

VOL. 12 ISSUE 3 • MARCH 2026

THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

WOW (Women of the Word)

BETH HEERSPINK, TLC COACH

You are invited to attend a new 6-week study called "Letting Go at Lent: The Art of Contentment." Through Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" teaching, we will explore what it means to be content, and what God might be calling us to "let go" of during the special season of Lent.

We will be discussing week one on Friday, February 27, from 10-11:30 am in the Fellowship Room (downstairs) at F Street Church. Copies of the study will be available in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to pick one up and do the lesson in advance. All women are invited. Please consider attending and inviting a friend! For more information, please feel free to reach out to Beth at Beth@fstreetchurch.org.

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How Community Groups can help us be more than a “Sunday Only” church...

ANDY BUTLER, PASTORAL RESIDENT

The model for church community groups is found in the book of Acts, when believers met together in homes to eat, fellowship, and take communion. **Acts 2:46-47** says, "**46** And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved." Ignoring the obvious cultural differences we would have, and the fact that the book of Acts is set at a particular time in the early church, the text suggests to current believers (us) that something transformative happens within God's Kingdom when day by day we come together to eat, fellowship, and study God's word. It is within church community groups that the “one anothers” of Scripture take place. When the Bible tells Christians to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), pray for one another (James 5:16), accept one another (Romans 15:7), and forgive one another (Colossians 3:13), it implies that we are in a close relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Whether your group meets here at the church or in someone's neighborhood home, the meeting itself creates a unique opportunity to casually and organically draw others in. Assuming each member of your group is building relationships inside and outside the church, your community group can be a great way to help friends, neighbors, new church members, et al., feel a part of our church community here at F Street. So please don't ignore the opportunity your group has to invite others in. Also, please don't ignore the simple fact that all of us need fellowship in the name of Jesus outside of church on Sunday. Each of us needs encouragement, fellowship, prayer, confession, and to study God's word with each other to build up the body of Christ, and to be built up within the body of Christ. Don't ignore the opportunity Community Groups give us to be more than a "Sundays only" church!



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ALFRED W. WOODS,
— ARCHITECT —

LINCOLN

NEBRASKA

1926 - 2026

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

As I have been trying to gain more understanding about this incredible church building we were able to purchase 12 years ago, as the building itself turns 100 this year, I have discovered many great things and still am working to solve a few mysteries, but one thing humors me. It is the ad that was sent to me for the builder who built the church. I noted last month that he and his crew built this incredible place in about 9 months. Alfred W. Woods did not lack confidence, or at least his ad would make you believe that he was extremely confident, that he was experienced, and cheap. I hope you enjoy his ad as much as I do, but most of all, I hope that you enjoy the work that he did as much as I do. I love this place.

Psalm 15

HANNAH WEHMEYER, BENEVOLENCE LEADER

Psalm 15 is a short chapter of the Bible that packs a punch. David takes the opportunity to explain what life should look like for a person who lives according to God's instructions. As I read through what is required for a person who dwells "on God's holy mountain", I felt myself falling short and feeling unworthy of the title "person of God".

According to the psalm, such a person:

- Is one whose walk is blameless
- does what is righteous
- speaks the truth from their heart
- whose tongue utters no slander
- does no wrong to a neighbor
- casts no slur on others
- despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord
- keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind
- lends money to the poor without interest
- does not accept a bribe against the innocent

Some of these I can quickly put a check mark next to. Some of them, I can't go a day without messing up. I'm sure the reader can relate.

It's easy for us to slide into a failure mindset, as I did reading through this psalm. Thankfully, we have the truth of the Gospel to counteract these ways of thinking. Don't get me wrong, the person who can measure up to even one of these criteria is a vessel of God's goodness to the fallen world. The catch is that we can't do these good things or be good people without God's help. On our own, we are each prone to do the wrong thing. But...

Jesus came to the world to destroy the enemy's work (1 John 3:8). Thanks to Christ's death and resurrection, He provides a way to be victorious over the temptation to give in to the evil one by living contrary to God's word. This psalm is a good way to seek counsel from scripture on how we should live, and how we know God's spirit lives in a person, but let us keep our gaze on Jesus, who is the means by which we can "live a life worthy of the calling" (Ephesians 4:1)

A Feast of Grace: Reflecting God's Heart on F Street

TERRY MARTINEZ, BLOCK PARTY TEAM LEADER

Our January Block Party was a vibrant testimony to the heart of **F Street Neighborhood Church**. While the phenomenal smoked meat from Barton's Painting was the centerpiece, the real beauty was the **Radical Abundance** of our church family. We asked for sides, and our cup ran over with an incredible overabundance of desserts! Thank you to all those who contributed to that.

