September 29-October 6, 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!

"CULTIVATING LOVE" BY EXTENDING GRACE

Our Season of Stewardship continues with the theme "Cultivating Love," encouraging us to reflect on how God nurtures love within us as we build connections, foster community and extend grace in our daily lives and through the ministry of First Lutheran. This week we are focusing on the theme of extending grace. We invite you to watch the video in the Commons area, where Tom and Amy Thorpe share how their lives have been enriched not only by grace but also by the power of community and connection during Amy's battle with cancer over the past year.

Stop by the Gathering Area today and pick up your household's stewardship packet. In your packet, you will find information about the stewardship season and making your commitment of financial support and involvement in the ministries of First Lutheran for the coming year. You can also visit our Stewardship website at www.flclincoln.org/stewardship or by scanning the QR code to learn more and access all the stewardship resources.

STEP FORWARD WITH KICKS FOR KIDS

Last Sunday we launched our Kicks for Kids campaign. If you've picked up a tag for a child, please return their shoes to the church by next Sunday, October 6. Monetary donations are also appreciated. You can mail your check, place it in the offering plate during worship or drop it off at the church office during regular hours. Please remember to write "Kicks for Kids" on the memo line of your check. Thank you for helping kids put their best foot forward!

REALM ORIENTATION SESSION TODAY

Do you wonder what all the features are of Realm and how having an activated account can help you...

- Stay connected with last-minute announcements and cancellations
- Receive important news about ministry groups you are engaged with
- Have member contact information on-the-go
- Sign up as a volunteer for worship and other serving opportunities
- Register for church events
- Send private messages to staff and ministry leaders

Come to the Realm Orientation and Q&A Session in the Chapel today, from 9:30-10:30 AM when Kathleen Simley and other members will familiarize you with Realm and all of its benefits to you, our staff and our ministries!

If you haven't activated your account yet and need assistance, reach out to mandy@flclincoln.org or stop by the Orientation session. We will have help available for you!

CELEBRATE COMMITMENT SUNDAY WITH US

Join us next Sunday, October 6, for a day of celebration as we come together for worship at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM to honor the commitments of time, talent and resources that our faith community has pledged for 2025. We are excited to welcome Matt Schur as our guest preacher for the day. Matt serves as a hospice lay chaplain at Tabitha and is the Parish Ministry Associate at Peace Lutheran in Plymouth. We will not have worship at 5:30 PM on Saturday, October 5, so we can worship together as a congregation on Sunday.

THE FALL FESTIVAL IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Fall is in the air and it's time for our First Fall Festival on Sunday, October 6 from Noon-3:00 PM! Whether you love food, live music or free fun, we've got something for everyone. Enjoy fun games, tasty food trucks and a balloon artist. Don't forget your pets! Join us at 1:00 PM for a pet blessing and support the Capital Humane Society by buying a bingo game card - just bring some quarters!

Las Abejitas Bilingual Education Center will hold their open house on festival day featuring a book fair. Buy a book for their classroom and help them reach their \$500 goal for free books. Don't forget your Christmas list and pick out some for the little ones!

Rain or shine, we're ready to celebrate the start of Fall at First Lutheran. Parking is easy - use our lot or find more spaces at Morley Elementary School and 6900 A Street. See you there!

13TH SEASON OF FIRST FRIDAY JAZZ BEGINS THIS WEEK

Omaha-based jazz singer Camille Metoyer Moten and her ensemble will kick off the 2024-25 First Friday Jazz concert series on October 4 at First Lutheran from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Camille has become an audience favorite at FFJ. She is a prominent figure in Nebraska's jazz scene, with multiple nominations as Omaha's top jazz vocalist, having been inducted into the Omaha Black Musicians Hall of Fame and the Nebraska Musicians Hall of Fame. Camille will present a mix of love songs and classic jazz standards. Backing Camille will be Dave Murphy on keyboards, Mark Haar on bass and Doug Montera on drums. Admission is free, but contributions are appreciated, and lunch will be available for purchase.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN COMING MONTHS

What would worship be without the dedicated volunteers who serve as readers, greeters, communion assistants, ushers and altar guild members? One thing is clear: it wouldn't reflect the experience we all cherish. With Advent and Christmas approaching, along with our weekly services, there are many opportunities to volunteer. We invite you to consider serving. Sign up online at https://flclincoln.ivolunteer.com/fourth_quarter_2024!

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, Mariann Schafer, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Ralph Hayden, Gloria Van Ackeren, Bob Wessels, Tracy Troutman, Kathy Dalby, Elaine Dlouhy, Rod Price, Margrett Wehland and Mike Snyder. We also extend our condolences to Barbara Howat in the passing of her husband, Jim Howat.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Realm Orientation

9:30 AM - Learning Hour for FaithTrek, Middle

& High School

9:30 AM - Fellowship Time

10:45 AM - Worship

Noon - Nuer Worship

5:00 PM - Jazz Rehearsal

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

9:30 AM - Fitness Class

1:30 PM - Coffee Talk

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

5:45 PM - Bible Study

6:30 PM - Exodus Group

7:00 PM - Executive Committee

7:00 PM - Jazz Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:30 AM - Bible Study

6:00 PM - Discipleship University

7:10 PM - Adult Choir

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:30 AM - Fitness Class

6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers

7:00 PM - Gather & Gab

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

11:30 AM - First Friday Jazz

3:00 PM - BackPack Distribution at Pyrtle Elem.

6:30 PM - Jazz Rehearsal

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 - New Member Welcome, Commitment Sunday & Noisy Offering

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Adult Forum

9:30 AM - Learning Hour for FaithTrek, Middle

& High School

9:30 AM - Fellowship Time

10:45 AM - Worship

Noon - Nuer Worship

Noon - Fall Festival

6:45 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision