



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
Elaine Parman, Care Minister

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www.fcclincoln.org

Volume 73, No. 11
October 26, 2023



Set your clocks **back** one hour on Saturday, November 4th or you will be very early for worship on November 5th!

First Christian Church will **GIVE THANKS** on Sunday, November 19th in the gym following worship. Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls will be provided.

Everyone will be invited to sign up and bring their favorite sides or desserts.

Come Celebrate with us!

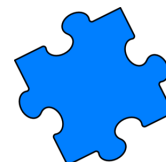


FCC Nominating Committee is at work



The Nominating Committee may be contacting you to ask you to prayerfully consider serving as an Elder, Deacon, Foundation Representative, a Board Officer, or a Team Leader.

Are YOU the missing piece?



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Here we are, the final week of our annual stewardship drive. Since June we have been taking a look at how we “give” so that God’s kingdom can be increased here on earth. We’ve talked many times about how generous God is with us, blessing us with family, community, homes, food, and so many other things. Most importantly, God has blessed us with God’s son Jesus Christ so that we might have life and have it in abundance. As a sign of our gratitude for God’s lavish blessings we give back to God a portion of what has been given to us. That brings us to this coming Sunday, Commitment Sunday, when we’ll bring our pledges to church for a blessing during our worship service. Your pledges will allow us to know what our budget will be for the coming year.

Did you know generosity has positive health benefits? Many different studies have shown that being generous to others helps us physically and mentally. “Research suggests that the act of giving can help us feel a sense of purpose, reduce our stress and depression levels and can even help us improve our self-esteem,” explains Lynne Gallagher, LCSW, a clinical psychiatry specialist. “These emotional benefits then lead to positive impacts to our physical health.” Some of the physical health benefits from generosity include having lower blood pressure and improved heart health, in addition to a longer life span. We also feel better because when we are generous towards others our brain puts out more of the chemicals that help us feel good: oxytocin, dopamine and serotonin, which help regulate our moods and create feelings of connection with others.

Besides the above-mentioned benefits, it really comes down to one important reason to give: God tells us to love each other. It’s a command, actually. To love each other means to take care of others’ needs, and that takes resources. When you give to First Christian Church, you are allowing us to reach out with love to those who are hurting, hopeless and needing to remember that God loves them.

Thank you for your generous hearts and loving spirits. You do make a difference, and I see it every day. I give thanks for you, and I am excited to see you on Sunday!

Sincerely,
Kara

Deborah Group - Disciples Women Apple Pie Sales

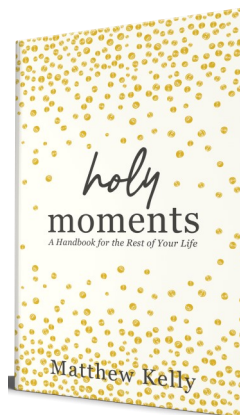


It’s fall and apple pie season! These deep dish pies are great for holiday dinners or anytime! Pies come with baking instructions on how to bake them. They keep in your freezer for 4 to 6 months easily.

Email darcy.blosser@gmail.com with your order.

<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Serves</u>
Tarts	\$ 8	2-3 people
8”	\$12	6-8 people
10”	\$16	8-10 people

*If paying by check, please make it out to
Disciples Women.*



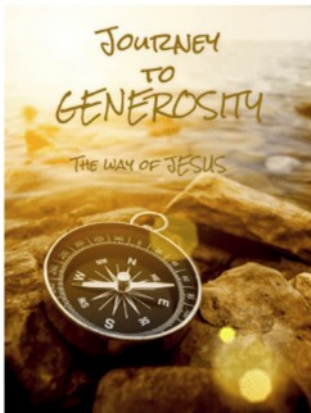
The Elders of FCC are gifting YOU with a free book that has inspired each of them in various ways. Copies will be taken to those who receive Homebound Communion and copies will be available for you to pick up at the Stewardship Celebration lunch, October 29th and in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. Please take a copy, become aware of all the *holy moments* already happening in your life.

Author Matthew Kelly describes a ‘*holy moment*’ as *any time you are united with God; a moment of prayer, awareness of a beautiful sunset, a random act of love or kindness which increases God’s Love and Joy in your life.*

What is an Elder?

