



FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at
First Lutheran Church

November 24 - December 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!

CELEBRATE COMMUNITY AND GRATITUDE TODAY

Today, we celebrate "Gratitude Sunday" at First Lutheran, a day dedicated to appreciating and sharing gratitude. This event brings us together, regardless of age, in a spirit of community and thankfulness. Join us in the Activity Center today at 9:30 AM to celebrate the winners of our 50-piece Lego contest, participate in a really fun Lego activity yourself and enjoy some delicious treats. Embrace this special day focused on gratitude and being community!

LET'S GET READY FOR ADVENT

Help us get ready for the Advent season! Join us today at 11:45 AM as we set up trees, hang lights, fluff and arrange garlands and artfully arrange ribbons to add that special touch. After our hard work, we will enjoy a light lunch together. For any questions, contact Masako. We look forward to seeing you!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF BECOMING A STEPHEN MINISTER

God's command that we love one another is as relevant now as it was thousands of years ago and Stephen Ministry is one way you can show that love. A Stephen Minister training class is starting soon. Please join us on Sunday, December 1, at 9:30 AM in Lower Level Blue Room 3 for an informational meeting. Discover the impact you can have on others as a Stephen Minister by actively listening, showing care, offering prayers and sharing God's love with those who are hurting. If you are interested, but can't attend, please contact Pastor Erin, Faye Doolittle or Amy Harrison to learn more about how you can get involved.

SPREAD HOPE WITH EVERY GIFT AT THE GIFTS OF HOPE MARKET!

As jingle bells chime this December, are you struggling with gift ideas for someone who has it all? Transform your festive shopping into hope with our Gifts of Hope Market. Your purchase supports 11 organizations addressing critical issues locally and globally. From empowering refugee women to fight sex trafficking and support LGBTQ+ rights, every cent contributes to crucial work. Preview the online catalog starting Wednesday, December 4, and shop online from Saturday, December 7, 8 AM, to Sunday, December 8, 10 PM. Prefer traditional shopping? Visit First Lutheran Church on December 8, from 8:15 AM to 12:45 PM. This holiday season, let your gifts bring joy and hope. Mark your calendar for the Gifts of Hope Market - where every gift tells a story and every penny makes a difference. Join us in spreading hope, one gift at a time!

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TODAY FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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 the end of today 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 the end of today.

www.flclincoln.org / 402-488-0919

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JOIN CLARENCE'S WHIMSICAL CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE AT THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 15, at 9:30 AM, as our sanctuary transforms into a stage for a retelling of the Christmas story. This year, our pageant takes a whimsical twist with "Clarence the Angel." Follow Clarence as he attempts to manage Earth, only to find that humans are far more capable than he initially thought. Through this heavenly adventure, the "humans" in our story will discover the newborn King and experience God's joy in unique and meaningful ways. Afterward, we invite you to join us in the Activity Center for cookies and hot chocolate - the perfect way to warm up and connect with fellow members and families. Bring your family, invite friends and prepare to be inspired by Clarence's celestial escapade!

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, Elaine Kruse 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 24

(Pastor Erin on vacation through November 29)

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Intergenerational Gratitude Sunday Gathering

10:45 AM - Worship

11:45 AM - Hanging of the Greens and Lunch

Noon - Nuer Worship

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:30 AM - Fitness Class

1:30 PM - Coffee Talk

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

5:30 PM - Jazz Rehearsal

5:45 PM - Bible Study

6:30 PM - Exodus Group

7:00 PM - Property Committee

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 (Office Closed)

Noon - Thanksgiving Day Feast

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 (Office Closed).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

5:30 PM - Worship

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream

9:30 AM - Adult Forum

9:30 AM - Stephen Ministry Informational Meeting

10:45 AM - Worship

Noon - Nuer Worship

Noon - Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision

