



## JESUS IN THE CITY FELLOWSHIP

information and news update

### Our 20th year of Ministry in South Minneapolis • *Who Is Your Neighbor Minnesota?*

**Isaiah 58:8-12** *“Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. “If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.*

***It was November 8, 1995 when God spoke to me out of Isaiah 58. As I have shared in the past, God gave me a vision of this text, each word coming to life on the page like skyscrapers.***

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[twopastorsinthecity.com](http://twopastorsinthecity.com)



Over the next few months, I then received revelation of God's call on my life to minister in the city, which led to the formation of Jesus in the City. It has been a long and exciting journey with many twists and turns. Jesus in the City has a strong, stable, committed ministry team. God has used us to touch the lives of thousands of men. We have seen many souls saved, families restored and many miracles of God. We have also helped launch several other outreach ministries, including Fishing for Life, Hands Across the City and Christmas in the City.

Jesus in the City has operated out of our current location for the past four years. However the current building has been sold and the ministries that are housed there have been informed they can no longer stay. We must move again. This will be our seventh move in twenty years.

We have found a warehouse on 27th and Lake Street in South Minneapolis that we believe we are called to purchase and renovate. The building is priced to sell and is in a wonderful location. On this particular block there is an Indian restaurant, gay cabaret, Muslim deli, and many diverse businesses. When Jesus in the City began its work, there were thirty-five languages spoken in South Minneapolis; now there are over 180.

This is the most demographically diverse neighborhood in the U.S. according to the Census Bureau. In Matthew 28:19 Jesus' parting words to the disciples were to, "go and make disciples of all the nations." As it turns out, we don't have to go anywhere to comply with this command. The nations have literally come to us in South Minneapolis.

The warehouse provides a tremendous opportunity to create a welcoming, permanent ministry base in South Minneapolis to further the mission of Jesus in the City as we continue to minister to the broken and lost and equip believers as they grow in their faith. Those we minister to are often struggling with addictions, involved in gangs and prostitution, and very unlikely to walk into a "typical" church. But they are very likely to walk into Jesus in the City, as it has happened countless times in the past. That's why we need a stable base of operations. And we need your help to make that happen.



*A group shot of some of the men at the Fall Retreat  
We had a total of 40 men attending this wonderful event.  
Our theme was studying on the prayer life of Christ*

Such a base will also help enable us reach our goal of deepening our current ministries and developing the next generation of inter-city pastors and leaders. We will do this by developing a youth ministry, family counseling center and urban seminary. We will also use this space to connect with the community through a coffee shop and outreach events on the property. This is a golden opportunity to take a permanent stand in the city at a time when Christianity is under attack at every angle. And you can help us take that stand.

This is your golden opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of others through prayer and financial support. In the coming weeks and months, you will be hearing about our **40 for 15 Campaign**. We are praying for forty individuals who will give \$15,000 in the next twelve months to help establish this ministry center. We need your help. But even if you can't pledge \$15,000, you can pledge something. And any amount will help. And your concerted prayers and efforts to find donors will also help.



*Sunset at Camp Luther Del on Boy Lake*

*In **Isaiah 58** the Lord promises his children, "if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."*

Believers are included in this promise as they spend their lives on others in prayer, giving and serving.

We are grateful for your partnership. You help us make a difference and lives are being changed by the transforming love of Christ.



*A breathtaking sunrise of God's creation at the fall retreat*

September 17 – 20 was the Annual Men's Retreat at Camp Luther Del on Boy Lake. Dan Pilla, Tom Goodrich, Ron Linder and I ministered to over forty men. Three men came to Christ that weekend. Many others were ministered to and prayed for throughout the weekend. The topic of our teaching was the prayer life of Christ.

When we think of Jesus, we often rightfully think of him as God and Savior. However, we sometimes forget that he was also fully man and had to rely on his Father, just as we need to. As such, Jesus made time to pray. There are fifty-five references in scripture regarding Jesus' prayer life or his teaching on the importance of prayer. In Mark 1:35, we see that Jesus prayed before and after he ministered. The more he gave of himself, the more he had to fill up again. In this complicated world today with the pressures of daily life, how much more do we need to pray?

As a ministry, we are grateful for your prayers for us to be strengthened, encouraged and protected us as we pour out on behalf of others. Thank you for partnering with us in prayer. You are a blessing! You are vital to our ministry.



*Dan Pilla speaking on Sunday morning explaining in depth about the Lords Prayer out of The Gospels of Matthew and Luke*



*Hall of Fame fishing legend, businessman and evangelist Ron Linder with Pastor Michael Pilla Shown here before their evening chapel where Ron taught on the prayer life of Christ*



*Tom Goodrich the Executive Director of Fishing For Life speaking at the morning chapel at the Fall Retreat*



*Fellowship after the chapel service at the fall retreat*



*Carol and Gene Blair with Pastor Wes Wheatly at Friday night dinner at the Fall Retreat*

Jesus In The City Fellowship Presents the 16th Annual  
**Christmas In The City 2015**



Join us in making Christmas special for a less fortunate family.  
Your generosity can provide hope to a family in need.

## **Christmas In The City**

is an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Jesus to families living in Minneapolis. Together we can make Christmas wishes a reality. If your business, church, or neighborhood is interested in sponsoring a family, contact:  
Pastor Michael Pilla c 612-730-3390, email- michaelangelo@pclink.com

### **JESUS IN THE CITY RELIES ON YOUR SUPPORT!**

**★ ★ ★ Sponsor a family for \$500 ★ ★ ★**

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

**DONATE ONLINE** You can donate online to Jesus In The City at our web site, [www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org](http://www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org). Thanks so much again for all your support.

**Would you like your newsletter emailed to you? Contact me at: [Michaelangelo@pclink.com](mailto:Michaelangelo@pclink.com)**

*God Bless you!*

*Pastor Michael Pilla <><*

We are holding services at Oliver Ministry Center at  
**2647 Bloomington Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55407**  
Come and join us for great music in South Minneapolis at 10:00 am.  
Go to our website for directions.

#### **Jesus In The City Ministries**

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