



Messenger

love all • live spiritually
rejoice in hope • show hospitality



430 S. 16th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508
402.475.4289

Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor
Cheryl Judds, Administrative Assistant
Elaine Parman, Care Ministries Volunteer

Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries
Sara Lugn, Stephen Ministry Leader
Church Website: fcclincoln.org

Volume 69, No. 5
March 7, 2019
Church E-mail: info@fcclincoln.org

Small Groups for Lent

We have leaders for five Lenten study groups, and they will be ready to start meeting next week! By joining one of these small groups, you can take some time to get to know God more deeply and to share in fellowship with others. Each group will meet for a six-week study, with an option to continue for an additional two weeks. It's not too late to sign up to participate (find sign-up sheets in the parlor), or contact Pastor Karen or the group leader. All are welcome!

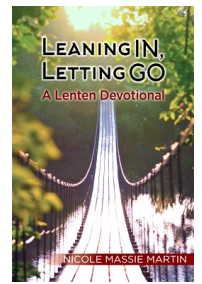
Tues. 7:00 pm Hanna Pinneo Boring
Wed. 5:30 pm Pastor Karen Moritz & Wayne Duncan Church Library
Thurs. 7:00 pm D'Arcy & Jim Blosser
Sat. Time TBD Brad Bowker Church Parlor
Tues. Noon Elaine Parman Church Library

If you have any questions about this spiritual formation opportunity, please contact Pastor Karen.

Lenten Devotional

The Lenten devotional we have ordered for the season of Lent this year is "Leaning IN, Letting GO" by Nicole Massie Martin. The author will take us on a hope-filled journey of letting go of all that keeps us from experiencing the joy of resurrection. It includes daily reflections and prayers that invite us to lean into God's grace and let go of our own agendas.

If you haven't already done so, you can pick up a booklet in the Parlor this Sunday. Please consider a \$3 donation for each copy. Thank You!



Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour this Saturday evening, March 9.

(You don't want to be late for church!)



Save the Date - Thursday, April 18

Maundy Thursday

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 watch for more information!

Pastor's Corner

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. - - Luke 4:1-2

As the *Messenger* rolls out this week we'll be entering the season of Lent. This is a time of preparation and renewal as we make our way toward Easter. Lent is officially 40 days (excluding Sundays) and is intended to emulate the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism. This time in the wilderness was also a period of preparation prior to the beginning of his public ministry. Like Jesus, we are also invited into a time of preparation and renewal. There are a variety of ways to prepare during this season. Here at FCC we're offering several opportunities to facilitate our movement through this season. Everyone is invited to take a devotional booklet entitled "**Leaning IN, Letting GO**" by Nicole Massie Martin. This will be a great guide for everyone to use in their personal and/or family devotions.

This year we are once again offering **small groups** to enhance the journey through Lent. We are offering five different groups on various days and at various times. There are sign-up sheets in the parlor or you can contact the church office or Pastor Karen if you want more information or wish to sign-up for a group. The focus for our group times will be a study entitled "Learning Forgiveness" by Marjorie Thompson. It's not too late to sign up and we look forward to welcoming everyone into one of our small groups.

Of course, **worship** is a central part of our journey through Lent. We begin this season with worship on Ash Wednesday. Part of our emphasis this year is on our unity as believers. The various Lincoln congregations in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be gathering together for Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday worship. On **Ash Wednesday** we'll be gathering at 7 pm at **Bethany Christian Church** located at 1645 N. Cotner Blvd. We'll gather once again here at FCC on Maundy Thursday at 5:30 pm for a soup supper and 7 pm for worship. We'll also mark our passage through the Lenten wilderness during weekly Sunday worship.

Lent can be a special time of preparation and renewal. We are invited to be a bit more intentional about our faith journey with God. We're all invited to make time personally to nurture our relationship with God. But, don't forget the corporate aspects of our journey as we gather for our small groups and for worship on the special days of Lent and on each Sunday of this holy season.

May Lent 2019 be a time of renewal for each, and all, of us as we are led into the wilderness by the Spirit and sustained by God.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

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



**Excerpt from the
March 7, 1919 Church at Work:**

Last Sunday evening our auditorium and balconies were filled to capacity with all standing room taken, to see the official war pictures which were presented. The pictures were very clear and distinct and gave the audience a wonderful conception of real war conditions. Village after village, together with forests and roads, and canals were shown in complete wreck. In the cities of the war stricken districts hardly a building is left intact. The streets are closed by fallen and destroyed buildings. Most pitiable of all are the wrecked churches of the land. The beautiful churches for which France is noted, proved good marks for the German gunners. They were always anxious to destroy them. Not for any military reason, but simply because there was so much sentiment in France regarding her churches. It will take years to rebuild the broken villages and fields of France.



