

VOL. 11 ISSUE 8 · AUGUST 2025

# THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

## Attention Parents & Guardians!

BILL THORNTON,  
TEACHING PASTOR



Later, this Fall we plan to offer a brand-new class for children and their parents/guardians that will seek to help nurture spiritual growth within our church families as well as to consider the important topics of Baptism, Communion, and making a Profession of Faith in Jesus. Our hope is to come alongside our parents/guardians with encouragement in their role as their child's primary spiritual influence. Please be watching your mailbox or email inbox for more information!

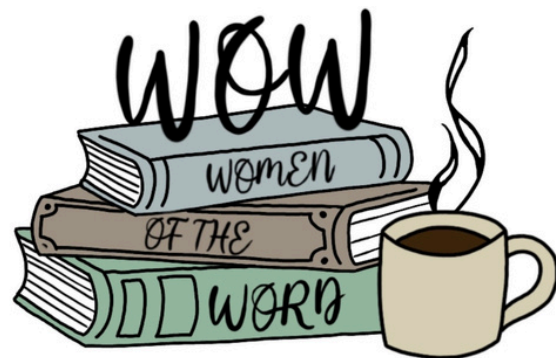
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## Women of the Word

BETH HEERSPINK, TLC COACH

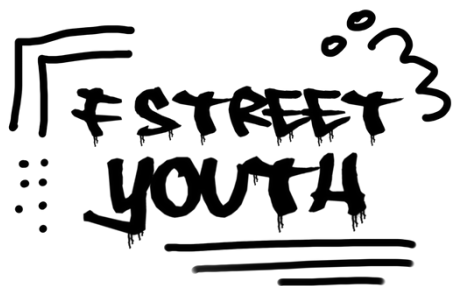
Do you ever feel overlooked, lost, forgotten? Discover the power and relevance of “Lost Women of the Bible”—explore the stories of Sarah, Hagar, Mary of Nazareth, Lydia, and others in our new study starting this Fall. You will be encouraged in community and faith as you gather with other ladies of F Street Church!



Our kick-off brunch will be on Friday, August 15 at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall (basement of F Street Church). You are invited to bring a brunch item to share. We will also have a “Show and Tell”—If you’d like, bring something fun to share with the group, like you did in Kindergarten (a picture, a family heirloom, something fun from your summer, ANYTHING). We will also have books available to purchase for \$10 for our Fall study (If you need assistance, please let us know). We will be studying the book “Lost Women of the Bible” by Carolyn Custis James. We will discuss Chapter One on Friday, August 22. Questions? Contact Beth at 402-217-2352.

### F Street Youth!

SAGE PETERSON,  
YOUTH DIRECTOR



The school year is quickly approaching! If your student is like me growing up, this news is bringing lots of dread to them. But there is good news that comes along with this because it also means that F Street Youth will be starting up too! F Street Youth will be starting on Tuesday, September 2nd. We look forward to having all of our students back in the building to learn, grow, and have fun together.

For any questions, contact  
Sage at [sage@fstreetchurch.org](mailto:sage@fstreetchurch.org)

## A Prayer I Couldn't Have Prayed

HANNAH WEHMEYER, BENEVOLENCE DIRECTOR

Recently while working benevolence, a gal came in needing help with rent.

Before we talked numbers, she asked if I would pray for her. She seemed eager so I dropped the rent subject and asked her how I could pray.

As tears gathered in her eyes, she told me that she's been having panic attacks daily and needs prayer for her mental health. I told her that I understand more than I'd like to. We shared a quick giggle and then I prayed. She requested two copies of the Bible, one for her and one for her sister. She went on her way expressing her deep gratitude. It was a pleasant encounter.

After she left the church, I had a thought occur to me that gave me a small taste of the Kingdom to come. Our suffering, given to Christ, will never be for nothing. The glory that it will become holds more beauty than could compare to the hard times we inevitably face here on earth. I realized that I prayed a prayer for her that I would not have been able to pray had I not been in a similar mental state once upon a time. It was a season of darkness with moments of despair and hopelessness. At times I was not able to acknowledge the light. It was hard and I have spent a lot of time wishing I hadn't gone through it.

I recently read a short article from late pastor Charles Stanley, which said "But what about those times when our situation isn't improving--then what is God doing that is "better"? Peter tells us He is refining our faith, which will result in praise and glory when Jesus returns. This will prove more valuable than gold or even relief from our distress. The difficulties that cause some to lose hope are the very tools God can use to increase His children's faith in Him."

