



FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at
First Lutheran Church

November 17-24, 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!

JOIN US FOR AN INTERGENERATIONAL GATHERING ON GRATITUDE SUNDAY

Mark your calendars! On November 24th, join us for Gratitude Sunday - a day of thankfulness, appreciation and community. Everyone from ages 2 to 90, from young cherubs like Logan P. to wise elders like Bob F., is welcome to join the fun from 9:30-10:30 AM in the Activity Center. One highlight of the day is our 50-piece Lego building contest. Bring your Lego creation to be judged by our special panel for a chance to win a prize! There will also be a fun Lego activity for all ages, planned by Laura Gaulty, so you know it will be a blast! Plus, treats will be available for everyone! This gathering is not just about fun, it's about how we grow and learn together as a community. *"The cherubs in our church are the lifeblood and future, and for them, I have heartfelt love and gratitude,"* says Laura. We hope you share her sentiment. So come and build stronger connections across all generations and celebrate the joy of gratitude and community together!

WE DID IT, FIRST LUTHERAN!

Sound the alarms and celebrate! We have exceeded our 2025 Stewardship campaign goal! Thank you, First Lutheran, for your incredible dedication and generosity. As Nebraska Synod Bishop Scott Johnson noted, your pledges help our community steward the church and spread God's love. Pledging remains open, and all contributions are welcome to foster even more love in the coming year. Pledge online at www.flclincoln.org/stewardship or scan the QR code. Thank you for your support!



ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Visit the Chapel this morning, located in the northwest corner of the building, between 9:30 and 10:30 AM for the Adult Forum session! Come and learn more about the 11 partners receiving this year's Gifts of Hope.

INSTILL HOPE AT GIFTS OF HOPE

It's December, and you're thinking about what to give that person who has everything. This year, turn your holiday shopping into an opportunity for kindness with the Gifts of Hope Market. Your purchases support 11 partner organizations addressing urgent issues locally and globally. From empowering refugee women to start businesses to fighting sex trafficking and advocating for LGBTQ+ rights with OutNebraska, every penny makes a difference. Don't miss this chance to create meaningful change. Preview the online catalog on Wednesday, December 4, and shop online from Saturday, December 7, 8 AM, to Sunday, December 8, 10 PM. Prefer in-person shopping? Visit us at First Lutheran Church on December 8, from 8:15 AM to 12:45 PM. This holiday season, choose gifts that bring joy and hope. Mark your calendar for the Gifts of Hope Market—where every gift tells a story and every purchase makes a difference. Join us in spreading hope, one thoughtful gift at a time!

HANGING OF THE GREENS NEXT SUNDAY

Get ready for the Advent season with greenery, Christmas trees and more! Join us November 24 at 11:45 AM as we prepare to celebrate Advent. Tasks will include moving and lifting, fluffing garlands, and arranging ribbons. A light lunch will follow. For questions, contact Masako.

www.flclincoln.org / 402-488-0919

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OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, LEARN AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS

- Join us for a Thanksgiving Day feast at First Lutheran Church at noon with your family and friends! Sign up online at https://bit.ly/flc_thanksgiving by November 24 so we can prepare enough food for everyone!
- Go on a pilgrimage to St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, NE, on December 9 or 14 to experience nativity scenes around the world. Group departures from First at 10:30 AM, returning at 3:30 PM. Admission is free; lunch is at a cost. RSVP to Sharon by November 24.
- Share a crockpot of your favorite soup for Wednesday Advent worship lunches and dinners on December 4, December 11 and December 18. Sign up at https://bit.ly/flc_advent_soup!

WHAT'S YOUR TOUCHSTONE VERSE FOR THE WEEK?

It can be from a hymn or reading! Write it below. Read it, pray it and talk about it this week - in whatever way works for you to digest and connect with it!

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, Elaine Dlouhy, Rod Price, Margrett Wehland and Mike Snyder.

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 Graulty, 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, Council President (leerockwell65@gmail.com)

Stephen Ministry Leader (stephen.ministry@flclincoln.org)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for FaithTrek, Middle & High School Age
9:30 AM - Adult Forum
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
1:30 PM - Vitality Initiative Cohort
6:00 PM - Youth Potluck and Game Night

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 AM - Cook for Matt Talbot
9:30 AM - Fitness Class
1:30 PM - Coffee Talk

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

11:00 AM - Serve Lunch at Matt Talbot
12:30 PM - Staff Meeting
5:45 PM - Bible Study
6:30 PM - Exodus Group
6:45 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:30 AM - Martha Circle
10:30 AM - Bible Study
6:00 PM - Discipleship University
7:00 PM - Stewardship Committee
7:10 PM - Adult Choir

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:30 AM - Fitness Class
2:00 PM - Gifts of Hope Planning
6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers
7:00 PM - Gather & Gab

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

3:00 PM - BackPack Distribution at Pyrtle Elem.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:00 AM - Saturday Morning with the Guys
5:30 PM - Worship

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 - GRATITUDE SUNDAY

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream
9:30 AM - Intergenerational Gratitude Sunday Gathering
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship