



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

love all . live spiritually . rejoice in hope . show hospitality

Messenger

430 S. 16th St.

Lincoln, NE 68508

402.475.4289

www.fcclincoln.org



Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor

Kelly Tyrrell, Church Administrator

Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries

Sara Lugin, Stephen Ministry Leader

www.fcclincoln.org

info@fcclincoln.org

Volume 70, No. 5

March, 12, 2020



April 3, 2020 First Friday Art Walk

First Christian Church will be hosting a First Friday event on **April 3rd 5:00-7:00**. The evening will feature tours of our stained glass windows, the art of McPhee elementary students, and the art of Jan Amberg. We will be looking for volunteers to:

- ⇒ Provide snacks
- ⇒ Set up
- ⇒ Lead art activities for children
- ⇒ Be FCC Ambassadors
- ⇒ Clean up

If you want to get involved, look for the Sign-Up Genius link of the First Christian Facebook page - OR - call Kelly T. in the FCC office (402-475-4289).



Wednesday Night Fellowship has new programming! Join us on Wednesday nights, starting at 5:30 pm, for dinner served by Chef au Chef (\$5) and speakers from various community organizations. Find out what's new and happening in Lincoln!

March 18th: Guest Speaker Ann Heydt

Ms. Heydt comes to us from *Aging Partners*. She will be sharing information about the various programs they offer for Seniors in Lincoln.

March 25th: Guest Speaker Sara Sunderman

Ms. Sunderman is the Vice Chair of the *Lincoln Homeless Coalition* and the Outreach Coordinator for *Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach*. She will be sharing new information about both of the Lincoln organizations she is a part of.

It's Time!! Summer is coming and Kamp Kaleo Registration is OPEN!!

Kamp is a place for children and youth to grow in faith, to experience God in nature, to make life-long friendships, and to have fun. Kamp Kaleo is offering 6 camps for summer 2020:

Adventures in Community: Designed for adults with developmental disabilities, May 26-29

Junior Kamp: For 4th & 5th graders, June 7-11

Middle School Kamp: For 6th - 8th graders, June 14-19

Kayak Quest: For 6th grade through adults, June 22-25

Little Kampers: For Kindergarten through 3rd grade, July 10-12

Faith & Fine Arts Kamp/High School Kamp (combined): For 7th grade through high school aged youth, July 12-17

You can find more information at kampkaleo.com.

To register, contact D'Arcy Blosser for instructions on utilizing the FCC portal.

Pastor's Corner

Each week we produce a newsletter, we have a staff meeting with myself, Mark Miller, and Kelly Tyrrell. This is a time that we come to consensus on projects, update one another with our progress, and encourage each other to maintain our good work. One thing we do each week is take turns opening with a devotion. This week, the devotion shared by Mark Miller was so touching, that I wanted to share it with the whole congregation. This reading comes from Grace Church Cathedral in Charleston, South Carolina.

True Lenten Disciplines

Fast from judging other;

Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from fear of illness;

Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute;

Feast on speech that purifies.

Fast from discontent;

Feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger;

Feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism;

Feast on optimism.

Fast from negatives;

Feast on alternatives.

Fast from bitterness;

Feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern;

Feast on compassion.

Fast from suspicion;

Feast on truth.

Fast from gossip;

Feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from problems that overwhelm;

Feast on prayer that sustains.

Fast from worry;

Feast on faith.

May you keep this close to you and read through these suggestions when you are feeling tempted or led astray this Lenten season.

With a positive heart,

Pastor Karen

Don't Forget SCRIP!

See Donna Ruhl after service any Sunday to see what she has on hand - OR - special orders go in the first Sunday of each month.



Coming in August – Kamp Kaleo Rummage Sale at First Christian Church, Lincoln, NE – Save Your Stuff!

Here's a list of treasures **we are seeking** for the sale: linens, towels, blankets, bedspreads, fabrics & craft supplies, kitchen supplies, dishes, small kitchen appliances in good working order, pots & pans, small furniture items, household items & décor, tools, sporting goods, antiques, collectibles & curios, jewelry, baskets, puzzles & games in good condition, artwork, lamps, office supplies, holiday items, gently used toys, books, lamps, stools, decorative vases...all in clean and reusable condition.

