

THE GOSPEL

According to **Greg**



January 21, 2024
www.fabricmpls.com

Nothing is Written in Stone (and a mutual send off celebration) - That stone with those ironic words carved into it has sat at the front of our gatherings for 17 years for a reason. For Greg's last week he has a message that this stone stands for. "Being church" isn't about having all the right beliefs or behaviors, it's about this message that helps us be authentic to ourselves, each other, this world and the 3rd Strand, and it allows us to experience God, the 3rd Strand, in a way that is authentic and relevant. If Greg wants to leave us with anything, this is it.

WELCOME

Life, for adults and kids alike, is most fulfilling when it is woven deeply with the strands of your full self, others, and that third strand that is bigger, beyond, around and within us all that you may or may not know as God.

Learn more about Fabric at FabricMpls.com

Miss a week or want to hear the message again?

Check our podcast fabricmpls.podbean.com

WHAT TO EXPECT

We're glad you're here for this *all-together* Sunday!

Music with Chris Tripolino and the Fabric Band

Welcome & Say Hi

Message -- Greg Meyer

Connecting with and supporting Fabric

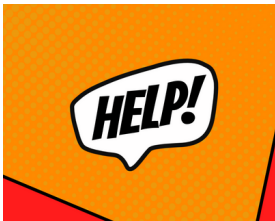
Song

A mutual sending for Greg & Fabric

COMING UP AND MORE



Greg Meyer, our founding Pastor, after 17 years, is retiring and passing on the baton of leadership. We'll be honoring that 'knot in our ropes' during the gathering today. And we will also be **celebrating** with Greg & Kris, **TONIGHT, 7-9pm**, open house style at **The Schmidt Artist Lofts (900 W 7th St., St Paul)**. Appetizers, desserts and beverages will be served. Toasts and Roasts with Greg @ 8pm.



Starting on January 28 - HELP! How's your to-do list? If you are like most people, it is full of commitments, requirements, obligations, desires, and demands of all sorts. It comes with the territory of, well, caring about stuff. Including your own well-being! Have you tried asking for help? Have you noticed that not all help is actually all that...helpful? Join us for three weeks to look at what makes reaching out for help so hard and so healthy.



The Fabric Community voted unanimously to call Ian McConnell as Fabric's Lead Pastor following Greg's retirement. We are excited about the future of Fabric and thrilled with the community's wholehearted and unanimous endorsement of Ian to lead Fabric into our next chapter. Ian's first day will be February 14, 2024. More at fabricmpls.com/transition

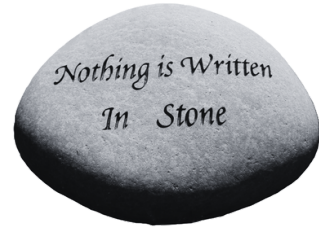


Where we are and the story of our land matters. Most of us live in, and we gather in land that was part of the Dakota people for centuries, but from which they were forcibly and dishonorably removed by the US government. It is an honor and a responsibility for us to live on and care for this land today.

Greg to “Faith & Life” conference - “Faith and Life isn’t SOMETHING that we do. It’s the ONLY THING we do.”

It’s not only what you talk about, it’s how you talk about it.

Our distinctions and the certainty and rules they give us have advantages and disadvantages.



RULES without RELATIONSHIP create REBELLION.

The power and problem of **Perspective**. *What is the truth?*



Nothing is Written in Stone.

I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke... I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
Jeremiah 31.31-33

The Word (logos) became **flesh** and lived among us. John 1.14

Jesus LIVED AMONG us, he didn’t RULE OVER us.

Pilate asked Jesus, ‘So you are a king?’ He answered, ‘You say I am a king. This is what I was born for, and why I came into the world; to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’
Pilate asked Jesus, ‘What is truth?’ John 18.37-38

Truth cannot be WRITTEN DOWN. It can only be LIVED OUT.

Imperfectly, with mistakes, unintended consequences, and regrets.

Fabric’s hope is give you VISION, PERMISSION, SUPPORT, and COMPANIONSHIP to practice living it.

The 3-Stranded Life calls us to live in the MESSY MIDDLE.

The comfort of our solid and certain positions PETRIFY us, others, God, and make us miss a lot of possibilities.

The best of life only happens when we do it together. Deeply woven.

HOMEWORK - What has Fabric meant to you? Spend some time considering it. Write it down. Share what you’ve found with someone else. Maybe someone in your family or Group. How would you share it with someone who has never been part of Fabric? How else could Fabric give you the vision, permission, support, and companionship you need? Don’t be afraid to ask!



ROAM (Read, Observe, Apply, Meditate) Roam through these and see not only how we are asked to live in the messy middle, but that this has always been the space God claimed too.
Jeremiah 31.31-34 John 1.1-5,10-18 John 28-38