



# Messenger

love all • live spiritually  
rejoice in hope • show hospitality



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

Volume 69, No. 19

October 17, 2019

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

## 2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Stewardship time is upon us again. In line with our 150th Anniversary, we are asking First Christian Church to **Embrace our Future**. We have so many amazing forerunners of the faith, and now it is our time to carry the torch of FCC into the future. Your continued generosity to the church is evidence of your faith and trust that God's not finished with us yet!

Our goal this year is to raise \$210,000. If you've already submitted your pledge, **thank you!** If not, you still have until **Pledge Dedication Sunday**, November 17th. Pledge cards are available in the Sanctuary and the church office. Contact Kelly T. in the church office for any questions.

In Christ's Love,  
THE FINANCE TEAM

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."  
Philippians 1:6



## Celebrating 150 Years with Notes from Our Past

We found this article in the October 11, 1929 edition of the *Church at Work*:

### Church School Receives Gift

In times gone by the Church School has received some splendid gifts which add greatly to the attractiveness of its rooms and the effectiveness of its program.

No department takes more pride in its program or the appearance of its worship room than the Junior High School Department. Its sponsor, Mrs. Hugh Hallett, has recently presented the department with two silver communion plates and a complete set of linen for the table. The plates were suitably engraved by Mr. Charles Stiasny.

We congratulate the fortunate department and greatly appreciate the thoughtfulness of the donors.

*Though many gifts to the church are no longer with us, these plates have been retained and are now on display on the sofa table in our church parlor.*

Love Your Church  
Buy SCRIP!  
Orders due the 1st Sunday of each month!



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

"There is no fear in love."

1 John 4:18a

## Pastor's Corner

**“For you I am a bishop, with you, I am a  
Christian”** **St. Augustine**

This quote comes from St. Augustine’s sermon “On the Anniversary of His Ordination.” Last week, I had the privilege of attending a retreat for pastors in which one of our presenters told us this quote. Gary Neal Hansen, formerly professor of Church History at University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, was one of our presenters at the Pastoral Leadership Revitalization Retreat I attended in Nebraska City. He is the author of a book entitled *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History’s Teachers*. He reminded us that although we are all called to be pastors, we are, first and foremost, Christians. During our retreat we were invited to ponder both facets of our lives. Like all Christians, we are invited to deepen and nurture our relationship with God. As pastors, we are called to facilitate the journey of faith for all those we shepherd.

This retreat was one part of the “Pastoral Leadership Revitalization” program (PLR), which is designed to increase pastoral resilience. It’s being funded by a generous Lily grant and is made available through the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation. Its focus is to provide guidance, support, and mentoring to help us learn and grow in our role as a pastor. The PLR program involves a three-year commitment. During that time, I will receive monthly mentoring from a mentoring coach and I’ll attend five retreats between now and the end of 2021. The first of those retreats was last week in Nebraska City at the Lied Lodge. In addition to participating in workshops and worship, I was assigned to and met my mentor/coach. The coaching I receive is valued at \$1000 per year, and the retreat costs will be approximately \$500 each. All of these costs will be covered by the grant, so this is a tremendous gift and opportunity for us all.

I am very excited to have been selected and invited to participate in the PLR, and I believe it will benefit not only me, but all of us. I look forward to sharing more information with you as this all unfolds, but for now, please keep me, all the pastors, mentors, and program staff in your prayers.

So as I close, let me borrow and adapt these powerful words from St. Augustine; “with you I am a Christian, for you I am a pastor.” May God bring renewal and revitalization to us all.

With love and joy,

*Pastor Karen*

### Faith Giving Update

We did something amazing for our last Faith Giving Sunday. **We received almost \$6,000!** This was one of our largest faith giving offerings in years. We would like to thank all those who participated:

Rhonda Ball	Sara Lugn
Gwen Belden	Tom & Sally Mason
Jim & D’Arcy Blosser	Mark Miller
Cecelia Burkhardt	Elaine Parman
Mike & Bobbi Carlin	Dick & Roxie Pickel
Jim Christ	Carla Pinneo
Joan Dietrich	Geoff Putney
Casey & Marcia Foster	Polly & Rae Hope Putney
Lois Frogge	Donna Ruhl
Greg & Tezra Greder	Marj Snodgrass
Phyllis Knosp	John & Lindsey Swanson
Relda Lathrop	

We also anticipate raising over \$1,000 from Husker football parking. Thank you to those who have been volunteering to take donations before the games.