Items we **CANNOT** accept are: baby cribs or car seats, clothing, heavy exercise equipment, firearms or other weapons, computer monitors, encyclopedias or hymn books, non-digital TV's, or furniture that requires more than two people to **EASILY** carry.

Questions?

Contact D'Arcy Blosser, 402-429-6902 or
Gwen Belden, 402-430-8399

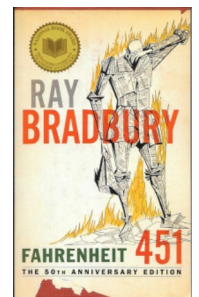
Book Club News

Book Club will meet again **Saturday, March 28, 10:30 am** at Cheryl Judds' house.

Our book for discussion is: **Fahrenheit 451**
by **Ray Bradbury**

Below are some upcoming book selections:

- *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline
- *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman



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.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Notes For February

Worship Services Held: 4

Average Weekly Attendance: 61 people

New Visitors: 6

Coordinating and Responding to the COVID-19 Outbreak

posted at www.disciples.org March 6, 2020

Dear Church,

No doubt there are those who have concerns and anxiety about the coronavirus as it continues to spread. We may not yet know the extent to which the disease will affect the United States and Canada, but with prevention efforts and timely responses, the impact on our congregations and communities can be reduced.

We are grateful for Disciples congregations that are being proactive in planning how to care for their members and communities. Resources for congregational preparedness are available at www.disciples.org/dns/disciples-and-covid-19/. We will continue to update this page with additional resources and information about the Church's response.

Information is our greatest resource as we make our plans and preparations. Accurate information about the virus can help calm anxieties and correct misinformation. Prevention information can help protect people and limit the transmission of the virus. Even when an outbreak begins, sharing information enables more timely and effective responses.

Week of Compassion and the General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are here to assist and support congregations in the event of an outbreak affecting your community. As this situation is highly dynamic, we are assessing what resources are available across the Church, working closely with our governmental and ecumenical partners, and developing emergency plans to help congregations respond.

To be most effective, we need to know where Disciples are affected. The best way to help us assist you is to notify Week of Compassion quickly when someone within your congregation or immediate community is affected. We ask that you do not share names or other personal information to respect pastoral boundaries and patient confidentiality.

If cases are confirmed in your community, especially individuals connected to your church, please contact Week of Compassion by email,

info@weekofcompassion.org, or phone/text 203-772-8597.

We continue in prayer with you, for our neighbors affected by this virus, and for all who are working to provide care. Together, our wider Church can serve as a resource to our local communities and serve our neighbors in need during this time.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the Great Healer,

Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President

Vy Nguyen, Executive Director, Week of Compassion

FINANCE NOTES *TAX TIME!*

Many of us are probably working on getting our state and federal taxes completed. Compiling all of the paperwork, receipts, and expense reports can be a lot of work. Hopefully, with the excellent performance of the stock market in 2019, several of you will be seeing a refund!

With this in mind, we'd like to take a short moment to remind you that 5th Sunday is coming up on March 29th. If you feel so moved, please consider using part of your tax refund to support the ministry and mission of First Christian Church. Every little bit helps!

May the Spirit of God be with you,
The Finance Team

What's New at Bryan Health

Strength Training for Seniors

March 16th - April 22nd
Mondays and Wednesday
10:30 - 11:30 am

Grief After Suicide: Finding Hope and Healing

with guest speaker John Jordan

Monday March 23rd
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Southwood Lutheran Church
4301 Wilderness Hills Blvd

mourninghope.org/newsandevents/events

Church Grounds Cleaned Up

Despite heavy winds, eleven adults and two youngsters cleaned up our grounds on Saturday, March 7th. Fortified with donuts and coffee, provided by Property Leader Jim Christ, we deheaded perennials in the parking lot and on the south side of the sanctuary. A few brave souls scampered up a ladder and removed vines that had overtaken the building. We also raked leaves, mulched beds, picked up trash, and mowed the lawn. Gary Larsen hauled off as much debris as he could jam into his truck!

