



**First Christian Church**

Disciples of Christ

430 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

## Messenger

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

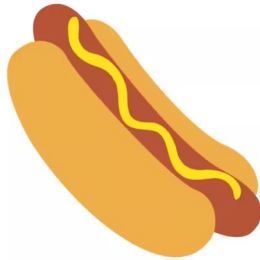
**Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz**, Pastor  
**Ethan Cai**, Administrative Assistant  
**Mark W. Miller**, Director of Music Ministries

**Sara Lugn**, Stephen Ministry Leader  
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**Volume 72, No. 9**  
**May 26, 2022**

### Outreach Fundraiser

Come volunteer and  
represent FCC on  
June 11th at Super-  
Saver on 56th and  
Hwy 2.



We need volunteers to operate the grills  
and even if you can't commit to helping  
run the event show up for lunch in your  
FCC t-shirts to help promote the church!  
SuperSaver will be providing all the food  
and grill supplies while the church will get  
to keep any profits made.

the meals will be 3\$ per and include a  
hot dog or brat, pulled pork, chips, and  
soda or water.

Open from 10am to 2pm on June 11th

Contact Geoff Putney if you'd like to  
volunteer to work the event!

### Disciple Women News



Deborah Group will host a brunch on  
June 18 and would like to extend an  
invitation to all women/friends of FCC to  
attend! More information will be shared  
in the next Messenger. Mark your  
calendars, ladies, and plan to attend!

### June 5th Pentecost



Celebrate Pentecost on June 5th by  
wearing red to Sunday Worship.

There will be some special elements  
during worship on the 5th so come  
experience Pentecost with us.

#### 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.

## Pastor's Corner

**'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'**  
**Matthew 11:28**

As we move to the end of the school year I suspect many of you are weary, I know I am. We've made it through the major holidays of Christmas and Easter and all that goes with them. We concluded our Wednesday evening activities for the summer. Once we move through Memorial Day weekend and celebrate Pentecost on the first Sunday of June we'll officially be in summer mode. The summer holds time off for many of us as we plan for vacations and time away. Perhaps many of you are like me, eager to see the slower pace of summer begin. The past year has been particularly challenging as we continue to struggle with all the issues around the global pandemic. While eager to resume life as it was two years ago, we still have to acknowledge that COVID is not completely in the rear view mirror. In many ways, living in this twilight time of COVID is almost more exhausting. We've resumed many of the activities from our pre-COVID life, but everything still looks a bit different. In the midst of things we are still keenly aware of the danger that still lurks. We still learn of many people who are battling the virus or have done so in recent days or weeks. The possibility of contracting the virus is still ever present.

We also have to acknowledge the many ways in which life has changed. Occasionally, we have had well attended services, but for the most part our numbers have dwindled. Live streaming has enabled us to reach out to those unable to attend in person, but sometimes it makes it easier to stay at home and worship in our pajamas or sweats. It is difficult to get back into the habit of attending worship and meetings in person. Sadly, for many, health concerns also prevent participation in church life in ways that were possible before. The weight of all these components makes the weariness even more burdensome. Things are not as they once were and probably will not be that way again. As if this were not enough, many of

us are burdened by the struggles in the world today. The war in Ukraine, dire economic predictions, rampant inflation and escalating costs. There is a lot to weigh us down and deepen our sense of weariness.

Although the details of our life are unique to our time and situation, the experience of weariness is not. Jesus spoke to those in his time who were weary too. They may not have faced a global pandemic, but many were burdened by some of the same kinds of issues. Those who came to hear Jesus faced health concerns, financial worries, dire economic warnings, violence and wars. Just as Jesus spoke to those people long ago he speaks to us today through scripture. Jesus continues to invite the weary and those with heavy burdens to come to him. We are still invited to share our weariness, our fears and our burdens with Jesus. We are reminded that as we lay our weariness and burdens upon him we will find rest. As we roll into the summer months we are invited to take time for such rest. Hopefully embracing the rest that Jesus brings will also bring a sense of renewal. I know my plan is to do that very thing, to take some vacation and enjoy the slower pace of summer. I hope Jesus' invitation to lay our weariness and burdens upon him so we can find the rest and renewal he brings.

