Issue #137 September 2026

JESUS IN THE CITY FELLOWSHIP

Information and News Update

Our 31st Year of Ministry in Minneapolis

Isaiah 58:12 *"You will be called Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."*



John 21:17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, *"Feed my sheep. [18] Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."* [19] Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Those words Jesus imparted to Peter were stern as they cut right to the heart of Peter. Follow me not matter what. Disregard what other people are thinking of you or what they are doing. You must follow me states Jesus. I find it interesting that both times when Jesus called Peter out was right after they were fishing. He called Peter out on other occasions as well, but these two times were specific to Peter and his future in serving Jesus.

Being in a boat with a few guys fishing can allow our walls to come down both emotionally and spiritually. I see this time and again when we get out on the water with our fishing ministries. This past August we had 51 pastors and ministers out with 20 fishing guides on Lake Minnetonka. In conjunction with Fishing For Life, the Fall Retreat up at Mount Carmel took place in early September, (55 men in attendance), we held six chapels in the mornings and evening teaching out of Micah 6:8 "And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Two men were baptized at the fall retreat. (Praise God)!

When a person's emotional and spiritual walls fall away, we are more able to freely minister as people are more open to what the Lord has to say to them. Lives get touched and changed in this unique arena designed to bring people closer to God and or to bring healing and renewal in their lives. The pastors who participate in the August Pastors Tournament, (this was our 16th annual) state again how they get ministered to at this special event. In addition, the fishing guides frequently state how much they are blessed by this every year.

I want to thank all the sponsors for this year's Pastor's 2026 Fishing Tournament. We are very grateful for your partnership with us.

We continue to be the hands and feet of Christ with our ministry in the urban Twin Cities. I am reminded how the Lord uses us every week in our sermons, both in person and online with our podcasts. I am also reminded by a recent phone call with Pastor Jerry and how he touches many men through his testimonies and stories on his Freedom Friday messages. Our messages are going into 67 countries now.

The call to serve the city and regions beyond remains as urgent as ever. Our mission is to bring the message of Christ to those in need, following the example set by the early church. We value your partnership with us in this mighty endeavor, bringing Jesus to the city.

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support.

Most sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Michael Angelo Pilla, DTh

PASTOR NORTONS DAILY DEVOTIONS

Luke 5:7 NLT: “Soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.”

Jesus had been using Simon’s boat as a preaching platform, and now he repays the favor. “Go out where it is deeper and let down your nets to catch some fish.”
Simon protests. “Master, we worked hard all last night and didn’t catch a thing. But if you say so, I’ll let the nets down again.”

This time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! The fishermen shouted for help, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking!

It’s easy to convince someone about religious truth when the miracle happens right before their eyes! There was no doubt in Simon’s mind that Jesus was heaven-sent. “Oh, Lord, please leave me—I’m such a sinful man.”

But God had other plans. Simon and his brother Andrew would abandon the family fishing business to follow Jesus. They gave up everything they knew. Simon gathered James and John, also fishermen, and the four became a part of the twelve.

When the Lord calls a man or woman, soon their priorities change just as we read here in the Gospel of Luke. Is the Lord calling you to something new?

