



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
Mariana Tines, Administrative Assistant

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www.fcclincoln.org

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September 3, 2023

Join us for Praisefest!

Sunday, September 17th
5 - 7 pm

First Christian Church Parking Lot
17th & 'K' Streets

Live Praise Music by The Torch
Free Hotdogs & Refreshments
Bounce House

Spend time with our Capitol area neighbors
and invite your family and friends.

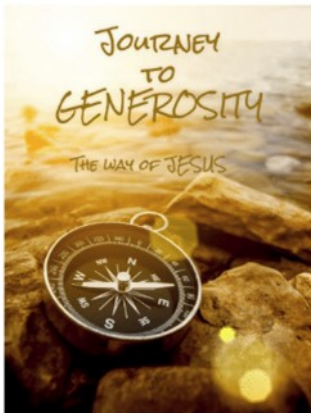
The Kona Ice truck will be on site,
and also some very special guests!

Praisefest Assistance Needed

The Hospitality Team is looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve food at Praisefest on Sunday, September 17. We are asking for donations of cookies too. Please contact Beth Zager at bzager2@unl.edu if you can help or donate cookies.

The Torch Team is looking forward to hosting Praisefest in our parking lot again this year. If you are interested in helping fund this event, they are accepting financial donations to cover the cost of Kona Ice and the bounce house. Please make your checks payable to FCC with Praisefest on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for considering how you can help keep this annual event ongoing for our neighborhood to enjoy.



Journey To Generosity

On Sunday, August 13, our focus was on Matthew 14:22-32. Jesus said to Peter in the boat, "Come." Peter's walk on the water was short lived because he took his eyes off Jesus. Peter learned an important lesson that day that we shouldn't ignore. When we take our eyes off Jesus the storms of life will quickly overcome us.

People stay in the boat for a lot of reasons. While the boat may be uncomfortable during a storm, we are familiar with the boat. We may not think we have enough in the way of resources. Not enough money. Not enough time. Not enough talent. If we give more to the mission and ministries of God through First Christian Church, we may not have enough for ourselves.

To everyone in such situations, Jesus says, "Come." Jesus is asking us to get out of the boat when it comes to stewardship and to make a commitment of time, talent, money, or other resources.

Like Peter, we must heed this invitation, find the courage of faith needed to swing our legs out over the boat's side, and then step out onto the waters. If we do, then we will discover that Jesus is already there, in the water, keeping us afloat.

On Sunday, September 17 our focus will be on Matthew 18:21-35, the parable of the unforgiving servant. This parable isn't about fairness – instead, it teaches us the importance of receiving the forgiveness of God and extending forgiveness to those who have wronged us.

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

CROP Hunger Walk

The CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 8th at Bethany Christian Church. Registration will begin at 1:00 pm, followed approximately at 1:25 pm the "Commissioning," and at 1:30 pm the Walk will take place. This year the Walk will be only 1.5 miles long.

Volunteers are needed to help with setting up, placing and giving out T-shirts to those who have donated \$100, registration, taking care of the Water Station (located at the church), and hanging out apples and other treats to the walkers. If you would like to volunteer please contact Minnie Stephens at: minniemouse1041@windstream.net or 402-466-1545.



FCC NEW Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 9am to 2pm



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

We had a lovely "blessing of the backpacks" two weeks ago, just before school started. Some of our youth and children came forward and we blessed them and their bags, in addition to praying for the teachers and other staff at our schools, so that they would feel supported by FCC and led by God as they begin another school year. We continue to pray for and support our kids, teachers, staff, parents and families.

Don't you love the ways in which children interpret the world around them, including their perception of God and faith? Once when my son was about 4 or 5 years old I asked him, after reading a story about angels, if he had ever seen an angel, and he said, "yes mom, there's an angel that sits on my ceiling." He said it as if it was the most ordinary of circumstances. My inability to see the angel on his ceiling did not cause me to doubt my son...rather it made me sad that for some reason, my "adult-hood" prohibited me from seeing something that was certainly there. I didn't have "eyes to see" and was therefore blind to the miracles around me.

But it doesn't have to be that way. "Tall friends", or adults, can still see through the eyes of children if we pray that God would help to open our hearts so we can once again see God's work in this world through the eyes of a child. We should all cultivate wonder. Three steps toward doing this are: 1) recognizing the beauty in this amazing creation in which we live. Seeing the spider web gilded in dew in the morning, marveling in the power and might of a thunderstorm on a summer evening, hearing the haunting sounds of a loon on a Minnesota lake. These are ways we can begin to see the wonder of God's creation. 2) Recognizing the beauty within us. How is it that God knew how to knit us together: did we really need an appendix, why do we have two arms instead of three, and how come feet are shaped the way they are? Truly we are "fearfully and wonderfully made". And, finally, 3) recognizing our limitations. This is a healthy way of seeing God's ways. There are so many things we are incapable of doing, but we know that God can, and this reminds us of how awesome God is and how much we need God in our lives.

Learning to have "wonder" is a way of seeing through the eyes of a child. Whether you find ways to be playful, laugh more, or finally build your dream treehouse, let us all attempt to see the world as children see it: as the blessing and awe-inspiring thing it is. When we can see through a child's eyes, we can be more aware of the miracles in this world, and that is a gift we could all use.

Have a great week and see you Sunday!