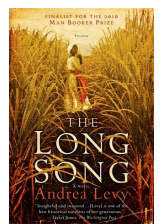
In peace and love, Pastor Karen

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## Book Club News

**Book Club will be meeting on June 4th at 9:30 AM. D'arcy Blosser will be host and provide a light breakfast. Let her know if you plan to attend.**

**([darcy.blosser@gmail.com](mailto:darcy.blosser@gmail.com) or 402-423-1300)**



**Our book for discussion is:**  
***The Long Song***  
**by Andrea Levy**

***We will choose our reading list for the next year so bring any and all book suggestions. Anyone is welcome to join in our discussions at any time.***

## Those Serving in June 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 Leader:

June Jessica Effle

### Elders:

June 5 Deb Ortega  
June 12 Elaine Parman  
June 19 Cecilia Burkhart  
June 26 Wayne Duncan

### Deacons:

Carla Pinneo, Lindsay Swanson, Susan Pallas-Duncan

### Communion Prep:

Carla Pinneo, Susan Pallas-Duncan  
Homebound Communion: **June 12th**

### Homebound Communion Teams: (June 12th)

Deb Ortega & Carla Pinneo  
Monte Dietrick & Lindsay Swanson  
Elaine Parman & Susan Pallas-Duncan  
Jim Blosser & TBD

### Hallway Hospitality:

June 5 Rich Calver  
June 12 Vince Ortega  
June 19 Doug Effle  
June 26 **NEED VOLUNTEER**

### Ushers/Greeters:

June 5 Jim Blosser  
June 12 D'Arcy Blosser  
June 19 Monte Dietrick  
June 26 Susan & Wayne Pallas-Duncan

### Acolytes:

June 5 Riley & Evan  
June 12 Christian & Kyson  
June 19 Hunter & Edryk  
June 26 Rebecca & Katrina

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

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

## June Birthdays



|      |                   |
|------|-------------------|
| 8th  | Bailey Taylor     |
| 9th  | Debby Ortega      |
| 11th | Eric Fawl         |
| 22nd | Beth Zager        |
| 23rd | Trevallion Greder |
| 26th | Nichole Calver    |

### PENTECOST – Was there ever a greater birthday?

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples and was with them for 40 days, before ascending to heaven. While with them, he said: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:4-5).

Ten days later, Jesus’ words were fulfilled, on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church, for it was on this day, that the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and filled them with the gifts needed to lead the Church. This was the start of the church’s mission to the world.

Pentecost – the church’s birthday – is perhaps the best day to share the gift of the Holy Spirit by supporting the mission and ministry of FCC through Faith Giving.

**Faith Giving is necessary to support and sustain the basic operation and ministries of First Christian Church every week. A monthly average of \$65 per family is all it takes to meet our 2022 Faith Giving goal. So far this year, we have received a total of \$2,606 in Faith Giving.**

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



## **Afghan Family Resettlement**

The Lincoln Disciples Afghan Resettlement Team has been busy taking family members to appointments and, especially, helping Ghaousdin, his brother Jalaladin, and now a “cousin”, Husann, find jobs. Tom Mason has spent hours with the men and finally was able to report that they will begin their jobs officially with Kawasaki this week. They attended orientation on Thursday and Friday of last week. Lutheran Family Services (LFS) completed their 90-day support of the Meshwani family in mid-April. We are finding that we need to stay in much closer touch with the family, especially watching the mail in order to make sure they are responding to all the DHHS correspondence as well as keeping on top of any bills. Through May, LFS is taking care of bills; the Lincoln Disciples Team will assist with June bills while Ghaousdin begins work and until income comes in. We'll work with him on budgeting and having a bank account. Carla Pinneo, Jim and D'Arcy Blosser have provided transportation to medical appointments in the last month as have team members from other Lincoln churches. Language continues to be a challenge but Ghaousdin is making some progress; Google translate is still our friend. We've made progress with enrolling the two older children in LPS (Kindergarten next fall for Heena and Preschool for Mohammad Younes). We'll work next on in person English classes for both Ghaousdin and, especially, Razia.

A huge THANK YOU to Tom who has spent many hours working with the job applications, job fair, job orientation, interfacing with prospective employees, and helping the men to understand the ins and outs of employment!

## **News from the First Christian Church Foundation**

The FCC Foundation Board met on May 11, 2022 via Zoom. We were joined by Elisabeth Andreason with Morgan Stanley to bring us up to date on how our funds are invested and the protections in place to protect the principal as well as continue to generate income for the support of FCC and special projects. While we are experiencing a downturn in the market right now, she reported that, over time, there is no reason to worry about the current change in market value.

