



VOL. 12 ISSUE 7 • JULY 2026

THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

Summer Splash

HOLLIE SELL & WILLOW BERNADT

We are hosting Summer Splash this year with the theme of "Into the Wilderness." If you've never heard of Summer Splash, it's like a Vacation Bible School except parents join in on the fun with their kids! We will read scripture, families will spend time in discussion, and we will have fun crafts and splashing good games. Summer Splash: Into the Wilderness is geared toward younger families with Pre-K to Middle School kids. It is a FREE Family event, so we hope you can join us! While we'd love to have you there every day, we understand schedules can be busy. Feel free to attend as many days as you can, even if it's just once! Sign-ups close on Sunday, June 28th at 6 PM. Sign up at www.artchapellnk.org. This is so we can expect you and plan accordingly! When: July 7th - 10th from 6 PM - 7:30 PM each day!

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Get Involved

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

There are many ways to be involved in the ministry of F Street. We want you to be more than someone who attends on Sunday mornings. We want you to be an active participant in the ministry of F Street Neighborhood Church.

If you would like to learn more about opportunities to serve, you can fill out one of the ministry interest forms located on the information tables at either entrance of the church. These forms include a list of all the ministry teams at F Street and can help you explore where you might fit.

On the form, you can also request a SHAPE packet. The SHAPE process is designed to help you discover how God has uniquely created and equipped you for ministry by exploring your Spiritual Gifts, Heart (passions), Abilities, Personality, and Experiences.

Understanding your SHAPE can be a valuable tool in discerning where God may be calling you to serve and how He may want to use you to impact others.

At F Street, our team leaders are considered Deacons because they help lead and oversee the ministry of the church. While these roles carry specific biblical qualifications, we currently have several ministry teams seeking leaders.

Whether you are interested in serving once a month or participating in a weekly ministry, there is a place for you to get involved.

The church is at its best when everyone contributes what God has entrusted to them. As each person serves, the whole body is strengthened, and together we are better able to fulfill our mission.

So if you have been wondering where you fit, take the next step. Pick up a form, request a SHAPE packet, and begin exploring how God may want to use you to help F Street Neighborhood Church continue to be a place of Acceptance and Direction.

More specifically, Why a Sunday Evening Service?

ANDY BUTLER, PASTORAL RESIDENT

In his article titled “Leadership and Church Size Dynamics: How Strategy Changes with Growth,” the late Tim Keller attempts to describe and define how churches tend to grow and outlines some of the key changes that accompany church growth. Keller says a small church is made up of around 40-200 regular attenders, and it begins to cross the “size dynamic threshold” once it passes what he calls “the 200 barrier” (200 + people in attendance). Over the past six months or so, F Street has had several services that have met or exceeded the 200 barrier. Keller attempts to explain (albeit with the difficulty of factoring in many different variables) what typically causes and helps a church of that size to grow. He says the first change needed is “multiplication options.” His third “multiplication options” bullet point says this: “Often the key change that a congregation must allow is a move to multiplying options such as more than one Sunday service, or putting more emphasis on small group ministry than on having one unified corporate prayer meeting.”

Whether you’re a fan of Tim Keller or you flat-out disagree with him, the fact is, F Street is growing. Growth is almost always synonymous with change, and change can be challenging. On one hand, growth means ministry at F Street is happening. By His wisdom, God has used what we’re doing here to advance His Kingdom. That is great! On the other hand, this growth has inevitably changed some of our community dynamics. For example, it is now far more likely than ever for someone to go completely unnoticed on a Sunday morning. This is nobody’s fault in particular; rather, it is a direct result of growth. To deny this would not be healthy, but accepting it probably requires some sort of church response. This is not to say church growth is exclusively about numbers – hopefully we all know that’s not true. What is true is that F Street has always strived to be a place of acceptance and direction, of grace and truth. As our church community grows, we may be called to find new ways to provide direction for and pastor individuals within our church community. Additionally, we are always called to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Our “Sunday Evening Service” allows us to prioritize our mission as believers in a new way, and at an important time in the life of our church.

Our next Sunday Evening Service will be happening today, June 28th at 6 PM and Sunday, July 26th at 5 pm in the sanctuary. Your prayer, support, and help with this service are all greatly appreciated!

It Matters

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

This is the first in a series of short articles on the topic of giving. Not because F Street is struggling financially, but because giving, financial and otherwise, is a biblical calling. It is life-giving, life-transforming, and God-honoring.

Everyone wants more from their church, but sometimes we forget that we are the church. The ministry we enjoy and the impact we make are possible because people give of their time, talents, resources, and finances.

