



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

Messenger

love all • live spiritually
rejoice in hope • show hospitality



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Lincoln, NE 68508
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Church Website: fcclincoln.org

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5th Sunday Faith Giving

It's that time again! March has a 5th Sunday on the 31st. Following our custom, we're inviting everyone to chip in a little extra to help cover the deficit in our 2019 budget. Since it's our 150th year feel free to make gifts in increments of 150. We'll happily accept anything from 150 pennies to 150 dollars. Don't hesitate to add some more zeros if the spirit moves you.

Finance Team Leader Greg Greder will give a Minute for Mission this Sunday the 24th to prepare everyone for the 31st. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to FCC and its ministries and mission.



Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

Friday, April 12

Doors open at 7:00 am

Program at 7:30 am

Lincoln Station, 201 N. 7th St.
(Allow ample time for parking.)

"The Journey to Forgiveness"

The guest speaker will be Pardeep Singh Kaleka, Forgiveness Project partner and Founder of Serve2Unite.

FCC would like to be able to sponsor a table of 10 for the breakfast. Tickets are \$30 per person. If you'd like to attend, please call or email the church office. Reservation deadline is April 8.

Maundy Thursday April 18



Soup Supper 5:30 pm

Worship 7:00 pm

*Continuing our joint worship services with other
DOC churches in Lincoln during Lent,
we will host a soup supper and worship service
for Maundy Thursday.*

**Please mark your calendars
and plan to join us!**

Pastor's Corner

As a Mission Coworker with World Missions we had a mantra that really resonated for me; **"We do mission in partnership."** This has really been a theme for me throughout my ministry. This sense of working in partnership is part of what attracted me to service here at FCC. This congregation nurtures and fosters ministry and mission in partnership. We do this locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. I feel blessed to be a part of a congregation that looks at ministry and mission in this way. **Our Outreach Team** has taken the lead in partnering with a number of mission-oriented organizations that serve people in our neighborhood and community.

We also have the opportunity to work in **partnership with other DOC congregations here in Lincoln.** Several of us joined worshippers at Bethany Christian Church on Ash Wednesday. At least 175 people gathered together to launch the Lenten season with worship and fellowship. FCC has the privilege of hosting Maundy Thursday worship on April 18th. I hope we have a good turnout for that special time of worship preceded by fellowship at our soup supper. We'll also celebrate our partnerships in the entire denomination as we gather for the **General Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa.** The Assembly convenes on **Saturday, July 20th and adjourns on Wednesday the 24th.** The theme is "Abide in Me" (John 15:1-5). The Assembly provides ample opportunities to celebrate the partnerships on congregational, national and international levels. I have already registered to attend and we'll have the opportunity to send additional lay delegates. It's close to home and if finances are a concern we'll help you find ways to make it happen. Feel free to talk with me if you like to explore attending all, or part, of the Assembly this July.

We'll also have an opportunity to be in partnership with people of faith throughout the Lincoln community as we gather for the **Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast on Friday, April 12th.** Once again, FCC is planning to sponsor a table of 10 so come join us as we hear about "The Journey to Forgiveness." Call the church office if you would like to reserve a place.

I also have an opportunity to continue with the partnerships I developed while working in the Czech Republic. I'll be attending a gathering entitled **"Hoping Together: A Partnership conference of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren and the Presbyterian Church (USA)."** Happily, this is not just a conference for US Presbyterians, it is open to all who want to strengthen the ministry and mission with the church in the Czech Republic. FCC supports Diakonie Connections as one of its international partnerships. As a board member I have the privilege of representing Diakonie Connections at the meeting. We'll be meeting in the Atlanta, Georgia area for five days, **April 1-5.** Those representing congregational partnerships will stay on to visit with their US partners. I'm excited to be a part of this international partnership. I'm also looking forward to seeing and reconnecting with friends and colleagues from the US and overseas.

As we move through this Lenten season may we be strengthened and energized by the many partnerships that enrich and enhance our mission and ministry here at FCC.

In love and peace,

Pastor Karen

Welcome Visitors

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

Becky & Jon Ahrendsen
Stephanie Barth Ella Hansen
Alice Hoffmeier
Austin Wiese & Jake Novak

Please join us again in worship.
 You are always welcome!



**Celebrating 150
 Years with Notes
 from Our Past**

Just 7 months before the stock market crashed in 1929 the following appeared in *The Church at Work* on March 22, 1929: "The excellent work of the church members in evangelism by visitation was apparent last Sunday when forty persons presented themselves for membership in the church. During the week eighty-five decisions for membership were secured. It is anticipated that the church will receive at least fifty more persons within the next two weeks."

Annual Potato Bar & Dessert Auction Fund Raiser



Friday, March 29

**6:00 pm Potato Bar & Silent Auction
 followed by Dessert Auction**

East Lincoln Christian Church, 7001 Edenton Rd.

FREE WILL DONATION

All proceeds to support scholarships to
 Kamp Kaleo in Burwell, NE



A very special thank you to all my FCC friends for the butterfly cards, phone calls, and a fun Friendship Hour, as well as the pretty table, delicious cake and the little cake with a candle presented to me by Jim Blosser. My great-granddaughter, Penny, helped me blow out the candle. It certainly helped me to accept a 97th birthday.

