



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
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Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 2nd following Worship



This year we are making stewardship our focus once a month from June through September, followed by a traditional campaign in October. Our stewardship theme this year is **“Measuring What Matters”**.

We are constantly bombarded with the invitation to measure ourselves against an unobtainable and ever-changing variety of standards. Measuring what (really) matters is about choosing to evaluate our life, our faith, and the use of our resources according to the values of the Realm of God.

Over the next few months, we’ll explore important issues about our allegiances, our faith, our compassion, our use of money, our generosity, and our belief that God provides what is ultimately necessary for the living of our lives. Stewardship is more than money; it is a lifestyle based on a relationship with Jesus Christ.

We’ll kick-off our **“Measuring What Matters”** stewardship campaign, on Sunday, June 9, focusing on a passage from Joshua 24:14-24.

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

Pastor's Corner

Dear friends,

Three summers ago I took a sabbatical (this word comes from the Greek word meaning Sabbath). For three months, I primarily stayed in our sunroom, reading, taking naps with our cats, and engaging in fun things I'd long wanted to do but never got around to. I took pottery classes, I went on retreats, I went back and read book after book after book of the old classics of literature. I tracked the sunshine as it made its way from the east to the west and watched how the shadows changed in our backyard. It was magical. And I really needed it. But sadly not everyone gets time away like this.

Summer can be a time of getting away from your routine. Whether you're on vacation or working, summer can be sabbath. Think of it this way: for those of you who can (students and teachers, for example) summer provides greater periods of rest and relaxation. For those of you who still work, there is the opportunity to engage in the world around you in a different way, even in your busy-ness. After the long harsh winter, with short days and long cold nights, summer is warmth, it's sunshine, it's green grass and leaves and flowers. Summer is grilling out, listening to the birds sing in the mornings, looking up at the stars of night. Engaging in the sabbath of summer is something all of us can do.

Why does this matter? Because, just as there is a rhythm to the week, with Sunday being the day of sabbath (or the day of rest), there is also a rhythm to the year. And you need this rhythm, because you are a creature of rhythm - think of your heartbeat. You need periods of rest and rejuvenation. Let summer be the season of rest. Not just rest for your body, but also rest for your soul.

I'd like to propose that you work intentionally to make this summer a sabbath for yourself. I'd like to encourage you to wring every drop out of it that you can. Remember things that used to be magical for you to do during the summer, and maybe do some of them again: read, garden, look up at the stars, try to catch a firefly. Find periods of rest. Like storing up food for the winter long ago, we need to store up moments of sabbath for the rest of the year. Happy summer! I'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Deborah Group is hosting a picnic on Monday, June 3 at 6 p.m. at Susan Pallas Duncan's home, 5121 Claire Avenue. Susan will have the main dish and drinks and we are to bring a salad or dessert to share. All women are invited to attend. Just let Susan know if you plan to be there (slpallas@gmail.com).



Mark your calendars for the annual Kamp Kaleo Rummage Sale to be held **August 8-10** at First Christian. Volunteers to help set up and sell will be needed, and "treasures" in clean and reusable condition will be solicited. Set-up week will be Saturday, Aug. 3- Wednesday, Aug. 7. Let Gwen Belden or D'Arcy Blosser know if you are able to assist in any way! More information will be coming on what items will be accepted. This is a good time to clean out cabinets, drawers, closets, and storage rooms and get rid of items we no longer need! Items may be brought to FCC and stored on the second floor in the north hall end classroom.

SAVE the DATE: June 23rd!



LINCOLN SALTDOGS

The Hospitality Team has reserved a block of tickets to the Lincoln Saltdogs game vs the Gary SouthShore RailCats. Please contact Susan Pallas-Duncan at: slpallas@gmail.com to reserve your ticket.

Come on out - buy a hot dog, beverage or peanuts and enjoy some great fellowship!



