

## **WORK WITH PURPOSE INITIATIVE | PASTORS GATHERING**

### **The Challenges of Preaching on Whole-Life Discipleship**

*This discussion featured a panel of veteran pastors, plus the Sermon Competition winner, sharing their personal experiences with preparing and delivering sermons on whole-life discipleship.*

*The speakers covered the challenges they encountered, how they overcame barriers, and how they encouraged their congregations to embrace the integration of faith, work, vocation, and economics.*

*View the recordings of the presentations online at [bethel.edu/seminary/work-with-purpose/videos](http://bethel.edu/seminary/work-with-purpose/videos).*

# **Pastors Gathering Breakfast**

*The Challenges of Preaching  
on Whole-Life Discipleship*

**Tuesday, July 11, 2017**

Earle Brown Heritage Center  
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota



**MADE TO FLOURISH**  
A PASTORS' NETWORK FOR THE COMMON GOOD



**BETHEL**  
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work with **purpose**

## This event is hosted by:



**Bethel Seminary's Work with Purpose Initiative**

[bethel.edu/seminary/work-with-purpose](http://bethel.edu/seminary/work-with-purpose)



**Made to Flourish**

[madetoflourish.org](http://madetoflourish.org)

## Morning schedule:

- 08:30 am | Registration & breakfast
- 09:00 am | Welcome & prayer
- 09:15 am | Presentation: Tim Caspers
- 09:35 am | Panel: Aaron Brockmeier, Tim Caspers & Erik Dunkin
- 09:45 am | Questions & discussion
- 10:25 am | Closing & prayer
- 10:30 am | Event ends

## About our speakers:

**Tim Caspers** is the recently retired lead pastor of CrossWinds Community Church in Stillwater, Minnesota. He has more than 30 years of pastoral experience.

**Aaron Brockmeier** is the senior pastor of Faith Baptist Church in North Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is also the Twin Cities Co-City Director of Made to Flourish.

**Erik Dunkin** is the former college pastor of Prairie Lakes Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa. He took first place in the inaugural Sermon Competition hosted by Work with Purpose and Made to Flourish.

## **Journey of CrossWinds Community Church— Toward a “Frontline” Church**

Tim Caspers

CrossWinds Community Church—Stillwater, MN

1. **CrossWinds Story:** Great Commission/Commandment church
  - a. Sunday/Monday chasm (Sacred-Secular Divide)
  - b. Our Realization:
    1. Not about getting bigger—it’s about getting better (at disciple-making)
    2. Not about being Sunday-Centric, but people and community-centric
  - c. Our solution: Train Christ-followers to represent Jesus every day of the week
    1. Truth telling, love-giving practitioners of the Gospel
    2. “Faith at Work” led us to “Frontline Ministry”
  - d. Had to prepare Leadership
    1. Core competencies
    2. Renewal of mission, vision and values
    3. 8 months of leading our leaders
  - e. Next Steps—How do *all* Christ-followers represent Jesus where they spend the majority of their time (not just those in the workplace):
    1. We Identified 4 platforms to represent Jesus: Home, Neighborhood, Workplace, and Community
    2. Led to an expansion of Vision:
    3. Whole-life Discipleship: Representing Jesus with the whole of our lives in each of those 4 platforms—that is, our “Frontline”
  
2. **Preaching to Cast Vision**—Leveraged the pulpit as one of several approaches to cast Whole Life vision:
  - a. Preaching emphasized lifestyle changes as everyday disciples for Jesus
    1. Goal: Wholelife discipleship becomes a fixture in the heart of the church
    2. Length: Two years of preaching to introduce and cement the vision
    3. Resources: Created or borrowed terminology and principles; used existing materials available, but made it my own
    4. Relatable Vision: Exegeted church and related whole-life vision so they could understand it in their context and own it
    5. Available to you: 4 Sermon Series with graphics (see links below):
      - a. *Imagine Life on the Frontline* (6-part series)
      - b. *Marketplace Impact* (4-part series)
      - c. *ReFrame—Connecting Faith with Life* (10-part series)
      - d. *The Art of Neighboring* (3-part series)

**Imagine Life on the Frontline** (6-part series)

[bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/frontline-sermon-series.pdf](http://bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/frontline-sermon-series.pdf)

**Marketplace Impact** (4-part series)

[bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/marketplace-sermon-series.pdf](http://bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/marketplace-sermon-series.pdf)

**ReFrame—Connecting Faith with Life** (10-part series)

[bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/reframe-sermon-series.pdf](http://bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/reframe-sermon-series.pdf)

**The Art of Neighboring** (3-part series)

[bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/neighboring-sermon-series.pdf](http://bethel.edu/seminary/about/initiatives/work-with-purpose/resources/neighboring-sermon-series.pdf)

- b. Reinforcement of Front-line vision outside of preaching:
    1. Publications, announcements, small groups, Sunday educational hour, leadership meetings. Goal: keep vision in front of people
    2. This Time Tomorrow (TTT) 1x a month in worship
3. **Key Resources:**
- Bethel’s Work with Purpose Initiative—AWESOME! Our Ministry Staff and some of our volunteer leaders have been at every Work with Purpose event—Talk to TediAnne!
  - Organization: LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity) (<https://www.licc.org.uk/>)
  - Book: “Fruitfulness on Your Frontline (Making a Difference Where You Are)” by Mark Greene
  - Book: “Work Matters” by Tom Nelson
  - Organization: Center for Faith and Work (<http://www.centerforfaithandwork.com/article/work-matters-tom-nelson>)
  - Organization: The Gospel Coalition (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/author/Tom-Nelson>)
  - Organization: Theology of Work (<https://www.theologyofwork.org/>)
  - Video Series: “For the Life of the World—Letters to the Exiles” <http://www.letterstotheexiles.com/>
  - Video Series: ReFrame (What does it mean to follow Jesus in every dimension of our lives) ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg0\\_Cn456n8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg0_Cn456n8))
  - Website—The Art of Neighboring <https://www.artofneighboring.com/>

