



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 Lugn, Stephen Ministry Leader
www.fcclincoln.org
info@fcclincoln.org

Volume 71, No. 15
August 5, 2021

Music Ministry 2021



Do you love to sing? Are you interested in being in the choir? The FCC Music Ministry is rebuilding its musical team and is looking for someone like you!

Music Ministry is making changes for the fall of 2021. Wednesday nights are now going to be for fellowship and education, which will move music rehearsals. If you are interested in participating, please contact Music Director Mark Miller and indicate to him when you would be available to practice.



Well Done Kitchen Crew

Thanks to the hard work of eleven of our faithful stewards, the church kitchen is usable again after 16 months of inactivity.

Last week, we cleaned the refrigerator, defrosted the freezer, washed all the dishes, cups, glasses, utensils, and serving trays. Cabinets were sanitized in both the kitchen and the parlor, and contents were reorganized. The dishwasher has been serviced and two sinks have new faucets. We weren't able to clean the pots and pans, so please wash them before you use them. Feel free to use the clean dish clothes and towels.

Please join me in thanking Karl Ahrendsen, Gwen Belden, Cecilia Burkhart, Connie and Rich Calver, Jim Christ, Elaine Parman, Geoff Putney, Donna Ruhl, and Diane Zabokrtsky.

There is still a lot that needs to be done around the building, so don't feel left out if you weren't able to help this time. We'll have more cleaning days soon.

Jim Blosser, for the Property Team

Join us for
PRAISEFEST
Saturday, August 28
5 - 7 pm

First Christian Church Parking Lot
17th & 'K' Street

Live Praise Music by The Torch
Free Hotdogs & Refreshments
Bounce House

*Spend time with our Capitol area neighbors
and invite your family and friends.*

The Kona Ice truck will be on site,
and also some very special guests!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

"And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands."

2 John 6a



Pastor's Corner

“If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away, see, everything has become new.” (2 Cor. 5:17, NRSV)

As many of you know, I have begun a new venture with the John Maxwell Team. At the end of August, I will be attending a certification training event in Orlando, Florida to assist me in becoming a better and more intentional leader. I have already begun by doing some reading which I have shared in many of my previous Pastor's Corners. As I have entered into this process, I have been pondering the difference between change and transformation. Recently, I came across an article in a periodical called *Weavings* by the author Flora Slosson Wuellner entitled “Transformation: Our Fear, Our Longing.” In it she says:

Change refers to adaptation, reaction, without necessarily involving any newness of being. Transformation involves much more than adaptation to outer manipulation. Transformation implies new being, a new creative energy flowing from the center which acts with creative power upon surrounding events.

Wuellner goes on to point out that when Jesus spoke about the reign of God “he used many symbols of transformation: growing plants, the action of the yeast within the dough, marriage, the act of birth, the action of fire, Light, and wind.” She comments that the Apostle Paul also spoke of transformation and she cites the above passage as one of many examples. She goes on to say:

This is what is offered by God through Christ: transformation, new creation rather than change, growing from our deep center, expanding our empowered freedom even in the midst of the power of outer events. When our inner selves waken, stretch, stand up, move out, make choices, our terror of change becomes the hunger, thirst, and ecstasy of growing.

Wuellner concludes by saying: “For some of us the great transformation from the inside out comes gradually. For some of us it comes swiftly. But for all of us it comes inevitably as we unite more closely to the One who brings the yeast, salt, wind, and fire of the new creation—the deep self we have always longed to be.”

While her reflections are intended to address our individual journeys of faith, I believe they equally apply to our journey as a faith community. How can we, here at FCC, be a community of transformation and not just one of change? As we continue to move through the COVID-19 crisis, we continue to be invited to consider this important question. I believe we begin by pondering how God has brought about, and is currently bringing about, transformation in our own lives and then considering how God is transforming us as a community. I believe this is the deeper calling of the Church, to be communities of true transformation. In the coming weeks I invite us all to consider how God has brought about transformation in our lives and church. How can God continue to enable us to be a place of transformation as we move into the future?

In peace and love,
Pastor Karen

Quotes From: *Weavings: a Journal of the Christian Spiritual Life*. Vol. VI, No. 2 March/April 1991.