These funds are a blessing that allow us to continue to serve in our community, our region, and beyond.

Thank you again,

*Geoff Putney & The Finance Team*



### October Act of Kindness

During the month of September we are supporting **Lincoln High School** by collecting **individually wrapped candy bars**. All donations due by **Wednesday October 23rd!** Find more information on the bulletin board outside the parlor. Please place your donations in the barrel in the Narthex. **Thank You!**

**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.



## A Note from Stephen Ministries

### We Are Ambassadors for Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 states, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

This passage offers a wonderful insight into the role we Christians play in God's plan for bringing the world to himself. We are Christ's ambassadors. In so many ways we are called to take the place of Christ, to be Christ, for others around us. God will be calling some of you to be special ambassadors as Stephen Ministers, bringing the love and presence of Christ to those who are hurting and in need of care and support as they go through a hard time.

As a Stephen Minister, you are not thrown into ministry alone. You receive 50 hours of in-class training, with reading, discussion, and practice in how to support and help others effectively. You will participate in supervision and will receive continuing education. It won't be easy, but it will be joyful. You won't be tossed into deep water without knowing how to swim. No Stephen Minister is asked to do what he or she is not prepared to do. You will learn about the limits of confidentiality, how to pray with others, and how to set boundaries of care. You will also learn how to listen, step one of which is: Breathe through your nose.

You will meet once a week with your care receiver, not necessarily to solve his or her problems, and certainly not to cure them. God cures; you care, support, and pray. You are the disciplined friend who is present on God's behalf and in Christ's place, just to show concern for that person and his or her needs, not somehow to get your own needs taken care of. Does the idea of being a Stephen Minister stir you? Does your heartbeat a little faster? Does a sense of confidence well up in you that this is what God has gifted you to do?

We will be having a Stephen Ministry Information Night

on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the Parlor. Come see, and hear what Stephen Ministry is all about. Do you feel God's tugging at you? I invite you to prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to be a Stephen Minister. Please let Pastor Karen or me know if you are interested in attending so we are sure to have enough refreshments for all. We look forward to seeing you Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

### Welcome Visitors

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

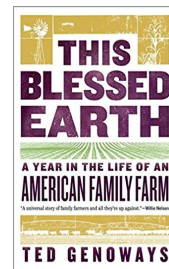
**Brady & Kristie Christianson family**  
**Anthony Flack**

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

## Book Club News

Book Club will meet again **Saturday November 23rd at 9:30 am** at Becky's home. Our book for discussion is:

***This Blessed Earth*** by Ted Genoways



Below are some upcoming book selections:

***Death at La Fenice*** by Donna Leon

***Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury

***Orphan Train*** by Christina Baker Kline

Anyone is welcome to join in our discussions at any time. We usually meet on Saturday mornings, but check the FCC Calendar of Events for specific dates and times.

# N

## New This Fall

First Christian Church is now accepting \$10 donations for parking spots during Husker Football home games. Remaining games are:

- October 26th @ 2:30 pm
- November 16th @ TBD
- November 29th @ 1:30 pm

If you are interested in volunteering to take donations, please contact Susan Pallas-Duncan at 402.880.6967 or [slpallas@gmail.com](mailto:slpallas@gmail.com). Thank you for supporting First Christian Church and Go Big Red!

Check the Bulletin Board outside the Parlor for more events & information!



## Flood/Disaster Relief Mission Trip For Central Nebraska October 18-19-20

Hastings First Christian Church will be hosting all workers for a weekend of "Getting Dirty for Jesus." Mark your calendars now, more details are coming soon. Updates and more information is on the Nebraska Disciples website, [www.disciples-ne.org](http://www.disciples-ne.org).



### Pie Anyone?

Trees are changing colors, days are getting shorter, evenings are ending in beautiful sunsets; it is time for Disciple Women's apple pie orders. If you want to support the women in their donations to local charities and enjoy a fresh, warm pie, get your orders in. We will be taking orders for delicious tarts and pies through October. The pies and tarts are made and frozen for you to pick up later on at the church. Order blanks will be in the bulletins or talk to D'Arcy Blosser or Sally Mason.

## Healthy Grieving *What It Is and How We Do It*



Grief can often be more difficult & overwhelming than we are prepared for. This group will review healthy grieving, as well as how it can get tricky at times. We will discuss positive coping skills that can help us as we grieve. Participants will have the opportunity to talk about their own loss and grief experiences as well as heart and learn from others.

