

The Word on the (F) Street

Immerse, Interns, Residents, Oh My!

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

Who are these people, and why are they here?

It all goes back to the Bible stating that it is the responsibility of the church to raise up people for ministry (Ephesians 4:11-13). As Neal Cole best stated it, the church has become the recruiter of ministry leaders when we should be the sender of ministry leaders. We too often look outside of the church to find the next pastor or leader, rather than doing our part to prepare and equip others for ministry. Likewise, we often send away our potential leaders for higher education as the means of training, rather than the church body- in which we live- equipping one another for ministry.

In short, Jesus' model was to walk with the twelve disciples for three years, and then let them loose to change the world. If we are to walk in the ways of Christ, should we not do the same? Therefore, it is our hope and desire at F Street Church, to always be in a position to equip others for ministry, and to have a heart to send them for the advancement of the gospel.

Immerse is a part of the plan: to take in middle and high school students from all over, for a week of ministry opportunities and discipleship. We hope that that Immerse equips each of the students to take back some of what they learned here, making a kingdom impact. *This year Immerse took in 7 groups over 6 weeks.*

Interns help to make Immerse run for the two months that we offer Immerse each summer. How great it was last summer, when many of our interns were former Immerse students. What joy it is this year when some of the current interns are planning to stay on here as residents. This is the goal that Immerse students become summer Immerse interns, and summer interns become residents. *This year's Immerse interns are Haven (She is returning to her college in MO), Hollie and Sage.*

Residents serve at the church for nine months, to a year, as a means to learn and be engaged in the local ministry. Many of them have lived in the housing we provide. Some stay on at church in a ministry role, while others leave to continue in their learning or to begin a new ministry. *Hollie and Sage are both staying at F Street Church to continue serving and learning with us.*

Not everyone fits this structure and that is why, as a church, we have also created the Lincoln School of Ministry (See Bill's article about LSOM) to train up the mighty warriors. Some of these warriors have no intention of going into full time ministry, but simply want to be equipped to serve locally.

We also have two short term residents, from Estonia, who just started with us: Filipp and Samira. This is an incredible opportunity to help serve and equip two young people, currently going to school, and wanting to learn through experience with us.



A Place of Acceptance and Direction
F Street Neighborhood Church

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Volume 7, Issue 8

August 2021

Calendar for August 2021

1st: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Brooke Larson**

3rd: 6:30am Prayer

5th: 6:30pm FoodNet

6th: **Happy Birthday Rolland Coburn, Lauren Laughlin**

8th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Michael Smith**

10th: 6:30am Prayer

12th: 6:30pm FoodNet

13th: **Happy Birthday Tad Stryker**

15th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday**

Elouise Schowalter

17th: 6:30am Prayer

19th: 6:30pm FoodNet

20th: **Happy Birthday Tory Moghadam, Deb White**

22nd: Sunday Service

24th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Allen Hauck**

25th: **Happy Birthday Stephen Mailand**

26th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday**

Abigail Heerspink, Lauren McHenry

29th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Nicki Ann Layman**

31st: 6:30am Prayer

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.

The Book of Romans, Pt. 2, Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

On Sunday, August 8th, we will be returning to our study from the Book of Romans. Previously in Chapters 1-7, we focused on the *change* that occurs when God does his twin works of justification and sanctification in our lives. Now, moving on to chapters 8-16, we will be taking note of the kind of *heart* that God is seeking to develop in us as believers. Over the course of these twelve weeks may our hearts find increasing alignment with the heart of God!



Lincoln School of Ministry Begins

Another Year Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

For the past few years, F Street Neighborhood Church has provided training that equips disciples for service in the local church, and the surrounding community. Next month the Lincoln School of Ministry will offer the first of three modules that are scheduled to be completed by May 2022.

The fall module, which begins in September, will last twelve 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 ten 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 ten 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 LSOM as our way to equip ministry leaders for our congregation, as well as beyond. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me for an application. We would love to have you join us!

Pulpit vs Politics 6 Keith Morrissey, Elder

"Stand up straight with your shoulders back and chest out!" - Dad; "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm." -1 Cor 15:38; "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all." -Isaiah 7:9

What was the first sin committed in the Garden of Eden? Most people would say that was when Eve succumbed to the seduction of Satan and ate the 'apple.' But I believe that the first to sin was Adam. He was with Eve while Satan was seducing her.

