



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

Messenger

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

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McPhee Outreach

The Outreach team has been working with McPhee Elementary to identify needs for their students and families and we have been asked to help provide hygiene items for their monthly food bank market. We will have a barrel in the narthex to collect these items starting September 25th. We believe the need will be ongoing through the school year and will provide updates if the items needed change.

- Bar soap
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Lotion
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene items

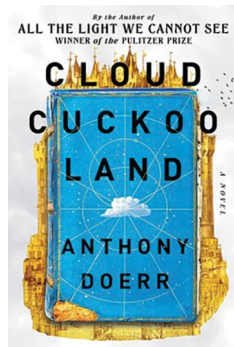
Thank you in advance for your participation!

The Outreach Team

Book Club News

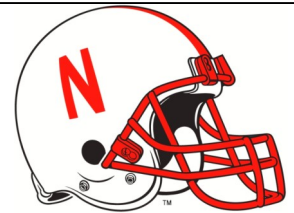
Book Club will be meeting October 22nd in the church parlor!

Our book for discussion is:
Cloud Cuckoo Land
by Anthony Doerr



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

Parking Lot Volunteers Needed



FCC Faith Giving has increased by \$875 from parking lot donations for the first three Husker home football games.

Jim Christ and Monte Dietrick continue to oversee this ministry and invite you to join them. At least one more volunteer is needed each home game day. This year Susan Pallas-Duncan, Wayne Duncan and Elaine Parman have joined them on a game day. Visit with one of them and hear how much fun it is (even in the rain).

The set-up of signs, coffee, bottled water, and cookies begins 4 hours prior to kickoff. Do you have 4 hours to volunteer? Hint: this is Stewardship, giving of your time!

Thanks to Brad Bowker for signing up to assist with this ministry, on October 1st.

- The remaining home games are:
- October 1st vs. Indiana @ 6:30 pm
 - October 29th vs. Illinois @ TBD
 - November 5th vs. Minnesota @ TBD
 - November 19th vs. Wisconsin @ TBD

Look at your calendar and then let the church office know which date works for you



Pastor's Corner

“...opportunities are often disguised as problems...” John C. Maxwell

In a recent Minute with Maxwell the presenter John Maxwell discussed the word “opportunities.” He shared his reflections on why more people do not embrace the opportunities that come their way. While many people do, he suspects that many of us do not because “... opportunities are often disguised as problems...” and who wants problems. As he said, once we see a problem we are inclined to run in the opposite direction. Maxwell suggested that we have to unwrap the problem to discover the opportunity. The challenge for many of us is that opportunities are often hidden and we have to work to discover what lies beneath.

His words really struck a chord for me. Personally, I suspect I have missed several great opportunities because I could only see the problem or challenge before me. I also found myself wondering how many opportunities have we missed here at FCC because we were overwhelmed by the challenges and difficulties that seem to scream for attention? Perhaps the challenge for all of us is learning to see the opportunities in past experiences which hopefully leads to being more able to do so in the present moment. As I look back on my life I can also see many times where I chose to embrace the opportunity in spite of the challenges. When I responded to God’s call to serve as a Mission Coworker in the Czech Republic there were many challenges I had to face. I had to pack all my belongings and find suitable long-term storage for them. I had to get rid of a lot of things that could not be placed in long term storage or were no longer needed. I had to decide what was needed in my new home overseas and pack it all to make the transatlantic trip. I had to move half-way across the world, learn about a new culture and learn a new language. I had to leave my friends and family behind. But, the opportunity to live and serve overseas as a Mission Coworker was well worth it!

At the time I knew I could overcome the many challenges before me so I could embrace an opportunity of a lifetime.

So, what are some of the challenges we have overcome to embrace unforeseen opportunities here at FCC? In many ways I think the ways in which we dealt with the many challenges presented during the pandemic illustrate this point. While faced with many new and unprecedented challenges, we were able to face them and find the opportunities beneath them. We were one of the first mainline Protestant churches in our community to resume in person worship. In part, we were able to do so because we have a spacious sanctuary that enabled us to provide a safe worship space in which we could physically distance and still gather for in-person worship. We were able to make a challenging situation into an opportunity to worship safely. Another challenge we often bemoan is the small number of people we have here at FCC who are active in the life and leadership of our congregation. However, what if we saw this reality as an opportunity. The small numbers in our faith community provides opportunities for intimacy and building relationships. Larger churches have to create small groups to build community and we already have that opportunity built in to our community. Sometimes it is the challenges of others that enable us to perceive opportunities for service. The Outreach Team has discovered that the students, parents, faculty and staff at McPhee Elementary School nearby face many challenges. Our congregation has worked with them before and we have learned of ongoing needs in that community that we may be able to help meet. Their challenges provided new ways to discover opportunities for service for us. We also hope to discover ways to build and re-build relationships with that community.

