

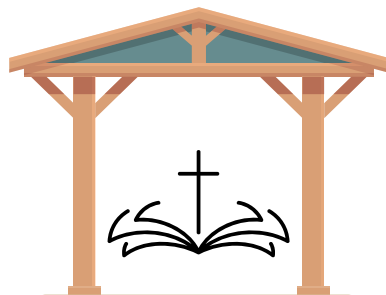
VOL. 12 ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2026

THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

Outdoor Worship

DAN WATERS,
OUTDOOR WORSHIP TEAM LEADER

The outdoor worship is an area that our church created for people who don't quite feel comfortable being inside the church, a place to meet people where they are at. To make this possible, we need volunteers to sit outside and help set up so that we may greet people like Jesus. If you haven't sat outside before, come check it out! If you are interested, please contact Dan Waters at (402) 890-6671.



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Block Parties

TERRY MARTINEZ, BLOCK PARTY TEAM LEADER

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.

Throughout Scripture, some of the most profound moments of connection happened around a food table. Jesus frequently used meals to cross boundaries, gather people together, and turn strangers into friends. You don't need a grand agenda for a neighborhood block party; sharing a meal is a sacred act of making space.

Our recent block party was a phenomenal embodiment of this, filled with soaked leaders, full bellies, chalk art masterpieces, and plenty of bags flying in the cornhole games. It was also a bittersweet moment seeing Pastor Bill and Marcia mingle as they considered this their final block party in their current roles. Watching Pastor Jeff bravely sit in the dunk tank, to the absolute delight of eager participants, brought so much fun and excitement!

When we break bread and share joy together, we tear down invisible barriers. Moments like these remind us that as a body of believers, we are not just living **in** the neighborhood, we are actively learning how to be **of** the neighborhood.

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

- Terry Martinez (402) 519-8091 Tmartinez199412@gmail.com

Five Years of Celebrating Recovery at F Street

RJ COBURN, PASTOR

Celebrate Recovery (CR) just got its Five-Year Coin! For those who don't know, at CR and other recovery groups, you receive a coin or chip for each month of recovery in the first year of recovery and every year since. They are called "Birthdays".

Celebrate Recovery is a discipleship ministry for those who have hurts, habits, and hang-ups. And if we were honest, we all have hurts, habits, and hang-ups, even you. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30, we sing (loudly), celebrate "birthdays," and cheer for newcomers (day ones) just as loud as we cheer for a twenty-year coin, because day one or twenty years is all just day one. Twenty years is just 7,300 "Day Ones" added together.

Then we hear a testimony or a lesson, which is somebody standing up and testifying to the action of God in their lives and recovery. After a break, we head into small open-share groups where we are able to share openly about our experience, strength, and hope. In these small groups, we bear one another's burdens.

Worship, honesty, community, repeat. That is what the Spirit uses to change lives, and we see it in action on **Wednesdays at 6:30pm**.

And if you can't make it on Wednesdays? We have just planted another Celebrate Recovery in Nebraska City on Tuesday nights at 6:30.

Come, bring a friend, you won't regret it.

Five years in, we have learned what to do when things are hard and seem hopeless... **KEEP COMING BACK!**

Grateful for YOU!

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

As I sit here at my desk, Hollie is in the other room typing up the data collected from each of you who attended the second post-church SWOT meeting. I am grateful for everyone who has been a part of this process and look forward to what goals the Elders will develop as a result of the information.

I also want to thank all of you who continue to step up and serve in new ways. With Pastor Bill's retirement, there have been others who have also chosen to attend elsewhere. In light of that, I am so grateful for the many of you who continue to serve and for the many others who have stepped up to fill the gaps.

Your willingness to serve allows us to continue to minister to our neighborhood with the Acceptance and Direction that we have strived to offer and that F Street has become known for. Thank you for continuing to be part of what God is doing here and for helping us be a church that remains committed to loving and serving our neighborhood.

If you are looking for new or additional ways to serve, please consider picking up one of the **Team Ministry Forms** located on the resource tables in the back of the church and at the office entrance to discover more ways you can serve.

Grateful for you. Pastor Jeff

Receive the Kingdom like a Child

HANNAH WEHMEYER, TLC DEVELOPER/COACH

Matthew 19:13-15: "Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples were annoyed by them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Mark 10:16: "And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."

Luke 18:15-17 tells us that even babies were brought to Jesus.

All three of these pieces of scripture tell us different accounts of the same concept: We need to take care of the children, but we also need to learn from them. These same passages tell us that we will not receive the Kingdom of God if we do not receive it like a child does. What better way to learn child-like faith than to spend time cherishing and nurturing them?

Children matter to God, even if society and culture overlook them. Let us, as a church, not be caught overlooking our own little lambs.

I shared this message at our recent children's ministry meeting with hopes of reminding them all (and myself) a little bit of why the children of our church matter so much. It is because they matter to GOD. F Street is so very thankful for those who are looking after our children each Sunday morning.

It Matters: Generosity could save a life

JEFF HEERSPINK, LEAD PASTOR

A short series of articles on the importance of giving

What if giving has very little to do with F Street and everything to do with your heart?

There is always a challenge as a pastor when speaking about giving. I remember sitting in church as a little kid and hearing the pastor say, "Remember, the Lord loves a cheerful giver." I leaned over to my father and whispered, "So does the pastor."

To be honest, that comment had everything to do with my heart. I was judging the pastor because I didn't want to be generous. I was selfish.

I wanted to keep my money. If I could make a cynical remark and convince myself that the pastor was only after my money, then I felt justified in holding on tightly to what I had so I could spend it on myself later.

The truth is that saving money is not the problem, nor is it the answer to greed. The real issue is the condition of our hearts.

The antidote to selfishness, greed, and materialism is generosity. Learning to be generous can change your life.

When we practice generosity, we loosen the grip that money and possessions can have on us. We stop viewing what we have as something to cling to and begin seeing it as something God has entrusted to us for His purposes.

That is why the Bible speaks so strongly about greed: *"You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world."* **Ephesians 5:5**

Greed is not simply a financial issue; it is a worship issue. It reveals what we treasure most.

Jesus taught the same principle when He instructed His followers to store up treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Where our treasure is, our hearts will follow.

Generosity certainly helps people in need. It supports ministries, missionaries, neighbors, and countless acts of compassion. But the life that generosity may save is your own.

Every act of generosity is an act of trust. It is a declaration that God, not money, is our security. It is a reminder that our hope is found in Christ and not in what we possess.

So what keeps you from being generous?

We Planted a Church!

Introducing Nebraska City Neighborhood Church

RJ COBURN, PASTOR

A couple of months ago, a small group in Nebraska City began gathering to pray and worship together. Today, that group has become Nebraska City Neighborhood Church, a place of acceptance and direction, just like our home here at F Street.

Each Saturday, we gather for fellowship, sing together, and hear a teaching from God's Word. Then we open the mic for anyone to share a testimony, a praise, a prayer request, or whatever has been on their heart that week. It's a place to be real and raw with one another, to walk in the light together, and to trust that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:7).

Here's how you can be part of it:

- **Pray** for this new congregation and the people God is bringing through its doors.
- **Share your gifts** if you play an instrument or lead worship music.
- **Invite** friends and family you know in the Nebraska City area.
- **Come see for yourself!** Join us on a Saturday.

Contact RJ or Jeff for more information or if you want to help!

Saturdays at 4:00 PM, 218 N 14th St, Nebraska City, NE 68410

F Street Youth

SAGE PETERSON, YOUTH DIRECTOR

There are some awesome things for your student to be involved in with F Street Youth this month, and we don't want them to miss out!

On Oct 13th, we're starting a **new 40-day study called *The Red Letter Challenge***. During this study, students will get to read the words of Jesus but also learn the five main principles of being a disciple. ***Signups are open now!***

Our event for the month is on Oct 16th, where the students from Hope Church will be joining us for a **night of games** here at F Street. This is gonna be a night filled with running around and playing some crazy games throughout the building here at F Street. The night will start at 8 pm and end at 10:30 pm.

F Street Youth continues to meet **every Tuesday night at 7 pm here at F Street**. If your student isn't already involved, we highly encourage them to join us. F Street Youth is a great opportunity to make friends, have fun, and start their walk with Christ.

If you have any questions about events or anything happening, please reach out to Sage at sage@fstreetchurch.org. Also, if you haven't already, you can pick up a full calendar of all the events happening throughout this school year.

The Difference Between 'Doing' and 'Being'

ANDY BUTLER, PASTORAL RESIDENT

I'm not saying this is a good thing, but it is easy to tune out the sermon on Sunday mornings. I've done it, and I'm sorry about that. What's much more difficult to tune out is someone sitting across from you who has real concerns, questions, or prayer requests. This is a huge part of why I think community groups are profoundly important, especially as our community here at F Street continues to grow. If each of us is in a smaller group together, we stand a much better chance of meeting each other's needs. So I also think community groups are important for providing care to those around us. If you are involved in a community group, the others in your group have a far better chance at knowing what's going on with you in a way less intimidating setting than a large church service on Sunday morning. The way I see it, we have a wonderful church full of "do-ers." We do a lot together, but in all of our doing, I'm afraid we may miss opportunities to simply "be" with each other. Being together in community, relaxing, eating together, and praying together – all of these are vitally important for our growth and formation as believers in Jesus.

So what I'm thinking is this: I'm betting many of you have friends here at F Street (hoping all of you do). Can we leverage those relationships and turn them into small groups that meet regularly? Can you host a meeting with people you already hang out with? Can you go out to eat together? Can you text a few of your friends to remind them of the time you're meeting? Can more than one of you in your friend group do that? Can you read and discuss scripture together? Then you can "lead" a community group here at F Street. It doesn't need to be complicated, but we do need to be getting together and inviting others into small groups outside of our Sunday morning gatherings. As a church, we can provide everything you need to start this kind of community group. If that sounds good to you, please let me know, and let me help in whatever ways you need to make it happen!

Growing in Wellness and Healthy Relationships

TRANSFORMED LIFE COACHING

Transformed Life Coaching (TLC) is excited to offer two upcoming opportunities designed to equip our church and community with practical tools for navigating some of life's challenges: Resolving Everyday Conflict and Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP).

Conflict is something all of us experience in our families, friendships, workplaces, churches, and communities. While conflict itself is unavoidable, how we respond to it can make a tremendous difference. Resolving Everyday Conflict will provide practical tools for approaching disagreements in healthier and more constructive ways. We will explore how to respond to conflict, communicate well, pursue reconciliation, and build stronger relationships in a Christ-Centered way.

TLC will also be hosting a Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) workshop. WRAP is a practical, self-directed approach to identifying what helps us stay well and what we can do when life becomes more difficult. Participants will develop their own personalized wellness plan by exploring the routines, supports, tools, and strategies that work for them. The workshop will also help participants recognize early warning signs and develop a plan for responding when things begin to feel off.

While these workshops focus on different areas of life, they share a common goal: equipping people with practical tools to navigate life with greater intentionality, resilience, and healthy connection.

Whether you want to strengthen the way you navigate conflict, become more intentional about your personal wellness, or simply add new tools to your toolbox, we would love to have you join us!

Resolving Everyday Conflict: *Weekly on Thursdays (Oct 8-Dec 17), 6-7:30PM*

Learn practical tools for navigating conflict and pursuing healthier relationships.

Register at: <https://transformedlifecoaching.ticketspice.com/resolving-everyday-conflict>

Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP): *Weekly on Tuesdays (Oct 13-Dec 8), 3-4:30PM*

Create a personalized plan for maintaining wellness and navigating difficult seasons.

Register at: <https://transformedlifecoaching.ticketspice.com/wrap-seminar-i>

Space may be limited, so we encourage you to register in advance. We hope these opportunities will not only equip individuals but also strengthen our relationships, families, church, and community as we learn and grow together.

Questions? Contact us at tlc@fstreetchurch.org or call us at 402-802-4955

Missionary Corner

8/31/26 & 9/19/26 – 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,

Today (8/31) was LCC's first day of the 2026-2027 academic year. Campus was abuzz with activity as freshmen (full of trepidation and hopeful anticipation) stepped into their first classes of university, sophomores and juniors returned with stories of growth and perspectives from the summer, and seniors see the next 8 months already flying by before them. In seemingly no time at all, they will be walking across the stage for their graduation.

As the new school year starts, we invite God to work in this place. We invite the Holy Spirit to fill our classrooms, meeting spaces, and residence halls. And we pray that our students and colleagues will know Christ Jesus more fully and be transformed by that knowledge. Please pray with us.

