

The Word on the (F) Street

New Sermon Series on the Fruit of the Holy Spirit

Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

Since the merger of F Street Neighborhood Church and Jacob's Well, our Sunday morning messages have largely focused on helping us become the kind of church that God can use to transform our surrounding neighborhood, city, and world. Now, for the next several weeks, we will be considering the Holy Spirit's work in our lives as believers, and the fruit that should be produced in each of us.

The fruit of the Spirit has long been a subject that has interested me. In fact, my first sermon many years ago as a high school student, addressed this very important theme. Although it took less than ten minutes for me to discuss all that I knew about these nine qualities then, still I was impressed, even at an early age, at how the presence of these in our lives is a certain indication that God has had room to do his work in us.

This is our desire, as we turn our attention in the coming weeks, to the fruit of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23. Each Sunday, Pastor Jeff or I will be preaching about one of these character traits: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. At the same time each week, our children (5 years old through 5th grade) will be learning about these virtues in their Journey Group.

Can you imagine what our lives, marriages, families, church, neighborhood, city, and world could look like if the Holy Spirit indwelt us, filled us, and produced this kind of harvest in us? The following is the schedule for the coming weeks, and we hope you will be able to join us each week in the sanctuary, on the parking lot, or online.

- September 27...Love...Pastor Jeff
- October 4...Joy...Pastor Bill
- October 11...Peace...Pastor Bill
- October 18...Patience...Pastor Jeff
- October 25...Kindness...Pastor Bill
- November 1...Goodness...Pastor Jeff
- November 8...Faithfulness...Pastor Bill
- November 15...Gentleness...Pastor Jeff
- November 22...Self-Control...Pastor Bill

Family Meeting

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

I love the term "family" for the church. For those of us who are members (family), which is defined by a relationship with Jesus, and being active in giving, serving and attending, we want to gather as a family. It is our hope that each of you who meets these qualifications will come to these meetings as we worship, discuss, pray and dream together.



Our next family meeting is planned for **Wednesday, October 28, starting at 6:00 p.m.** There will be more information given in the weeks to come, as we work out details for this meeting. 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 or call me at 402-805-2667.



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

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Lincoln, NE 68508

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Pastor Bill Thornton

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Calendar for October 2020

- 1st: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Scotty Parker**
- 4th: Sunday Service
- 6th: 6:30am Prayer
- 8th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 10th: **Happy Birthday Dennis Eastman**
- 11th: Sunday Service
- 13th: 6:30am Prayer
- 15th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 18th: Sunday Service
- 20th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Jeff Graham**
- 22nd: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 25th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Sharon Masterson**
- 27th: 6:30am Prayer
- 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.

Becoming a Friend of the Sinner

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

When Jesus was called “a friend of the sinner,” it was not a favorable statement. In fact it was an insult. The pious religious elite would not spend time with people who had evident sins, so they were perplexed, troubled and alarmed when Jesus did.

Jesus did not just spend time at an occasional sinner’s house, or give them just a nod in his passing them. He crossed all the social boundaries of the time: he spoke with Samaritans, touched a leper, honored women, and praised the poor.

We can, and I will, make a push, that if we are Christ followers then we too should be called the friend of the sinner (or in some cases the socially unaccepted). Yet, we also must understand that for Jesus this was even more intense than for you and I, for unlike Jesus “WE ARE SINNERS.”

We should first and foremost be ever grateful that Jesus was a friend of the sinner, as that is in and of itself a miracle. Jesus being God hung out with sinners like you and me, WOW.

As followers, should we not do the same, to be a friend of others? Not just drive by, or simply say good morning but to be a friend, share a meal, a cup of coffee, a sporting event, go fishing or whatever you like to do. In a world that is ever polarized by many topics and challenges while all the more isolated (regardless of how many “friends” you have on FaceBook) we all need friends. In fact, we were created to be in relationship with a smaller number of people, not just attend events with masses of people.

To be a friend of others may mean we have to take the first step to call them up, it may mean we need to offer the invite. It should also mean that we are willing to listen, to offer to help, and to make time and space for the sake of relationships.

If we are going to be a church that reflects God’s acceptance, and offers direction, then it starts with you and I being willing to be friends with others who we do not know regardless of race, social class or where they live - or if they even have a place to live.

I want to encourage each of you to take a step in some way towards becoming a friend with someone you might normally not be friends with. You never know what God might do in you.



Building Repairs Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

With the merge of two churches, and the generous gift that our church was given through an estate gift, we are looking at some work taking place here at F Street Neighborhood Church this month.