We have been blessed by individuals who do not even attend F Street yet have chosen to support our vision to serve our neighborhood and launch new ministries. We are grateful for that generosity. At the same time, our long-term goal is not simply to sustain ourselves. We want to support our missionaries, invest in new ministries, and help plant and strengthen churches in our city and beyond.

Your giving, whether large or small, is an essential part of continuing the work God has called us to do. It enables us to love our neighbors and share the gospel with them.

We often say that F Street is a place of Acceptance and Direction. Those are more than words; they require action.

If we are to be a place of acceptance, we must be welcoming and hospitable. That is why we serve breakfast, host block parties, and offer gifts to newcomers.

If we are to be a place of direction, we need pastors and leaders who are available to teach, encourage, and walk alongside people. We need discipleship opportunities, ministry programs, Bibles to give out, and resources that help people grow in their faith.

Everything we do is made possible through the faithful giving of God's people.

I hope you will take the time to read the future articles in this "It Matters" series. My prayer is that they will encourage you to consider how God might be calling you to invest your time, talents, and treasures in what He is doing through F Street Neighborhood Church.

There's Healing in the Dirt

Rich Wehmeyer, the director of "F Street Farm" (also the husband of the person writing this article), has a go-to punch line for why F Street Farm is important. If you ask him, he'll tell you, "There's healing in the dirt". If you don't know what he's talking about, this article will help to enlighten you.

Rich was born and raised on a farm in northeast-ish Nebraska. His whole life, he has known gardens, trees, farm animals, and he will tell you that a lot of what he knows about God came through working the land. That young man in Nickerson, NE, grew up to be a passionate horticulturist who is now employed by Nebraska Game and Parks to take care of trees and landscapes in parks across the state. He is also an avid gardener.

It's no wonder that he has experienced the heart and character of God while working with what God has created. Scripture makes it fairly clear where we can look to see a glimpse of who God is. Romans 1:20 says, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." It's also no wonder that he wants to head up this operation, with the hope that others in need of mental, emotional, and spiritual healing will perhaps find some of that at the F Street Farm.



F Street Farm has been blessed by the hands and feet of those who have come out so far. The vegetable garden is growing strong and, if God wills it, will provide a bountiful harvest to the benefit of the Farm.

If you haven't experienced the farm yet, there is a LOT of work yet to be done, and of course, the ongoing demands of farm life will allow for plentiful opportunities to be part of it. If you or someone you know could use some fresh air, sunshine, and healing from the dirt, sign up to be part of this work. F Street Church provides transportation and lunch.

Many dreams are behind F Street Farm, and we know that it is only by God's will and grace that any of those dreams will come to fruition. Rich is a nice guy (I'm a proud wife) and is glad to help you learn, grow, and find out how F Street Farm might be a way to glorify God with your life.

Email is the best way to reach out: richard@fstreetchurch.org

Tuesday Prayer

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

Coffee, Community, and Communion

Every Tuesday morning at 6:30, a group of people gathers at F Street Neighborhood Church. They come together to pray, lifting the requests of those who have filled out prayer cards at church, shared needs during a benevolence visit, or responded to a care call from one of the Sherrys.

We typically start with a cup of coffee, although it is certainly not required.

As requests are shared and additional prayer needs are gathered, prayer begins around 6:45. Occasionally, someone arrives a little later and quietly joins the group, as everyone is welcome. Many stay after 8:00 to enjoy some conversation and fellowship before heading off to begin the rest of their day.

I know it is early, but for me, it has become one of the best ways to start my work week. There is something powerful about beginning the day in prayer, communing with God, and sharing life with other believers.

Prayer reminds us that God is at work. It refocuses our hearts on what matters most and allows us to carry one another's burdens before the Lord.

So I would like to extend an invitation.

There is a chair waiting for you at the table.

Come give it a try. Join us in prayer. Whether you come every week or just once in a while, I think you will be encouraged by the experience of seeking God together.



Wednesday
6 PM
to
8 PM
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 on July 29th, 2026, from 6 PM - 8 PM at the Atlas office!

We Need Your Input!

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

We all have blind spots. We don't recognize them because, by definition, we are blind to them. Often, they are the things that others can see clearly in us.

Churches have blind spots too. I doubt that any of the seven churches in Revelation fully anticipated what Jesus was about to say to them. Yet He had much to commend, correct, and challenge in each one.

That reality is one of the reasons we want your input.

The elders of F Street, Dan Dallmann, Trevin Preble, Tad Stryker, Bill Thornton, and I want to engage our church family in a six-month process of gathering information, ideas, and feedback from those who make up F Street. You do not need to be a member to participate; if you attend F Street, we want to hear from you.

Our goal is to host two 45-minute gatherings following our worship service where we can listen, learn, and gather input from the congregation. From that information, we hope to develop three to five ministry goals that will help guide us into 2027.

These goals may emerge from strengths we should leverage, weaknesses we need to address, opportunities we should pursue, or challenges we must prepare for.

The process will begin with our first gathering on Sunday, July 12, following the worship service. During this meeting, we will break into small groups so that everyone has an opportunity to participate. Together, we will identify and collect the strengths and weaknesses of F Street, as well as the opportunities and threats we see around us.

The information will then be collected, organized, and shared with the congregation in August.

Our second gathering will take place on Sunday, September 20, following the morning service. Once again, we will gather feedback and process the information as we seek to identify priorities for the future.

The final three to five goals will be presented at our Family Meeting on Sunday, November 22 (time to be determined due to the launch of our second service).

So please mark your calendars and make plans to participate. Your perspective matters, and your input will help us continue to grow as a healthy church that lives out its vision of being a place of Acceptance and Direction in our neighborhood.

We believe God has good things ahead for F Street, and we want to discern that future together.

TAKE LIFE BY THE *Reins*

A COACHING WORKSHOP
WITH HORSES, DOGS & COMMUNITY

*Feeling stuck, overwhelmed,
or ready for something new?*

Join us!

WHAT TO EXPECT



Guided experiences
with horses



Connection with
animals and nature



Meaningful coaching
exercises



Community and
encouragement



Increased confidence
and self-awareness



Hotdogs/S'mores and
fellowship
included



EVENT DETAILS



FRIDAY, JULY 31ST



6:00 PM – 9:00 PM



12154 W. ASH ROAD
CLATONIA, NE 68328



COST: \$5

*Hotdogs and
S'mores*



Register Today! →

Questions? Need a Ride?

Call or Email

402-802-4955

TLC@fstreetchurch.org



HOSTED BY



I Am K9

EQUINE

*Growing Confidence, Connection & Purpose
Through Coaching and Animal Interaction*



Changes

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

As many of you know, there are a lot of changes happening at F Street. Bill and Marcia will be retiring at the end of August, we have new front doors being installed, we are preparing to launch a second service, and our Hispanic church partners will soon be moving into their own building.

I could spend time discussing each of these changes, but I wanted to take a moment to focus on the departure of the Hispanic church.

From our earliest years at F Street, they have been our co-laborers in the gospel, faithfully proclaiming the good news of Jesus from the corner of 13th and F. Over the years, God has blessed their ministry with steady growth, and recently they purchased the former Lincoln Foursquare Church building in Belmont.

We are incredibly grateful that God has provided them with a permanent home of their own. While we will certainly miss having them in our building each week, we are excited for this next chapter in their ministry and the opportunities it will create for them to continue reaching people with the gospel.

Their move also creates new opportunities for us at F Street. The additional space and flexibility will help make a second service possible, provide more room for F Street Youth, increase availability for weddings and special events, and create opportunities for new ministries that we have not yet imagined.

It is always encouraging to see what God does when His people step out in faith. We are celebrating with our friends as they begin this new chapter, and we are excited to see how God will use these changes to help both of our churches continue to grow and serve our community.

Please continue to pray for our friends as they transition into their new building and for the ministry God has entrusted to them. Also pray for F Street as we seek to be faithful with the new opportunities and room to grow that God has provided for us.

Missionary Corner

6/22/26 – The Howells

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

Dear friends,

It's official: **we bought a house in Lithuania!** We still are trying to grasp this reality (and navigate some final details), but we invite you to rejoice with us. We have seen God's hand clearly guiding us to decide to purchase and then finally to this specific house and even the precise timing of the process. This clear guidance gave us peace and confidence even when things seemed difficult or impossible.

Now the house is ours. **With tears** over sweet memories and cherished times, we said "goodbye" to our previous rented house. But **we are confident** that this house will be a place of peace and a haven for us and others. **Pray with us** that this might be true and that the Lord might dwell here.

Meanwhile, the kids finally finished school! Thursday was the day we moved to the new house; Friday was their last day of school. (Our prayer in April was that we would be able to move before they finished school; God answered that prayer with precision!) Now we breathe a big sigh of relief.

