



First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

Messenger

love all • live spiritually
rejoice in hope • show hospitality



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Church Website: fcllincoln.org

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Fun & Games at FCC this Sunday

Please join the Torch Team for "Sunday Funday, Games and Grub", immediately following worship this Sunday, January 13th! Soup, bread and drinks will be provided for lunch. After we finish our grub, there will be a variety of games, and something for everyone! If you'd like, you can bring a snack for game time, and/or any of your favorite games. We look forward to beating the cold with some fun and fellowship on a Sunday afternoon!



Book Club

FCC Book Club meets **this Sat., Jan. 12, 9:30 am** at Carol Lawson's home. Our discussion book is "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle. All FCC members and friends are welcome to join in any of the book discussions! If you have any questions about the book club, please contact the church office.

BOARD MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 20 at 6:00 pm Church Parlor
Board Reports are due in the office by Wed., Jan. 16.
All FCC members and friends are welcome to attend the meeting and participate in the discussion.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Worship Service

Sunday, Jan. 20 3 pm

Hosted by
First Christian Church

Justice and only justice you shall pursue.
Deuteronomy 16:18-20



New Member Breakfast

Do you have questions about life and ministry here at FCC? Do you like getting a free breakfast? If you've answered yes to either or both of these questions come join us on **Saturday, January 19 at 9:30 am** in the parlor. The Membership Team will be hosting a breakfast for those thinking about joining the church. Give the church office a call or contact Pastor Karen if you plan to join us.



We will also be hosting a reception following the service. If you will be able to bring cookies or a dessert, or help in any way, please talk to Jim Blosser.

Leadership Retreat

On **Saturday, Feb. 2nd**, there will be a **Leadership Retreat** for all those in leadership roles at FCC in 2019. It will be held from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Lutheran Family Services Center, 2301 'O' St. Please save the date, and watch for more information coming soon!

Pastor's Corner

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Revelation 22:13

It seems a bit ironic that the last book of the Bible talks about God as the beginning and the end. As we move into the beginning of a New Year, many of us are undoubtedly mindful of what has been as we look forward to what might be. Many people make resolutions with the hope of changing "bad habits" into more healthy ones in the coming year. Gyms are bursting at the seams with new members and it seems that more people attend my Wednesday morning Weight Watchers meeting. Perhaps we've resolved to pray more and spend more time in scripture. Our resolutions, formal and informal, invite us to make the coming year even better than the last.

Our penchant for looking back and forward at the beginning of a New Year seems particularly fitting in 2019 as FCC prepares to celebrate its 150th year. During the upcoming months we'll spend time looking back as we celebrate our history. We have several events during the coming months that includes a visit from the General Minister/President of our denomination, Rev. Terri Hord Owens. She'll be coming for a weekend in September. We're also planning a joint Pentecost service with First Presbyterian Church, as they're also celebrating their 150th anniversary. Other activities and events are scheduled throughout the year. This process of looking back also invites us to look realistically at our present and ponder our future. The recent launch of our updated website is a significant event that helps us celebrate our present and lays a foundation for our future.

Throughout all of this we are invited to remember that God is our foundation. God is the beginning and the end of it all. Not only is God the foundation of all creation, God is the foundation of each of our lives and of our life as a congregation. Just as God was present as each of us entered this world, God was also there in our founding as a congregation. God is also present with us now and guides us into the future.

As we make resolutions for ourselves and come together to celebrate our anniversary may we do so with confidence because God is "the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

With joy and love,

Pastor Karen

Welcome Visitors

The following people have recently visited and shared in Sunday morning services:

Tom & Mary Carpenter

Michael Root

Steve, Jill, Claire & Mara Snodgrass

Curt, Sophie, Eden & Bennett Snodgrass

Matthew Villarreal

Christopher Walles

Amanda Weaver

Please join us again in worship.

You are always welcome!

Notes of Thanks



Dear FCC Members
and Friends,

Thank you all so much for the very generous staff Christmas gifts, as well as all the Christmas goodies, cards, personal gifts, and the poinsettias given in our honor. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated. We look forward to serving First Christian Church in the coming year!

Karen Moritz, Mark Miller and Cheryl Judds

Thank you one and all for the beautiful cards, notes and thoughtful gifts this Holiday Season.

Elaine Parman

Scott and I would like to thank the "friends" who honored us with a poinsettia. It was an unexpected act of kindness. Thank you very much.

Scott and Monte Dietrick

My dear Christian family,

Thank you all for praying for my Father Roger Stehlik. Dad had a bicycle accident in New York and had a severe concussion and ended up with blood on his brain twice. His wife, my sister and I were worried that we would lose him. He is doing well, but he is going to physical therapy and speech therapy to get even better than before. Thanks again, my Christian family.

Many blessings,

Jessica Vocasek

New Website, Old Stories

We are excited about the new FCC website that went live right before Christmas! If you haven't checked it out yet, please do so at www.fcclincoln.org.