**4 Weeks - Tuesday Evenings - 5:30 pm -7:00 pm**  
October 29th  
November 5th  
November 12th  
November 19th



**Facilitated by Nancy Gabelman**

Please RSVP to [info@southviewchristianchurch](mailto:info@southviewchristianchurch)  
Southview Christian Church  
2040 South 22nd St.  
Lincoln, NE  
402-475-6756



## Northeast United Church of Christ

**"A Celebration of Artistic Gifts"**  
Art Festival - October 19, 2019  
10 am - 4 pm

**Also selling Raffle Tickets for a Kamp Kaleo T-Shirt Quilt**  
Queen Size 96" x 100"  
Raffle tickets \$1 each or 6 for \$5  
Drawing will be held Sunday November 3rd  
(Winner will be notified if not present)

## Southpointe Christian Church Disciples Men's Breakfast Building Connections Through Real Stories

Saturday November 2nd, 2019  
8:30 - 10:00 am  
The Eatery, 48th & Van Dorn

RSVP at [www.SouthPointecc.org/men](http://www.SouthPointecc.org/men)



## WICS Residence Annual Spaghetti Supper



The annual Spaghetti Supper fundraiser at WICS Residence will be Tuesday October 22nd, at Southview Christian Church. The event will be serving 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Proceeds will benefit outside educational community involvement opportunities. Adult tickets are \$8, Children 3-12 are \$4, and Children under 3 are free! Tickets are available in the First Christian office. See the bulletin board by the parlor for more information and ways to volunteer!

# Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

## Thursday, October 17 - Messenger Mailed

- 5:30 pm **Worship Team Meeting** - Conference Room  
7:00 pm **150<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Celebration Team Mtg.** - Conf. Rm

## Sunday, October 20

- 9:00 am BOOM Team - 3rd Floor Youth Room  
9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library  
10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary  
10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3-7) - 2nd Fl. Classroom  
11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library  
12:00 noon **Pastoral Relations Committee Mtg** - Conf. Room  
6:00 pm **Cabinet Meeting** - Conference Room

## Monday, October 21

- 5:30 pm CCC Class - Library

## Wednesday, October 23

- 5:30 pm Snack Supper - Parlor  
5:30 pm Adult Study - Library  
6:00 pm Handbell Quartet Rehearsal - Sanctuary  
6:15 pm Youth Group - Meets in Parlor  
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary  
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

## Sunday, October 27

- 9:00 am BOOM Team - 3rd Floor Youth Room  
9:30 am Seekers Adult Class - Library  
10:30 am **WORSHIP** - Sanctuary  
10:45 am Worship & Wonder (ages 3-7) - 2nd Fl. Classroom  
11 am, 1 pm CCC Meetings - Library  
12 noon **Elder's Meeting** - Conference Room

## Monday October 28

- 5:30 pm CCC Class - Library

## Tuesday October 29

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting - Conference Room

## Wednesday October 30

## Thursday, October 31 - Messenger Mailed



**The Veterans' Parade**  
Hosted by Lincoln Veterans'  
Parade Group  
November 9th, 2pm - 4pm

In previous years FCC has offered hot cocoa and snacks to parade attendees. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Jim Blosser. For more information, see [www.lincolnveteransparade.org](http://www.lincolnveteransparade.org).

# Prayers & Praises - October 17, 2019

## In the Nebraska Region:

- Weeping Water FCC and Rev. Richard Ream
- Wilsonville United Baptist Christian Church and Rev. Keith Theobald

## Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Ignacio Salinas serving in Nicaragua
- Tom Liddle serving in East Timor

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at

[www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



## How well do you know the Christian Church Foundation?

Since 1961, the Christian Church Foundation has served the church's mission and vision through planned giving, endowment funds, and other avenues through which donors can charitably distribute their gifts within the church and the world. The Christian Church Foundation works with individual donors, local congregations, legacy congregations, regions, and other ministries of the church to determine their passion for ministry and discern together the best way they can use their gifts to support ministry.

Our calling is to invest your resources and manage your gifts to leave a lasting legacy of change for good in this world. In the words of President Gary Kidwell, "Our purpose is to make distributions that produce dollars for ministry. Moving money to mission – that's what we do."

Our mission is to support and expand the ability of all Disciples ministries to worship, witness and serve. We do this by identifying and resourcing donors who desire to make a difference through planned gifts, and by assisting Disciples ministries to be good stewards of their gifts through sound policies and prudent investment services.

To learn more, visit  
[www.christianchurchfoundation.org](http://www.christianchurchfoundation.org).