



FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at
First Lutheran Church

August 25 - September 1, 2024

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Welcome to worship at First Lutheran! We're so happy you're here! If you've worshipped with us before, welcome back! If this is your first time, a big welcome to you! We hope you feel God's love, grace and mercy as you worship with us today!

TODAY'S GOOD BOOK SUMMER SERMON: "S" IS FOR SHIPWRECK

Today's sermon from the Good Book delves into Acts 27:1, 9-11, recounting Paul's dire situation as a prisoner aboard a troubled ship setting sail in unfavorable conditions. When faced with imminent danger, Paul bravely advises the crew that survival hinges on intentionally wrecking the ship. His unwavering honesty during this pivotal moment sheds light on the different reactions of those onboard, offering profound insights into the church's present-day challenges.

BIBLE MILESTONE: FULFILLING BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Today, we celebrate our 3 and 4-year-olds along with the 3rd graders as they receive their very own Bibles. This moment marks a reflection of the baptismal commitments made by their parents and sponsors to ensure they "listen to the word of God." May these children attentively engage with the divine message as they read and hear God's word from their new Bibles!

"FIRST STORIES" MAKES A GRAND DEBUT

Welcome to the first "First Stories" newsletter at https://bit.ly/first_stories_1st_edition! Every quarter, we will highlight the ministries and latest news at First Lutheran, along with a sneak peek of upcoming events. This 2024 debut issue features our activities from January to June in a content-packed 24 pages. Discover personal stories, member testimonials, photos and more. Witness the amazing work of the First community in just six months. After reading, you will see - we're a vibrant faith community on the go!

ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Join us in the Chapel this morning from 9:30-10:30 AM for the Adult Forum featuring Kevin Smith, a UNL professor and author of "The Jailer's Reckoning." He will delve into his analysis of the reasons behind the U.S.'s high incarceration rates and shed light on the implications for social cohesion, economic development and political engagement.

ALL-CHURCH RETREAT OFFERS SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES

Join us at the All-Church Retreat on September 21 at Camp Carol Joy Holling near Ashland! This intergenerational retreat offers activities for all ages. The day kicks off at 9:30 AM, with a flexible arrival time. Enjoy a range of activities such as paddle boating, fishing, games, relaxation, worship and classic camp fun! Note there will be no Saturday night worship. Come and worship at camp at 5:00 PM instead!

Register online by Sunday, September 1 at https://flclincoln.org/church_retreat or scan the QR code. Get ready for a day filled with



unforgettable experiences! P.S. Exciting news about this year's All-Church Retreat - no Nebraska football game that day! No reason to not come and join in!

PASTOR PATIO GATHERING THIS WEEK

Join us for the Pastor Patio Gathering this Wednesday, August 28, 7-9 PM at Pastor Erin's place (4804 S. 44th Street). We'll have lemonade, water and light snacks. You're welcome to bring extra treats to share. There's easy access to the patio through the garage - just follow the signs. See you there!

www.flclincoln.org / 402-488-0919

Follow us on Facebook @First Lutheran Church - Lincoln, NE and Instagram @FLCLINCOLN

EXPLORE FIRST LUTHERAN: 101 SESSIONS OFFERED

If you are seeking, needing or are curious about being part of a faith community that truly welcomes all, or know someone who is, we invite you and them to explore First Lutheran Church. Join us for our First Lutheran 101 sessions on September 15 and 22, from 9:30-10:30 AM in the Lower Level Room Blue 2 to learn more about what First has to offer and to explore how our faith community can become your faith community, too! Childcare will be available during these sessions in the church nursery. We would love to have you! If you would like to attend, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/2024flc101>.

LOOK FOR A REALM ACTIVATION EMAIL IN YOUR INBOX

During the week of September 2, look for an email landing in your Inbox giving you a link to activate your personal Realm account, along with instructions. If you have problems, no worries! Stop by the Gathering Area on September 8, 15, 22 and 29 to get help from fellow members.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

M. Joyce Hansen, Sylvia Kempf, Donna Nelson, Pastor Bill Peterson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Mary Brass, Harold Borchert, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, De Hansen, Mariann Schafer, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Ralph Hayden, Jay Sears, Gloria Van Ackeren, Kay Rockwell, Bob Wessels, Tracy Troutman and Kathy Dalby.

Our sympathies and prayers go to the family of Rev. Mary Jensen who passed away on August 15. Her service will be held at First Lutheran on Saturday, August 31, at 1:00 PM.

CONNECT WITH THE MINISTRY STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor Erin Heidelberger, Lead Pastor (pastorerin@flclincoln.org)

Pastor Andrew Kitzing, Associate Pastor (pastorandrew@flclincoln.org)

Pastor Marsha Anderson, Visitation Pastor (pstrmarsha@aol.com)

*Masako and Boyd Bacon, Directors of Music & Worship
(musicflclincoln@gmail.com)*

Sharon Hardel, Director of Youth & Family Ministry (sharon@flclincoln.org)

Laura Gaulty, FaithTrek Coordinator (laura@flclincoln.org)

Kathleen Simley, Director of Communications (kathleen@flclincoln.org)

Mandy West, Parish Coordinator (mandy@flclincoln.org)

Janis Strautkalns, Facilities Maintenance Manager (janis@flclincoln.org)

Wyatt Swanson, Church Accountant (wyatt@flclincoln.org)

Bryan Hanson, Church Accountant (bryan@flclincoln.org)

Lee Rockwell (leerockwell65@gmail.com)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Adult Forum

9:30 AM - Fellowship Time

9:30 AM - Bible Workshop for 3rd Graders

10:45 AM - Worship

Noon - Nuer Worship

1:30 PM - Vitality Initiative Cohort

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

9:30 AM - Fitness Class

1:30 PM - Coffee Talk

6:30 PM - Fall Festival Planning Team

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

5:45 PM - Bible Study

6:30 PM - Exodus Group

7:00 PM - Property Committee

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

10:30 AM - Bible Study

6:00 PM - Remembrance Ceremony (Grief Class)

7:00 PM - Pastor's Patio Gathering

7:10 PM - Adult Choir

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

9:30 AM - Fitness Class

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

1:00 PM - Memorial Service for Mary Jensen

5:30 PM - Worship

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - NOISY OFFERING

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Adult Forum

9:30 AM - Fellowship Time

10:45 AM - Worship

Noon - Nuer Worship

LOOKING AHEAD

September 15 - Learning Year Begins for Youth

September 15 - Stewardship Campaign Kicks Off

September 22 - Kicks for Kids Begins

October 6 - Commitment Sunday & Fall Festival

October 27 - No 8:15 AM Worship Due to Good Life Halfsy