Issue #135 May 2026

JESUS IN THE CITY FELLOWSHIP

Information and News Update

Our 31st year of ministry in Minneapolis



Isaiah 58:6-7: *"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter--when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"*

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

As we read in the Bible and through the writing of the early church fathers, we are reminded of the persecution that they went through under the Roman Empire as the Gospel was expanding throughout the Mediterranean area. This past March I was in Rome Italy and toured the various areas of the early church including the Colosseum Amphitheater. (It was originally called the Flavian Amphitheater). It was amazing and humbling to see where Christians martyred for their faith.

Hebrews 10:33 Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. 34 You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. 35 So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. 36: You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. 37 For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay."
38 And, "But my righteous one will live by faith."
God is faithful and he calls us to walk in faith, and when things are difficult, we must remember that He is faithful. Hebrews 11:6 Says, "without faith it is impossible to please God." Be mindful that the Lord has His hand on you as you walk with Him throughout the days and weeks ahead in these times that test our sanity.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ brings radical change into a person's heart for now and eternity, families are changed as well as communities and cities when someone commits their heart to Christ.

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 from 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. (See our You Tube Channel).

We are gearing up for our Pastors Urban and Suburban fishing Tournament Aug. 4 on Lake Minnetonka. This tournament brings many different people in ministry together to Honor the Lord and bring new relationships to further Gods Kingdom. Please consider sponsoring a boat for $350.00.

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 financial and spiritual support.

Most sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Michael Angelo Pilla, DTh



Pastor Norton Lawellen with Pastor Michael. You can receive Pastor Norton's devotionals everyday, delivered to you on the Jesus In The City Fellowship Facebook page.

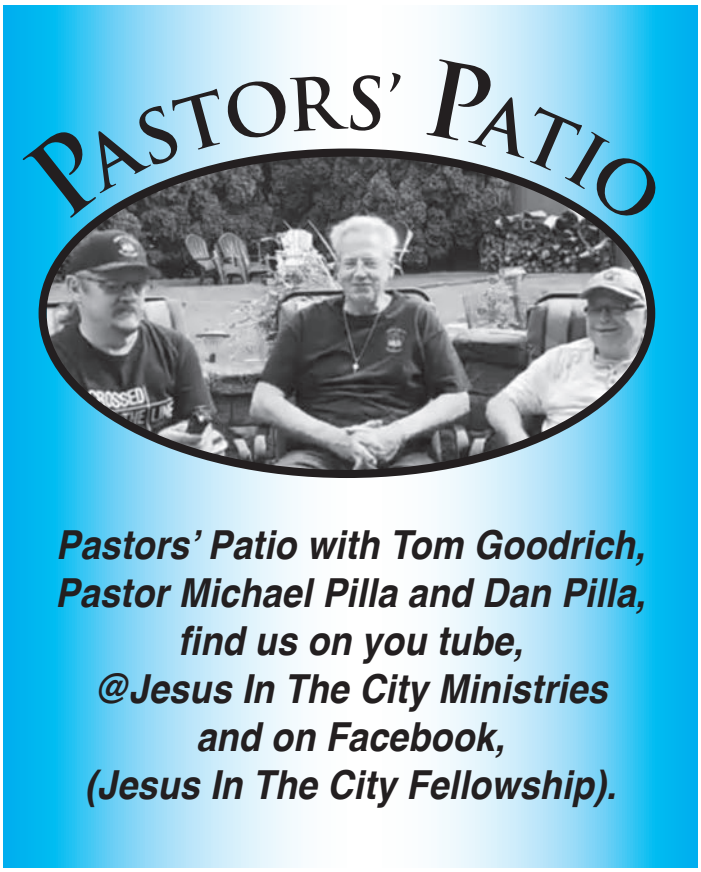
THE EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS OF JICF IN 2026

