

# The Word on the (F) Street

## Celebrate Recovery is Starting NOW!

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

I am thrilled with the incredible team of people that we have today to help us start Celebrate Recovery (CR) on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Also, I am excited, because I see CR as a way to share Christ as the means to help people in their recovery. This is about Christ and his work in our lives, regardless of our addictions, habits and struggles. After all, it is not just for the addict, CR is for anyone and everyone who is hurt and affected by sin (Every one of us.) I am looking forward to the possibility of this being another worship service provided here at F Street Church. I am convinced of the power of worship, as I have been rereading the book of Joshua, as God called the Israelites to defeat Jericho with the act of worship. It is my prayer that as we worship on Wednesdays, we too will see the wall fall down that people have put up, or that Satan has established in the hearts and lives of all that have come.

I want to extend an invitation to each of you to first and foremost consider coming. No one is void of the need to find healing in Christ from the hurts of sin, CR is set up to help you in that journey. You are invited to come and be a part of what God is doing. Although we have a team of 20 + people, we can and will need more people. From, nursery, to greeting, to leading groups we are always looking for more people to get involved in the ministry of CR. Finally, I would ask that you pray. We realize the importance and the priority of what we are doing and need for our church to be supporting us in prayer.



### Calendar for September 2021

- 2nd: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 5th: Sunday Service
- 4th: **Happy Birthday Carylton Gable**
- 5th: **Happy Birthday Barb Douglas**
- 7th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Sherry Carter**
- 9th: 6:30pm FoodNet ; **Happy Birthday Allen Hayward**
- 12th: Sunday Service
- 13th: **Happy Birthday John Hare**
- 14th: 6:30am Prayer
- 16th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 19th: Sunday Service
- 21st: 6:30am Prayer
- 22nd: **Happy Birthday John Knapp, John Logsen**
- 23rd: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 25th: **Happy Birthday Amanda Fuller**
- 26th: Sunday Service
- 28th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Elia Heerspink**
- 29th: **Happy Birthday Robin Davis**
- 30th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Chase Bass**

*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.*

### 5 C's Living It Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

*"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.*

*But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it. (James 1:19-25)*

As a pastor, I do not believe that most messages grasp every person, or that most people can remember much of what we say on Sunday...even later in that day. Yet, I do believe that people catch our preaching over time, the repeated statements or the main thrusts of our preaching.

Through July, and the first week of, August I had the privilege to preach through the 5 C's (If you forgot what they are you can look at the banners on the balcony of the church, watch the messages on line, or see below). It is my hope and prayer that you do not forget what they are and more importantly, that you do not just know them but live them and strive for them

in your life. I do not say this for my good as the preacher, but for each of our good as Christ followers. The 5 C's are what we believe help us to understand what it means to live out being a follower of Jesus, which should be our greatest desire once we have tasted and seen the power of the gospel in our lives.

- Be Committed to Christ.*
- Be Engaged in Community*
- Be Transformed in Character*
- Be Fulfilling your Calling*
- Be Developing your Competencies*

May we be followers of Jesus who continue to seek him and grow in him.

## Brand New 3M Classes Slated for the

### Fall **Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor**

With a view toward developing fully devoted Christ followers at FSNC, we will be offering a new series of classes that we are calling "3M," which will include teaching on membership, maturity, and ministry.

Membership will help folks become better acquainted with what it means to be a part of our F Street Church family. Maturity will focus on the habits that will foster spiritual growth in our lives. Ministry will explore how each of us is uniquely shaped to serve the Lord and his people.

Each class will be offered in one session, and will occur following the Sunday morning worship service. We plan to provide lunch and childcare, so you will want to sign up when opportunity is given in the coming weeks so we will know how many to plan for. Our class schedule will be as follows:

Membership, September 19<sup>th</sup>

Maturity, October 17<sup>th</sup>

Ministry, November 21<sup>st</sup>

Please feel free to contact me with questions or to sign-up for these classes.



## Lincoln School of Ministry Begins

### Another Year **Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor**

Beginning in September, the Lincoln School of Ministry, hosted by the F Street Neighborhood Church, will offer the first of three modules that are scheduled to be completed by May 2022.

The fall module, which begins Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 such as poverty, addiction, racism, etc.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me for an application. The cost for the fall module is \$100. We would love to have you join us!

## Worship Service Priorities **Jeff Heerspink, Pastor**

Recently our elders discussed the priorities of our worship service. As we have merged two churches together with two different backgrounds, we noted some differing priorities. So, the priorities that we are working with are: Teaching of the Word of God, Communion, Worship and Prayer (see Acts 2:42 for a similar list from the early church).

