



# First Christian Church

## Disciples of Christ

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

# Messenger

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## May Act of Kindness

### Food Bank of Lincoln

There's still a few days to give!

Our May Act of Kindness is to collect monetary donations for **The Food Bank of Lincoln**. We have all heard how this pandemic has substantially increased the number of people and families needing to secure food from our local food bank during this difficult time.

We will make the donation to the Lincoln Community Foundation on May 28th, which will have a bigger impact for the Food Bank. On this day, non-profits also get a proportional share of a \$500,000 challenge match fund provided by Lincoln Community Foundation and their sponsors.

*Thank you for your continued support of our Act of Kindness Outreach opportunities!*

## 2020 Quarantine Babies

First Christian Church is pleased to announce the birth of two new babies during our time of quarantine.

**Desmond Stevens Ball** was born  
 March 4, 2020

8 lb. 2 oz. 21 inches long  
 The parents are Aaron and  
 Alexandra Ball.

**Theodore "Theo" James Hobbs** was  
 born May 13, 2020

9 lb. 9 oz. 20.5 inches long  
 The parents are John and Megan  
 (Blosser) Hobbs.



Theo Hobbs, picture  
 courtesy of Grandma D'Arcy.



### New Release from Chalice Press

Whether you want to be a better person of faith, a better parent, a better storyteller, a better justice-seeker, a better writer, a better student, or a better entrepreneur, BETTER begins now.

Available at  
[www.chalicepress.com](http://www.chalicepress.com)



## Pastor's Corner

**“As much as we need a prosperous economy, we also need a prosperity of kindness and decency.”**

*Caroline Kennedy*

I was struck by the above quote in my Gratitude calendar last week. As we struggle to discern the date for resuming public worship at First Christian, concerns about our life in general swirl around us. As we begin to gradually reopen and venture out, we are influenced by a number of factors. The economic wellbeing of our community and nation is part of the equation. The church is also affected economically by all that has been happening. However, there is so much more to consider, particularly for the Church.

Kennedy's quote reminds us that we are called to a prosperity of kindness and decency. So, what does that look like for us? A huge factor for us is a concern for the vulnerable in our midst. In reality, there are so many who would be grievously harmed by contracting this virus. Not only those of us over 60, but anyone with health concerns, which describes most of us on one level or another. These days challenge us to consider how we might share an prosperity of kindness and decency. We do this through our actions: by calling one another, sending off cards and notes, by dropping off needed supplies or through our participation in a Zoom call. We also do this in our restraint: by keeping physical distancing and staying at home. Not only do we reap the benefits of a “prosperity of kindness and decency, we help such prosperity grow.

I think the quote for this past Monday 18 May, reminds us of the true meaning of prosperity and the heart of gratitude.

“Do we really need much more than this?  
To honor the dawn.  
To visit a garden.  
To talk to a friend.

To contemplate a cloud.  
To cherish a meal.  
To bow our heads before the mystery of the  
day.  
Are these not enough?”  
*Kent Nerburn*

Nerburn is an author who strives to draw out an “authentic American spirituality.” He draws on Native American spirituality and points the reader to an appreciation of God's presence in nature. While both these quotes were chosen well before the arrival of COVID-19, they seem poignantly appropriate now.

May we embrace the prosperity of kindness and decency as we enjoy the life and world God has given us.

In love and peace,

*Pastor Karen*

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### Auto Pay Your Church Giving

Tired of writing checks? There is an easy, convenient and secure way to electronically transfer funds from your checking account to donate to the church. Enrolling is easy – a debit authorization form and voided check is all that we need. Forms are available in the FCC office or can be emailed to you upon request. In addition, auto payment can be canceled at any time.

#### Auto Pay makes life easier for you by:

- Knowing you are faithfully supporting so many important vital ministries
- Realizing the joy in being the faithful steward God calls you to be
- Eliminating the need to write a check regularly helping your personal budgeting process

#### Auto Pay benefits to FCC:

- Provides a more predictable income flow for better church financial management
- Reduces time and effort in processing collections by FCC staff/volunteers
- Increases faithful offerings to the church due to regular automatic donations



### Re-Opening Team Updates

The Re-Opening team held another meeting on Wednesday May 13th. They have been pouring over the latest in COVID-19 data for Lincoln and examining best practices for worship when we come back. There is another meeting set for tonight, Thursday May 21st. The congregation will be alerted as soon as decisions are made regarding when we will be in worship together again.

### First Christian Church YouTube Channel

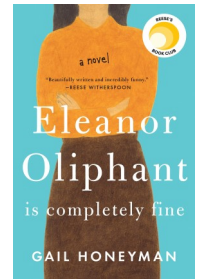
Have you missed any of the Weekly Worship Videos? No problem! They are all archived on the First Christian YouTube Channel. Go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVejAW8Dmqv8Jmk5rzj43g>

to see all of our videos starting with March 22, 2020.

### Book Club News

Book Club will meet again **Saturday, May 30 9:30 am** will be meeting via ZOOM. The ZOOM link is:



Our book for discussion is:  
**Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine**  
by Gail Honeyman

If there are any changes, an email will be sent out to the Book Club email list.

*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.*



### STEPHEN MINISTRY

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

1 John 4:12



New page beginning May 15:  
@Rev. Terri Hord Owens

# Join the GMP in prayer

**WEDNESDAYS IN MAY  
NOON EDT  
ON FACEBOOK LIVE**

# Prayers & Praises

## May 21, 2020

In the Nebraska Region:

- Kamp Kaleo on the River, Staff, Counselors
- Iglesia Discipulos, Omaha and Rev. Daniel Zapata

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Kahala Cannon serving in eSwatini
- Rosalind Gnatt serving in Germany

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



## Disciples Summer Gear

Available at  
[www.disciples.org/store](http://www.disciples.org/store)



Coming in August – Kamp  
Kaleo Rummage Sale  
First Christian Church  
Lincoln, NE

### Questions?

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

## Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

**Thursday May 21 - Messenger Mailed**

7:00 pm **Re-Opening Team ZOOM Meeting**

**Sunday, May 24**

- Paper/Electronic Bulletins available
  - YouTube Worship Video online at [www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org)
  - Check Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube for links
- 11:30 am **Virtual Coffee Hour** via ZOOM

**Wednesday, May 27**

6:30 pm **Youth Group ZOOM Meeting (Last One!)**

**Sunday, May 31 Pentecost**

- Paper/Electronic Bulletins available
  - YouTube Worship Video online at [www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org)
  - Check Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube for links
- 11:30 am **Virtual Coffee Hour** via ZOOM  
12:15 pm **Elders Meeting** via ZOOM

**Monday, June 1 - Deborah Group TBD**

**Sunday, June 7**

- Paper/Electronic Bulletins available
  - YouTube Worship Video online at [www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org)
  - Check Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube for links
- 11:30 am **Virtual Coffee Hour** via ZOOM

**Monday, June 8**

12:00 pm **Messenger Deadline**

**Tuesday, June 9**

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

**Thursday, June 11 - Messenger Mailed**

## FCC Social Media!

Each week FCC is posting new pictures, videos, and links to great worship music. Look for First Christian Church on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube for new content every week. Get connected!

