



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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

Messenger

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BE THE CHANGE

VOLUNTEER & MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



WE NEED YOU!

Are you interested in volunteering at First Christian Church? The following teams will be seeking new members in 2021:

Membership
Education
Finance

Property
Hospitality/Meals
Outreach

Leadership is essential for First Christian Church to best serve the community and to follow it's call to ministry in the Capitol City. Please ask Pastor Karen, Jim Blosser, or Geoff Putney if you have any questions about what each position involves. Thank you!!

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



October is almost past, but we are still collecting money for this year's hunger needs. This is been a very difficult year for everyone around the globe. The COVID pandemic, natural disasters, food insecurities, etc. means the need for food assistance has not gone down. A big **"THANK YOU"** to everyone that has donated so far to this year's CROP HUNGER Walk. Your support of the First Christian Team and the various team members is much appreciated! Your donation is oh so helpful-again, Thank You. If you had thought that you too would like to contribute to this worthy cause, however hadn't gotten it accomplished, there is still time. We can collect donations for this year's CROP Hunger Walk **until November 1st**. You can go to "CROP Hunger Walk Lincoln" and donate electronically or you can send to Tom Mason. Your check can be made out to CWS-CROP. Thanks in advance for your help!

WELCOME VISITORS

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

The Westing Family
Leigh Todd

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



STEPHEN MINISTRY

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Romans 12:11

Pastor's Corner

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:14-17

Last week I was able to participate in a retreat for pastors held in Nebraska City. Our number was small, about a dozen people, and we masked and socially distanced. Our presentations were done on Zoom. We strove to be together responsibly in the midst of our pandemic. The focus of this retreat was finance, finances for us as pastors and for our congregations. A presenter for the Presbyterian Foundation gave a presentation about stewardship. What struck me about this presentation was the foundational message of gratitude. As we find ourselves in the midst of our stewardship campaign here at FCC, I think it is easy to lose sight of this foundational principle. Our motivation, like most other churches, is the creation of a congregational budget for 2021. While this is important, it is easy to lose sight of the foundation for our giving. Stewardship is a faith issue. We give as an expression of our gratitude to God for all we have. As we grow in faith we come to realize that stewardship is about more than only money. Faithful stewardship is about how we use our time, talents, and resources to serve God. Faithful stewardship is about how we manifest God's reign in our congregation, our community, our nation, and our world.

Faithful stewardship is based on a sense of gratitude. The sense that we have, and we are, enough. We are able to share from this place of gratitude. During our retreat we were reminded of the importance of acknowledging and celebrating those things for which we are grateful. A good place to begin for each of us, and all of us as a community, is to ask: "what am I/what are we good at?" As Moderator of the Ministry Cabinet I asked: "what do we do well here at FC?" I also asked the Cabinet to reflect on "what have we done well this year during this pandemic?" and "where would we like to focus as we prepare for 2021?" We had a lively discussion.

It probably demonstrates my bias, but, I think we do worship well here at FCC. We have great music and gifted people who participate in the preparation and implementation of meaningful worship. Throughout this pandemic we have worked hard to keep people connected to God through various modes of worship. We are regularly assessing and revamping things as we move along. We have video, audio, print, and in-person worship weekly. Others commented that we have maintained a presence in our neighborhood and community. Others commented that we have continued to improve the gifts of our property and building which provides a safe haven for many. A sense of gratitude for all these things, and more, empowers us to constantly evaluate and improve on our ministries here at FCC.

We do not know what 2021 will look like for us or for the world, however, we affirm "This I Know: Trusting a Known God with Our Unknown Future," the motto for our stewardship campaign and for the upcoming year. We will be empowered to face that future and trust in God as we celebrate with gratitude all that we have and all that we are. Gratitude will enable each of us, and all of us, to give fully of our time, talent and resources.

With a grateful heart,
Pastor Karen

Stewardship Campaign 2021



By now you should have received a letter from First Christian Church highlighting our financial goals for 2021. We were just shy of our 2020 pledge, so our goal is to increase in 2021. The 2021 budget will go to cover all of our ministries and prepare us for the time when FCC can run at full capacity again. If you have any questions about how to submit your pledge, call the FCC office at (402) 475-4289, or send an email to info@fcclincn.org.

