

The Word on the (F) Street



Discipleship:
Becoming More Like
CHRIST
EPHESIANS 2:10

Calendar for July 2021

1st: 6:30pm FoodNet
4th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Tammy Alley**
6th: 6:30am Prayer
7th: **Happy Birthday Caleb Bridges, Ricke Maserson, Jonathan Pfeifer**
8th: 6:30pm FoodNet
9th: **Happy Birthday Beth Heerspink**
11th: Sunday Service; 6pm Youth Group
13th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Jacki Knapp**
15th: 6:30pm FoodNet
17th: **Happy Birthday Jane Kirchner**
18th: Sunday Service
19th: **Happy Birthday Richard Allen Marthel**
20th: 6:30am Prayer
22nd: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Debi Crisler**
23rd: **Happy Birthday Heidi Berg, Jared Turner, Osa Umphreys**
24th: **Happy Birthday Syncere Triplett**
25th: Sunday Service
27th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Anthony Gragg, Sandy Grudgel**
29th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthay Roxann Blake**
31st: **Happy Birthday Shawn Ahrens**

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.

Description of a Discipled Person Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

Many Churches have vision statements that often include statements that say something like this: “Fully devoted follower of Jesus,” or “Mature believers of Jesus Christ.” Yet what does that mean? How would you define a “Fully devoted follower of Jesus” or a “Mature believer of Jesus Christ?” Would you be able to know if you met one?

Now I am not trying to pick on those churches. Even we have been limited in sharing what you might say is the goal for the believer, here at F Street Church, until now.

We are preparing to start a new series, on July 4th (as we take a 5-week break from the book of Romans). This series is designed to help us know what the goal for each of us is, at F Street Church. It is what we have talked about, or you might have seen in some of our literature, called the 5 C's. It is really five words that all start with the letter C, that help us to evaluate our lives regarding spiritual maturity, or how we at F Street Church would define if you are becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus. Each of these 5 C's also has a verb to help us better define the word, and they are followed by some example statements to help us better flesh it out.

I have included these statements below. I hope that this series is one that will help each of us to consider where we are in the journey of maturing in Christ, and also keep in mind as we continue to strive to live out our mission here at F Street to be a place of Acceptance and Direction.

Description of a Discipled Person

...Be Committed to Christ:

Consistently demonstrates the following:

- An authentic, growing relationship with Jesus Christ
- A love for the Bible, a belief in the authority and historical reliability of Scripture, and an ability to communicate the truths of the Bible in a practical and relevant way.

...Be Engaged in Community

Consistently demonstrates the following:

- A commitment to a local body of Christ-followers
- Accountability to and authenticity with other believers
- A living out of the “one anothers” of Scripture (love, serve, forgive, etc.)

...Be Transformed in Character:

Consistently demonstrates the following:

- Compassion, kindness, and a willingness to listen
- Self-control and discipline, and a willingness to submit to the authority of Scripture in all areas of life, including but not limited to sexual purity and freedom from any illegal drug or excessive use of alcohol.

-A life that reflects the fruit of the Spirit

-An ability to deal with conflict in a Christ-like manner

...Be fulfilling your Calling:

Consistently demonstrates the following:

-An understanding and sense of a call to ministry for the building up of the body

-A passion to fulfill God's call within the tension of Grace and Truth

-The gifts, compassion and the character to fulfill this call

...Be developing Competencies

Consistently demonstrates the following:

-A knowledge and proficiency of specific competencies

-Teachability--an attitude of humility and willingness to grow and learn

-A commitment to using spiritual gifts and natural talents to build God's kingdom



Pastor Sam Jam

Pastor Sam Jam is the name that we gave our 4th of July event at the Northern Lighthouse years ago, in contrast to the Uncle Sam Jam that the city put on. Each year people gather at the Northern Lighthouse to enjoy some food, music, fun and of course fireworks.

This year will be no exception, and you are invited. Bring a chair, some fireworks, and some money to buy a BBQ hamburger (meal packages will be around \$5 and all proceeds go to support the Lincoln NE Reintegration Program).

The event begins at 6:00 p.m. and will go until after dark with lots of fireworks being lit.

Youth Group Update Jennifer Arnold, Director

F Street Youth Group will meet once in July, at the home of Andrea Mailand and family! Come on July 11th from 6:00 - 7:30 for yard games and a taco bar, so come HUNGRY! Contact Jenny Arnold at 402.805.1412 for any additional info!

With All Purity, Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

One of the things that I most admire about our congregation, is our commitment to provide a place of acceptance and direction for those who are spiritual seekers. Over the course of the past year, I have heard numerous comments from those who are new to our church family, who marvel at the welcome they receive. This is something we should strive to maintain as we bring Christ to our friends, family, and neighbors.



