

The Word on the (F) Street

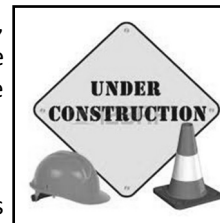
Let's Just Start This

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

I could not decide between the title of "Lets Finish This" and "We Just Started." As those seem to be the themes in my office lately. We have just started several things and I am committed to not starting more until we finish a few of these projects and programs.

Bathroom Remodel

As some of you know we have been discussing this for a few years now: the addition of a new women's restroom on the west side of the stage in the basement and turning the entire, current, restroom space into the men's restroom. It is a project that has been in stages, and we have finished the first 2 stages. We are hoping to now start the 3rd of 4 stages. That 3rd will be building the women's restroom. This will allow for better stalls and updated fixtures. The plans are drawn, and we are working on the permits, and getting bids. Some of the delays have been due to having a busy summer, plans and funding. We hope that the cost of phase 3 will be covered by the estate gift.



Roof Repairs

We also hope to address some of our leaking roof at F Street Church. Most of this now goes unnoticed, but it is still leaking in a few locations, and that leads to greater damage. The greatest challenges here are that we have a tile roof that is in perfect condition after almost 100 years, with the exception of where it joins up against the brick walls. It is the flashing, not the roof, that is worn out. This is problematic, as it requires either a creative repair, or virtually replacing the roof even though it is not the problem. We have worked out a creative solution and hope to have the problems resolved soon. This project is being funded by an estate gift.

Other Repairs

I am grateful for the time that others are putting in around church; one in particular who is currently painting the windows around the office and basement. He has also helped to hang up the projector and screen in the upper office, takes care of much of the landscape, and repaired the front steps. We also are working to wrap up the installation of the video cameras for our worship service.



Family Meeting (Save the Date)

It is time for the church body to gather again for a meeting. We are planning our next family meeting for Sunday, November 14th, at 6:00 p.m. (more detail will be available soon) At this meeting we hope to address the following: budget, new elders, looking to the future, and Q and A.

Family Meetings are for those who are members of F Street Neighborhood Church, which is defined by having a relationship with Christ, active in giving, serving and attending.



A Place of Acceptance and Direction
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Calendar for October 2021

1st: **Happy Birthday Adam Ensign**
2nd: **Happy Birthday Joseph Angus**
3rd: Sunday Service
5th: 6:30am Prayer
7th: 6:30pm FoodNet
9th: **Happy Birthday Terry Martinez**
10th: Sunday Service
12th: 6:30am Prayer
14th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday David Dillon**
17th: Sunday Service
19th: 6:30am Prayer
20th: **Happy Birthday Jeff Graham, Jerrita Kindle**
21st: 6:30pm FoodNet
22nd: **Happy Birthday Rebecka Bredemeier**
24th: Sunday Service
25th: **Happy Birthday Sharon Masterson**
26th: 6:30am Prayer
28th: 6:30pm FoodNet
31st: Sunday Service

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.

Brand New 3M Classes Off to a Great

Start **Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor**

With a view toward developing fully devoted Christ followers at FSNC, we are offering a new series of classes called 3M which includes teaching on Membership, Maturity, and Ministry.

Our first class on Membership which helps folks become better acquainted with what it means to be a part of our F Street Church family had nearly 20 in attendance on September 19th! The next class which deals with Maturity is scheduled for October 17th and will focus on the habits that foster spiritual growth in our lives. Finally, the Ministry class planned for November 21st will explore how each of us is uniquely shaped to serve the Lord and His people.

The 3M classes occur following the Sunday morning worship service on the dates scheduled. We plan to provide lunch, so you will want to sign up when opportunity is given in the coming weeks so we will know how many to plan for. Please feel free to contact Pastor Jeff or me with questions or to sign-up for these classes.



Lincoln School of Ministry Launches its Fifth Year of Classes **Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor**

The Lincoln School of Ministry, hosted by the F Street Neighborhood Church, recently began classes in its one-year equipping and training program.

The fall module started on September 9th, with ten students enrolled, and will last 12 weeks. It provides students with a basic theological foundation and includes 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. We are ready to receive applications for the winter session, and the cost for each module is \$100. We would love to have you join us in January!

Pulpit vs Politics **Keith Morrissey, Elder**

"When ignorance destroys--monsters will emerge." Jordan Peterson

"There is no authority except that which God has established." Rom 13:1

The word "authority" (Greek: *exousia*) is the freedom and right to choose and act. This would mean - to a Christian - that God has given his people the right to choose how to act. But, with every "right" there also comes a "responsibility". So God has also given us a responsibility for our choices and actions. This, in turn, would mean that God gives those people in authority the responsibility to govern with care, love, grace and humility.

Authority and *Power* do not mean the same. Authority will always require power, but power does not always imply authority. Authority requires one to take responsibility, power does not. Authority requires care, love, grace, and humility. Power does not. For example, does the Taliban have power in Afghanistan? Certainly! But does it dispense love, grace, care, or humility? Does it take responsibility for the many under its control, or does it just insist on the *rights* of those in power?