"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, 4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. 5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. 6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. 7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So, when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world." 1 Peter 1:3-9

## New Preaching Series Begins Sunday, August 3rd **Called Out** (Messages from 1 & 2 Peter)

BILL THORNTON, TEACHING PASTOR

For the next two months we will be gaining insight from a trusted friend in the Bible who knew a great deal about facing the temptations, trials and troubles that can accompany the Christian life. In his letters, 1 & 2 Peter, the aged apostle offers us helpful instruction for living as those who have been Called Out. The following is a listing of the messages that are planned by our pastors: Jeff, RJ and Bill.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - "Hope as an Inheritance" (1 Peter 1:1-12)  
August 10<sup>th</sup> - "Holiness as a Lifestyle" (1 Peter 1:13-2:3)  
August 17<sup>th</sup> - "Harmony in Relationships" (1 Peter 2:13-3:17)  
August 24<sup>th</sup> - "Handling Suffering" (1 Peter 3:18-4:19)  
August 31<sup>st</sup> - "Humble Leadership" (1 Peter 5:1-14)  
September 7<sup>th</sup> - "Hearing God's Voice" (2 Peter 1:1-21)  
September 14<sup>th</sup> - "Heavenly Judgment" (2 Peter 2:1-22)  
September 21<sup>st</sup> - "Hanging On" (2 Peter 3:1-18)

## **Summer Splash!!!**

WILLOW BERNADT, ART CHAPEL DIRECTOR

In mid-July, the Art Chapel hosted our first family camp, SUMMER SPLASH! And what a splash it was! We served six different families, walked through 4 different scripture stories, created 4 different art projects, and threw over 1,000 water balloons!

We hope this event helped show families how simple it can be to read the Bible together at home, and how fun it can be and that arts and crafts as well as some games can help us learn and remember scripture. But even more so, we hope all these families simply had fun spending time together!

A big thank you to all who donated to help support this event and the families who attended. It wouldn't have been possible without you! We ask that you prayerfully consider continuing to donate and support the Art Chapel, so that we can continue to provide programs like these! We can't wait for next summer's family camp!





## **From Camping to the Cary Christian Center - What can I do to help?**

BETH HEERSPINK, TLC COACH

These word surprised me. We were taking down the tent trailer, packing down to head home from Mississippi. Every time this child completed a task, she would ask, "What else can I do to help?"

These words were music to my ears. We had spent years taking down the tent trailer, dragging and nagging, the kids spent the time crying because they were dying, and now, somehow it was magically different. I felt honored and respected and that made me feel joyful.

The dramatic impact that this shift in my child's attitude had on me caused me to reflect about my own relationship and attitude toward God, my Father. What is my response when He asks me to help with something? Do I respond more like a middle schooler, begrudging and complaining, or like a mature adult, with a willing heart of service? When I complete one task, do I eagerly ask for another? Do I complain, either out loud or in my heart? Does God feel like He has to drag me and nag me in order to get me to do something? Does my response show Him honor and give him glory, and give Him a sense of joy?

I reflected more on the words, "What can I do to help?" I thought about the Cary Christian Center we visited in Cary, Mississippi this past June. My dad had volunteered there for 3 years while he was at the Reformed Theological Seminary, driving 90 miles each way as a broke college student because the mission and vision were so compelling.


In the 1970s, a young physician named Dr. Peter Boelens was impressed reading about the ministry of Jesus, who went from village to village preaching and healing. Dr. Boelens wanted more than anything to, like Jesus, help those who were struggling with despair. He asked God, "What can I do to help?" He heard that the infant mortality rate in Sharkey County, Mississippi, was double that of the rest of the nation. To make a long story short, Dr. Boelens went to Mississippi and started the Cary Christian Center. From the small health clinic, it blossomed into a dental clinic, a thrift store, and so much more. A unit of volunteers made one-on-one visits to pregnant women in the area to make sure they knew all about prenatal care. Today, the infant mortality in that part of the Delta is down to on-average with the population of the nation at large.

Today, this little Christian Center has a thriving youth program that ministers to over 100 kids, sharing Christ with them through after school care and summer programs. And they continue to ask, "What can we do to help?" The director told us they are looking at putting in a laundry mat, simply because their little town doesn't have one. Helping doesn't always have to be complicated.

Throughout our days, weeks, and years, and sometimes at inconvenient times, I believe the Holy Spirit whispers into our hearts, "Will you help with this?" Our willing response brings Him glory, honor and joy. When we complete the task He offers, perhaps we can whisper back, "What else can I do to help, Lord?"