However, one of the inherent dangers of being a loving body of

believers is that it can be easy to slip into tolerating sin within our lives as Christians, as well as our shared life as a congregation. One of the ways in which this temptation occurs is when we overlook the sin of sexual immorality within the church.

As Christians, we can observe how our culture has increasingly drifted away from a clearly Biblical ethic, toward a vague and confusing set of "values" that essentially suggests that any kind of behavior is okay between two consenting persons. We can observe a growing lack of modesty when it comes to dress, conversation, and behavior in ourselves and others. Various forms of media (even pornography) have sought to normalize that which the Bible clearly rejects as ungodly. As a result, expectations of how men and women will relate to one another within the church have, in some cases, been so compromised that there is little that distinguishes our conduct from those living as unbelievers in the world.

The Apostle Paul, living in the first century, faced a very similar situation, and this is the instruction that he gave to a young church leader named Timothy that I think has some timeless advice for us to consider today: *"Never speak harshly to an older man, but appeal to him respectfully as you would to your own father. Talk to younger men as you would to your own brothers. ²Treat older women as you would your mother and treat younger women **with all purity** as you would your own sisters."*

--I Timothy 5:1-2, NLT

Can you imagine how our lives and relationships would be positively impacted if the guiding principle we operated by was one of treating one another "with all purity," rather than thinking in terms of our own wants, desires, and lusts? To me, this is simply an application of the Lord's instruction to his people to love our neighbors as ourselves. At the very least, I believe this means that we will honor and respect one another in the ways that we look at, think of, speak to, and act toward one another. I think this is a good place for all of us to begin.

Pulpit vs Politics 5 Keith Morrissey, Elder

"One cannot break the Church over one's knee. But the healthy youth belong to us." Adolph Hitler

Read Daniel 1:3-4

Hitler's statement was made near the beginning of the Nazi rule in Germany in 1933. A few years later he had the Church where he wanted it, and World War II was in full swing as he attempted to replace God, and have the world worship him. After all, most Germans (including the church) were more comfortable with saying "Heil Hitler" than they were with "Praise the Lord." So why not the rest of the world?

Hitler, and the German people, had failed to learn from history, so God had to repeat it.

About 3,000 years earlier, Nebuchadnezzar had tried the same thing. He had the "healthy youth" of Judah go through a three-year plan of brainwashing, and indoctrination into the Babylonian culture and religion so that they would cease to worship God, and would, instead, worship and serve him. Nebuchadnezzar wasn't the first to try this, and to fail at it, nor would he be the last.

Daniel was one those youth, as were his buddies Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. But these four stood in resistance to Nebuchadnezzar, as several did in Germany, by refusing to bow down to this false god. While Nebuchadnezzar had a monstrous gold statue of himself, Hitler had portraits of himself, along with the Nazi flag, hung in all the churches, and required all the people to worship him. If you failed to do so you were likely to get thrown into the blazing furnace, the lion's den, or a concentration camp.

Whether we are counting on a king, a kaiser, a prime minister, or a president to be our savior, Satan doesn't mind. As long as it isn't God. Much of what happened in pre-war Germany is being repeated in America today. The youth are being indoctrinated into the ways of culture and "political correctness," while very few of them learn about God and the Bible. (Parents teach your children). Christmas was banned, Easter became spring break, prayer and Bibles were banned, even in churches. Even Bible believing pastors were replaced with state sanctioned pastors. The courts were overturning the German constitution and replacing it with the 3rd Reich's wishes. Freedoms were granted by Hitler and the Reich, not inalienable rights granted by God.

Just as God used Nebuchadnezzar to shake up and wake up Judah, He used Hitler to shake up and wake up the Church throughout the world. I believe God is preparing someone now to wake up the Church again in America. We have to decide quickly. Are we going to repeat history? Is it going to be a *wake up* or a *shake up*?

Can You Give Someone a Ride to Church?

Tad Stryker, Elder

This is an opportunity to be a blessing to a woman who wants to return to our Sunday morning service, but needs a ride from 10th & O Street. She is physically challenged, carries an oxygen supply when traveling, and is unable to step up into our church van, even with assistance.



Would you prayerfully consider this ministry opportunity? You could do this weekly, or be part of a team that takes turns. If interested, please call or text Tad Stryker at 402-802-0597 or Barb Douglas at 402-419-4738.