We believe that each of these are important aspects of our worship. However, at different times some might get differing attention. At this point the Elders are working with hiring someone part time is without any negative connotation regarding our current worship, or our current leaders. We have two main motivations.



- Inclusion, our teams have been volunteer and our worship teams have put in a lot of time to pick, practice and lead our church in singing. This has not allowed them time to work with the inclusion and development of additional people onto our teams. So, we hope that with the hiring of someone, they will be able to dedicate more time to help more people use their gifts in the area of worship.
- Multiplication, as you may have heard me saying is that with the start of Celebrate Recovery, we are really starting another worship service; one that really mirrors our Sunday morning service. Therefore, we need to multiply our efforts to do a "good Job" of leading people in song in both spaces. Beyond that, it has always been our goal that we will help to plant more churches (specifically in areas of need). For this to happen, we need to provide people opportunities to use and develop their gifts so that they could be sent to be a part of a new worshipping community, whether in our town or around the world.

If you have questions, or interest in learning more about the hiring of a worship leader or any of our priorities as a church. Please feel free to reach out to me as I would love to chat about this.



## King of my Heart Art, Jean Stryker

For the next few months at F Street Neighborhood Church, the theme of our study in Romans is “King of My Heart”. There’s a new banner hanging in the sanctuary to help illustrate that theme. It’s not a coincidence that the banner looks a lot like a traditional tattoo. Many of us here at F Street Church wear our ink proudly! I love to use art to help relate the Bible’s messages to our world. Jesus didn’t make art (except for that one time when he bent down and drew in the sand), but he often used stories to teach truths to his listeners. So I thought a tattoo might feel at home in our sanctuary.

In researching tattoo art, I came across an artist named Sailor Jerry, whose images all have a vintage feel and use traditional elements like banners, roses, anchors, etc. I based our banner’s design on Sailor Jerry’s style, so it contains some of those classic components. But there are a few different images included in the King of My Heart design, put there to represent the Trinity.

There’s a crown above the heart. This speaks of God the Father, our holy king of heaven. The cross rests diagonally behind the heart, there to remind us of the sacrifice of Jesus, the second person of the Trinity. At the bottom of the banner, there’s a dove with an olive branch in its mouth. The Holy Spirit, third person of the Trinity, is often represented by a dove in artworks. This dove carries an olive branch, which speaks of the peace that the Holy Spirit brings when God is the King of your heart. You could also say that the roses are a reminder of one of Jesus’ titles: the *Rose of Sharon*.

So thanks to Sailor Jerry for the inspiration for the King of My Heart banner!

**Call for Art:** I am looking for heart-related artworks to hang in a temporary gallery display at F Street Church. If you have an artwork or want to make one for the display, please talk to me. King of My Heart tattoo coloring sheets are available for this as well. I hope to hang the work by Sunday, the 29th of August, and leave it up for the duration of the “King of My Heart” preaching series. I’m excited to share your creativity!

## Pulpit vs Politics 7 Keith Morrissey, Elder

*“Life is suffering,”* Jordan B. Peterson, *“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life,”* Jesus Christ

If the former statement is true, then Jesus is saying that to fol-

low him is to *suffer*. Therefore, one must ask oneself: *“If I am not suffering, am I truly following Christ?”*

The next question to answer is: *“If I am not following Jesus, who am I following?”* As you read through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation (and I recommend you do this,) you will find that all the people of God have suffered, and so shall you as you follow God. Jesus himself warned his disciples (I hope that includes you) *“As they have persecuted me, so they will persecute you.”* (John 15:20)

In this article, I want to focus on that statement from Jesus: the suffering that is inflicted on Christians by others.

In the power-play of politics, not just the politicians, but all the groups that have formed to oppose Jesus, the truth is their greatest enemy. Remember that Jesus is the truth, and that Satan is the “prince of lies.” So you must expect them to lie about you, slander you, and everything they can to hurt you and to pull you down. Despite what some may tell you, the closer you get to Jesus - the tougher it gets. After all, if you are not close to Jesus, you are just where and he will probably But, if you start getting can expect Satan to do between you and God like he told to Eve, to cution he inflicted on his disciples over the ries.