There are many "Talibans" in American society today. Those that want to destroy America's institutions without taking the responsibility for coming up with something better. Monsters will emerge. Consider the institutions of marriage, the family, the church, gender identity, etc. We have seen, and are seeing, many groups demanding their perceived rights without taking on any responsibility. Monsters have emerged.

Many institutions in America need repair, renewal or replacement. But we need to make sure that we re-do things God's way, not some monsters' way. We need to exercise authority, not just power. Next time you hear any group demanding that we change the way we are doing things, dare to ask if they are just demanding a tear-down, or are they willing to participate in a rebuilding? Are they wanting their way (power), or are they willing to do it God's way (authority)? Are they exercising wisdom, or are they acting in ignorance?

Are they advancing the kingdom of God, or are they just creating more monsters?

Are YOU advancing the kingdom of God, or are YOU just creating more monsters?



Life Chain Sunday is October 4

Tad Stryker, Elder

Life Chain is an annual silent outdoor prayer event. Participants line O Street while holding signs drawing attention to the fact that abortion on demand has systematically killed more than 45 million preborn babies in the U.S. since 1973.

You are invited to join Tad Stryker on the south side of O Street between 35th and 36th streets (across from the main entrance to Wyuka Cemetery) from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, October 4. Tad will have signs and is available to answer questions.

Special Mission Offering:

Celebrate Recovery

On Wednesday, September 1st we hosted the first ever F Street Celebrate Recovery. We had over 50 people in attendance. That has been our biggest night so far but we continue to minister to those who attend each Wednesday with the hope of Jesus and the tools and community to enable recovery.

On Sunday, October 3 we will be taking a special offering for the growth and development of this new and exciting ministry. Please consider giving to this new ministry to help us serve and walk along with the people of our community.



Immerse: Blessing Money was a

Blessing Beth Heerspink, Immerse Director

In May we took an offering at F Street Church for the Immerse program—"blessing money," to be used for purchasing supplies for various families and organizations that we were going to serve during the summer. I was blown away by the generosity of our little church. Even as I reflect now, I still feel amazed at the amount of money that was given (approximately \$2,000), so that we could be a blessing in our community. Having this money available made a significant difference in the number of projects and the quality of projects we were able to take on. This summer I felt like we were able to be a true blessing to so many people and organizations. I wanted to share the specifics of what we were able to use the money for:

- Renting a dump trailer for two major yard cleanups + paying for all dump fees
- Purchasing the primer and paint for the little white chapel at F Street
- Landscaping supplies for F Street Church
- Several projects at the Northern Lighthouse, including all of the edging around their buildings
- Supplies for several decks being refinished
- Building of a wheelchair ramp
- Two large BBQ/Grill-outs for all of the guys at the V.A.
- Paint and painting supplies for several families
- Rock for the parking area at Transformations Thrift Store

In addition to the financial generosity of our church, I was also blown away by all of the volunteers from our church who helped make **the** Immerse program happen, from cooking to sharing testimonies to hosting groups for meals to going out on the streets to hand out water bottles and lunches to hosting service projects. It was a beautiful group effort and I was thrilled to be part of it all. Our church is amazing! A few of the things that participants said:

"This has been the best week of my life. Honestly."

"This week I learned that I was born to serve and that I have been given the ability to lead. This week has opened my eyes to

so many amazing things that I didn't know about myself."

"I learned to let God have more control when I am always out of control. It was amazing, I would come every year."

"I'm more excited to spend time with God and learned how others' stories impact me."

"I grew spiritually by trying to have 'Jesus's eyes.' I saw the way others were treating homeless and they were talking and interacting with them and it was kind of a mental shift of, 'I should love these people just as God loves me.'"

Thanks, F Street Church, for being such an amazing host church for Immerse.



Health Ministry

Health Ministry Corner Barb Douglas, HMF SNC

Hello again fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Here we are already to the month of October 2021. Autumn is upon us, the weather is cooling down, and temperatures are going down as well. We will be changing course from concern about hyperthermia, and staying cool and free of dehydration, to concerns about hypothermia, staying warm, and encouraging healthy immune systems. Staying healthy, no matter what season we are in, is always of great concern to all of us. The confusion and chaos we are experiencing in the world today, plays a large part in how we take care of ourselves. God's Word has quite a bit to say about this subject of how we are to take care of ourselves in these, or any unsure, chaotic situations we may find ourselves in.

All too often we may think we have all the facts, however these days it's very easy to find that, to actually have the truth of any given situation isn't that easy. There are so many conflicting ideas, and information that can often be presented as truth when actually digging deeper beneath the surface, one may find that truth being presented, has many sides and facets to it that also need to be uncovered. In God's Word he tells us *"...let your yes be yes and your no be no. for whatever is more than these is from the evil one"*. Matt. 5:37 NKJ. Therefore I will pray these words, *"As believers in Jesus, may God help us not to spread falsehoods. May he provide what we need to exhibit wisdom and to make certain our words are actually true. Father, with things moving so fast these days, it's often hard to know what's real. Help me to listen, pay attention, and speak only the truth. Amen."*

There is so much misunderstanding between human beings, but with God there is no such misunderstanding. He is never confused, because he knows our hearts better than we ever can. His Holy Spirit searches our hearts and always understands God's will. So when we pray, even if it's only groans, the Holy Spirit knows God's will and can express our true needs to God the Father without fail. Everything we have learned over the past several weeks about making God the King of our hearts, points us to

this realization.

