



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

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Save the Dates for Holy Week

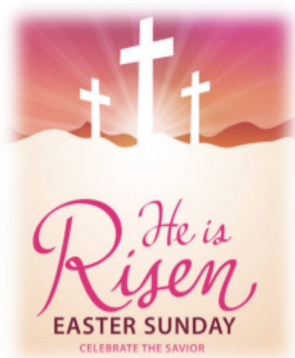
Maundy Thursday

April 14th

Tenebrae Service

7:00 pm

First Christian
Church Sanctuary



Good Friday April 15th

Worship 12:00 pm

First Christian Church Sanctuary

24 Hour Virtual Prayer Vigil

1 pm Friday through 1 pm Saturday

Worship at the First Christian Chapel
or at home

Easter Sunday April 17th

Easter Breakfast 8:15 am

First Christian Church Gymnasium

Worship 10:30 am

First Christian Church Sanctuary

A Couple of Thank Yous...

To my church family and friends,

Thank you so much for all your kindness and encouragement over the last 6 months. I started experiencing pain in my right hip in September 2021, and finally had hip replacement surgery on March 15, 2022.

What a blessing to be able to worship online since December 25th. It certainly helped keep me grounded and reminded me of what church is about, worshiping and praying together, near or far.

I am going to meet my personal goal of being back to in person worship on Palm Sunday.

Blessings and Peace,
Elaine Parman

William Deterding would like to thank the congregation for everything First Christian has done for him. He is progressing in his treatment and praying for us daily.

A Quick Note

This will be our only Messenger for the month of April. Our next Messenger will be on Thursday, May 12th.

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

Pastor's Corner

One of my favorite poets Ann Weems wrote a poem that sums up the experience of Holy Week. Her poem "Holy Week" begins:

Holy is the week...
Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...
We move from hosannas to horror
With the predictable ease
of those who know not what they do
Our hosannas sung
Our palms waved
Let us go with passion into this week.

Her poem resonates for me as we prepare to enter what I would venture to call the "holiest" of weeks in the church year. It can be so tempting to make the jump from Palm Sunday directly to Easter without passing through the events commemorated on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We want to pass from the entry into Jerusalem to the glorious exit from the tomb without stopping in the Garden of Gethsemane or standing at the foot of the cross.

Throughout this Lenten season we have been led through the wilderness by Dana Trent with the expectation of discovering the gifts that arise from the journey. It is human nature to avoid pain and discomfort, but such avoidance robs us of the depth that those experiences can bring. The same is true for Holy Week. It is uncomfortable to listen to Jesus' plaintive prayer in the Garden. It is also excruciating to stand at the foot of the cross as Jesus dies. And yet, these events bring depth to the experience of new life that comes on Easter Sunday.

I realize many people do not have the day off on Good Friday, but we schedule our service over the lunch hour to enable as many people to attend as possible. If this will not work for you I urge you to join us on Maundy Thursday where we will move through the events that led to the cross. We will gather for a light supper before the service. Following our meal we will gather for The Lord's Supper and a Service of Shadows in which we re-live the events of Jesus' final hours of his incarnate presence. Whether you are able to attend these services or not, you are invited to continue the journey with Dana Trent through the devotional *The Gifts of Spiritual Wilderness*. As is our custom here at FCC, you are also invited to participate in our 24-hour prayer vigil. This can be done here at FCC or in your own home. If you have not had an opportunity to do this before, this year might be a great time to dive in.

There are a variety of ways to make Holy Week a truly holy time of prayer, worship, and reflection. You will soon receive a postcard highlighting the events here at FCC during this holy time of year. We look forward to being a part of your journey as we all participate in the procession into Jerusalem, pass through the Garden, stand under the cross, and enter the empty tomb.

With eager anticipation and joy,

Pastor Karen

Poem "Holy Week" can be found in *Kneeling in Jerusalem* by Ann Weems, Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville, KY. 1993.



Hi, I'm Ethan the new administrative assistant replacing Kelly. A little bit about me: I am currently in school for software engineering and coding in general. My wife and I work with The Phoenix Remix animal rescue and have 3 dogs of our own.

I look forward to getting to know everyone through my time here.

Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting soon. Susan Pallas-Duncan will be hosting.

Our book for discussion is:

The Four Winds

By Kristin Hannah

Anyone is welcome to join in our discussions at any time. Check the FCC Calendar of Events for specific dates, times, or change of location.



WELCOME VISITORS

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

Nicole B.

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

Those Serving in April 2022

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.