Sometimes people don’t know what an elder does for our Church. I would like to tell you what we are all about. What does it mean to be an Elder of the Church? It means, we care for our congregation. We will be informed of anyone who needs prayers or cards. We work with a team that supports and helps us. Elders take turns reading the prayer at the communion table. Meeting once a month gives us the opportunity to see if we are needed to visit those who are unable to be in Church with communion, answer any questions we may have, and receive spiritual nourishment. It is a wonderful position in our Church. Pray on this and see if you are interested in serving this way. I am available for questions at any time.

Blessings, *Cecilia Burkhart* - Elder Chair



Journey To Generosity

Stewardship is a way of living that acknowledges God as the Source of all that is good, love-inspiring, and life-giving. And our gratitude is expressed by seeking tangible ways to make that message come alive for others.

As you think about making a commitment of time, talent, money, or other resources for the coming year, think about the fact that God made you in God's own image to be part of a community in which everyone and everything supports one another. God loves you unconditionally and is even now working for this world to become that kind of community. Think about the mission of First Christian Church as an extension of your own values and the behaviors that you would like to see in every person, every household, and every group.

Sunday, October 29 is the culmination of our **Journey to GENEROSITY** stewardship campaign. We hope that you can be with us for worship and the celebration lunch (Runza chili and Miller & Paine cinnamon rolls) in the gym. Following the luncheon, we will have a Trunk or Treat event from 1:30-3:30, in the church parking lot or in the gym if inclement weather.

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



Again this year, the Worship Team invites you to participate in **30 Days of Gratitude** during the month of November. Watch your Snail Mail box!

First Christian Church -

Thank you for the monetary and shoe donations, as well as the Wal-Mart gift cards. Your continued support of the McPhee Community directly impacts the daily and emergency needs of our families!

- The McPhee Staff



Stewardship Celebration Lunch menu



Updated Church Directories are available!

If you would like one emailed to you, please email the office at info@fcclincoln.org.

If you would like a printed version, please email the office and it will be available on the table in the Narthex with your name on it or call the office at 402-475-4289 to have mailed to you.

Deborah Group will meet on Monday, November 6, 7 pm at Cec Burkhart's home - 3409 Neerpark Dr.

Our study this year is based on Lamentations and is titled *Into The Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*.

All women are welcome to join us! Contact D'Arcy Blosser for more information...
402-429-6902.



~ Thank You ~

Thank you for your thoughtful words of condolences and support following the death of my mother, Mildred Brockemeyer on October 17, 2023. This congregation and its members meant a lot to my mother even though she hasn't been able to attend in recent years. She always looked forward to watching the live stream of our service each Sunday.

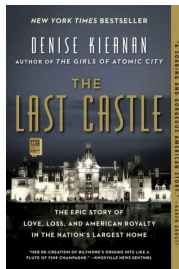
Thank you to Pastor Kara Hillhouse for the beautiful graveside service you led. You captured who my mother was. I also want to thank the Music Ministry for the beautiful Peace Lily that you sent in her memory. Your thoughts and prayers mean a lot to me. May she rest in peace. I know she and my dad will be watching over us.

~Sara Lugin

Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting on Saturday, December 9 @ 9:30 am at Susan Pallas - Duncan's house - 5121 Claire Ave.

Our book for discussion is:
The Last Castle by Denise Kiernan



Please be thinking about upcoming books and email them out to everyone!

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 Still Needed



FCC Faith Giving has increased by \$907 from parking lot donations for the first four Husker home football games.

Jim Christ and Monte Dietrick oversee this ministry and invite you to join them. At least one more volunteer is needed each home game. Your time commitment begins 4 hours before kickoff to set up signs and get supplies to the parking lot.

Remaining home football games are as follows:

- October 28 vs. Purdue @ 2:30 pm
- 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. Hint: this is part of Stewardship, giving of your time.

Thank you Brad and Kristi Bowker for volunteering.

