

# The Word on the (F) Street

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*A Place of Acceptance and Direction*  
**"F" Street Neighborhood Church**  
1302 F Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
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Pastor Bill Thornton  
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## Sticky Kids Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

For the past several years we have been blessed by volunteers, as well as some paid residents who have helped "F" Street Neighborhood Church to have a Youth Ministry. Over time, it has met on several different nights, has had both a combined and a separated Youth programs (Middle School and High School), and has met in different locations (Church and Redeemer building).

Today we have more middle and high school kids at "F" Street Church, but we have no Youth Ministry. It is not that we do not want one, or that we do not plan to have one. It is more the timing of things with Meg resigning, COVID-19, and merging with Jacob's Well.

We are prayerfully processing the situation, and would encourage many of you join us in this process. Recently I read a book titled, "Sticky Faith" (I would encourage any parent or interested church member to read this book), that speaks of the importance of students being spiritually engaged in the church. The findings are that students who engage - spiritually at home and at church - with adults, have higher rates of staying connected (sticking) with the church, as compared to traditional youth ministries.



Therefore, our Elders are considering what it would look like if our Team Leaders were more intentional to include students in the different teams. Some examples of this are: Savannah, who has included several students on the Block Party Team, John and Scott who have students working with them in Sound and Video teams, or Adam who has a student on the Worship Team. This is not to say that we simply use students for their work but to include them in the ministry, build relationships with them and share experiences with them.

We hope that we will be a church of Acceptance and Direction for our Youth, and we are open to any of your input on helping us to connect our Youth to the church - and more importantly to God our heavenly father.

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## Coffee or Soda Anyone?



I, Pastor Jeff, am typically always open to going out for a coffee or soda.

As we have gone through this transition of merging our two churches together, *better together*, it has been great to get to know many new people. I wish that we had been able to do this at a better time so that we could have more meals and potlucks, but I do want to make sure that I am available to any and all of you for coffee or a coke.

This could be just to get to know each other, or it could be because you have a question about practices or theology. I know sometimes people hold off on meeting, feeling their question is not that important, or that I am already busy. Well, there are few things as important to me as getting to know those of you who are a part of "F" Street Church, or even those

### Calendar for September 2020

1st: 6:30am Prayer  
3rd: 6:30pm FoodNet  
4th: **Happy Birthday Carylton Gable**  
5th: **Happy Birthday Barbara Douglas**  
6th: Sunday Service  
7th: **Happy Birthday Heath Klassen**  
8th: 6:30am Prayer  
9th: **Happy Birthday Allen Hayward**  
10th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Mikee Wendt**  
13th: Sunday Service  
15th: 6:30am Prayer  
16th: **Happy Birthday Selena Holstien**  
17th: 6:30pm FoodNet;  
19th: **Happy Birthday Jeff Howard**  
20th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Conner Greenfield**  
22nd: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday John Knapp**  
24th: 6:30pm FoodNet  
27th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Amanda Fuller**  
29th: 6:30am Prayer  
30th: **Happy Birthday Chase Bass, Tayden Greenfield**

*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.*

wanting to see if this is a place for them to belong.

If you would like to get together for a coffee or a coke, I would be happy to share one with you, my treat. Just email me at [fstreetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fstreetchurch@gmail.com) or call me at 402-805-2667.

## Can You Help?

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, some friends of ours asked if there was anything that they could do to help meet the needs of people in our neighborhood. Beth and I were grateful for the request, but a little unsure how to answer that initially. Then came the idea that had been sparked by a dinner at the Thornton's: [Build a tiny library/food hut.](#)

See, the Thornton's had been putting food into their tiny library, in front of their home, and the food was being utilized by the neighborhood.

Our friends built our little library/hut (quit large). After setting it up in the yard, we offer one shelf of books and three shelves were left for food/toiletries. From the start we had plenty of food and toiletries dropped off. As these items were stocked, more and more people have stopped by to see what is in it. I witnessed one guy stop in the middle of 13<sup>th</sup> get out of his van and grab a few cans of food. We have also witnessed people dropping off food, or others giving us money to buy more food. Many have also called up to us, while we are on the porch, or even stopped us in the yard to thank us. Building a bridge to talk with them about it, and get to know them, even share with them why we do it.