In our neighborhood, many know what it's like to have "not enough." This abundance reminds us that the Kingdom of God is a place of More Than Enough. The beauty of our church isn't found in one person, but in our collective mission to be a place of Acceptance and Direction. When we share a table, we aren't just eating; we are restoring dignity and building a culture of belonging.

We believe our Church family and neighbors deserve the very best we have to offer. That is why we are thrilled to announce that for our next Block Party on February 22nd, we will be serving a full Fajita meal from El Chaparro, including dessert, thanks to a generous donor! This isn't just a meal; it's an invitation to experience the goodness of God in the heart of our neighborhood.

To see this vision continue to flourish, we are looking for Mighty Warriors ready to live out their calling. We need more than "volunteers"—we need collaborators to help us move among the tables, pray with the weary, and ensure every guest feels seen and accepted by the love of Christ.

We need your hands and hearts to:

- **Move & Greet:** Build intentional connections with our neighbors.
- **Serve with Joy:** Help us provide the "best seat at the table."
- **Pray & Lead:** Offer grace and truth to those seeking direction.

To share your ideas or join the team, contact Terry Martinez:

Email: tmartinez199412@gmail.com

Serving at F Street

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

Recently, I read that the average church sees about 35% of its people actively volunteering. By my rough calculations, more than 71% of our church family at F Street is serving in some way, double the national average. That is incredible.

This doesn't happen by accident. It happens because of you.

It's you who gets up early on Sunday to make breakfast, rehearse for worship, lead community groups, pray, drive the vans, set up outdoors, and print the half sheets. It's the men and women who show up during the week to lead youth group, clean, fix, and build things, host meetings, meet one-on-one, make care calls, and lead Bible studies.

It's also those who aren't currently on a formal Team but still give rides independently, help someone move, host a meal, or bring a meal when there's a need.

All of this is the church being the church.

Thank you for making F Street a great place to be. Thank you for helping us live out our vision of being a place of Acceptance and Direction, welcoming people as they are and pointing them to Jesus.

If you would like to learn more about our Teams and how to get involved, please reach out to me at jeff@fstreetchurch.org or pick up a Team form from one of the entryway tables. There is a place for you.



Easter Family Fun Event

HOLLIE SELL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We are so thankful for all the families who came to the Christmas in Five Letters event last December. The Heart & Home Family Ministry is excited to share that we will be having another gathering that is more focused on family fun! We are excited to partner again with the Art Chapel to provide more opportunities for families to connect and create some awesome crafts.

The event will be:

- Where: F Street Neighborhood Church in the Fellowship Hall
- When: Saturday, March 28th
- Time: 1 PM - 3 PM!
- NO COST!

If you have any questions, email Hollie at hollie@fstreetchurch.org

Honoring Each Other

BILL THORNTON, TEACHING PASTOR

As members of the Body of Christ, we are called to relate to one another as those who *“love each other with genuine affection and take delight in **honoring each other**”* (Romans 12:10, New Living Translation). Today, in this short article, I hope to remind us of a few practical ways that we can do that when we gather as a congregation for worship.

Honoring each other begins when we arrive at the church building and look for a place to park. We can bless those with limited mobility and/or who are keeping track of small children by choosing to park some distance away and saving spots closer to the building for them. Just a reminder: There is parking available in front of the F Street Rec Center, in the lot north of the church building, as well as other nearby places. By choosing to walk a few extra steps, you can be of encouragement to others.

Another practical way to honor others in worship is to silence your phone during the service. When we do this, it lessens the likelihood of being distracted by notifications, being tempted to scroll through social media, or interrupting others during worship. Putting our phones away encourages the possibility of their being “out of sight and out of mind” while we are here.

Finally, we can honor each other when circumstances arise that call for us to have a need to leave the sanctuary during the worship service. Rather than walking to the front of the room, please exit toward the back. This will be less disruptive for the ones speaking and leading, at the moment, as well as those who are listening to/watching them.

These are a few of the ways that we can increasingly be a congregation of people who are *“honoring each other”* during our times together in worship. We never know how these little kindnesses may bless those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Missions

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

Over the past month in our worship services, we've taken time to hear updates about the missionaries we support as a church. We do this for two important reasons: to keep you informed about our four missionary partners and the work they are doing, and to encourage you to support them faithfully in prayer and finances.

Most of these individuals (except for NL) have left family, familiarity, and the comforts of home to go overseas to share the hope of Jesus (to be sure, to serve at the NL has its sacrifices as well). Their willingness to go is inspiring, and our role is to encourage, support, and sustain them.

I hope you will continue to support our missionaries through our weekly offerings by clearly designating your gift for Missions. You can also give online at FStreetChurch.org/donate and select missions. Each quarter, we divide these funds evenly, sending 25% to each of our four missionary partners.

We also encourage you to consider supporting our missionaries directly. Sign up for their newsletters. Pray specifically for their needs. Send an encouraging note. Consider giving independently. Personal connection and encouragement mean more than we often realize.

I'm also excited to share that we have launched a Missions Team. With Gerry Hoppmann stepping in as our leader, we will be building a group of people who are passionate about missions. This team will help encourage mission support within our church, prayerfully discern which missionaries we partner with, and explore opportunities for short-term trips, including visits to our current missionaries.

If you are interested in being part of this new Missions Team, please reach out to Gerry at ghoppmann@fastmail.fm. He would love to connect with you.

Let's continue to be a church that not only welcomes people here but also sends the hope of Christ to the nations.

F Street Youth

SAGE PETERSON, YOUTH DIRECTOR

We have spring break quickly approaching this month, and recently I took some time thinking back to the spring breaks of my youth. If I'm honest, about 90% of them involved hanging out at home, just relaxing with the week off, and maybe if we were feeling adventurous, going to buy a new pair of shoes before summer started. But there was one spring break that was a little different for our family.

Many of you probably don't know, but my Grandpa has served with numerous organizations as a project manager for mission work being done all over the world. He primarily worked in a town called Pignon in the mountains of Haiti. The work that he has done in that city is incredible, and he faithfully showed God's love to so many. But during spring break of 2013, my family finally got to travel to Pignon with him. The trip was amazing, getting to see in person the work that my Grandpa had been doing for years while partnering with the people of Pignon. It was also a special time to connect and serve as a family. We still share stories from that trip, and it's so cool to see how my Grandpa has influenced the work that my family does today.

Our students here at F Street, along with students from Hope Church and Heartlands Church, just recently completed our 4th annual Day of Love. We had students serving all day, all over town, with various organizations. It's such a fun day, and it's awesome getting to see all of our students doing amazing things. But the fact is that serving doesn't need to be a once-a-year thing. You don't always need to travel to another country, and there doesn't need to be a special occasion. This spring break, I want to extend a challenge to your family. I challenge you to go and find a way or a place to serve together, or maybe even join a team here at F Street!

If you need ideas, please reach out to me, and I can help find you some. Serving as a family is a great way to keep your kids involved in church and in ministry as they continue to grow. Remember that you're the biggest influence in your child's life, and this can be a great habit to create. So with that, GO and show God's love together!

Reminder, that spring/summer trips signups are open! If you're interested in having your student be involved, please contact Sage at sage@fstreetchurch.org.

The Moravians

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

For years, I've read stories about the Moravians, 100 years of continuous 24/7 prayer, missionaries who packed their belongings in coffins, believers who endured persecution with quiet courage, and the profound impact they had on John Wesley.

These remarkable Christians gathered in 1722 in Saxony, Germany, under the leadership of Count Nikolaus von Zinzendorf. Intrigued by their legacy, I recently read *The Moravian Miracle* by Dr. Jason Hubbard to better understand their movement and influence.

One of the most powerful sections of the book was the final chapter: "**Five Marks of the Moravians.**" I share them as both encouragement and challenge for us at F Street Neighborhood Church.

1. Strategic Missions

The Moravians believed missions were the responsibility of the entire church. Every member was to live on mission, at home or abroad, and to pray for the harvest.

Do you have a passion to live, pray, and support the reaching of the lost for Jesus?

2. Unceasing Prayer and Worship

Because Christ is worshiped continually in heaven, they sought to reflect that reality on earth. As Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18: "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances."

Is your heart oriented toward continual worship and prayer?

3. Humility and Hiddenness

Zinzendorf urged missionaries to seek no fame or honor, but to be willing to suffer, serve, and even be forgotten. Their humility may be why so little is known about them.

What might you need to let go of to follow Jesus more fully?

4. Love for One Another

Zinzendorf said, "There can be no Christianity without community," echoing Jesus' command in John 13 to love one another.

How are you loving others at F Street beyond simply attending?

5. Beholding the Lamb

Zinzendorf wrote, "I have been bought at a price. I will live every moment of this day so that the Great Purchaser of my soul will receive the full reward of His suffering."

What a vision! To live every moment attentive to Christ and grateful for His salvation.

Has your heart moved by what Jesus has done for you?

Transformed Life Coaching

BETH HEERSPINK, TLC COACH

Change your Conversations. Change your Relationships.

Want to have better conversations? Want to guide people toward solutions, rather than tell them what to do? Want to make an investment in your leadership skills?

You are invited to attend an interactive workshop this April, offered by Transformed Life Coaching and taught by Beth Heerspink. You will become familiar with the COACH Model® and use it to coach other participants. By the end of the course, you will have increased skills and the confidence to engage in meaningful conversations.

Topic and skills covered in workshop:

- How to **listen actively** so others feel you understand them.
- How to **ask powerful questions** that initiate a change of thinking.
- How to **generate feedback** that avoids defensiveness.
- How to **design action steps** that will actually be accomplished.
- How to **follow up** to increase learning and accountability.