Ministry Team Highlight

The Guidelines for FCC Ministry Teams states that the responsibilities of the Finance Team include: to supervise the congregation's total financial program including budget preparation, financial policies and procedures, plan and conduct the annual stewardship campaign, promote and support the Scrip program, and take leadership for the Fifth Sunday Faith Giving offering. Pastor Karen and Board President Geoff Putney work closely with this Team to support its ministry. The Team has new leadership with Greg Greder. Treasurer Donna Ruhl, Financial Secretary Susan Pallas-Duncan and Monte Dietrick also serve on this Team. You will hear from them soon as they promote the Fifth Sunday Faith Giving offering which will be received on March 31. Please pray for the Team's new leader and for all those who serve in this vital ministry.



Our March Act of Kindness Opportunity

Your Outreach Team is continuing “Acts of Kindness” in 2019. In March our collection barrel recipient will be **Lutheran Family Services (LFS)** located at 2301 “O” Street.

In 2019 LFS will be welcoming many new refugee families to Nebraska. As they assist these families there are many items needed to set up their “new home”. One of the most overlooked supplies is cleaning items. In preparation for the families to arrive we will be collecting the following supplies:

- Brooms and dustpans
- Buckets and mops
- Liquid dishwashing soap
- Scouring pads
- All-purpose cleaners
(Pinesol, Lysol, Mr. Clean, Comet,
Soft Scrub, etc)
- Disinfectant wipes
- Large and small plastic trash bags
- Paper towels
- Sponges/dish cloths
- Laundry detergent/bleach
- Toilet bowl brushes and cleaner

So, as you purchase your favorite cleaning supplies pick up an extra to put in our collection barrel during the month of March!



Sunday, March 17 - 6:00 pm
Church Parlor

Board Reports are due in the office by Wednesday, March 13. All FCC members and friends are welcome to attend the meeting and participate in the discussion.

Disciples Women's Retreats



WALKING TOGETHER... IN SERVICE

Saturday, April 6

**First Christian Church
114 N. 8th Street, Nebraska City**

Saturday, April 27

**First Christian Church
1201 Sheridan Drive, Hastings**

Both retreats have a 9:00 am registration, programs begin at 9:30 am.

\$15 registration fee includes lunch and program costs.

Go to disciples-ne.org to register!

Save the Date!

Annual Potato Bar & Dessert Auction Fund Raiser



Friday, March 29 6:00 pm

**East Lincoln Christian Church
7001 Edenton Road**

**All proceeds to benefit Kamp Kaleo
in Burwell, NE**



STEPHEN MINISTRY

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:16b

Lincoln FCC Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 10 - 1st 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

Homebound Communion Teams:

*D'Arcy Blosser & Vince Ortega, Kathy Harris & Robert Reddish
Connie Calver & Susan Pallas-Duncan, Gary Larsen & Wayne Duncan*

Monday, March 11

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

Tuesday, March 12

- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, March 13 - Board Reports Due (for Mar. 17 mtg.)

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Adult Lenten Study** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 14

- 5:30 pm **150th Anniv. Celebration Comm. Mtg.** - Conf. Room
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Sunday, March 17 - 2nd 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
- 4:00 pm **Pastoral Relations Team Mtg.** - Conference Room
- 6:00 pm **Board Meeting** - Parlor

Monday, March 18

- Noon **Messenger Deadline**
- 5:30 pm CCC Meeting - Library
- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Tuesday, March 19

- 9:00 am **Staff Meeting** - Conference Rm.
- 10 am - 10 pm No Limits Youth Event - Gym & Kitchen

Wednesday, March 20

- 7:30 am - 1:30 pm No Limits Youth Event - Gym & Kitchen
- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Adult Lenten Study** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3rd floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 21 - Messenger Mailed

- 7:00 pm Child Guidance Center Basketball - Gym

Saturday, March 23

- 9:30 am **Book Club** - Blosser's home

Say Hello to Austin Wiese



My name is Austin, and I work as a custodian for Lancaster County in addition to working at FCC. Also, one night a month I supervise kids at the downtown YMCA. I enjoy fishing and most things outdoors. I like to swim and walk for exercise.

I am the proud father of a 21-year-old son, Jake, who is in college here in Lincoln. My father, Tom Wiese, was a member of FCC. He passed away nearly ten years ago. He enjoyed being active in the church. He really liked the stained glass windows in the north hall.

I enjoy working for FCC and I hope to make it to a Sunday service soon.

Austin Wiese



FCC Book Club

Book Club will meet again **Saturday, March 23, 9:30 am** at D'Arcy Blosser's home. Each of us will share our thoughts about a book we've read with the rest of the group. All FCC members and friends are welcome to join in the discussion!

For those that like to read ahead, we have two more books scheduled for discussion before we select books for the rest of the year:

April *The Orphan's Tale* by Pam Jenoff

May *Hillbilly Elegy* by J. D. Vance



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.