Now we can fully embrace **summer vacation**. Aside from recruiting for the remaining vacant Student Life positions and some big-picture projects for both of us, we are taking July off. As a result, this will be our **last "Howell Happening"** until August. We pray that you will find rest, intentional times, and all that you need this summer.

As we enter July, **please pray:**

- For all the final logistics with transferring ownership.
- For the kids as they continue to transition to our new home.
- For the rest of our family, but also protection from the devil's attacks. Pray for stronger bonds, sweet times, and replenished emotional stores for each of us.
- For success in recruiting for Student Life vacancies (one Resident Director and one Career Counselor). Thanks for praying for the chaplain hire. God heard and answered!

Thank you for standing with us and praying,
the Howells



July

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 10:30am - Sunday Service Block Party 5 pm - Evening Sunday Service	29 Lk 4 3-8pm - Open Studio	30 Lk 5 6:30am - Prayer	1 Lk 6 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	2 Lk 7 5:30pm - FoodNet	3 Lk 8	4 Independence Day
5 10:30am - Sunday Service	6 Lk 9 3-8pm - Open Studio	7 Lk 10 6:30am - Prayer 6pm - Summer Splash	8 Lk 11 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery 6pm - Summer Splash	9 Lk 12 5:30pm - FoodNet 6pm - Summer Splash	10 Lk 13 6pm - Summer Splash	11 8am - Pancake in Parking Lot 8am - Men's Breakfast
12 10:30am - Sunday Service	13 Lk 14 3-8pm - Open Studio	14 Lk 15 6:30am - Prayer	15 Lk 16 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	16 Lk 17 5:30pm - FoodNet	17 Lk 18	18 8am - Pancake in Parking Lot
19 10:30am - Sunday Service	20 Lk 19 3-8pm - Open Studio	21 Lk 20 6:30am - Prayer	22 Lk 21 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	23 Lk 22 5:30pm - FoodNet	24 Lk 23	25 8am - Pancake in Parking Lot
26 10:30am - Sunday Service Block Party 5 pm - Evening Sunday Service	27 Lk 24 3-8pm - Open Studio	28 1 Cor 1 6:30am - Prayer	29 1 Cor 2 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery	30 1 Cor 3 5:30pm - FoodNet	31 1 Cor 4 6pm - Take Life By the Reins	1 8am - Pancake in Parking Lot

Birthdays

2nd - Alice Kusak
3rd - Richard Wehmeyer
7th - Carrie Martinez
 Hannah Tinsley
9th - Beth Heerspink
 Shadoe Sukstorf
 Tabitha Tang

13th - Jacki Knapp
14th - Ashley Fleming-Knight
20th - Chris Mueller
23rd - Danielle Mayfield
26th - Vic Johns
27th - Sandy Grudgel
28th - Andy Butler

Anniversaries

25th - Alyssa & Austen Mueller





HEART & HOME

JULY '26

PURPOSE We want to help parents and kids create Jesus-sustained **Hearts** so that when families leave church, it can be the same at **Home**.

VOLUNTEER BLURB



I (Inmaculada "Mac") serve in the F Street church nursery because I love children and have worked with children my whole life. I also serve to give back to the church because I think F Street is an amazing church, and they have helped me through a lot of struggles in my life.

BOOK BORROW LIBRARY

Heart & Home Family Ministry has a section at the back of the church where you can borrow the book we recommend in our newsletters. Take one to read and bring back when you're done!

MEMORY VERSE DEVO

This verse is important for us to remember our status as one of God's children. He sent Jesus to the world which was created through Him, and so many people did not recognize Him as the Messiah, or the guy that would save them from their hard times. This verse reminds us that IF we do see Him as our savior, it does not matter how we grow up or what kind of family we have. If we call Jesus our savior, then we are part of God's family. We are fully loved and cared for by believing in His name. Whether you live with both of your parents or your grandparents or someone not in your family, in Jesus, you are part of God's family!

RECOMMENDATIONS

Book: "**Peacemaking for Families**" by Sande Ken and Tom Raabe. This book shares a wealth of advice and resources for reconciliation, all with a scriptural basis for being a peacemaker in your home. This book will help you navigate all forms of conflict in family life!

MEMORY VERSE

"Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."
John 1:12

THIS MONTH LESSONS

JOURNEY GROUP:

Jul 5: Jesus talks to the Pharisees
Jul 12: Jesus receives worship from a woman
Jul 19: Jesus helps Thomas with doubts
Jul 26: Jesus sends Christians the Holy Spirit

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What did you learn about?
2. Was there something you didn't understand?
3. How can you share this with others?

SUMMER SPLASH

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