He should have stomped on the snake at the moment it came up to her. (Which of you men wouldn't do that if a snake was creeping up on your wife?) Instead, he just stood back and watched, and then joined in the eating of the fruit with her. Then, when confronted by God, he tried to blame it all on her and God himself. Adam just could not take responsibility for himself - for his own actions or lack of action.

Satan found out fast what works, and he has been using it successfully ever since. 'Just get people to think that they don't need God and to find someone to blame for their sins'. After all, when you mess up, or something unfortunate happens, what is the first thing you do? Do you try to find out who is to blame for this? Children blame their parents; the President blames his predecessor; Congress blames the White House; this group blames that group. Meanwhile, nobody is taking responsibility.

The church stands as guilty as anybody else. We are as guilty as Adam in the Garden of Eden. We have not stood up straight, with our shoulders back and chests out, as Satan has seduced society, culture, our children, or our church. Instead, we have just shrunk back to the bushes, and tried to hide behind a few fig leaves sewn together. We have just stood back and allowed the courts to sacrifice the sanctity of life, and religious freedoms; replace prayer, bibles and education in the schools with ideologies and idols; and reduce witnessing to behind the walls of church buildings only, not to be allowed in public or workplaces. (Think bakers and florists). We need not to blame city councils, congress, or the courts, but the church for following in Adam's footsteps.

You, standing up straight, with your shoulders back and chest out, is you standing with Moses against Pharaoh; you standing with David against Goliath; you standing with Esther against Haman; you standing with Deborah against Jabin; you standing with God against the 'wokeness' and political correctness of this generation.

Let me ask you - Do you stand firm in your faith? Do you stand at all? Stand up straight with your shoulders back and chest out. Run into the fray. Stomp on the snake! Don't run away and hide!



Celebrate Recovery Starts Sept. 1

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

I am excited to let you all know that Celebrate Recovery (CR) will begin here, at F Street Church, on September 1, 2021. We will be hosting Celebrate Recovery on Wednesday Nights, at 6:30 p.m. This is exciting, as the potential to help serve more people, with the hope and healing of Jesus, from the hurts, sins, and habits that we have. This is not just for addicts of drugs and alcohol, nor is it just for people who have sex addictions or relationship issues. This is really something that can be for everyone, as we all have hurts, sins, and habits.

I personally have been going through Celebrate Recovery, at Berean, in part to help us be able to begin CR here, but also as I too have been blessed by the community, and the process for help and healing from the struggles in my own life.

What really has stood out to me is that we are creating a new worshiping community on Wednesday nights, and that worship is a central part of CR. This makes CR a great way for us to connect to our neighbors and also for our neighbors to connect with the truth of Jesus.

If you are interested in learning more about CR for yourself, for your friends, or about how you can be involved please contact either myself (Pastor Jeff) or Rodney Bredemeier (CR Team Leader).



Atlas Event Update

Join Atlas for a variety of events we have coming up in the month of August!

- **Tuesday, August 3**, we will celebrate our new office space (1039 S 13th Street) with an open-house from 4-8pm. Come for food, Mentor Graduation, and learning more about Atlas. Come anytime between 4-8pm with food at 5:30 p.m. and the Graduation at 7:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, August 8**, we will host our 3rd Annual Mini-Golf Outing fundraiser at Adventure Golf Center (5901 S. 56th Street). Come for mini-golf (\$10 per person), a raffle, yard-games, food, and learning more about Atlas.
- **Thursday, August 19**, we will hold our first in-person Mentor Training workshop since COVID at our office (1039 S 13th Street) from 5:45-8:00 p.m. Come to learn more about being an Atlas mentor and receive training that could impact the relationships around you.



Health Ministry Corner Barb Douglas, HMF5NC

God's Blessings to all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Summer is nearly over! School will start again soon. I pray that we are all continuing to practice safety on the road and watching for the children crossing the streets. Because that will now increase as they begin to meander back to school. So keep your eyes open and focus on sharing the road and sidewalks with all those precious kids going back to school. The heat will, however, not be letting up any time soon. So please continue to be aware of the possibility of dehydration, and drink plenty of water.