Kara

Go and Do the Same

Seven families have contributed to Faith Giving so far this year for a total of \$7,864. Thank you to everyone who is supporting the mission and ministries of First Christian Church through Faith Giving!

Let's all pitch in and become an integral part of the mission and ministry of FCC.

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

We look forward to showing your gratitude for everything FCC means to you.

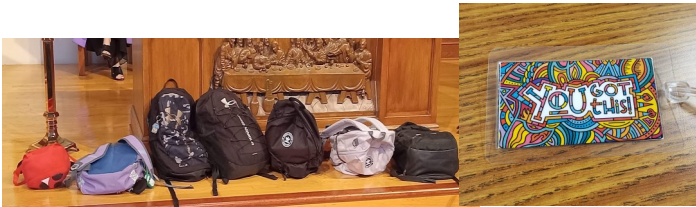
May the Spirit of God be with you,

The Finance Team



Blessings of Backpacks

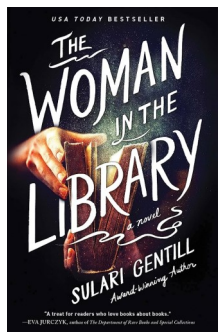
On Sunday the 13th, we had students bring their backpacks to be blessed during Worship. They also received a tag to hang onto their backpack.



Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting on September 3rd at Marcia's House.

Our book for discussion is:
The Woman in the Library
By Sulari Gentill



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.

Volunteers Needed



Again this year, FCC will be collecting donations for Husker home football game parking in our parking lot. Coffee, cookies and bottles of water are offered to those making donations.

Last year this volunteer ministry raised just under \$1,600 for Faith Giving.

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.

Home football games are as follows:
September 16 vs. Northern Illinois @ 6:00 pm

September 23 vs. Louisiana Tech @ TBD

September 30 vs. Michigan @ TBD

October 21 vs. Northwestern @ TBD

October 28h vs. Purdue @ TBD

November 11 vs. Maryland @ TBD

November 24 (Friday) vs. Iowa @ 11:00 am

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

Save the Date

October 29, 2023- Stewardship Celebration Lunch after Worship followed by Trunk or Treat in the parking lot.

The Finance and Outreach Team



Those Serving in September

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:

September Marcia Foster

Elders:

September 3 Jim Blosser
September 10 Elaine Parman
September 24 Cecilia Burkhart

Deacons:

Brady Christianson, Kristie Christianson
Homebound Communion: **September 10th**

Homebound Communion:

*Jim Blosser, Elaine Parman, Wayne Duncan,
Cecilia Burkhart*

Hallway Hospitality:

September 3 Geoff Putney
September 10 Vince Ortega
September 17 Rich Calver
September 24 Doug Effle

Ushers/Greeters:

September 3 Jessica Effle
September 10 Elaine Parman
September 17 Susane & Wayne Duncan
September 24 Monte Dietrick

Acolytes

September 3 Trev Greder
September 10 Kyson & Keaton Effle
September 17 Gianna Greder
September 24 Edryk Christianson

New Administrative Assistant

Hello, my name is Mariana Tines. I am the new administrative assistant in the office. I also run a local sewing & alterations business called MT Alterations. In addition, I play piano as a hobby in my spare time. Thank you for this opportunity to work for this wonderful community!



Thank You from Kamp Kaleo

Dear Friends of FCC Lincoln,

On behalf of the entire board and staff of Kaleo on the River, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your very generous contribution to Kamp Kaleo from the proceeds of your garage sale and rummage sale. What a gift from so many generous volunteers-- those who donated merchandise, those who sorted, organized and priced items, and those who volunteered on the days of the sale!

We thank each one of you who was involved. There are many upgrades happening at Kaleo, along with a new sense of hope. Thank you for being a part of that!

Blessings,
Barb Tentinger and the Board & Staff of Kaleo on the River



Prayers & Praises

August 31, 2023

Lincoln First Christian Church

Calendar of Events

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

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
 - Mildred Brockemeyer
 - Vic Burgess
 - Bobbi Carlin
 - William Deterding
 - Joan Dietrich
 - Sharon Hile
 - Polly Putney
 - Rae-Hope Putney
 - Marvin Thurber
 - Jessica Vocasek
- Nicole Lee, *prayers for strength, Mother of Leigh Lestina*

Friends:

- Tammy Foral, *healing, patience and strength as facing many health issues. Co-worker of Sara Lugn*
- 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:

- Shubert Christian Church & Rev. Dennis Fulbright

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in the Philippines

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



Sunday, September 3

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

Monday, September 4 -Office Closed-

Wednesday, September 6

- 5:30pm Supper
- 6:30 pm Handbell Quartet Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Recorder Consort Rehearsal

Sunday, September 10

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

Monday, September 11

- 7pm Deborah Group- TBA

Wednesday, September 13

- 5:30pm Supper
- 6:30 pm Recorder Consort Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Handbell Quartet Rehearsal

Sunday, September 17

- 8:45am Adult Sunday School- Library
- 9:15am Sanctuary Choir- Sanctuary
- 10am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30am Worship
- 5pm Praisefest

Wednesday, September 20

- 5:30pm Supper
- 6:30 pm Recorder Consort Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Handbell Quartet Rehearsal

Sunday, September 24

September Birthdays

- 5th Keaton Bowker**
- 6th Gary Larson, Polly Putney**
- 7th Rich Calver**
- 18th Marcia Foster**
- 21st Marj Snodgrass**
- 24th Donna Baker**