



VOL. 12 ISSUE 8 • AUGUST 2026

THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

Evening Service Update

ANDY BUTLER, PASTORAL RESIDENT

Our next two evening services here at F Street will be Sunday evening, July 26th, at 5 pm, and then Sunday, August 30th, at 5 pm. After that, the official plan is to begin meeting weekly – every Sunday evening at 5 pm. I believe this is a great opportunity for F Street to continue sharing the gospel in our neighborhood, so I ask you to join me and others in praying about it. We have many people from F Street who are volunteering their time to help out with the service, and the services themselves have felt poignant, powerful, and unique. I'm excited to see how God will continue to shape our community and use our evening service to advance His Kingdom!

This issue:

Evening Service Update	PAGE 01
Art Chapel: DUNK TANK! Atlas Mentor Training	PAGE 02
It Matters	PAGE 03
Summer Splash Recap	PAGE 04
Special Thanks F Street Youth	PAGE 05
Celebrating 12 Years, 100 Years of Building	PAGE 06
June Schedule Birthdays & Anniversaries	PAGE 07
Heart & Home	PAGE 08

Art Chapel Fundraiser: DUNK TANK!

WILLOW BERNADT, ART CHAPEL DIRECTOR

Hey church family!

Throughout the month of August, the Art Chapel is hosting our second-ever dunk tank fundraiser! Three staff members get the lucky chance to participate in a dunk tank, and it's up to you to decide who! Here's how it works:

- Each week, you can "vote" by putting money into the bucket of the staff members you'd like to see take a splash.
- The three staff members with the most money in their buckets after service on August 30th will face the tank!
- And remember, you may want to keep a spare \$5 on the day of the dunk tank for a chance to throw the ball and dunk it yourself!

Our fundraiser will begin on Sunday, August 2nd. All the money raised will go towards supporting the Art Chapel and our goal of keeping our programming free and accessible to our neighborhood. We cannot express our gratitude enough for your love, participation, and support of the Art Chapel.



Saturday
9 AM
to
11 AM
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 August 22nd, 2026, from 9 AM - 11 AM at the Atlas office!

It Matters: Generosity, an Investment *a short series of articles on the importance of giving*

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

We all want to make good investments. Whether it is a new car, a home, or stocks, we want to invest wisely and see a worthwhile return.

In the middle of the three stories Jesus tells in Matthew 25, He teaches about the importance of investing what God has entrusted to us. While this passage is about more than finances, it certainly includes them. As the saying goes, we are called to invest our time, our talents, and our treasures.

We are to use what God has given us to make an impact in the lives of those around us. This includes giving our time to serve and invest in others by volunteering, mentoring, or joining a ministry team. It includes using our talents to bless others and build up the church. If God has gifted you to lead, then lead. If He has gifted you to teach, then teach.

It also includes our finances. God can use our financial resources to bless people in need, support ministries such as the Art Chapel, provide resources for discipleship, and sustain the work of missionaries who are sharing the gospel around the world.

In the context of Matthew 25, this kind of investment is a response to knowing Jesus. We invest what He has entrusted to us so that others who are far from Him might come to know Him as well.

When viewed through that lens, our giving becomes one of the greatest investments we can make. We are investing not only in our own eternal future (What Jesus was talking about in this passage is not salvation by works, but works as a form of gratitude for our salvation) but also in the eternal future of others. It is truly a win-win. We take what God has given us and use it for the most secure and meaningful investment possible, while others benefit by hearing, seeing, and experiencing the hope of Jesus through our efforts.

My hope is that when you give to a neighbor in need, to a missionary, or to F Street Neighborhood Church, you will see it not merely as an expense, but as a worthwhile investment in the Kingdom of God.

What are you investing in?

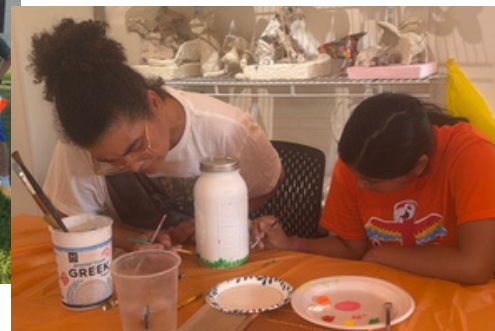
Summer Splash Recap

WILLOW BERNADT, ART CHAPEL DIRECTOR

In the month of July, the Art Chapel collaborated with Heart and Home Family Ministries to put on our second annual Summer Splash. For four evenings, we invited families into the Art Chapel to read Scripture together, explore some creativity, and play some splashing fun games! We had 10 families sign up and were able to work with nearly 40 people, parents, and kids.