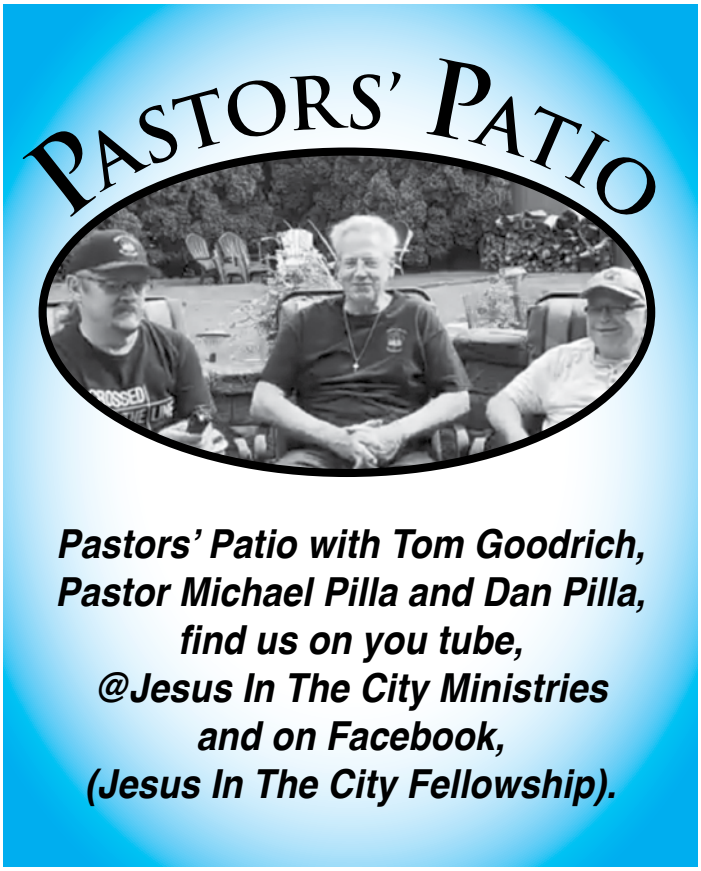
Pastor Norton Lawellin
Jesus In the City

THE EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS OF JICF IN 2026

- Sunday morning, the Podcast on Facebook live feed (and YouTube) starts at 9:00 am.
- Sunday Worship at Morning Star Church on N. Broadway in Minneapolis 11:00 am
- Monday Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Boyer on our livestream Facebook feed.
- Pastor’s Patio on Wednesday afternoon live feed on Facebook and YouTube.
- Friday Night Focus on Facebook live at 7:00 pm.
- 1st Monday of the month, Chapel at The Union Gospel Mission, St. Paul.
- Bible studies for mentoring and discipleship.
- Christmas In The City 2026.

- Check out our YouTube Channel https://www.YouTube.com/@JesusInTheCityMinistries

https://www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org/
hit the donate button



Pastors’ Patio with Tom Goodrich, Pastor Michael Pilla and Dan Pilla, find us on you tube, @Jesus In The City Ministries and on Facebook, (Jesus In The City Fellowship).

Photos from this years Pastor's Fishing Tournament.



Opening prayers being led by Pastor Vaugh Blackburn at the Pastor's Fishing Tournament on Lake Minnetonka.



Pastors Patio being recorded with Dan PIlla, Pastor Michael Pilla and Tom Goodrich.



One of the winning Pastors with the Largest Walleye winner and fishing guide.





Pastor Mike Smith with Pastor Michael Pilla and Pastor Tomas Walek at the Eastgate outreach in St. Paul's Eastside.



Pastor's praying before going out to fish at the Pastors Fishing Tournament on Lake Minnetonka.

Jesus In The City Fellowship

Presents the 27th Annual

Christmas In The City 2026

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 impoverished families living in Minneapolis by making their Christmas wishes a reality. Each family will receive cases of groceries, a turkey, gifts for each member, and an opportunity for encouragement and prayer with those bringing the delivery. We ask that your business, church, family or neighborhood prayerfully consider sponsoring a family in whatever way you are able. For $350.00 you can help sponsor a family, (but any amount helps).**

You can either adopt a family or donate at www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org.

Please contact Pastor Michael Pilla

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A Jesus In The City Ministries partnership with its associated ministries.
www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org

Jesus In The City ministers to thousands of people every month, broadcasting into 61 countries. We rely on your financial partnership to fulfill our mission to the city. ***Thank you so much!***

DONATE ONLINE

You can donate online at the Jesus In The City website. http://www.jesusinthecityfellowship.org
We are streaming our Sunday message live on Facebook at 9:00 a.m.
Click on the Facebook icon at the bottom of our website home page to join our live streams or to see videos of past services and presentations.

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