Because we now have additional staff, we are going to be transforming the upper room of the education addition into an office

space for staff and meeting rooms. The upper floor has two back rooms that will become the pastor’s offices and the front space will be utilized into an additional meeting space, and still be available for youth and for Immerse, as well as other ministry opportunities.

The work will begin the first week of October, with a new AC unit, cooling both the Nursery and the upper floor (good bye window units). We will then put a new roof on the education wing (this has been leaking since we bought the church). The entire level will be repainted, and then new flooring installed before Bill, I, and others move that direction.

We will likely be having a work party for painting, and laying the floors so keep your eyes open for more information on that.

We hope too, that there will be additional improvements on our facility thanks to this gift. If interested in working with the improvements, and general upkeep at F Street Church, please let me know as we are working to put together a new team for the building and maintenance.

Women’s Study Jean Stryker

Taste and See

Beginning October 4

3:00 p.m. Sundays

Fireplace Room

The women of F Street Neighborhood Church will begin a new study, in October, around a book entitled, *Taste and See; Discovering God Among Butchers, Bakers, & Fresh Food Makers*, by Margaret Feinberg.

Author Margaret Feinberg takes the reader on a global journey looking for the art in food, and the God who put it all in motion. We’ll look at six different foods, and consider how God reveals his character through them. Feinberg invites, “In hunger and fullness, may we draw closer to the one who fashioned us. More than a journey of food, this is a journey of faith, one designed to nourish our bellies, and heal our souls. Let us taste and see God’s goodness together.”

This study will meet on Sunday afternoons, through October and November, at 3:00 pm in the Fireplace Room, beginning on October 4. Each person is asked to obtain her own copy of the book, which is available online from several sources, and locally from Barnes & Noble.

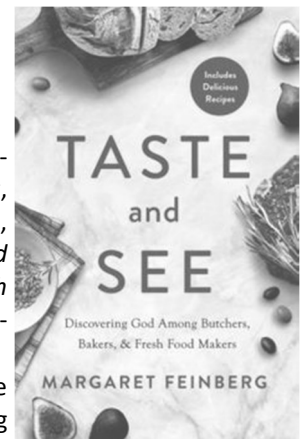
Note: there are several books with similar titles, so make sure you get this one:

Taste and See; Discovering God Among Butchers, Bakers, & Fresh Food Makers, By Margaret Feinberg, Published by Zondervan in 2019

Health Ministry Corner Barb Douglas, PHM

Hello all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ at FSNC,

Has this been a crazy year or what? There are many of you out



there that have had a rollercoaster of a year, like I have had! My heart goes out to all of you. It seems this crazy world is spinning out of control and in every direction imaginable!

Well, I want each of you to do something: Slow down, take a deep cleansing breath, and listen. Do you hear it? Sometimes that sound is almost imperceptible. But if we listen quiet enough, and long enough, we can hear that unmistakable voice. That sweet voice of God that reminds us he remains in control! We never need to worry or fear, he is watching over each and every one of us - especially when we can't perceive that wonderful voice. No matter how far life is spinning out of control for us, really all we need to do is STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN. His promises are louder now than ever before, and every Christian heart should be more thankful for his presence in our lives than we have ever been before.

I know that it can be very difficult to do this when things in our lives are so very hard. So I want to share a few verses of scripture that raise me up in hard times. Hopefully they will do the same for you.

1. Courage: Psalm 27:14, *"Wait on the lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart. Wait I say, on the Lord."* Sometimes I forget to just STOP, LOOK and LISTEN and wait for him to take care of the problem.

2. Death: Isaiah 25:8. *"He will swallow up death in victory: and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."* And Psalm 116:15, *"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."* Sometimes we forget, he and he alone is the judge of who are his saints.

3. Fear: Luke 12:32, *"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."* It is easy to forget this in uncertain times.

4. Forgiveness: Matthew 6:14, *"For if you forgive others their trespasses against you, Your heavenly Father will forgive you."* It's so easy to overlook our shortcomings when we are focused on the sins of others. And today it is particularly easy to do this, since HATE seems to be the order of the day.

5. Loneliness: Psalm 40:17a, *"But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer."* We all feel alone at times, and indeed can find ourselves in a lonely place. Thank the Lord he is always available, All I have to do is remember and call upon him.

I pray each of you will find exactly what you need in the Lord. He is just waiting to hear from you.

With much love and care, your Health Minister Barbara Douglas.

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

Prayer Requests

If you have prayer requests, please send them to our office email at fsncoffice@gmail.com



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Thanks to Janice Harrison

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