

# The Word on the (F) Street

## CPR Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

CPR is the life - saving training that many of us have had at some point in our lives. However, I am wanting to discuss a different CPR, also lifesaving and life giving, standing for Cultivate, Plant, and Reap. Paul used a similar concept in 1 Corinthians 3:6-11 speaking of him planting the seeds, Apollos watering them, and God causing them to grow.

This is a term that I heard a lot in youth ministry, as we talked about evangelism or the privilege to share the gospel with others. Keep in mind it is a privilege to be used by God to share the hope and the joy of his message. CPR is a thoughtful process of how to do that.

It begins with cultivating the relationship: Relationships are the most powerful tool we have to share the gospel with others. It is also one of the lost arts of our culture, to establish true, authentic, loving relationships. But like a farmer when he cultivates the ground to prepare for the planting it investment. Shar- similar, although would do well to tionships with peo- who are different to be able to share have in Jesus with time and an invest- ment (meals, time, rides, learning from them and about them) before we can share the hope that we have.

***“We are called to build deep authentic loving relationships with the sinners...the lost...”***

Planting the seed: planting can be as simple as sharing the hope that you have in Jesus. It can also be inviting this friend to church, to a bible study, to CR. Or it can be sharing with them the gospel message. Maybe that is overwhelming to you, to help we have created a pamphlet that is on the back table of the church that helps to lay out the gospel. You can use this as you share the gospel or as a learning tool to equip yourself to share the gospel.

Reaping the harvest: As noted in the 1 Corinthians passage, there is a need for us to trust God to make it grow. God is the one who opens hearts and calls people to himself, but he uses us to be a part of that journey. Pray to God for the wisdom of who, how and when to call people to believe. Sometimes we can be friends for a long time and suddenly they open up or a tragedy strikes and we are there as a friend to share Jesus.

This is not a magic formula, and people are not ponds to build relationships with only to share Jesus. We are called to build deep authentic loving relationships with the sinners..the lost, and we should be willing and able to share the hope that we have with them as we love them and want them to know Jesus. CPR is about saving lives physically and spiritually. We should stay in the relationship because we love, even when they decline the first time and the fiftieth time as we love them. In fact, there are times when I am convinced that Jesus has called us to simply be there with them regard- less as faithful followers of Jesus.



*A Place of Acceptance and Direction*  
**F Street Neighborhood Church**  
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Pastor Bill Thornton  
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*Christ  
is  
Risen!*

### Calendar for April 2023

1st: **Happy Birthday Jen Johns**  
2nd: Palm Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Robert Howard**  
4th: 6:30am Prayer  
5th: 6:30pm Celebrate Recov  
6th: 5:30pm FoodNet  
9th: Easter Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Xander Mailand**  
11th: 6:30am Prayer  
12th: 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery  
13th: 5:30pm FoodNet  
14th: **Happy Birthday Linoma Wingate**  
16th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Bonnie Chapman**  
18th: 6:30am Prayer  
19th: 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery  
20th: 5:30pm FoodNet  
22nd: **Happy Birthday Tammi Snethen**  
23rd: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Jeff DeBoer**  
25th: 6:30am Prayer; **Happy Birthday Justin Hadenfeldt**  
26th: 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery  
27th: 5:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Deborah Pem**  
30th: 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.*



## Holy Week Service Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

During the month of April, our church family will have opportunity to gather to celebrate and reflect upon the passion of Jesus during Holy Week.

**Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, we will witness the waving of the palm branches by our children, as we recall the triumphal entry of our Lord into the city of Jerusalem. Pastor Jeff will be preaching that day at our 10:30 a.m. service.

**Maundy Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, we have been invited to join with folks from Hope Community Church, and the Northern Light-house to share in a special service that will focus on the events that occurred in the upper room during the night prior to Jesus' death. That service will take place at Hope Community Church, and is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will return the favor, as we plan to host a joint service of the three churches that will remind of the sobering reality of Christ's death as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Join us at 6:30 p.m. that evening for this special service.

**Finally, Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus, and his victory over sin and death. Pastor Bill will be preaching at our 10:30 a.m. service that morning. Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

## Upcoming 3M Classes in April and May!

**Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor**

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

Last month we hosted our class on Membership which helps folks become better acquainted with what it means to be a part of our F Street Church family. Our next class which deals with Maturity is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will focus on the habits that foster spiritual growth in our lives. Finally, the Ministry class planned for May 7th 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.

## "Welcome to F Street Neighborhood

**Church..." Jeff Heerspink, Pastor**

...That is what the colorful sign says as you enter the beautiful building with which God has blessed us. Thank you, to Willow Applegate and Jean Stryker, who have created a welcoming entrance of colors that match our stained glass window. The inset images display the character of our church, and fit the overall

vibe of being colorful and traditional.

There is more yet to come, but give them a great shout out for the great work they are doing.