Much love to all my wonderful FCC friends,
Rae-Hope Putney
 Member of FCC for over 85 years

A Story from Your Global Ministries

March 2019

**"To Embrace
and Love"**



***Then the devil left him,
and angels came and attended him.***

- Matthew 4:11

As we prepare for Easter, we cannot celebrate life in Jesus without acknowledging the pain and suffering around us. We cannot be prostrate at the foot of the cross without looking up to see the nails that tore through our Savior's flesh. How then can we worship God freely and truly when vicious human desire tears through humanity as a whole?

Fiji prides itself in being a Christian country and yet we fail to live up to the simplest Christian command to love your neighbor. Although this tiny island nation is thousands of miles away from the nations that control the world's economy, we are sadly no different in our response to those who need a space to live – the refugees of our time.

Jesus, after going through an intense degree of fasting and being tested by the devil, was attended by angels. Matthew 4:11 says, *"Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him."* The word *angels* in Greek also means *messenger*. The word *attended* or *ministered* in Greek also hints at helping from one's own means. The angels in Matthew were probably supernatural beings, or they could have been humans who attended to Jesus' needs out of love instead of deceiving him.

We deceive people when we want something in return. This is exactly the nature in which Satan tempted Jesus. Every offer comes with a deceiving "promise." We need to help without holding back. We need to embrace our brothers and sisters without fear and doubt. Creating a safe environment for us to live in begins with love.

Niko Tapaeko serves as a Long-term Volunteer with the Pacific Council of Churches in Fiji. His appointment is made possible by your gifts to Disciples Mission Fund, Our Church's Wider Mission, and your special gifts.

WICS Residence for Girls Auxiliary Annual Soup Supper

Tuesday, April 2

Serving 4 to 7 pm

Southview CC, 22nd & South St.



Tickets available at the door; \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 4 through 12, ages 3 and under eat free! Proceeds go towards replacing the air conditioner on the sleeping level of the WICS home.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

This is how we know what love is:
Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.
And we ought to lay down our lives for
our brothers. *1 John 4:16b*

Join us in the Parlor following worship on **Sunday, March 31** for a special coffee fellowship! It will be hosted by the Baker family in celebration of Harold's 90th birthday.



Disciples Women General Meeting and Lunch

**Wednesday,
March 27**

*Rescheduled from
February 20*



Church Parlor @ 12:15 pm



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.

Lincoln FCC Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 24 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

- 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
- 11:30 am **Blood Pressure Readings Available** - Parlor
- Noon **Elders Meeting** - Conference Room

Monday, March 25

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

Tuesday, March 26

- Noon **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, March 27

- 12:15 pm **Disciples Women General Mtg. & Lunch** - Parlor
- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 28 - Cheryl Judds on vacation (thru Mar. 29)

- 6:00 on **Outreach Team Meeting** - Conference Room
- 7:00 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Blosser's home

Friday, March 29

- 8:30 am - 1:30 pm Humanities Nebraska Event - Gym

Saturday, March 30

- 5:00 - 9:00 pm Tiffany Willey Birthday Party - Gym

Sunday, Mar. 31 - 4th Sunday in Lent, Faith Giving Sunday

- 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
- 11:30 am **Coffee Fellowship for Harold Baker's 90th birthday**
- 11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library

Monday, April 1 - Pastor Karen out of office (thru April 5)

- Noon **Messenger Deadline**
- 5:30 pm CCC Meeting - Library
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym
- 7:00 pm **Deborah Group Mtg.** - D'Arcy Blosser's home

Tuesday, April 2

- Noon **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library

Wednesday, April 3

- 1:30 pm **Martha Group Mtg.** - Church Parlor
- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 4 - Messenger Mailed

- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym
- 7:00 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Blosser's home

Those Serving in April

10:30 am Worship

Elder:

- | | | | |
|---------|--------------|---------|----------------|
| Apr. 7 | Debby Ortega | Apr. 21 | Tom Mason |
| Apr. 14 | Donna Ruhl | Apr. 28 | D'Arcy Blosser |

Deacons: Dan Cowger, Doug/Jessica Effle, Vince Ortega, Dick Pickel, Polly Putney, John Swanson

Communion Prep: Doug/Jessica Effle & Polly Putney

Ushers / Greeters:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Apr. 7 | Robert Reddish |
| Apr. 14 | Wayne & Susan Pallas Duncan |
| Apr. 21 | Elaine Parman |
| Apr. 28 | Carla Pinneo |

Hallway Hospitality:

- | | |
|---------|--------------|
| Apr. 7 | Rich Calver |
| Apr. 14 | Geoff Putney |
| Apr. 21 | Mike Carlin |
| Apr. 28 | Tom Mason |

Coffee Fellowship Hosts:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 7 | Need Volunteer |
| Apr. 14 | Stephen Ministers |
| Apr. 21 | Foundation Members |
| Apr. 28 | Music Ministries |

Homebound Communion Teams: (April 10)

- Sara Lugn & Dan Cowger
- Tom Mason & John Swanson
- Debby Ortega & Vince Ortega
- Donna Ruhl & Dick Pickel

Snack Supper Volunteers:

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| Apr. 3 | Carla Pinneo & Hanna Pinneo Boring |
| Apr. 10 | Need Volunteer |
| Apr. 17 | Susan Pallas-Duncan |
| Apr. 24 | Sara Lugn |



Disciples Women April Meetings

Deborah Group

Monday, April 1 at 7:00 pm
D'Arcy Blosser's home

Martha Group

Wednesday, April 3 at 1:30 pm
Church Parlor