The struggle we have today is keeping it stocked with nonperishable foods and toiletries. We are looking for people to help. If possible, maybe you could stop by and stock it up, or leave items on our porch for us to distribute over time. This way we can continue to be a blessing in the neighborhood and build relationships with the people that God has called us to serve. The Thornton's are also open to you helping to keep theirs stocked. If you prefer to give cash you can do that as well and we can pick up supplies while out shopping. Thanks.



## Lincoln School of Ministry Begins Another Year Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

For the past few years the F Street Neighborhood Church and Jacob's Well have partnered together to provide training that equips disciples for service in the local church and the surrounding community. Beginning in September, the Lincoln School of Ministry will offer the first of three modules that are scheduled to be completed by May 2021.

The Fall module which begins in September will last 12 weeks. It



will provide students with a basic theological foundation and will include a survey of the Old Testament and New Testament scriptures, an overview of Church History, as well as an introduction to Christian Doctrine.

The Winter module is scheduled to start in January and will last 10 weeks. It will provide practical instruction in key areas of ministry including Biblical communication, pastoral care, and evangelism.

Finally, the Spring module is slated to begin in late March and will also last 10 weeks. It will address how to care for one's self, marriage, and family while serving others, as well as considering other important topics likely to be faced by leaders in the local church and community being served.

Please help us spread the word as we envision the Lincoln School of Ministry as our way to equip ministry leaders for our congregation, as well as beyond. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Pastor Jeff or Pastor Bill for an application. We would love to have you join us!

## Men's Bible Study Returns on Mondays

**Tad Stryker, Elder**

The weekly men's Bible study will return to Monday nights starting September 14, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the church. The theme is "Stepping Up." It's a weekly video and weekly workbook, which will be challenging and rewarding for those who hang in there.

Contact Tad Stryker (402-802-0597) if you have questions.



## Thanks to You, Giving Keeps Chugging Along Tad Stryker, Elder

Local giving is the foundation that "F" Street Church builds its budget upon. What do we mean when we say, "local giving"? It's pretty simple — it means local people giving financially to support their home church. If you're a member of this church, it means you!

We have some good news to report about local giving. Despite the uncertainties caused by COVID-19, including the closing of the church building for nearly three months, we are doing better financially than might be expected at the halfway point of this unpredictable year. In fact, we're slightly ahead of where we were last year at the end of June. How did that happen when we missed so many church services? The simplest answer is that our online giving has increased.

If you're on vacation, or if you're shut in at home, you can give through our church website or via the Generosity Lifeway app. Thanks to everyone who has continued to support "F" Street Church despite the disruptions of COVID-19. Let's keep it going!

Here's a look at local giving over the first half of 2020:

January: \$3,121

February: \$3,684

March: \$3,962

April: \$4,209

May: \$4,231

June: \$4,661

July: \$3,260

### **Art Opportunity** Kat Wiese

Pepe's Bistro, South of Downtown, CDO, and local artists are teaming up to support the vision of resident and sculptor, David Manzanera to paint an over 70 ft x 30 ft mural at Esquina de Los Hispanos, at 11th and G St. The mural is a celebration of Mexican culture and grandmas in the community who have passed. Come and grab a burrito, generously provided by Pepe's for only \$5! All proceeds will go to directly support the materials and labor involved in the application of the mural.

You can also support the mural by purchasing art from Pepe's 1301 S 11<sup>th</sup> St. and the South of Downtown Art Hub, 1247 S 11th Street.

Are you an artist interested in supporting the mural by donating some art? Email [kat@lincolnsouthdowntown.org](mailto:kat@lincolnsouthdowntown.org).

Thank you for your support.

### **Regular Email Updates**

If you would like to, but are not getting regular updates about things at "F" Street Neighborhood Church, please send a request to be added to the email list at [fstreetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fstreetchurch@gmail.com)

### **Prayer Requests**

If you have prayer requests, please send them to our office email at [fsncoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fsncoffice@gmail.com)



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CHURCH