This truth is shown to us in Romans 8:26-28 *"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, and are called according to his purpose."*

So, may we all find peace and harmony for our lives through the words of God's Holy Scriptures. The world will continue to move as it is ordered, also according to God's will and purpose. This we can be sure of, no matter how much confusion, chaos, uncertainty, war, insane weather, or the insanity of man may fall upon us. God's will and his love for all who call themselves after his name, is always truth, and absolute certainty. So may the love of Christ and his Spirit rest on and in each one of you throughout the rest of 2021 and much farther beyond. Stay warm, stay healthy, stay safe, and stay in God's will for you. Remember to pray for each other, help each other when the chance arises. Look for ways and reasons to be good to someone, it needn't be someone you know, perhaps God will put the need of a stranger in your way. It may even be someone that doesn't like you for whatever reason. Be kind and generous. If nothing else it may help you feel better! God's Blessings Always, Barbara J. Douglas HMF5NC

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: **"Galatians" Men's Bible Study**

Location: Fireplace Room

Contact: Tad Stryker

Day/Time: Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m.

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

Titus

How close of a correlation do you see between your beliefs and how you live; between theology and practice? In his letter to Titus, Paul instructs the church planter, who ministered on the island of Crete, what the portrait is of a healthy church; how to properly handle error; how to live as Christians; and the power of the gospel to promote good deeds. For Paul, teachings directly shape life, and sound teachings about Christ are vitally important for the life of our faith.

1 John

The first of three letters, written by the apostle John - who also authored the Gospel account, as well as the book of Revelation - uses familiar contrasts: light and darkness, truth and lies. These confirm, to believers, the reality of the Incarnate Christ and God's transforming work in the believer's life. The letter was circulated to various churches in Asia Minor, around AD 90, to combat false teachers, and to promote fellowship between God and his people. This book offers the reader a close look at the Good News we have in God, who conforms us through his love into the very image of Jesus!

2 John

John's second letter focuses on protecting church fellowship from those who teach falsehood. Traveling missionaries and evangelists commonly stayed in the homes of believers while on their journey. 2 John sets up safeguards to love within the limits, that the truth about Jesus allows, by urging discernment on the part of the believer. That they choose not to have fellowship with those who taught heresies contrary to the Gospel of Christ.

3 John

The final letter of this trilogy, 3 John tells of the importance of offering fellowship to those who carry on the work of God. This letter was most likely written around AD 90, when John wrote from exile on the island of Patmos. In the letter, John addresses Gaius, who was a leader of the church in Asia Minor, about a man named Diotrephes. Diotrephes was not receiving traveling preachers with hospitality. John commends the believers in the area to continue to live according to the truth, by showing love to traveling preachers. This book continues to testify that our life, lived according to the power of the gospel, is welcoming to those who may be strangers today - but with whom we share a common bond of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter

Probably written in AD 64, just before the Roman Emperor Nero began his persecution, Peter writes to Christians who lived as "aliens" and "foreigners" from their surrounding culture. Their alien status is for their continued lifestyle of living as Christ lived, and bearing up under unjust or unexpected suffering. Peter walked intimately with Jesus for three years, and his letter encourages his readers to be like Jesus. That they pursue holiness in a hostile world, endure suffering, and recognize that their hardships are temporary, being encouraged to be a people of faith and endurance during their time of trial.

John

Written between AD 85 and 95, while serving the church in Ephesus, John penned the gospel that highlights the divine qualities of Christ as the Son of God. One commentator says that the first half of John's gospel might be known as the "Book of Signs." It highlights seven of Jesus' miracles that he performed during his ministry. This book, more than any of the other gospels, points out Jesus as the God-man, the one who died for our sins, and was risen to new, eternal life. Many of the miraculous signs, that John captures in his book, are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, and "that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name." Come, read and enjoy, the life-giving message and hope of eternal life in Christ that has brought countless people to belief in Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Sep 27 – 2 Tim 4 | Sep 28 – Titus 1 | Sep 29 – Titus 2 | Sep 30 – Titus 3 | Oct 1 – 1 John 1 |
| Oct 4 – 1 John 2 | Oct 5 – 1 John 3 | Oct 6 – 1 John 4 | Oct 7 – 1 John 5 | Oct 8 – 2 John 1 3 John 1 |
| Oct 11 – 1 Pet 1 | Oct 12 – 1 Pet 2 | Oct 13 – 1 Pet 3 | Oct 14 – 1 Pet 4 | Oct 15 – 1 Pet 5 |
| Oct 18 – John 1 | Oct 19 – John 2 | Oct 20 – John 3 | Oct 21 – John 4 | Oct 22 – John 5 |
| Oct 25 – John 6 | Oct 26 – John 7 | Oct 27 – John 8 | Oct 28 – John 9 | Oct 29 – John 10 |