FCC Office Hours are
Changing!

Starting on Monday, August 23, 2021, the FCC Office hours will be Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The office will be closed on Fridays. Our Church Administrator, Kelly Tyrrell, is also one of our Seminarians in Residence, and the change in hours will allow her to accomplish both commitments to the church.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Wednesday Night Fellowship is coming back on September 8th. The plan is to have Chef au Chef cater our meal at 5:15 pm followed by educational programming from 6:00-7:00pm. The program schedule will be:

September 8th - October 13th

The Gospel of Matthew

October 20th - 27th

Service Project TBD

November 3rd - November 17th

Native American Spiritual Beliefs & Practices

More information will be coming out as we approach September. Come join in fellowship and maybe learn something new!



IT'S BACK!!!

**Big Kamp Kaleo
Rummage Sale
August 12-15, 2021**

**Thursday, 5 pm - 9 pm
Friday, 10 am - 4 pm
Saturday, 9 am - 1 pm
Sunday, Noon - 3 pm**

FCC Lincoln and Kamp Kaleo friends are holding a big rummage sale to benefit Kamp Kaleo. Since we were not able to have our sale in 2020, our storage areas have filled up completely. So hang on to your "treasures" for delivery to the church on Saturday, August 7 from 8 am until 12 noon. We will continue to receive donations for the sale through August 10. Sorting and pricing will take place August 9-12, daytime and early evening hours.

We Need You!

Volunteers Opportunities Aug. 6-15

Volunteers Needed

- Friday, August 6 from 10 am until 2 pm to help set up tables and begin sorting/placing donations on tables.
- Saturday, August 7 from 8 am to 12 noon to deliver/help unload and sort donated items to FCC Gym.
- Sunday, August 8 from 1 to 3 pm to deliver/help unload and sort donated items to FCC Gym.
- Contact D'Arcy Blosser Gwen Belden for information, questions, or directions.

Volunteers / Sorters & Pricers Needed:

- Monday - Thursday, Aug. 9 to 12 to sort, organize, and price items. Help when you can between 9 am and 8 pm.
- Thursday - Sunday, Aug. 12 to 15 to assist at sale, organizing ,and cashiering (see sale times above).
- Contact Sue Shear to schedule times you can work.

Volunteers / Packers Needed:

- Sunday, Aug. 15 from 3 to 5 pm (approximately) to pack up remaining items and clean up.
- Contact Gwen Belden or D'Arcy Blosser.

This I Know: Finance Notes

**"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good."
Romans 8:28**

As of June 30th, 2021, the First Christian Church expenses have exceeded our income by nearly \$29,000. **Part of the problem is that pledges and Faith Giving are lagging behind where they should be at this time of year. In order to pay our current bills, we have been dipping into our limited cash savings.**

Twenty-four out of the over sixty families have now contributed to Faith Giving, but only nine have committed to the monthly Faith Giving initiative. Thank you to everyone who is supporting the mission and ministries of First Christian Church through Faith Giving!

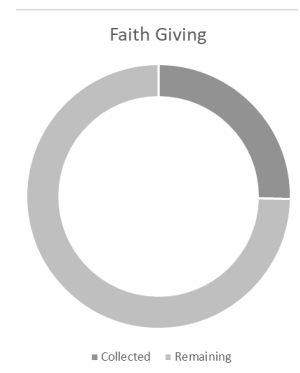
Let's all pitch in and be an integral part of the mission here at our church home. Faith Giving is necessary to support and sustain the basic operation of First Christian Church. **\$65 per month per family is all it would take. That is roughly \$2.50 per day, less than a cup of coffee!**

Our 2021 Faith Giving goal is \$48,000. As of July 31, we have received only \$12,186. This is only 25% of our goal, and we are running out of time.

For those who are giving, thank you! For those of you who have held back, now is the time to get involved and help us reach our goal. We can't do it without you! We look forward to you showing your gratitude for everything FCC means to you.

Dark Grey: Received
Light Grey: Remaining

May the Spirit of God be with you,
Finance Team



If you have had any problems with online worship, please let us know in the FCC Office at 402-475-4289

Those Serving in August

If for any reason you will be unable to fulfill your requirement, **please find a substitute**. All of these positions need to be filled each morning. If necessary, the FCC office can help find a substitute if needed.