## Youth Update Sage Peterson, Youth Director

For a while now I have had a note card that sits on my desk that has some statistics that I happened to find. The notecard starts off by saying that 75% of kids have left the church from ages 18-29, and the other 25% have stayed connected to the church. Now if you are thinking like me, those numbers are astonishing! I don't know where these numbers were pulled from, so take them with a little grain of salt. I do believe that they aren't that far off. What really stands out to me, from these numbers, is that it proves how formidable and important these years are before students leave the house. As a church, our goal is to raise up the next generation of believers, and expand God's kingdom. Being a youth leader, I love the time spent with all students, and to try and make a positive impact in the lives of each one that walks through the door. But the problem is, our youth staff are limited in their ability to do just that, and only have a short amount of time. For example, if your student comes to youth group every week during the school year, it amounts to 54 hours over the entire year. As a parent, you see your student every day. I recognize sometimes with teens that can mean 20 minutes, but you as a parent truly are the biggest influence in your kid's life!



Now back to the stats that I was talking about earlier. It went on to explain that of the 25% that stayed in the church they contributed it to five things:

- These students ate dinner 5 of 7 nights a week as a family
- They served in the church and community with their family
- Each week they had a spiritual experience in the home
- They were entrusted in ministry at a young age
- Had AT LEAST one faith-focused adult outside of their parents

The goal of sharing these numbers with you is not to try and call out anyone, but instead help and provide all parents with resources to better their families. Oftentimes we hear “youth” or “kids ministry” but in reality what that means is “family ministry,” because all of you as parents are at the forefront of our ministries just as much as the kids are.

I understand that with kids and busy schedules, it can be hard to fit some of these activities, in but I encourage you to focus on just one and see how that may work in your household. If you as a parent have any questions or are maybe in need of some support I encourage you to reach out to myself (Sage Peterson - youth) or any other kids ministry lead (Willow Applegate - youth, Hollie Sell - 3rd-5th, Marcia Thornton - K-3rd, and Tami Thornton - Nursery) and we would love to walk with you through this season of life.

## **New Preaching Series** Bill Thornton, Teaching Pastor

On Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> we are planning to start a new sermon series for our F Street Church family. The Book of First Corinthians is one of the best known of Paul’s letters, and its contents will provide the basis for our messages that will address the theme: *Between the Rock and a Hard Place: Christian Living in Today’s World*.

Addressed to the Christians who lived in the city of Corinth, the letter seeks to offer godly wisdom for handling the practical problems that were faced by first century believers and congregations, as well as providing helpful instruction on the place of spiritual gifts in the life of a healthy church family. There will be much for us to learn as those who follow Jesus in today’s world.



## **Special Offering, Maranatha Bible**

### **Camp** Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

Why do we support Maranatha Bible Camp? There are a lot of things that we want to encourage you to support through F Street Church, because ministry goes far beyond this neighborhood. Camp ministry is an important way to get students excited about Jesus, strengthening their faith, and often introduce them to Jesus in a fun and powerful way. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> we hope to encourage you to set aside a part of your offering for Maranatha Bible Camp in Maxwell, NE as they prepare for their 2023 camp season.

## **Church Beautification Meeting**

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

Do you have ideas for how to improve the external appearance of the church? Do you want to help clean up our corner of the block? Do you want to take on a regular role in helping our church property to be safe and functional?

If you answer yes to any of these questions then we would love for you to attend our Church Building and Grounds meeting on **Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Bring your ideas for how we can make it a great place of beauty. We are looking for people to take on areas of responsibility for our property.

The meeting will include snacks, and be held in the upper office area.



## **Community Groups**

### **Group: Studying Spiritual Disciplines**

Location: 6730 S 41st St.

Contact: Drew or Sarah Peters

Day/Time: First three Tuesdays of the month, 6:30 pm

### **Group: Keith Morrissey’s House, “The Case for Christ”**

Location: 1750 Prospect Street

Contact: Ardeshir Mazhari, Keith Morrissey

Day/Time: Thursdays, 7 pm

### **Group: Wayne & Linoma Wingate’s House**

Location: 5815 Brittany Place

Topic: Sermon Discussion

Contact: Wayne or Linoma Wingate

Day/Time: First and Third Thursdays of the month, 7 pm

### **Group: Young Adults (College/20s): Book of James**

Location: Grace Room at the Church Building

Contact: Bill or Marcia Thornton

Day/Time: Thursdays, 7 pm

### **Group: Women’s Study,**

***Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World***

Location: Fireside Room at Church Building

Contact: Beth Heerspink

Day/Time: Fridays, 10 am

### **Group: Bondage Breakers**

Location: Grace Room at Church Building

Contact: Jeff Heerspink & Vince Grove, leaders

Day/Time: Friday, 6:30-7:30 a.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 [fstretchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fstretchurch@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:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mar 27 – James 4	Mar 28 – James 5	Mar 29 – Gal 1	Mar 30 – Gal 2	Mar 31 – Gal 3
Apr 3 – Gal 4	Apr 4 – Gal 5	Apr 5 – Gal 6	Apr 6 – Matt 1	Apr 7 – Matt 2
Apr 10 – Matt 3	Apr 11 – Matt 4	Apr 12 – Matt 5	Apr 13 – Matt 6	Apr 14 – Matt 7
Apr 17 – Matt 8	Apr 18 – Matt 9	Apr 19 – Matt 10	Apr 20 – Matt 11	Apr 21 – Matt 12
Apr 24 – Matt 13	Apr 25 – Matt 14	Apr 26 – Matt 15	Apr 27 – Matt 16	Apr 28 – Matt 17