AGAPE CAMP
A Self-Guided Camp
 June 9-14, 2024
 Clergy Retreat
 Family Camp
 Self-Care Retreat
 Meet-up w/ Friends
 Come for a day or the whole week

Per Day Cost
 \$65/person
 \$50/clergy

What is Provided
 Meals and Lodging
 Afternoon Activities
 Evening Vespers

Registration Required:
 Call: 308-730-0333
 Email: kampkaleo@gmail.com



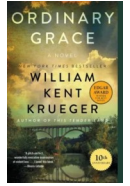
Little Kampers at Kaleo

Little Kampers is for children entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade (if your child is entering 3rd grade but this would be their first time at Kamp, they are also welcome). An introductory camp, Little Kampers begins with arrival/check-in between 3 and 4 p.m. on Friday, and ends at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Campers come with an adult companion - mom, dad, grandparent, guardian, aunt, uncle, etc. - who is expected to participate with them. Bible stories, singing, games, arts & crafts, canoeing, hiking, tie dye, vespers and more are all a part of this camp. "Linked By Love" is the theme this summer; we will explore how we are all beloved children of God and how we can share God's love with everyone. All children are welcome to attend this camp with their adult companion; you don't have to be a member of any particular church or denomination or religious community at all. The June camp (June 7-9--registration deadline June 3) is nearly full but the July camp (July 5-7) has plenty of room! Register at kampkaleo.com. Camps for all ages still have openings; see Kamp Kaleo website for more information.

JULY Book Club News

Book Club will be meeting on **Saturday, July 13 @ 9:30 am** - Dottie's home, 6940 NW 2nd St. No meeting in June.

July book for discussion will be:
Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger



Our next book will be:
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Please email future book suggestions to:
 Kristi Bowker at bkbowker@gmail.com



- ◆ The FCC parking lot is full during weekdays. If you or a guest come and need a place to park there are 3 FCC reserved spots and 2 FCC staff spots. Please do not park in an open slot as the people reserving the spots come and go during the day.
- ◆ If you turn on a light and unlock a door be sure to turn off the light and lock the door if you are the last one out. This is a very large building with lots of great hiding places. It's a bit intimidating when an unexpected guest appears at the office door.



Pentecost
May 19, 2024

New HVAC System Update

Floor tile and painting repairs, around the new parlor units have been completed. Many THANKS to Jim Blosser for overseeing this portion of the project.

Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances have caused a short delay in the sanctuary phase of this project. There will be NO air conditioning in the sanctuary until the new system is operational.

As of May 30, 2024:

- ◆ Ice tank condenser (SE side of the building) has been drained and removed.
- ◆ Old concrete has been removed and the new concrete has been poured.
- ◆ Old equipment (including ductwork) has been disconnected and removed.
- ◆ Installation of new equipment has begun.

As of May 30, 2024, we have received just under \$29,500, which is a little more than half of our goal in donations to pay for our new HVAC system upgrade. We still need to raise \$20,500. Your donation towards this needed upgrade will ensure that this beautiful and sacred space will continue to be a place of hope, community, and connection with God for generations to come. We ask you to prayerfully consider how you can give to help cover the remaining amount. It will take all of us to make this happen. Any size donation will help us achieve our goal. If you come to this beautiful church, sit in it, worship in it - if your life has been impacted by this church in any way - please consider giving. We thank you for your generosity.

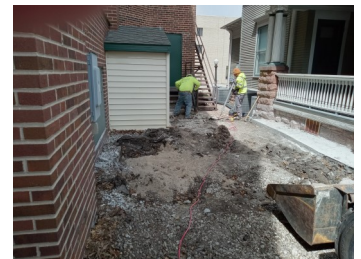
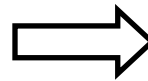
The Finance Team



Old unit being hauled away



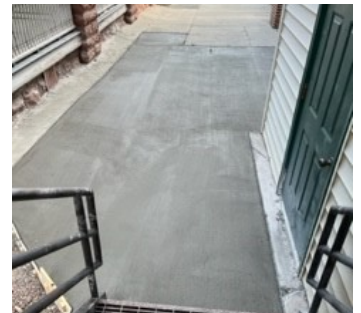
Old unit and concrete gone



Old unit



New concrete prep



New concrete



Those Serving in June

If for any reason you will be unable to fulfill your responsibility, **please find a substitute**. All of these positions need to be filled each morning.