This workshop will be offered four consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 6-9 pm, starting April 8. It will be taught by Zoom, and we will utilize breakout rooms for 1:1 practice. This workshop is ideal for anyone already in mentoring and leadership roles, looking to sharpen their effectiveness. If interested in attending, please email Beth at Beth@fstreetchurch.org.

Next Class at LSOM

BILL THORNTON, TEACHING PASTOR

ANCIENT WISDOM FOR 21ST CENTURY CHURCH LEADERS

An Interdisciplinary Study Exploring Paul's Letters to Timothy & Titus

- Are you interested in receiving college-level Bible training?
- This is a great time to begin (or continue) preparing for ministry!
- Join us on Monday nights from 7-9 pm.
- Part 2 (Titus & II Timothy) starts March 16th and goes through April 20th.
- Gain practical ministry skills; learn principles of spiritual leadership; and develop qualities of Godly character.

Please contact Pastor Bill for more information or to sign up at: bill@fstreetchurch.org.

Missionary Corner

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

Email Updates

To be added to regular email updates about the church, email fstreetchurch@gmail.com

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.

We need to add another driver to our team. Are you willing to drive the church van one to three times a month to allow other people to come to F Street Church?

If interested, please call or text Tad Stryker at 402-802-0597.

2/7/26 - The Howells

Dear friends,

The past few weeks have been examples of being faithful in our commitments and responsibilities: university work, meeting with students, taking care of family and oneself, and other spheres about which we've frequently written. As could be true for any of you, we experience high pressure in many of these areas. However, during these couple of weeks, we have also experienced wisps of peace and joy that "pass understanding."

And so today, we invite you to pray over some of these areas:

- AJ will preach in church tomorrow. Pray that God will speak through him.
- LCC's top presidential candidate will visit campus early this week. Pray for a good visit and for clarity for all involved. Pray for right decisions to be made.
- Michelle is anticipating some difficult (correctional) conversations with students this week. Please pray for the right words and the right balance of firmness and compassion.
- AJ is preparing to recruit/fill anticipated vacancies in the Student Life division. Pray for the right process, people, and timing.
- We prepare for out-of-classroom teaching: in-home Bible study (we are about to complete our study of Romans), church youth group, Michelle will join/lead a session in each of our kids' classes this month. Pray for each of these opportunities.

Meanwhile, the freezing temperatures continue, and more of the Baltic Sea is freezing. Last week, our girls discovered a cave in the ice. Yesterday, Aaron's class walked out to an ice island/peninsula during their hike. Michelle and Joshua are pretty sure they saw a seal in the distance, too. We are blessed to be in this beautiful country and continue to pray for the people who live here.

Thank you for standing with us,
The Howells



March

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:30am - Sunday Service	2 Heb 2 3-8pm - Open Studio	3 Heb 3 6:30am - Prayer 7-8:30pm - Youth Group	4 Heb 4 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	5 Heb 5 5:30pm - FoodNet 7:11pm - Young Adults	6 Heb 6	7
8 10:30am - Sunday Service	9 Heb 7 3-8pm - Open Studio	10 Heb 8 6:30am - Prayer 7-8:30pm - Youth Group	11 Heb 9 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	12 Heb 10 5:30pm - FoodNet 7:11pm - Young Adults	13 Heb 11 10am - Women of the Word	14
15 10:30am - Sunday Service	16 Heb 12 3-8pm - Open Studio	17 Heb 13 6:30am - Prayer 7-8:30pm - Youth Group	18 James 1 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	19 James 2 5:30pm - FoodNet 7:11pm - Young Adults	20 James 3 10am - Women of the Word	21
22 10:30am - Sunday Service	23 James 4 3-8pm - Open Studio	24 James 5 6:30am - Prayer 7-8:30pm - Youth Group	25 Gal 1 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	26 Gal 2 5:30pm - FoodNet 7:11pm - Young Adults	27 Gal 3 10am - Women of the Word	28
29 Block Party 10:30am - Sunday Service	30 Gal 4 3-8pm - Open Studio	31 Gal 5 6:30am - Prayer 7-8:30pm - Youth Group	1 Gal 6 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	2 Mt 1 5:30pm - FoodNet 7:11pm - Young Adults	3 Mt 2 10am - Women of the Word	4

Birthdays
3rd - Jeff Heerspink
5th - Stephanie Biskup
6th - Zach Wiles
7th - Penny Butler
 Jim Schultz
10th - Chelsey Skeahan
11th - Mike Hoffman

12th - Shirley Robinson
 Kyle Swanigan
14th - Judd Norman
18th - Sasha Obrecht
 Johnny Mann
19th - Bethany Van Duzer

27th - Christina Bissegger
 Annette Clifford
28th - David Ramon
31st - Josh Hans