So far we've received 13 pledges for a total of over \$80,000! Remember, you have until Sunday November 15th to get your pledge in. Thank you in advance for your generosity to First Christian Church. You are the Church!!

Book Club News

Book Club will meet again Friday October 23rd via Zoom. Kelly Bielenberg will be hosting and sending out Zoom link information.

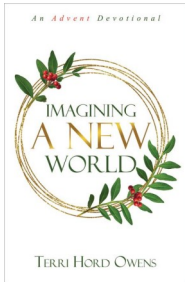


Our book for discussion is:
The Dutch House
 by Ann Patchett

Some of the upcoming titles to be discussed include:

The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield
Midnight in Chernobyl by Adam Higginbotham

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, or change of location.



Advent Devotionals are coming soon! Would you be interested in an Advent Devotional Study? The study would be via Zoom and hosted by Pastor Karen. If you would be interested in such a study, let the church office know, 402-475-4289 or info@fclincoln.org.



First Christian Church is welcoming new members to the Prayer Team. Team members receive new prayer requests when members of the congregation, friends, or family need extra love and care. If you would be interesting in joining the Prayer Team, contact the FCC office at (402) 475-4289 or send an email to in-

Dial-a-Sermon
402-205-5988



There is a new option to stay connected to First Christian. Just call 1-402-205-5988 to hear Pastor Karen's sermon for the current week. We are offering this service for all of those who are not yet ready to worship in person but may not have access to our online offerings. Spread the word!

SERVE

What is God calling you to do?

Those Serving in November

If for any reason you will be unable to fulfill your requirement, please find a substitute and alert the FCC Office. We can also help find substitutes if necessary. Thank you in advance for your service to FCC!

Worship Leader

Wayne Duncan

Elders

November 1	Debby Ortega
November 8	Monte Dietrick
November 15	Wayne Duncan
November 22	Jim Blosser
November 29	Connie Calver

Ushers/Greeters

November 1	D'Arcy Blosser
November 8	Nichole & Jared Calver
November 15	Monte Dietrick
November 22	Dick & Roxie Pickel
November 29	Wayne & Susan Pallas-Duncan

Hallway Hospitality

November 1	Vince Ortega
November 8	Rich Calver
November 15	Tom Mason
November 22	Mike Carlin
November 29	Geoff Putney

Acolytes

November 1	Kyson Effle & Edryk Christianson
November 8	Keaton Bowker & Evan Foster
November 15	Christian Swanson & Edryk Christianson
November 22	Riley Bowker & Hunter Christianson
November 29	Katie & Rebecca Swanson



Prayers & Praises October 22, 2020

In the Nebraska Region:

- Wilsonville United Baptist Christian Church and Rev. Keith Theobald
- York First Christian Church

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Martha Mensendiek serving in Japan
- Phyllis Byrd serving in Kenya



Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at www.globalministries.org

All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday is approaching on November 1, 2020. At this worship service we lift up the names of those saints in our lives who have passed over the last year. If you have a name you would like read, please contact the church office at 402-475-4289 or info@fcllincoln.org.



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

Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

Thursday, October 22 - Messengers Mailed

FCC Office Closed

6:00 pm Worship Team Meeting - Conf. Room

Sunday, October 25

10:30 am WORSHIP - Sanctuary

12:00 pm Elders Meeting - Parlor/Zoom

1:00 pm Virtual Coffee Fellowship - Zoom

Thursday, October 29 - Messengers Mailed

FCC Office Closed

Sunday, November 1 - SCRIP Due

10:30 am ALL SAINTS WORSHIP - Sanctuary

12:00 pm Virtual Coffee Fellowship - Zoom

Monday, November 2

12:00 pm Messenger Deadline

Tuesday, November 3 - Election Day

9:00 am Staff Meeting - Conference Room

Wednesday, November 4

11:00 am Filming Weekly Worship Video

Thursday, November 5 - Messengers Mailed

FCC Office Closed

The Carillon Dedication will be
Sunday, November 8, 2020. See
you there!

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!