Last month we were blessed with the sermons and teaching on the 5 C's, Christ, Community, Character, Calling and Competency. All of those monikers can be applied to our health as well. When we begin to practice these five ethics for living a Christ centered life, they can govern every aspect of life, including our health. As these ethics for living grow more and more into our practice of living, we will reap the benefits of a Christ filled life, in every way. Let's take a look at how that might work.

1. **Christ:** Learn to trust Christ in all our ways. Scripture has this to say in Proverbs 3:5-6, *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."* There is safety, and peace beyond earthly understanding for all those who learn to put their trust in Christ alone. Worry and confusion can become a thing of the past.
2. **Community:** As we learn to live together in Christian community, we will learn to live together in Christian harmony. Scripture in Romans 12:4-6a says these words, *"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."* Learning to live in Christian community takes a lifetime of practice, and staying in community. It doesn't come easily and we must persevere to the end. *Scripture tells us "As for you brothers, do not grow weary in doing good. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what is promised. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."* Scripture never tells us it's easy, because it's not.
3. **Character:** Allowing God to form our character into one he can use and develop also takes a lifetime of endeavor. But turning our will and our lives over to the care of God in Christ Jesus is the only sure way to achieve success. In 1 Peter 1:14-17 says *"As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy. Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear."* That sounds ominous you say! The definition of holy is simply this, "a person devoted to the service of God". And really if we stop and think about life as a Christian. Isn't that exactly what we are trying to achieve? We will never do it perfectly, but using this life to learn Christian Character is what we are called to do, and doing it together guarantees that we are trying
4. **Calling:** What is this? As a Christian we are told we have a calling, and that is simply this: Every Christian has the assurance that their life has purpose and meaning. We are called with a holy calling. What is that calling? To live for Christ and to make him known. Each day we are to set out to live a holy life, telling others about the God that saves us. It really isn't a mystery nor is it confusing,

once we understand what it's all about. In Matthew 16:24, "Jesus said this to his disciples, *If anyone would follow after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross, and follow me.*" Simply put, Christ is calling to us to talk about him and live in a way that glorifies him, rather than ourselves. This also takes time and effort on our part. It is, after all, a daily walk. We must try to do this every day, no matter how we feel, no matter what is happening. Following him never depends on our circumstances, only on a devotion to him.

Doing this together makes it easier and more beneficial to all of us.

5. Competency: Simply put, this is the ability to do something successfully, or efficiently. So competency in our Christian walk takes practice and dedication to progress, rather than perfection. This too will improve over time, and in community with other Christians. As in Proverbs 27:17, "I will increase in my competence when close friends are aware of my weaknesses." Here again, God's word is directing us to improve in our competency by sharing close relationships through Christ in "community" with other like-minded individuals, or "Christians". We are never to try to improve or do anything on our own. There is safety in numbers and whenever two or more are gathered in Christ's name, there he is also.

I hope this has helped to define and simplify what a life in Christ is all about. There's no magic, no difficult path to follow, no formula to memorize. Just find someone that emulates Christ in a way of life you admire and make a friend!



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

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!

1 Corinthians: Overview

Paul's first letter to the Corinthian church tackles sin on a variety of fronts. Sexual immorality, issues of marriage, lawsuits with other believers, and difficult doctrines that caused division are all addressed by Paul. Paul writes to encourage an accountable and unified church that pursues purity while holding on tightly to the hope of our bodily resurrection with Christ. Paul wants to unite the church to witness against the corruption of the city of their time, a witness that we still need today.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
July 26 – Luke 19	July 27 – Luke 20	July 28 – Luke 21	July 29 – Luke 22	July 30 – Luke 23
Aug 2 – Luke 24	Aug 3 – 1 Cor 1	Aug 4 – 1 Cor 2	Aug 5 – 1 Cor 3	Aug 6 – 1 Cor 4
Aug 9 – 1 Cor 5	Aug 10 – 1 Cor 5	Aug 11 – 1 Cor 6	Aug 12 – 1 Cor 7	Aug 13 – 1 Cor 8
Aug 16 – 1 Cor 9	Aug 17 – 1 Cor 10	Aug 18 – 1 Cor 11	Aug 19 – 1 Cor 12	Aug 20 – 1 Cor 13
Aug 23 – 1 Cor 14	Aug 24 – 1 Cor 15	Aug 25 – 1 Cor 16	Aug 26 – 2 Cor 1	Aug 27 – 2 Cor 2

