year, please contact Meg at (402) 219-1993 or email at meg.arbo09@gmail.com.

"F" Street Neighborhood Church

Block Party, Sunday, August 25

Come at 9:30 a.m. for the Bagels & Coffee,

*Celebrate with us in Worship, then join in the fun at the **Block Party**.*



Bring yourself, a friend, and enjoy some free burgers, hotdogs, and a great time.

Parish Nurses' Corner Barb Douglas, Parish Nurse

Dear "F" Street Church Brothers and Sisters,

I am here to tell you that, "It's okay to need help." We all need help at one time or another. It is incredibly difficult to live a healthy life all by yourself. I am convinced that living healthy can only come from living in community. Having family, friends, coworkers and fellow seekers of a life well lived, is imperative to optimal health.

Are you one of those people that think willpower is all you need to achieve goals like: overeating, excessive exercise, excessive spending, addictions to drugs and alcohol? In my opinion, "doing it alone, or with willpower" is highly overrated. Unfortunately, most of us have this need to feel "all powerful" in and of ourselves. This is an extreme misnomer. No one can achieve a healthy, fruitful, successful life alone. We all need help at some time. We need others to encourage us when we are down, to pick us up when we fall, to walk alongside us when we are confused or lost. It takes a team of people helping one another get through this life successfully. We can all do it alone for a little while, but in the long run, we need each other.

Here at "F" Street Neighborhood Church, we are a group of people that work together to give the acceptance and direction to any one that asks. Working together to help each person individually succeed, in all the ways they hope for, is our way to achieve those healthy goals for successful living, as laid out in the scriptures. There are many self-help groups one can join, but then there you are helping yourself, alone again. Joining us here at FSNC is a different way to achieve long term goals for life. God saw it right away in Genesis 2:18, "*It is not good for man to be alone.*" From the very start, God and man were in company together. No matter how much we tried to isolate to get closer to God, it never worked. Not to say that a nice little three-day retreat isn't a great pick-me-up. But the good life requires family, friends, associates, neighbors, and acquaintances, all working together- in each ones capacity- to make life livable.

Can friends be trying? Yes. Can family be an unhealthy deterrent for us? Yes. But in those situations, we can find "chosen family," people that are a help in difficult situations and the trying times of life. ATLAS and FSNC are two places you can find that "chosen family." We are here to help, comfort, and shine light in dark places. In short, we are a Christian family that loves to grow and add people to our family. God draws us into life and goodness of life. In the midst of pain, illness, and loss of every kind, it can be very difficult to see God's goodness at work. But suffering does not have to win.

Even when coming to the edge of the cliff, and there is temptation to jump, gather your wits and say "What was I thinking?" Fall back into the waiting arms of those who love you. Knowing you don't have to face suffering alone is a game changer!

Welcome to "F" Street Neighborhood Church, all you who are tired and heavy-laden. Let us pray with and for you when you can't, let us stand with you and hold you up when you need help. God's blessings to each and every one of you.

Your Parish Nurse, Barbara J. Douglas, PNFSC



Community Groups

Thursday Group: 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Keith Morrissey's home. Contact Keith Morrissey, 402-525-4897.

Sunday Group: 12:00-1:00 p.m. at "F" Street Church. Contact Keith Morrissey, 402-525-4897.

Sunday Group: 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Art & Kayla Wilson's home. Contact them, 402-318-4968.



Farmer's Market

Tuesdays, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Good Food, Good Fun

Don't Miss It



Wisdom Literature Monthly Bible Reading Plan

We Have No Excuse

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.” - James 1:5-8

Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom.

Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.

Wisdom will multiply your days

and add years to your life.

If you become wise, you will be the one to benefit.

If you scorn wisdom, you will be the one to suffer. - Proverbs 9:10-12

The Bible not only is a book of wisdom for life, it tells us how to obtain ultimate wisdom. It is through our ongoing relationship of trust in God and our growing knowledge, that leads to a holy, respectful fear of God: *wisdom*. I believe that you can read the Bible, apply the principles, and be much wiser than most of the world who follow the supposed wisdom of our world. Yet, real wisdom comes, not just in some applied principles, but in the deep loving relationship with God that leads to everlasting life. As Jesus taught us, “What good is it if we gain the whole world but forfeit our souls?”

I say all of this to point us to the importance of reading the Bible. To read the Bible not only gives us wisdom for this this life, but leads us to the understanding of who God is and what he has done for us. To read the word of God is to grow in our understanding of the death of God and the truth that he has for us.

Therefore, when we feel like we lack wisdom, the two things we can do is 1) ask God and 2) read the word of God. For really, we are without excuse when it comes to wanting wisdom.

We currently are encouraging all of you at “F” Street Church, to be reading what is known as the wisdom literature of the Bible. We are close to wrapping up the Psalms, which are not only rich with wisdom, but also are honest with emotions. I want to encourage you to give it a try. Read the Psalms this month and see what God can do, and what wisdom you can gain.

Need a Bible?

There are New Testaments on the table, in back of the sanctuary, that you can take at any time (We ask that you do not take the pew Bibles) If you want, we also have full-study Bibles, that we would love to give to you to help you in gaining the wisdom that is yours for the taking.

July	August	Psalms	August	Psalms	August	Psalms	August	Psalms	August	Psalms	
29	<input type="checkbox"/>	108	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	113	12	<input type="checkbox"/>	118	19	<input type="checkbox"/>	123
30	<input type="checkbox"/>	109	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	114	13	<input type="checkbox"/>	119	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	124
31	<input type="checkbox"/>	110	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	115	14	<input type="checkbox"/>	120	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	125
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	111	8	<input type="checkbox"/>	116	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	121	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	126
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	112	9	<input type="checkbox"/>	117	16	<input type="checkbox"/>	122	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	127
									26	<input type="checkbox"/>	128
									27	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
									28	<input type="checkbox"/>	130
									29	<input type="checkbox"/>	131
									30	<input type="checkbox"/>	132