



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

Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor
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Afghan Family News

We have a new baby! On January 3, our Afghan refugee family increased by one when mom, Razia, delivered a 7lb 15 oz baby boy. Baby Arian and mom went home on Jan. 4 and our Disciple resettlement team will keep in close touch, helping where needed when dad, Ghaousudin, returns to work next week. The DOC churches involved in this resettlement divided up a list of needed items and “showered” our family with baby gear; in addition, clothing and toys were gifted to the older children as they are continuing to grow. Keep this family in your prayers as Razia recovers and Arian joins his older sister and two older brothers in the family.

THANK YOU!

The Staff at First Christian Church want to extend a THANK YOU to everyone in the congregation for their generous Christmas gifts. Thank you for recognizing us at this special time of year!

Thank You for your generous support in 2022!



The Finance Team cannot say **THANK YOU** enough to everyone who participated in 2022 Faith Giving, which topped out at just under \$25,000! Almost half of this total (just under \$12,000) was raised in December. What a show of loyalty and faithfulness to the church!

In addition, over 96% of all 2022 pledges were received! Because of this, 2022 is the fourth year in a row First Christian Church has ended the year in the black with enough income to cover expenses. The Finance Team would like to invite everyone for cake at coffee fellowship following worship on Sunday, February 5th, to celebrate.

After the fantastic year we had in 2022, we are hoping to make 2023 even better. To keep that momentum going everyone needs to pitch in and become an integral part of the mission and ministry of FCC.

For 2023, the finance team is designating the LAST Sunday of each month as “Faith Giving” Sunday. Faith Giving is necessary to support and sustain the basic operation and ministries of First Christian Church every week

Faith Giving is just one way to support the mission and ministry of FCC. Stewardship is much more than money. Stewardship is everything that we do in response to God’s gracious, unconditional, unending love. In the coming weeks, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to commit time and talent to the work of God through your Stewardship.

Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry at FCC.

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

Nursery Open Again

We're glad to welcome Keaton and Riley Bowker as nursery assistants. Leader Tiffany Fox and at least one of the Bowkers are staffing the nursery each Sunday, so drop off your young ones any time after 10 a.m. for morning worship.

February Birthdays

17th Landri Calver

19th Pat Putney

20th Monte Dietrick

25th Hanna Pinneo Boring

27th Rae-Hope Putney



Get to know those who have been welcomed by First Christian Church to fill the pulpit during Pastor Karen's leave of absence:

Reverend Melissa Strong:

Melissa is the Service Leader for Spiritual Care Services for Methodist Hospital and Methodist Women's Hospital in Omaha where she has been for 8½ years. In July she celebrated her 10-year ordination anniversary in the Christian Church (DOC). Melissa is married to Geoffrey and they have one living daughter, Aryana, who is 5 years old.

Pastor Kara Hillhouse:

Pastor Kara Hillhouse has been an ordained Presbyterian pastor since 2009. She is from Iowa and went to McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. She has worked in hospital chaplaincy including trauma chaplaincy, parish ministry, and is now currently a hospice chaplain for Tabitha hospice. She has two children who are 18 and 20, two cats and a gecko, and a wonderful husband. She is so thankful to be able to return to First Christian and reacquaint herself with old friends!

Parking Lot Ministry

THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU

Neither sun, or rain, or wind, or cold could keep our dedicated Husker home game parking lot volunteers from performing this important ministry. Many thanks to Gwen Belden, Brad & Keaton Bowker, Jim Christ, Monte Dietrick, Wayne Duncan, Susan Pallas-Duncan, and Elaine Parman.

FCC Faith Giving increased by \$1,580 from parking lot donations for the 2022 Husker home football games.

Jim Christ and Monte Dietrick oversee this ministry and are inviting you to join them. At least one more volunteer is needed each home game day. Your time commitment begins 4 hours before kickoff.

The 2023 home football games are as follows:

Sept. 16—Northern Illinois

Sept. 23—Louisiana Tech

Sept. 30—Michigan

Oct. 21—Northwestern

Oct. 28—Purdue

Nov. 11—Maryland

Nov. 24—Iowa (Friday)

It's not too early to start planning for the 2023 season. Look at your calendar and then let the church office know which date works for you.