If you have any old pictures from events / folks at First Christian Church, we would like them for the website. You can scan and email to the church office or leave them in the office for us to scan and return to you. Or, below is a link to a form on the new website where you can upload photos and share your memories of FCC: <https://fcclincoln.org/contact-us/share-your-stories/>.

Thanks for your input!

January Act of Kindness



Your Outreach Team is continuing "Acts of Kindness" in 2019. This month we are supporting *Cedars Street Outreach and Youth Opportunity Center* by collecting new hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and socks. For more information, see the current events bulletin board in the Parlor hallway, or the Dec. 13, 2018 edition of the *Messenger*. You can place your donations in the barrel in the Narthex.

Thank you!



Wednesday Study Resumes

The "Introduction to Judaism" study that we started last fall has now resumed on Wednesday evenings. Grab your snack supper and join us in the Library at 5:30 as we continue to learn about the foundations of our faith as Christians with this video series.

You're invited!

Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, Jan. 26th

11 am - 2 pm

Southview

Christian Church

2040 S. 22nd St.



Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/fcc.lincoln.neb>

Be sure to check out our Facebook page each week for great information about coming events and Sunday worship services, including scripture references.

Come and compete or just come and eat! If you would like to enter a chili, email juliepulec@hotmail.com or call (402)641-6796. There will be a Free Will Offering.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. *John 13:34b*

Lincoln First Christian Church

Calendar of Events



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

Celebrating 150 Years

Sunday, Jan. 13 - *Homebound Communion*

- 9:00 am Boom Team Rehearsal - 2nd floor toddler room
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (gr. 2 - 6) - 2nd floor classroom
- 9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library
- 10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3 - 7) - 2nd floor classroom
- Noon **Sunday Funday, Games & Grub** - Gym
- 11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library

Homebound Communion Teams:

*D'Arcy Blosser & Jim Christ, Connie Calver & Dan Cowger
Kathy Harris & Scott Dietrick, Gary Larsen & Vince Ortega*

Monday, Jan. 14

- 5:30 pm CC Meeting - Library
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Tuesday, Jan. 15 - 7 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, Jan. 16 - *Board Reports Due (for Jan. 20 meeting)*

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Adult Study "Introduction to Judaism"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan. 17

- 6:00 pm **Stephen Ministry Meeting** - Parlor
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Saturday, Jan. 19

- 9:30 am **New Member Breakfast** - Parlor

Sunday, Jan. 20

- 9:00 am Boom Team Rehearsal - 2nd floor toddler room
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (gr. 2 - 6) - 2nd floor classroom
- 9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library
- 10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3 - 7) - 2nd floor classroom
- 11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library
- 3:00 pm **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service** - Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm **Board Meeting** - Parlor

Monday, Jan. 21 - *Messenger Deadline*

- 5:30 pm CCC Meeting - Library
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Tuesday, Jan. 22

- 10:30 am **Staff Meeting** - Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, Jan. 23

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Adult Study "Introduction to Judaism"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan. 24 - *Messenger Mailed*

- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Saturday, Jan. 26 - 9 am - Noon AGO Workshop - Sanctuary

This year we celebrate our 150th anniversary as a faith community in Lincoln. A look at our history helps ground us as we continue to serve from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth. So we're fortunate that some records from our past have been preserved. One of those is a publication called *The Church at Work*, a newsletter produced weekly from January 4, 1907 until it was discontinued during the Great Depression. We hope to share some information from this newsletter in the *Messenger* throughout 2019.

The Church at Work was launched so that "we can reach all members through this channel weekly. The Cadet boys of the Bible School will give valuable assistance in its delivery."

Harvey Harmon was our pastor in 1907. Gertrude Holmes was listed as Deaconess and Olive Griffith was our foreign missionary in Damoh, India. Morning worship was at 10:30 a.m., with Bible School at 12:10 p.m. Evening worship was at 7:30 p.m., following an afternoon of youth activities.

The Church at Work cost subscribers 25 cents a year. Most of the publication's costs were funded by more than a dozen advertisers. Castle, Roper & Matthews Undertakers advertised a private ambulance. Other advertisers included Lincoln Lumber and Coal Co., Scotch Company Woolen Mills located on O Street and Jacoby Art Glass, a St. Louis company that provided the stained glass windows for the building on 14th and M. Some of these windows are now located in the north hall on the first floor of our current building.

A year after inception several church members were asked for their opinions about *The Church at Work*. Bird Critchfield said he "Cannot do without it." George Lobinger stated "The paper is improving". However, G. H. Exley said he "would just as soon do without it; should always be out on time." And Edwin Jeary commented "It is all right". So it's reassuring to know that our members have always felt free to speak their minds!

Today we'll share an article appearing in the Jan. 1, 1909 edition about the new building at 14th and M. It is entitled "The Church":

"We are indebted to the State Journal for the cut (photo) of the new church building which we present in this issue. When complete the building will be an example of modern architecture and replete as a workshop for the church and all departments. The heating plant is in perfect working order. We hold our first services in the basement next Sunday. This room is spacious and will furnish very satisfactory quarters for the next three months. All services on next Lord's Day will be held in this room and it should be the occasion for joyful services throughout the day."