Worship Leaders:

April 3	Leigh Lestina
April 10	Cecilia Burkhart
April 17	Cecilia Burkhart
April 24	Cecilia Burkhart

Elders:

April 3	Wayne Duncan
April 10	Monte Dietrick
April 14	Cecilia Burkhart
April 17	Jim Blosser
April 24	Deb Ortega

Deacons:

Karl Ahrendsen, Brady & Kristie Christianson, Gwen Belden

Communion Prep:

Gwen Belden & Kristie Christianson
Homebound Communion: **April 10th**

Homebound Communion Teams: (April 10)

Monte Dietrick & Karl Ahrendsen
Cecilia Burkhart & Kristie Christianson
Wayne Duncan & Brady Christianson
Jim Blosser & Gwen Belden

Hallway Hospitality:

April 3	Vince Ortega
April 10	Doug Effle
April 14	NEED VOLUNTEER
April 15	NEED VOLUNTEER
April 17	NEED VOLUNTEER - EASTER
April 24	Mike Carlin

Ushers / Greeters:

April 3	Wayne & Susan Pallas-Duncan
April 10	Lindsay Swanson
April 14	NEED VOLUNTEER
April 15	NEED VOLUNTEER
April 17	Jess Effle
April 24	Jim Blosser

Acolytes:

April 3	Rebecca & Katie Swanson
April 10	Riley Bowker & Evan Foster
April 17	Hunter & Edryk Christianson
April 24	Christian Swanson & Kyson Effle

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



Those Serving in May 2022

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.

Worship Leaders:

May 1	Leigh Lestina
May 8	Kristi Bowker
May 15	Kristi Bowker
May 22	Kristi Bowker
May 29	Kristi Bowker

Elders:

May 1	Elaine Parman
May 8	Cecilia Burkhart
May 15	Wayne Duncan
May 22	Monte Dietrick
May 29	Jim Blosser

Deacons:

Brad, Kristi, Keaton, and Riley Bowker

Communion Prep:

Kristi & Riley Bowker
Homebound Communion: **May 8th**

Homebound Communion Teams: (May 8)

Deb Ortega & Keaton Bowker
Elaine Parman & Riley Bowker
Cecilia Burkhart & Brad Bowker
Wayne Duncan & Kristi Bowker

Hallway Hospitality:

May 1	Rich Calver
May 8	Vince Ortega
May 15	Doug Effle
May 22	Geoff Putney
May 29	Mike Carlin

Ushers / Greeters:

May 1	D'Arcy Blosser
May 8	Monte Dietrick
May 15	Susan & Wayne Pallas-Duncan
May 22	Lindsay Swanson
May 29	Jess Effle

Acolytes: Schedule Coming Soon

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



**Creation Care:
Now & For The Future**
Saturday April 23, 2022

First Christian Church - Lincoln
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Presented by Nebraska
Disciples Women &
Disciples Men

→ **Registration Includes Lunch!**

Workshop Sessions ←
Following Keynote Message

→ **Resources will be Available**

Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Carol Devine
Minister of Green Chalice /
Disciples Home Missions



'Going Carbon
Neutral - Saving
Money as We Save
God's Good Earth'



All Hands on Deck

Many of us are probably working on getting our state and federal income tax forms completed and submitted. Compiling all the paperwork, receipts, and expense reports can be a lot of work.

Please consider contributing a portion of your tax refund payment to support the ongoing ministry and mission of First Christian Church.

Faith Giving is necessary to support and sustain the basic operation and ministries of First Christian Church every week. In 2022 \$3,500 in Faith Giving is needed **every month** to meet our approved budgetary obligations. So far this year, we have received a total of \$2,201 in Faith Giving.

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

What's On Wednesdays!

K-5 Education 6:00-7:00 pm
6-12 Youth Group 6:00-7:30 pm
Adult Education 6:00-7:00 pm

April Menu

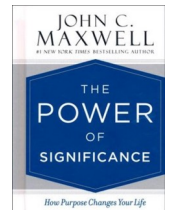
April 6: Loaded BBQ pulled pork, cream corn, and cheese
April 13: Spinach artichoke chicken, mashed potatoes, and green beans
April 20: Orange meatballs, fried rice, and crab rangoon
April 27: Chicken alfredo pasta bake, broccoli, and garlic bread

\$6/meal, RSVP to FCC Office

Last Night May 18th! Don't Miss Pizza & Trivia!

Lenten Book Study

The Power of Significance
by John C. Maxwell



Holy Week

No Wednesday Night fellowship

April 20 Session 6

Seize Significance Opportunities Every Day

Adult Classes April 27th - May 11th

The Great Christian Series from The Great Courses

Last Night May 18th Pizza & Trivia

THANK YOU to everyone at First Christian Church for how you have taken me into your family. You all mean the world to me. I will not be far away, and you know me, always on Facebook. I will miss you all!

Kelly Tyrrell

Don't Forget SCRIP

See Donna Ruhl 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. Special orders go out the first Sunday of each month Contact Donna or the FCC office for orders.

Prayers & Praises

April 7, 2022

In the Nebraska Region:

- Faith Christian Church and Rev. Lisa Sherman
- Falls City FCC
- Grand Island FCC and Rev. Julie Western

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- John Campbell-Nelson serving in Indonesia
- Emmanuela Loccident serving in Morocco



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

The General Board has Begun the Process for Re-Electing the General Minister and President

from Rev. Belva Brown Jordan
from www.disciples.org

The General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has begun the process for re-electing the General Minister and President, Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens. In a letter to Moderator Belva Brown Jordan, Hord Owens wrote,

"I continue to feel the call of God to serve as GMP. Having now served for 4-1/2 years, two of those in the midst of a pandemic, I want to continue to walk with Disciples as we together imagine who we must be as church in order to help make real the reign of God's kingdom on earth. And in declaring my desire to be considered for re-election, I re-commit myself to use my gifts in leadership and service to this church, which I so dearly love."