***...if you start getting close to Jesus you can expect Satan to do anything to come between you and God ...***

Satan wants you, leave you alone. close to Jesus you anything to come - from the little lie the violent perse- Jesus and many of past several centu-

Peterson also makes the claim that *“People are social because they like the members of their own group. People are antisocial because they don’t like members of other groups.”* So, we need to surround ourselves with like-minded people to help build us up in our journey with Christ. But, never forget that it is much easier to tear someone down than it is to build someone up. So expect them to try to tear you down with their lies. Remember, they have turned away from the truth and remain willfully blind. Don’t fall into their trap of winning their argument and making two groups of people wrong. The chances are, they do not want to know the truth (Jesus) and they do not want you to know it (him) either. They want you to be angry, deceived, resentful liars like them. Then they will like you. Or you can be like Jesus. Love them while they are still your enemies. Show them love, grace, mercy, patience, forgiveness, so that they will want to join your group because they like yours better than theirs. *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”* (Rom 8:18) Are you revealing that glory to others through your actions now?

## Local Giving Trend is a Good Sign

Tad Stryker, Elder

I want to share some good financial - and spiritual - news with you. Local giving has increased this year overall, almost to the point where we’re meeting our monthly goal.

F Street Neighborhood Church has been tracking local offerings since it started in 2014, and the numbers we’ve seen so far this year are encouraging. We had our best-ever offering for each month of the year except July. Of course, since we significantly

increased the size of our church when we merged in June 2020, that is not surprising, but we are thankful to see it, anyway.

God commands us to give; that is clear throughout scripture, but it's not because God is short of funds. Rather, it's because it's healthy for us as the people of God to be involved in what he is doing. It's good for us to give.

Our average monthly local offering rose sharply, as it should have, from \$3,875 for January-July 2020 to \$6,582 for the same period year to date in 2021.

We, as elders, believe that one important sign of a healthy, growing local church is that it supports its own ministry and overhead costs with local giving. Those costs have gone up due to the merger, so the board of elders set \$7,500 per month as the local giving goal for 2021. This means we're 87.8% of the way to our monthly goal. We can exceed this goal with generous giving throughout the rest of the year. If you have been giving, thank you! We're counting on you to continue. If you've not been a part, I urge you to prayerfully consider what God will enable you to give.

Many people are giving electronically, and if you're interested, you can do it by going to our church website, and clicking the Donate link. You'll find a number of options, including a tab where you can designate your gift:

[www.fstreetchurch.org](http://www.fstreetchurch.org)



## September Special Offering

(The first Sunday of each month we take a special missions offering for others. This month we are taking an offering for the new Charity Autos garage.)

**Charity Auto Repair**, Sam Keyzer, Pastor

As many of you know, there has been a "Charity Autos Repair" ministry for many years. We have had people from our Northern Lighthouse community work together with inmates from Community Corrections Center of Lincoln (CCC-L) to do minor repairs on automobiles. They have labored mostly in our parking lot—in good weather and bad—year 'round.

For several years we have talked about building a garage that would include lifts, provide a refuge from inclement weather, and adequate working space. Many have talked and prayed together about the possibilities.

With God's help—and the help of Christ's community—we are making great progress! Building plans include a three-stall garage with two of those stalls having lifts. Donations have provided adequate funding, so we can proceed with applying for a permit. We are hoping to build this fall on the front of the church

property. Our main contractor is willing to work with volunteers.

We are so thankful to the individuals and churches who have prayed, encouraged, and financially supported us in this endeavor! To those who have indicated an interest in helping, we seek to keep you informed on our progress. Please continue to pray that

- the Lord guide and bless the permit process,
- the coordinating with volunteers goes well,
- that all funds will come in to complete the building process.

This ministry is a blessing to so many people: from community corrections, those who cannot afford vehicle repairs, and others from the church who have an avenue of service to live out their gratitude to God. Through this ministry, car owners not only have had their vehicles repaired; they have become acquainted with others from Christ's community, attended church, and come to believe in Christ.

May God be praised and may we continue to see him mightily at work!

## Meet Sage

Hi, my name is Sage Peterson and I'm one of the newest residents here at F Street Neighborhood Church. Before coming to F Street Church, I worked as a youth ministry assistant at Prairie Ridge Church in Ankeny, IA. Over the summer, I was able to be an intern with Immerse. This fall I will be leading our youth group here at F Street Church, and working with our awesome volunteers to help our students learn about God, continue their walk in their faith, create relationships, and of course, have a ton of fun! I can't begin to explain my excitement for what's to come this year and I hope to meet you and your students.



## Health Ministry Corner Barb Douglas, HMF SNC

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

I just want to start out by saying, God has a plan! Sometimes it may seem like we are living in the midst of total chaos- like the world around us is spinning out of control. But I assure you God is in control, always. Many of us are going through personal, and very private pain, and there doesn't seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel. But when things are at their darkest, God has a way of shining such light on the whole situation, and for those who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior, there is a comfort that

passes all understanding. I want to share a few verses of scripture with you today, I know these will turn that darkness into his beautiful light.