Worship Leader:

Dan Cowger

Elders:

June 2 - Jim Blosser
June 9 - Wayne Duncan
June 16 - Cecilia Burkhart
June 23 - Jim Christ
June 30 - Sara Lugn

Deacons:

Kristi Bowker and Susan Pallas-Duncan

Homebound Communion: June 9

Jim Blosser, Wayne Duncan, Cecilia Burkhart, Jim Christ

Hallway Hospitality:

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

Ushers/Greeters:

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

Acolytes:

June 2- Trev Greder
June 9 - Edryk Christianson
June 16 - Kyson and Keaton Effle
June 23 - Gianna Greder
June 30 - Edryk Christianson

Offering Counting:

June 2 - D'Arcy Blosser
June 9 - Elaine Parman
June 16- Rich Calver
June 23 - Gwen Belden
June 30 - D'Arcy Blosser

THANK YOU for volunteering.

LAST CALL

The church has received 10 NEW round tables to replace the old, heavy ones we've used for over 20 years. The OLD ones are available for adoption at \$20 each. Please contact the church office if you are interested in purchasing one, several or all 10 of them.

Be sure to ask your friends, neighbors and everyone you know. Perhaps they are in need of one or more.

Thanks - *The Property and Hospitality Teams*



9th Debby Ortega
22nd Beth Zager
23rd Trev Greder

Please let the church office know if you would like to have your birthday listed. We just need your name and birthdate to add you to the correct month.

I am blessed beyond words for all the acts of kindness bestowed on me during my recent knee surgery and recovery.

The cards, calls, visits, rides, errand running, meals and bouquets of fresh garden flowers made the 2 weeks fly by. All of the office assistance was truly a gift.

I am honored to be serving as the temporary Administrative Assistant and was so surprised with the beautiful plant I received for Administrative Professional's Day on April 24th.



♥ *Elaine Parman*

Prayers & Praises

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- Bobbi Carlin
- Mike Carlin
- Jim Christ
- Joan Dietrich
- Sharon Hile
- Phyllis Knosp
- Polly Putney
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek

Friends:

- John Burkhardt, husband of Cecilia Burkhardt *has been diagnosed with cancer behind his voice box. John will begin treatments soon.*
- Bob Johnson, a longtime family friend of the Vocasek family. *Bob is battling terminal cancer.*
- 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:

- Bruce Frogge at Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX

In the Nebraska Region: Humboldt Christian Church - Rev. Howard Blecha

Our Global Partners: In India

"We remember the poor, sick, the downtrodden, and the neglected people, who constitute the majority of the population, and we pray for relief from their suffering and pain. We pray for all the mission hospitals across India involved in the healing ministry that serves these less privileged people. Despite many trying situations, we continue to be a beacon of light and hope for them."

For more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners visit www.globalministries.org



Lincoln First Christian Church Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 2

- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:00 am SCRIP Orders Due
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary

Monday, June 3

- 6:00 pm Deborah Group Meeting -- Picnic - Susan Pallas - Duncan's Home

Sunday, June 9

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

Tuesday, June 11

- 5:00 pm Staff Meeting

Sunday, June 16

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

Sunday, June 23

- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:15 am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am Torch Worship Team Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Elders Meeting - Library
- 1:00 pm Salt Dogs Game

Monday, June 24

- Noon Messenger Deadline
- 5:30 pm Finance Team Meeting - Conference Room

Tuesday, June 25

- 5:00 pm Staff Meeting

Thursday, June 27

- Noon Messenger Mailed and Emailed

Saturday, June 29

- 8:00 am Life Line Screening Event - Gym

Sunday, June 30

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

Don't Forget SCRIP

See Donna Ruhl after worship or send an email to the church office, if you are interested in SCRIP. The next special order will be **Sunday, June 2nd**. We have several cards on hand. Remember, SCRIP is a win-win for local businesses and First Christian Church.