<sup>9</sup> Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.—Galatians 6:9-10.


with Brody



**2pm  
to  
4pm**

Atlas office

Mentor Training



*Atlas: Lincoln*

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WALKING WITH THE HURTING IN OUR CITY?

ATLAS EXISTS TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF LINCOLN THROUGH LOCAL, INTENTIONAL, AND RELATIONAL CHRIST-BASED PEER-SUPPORT.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 says, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up, but pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

Join us for a hands-on workshop to learn a simple framework for loving our neighbors when they fall down.

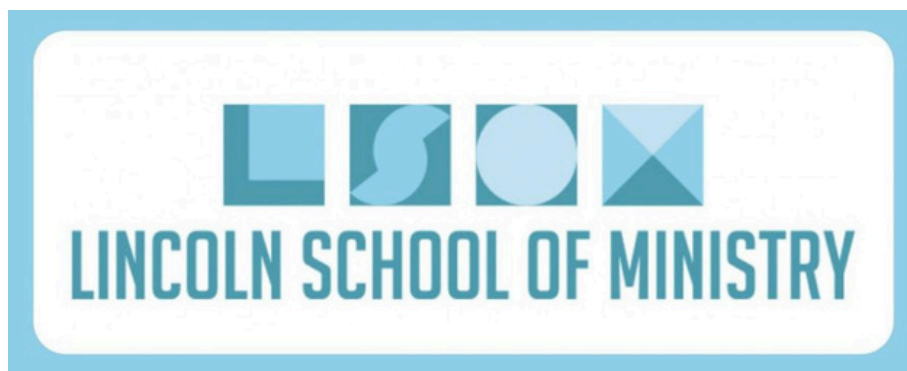
Interested in helping someone?  
Interested in making a new friend? Feel a burning passion to be a good neighbor?

Think about becoming a mentor with Atlas: Lincoln! Brody, Executive Director is hosting a Mentoring Training August 24th, 2025 from 2PM-4PM at the Atlas office!

## Lincoln School of Ministry to Resume this Fall

BILL THORNTON, TEACHING PASTOR

Plans will soon be finalized, and we will be announcing the schedule of classes to be offered by the Lincoln School of Ministry to our congregation, as well as to folks from other local churches who are interested in studying the Bible and being equipped for ministry. Please be watching the Sunday morning worship half-sheet, as well as next month's church newsletter for more details of when our classes will start this Fall. Please contact Pastor Bill for enrollment information.



## **Beyond Positive Thinking: The Trellis Part 2**

RJ COBURN, PASTOR

My anxiety doesn't care about my vision board.

We've spent years trying to think our way into peace with positive affirmations, gratitude journals, and those inspirational scriptures we put on our bathroom mirrors or tattoo on our arms. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" becomes the personal mantra for everything from job interviews to parallel parking. The problem is that sometimes our brain isn't buying it.

You can tell yourself, "God's got this," while your stomach churns about the rent payment coming due. You can recite, "Be anxious for nothing," while lying awake at 3 AM, calculating worst-case scenarios. The positive-thinking industrial complex wants us to believe we can rewire our brains through better self-talk. But the self that gave us negative self-talk doesn't believe the positive self-talk. We need something bigger than our own ability to reframe.

Powerlessness (that we talked about in the last article) gives rise to the possibility there might really be a Power greater than ourselves that can restore us to sanity. Not positive thinking on steroids. Not self-help with Bible verses. A Power who is not found deep inside, but outside of us (extra no's), who acts to bring salvation and restore sanity.

This isn't about believing harder in generic inspiration. This is about coming to believe that God can do what our best efforts at mental management cannot. We need to shift from, "I need to think better thoughts," to, "God, help me think your thoughts."

That's when real restoration begins.

## Immerse

SAGE PETERSON, IMMERSE DIRECTOR

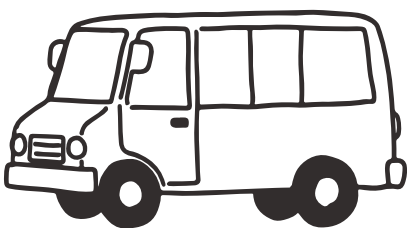
Well, the end of the summer has come for Immerse and we were so excited to welcome 91 participants to come stay here at F Street. During their stay groups studied how Jesus demonstrated how we're to love our neighbor (Luke 10:25-37; Mark 12:38-44; Luke 10:1-24; John 13:1-20), and then they got the opportunity to put what they learned into action by serving in the neighborhood. The mission of Immerse has always been to help create leaders within their own community, and we're excited to see how these groups return back home to love their neighbors. Continue to keep these groups in your prayers as the students continue to grow into leaders in their churches, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods.