This year's theme was Summer Splash: Into the Wilderness. The wilderness in Scripture is often associated with the desert—a harsh place with little food, water, or shelter. Throughout the Bible, many people walked through a physical wilderness during some of the hardest seasons of their lives. They experienced fear, uncertainty, loneliness, and times when they had to depend completely on God. While most of us won't walk through a desert wilderness, we all experience our own seasons of hardship, uncertainty, and waiting. During Summer Splash, we explored the events of people in Scripture who encountered God in the wilderness. Each day, discovering what they experienced, what God taught them, and how we can recognize God's presence and faithfulness in the wilderness seasons of our own lives.

Thank you to all the families who signed up and participated, bringing life and spirit to our Summer Splash event. We are honored to be able to put on this programming every year for young families in our church and community, at no cost to the families. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting the Art Chapel. This can be done in prayer, prayers for our staff, volunteers, and programming. Support can also be given financially in donations, supporting our mission of being free and accessible to our neighborhood. Thank you again! We can't wait to make a SPLASH next summer!



Special Thanks

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

I want to express my gratitude to many this month. There are those who are making pancakes each Saturday morning for Immerse students, neighbors, and others. There are Dave and Barry, who have taken on a lot of projects, such as fixing a gutter, watering flowers, repairing around the new doors, fixing foundations, painting the front handrails, and many more things.

I also want to thank Jean for the new mural on the back of our building, expressing beauty and promotion in a way that is simply awesome.

Thanks to Jennifer Woockman for helping us get all of our new signage ordered (New decals for the doors and for the front sign with the Hispanic Church moving out).

Thanks to our staff who keep this church functioning and moving forward, our Elders who guide us, and our volunteers who make everything happen.

Thanks also to everyone who stayed late on July 12th to help us process the SWOT analysis. We look forward to sharing more of it with you in the weeks ahead as we prepare to have another gathering to clarify the data and direction on September 20th, following the service.

Thanks to God for his continued provisions and guidance as we seek to be a place of acceptance and direction.

F Street Youth SAGE PETERSON, YOUTH DIRECTOR

F Street Youth OFFICALLY starts September 1st, 2026. We will keep the same time as last year, 7 pm – 8:30 PM. We are so excited to hang out, teach, play games, and have fun with you kids! F Street Youth includes 6th Graders through 12th Graders.

If you would like some more information or have questions, reach out to the Youth Director, Sage, at sage@fstreetchurch.org.

Celebrating 12 Years, 100 Years of Building

TERRY MARTINEZ, BLOCK PARTY TEAM LEADER

In June, we stepped into a profound season of remembrance and anticipation. As a church body, we officially celebrated being 12 years old! At the very same time, we reflected back on the wonderful 100-year anniversary celebration of our church building that took place in June. Buildings are beautiful, but a building without people is just brick and mortar. For over a decade, you have been the life inside these walls, and more importantly, you have been the hands and feet that walk outside of them. To celebrate where we've been and where we're going, we reached out to the neighborhood and our congregation to ask one simple question: "What does the Block Party mean to you, and how have you seen it minister to others?" Here is what you had to say about the heartbeat of F Street.

Voices from the Neighborhood: What the Block Party Means to Us

Through every season and every passing year, our Block Parties continue with one simple vision: Nurturing a table of unconditional acceptance and shared direction, rooted in love—a place where everyone knows they belong.

"Come As You Are" — No Agenda, Just Love

Our community loves that the block party strips away the intimidation that sometimes keeps people away from church doors. "The block parties offer a low-pressure, accessible way for folks to experience the church who otherwise may be intimidated." "I see that as an extension of Jesus's hands welcoming all to His table."

Food for the Body, Food for the Soul

Many of you pointed out that while anyone can give out a free meal, F Street gives out true fellowship. "Jesus set an example for the church in sharing meals." "The block parties embody the name of our church, F Street Neighborhood Church. We're all about the neighborhood... it brings everybody together and gives people a chance to maybe talk to someone they never have before and shows God's love for his people."

Expanding Our Prayer-Reach

The block parties have become a vital altar for our neighborhood—a safe place in an area of town that can sometimes feel unpredictable. "Our block parties signal to the surrounding community that we're not just here for us, we're here for them too." "It expands our ministry beyond our congregation to the Neighborhood."

A School of True Friendship

Perhaps most beautifully, the block parties are changing us just as much as they are changing the neighborhood. "Just to learn how to be present and set myself and my worries aside to hopefully be God's hands, feet, and heart to people who are hurting, and allow others to pour into me as well."

A Note of Deep Gratitude

To every single "Mighty Warrior" who cooks, chops, cleans, prays, laughs, and listens: Thank you. To our Friends Of Firth for the wonderful food and heart to serve last month, an extra Thank You! As one member shared: "I am very grateful that we as a church provide so much as a society and are expanding our mission in touching the lives of people in Lincoln, Nebraska... I value the church in the highest sense and am very grateful that we as a community can get together and share the gift of God with everyone."

