



# Messenger

love all • live spiritually  
 rejoice in hope • show hospitality



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 Lincoln, NE 68508  
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*Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor*

*Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries*

**Volume 69, No. 7**

*Cheryl Judds, Administrative Assistant*

*Sara Lugn, Stephen Ministry Leader*

**April 4, 2019**

*Elaine Parman, Care Ministries Volunteer*

**Church Website: [fcllincoln.org](http://fcllincoln.org)**

**Church E-mail: [info@fcllincoln.org](mailto:info@fcllincoln.org)**



## Easter Lilies for Worship

Once again, we would like to decorate our worship space with lilies for Easter. If you would like to help make this possible, please fill out the order form in your Sunday bulletin and put it in the offering plate, or give it to Donna Ruhl. **Deadline to order is this Sunday, April 7.** The lilies are just \$8.75 each, and you can designate those you would like to honor or remember with each plant you purchase. **Make all checks payable to First Christian Church,** and please write "Easter Lily" in the memo line.

## Holy Week at First Christian Church



### Palm Sunday Worship

**April 14 @ 10:30 am**

*Festive worship with procession of palms.*



### Maundy Thursday

**April 18**

**Soup Supper @ 5:30 pm  
Worship @ 7:00 pm**

*Join with other Lincoln DOC congregations for fellowship & worship. Find more information on page 4.*



### Good Friday Worship

**April 19 @ Noon**

**24-Hour Prayer Vigil begins @ 1 pm**

*A sign-up sheet is on the table outside the Chapel.*



### Easter Sunday

**April 21**

**All-Church Breakfast, 8:15 - 10:00 am**

**Worship @ 10:30 am**

*Joyous music-filled worship. Invite your family & friends!*



## Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

**Friday, April 12**

**Lincoln Station  
201 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Doors open at 7:00 am  
Program at 7:30 am**

### "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.**

## Pastor's Corner

**"Be the reason someone believes in the goodness of people."**

Karen Salmansohn

At our most recent Outreach Team meeting, Team Leader Elaine Parman shared the above quote. She shared it as an invitation to guide our thinking about our ministry of Outreach on behalf of FCC. It also struck me as a powerful way of looking at the seasons of Lent and Easter. As we move through the busyness of life, particularly during this hectic time of year, it's easy to lose sight of what it's all about. We may be tempted to believe that our contributions to God's work in the world are insignificant, and that we are unable to make a meaningful difference in the world in which we live. Sometimes it's tempting to think that we don't have enough fame or money to make a difference. However, the above quote reminds us that it is often in the little things we do every day that our lives, and the lives of others, are changed.

One man made such a difference. People tried to put him down as a lowly carpenter, a traveling teacher, a Galilean. Thankfully, he saw the good in us and was willing to lay down his life for our redemption. He saw the goodness in us and invites us to do the same for one another. Following his lead, we are invited to live in ways that empower others to see the good in themselves and in one another. In this way, our lives are a witness to this goodness. Here at FCC we witness and lift up the goodness in humanity in a variety of ways. In worship we testify to the goodness of people as created and redeemed by God. During Lent we are invited to be aware of the ways in which we often obscure this goodness. However, this is not the final word. We move through Lent on the journey towards Holy Week and Easter. It is in Jesus' triumph over the grave that we witness the innate goodness of God shown to all people.

We also testify to the goodness of people by being there for others. Our Outreach Team invites us to do this as we reach out to the neighborhood around our church. We invite others to see the goodness of people as we contribute to our collection barrel and reach out to many who experience the worst life, and often people, have to offer. Without our outreach many people in our community, nation and world would have no reason to believe in the goodness of others. As we invite people into our space through our hospitality, strangers and friends can experience the goodness of people first-hand. As the Elders, Deacons and Stephen Ministers reach out to those hurting, the recipients of their care are invited to see the goodness in themselves and others. As our Care Minister and Pastor visit the sick and homebound, those they visited are invited to experience the goodness of others too.

Our world provides ample examples of the depravity of people. As Christians we are invited to see the good in everyone and empower them to see the good in themselves. May we, individually and as a community, "Be the reason someone believes in the goodness of people" and of God.

In love and joy,

*Pastor Karen*

## Welcome Visitors

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

### *Baker Family Members:*

*Bruce Baker*

*Duane & Debra Baker*

*Rodney Baker, Joey & Sophia*

*Sheila & Dave Boykin*

*Jenny & Cooper Sovey*

*Connie Thompson & Kathy*

*Michael Conn*

*Megan & John Hobbs*

*Carly & Diane Kennedy*

*Sarah Mason & Zulema*

*Austin Wiese & Jacob Novak*

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



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

The April 4, 1919 edition of *The Church at Work* carried this article:

### NEBRASKA PREACHERS ENDORSE THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

At the meeting of the State ministerial Institute last week at Cotner the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Ministerial Association, the same being an organization of Ministers of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), having a membership of 23,000 in Nebraska, are in annual session:

BE IT RESOLVED, that we express our hearty approval of the principles of a League of Nations for the preservation of world peace and the beginning of an era of international cooperation in lieu of the old theory of competitive alliances and national selfishness,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the principles of a League of Nations so formed should be applied to the problems up for settlement at the Paris conference and included as part of the treaty of peace there formed,

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this action be forwarded to Senators Hitchcock and Norris of Nebraska with commendation upon their favorable alignment on this question and their good wishes for their successful leadership in behalf of the League of Nations covenant when it shall come before the people of the Nation and the senate of the United States for ratification.



