



FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at
First Lutheran Church

January 8-15, 2023

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Welcome to First Lutheran Church! We are so glad you are worshiping with us! If you worshiped with us before, welcome back! If this is your first time worshiping at First Lutheran, welcome! Please let us know you were here by filling out the Guest Card in the Sanctuary pew slots. Don't hesitate to ask the ushers or the person sitting near you any questions you might have. We hope you experience God's love, grace and mercy as you worship with us today.

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION TODAY ABOUT 2023 BUDGET

There is an opportunity today for you to learn about the proposed budget and cuts for 2023. Come to the Activity Center from 9:30-10:30 am to ask questions and offer feedback prior to the Church Council approving it at their January 10 meeting and a congregational vote at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 29. Representatives from the Budget Committee, Executive Council, Church Council and Pastor Erin will be in attendance. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

TODAY IS NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY

Community Crops started with one community garden in 2003 and has grown to coordinate 11 community garden sites throughout Lincoln, a training farm, a production greenhouse, garden and cooking education for all ages and a mobile farmers market. The gardens are spread throughout the city to accommodate gardeners who come from many different backgrounds and, together, they beautify our city while growing food for themselves.

Our Noisy Offering today will help local Crop gardeners grow food for another season. Drop your change and dollar bills in the "noisy pot" during worship and let's make a joyful noise for Community Crops!

BIBLE STUDY: MAKING SENSE OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

David Lose describes Christianity as a way of life for many. A way in which many of us form community and relationships around our shared belief that God comes to us through Jesus Christ. Participating and practicing the principles of our Christian faith can become second nature for us. But how much do we really know and understand about our Christianity? Are there parts of our story that you find confusing or unclear? Are there times when you read the Bible and are uncertain as to what the author is saying?

If you are interested in "Making Sense of the Christian Faith" you are invited to join our 8-week Book/Bible study. We meet each week on Tuesdays at 5:45 pm or Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the Upper Room through February 22. Our resource will be the book, *Making Sense of the Christian Faith*, written by David Lose. You may purchase a copy on Amazon for less than \$15.00

If you have questions about your faith or want to better understand Christianity, then prayerfully consider joining us. You will find a welcoming and supportive environment of curious people exploring what it means to be Christian together.

PRE-ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW SESSIONS

Join us for a presentation of the Council-approved 2023 spending plan and meet the nominees for elected office on Sundays, January 15 and 22, from 9:30-10:30 am. The 2022 Annual Report will be available January 14.

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED

Can you volunteer your time to assist with set up and serving at lunches and receptions for the funerals of First Lutheran members? Know that when you do volunteer you are giving a gift to the grieving family that is priceless - the gift of time, conversation and fellowship with friends and family members during a very difficult time. Sign up at <https://flclincoln.ivolunteer.com/funerals>.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL READINGS

FIRST READING Isaiah 49:1-7
PSALM Psalm 40:1-11
SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
GOSPEL John 1:29-42

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

M. Joyce Hansen, Rev. Dr. Mary Jensen, Sylvia Kempf, Carol Mason, Donna Nelson, Pastor Bill Peterson, Rod Price, Dan Robles, Dean Way, Cindy Schuster, Joan Farmer, Sheila Exstrom, Betty Miller, Dale Latshaw, Marge Fahrnbruch, Karen Lind-Olson and Gene and Mary Brass. Sympathy to Don Albrecht and family at the passing of his wife, Jean Albrecht, on January 1.

CONNECT WITH THE MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor Erin Heidelberger, Lead Pastor (pastorerin@flclincoln.org)
Pastor Marsha Anderson, Visitation Pastor (pstrmarsha@aol.com)
Vicar Erick Hill, Intern (erick@flclincoln.org)
Masako and Boyd Bacon, Directors of Music & Worship (music@flclincoln.org)
Sharon Hardel, Director of Youth & Family Ministry (sharon@flclincoln.org)
Laura Grauly, FaithTrek Coordinator (laura@flclincoln.org)
Kathleen Simley, Director of Communications (kathleen@flclincoln.org)
Cyndi Crouse, Parish Coordinator (cyndi@flclincoln.org)
Stephen Minister Leader (stephen.ministry@flclincoln.org)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 - NOISY OFFERING

8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Congregational Budget Conversation
9:30 AM - FaithTrek, Middle & High School Learning
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

1:30 PM - Coffee Talk at Rock-N-Joe
5:45 PM - MADD Victim Impact Panel
7:00 PM - Keeping God's People in Stitches

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00 AM - Adult Forum Planning
12:45 PM - Staff Meeting
5:30 PM - Fellowship Committee
5:45 PM - Bible Study
6:30 PM - Exodus Group
7:00 PM - Church Council

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

6:30 AM - Faith to Go!
10:30 AM - Bible Study
Noon - Faith Coalition of Lancaster County
5:00 PM - Social Ministry Committee
5:00 PM - Cherub and Chorister Choir Rehearsal
6:00 PM - Confirmation: Dinner + Learning
7:00 PM - Exodus Group
7:00 PM - Endowment Fund Board
7:00 PM - Lydia Circle
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

8:00 PM - Gather & Gab

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

3:15 PM - Backpack Distribution at Pyrtle Elem.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00 AM - Saturday Morning With the Guys
2:00 PM - Celebration of Life for Jean Albrecht
5:30 PM - Worship

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Pre-Annual Meeting Preview Session
9:30 AM - FaithTrek, Middle & High School Learning
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
6:00 PM - Middle School Youth Group