First Christian Church Pulpit Supply

January to April 2023

Jan. 15 – Kara Hillhouse

Jan. 22 – Kara Hillhouse

Jan. 29 – Rachel Johnson

Feb. 5 – Kara Hillhouse

Feb. 12 – Melissa Strong

Feb. 19 – Kara Hillhouse

Feb. 26 – Kara Hillhouse

Mar. 5 – Melissa Strong

Mar. 12 – Melissa Strong

Mar. 19 – Kara Hillhouse

Mar. 26 – Kara Hillhouse

Those Serving in January

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:

January Kristi Bowker

Elders:

January 1 Elaine Parman
January 8 Wayne Duncan
January 15 Cecilia Burkhardt
January 22 Deb Ortega
January 29 Sara Lugn

Deacons:

Brady Christianson, Kristie Christianson
Homebound Communion: **January 8th**

Homebound Communion:

Elaine Parman
Wayne Duncan
Cecilia Burkhardt
Debby Ortega

Hallway Hospitality:

January 8 Geoff Putney
January 15 Rich Calver
January 22 Doug Effle
January 29 Mike Carlin

Ushers/Greeters:

January 8 Elaine Parman
January 15 Wayne & Susan Pallas-Duncan
January 22 Monte Dietrick
January 29 D'Arcy Blosser

Acolytes:

January 1 Edryk Christianson
January 8 Trev Greder
January 15 Kyson & Keaton Effle
January 22 Gianna Greder
January 29 Edryk Christianson

Those Serving in February

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.

Elders:

February 5 Jim Blosser
February 12 Elaine Parman
February 19 Wayne Duncan
February 26 Cecilia Burkhardt

Deacons:

Riley Bowker, Brad Bowker
Homebound Communion: **February 12th**

Homebound Communion:

Jim Blosser
Elaine Parman
Wayne Duncan
Cecilia Burkhardt

Hallway Hospitality:

February 5 Geoff Putney
February 12 Vince Ortega
February 19 Rich Calver
February 26 Doug Effle

Ushers/Greeters:

February 5 Jessica Effle
February 12 Elaine Parman
February 19 Wayne & Susan Pallas-Duncan
February 26 Monte Dietrick

Acolytes:

February 5 Trev Greder
February 12 Kyson & Keaton Effle
February 19 Gianna Greder
February 26 Edryk Christianson

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

Prayers & Praises January 12th, 2023

- In Our Church Family:
- Donna Baker
 - Marvin Thurber
 - William Deterding
 - Vic Burgess
 - Jessica Vocasek
 - Relda Lathrop
 - Susan Pallas-Duncan
 - Polly Putney
 - Lois Frogge
 - Joan Dietrich
 - Mildred Brockemeyer
 - Bobbi Carlin
 - Karen Moritz

Relatives:

- Friends and Family of *Vic Burgess*
- Laurie Aufdemberge, with breast cancer, sister of Kristi Bowker

Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhardt
- Carson Mousel, grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz, from Mildred Brockemeyer

Our Timothys:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

- Ashland First Christian Church and Rev. Bob Schofield

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Miguel Tomas Castro serving in El Salvador

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



Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

A full calendar of events is available online at our website FCCLincoln.org

Sunday, January 15

- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship
- 6:00 pm Board Meeting - Parlor

Thursday, January 19

- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal -Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, January 22

- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Elders Meeting - Library

Thursday, January 26

- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal -Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, January 29

- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship

Thursday, February 2

- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal -Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, February 5

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

Monday, February 6 - Messenger Deadline

Tuesday, February 7

- 9:00pm Staff Meeting - Conference Room

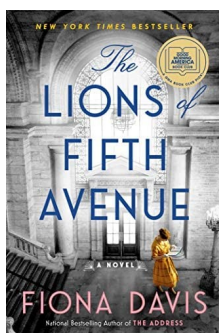
Thursday, February 9 - Messenger Sent

- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal -Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting in February

Our book for discussion is:
Lions of Fifth Avenue
by Fiona Davis



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.