Here's to 12 years of community, 100 years of a celebrated legacy, and a future overflowing with Radical Abundance of Acceptance and Direction. See you at the next block party!

Our goal is—and always will be—to be a church "of" the neighborhood, not just "in" the neighborhood.

August

2026

SUN**MON****TUE****WED****THU****FRI****SAT**

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10:30am -
Sunday
Service

1 Cor 5

3-8pm -
Open Studio

1 Cor 6

6:30am -
Prayer

1 Cor 7

6:30pm -
Celebrate
Recovery

1 Cor 8

5:30pm -
FoodNet

1 Cor 9

8am -
Men's
Breakfast

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

10:30am -
Sunday
Service

1 Cor 10

3-8pm -
Open Studio

1 Cor 11

6:30am -
Prayer

1 Cor 12

6:30pm -
Celebrate
Recovery

1 Cor 13

5:30pm -
FoodNet

1 Cor 14

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

10:30am -
Sunday
Service

1 Cor 15

3-8pm -
Open Studio

1 Cor 16

6:30am -
Prayer

2 Cor 1

6:30pm -
Celebrate
Recovery

2 Cor 2

5:30pm -
FoodNet

2 Cor 3

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

10:30am -
Sunday
Service

2 Cor 4

3-8pm -
Open Studio

2 Cor 5

6:30am -
Prayer

2 Cor 6

6:30pm -
Celebrate
Recovery

2 Cor 7

5:30pm -
FoodNet

2 Cor 8

30

31

1

2

3

4

5

10:30am -
Sunday
Service

2 Cor 9**Block Party**

5 pm -
Evening
Service

3-8pm -
Open Studio

2 Cor 10

6:30am -
Prayer

2 Cor 11

6:30pm -
Celebrate
Recovery

2 Cor 12

5:30pm -
FoodNet

2 Cor 13**Birthdays****1st** - Heather Avila**4th** - Epiphany Reiser
Jeanne Colby**7th** - John Jones**9th** - Sarah Mann**10th** - Jordan Dykstra**13th** - Tad Stryker**14th** - Emma Myers**15th** - Cody Barton**19th** - Erwin Robbins**20th** - Kimberly Francis**21st** - Amanda Chenell**23rd** - Melisa Pederson
Kristy Luengo**26th** - Cari Aeton

Karissa Brown

29th - Dave Widman**Anniversaries****1st** - Vic & Jeri Johns



HEART & HOME

AUGUST '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**.

MEMORY VERSE

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person."
2 Corinthians 5:17

THIS MONTH LESSONS

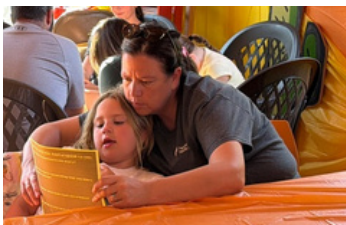
JOURNEY GROUP:

Aug 2: God helps Stephen forgive his enemies
Aug 9: God sent Philip to an Ethiopian
Aug 16: God changes Saul's life
Aug 23: Jesus is coming back for us
Aug 30: NO JOURNEY GROUP, Only Nursery

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?

Here are some pics from our awesome Summer Splash Family Camp Event in July! We had a splashing good time!



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!

RECOMMENDATIONS

Book: **"The Dream Giver" by Bruce Wilkinson**

Do you have a high schooler struggling to find their next step, or do you just want your student to follow their dreams? Dream Giver helps give advice on following their God-given destiny.

F STREET YOUTH

F Street Youth OFFICIALLY starts on Tuesday, September 1st, from 7 PM - 8:30 PM. The Youth Leaders are excited to hang out, teach, play games, and have fun with your kids! F Street Youth includes 6th Graders through 12th Graders.

NEW JOURNEY GROUP CURRICULUM

Starting Sunday, September 2nd, Journey Group has a new curriculum that we are trying. We are basing our lessons on Alistair Begg's books: *J is for Jesus: Enjoying Who Jesus is from A to Z* and *C is for Christian: An A to Z Treasury of Who We Are In Christ*. If you have any questions, please contact Hollie at hollie@fstreetchurch.org.

MEMORY VERSE DEVO

The old has gone, and the new has come. This is a popular phrase usually stated on New Year's Day. I think this also sums up what it means to have a relationship with Jesus and follow Him in everyday life. Here's an example: you are play fighting your sibling, and suddenly (because they want to win), they sit on you. It's heavy, uncomfortable, and you no longer want to be in that situation. That is like the weight of sin. When you call out to your parents about what is happening (like calling out to God), and they tell your sibling to get off. Instantly, the weight you were feeling is gone. You feel free, light, and like you can do anything. That is what it means to become a new person in Christ.