The process for re-electing a General Minister and President is outlined in the Standing Rules for the General Board, section 9. Following this process, the Administrative Committee, meeting virtually in executive session in February 2022, voted to initiate the re-election process and identified members of the Review/Search and Call Committee. The committee was then confirmed by the General Board at its February 2022 meeting.

Over the next year, the Review/Search and Call Committee will continue to follow the process outlined in the Standing Rules, gathering information from across the church. The Administrative Committee will receive the report of the Review/Search and Call Committee when it meets April 2023 and will vote to confirm or not confirm the re-election of the current General Minister and President.

Refugee Resettlement Update

By the time you read this, the Ghaousdin Meshwani family will have been in their home for two weeks. In that time, they have gone to appointment after appointment: health department lab work, wellness checkups, job fairs, the grocery store, WICS signup, and interviews. For volunteers and family alike, it's been a busy two weeks. Ghaousdin and Razia attend an online ELL class and we are looking for a close-by in-person class to help move them progress learning English. Their native language is Pashto which looks a lot like Arabic and is read from right to left. Learning English for them will be as much of a challenge as attempting to learn Pashto would be for us - difficult at best. Having Ghaousdin's brother and family living just a few blocks away is a bright spot for them - Jalaladin knows just a little more English and that has helped us all!

First Christian folks currently approved and working directly with the family are Tom Mason, Carla Pinneo, and Jim & D'Arcy Blosser. Lindsay Swanson helped us to get internet service in the house for the online classes. (John and the girls came along and we all enjoyed food shared by the family.) Pastor Karen is completing the paperwork to assist. Many of you contributed items to outfit their household. FCC has provided grocery gift cards with money contributed for the family. Folks from other Disciples churches in Lincoln are actively involved - Southpointe, Edenton, Southview, Bethany, Trinity Chapel, and Cross-bridge.

It's been "all hands on deck" for the mentoring team and will be for the next few weeks. Thank you to our congregation for your generous gifts toward providing a safe home for this family! We'll keep you updated as things progress. If you'd like to become directly involved with mentoring the family, contact D'Arcy Blosser



STEPHEN MINISTRY

"I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first."

Revelations 2:19

Lincoln First Christian Church

Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 10 - Palm Sunday

9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 12

9:45 am Handbell Quartet - Sanctuary
10:45 am Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 13 - No Wednesday Fellowship

Thursday, April 14 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Worship - Sanctuary

Friday, April 15 - Good Friday

12:00 pm Worship - Sanctuary
1:00 pm 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Sunday, April 17 - Easter Sunday

8:15 am Easter Breakfast - Gymnasium
9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 19

9:45 am Handbell Quartet - Sanctuary
10:45 am Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 20

5:15-6:00 pm WOW Dinner Fellowship - Parlor
6:00-7:00 pm K-5 Education - 2nd Floor
6:00-7:30 pm 6-12 Youth Group - 3rd Floor
6:00 -7:00 pm Adult Education - Library

Sunday, April 24

9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 am Worship with Kelly T - Sanctuary
11:30 am Elders Meeting - Library

Tuesday, April 26

9:45 am Handbell Quartet - Sanctuary
10:45 am Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 27

5:15-6:00 pm WOW Dinner Fellowship - Parlor
6:00-7:00 pm K-5 Education - 2nd Floor
6:00-7:30 pm 6-12 Youth Group - 3rd Floor
6:00 -7:00 pm Adult Education - Library

Sunday, May 1 - SCRIP Orders Due

6:00 am TORCH playing for Marathon Runners
9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am Kelly's Reflector Team - Library

Monday, May 2

7:00 pm Deborah Meeting

Tuesday, May 3

9:45 am Handbell Quartet - Sanctuary
10:45 am Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 4

5:15-6:00 pm WOW Dinner Fellowship - Parlor
6:00-7:00 pm K-5 Education - 2nd Floor
6:00-7:30 pm 6-12 Youth Group - 3rd Floor
6:00 -7:00 pm Adult Education - Library

Sunday, May 8 - Mother's Day

9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 am Worship with Kelly T. - Sanctuary

Monday, May 9 - Messenger Deadline

Tuesday, May 10

9:00 am Staff Meeting - Conference Room
9:45 am Handbell Quartet - Sanctuary
10:45 am Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 11

5:15-6:00 pm WOW Dinner Fellowship - Parlor
6:00-7:00 pm K-5 Education - 2nd Floor
6:00-7:30 pm 6-12 Youth Group - 3rd Floor
6:00 -7:00 pm Adult Education - Library

Thursday, May 12 - Messengers Mailed



Sanctuary Flowers \$45

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



At-Home Communion



For those attending our weekly church service via YouTube, we are offering at-home communion. A month's supply will be placed in a sealed bag to be picked up at church or one of the Elders will deliver it. If interested, contact Cecilia Burkhardt.

FCC Social Media!

