



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

The Rev. Kara Hillhouse, Interim Pastor
Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries
Ethan Cai, Administrative Assistant

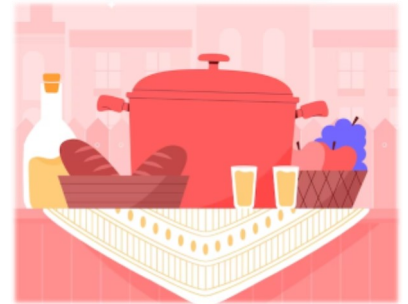
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Potluck with the Pastor

The Hospitality Team is hosting "Potluck with the Pastor" on July 15th at 4:00 p.m, in the gym. We are excited for everyone to come together, extend a warm welcome to Pastor Kara, and get to know her better, as well as each other.



Hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, buns and root beer floats will be provided.

Beginning Sunday, July 2nd sign up sheets will be available for you to sign up to bring your favorite side dish, chips, condiments or desserts to share.

If you have questions please contact Susan Pallas-Duncan at 402-880-6967.

Over the past few weeks, some of our little and big youth have enjoyed going to Kamp Kaleo in Burwell, Nebraska. It looks like they had an Amazing time from the photos. Thank you FCC for helping pay the registration fee for them to attend.



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

In the gospel of Matthew, chapter 9, we hear these words: “the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.” This might sound familiar as I preached on this text last Sunday, June 18th. Jesus said these words to indicate to the disciples that there were people all around them who were eager for the Good News—a harvest of humans hungering for love and redemption. But the people to go out and gather in the harvest were lacking. There just weren’t enough. So Jesus said “ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field.”

One of the many things I love about First Christian Church is all the willing hands and hearts who want to help bring in the harvest. You mow, you maintain, you cook, you visit, you care for, you sing, you greet, you welcome. You serve. And the list goes on. I feel it when I’m with you, friends: servant hearts. You are not just in the game for yourselves. You are in it to make this world a better place: one lap around the church with a mower, one casserole, one hour listening to someone in need of a compassionate ear, one song, one welcoming handshake at a time. I hope you know what a beautiful thing that is.

There is always more to do. And we certainly cannot do it all ourselves. But, together, we can help to bring in God’s harvest by doing our part. And I believe it all starts with discernment: praying that God would enlighten each one of us to know what part we can play. God has a use for each one of our gifts and graces, and if we use them to build up God’s Kingdom here on earth the result will be beyond words. So pray, friends. And then listen. For as long as it takes. Wait for the nudge, the guidance, the indication that *this* (insert God’s answer) is how and where God wants you to give of your time, talent and resources.

A healthy church must always discern where to go next. I am confident that with your gifts and graces, this church has important and meaningful work ahead of us. I’m glad you’re on the journey with me! Have a great week and see you Sunday!

Kara

Go and Do the Same

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.
Galatians 5:13



The Bible contains much wisdom concerning freedom -- the responsibility that comes with being free, and the work required to protect and sustain freedom.

Since 1776, July 4 has been celebrated as the birth of American independence from the colonial subjugation of England. Freedom is a gift that should never be taken for granted.

Celebrate and share the incredible gift of freedom by supporting the mission and ministries of First Christian Church.

Faith Giving is necessary to support and sustain the basic operation and ministries of First Christian Church every week.

A monthly average of **\$75 per family** is all it takes to meet our 2023 Faith Giving goal.

As of June 25, we have received \$3104 in faith giving.

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

Volunteer Coffee Fellowship Hosts Needed

Have you ever hosted Coffee Fellowship? If not, you are missing out on being part of the Hospitality Ministry of FCC.



It's very easy, it takes a little extra time on Sunday morning to set up and clean up afterward. You can provide your own refreshments or you can “shop” in the well stocked freezer at church.

Look at your calendars and see if you can volunteer for a Sunday in 2023. If you can, let the church office know and Ethan will get you on the calendar.

Hosting Coffee Fellowship is a great way to exercise a non-financial piece of Stewardship, giving of your time and talents.

NOTE - There will not be coffee fellowship on the Sundays no one has volunteered to host.