## Our April Act of Kindness Opportunity

“Lulu’s on N” will be the recipient of our Random Act of Kindness Collection Barrel for the month of April.

“Lulu’s on N” is where the Korn Popper was, directly south of the Bennett Martin Public Library. Karen Lamb is the woman behind the Pay it Forward, Purchase a Community Meal Program. A five dollar bill pays for one meal for a homeless person, and any monetary donations are lumped together to create a meal ticket. She uses clothespins to hang the free meal tickets in the window and each ticket gets a customer in need a hot lunch. Along with providing meals to the homeless she hands out a variety of donated items to them as well.

We will support “Lulu’s on N” mission in giving a hand up to the homeless population of Lincoln by collecting the following items:

- lightweight rain ponchos*
- toothpaste & toothbrushes*
- sunscreen*
- disposable razors*
- bug spray*
- combs & brushes*
- socks*
- granola bars & protein bars*
- deodorant*
- can openers*
- bottled water*
- single servings of nuts or trail mix*

Karen Lamb is a Methodist minister on Sundays and lives week days by the words she preaches from the pulpit: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Your Outreach Team thanks **you** for supporting our monthly Random Act of Kindness Collection Barrel. First Christian Church is making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate right in our downtown Lincoln neighborhood by working together with the many existing programs already offering a hand up.

## 2019 Easter Special Offering

(Received April 14 & 21)



As Disciples, we all benefit from the fruits of our general ministries, made possible through the connections and support that grow in collaboration with our regions and congregations. Your gifts to the Easter offering can transform our shared work.

Find more information at [disciplesmissionfund.org](http://disciplesmissionfund.org)

## Ministry Team Highlight



While all our Teams work diligently throughout the year, the Worship Team is quite busy during special seasons like Lent and Easter. The Worship Team works faithfully with the Pastor and the Director of Music Ministries to ensure quality worship services here at FCC. They work to plan and implement all aspects of our worship life including the actual worship services, recruiting and training all those who help lead worship, and planning and preparing the sanctuary or chapel for worship events. This Team works closely with the congregation’s Administrative Assistant and Communications Team to promote worship events. In addition to planning the weekly services during Lent, they oversee all the special worship services such as Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. They also take leadership in planning for our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil which begins after worship on Good Friday and goes into Holy Saturday.

Please pray for this Team’s leader Sara Lugn, for all those who serve on it, and for your Pastor and Director of Music Ministries as we all work together in this vital ministry.



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:7

# Lincoln FCC Calendar of Events

## Sunday, April 7 - 5th Sunday in Lent, SCRIP Orders Due

- 9:00 am Boom Team Rehearsal - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Toddler Room
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (gr. 2 - 6) - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Classroom
- 9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library
- 10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3 - 7) - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Classroom
- 11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library

## Monday, April 8

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

## Tuesday, April 9 - Primary Election (FCC is polling location)

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

## Wednesday, April 10

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, April 11

- 7:00 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Blosser's home

## Friday, April 12 - 7:30 am Mayor's Prayer Breakfast (see pg. 1)

## Sunday, April 14 - Palm Sunday, Easter Special Offering

- 9:00 am Boom Team Rehearsal - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Toddler Room
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (gr. 2 - 6) - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Classroom
- 9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library
- 10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3 - 7) - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Classroom
- 11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library

### Homebound Communion Teams:

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

## Monday, April 15

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

## Tuesday, April 16 - 9:00 am Staff Meeting - Conference Rm.

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

## Wednesday, April 17

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor
- 5:30 pm **Lenten Study "Learning Forgiveness"** - Library
- 6:15 pm Youth Group Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, April 18 - Messenger Mailed, Maundy Thursday

- 5:30 pm **Soup Supper** - Gym
- 7:00 pm **Worship** - Sanctuary

## Friday, April 19 - Good Friday


- Noon **Worship** - Sanctuary
- 1:00 pm **24-Hour Prayer Vigil Begins** - Chapel

## Maundy Thursday Volunteering

We need folks to bring soup and desserts for the dinner preceding the **Maundy Thursday service on April 18**. We're expecting about 125 people so we'll need to provide more food than usual.



Please contact Jim Blosser to let him know what you can bring and how many it will serve. **Thank You!**

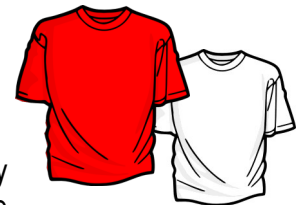


Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you for once again allowing No Limits to use your facilities as our "home base" for our Kick Butts Day Youth Rally. Our students gained valuable leadership skills as they prepared to educate our senators on the impact tobacco has on their generation. We couldn't do it without you. Your staff is such a joy to work. We appreciate you!


Sincerely,  
*Molly, Amy & the No Limits Youth Board*

## Order Your 150th Anniversary T-Shirts



Order forms for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirts and polo shirts were emailed to FCC members and friends last week! If you need a printed copy, there are some on the table at the back of the sanctuary and also in the parlor. **The deadline to order is Sunday, April 28.**

If you have any questions, you can contact Lindsay Swanson or Jim Blosser.



**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.