A glimpse of our upcoming week, and invitations to pray:

- Today: Michelle led a training for the teachers at the kids' school. **Praise God** that it went well and was well-received. **Please pray** that they would continue to ponder the ideas she shared.
- Tuesday: Michelle's first classes are tomorrow. **Please pray** that her students would experience Spirit-led transformation through her interactions with them.
- Wednesday: is our kids' first day of school. They are looking forward to school this year. **Praise God** for that; and **pray** for their adjustment with it.
- Thursday: we welcome students into our home for our first Bible study of the semester. **Please pray** for all who enter our home. May we provide a safe place where they can wrestle with ideas, ask questions, and find answers.
- Friday:
 - Our first chapel with our new chaplain. **Please pray** that the Gospel would go forth.
 - AJ's department kicks off the year with the all-campus picnic and celebration. **Please pray** for preparation and a successful event.
- **Please pray** for AJ – that he would be a good steward of time in these demanding "first weeks".

9/19/26

We have had a few intense weeks with the beginning of the school year as we described in our previous emails (see above). **Thank God** with us for a great start to the semester!

This week we welcome the Board of Directors to LCC for strategic planning meetings. These meetings are earlier than normal, which has added preparations to the previous weeks. **Please pray** with us for the discussions, meetings, and decisions that will occur. **Pray for** wisdom, discernment, and God to be present in these days.

In between these events, our family took today away from work, school, and other responsibilities. We enjoyed simply "being" together as a family. **Praise God** for the rest and refreshment that he provides.

Thank you for standing with us and praying,
The Howells



October 2026

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

Birthdays

1st - Angel Gaines
6th - Justin White
7th - Octavia Evans
9th - Terry Martinez
 Grant Smith
10th - Susan Hoffman

19th - Sara Butler
 Paisley Winter
 Steve Lane
25th - Sharon Masterson
 Lindsay Siemering
27th - Khrystryne Perlinger

28th - Mark Dame
29th - Eastyn Myers
 Scott Neeman

Anniversaries

14th - Jodi & Grant Smith



HEART & HOME

OCTOBER '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

"Warn those who are lazy.
Encourage those who are timid.
Take tender care of those who
are weak. **Be patient with
everyone.**"

1 Thessalonians 5:14

HEART & HOME LIBRARY

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

MEMORY VERSE DEVO

This Bible verse is part of a letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the people of the church in Thessalonica. They were a younger church in need of encouragement in serving the Lord and His people. They were facing persecution or not being treated right by the powerful people around them.

Paul wanted to give them wise counsel in regard to the way they treated each other. Part of that included this month's verse, where Paul makes sure that the ones who needed encouragement the most received it. We highlighted the part that says "Be patient with everyone," because that is the foundation that allows us to help each other grow. We ALL need patience from those around us, so we also can be patient with others.

RECOMMENDATION

Book: **"The Sticky Faith Guide for Your Family" by Kara Powell**
The book shows parents how to actively encourage their children's spiritual growth so that it will stick with them into adulthood and empower them to develop a living, lasting faith. This accessible guide presents more than 100 practical life skills.

ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT @ I AM K9 & EQUINE

Join I AM K9 & EQUINE for a time of fun, awesome vendors, candy, games, and prizes! There is also a costume contest for kids & dogs!

When: Saturday, October 24th from 5 - 7:30 PM

Where: 12154 W Ash Rd, Clatonia, NE 68328



VOLUNTEER BLURB



Hello, my name is Brett Zimmerman and I am a leader for F Street Youth. I grew up here in Lincoln and attended Hope Community Church. I am currently in my second year at UNL studying emerging media arts. I love youth ministry because it has meant so much to me growing up and starting my journey in college. I want to help give that experience to our students. I have loved getting the opportunity to serve at F Street and make an impact in the neighborhood.

THIS MONTH LESSONS

JOURNEY GROUP:

Oct 4: E is for Example (1 Tim 4:12)
Oct 11: F is for Forgiven (Ps 32:1)
Oct 18: G is for Giver (2 Cor 9:7)
Oct 25: H is for Helper (1 Thess 5:14)

YOUTH GROUP:

Oct 6: Prayer
Oct 13: Habakkuk
Oct 20: Habakkuk
Oct 27: Weird Stories in the Bible

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?

EVERDAY CONFLICT

Parents! Transformed Life Coaching is offering a class for anyone who wants to handle conflict in a healthier, Christ-centered way. This is also something that is helpful to use, as you are the leaders in nurturing spirit formation in your children!