FCC Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 2 pm



Are you interested in receiving your Financial Contribution statements by Email rather than Snail Mail? If so, please email your request to:

Susan Pallas - Duncan
finsec@fclincoln.org

Those Serving in November

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:

Jessica Effle

Elders:

November 5 - Cecilia Burkhart

November 12 - Debby Ortega

November 19 - Sara Lugn

November 26 - Jim Blosser

Deacons:

Riley Bowker, Brad Bowker

Homebound Communion: November 12

Homebound Communion:

Cecilia Burkhart, Debby Ortega, Sara Lugn, Jim Blosser

Hallway Hospitality:

November 5 - Mike Carlin

November 12 - Geoff Putney

November 19 - Vince Ortega

November 26 - Rich Calver

Ushers/Greeters:

November 5 - D'Arcy Blosser

November 12 - Jessica Effle

November 19 - Elaine Parman

November 26 - Wayne Duncan & Susan Pallas -
Duncan

Acolytes:

November 5 - Trev Greder

November 12 - Edryk Christianson

November 19 - Gianna Greder

November 26 - Kyson & Keaton Effle

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



November Birthdays

3rd Doug Effle

9th Evan Foster

12th Bobbi Carlin

14th Jessica Vocasek

16th Brad Bowker

20th Donald Everett, Jr.

Advocacy: Action that Leads to HOPE

Do today's issues, including hunger and climate change, seem overwhelming to you? Then you are invited to join the conversation on Saturday, November 4, 9:30-11:00 am, First-Plymouth CC, Pilgrim Hall, use west entrance of building.

As effective as the federal nutrition programs are, they cannot end hunger alone. Hunger and poverty are driven by economic and social hardships - including insufficient wages, lack of affordable housing, inadequate health care, systemic discrimination and more.

They must be addressed together, as a community. if our nation is to end hunger.

Sponsored by: Climate Action Team, Bread for the World and Interfaith Power and Light

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

November 12th - Veteran's Day Parade - 2 pm. To volunteer contact Jim Blosser - jimbllosser51@aol.com

November 19th - Thanksgiving Dinner - setup, decorate, serve in kitchen, cleanup. To volunteer contact Susan Pallas - Duncan @ slpallas@gmail.com

December 2 - Setup , decorate tree @ 10:00 am. To volunteer contact Marcia Foster - mjfoster2003@gmail.com

Prayers & Praises October 29, 2023

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Vic Burgess
- Bobbi Carlin
- William Deterding
- Joan Dietrich
- Sharon Hile
- Polly Putney
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek

Our sympathy to the family of Mildred Brockmeyer. Mildred passed away October 17, 2023. Her graveside service was Saturday, October 21 @ Lincoln Memorial.

Jessica Vocasek, Amy Nasworthy, Becky Williams as they recover from injuries received in an auto accident on October 2, 2023.

Praise: Leigh & Jacob Lestina welcomed Eliza Ruth on September 26th.

Friends:

- Tammy Foral, *healing, patience and strength as facing many health issues. Co-worker of Sara Lugn*
- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhardt*

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:

- Nebraska Regional Minister - The Rev. Chris Morton

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in Italy
"Italy, within touching distance of Africa, is an obvious destination for the many fleeing conflict, persecution, and poverty on that continent. Italy calls on other nations to play their part so that it may not bear this load alone."

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, October 29, 2023

8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Stewardship Celebration Lunch - Gym
1:30 pm Trunk or Treat - Parking Lot or Gym

Wednesday, November 1

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

Sunday, November 5

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 - All Saints Sunday
11:30 am Worship Team Meeting - Library

Monday, November 6

7:00 pm Deborah Group Meeting @ Cecilia Burkhardt's

Wednesday, November 8

Noon Foundation Zoom Meeting
5:30 pm Supper
6:30 pm Recorder Consort Rehearsal
7:30 pm Handbell Quartet Rehearsal

Sunday, November 12

8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship
2:00 pm Veteran's Day Parade
5:30 pm Youth Group

Wednesday, November 15

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

Sunday, November 19

8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Thanksgiving Dinner in Gym
5:30 pm Youth Group
6:00 pm Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 22

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

Sunday, November 26

8:45 am Adult Sunday School - Library
9:15 am Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Elders Meeting