1Peter 2:2, *"Like newborn babies, crave spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation."* The word of God is that spiritual milk to all who believe in him. Studying that word brings the light of life into each soul that opens their eyes and ears to the scripture. So study the Bible to be wise; believe it to be safe; practice it to be holy.

Matthew 6:21, *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Treasures of this world are vulnerable to being lost, stolen, destroyed, or devalued. If this is our focus, we will only experience frustration. If our hearts are drawn instead to the value of eternal - godly character, relationships, souls - we won't be disappointed. We will become rich in the things of Christ, and treasure in heaven can never be taken away! So our focus should not be on comfort, pleasure and monetary gain, those are transient and temporary, lead to disappointment, and serve our fallen natures. We, as Christians who live for God, can expect trouble in the world, but we will receive eternal blessings in heaven.

Psalms 19:1, *"The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands."* The psalmist wrote of God's handiwork as a spectacle, that if rightly understood, should not only take our breath away by its beauty, but also inspire us to worship and praise our God, as it did the psalmist. It should also inspire grateful hearts, and hearts of gratitude, as God's glory shines through His creation.

Psalms 96:10, *"The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the people with equity."* These statements should evoke a strong sense that this time on earth is a serious business; especially for those who value their lives in Christ. Like I mentioned before, there are many of us who are struggling with what seems like the unfairness of life in their own lives right now. There is so much chaos and wrongness in the world that seeing Christ at work is very hard. But because of God's flawless and perfect character, balanced by His perfect justice, we can trust that when life seems unfair God will make all things right in his perfect final court (2 Corinthians 5:10) One day God will right every wrong!

Revelations 22:20, *"He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes I am coming soon.' Amen. Come Lord Jesus come!"* Christ made a promise to all who would put their trust in him, that one day he would return for them. Those who belong to Christ should be longing to see him. Jesus is worthy of the very best of our love and devotion----and nothing on earth should compare to the thought of seeing him face to face. May our love for our Savior deepen as we anticipate our joyful reunion with him.

So, as we move back out into this world of uncertainty, let's focus on the one who loves us more than life, the Lord Jesus Christ.



## Community Groups

Group: **"Distorted Images of Self, Restoring Our Vision"**

**Women's Study**

Location: Fireside Room

Contact: Beth Heerspink

Day/Time: Fridays, 10:00 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](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)



# Monthly Bible Reading Schedule

## 2 Corinthians

In 2 Corinthians, the paradoxes of Christ and Christian living are thrust out into the open. In Paul's second letter to the church in Corinth, the ways of apostleship are made known, as the reader is refashioned in the image of God in Christ. One of the most dramatic turns in the life of the Christian, that Paul talks about, is that God's power is perfected in our weaknesses. Read and behold the several other apparent contradictions that the Spirit of Christ has for the disciple who measures his ways not by the worldly expectations, but by the fullness of Jesus made manifest in their own life.

## 1 Timothy

The first of what is known as the pastoral letters, Paul's letter to young Timothy contains the most explicit and complete instruction for church leadership and organization. 1 Timothy lays out the fact that true Christianity is shown by how the follower of Jesus lives his or her life. It can be a living testimony that illustrates the power of the gospel, or of a disciple who has turned away from that same power.

## 2 Timothy

Nearing his impending execution, Paul writes to encourage his young protégé Timothy, in his second letter, to continue in the faith of his mother and grandmother, as well as to Paul's own witness - one which he had "fought the good fight." The letter highlights that suffering is a part of the Christian experience. Paul's words are to his close friend and co-worker, and they are his words to us, so that the trials we will inevitably face can be endured with the strength that comes from God and the gospel of his Son.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Aug 30 – 2 Cor 3	Aug 31 – 2 Cor 4	Sep 1 – 2 Cor 5	Sep 2 – 2 Cor 6	Sep 3 – 2 Cor 7
Sep 6 – 2 Cor 8	Sep 7 – 2 Cor 9	Sep 8 – 2 Cor 10	Sep 9 – 2 Cor 11	Sep 10 – 2 Cor 12
Sep 13 – 2 Cor 13	Sep 14 – 1 Tim 1	Sep 15 – 1 Tim 2	Sep 16 – 1 Tim 3	Sep 18 – 1 Tim 4
Sep 20 – 1 Tim 5	Sep 21 – 1 Tim 6	Sep 22 – 2 Tim 1	Sep 23 – 2 Tim 2	Sep 24 – 2 Tim 3