**IMMERSE**  
LINCOLN, NE

## Transportation Driver Needed

TAD STYKER, ELDER



The Transportation Team is a vital part of our church. Would you like to join? Friendliness, dependability, steadiness and good vision are some of the requirements to be a Transportation Team member. If interested & want to know the qualifications, please call or text Tad Stryker at 402-802-0597.



## Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please fill out the back of the communication card or come up to the front after church service.

## Up to Date

To keep information up to date, please fill out a communication card or email Hollie at [hollie@fstreetchurch.org](mailto:hollie@fstreetchurch.org)

## Email Updates

To be added to regular email updates about the church, email [fstreetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fstreetchurch@gmail.com)

# TRANSFORM YOUR FINANCES



Registration Page



SCAN ME

ARE YOU SICK OF FEELING BROKE? TIRED OF DEBT? DO YOUR FINANCES FEEL OUT OF CONTROL? READY TO CHANGE YOUR VIEW OF MONEY, AND HOW YOU SPEND MONEY AND SAVE MONEY?

THIS GROUP WILL EMPOWER YOU TO MAKE CHANGES AND WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT WITHIN A GROUP CONTEXT.

### SCHEDULE:

#### Aug 14<sup>th</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #1:** Developing a Biblical View: Stewardship and Trust

#### Aug 21<sup>st</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #2:** Discipline: Saying No to Myself

#### Aug 28<sup>th</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #3:** Tracking: Managing and Designating My Income

#### Sep 4<sup>th</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #4:** Saving: Establishing an Emergency Fund

#### Sep 11<sup>th</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #5:** Dealing with Debt: Changing My Mentality

#### Sep 18<sup>th</sup>: 12pm - 1pm

- **Skill #6:** Making a Plan: Transforming my Relationship with Money

### REGISTER TODAY AT

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

### LOCATION

1037 S 13<sup>th</sup> St (Upstairs Office)

### COST

\$10 (use code 'Scholarship' if you need financial assistance to take this class.)

EMAIL [TLC@FSTREETCHURCH.ORG](mailto:TLC@FSTREETCHURCH.ORG) IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

# August

# 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 <b>Block Party</b> 10:30am - Sunday Service	28 <b>Neh 12-13; Est 1</b> 6-9pm - Open Studio	29 <b>Est 2-5</b> 6:30am - Prayer	30 <b>Est 6-9</b> 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	31 <b>Est 10; Job 1-5</b> 5:30pm - FoodNet	1 <b>Job 6-10</b> 6pm - Art Chapel First Friday	2
3 10:30am - Sunday Service	4 <b>Job 11-16</b> 6-9pm - Open Studio	5 <b>Job 17-21</b> 6:30am - Prayer	6 <b>Job 22-28</b> 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	7 <b>Job 29-32</b> 5:30pm - FoodNet	8 <b>Job 33-37</b>	9
10 10:30am - Sunday Service	11 <b>Job 38-47; Ps 1</b> 6-9pm - Open Studio	12 <b>Ps 2-11</b> 6:30am - Prayer	13 <b>Ps 12-20</b> 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	14 <b>Ps 21-29</b> 5:30pm - FoodNet	15 <b>Ps 30-35</b>	16
17 10:30am - Sunday Service	18 <b>Ps 36-42</b> 6-9pm - Open Studio	19 <b>Ps 43-50</b> 6:30am - Prayer	20 <b>Ps 51-59</b> 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	21 <b>Ps 60-68</b> 5:30pm - FoodNet	22 <b>Ps 69-73</b>	23
24 10:30am - Sunday Service	25 <b>Ps 74-79</b> 6-9pm - Open Studio	26 <b>Ps 80-88</b> 6:30am - Prayer	27 <b>Ps 89-95</b> 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	28 <b>Ps 96-104</b> 5:30pm - FoodNet	29 <b>Ps 105-108</b>	30
31 <b>Block Party</b> 10:30am - Sunday Service						

## **Birthdays**

**7th** - John Jones  
**9th** - Sarah Mann  
**13th** - Tad Stryker  
**14th** - Emma Myers  
**15th** - Cody Barton

**20th** - Kimberly Francis  
**21st** - Amanda Chenell  
**24th** - Marcel Austin  
**25th** - Stephen Mailand  
**26th** - Abigail Heerspink  
**29th** - Dave Widman

## **Anniversaries**

**1st** - Vic & Jeri Johns  
**20th** - Scott & Julie Pfeifer