Please thank Karl Ahrendsen, Gwen Belden, Dani Berger and her helpers Ari & Owen, Jim Blosser, Brad Bowker, Jim Christ, Monte Dietrick, Wayne Duncan, Gary Larsen, Mark Miller, and Pastor Karen for all their hard work. We had a great time and look forward to beautiful landscaping again this year!



THANK YOU!

First Christian Church Lincoln NE's 2020 Collection

raised:

\$209.21 and 150 lbs. of food

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



March 2020 Act of Kindness

Voices of Hope is the recipient of our Collection Barrel for the month of March.

Voices of Hope, 2545 N Street, provides services to empower those who have experienced relationship violence, sexual assault, and related forms of abuse. We can help with providing basic needs by collecting the following items:

SCRIP Cards to

1. Super Saver
2. Russ's Market
3. Walgreens
4. Target
5. Walmart
6. U-Stop

NEW Bedding items: sheets, blankets, throws, baby blankets, bed pillows

Toiletry items: shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant

Car travel kits: non-perishable snacks, wet wipes, tissues, bottled water

Wednesday Night Dinner March Menu

- March 18th: Spinach-artichoke chicken, roasted potatoes & veggies, salad, and fruit
- March 26th: Beef enchiladas, rice, Mexican corn, salad, and fruit

We are still looking for set up & clean up volunteers. Dinner starts at 5:30 pm. Vegetarian options available. To RSVP for dinner, sign-up in the kitchen or let Kelly T. know in the FCC office.



2020 FCC Directories Now Available!

Printed Directories will be left in the parlor each Sunday. If you would prefer an electronic PDF copy, please sign-up with your name and email address on the sheet in the parlor - OR - contact Kelly in the FCC office at 402-475-4289.



Lent & Holy Week 2020

Save the Date

April 9th: Maundy Thursday, Worship 7 pm at First Christian Church

April 10th: Good Friday, Worship 12 noon at First Christian Church

April 10th: 24 Hour Prayer Vigil, 1 pm Friday through 1 pm Saturday (Sign up will be available soon)

April 12th: Easter Sunday

8 - 10 am Easter Breakfast, FCC Gymnasium
10:30 am Easter Worship



The Worship Team hopes you are finding Lent In A Bag to be a meaningful part of your Lenten journey this year. If you haven't picked up your bag, we still have some available. We welcome your feedback.

We look forward to seeing you in church this Lenten season and during our special Holy Week services. If you have not attended for a while, we hope you will come worship with us in the upcoming weeks.

See you soon!

Sara Lugin



STEPHEN MINISTRY

"We have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints."

Colossians 1:4

Prayers & Praises March 12, 2020

In the Nebraska Region:

- Crestwood Christian Church and Rev. Christy Ahmose
- CrossBridge Christian Church

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Maria Abigail Hernandez serving in Japan
- Dustin Riebel serving in Ecuador

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at

www.globalministries.org



WICS Auxiliary Soup Supper

Southview Christian Church
22nd & South Street
Tuesday March 31, 2020
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

\$8.00 Adults
\$4.00 Children (aged 4-12)
Children 3 and under FREE

More information available on Facebook. Tickets available in the FCC office. Call Kelly T. at 402-475-7289.



**If you're happy and you
know it,
WASH YOUR HANDS!**

Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

Thursday, March 12 - Messenger Mailed

Sunday, March 15

- 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
- 6 pm **Board Meeting** - Conference Room

Monday, March 16

- 5:30 pm CCC Class - Library

Wednesday, March 18

- 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, March 22

- 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 **Elders Meeting** - Conference Room

Monday, March 23

- 5:30 pm CCC Class - Library
- 7:00 pm **Capitol Campaign Meeting** - Conference Room

Tuesday, March 24

- 9:00 am **Staff Meeting** - Conference Room

Wednesday, March 25

- 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

Thursday, March 26 - Messenger Mailed

- 5:30 pm **Worship Team Meeting** - Conference Room

Welcome Visitors

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

Luis Lopez

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