I suspect each of us can think of many ways in which we have faced the challenges before us, as individuals and as a community, that have led us to find opportunities we never imagined existed. May such a spirit of discovery, led by God’s wisdom, guide us as we move into the future.

With love and joy, *Pastor Karen*

Those Serving in October 2022

Worship Leader:

Oct. Kristi Bowker
Oct. 17 Leigh Lestina

Elders:

Oct. 2 Cecilia Burkhart
Oct. 9 Wayne Duncan
Oct. 16 Jim Blosser
Oct. 23 Deb Ortega
Oct. 30 Elaine Parman

Deacons:

Brady Christianson,
Kristi Christianson,
Gwen Belden

Communion Prep:

Gwen Belden, Kristie Christianson
Homebound Communion: **October 9th**

Homebound Communion Teams:

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

Hallway Hospitality:

Oct. 2 Rich Calver
Oct. 9 Doug Effle
Oct. 16 Mike Carlin
Oct. 23 Geoff Putney
Oct. 30 Vince Ortega

Ushers/Greeters:

Oct. 2 D'Arcy Blosser
Oct. 9 Jim Blosser
Oct. 16 Jessica Effle
Oct. 23 Lindsay Swanson
Oct. 30 Monte Dietrick

Acolytes:

October 2
October 9 Trev & Gianna Greeder
October 16
October 23 Edryk Christianson
October 30 Trev & Gianna Greeder

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

What I Like about FCC!

I appreciate all the inspiration I get from FCC. I watch the worship services over YouTube. The marvels of technology bring me the Word and the music enhances the message. I certainly feel the spirit touching lives and am able to witness the goodness of others.

-Mildred Brockemeyer

Go and Do the Same

We kicked-off our stewardship campaign this past Sunday. Over the next few weeks we will begin to think about what we can commit to the work of God through this congregation during 2023.



Go and Do the Same
Luke 10:37

Of course, we will be focusing on money. But stewardship is much more than money. Stewardship is everything that we do in response to the gracious love that God pours out on us through Jesus Christ. In upcoming services of worship, digital materials, and literature that you receive at home, we will highlight opportunities for you to commit time and talent to the work of God through your Stewardship.

Last Sunday's service focused on a passage from the gospel of Luke 16:1-13.

Verse 10: "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much." At first this text may be hard to wrap our minds around. However, if we take time to contemplate it thoroughly, perhaps we will be led to choose wisely.

We all make choices daily: when to get up, what to have for breakfast, what to wear, how much of ourselves to put into work or school or other activities, how to use our money, what to do tonight. From the standpoint of last Sunday's passage, we want to choose wisely regarding what we will do with our lives and finances to become faithful stewards of this congregation in 2023.

Verse 13: "No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth." Which master will you choose to serve with your money, your heart, your hands, your time?

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

Prayers & Praises September 22, 2022

In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
- William Deterding
- Vic Burgess
- Jessica Vocasek
- Harold Baker *prayers for his hospice care.*
- Donna Baker
- Polly Putney
- Lois Frogge
- Joan Dietrich
- Mildred Brockemeyer

Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess
- Roger Christianson, *with stage 4 cancer, father of Brady Christianson*
- Laurie Aufdemberge, *with breast cancer, sister of Kristi Bowker*

Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Carson Mousel, *grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz, from Mildred Brockemeyer*
- Family of Barb Kuzma, *with brain tumor, friend of Kristi Bowker*
- Sue Babovec, *recovering from heart surgery*

Our Timothys:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

- SouthPointe Christian Church and Rev. Abby Conley

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Raul Santiago River serving in Puerto Rico

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



October Birthdays

- 1st Cecilia Burkhart
- 11th D'Arcy Blosser, Don True
- 13th John Swanson
- 20th Lillie May Everett, Erin Putney
- 29th Jim Blosser



Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 25

- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am The Torch Worship Team - Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm Elders Meeting
- 6:00 pm Youth Group - Parlor

Tuesday, September 27

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

Sunday, October 2

- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:45 am The Torch Worship Team - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am SCRIP Orders Due
- 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, October 3 - Messenger Deadline

- 7:00 pm Deborah Group

Tuesday, October 4

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

Thursday, October 6 - Messenger Sent

Pictures from Praisefest 2022!

Find more at our online service or social media pages.