Those Serving in July

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:

July Dan Cowger

Elders:

July 2 Cecilia Burkhart
July 9 Debby Ortega
July 16 Sara Lugn
July 23 Jim Blosser
July 30 Elaine Parman

Deacons:

Brady Christianson, Kristie Christianson
Homebound Communion: **July 9th**

Homebound Communion:

Cecilia Burkhart, Debby Ortega,
Sara Lugn, Jim Blosser

Hallway Hospitality:

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

Ushers/Greeters:

July 2 Elaine Parman
July 9 Susan & Wayne Pallas-Duncan
July 16 Monte Dietrick
July 23 D'Arcy Blosser
July 30 Jessica Effle

Acolytes

July 2 Gianna Greder
July 9 Trev Greder
July 16 Kyson & Keaton Effle
July 23 Edryk Christianson
July 30 Gianna Greder

July Birthdays

2nd Ruby Waller
3rd Jessica Effle, Phyllis Knosp
5th Diane Zabokrtsky
6th Rhonda Ball
13th Leo Jelinek
23rd Nash Calver, Jase Calver
25th Jane Calver
26th Bob Throop
27th Geoff Putney
29th Mark Miller



Journey To Generosity

On Sunday, June 18, our focus was on Matthew 9:35-10:23.

In this passage we learned the importance of choosing to use our resources for the Realm of God. By making a strong pledge of time, talent, money, and other resources, we reinforce others who have already done so, and we encourage those who have not done as much to do the same. Individuals, households, and congregations become clearer and deeper in stewardship commitment when we make a deliberate "Yes".

In addition, we learned that our choices have long-term consequences. While we may not believe that failure to give to the church is going to keep us out of heaven, we know that investing money in the work of ministry and mission on behalf of others improves the quality of life in our community. It also directly benefits us with a sense of purpose, over-all well-being, and being a part of something that is larger than ourselves. It is good for us!

To accept the command of Jesus to engage in bringing wholeness to a fragmented world is to be on a mission that matters. It is a mission that is not without risk, cannot be taken without deep personal commitment, and requires that we ultimately trust God to provide what we need. Most things that matter in life are not necessarily easy or without effort.

On Sunday, July 9 our focus will be on Matthew 11:16-18, 25-30.

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

Bob Throop is turning 90 on July 26th. Let's shower Bob with birthday cards to celebrate this milestone.



Prayers & Praises

June 29, 2023

In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
 - William Deterding
 - Vic Burgess
 - Jessica Vocasek
 - Relda Lathrop
 - Bobbi Carlin
 - Rae-Hope Putney
 - Donna Baker
 - Polly Putney
 - Lois Frogge
 - Joan Dietrich
 - Mildred Brockemeyer
 - Karen Moritz
- Charlotte Diehm, *Cecilia Burkhart's mother passed away Friday, June 16th. Please keep Cec and her family in your prayers at this time of sorrow.*
- Tito Vigan, *Sarah Mason's husband, for healing from a spinal stroke..*

Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess

Friends:

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

Our Timothy's:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

- Murray Christian Church and Rev Michael Njus

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mr. Sophannak Soun serving in Cambodia

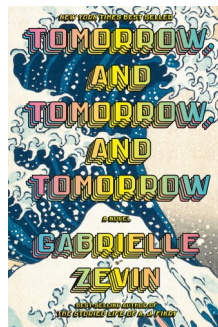
Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at www.globalministries.org



Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting on August 5th at Kristi's House.

Our book for discussion is:
Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow
 By Gabrielle Zevin



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.

Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

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

Sunday, July 2

- 8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am SCRIP Orders Due
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship

Wednesday, July 5

- 6:15 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, July 9

- 8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship

Wednesday, July 12

- 6:15 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday, July 15th

- 4:00 pm Potluck with the Pastor - Gym

Sunday, July 16

- 8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship
- 6:00 pm Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 19

- 6:15 pm Recorder Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, July 23

- 8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Elders Meeting

**Thank you to
all of our
Prayer Garden,
Lawn and
Landscape
Caretakers!**

