

Make The Day Special

Before Moving In

- Decorate the new room with favorites, keeping in mind a clear pathways is needed for easy access to the bed and comfy chair. Keep it simple.
- Consider tagging favorite items or creating a scrap book with photos of favorite items and the story behind the item. This will be especially helpful for individuals with dementia concerns.
- Label photographs with names, their connections and the date. Get the facts while those who know the stories can share the stories.
- Plan a card shower. It's a great way to let others know about the move and to get the new address to friends and family. And really, we all love mail.

The Day of the Blessing

- Invite staff as well as friends and family to join in the blessing.
- Bring flowers or a green plant as a gift.
- Bring snacks, especially important for the person who has always been in charge of hospitality.



A Blessing ...

A blessing is a thank you,
a wish, a dream, a message of hope,
an acknowledgement of joys and sorrows,
a celebration,
a passing of time,
a gathering of people and thoughts,
a reflection,
a time to be still,
a time to jump with joy,
a time of quiet meditation,
a gift of love and a prayer.

*God's grace and peace
as you discern God's new call
and discover new ways
to serve*

First Lutheran Church
1551 S. 70th St. - Lincoln, NE 68506
www.flclincoln.org - 402.488.0919

**More Care Is
Needed**

**A Blessing for
those moving
because they need
additional care and
support**

This blessing is for those individuals who have reached the point in their lives where they need to move from their home to a care center or assisted living facility.

This blessing may be done individually, with friends, or with other family members .

Consider beginning by sharing or thinking about a special memory from your life or a remembrance about a special time spent in your current home.



May be read by the individual receiving the blessing. Or if in a group, consider taking turns reading the reflections.

Jeremiah 33: 3 “Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.”

Reflection: Some days when I look in the mirror, I am surprised by the reflection staring back at me. I have been blessed with years to my life, and I find myself now preparing for the next stage of my life. It is difficult to admit, but I am now in need of more care and I can no longer stay in my home alone.

Prayer: Dear Lord, I know you have been with me through both the good times and the bad in my life. I know you will continue to walk by my side and will be with me always. Help me now to gracefully accept these life changes which lie before me.

Isaiah 46: 4 “even to your old age I am he, even when your turn gray I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.”

Reflection: Leaving this home which holds so many special memories is very difficult and overwhelming. There are so many different emotions this creates for both myself and my family. It is difficult to admit I now need more help in taking care of my basic daily needs. While I know there are people willing and able to help me, I don't like feeling so dependent upon others.



John 21: 18 “Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.”

Consider now holding hands with those who are present. Or place your hands on the blessing recipient for the remaining reflection.

Romans 12:12 “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”

Reflection: We know this is a scary time and change can be hard. There are so many unknowns as I leave what is familiar and comfortable. However, we know (insert name) has so many wonderful gifts to offer to his/her family and friends, and to all the new people who will be coming into his/her life as a result of this move.

At this time, those present may take turns pointing out the gifts and talents this person will be able to share.

Prayer: Dear Lord, please wrap your loving arms around (insert name) and give him/her hope and fulfillment as they transition away from this home to a new home which will provide the assistance and help which is now needed in their life.

Help him/her to see the new blessings and opportunities which await as a result of this transition. Be with him/her throughout this transition and continue to show them what a blessing they will always be in our lives and to others. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.