Health Ministry Corner Barb Douglas, HMFSC

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer we're having. We've had a few really hot days, but for the most part it's been relatively nice. I know how crowded and busy this time can become. With vacations, travel, guests, short trips with family and

friends, it can get very busy with activity and noise. I want to share something with you today to help you find a way to slow your world down and cut the noise of this busy world down as well.

This is a devotion out of an *Our Daily Bread*, from Bill Crowder, one of their Ministry writers. It comes from 1 Kings 19:1-18:

"After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper." 1Kings 19:12

In recent years, the spread of personal digital music players has resulted in concerns about hearing loss. The design of the music players and their earphones has been the target of complaints and lawsuits. Long-term exposure to music at a high volume has been shown to cause serious hearing impairment. In a sense, too much hearing can result in an inability to hear.

We live in a world filled with noise----noises designed to sell, plead, seduce, and deceive. In the midst of this cacophony of sound, it's easy to miss the one voice that matters. Elijah had listened to Jezebel's threats and the voice of his own fear, so he fled to a cave to hide. In the cave he was confronted with the overwhelming noise of wind, an earthquake, and fire (1 Kings 19:11-12). Then the cave grew silent and the voice of the Lord--the only sound that mattered--broke through as *"a gentle whisper."* (vs 12)

If we are to hear God speaking to our hearts through His Word, we need to pull away from the noise of the crowd. Only when we learn to be quiet can we really understand what it means to commune with the God who cares for us. In our "quiet time" today, let's make an effort to listen for the voice of God.

To hear God's voice, turn down the world's volume! I hope this will help to remind all of us to slow down, turn off, and listen! God is speaking, and he cares that we hear him.

I also want to let everyone know we have gift packs for those who find themselves destitute at this time. We are all precious in God's eyes and we are all called to help one another through hard times. So, if you or someone you know finds themselves in need of a little help, please come to myself (Barbara Douglas), or one of the pastors, or other church leaders, and we will help you out today with a gift pack.

Remember to stop, look and listen, God is calling, and we don't want to miss his call. It is summer time, no school for most, and lots of free time on our hands. Please take the time to read God's Word and talk to each other.



Community Groups

Group: **“Isaiah” Women’s Study** (*On Summer Break*)

Location: Zoom call format

Contact: Jean Stryker

Day/Time: Sundays, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Group: **“Anxiety” Women’s Study** (*On Summer Break*)

Location: Fireplace Room at Church Building

Contact: Beth Heerspink

Day/Time: Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.

Group: **“Stepping Up” Men’s Bible Study**

Location: (*On Summer Break*)

Contact: Tad Stryker

Day/Time: Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. (*On Summer Break*)

Group: **“II Corinthians” VA Small Group Study**

Location: Victory Apartments (445 Honor Drive)

Contact: Jeff Heerspink

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 2-3:00 p.m.

Group: **“Mere Christianity” Keith Morrissey’s House**

Location: 1750 Prospect Street

Contact: Keith Morrissey

Day/Time: Thursdays, 7-9:00 p.m.

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



Monthly Bible Reading Schedule

Philemon: Overview

Paul’s epistle to his beloved brother in Christ, Philemon, attests to the glory of the cross of Christ. Once a slave under Philemon, Onesimus has become a forever brother and partner with Paul in the gospel of Christ. Onesimus had escaped from Philemon in Colossae, and fled to Rome where he met Paul. Paul turned both Philemon’s, and now Onesimus’, once dead hearts to the Lord. Now he pleads with Philemon to forgive Onesimus – who could have been executed under Roman law –and welcome the once slave with the same identity he now too had claimed in Christ: a forgiven man and fellow brother in the Lord.

Luke: Overview

The third of the four gospel accounts, Luke presents his investigation of Jesus so that the readers of his account may be “certain of the truth.” The book contains narrative history, genealogy, sermons, parables, and even prophetic oracles. A careful chronicler and beloved doctor, Luke presents Jesus as the “Son of Man,” our Savior. While the gospels of Matthew and Mark emphasized Jesus as King and Servant, Luke portrays Jesus as the great and compassionate friend to the marginalized and “sinners” of society. Come read Luke’s account of God’s ideal man who came to seek and save the lost!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
June 28 – Col 4	June 29 – Phile 1	June 30 – Luke 1	July 1 – Luke 2	July 2 – Luke 3
July 5 – Luke 4	July 6 – Luke 5	July 7 – Luke 6	July 8 – Luke 7	July 9 – Luke 8
July 12 – Luke 9	July 13 – Luke 10	July 14 – Luke 11	July 15 – Luke 12	July 16 – Luke 13
July 19 – Luke 14	July 20 – Luke 15	July 21 – Luke 16	July 22 – Luke 17	July 23 – Luke 18