Worship Leaders:

Aug. 8	Wayne Duncan
Aug. 15	Wayne Duncan
Aug. 22	Leigh Lestina
Aug. 29	Wayne Duncan

Elders:

Aug. 8	Connie Calver
Aug. 15	Tom Mason
Aug. 22	Wayne Duncan
Aug. 29	Sara Lugn

Deacons:

Dick Pickel, John Swanson, Elaine Parman, Carla Pinneo

Communion Prep: Carla Pinneo, John Swanson

Homebound Communion: **August 8th**

Hallway Hospitality:

Aug. 8	Doug Effle
Aug. 15	Jim Christ
Aug. 22	Rich Calver
Aug. 29	Vince Ortega

Ushers / Greeters:

Aug. 8	Monte Dietrick
Aug. 15	Charles and Diane Zabokrtsky
Aug. 22	Wayne and Susan Pallas-Duncan
Aug. 29	Elaine Parman

There is a NEW position that we need volunteers for: **live-streaming worship!** Please contact Geoff Putney or the FCC Office if you are interested in learning this position. We will also be looking for hosts for **Outside Fellowship** over the next few Sundays. Right now we are offering ice water and lemonade on the patio after church. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 402-475-4289.

THANK YOU for volunteering. Your efforts at First Christian Church is what keeps Sunday worship alive and thriving!



Sanctuary Flowers \$45

Call the FCC Office at 402-475-4289 or email to info@fclincoln.org

Nebraska Disciples Women's Retreat
Saturday, August 21, 2012

Ambassadors For Christ
2 Corinthians 5:20

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz

First Christian Church
430 S. 16th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508

Registration 9:00-9:30 am

Retreat 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$10.00, included lunch

Send your \$10 registrations to:

First Christian Church, Attn: Angie Emons

114 N. 8th St.

Nebraska City, NE 68410

(402) 873-6215



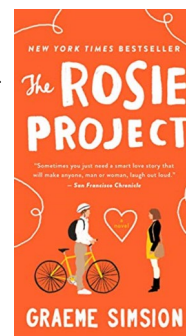
Book Club News

Book Club will meet again Saturday August 28th at 9:30 am at Susan Pallas-Duncan's home.

Our book for discussion is:

The Rosie Project

by Graeme Simsion



Some of the upcoming titles will be:

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

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.

Prayers & Praises August 5, 2021

In the Nebraska Region:

- Pawnee City First Christian Church
- Peru Community Church and Revs. Ray and Becky Girard

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- G. Lou serving in China
- Maria Abigail Hernandez serving in Japan



Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at

www.globalministries.org

FCC Social Media!



Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

Thursday, August 5 - Messengers Mailed

Saturday, August 7

3:00 pm Bell Tree Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, August 8

10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

4:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

Monday, August 9

1:30 pm Seminary Meeting - Conf. Room

Tuesday, August 10

11:00 am Recorder Consort Rehearsal
Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 11

12:00 pm FCC Foundation Meeting - Parlor

August 12 - 15

Kamp Kaleo Rummage Sale
FCC Gym

Saturday, August 14

3:00 pm Bell Tree Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, August 15

10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, August 16 - Messenger Deadline

Tuesday, August 17

9:00 am Staff Meeting - Conference Room

11:00 am Recorder Consort Rehearsal
Sanctuary

Thursday, August 19 - Messengers Mailed



WE NEED YOU!

Are you interested in volunteering at First Christian Church? The following teams will be seeking new members in 2022:

Membership
Education
Finance

Property
Hospitality/Meals
Outreach

Leadership is essential for First Christian Church to best serve the community and to follow its call to ministry in the Capital City. The Nominating Committee will be assembled soon. Please ask Pastor Karen, Jim Blosser, or Geoff Putney if you have any questions about what each position involves.

Individual Communion cups are available upon request. If you've been missing the experience of communion, contact the FCC Office, Pastor Karen, or one of the Elders to set up a time to receive communion. All packets are pre-sealed for your safety.



Don't Forget SCRIP

See Donna after worship or send an email if you are interested in SCRIP. We have several cards on hand. Remember, SCRIP is a win-win for local businesses and First Christian Church.