In November we reported that funds had been approved for the purchase of new microphones which were requested by the Worship and Praise Team. The microphones have been purchased and installed and will provide a much better quality of sound. In addition to this allocation, final reimbursements for tuition and books for fall and spring semesters were presented to our seminarians in residence on May 15 as their internships at FCC have concluded. Both of these allocations were made possible through the Hofmann Fund. Record-keeping – historical and current – was discussed at our May meeting and we will work in the next few months on consolidating all of the records that have made their way into the church office. These records will always be open for anyone in the congregation to review. FCC visitors are also welcome to attend foundation board meetings. (If we are meeting by zoom, you will need to let someone on the Foundation know that you would like to attend.)

Our next meeting will be on August 10, 2022 at noon.



# 2022 Kamp Kaleo

Kamp Kaleo is just around the corner!! There are still openings at each of the camps. And through an anonymous donor, every camper that registers between now and camp starting dates automatically receives a \$100 scholarship. With First Christian paying for ½ of camping fees, that means that for a week-long camp, the cost would be \$162.50 per camper. For Little Kampers the cost would be \$25 per camper/adult.

This summer's curriculum theme is "What's in a Name?". Utilizing scriptures from Exodus, Luke, Ruth, Genesis and Matthew, we'll explore "how names take on meaning beyond the spoken syllables. Our attempts to name God show the relational power of names and remind us that no name will fully encompass God. We also try to name ourselves in ways that give meaning or make sense of the world. As we reflect on the stories, the names of characters, and the names of those who have shaped us, we are comforted by a God who is bigger than all our questions. ....We go out to serve in the name of God, who empowers us to name every moment and every place as holy ground."

Week long camps begin on Sunday afternoon with check-in between 3 and 4 p.m. and end on Friday at 1 p.m. The weekend Little Kampers begins with check-in between 3 and 4 p.m. on Friday and ends on Sunday at 1 p.m.



If you have any questions about Kamp contact D'Arcy Blosser ([darcy.blosser@gmail.com](mailto:darcy.blosser@gmail.com) or 402-423-1300).

## Bible Jeopardy

For our final WoW (What's on Wednesdays) gathering on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May we gathered for pizza and a game of Bible Jeopardy. Our Seminarians in Residence were the hosts and score keeper. Kelly Tyrrell put together the questions and Leigh Lestina kept track of the proceedings. We gathered into 3 teams and had a great time. Everyone did a great job and we learned who the truly competitive layers were. At the close of the event Diane Zabokrtsky handed out small prizes to all the participants. It was a fun and festive way to end the year.



# Prayers & Praises

## May 26, 2022

### In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
- William Deterding
- Vic Burgess
- Dick & Roxie Pickel
- Harold & Donna Baker
- Polly Putney
- Jessica Vocasek
- Lois Frogge
- Joan Dietrich

### Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess
- Greg Ogren, *prayers for healing, still ill after surgeries and treatments, son of LaVonne Ogren*
- Mark Carpenter, *with colon cancer, brother of Jill Carpenter and Dick & Roxie Pickel*
- Lorie Chrastel, *Mark Carpenter's fiancée, prayers for recovery from a stroke*
- Roger Christianson, *with stage 4 cancer, father of Brady Christianson*
- Annie DeLosSantos, *with liver cancer diagnosis, sister of Vince Ortega*

### Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Carson Mousel, *grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz, from Mildred Brockmeyer*

### Our Timothys:

- Bruce Frogge *at Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX*
- Glenda Dietrich Moore, *Creative Arts Ministry in Lincoln, NE*

### In the Nebraska Region:

- Iglesia Discipulos, and Rev. Daniel Zapata

### Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Sara Makari serving in Israel/Palastine

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at

[www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



## Lincoln First Christian Church

### Calendar of Events

#### Sunday, June 5

- 9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am Worship Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am SCRIP Orders Due
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

#### Tuesday, June 7

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

#### Saturday, June 11

- 10:00am SuperSaver Outreach

#### Sunday, June 12

- 9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am Worship Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

#### Tuesday, June 14

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

#### Saturday, June 18

- 10:00 am Disciple Women's Brunch - Parlor

#### Sunday, June 19

- 9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am Worship Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

#### Tuesday, June 21

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

#### Sunday, June 26

- 9:00 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am Worship Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

#### Tuesday, June 28

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



### First Christian Church YouTube Channel

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

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVejAW8D\\_mqv8Jmk5rzj43g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVejAW8D_mqv8Jmk5rzj43g)



### STEPHEN MINISTRY

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31