- Sunday morning, the Facebook live feed starts at 9:00 am.
- Sunday Worship at Morning Star Church on N Broadway in Minneapolis 11:00 am.
- Pastor's Patio on Wednesday afternoon live feed on Facebook and You Tube.
- Friday Night Focus on Facebook live at 7:00 pm.
- 1st Monday of the month, Union Gospel Mission Chapel, St. Paul.
- Bible studies for mentoring and discipleship.
- Aug. 4, 2026, 16th Annual Pastors' Tournament on Lake Minnetonka.
- Christmas In The City 2026
- Check out our YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/@JesusInTheCityMinistries

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



Pastor Jerry McCleskey sharing how Jesus changed his life. You can catch him and Pastor Norton's Freedom Friday podcasts both on our You Tube channel, Jesus in the City Ministries and facebook @ Jesus In the City Fellowship.



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).

PASTOR NORTONS DAILY DEVOTIONS

John 21:6 NLT, Jesus speaking: "'Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll catch some!' So they did, and they couldn't haul in the net because there were so many fish in it."

At that time, the disciples were at a low point in their 'Jesus-walk.' Their leader had been crucified and his body had gone missing. They still trusted and believed Jesus was the Son of God, but frankly they were confused by all that had happened.

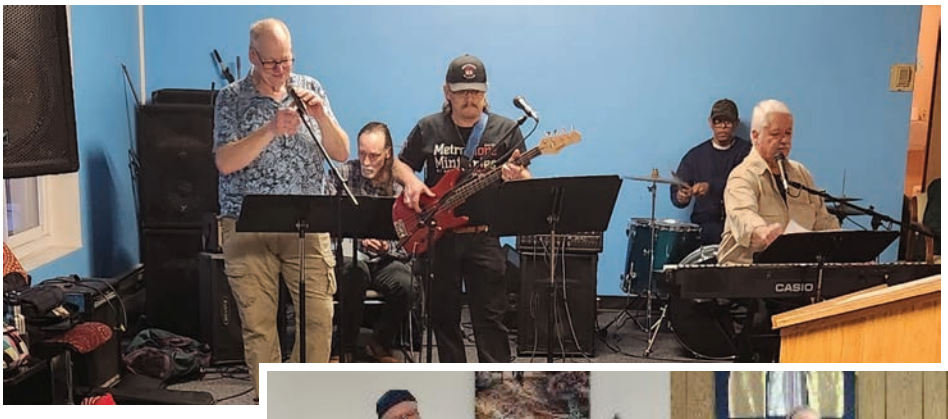
It might be good to just go fishing, get back to nature and try to sort things out. Turns out that fishing was not productive that day – they hadn't caught a single thing! Jesus hollered at them from the shore, but it was sunrise and the disciples couldn't make out who was shouting. "Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get some!" Who was this guy? There are fish on the right side of the boat, but not the left? Give me a break!

Nonetheless they gave it a try, and so many fish filled the net that these strong men couldn't even pull it in! John realized that this had to be Jesus, and Peter dove into the water to get to the master before the others.

So what's our takeaway from this? Whether you're fishing for fish or fishing for men and women, it goes better if Jesus is in it! Jesus commanded us to make disciples of all nations, so lets get busy fishing! The sooner the better!

Jesus loves you, and he also loves your unsaved brother or sister.

Pastor Norton Lawellin - Jesus In the City Fellowship



THE PEOPLE OF HOPE TEAM LEADING WORSHIP AT THE MANY CHAPELS AND SUNDAY SERVICES.





You're invited to the 2026 Jesus In The City Fishing For Life

16TH ANNUAL - URBAN AND SUBURBAN PASTORS FISHING TOURNAMENT

on beautiful Lake Minnetonka

Tuesday, August 4th 7:30am – 2pm

Come and make new friends and partners! • Fishing is Free!

Sponsor a boat for $350. • Each boat will have a fishing guide.

Walleye shore lunch included with great fellowship.

Pastor Michael A. Pilla • 612-730-3390 • michaelangelo@pclink.com

A fund raiser to help with fulfilling the great commission in urban ministry and evangelism.

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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