



# FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at  
First Lutheran Church

January 5-12, 2025

## 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!

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN JANUARY

The online signup for worship assistants is now open for January, February and March! We've moved our signup process to Realm!

The sign-up process is quick and straightforward. Follow these steps to get started using your desktop (the steps are similar on the Realm app):

1. Log in to your Realm account.
2. Click Serving on the left-hand menu.
3. At the top, select Opportunities.
4. Click Browse by Role to view all available worship assistant roles. Select the roles you're interested in and submit each for approval. (Approval is a one-time process handled by Mandy West as a Realm safety precaution.)
5. Once approved, you will receive confirmation. Return to Serving in Realm.
6. You'll now be part of the Worship Assistants team. Click Worship Assistants and select Schedules to access the January–March Worship Assistant sign-up.
7. The 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM service schedules will appear. Choose your preferred date and time and add yourself to the roles you would like to fill.

Steps 1-5 are a one-time setup. After approval, just follow Step 6 to sign up for future opportunities.

Haven't activated your Realm account yet? Email Mandy ([mandy@flclincoln.org](mailto:mandy@flclincoln.org)) for a time-sensitive link. We urgently need January worship assistants - check your schedule and sign up today. Thank you!

## ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Join us in the Chapel today from 9:30 to 10:30 AM for Adult Forum, where First Lutheran member, Patrick Hayden-Roy, will facilitate a session on Katerina Van Bora's (Martin Luther's wife) image during the Nazi era.

## IT'S NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY!

Today's Noisy Offering will support the Lutheran Family Services (LFS) Well-Being Box Program, an initiative designed to provide essential items for families in need. Donations will help stock the LFS Children's Services closets, allowing families to select items their children require. Currently, the greatest needs include winter coats, shoes, socks, underwear and hygiene products. Drop your loose change, cash or checks in the noisy silver pot during the offertory and join us in making a joyful noise to support the LFS Well-Being Box Program. Together, we can make a meaningful difference!

## 2024 GIFTS OF HOPE BREAKS A RECORD

Together, we made history! The 2024 Gifts of Hope market raised an incredible \*\*\$24,539.50\*\* - our highest total ever! A huge thank you to everyone who brought First Lutheran's Welcome and Mission Statements to life. From the greeters, table mates, roamers, cashiers and shoppers, thank you for bringing First Lutheran's welcome and mission statements to life! This year's Gifts of Hope spread hope locally, statewide and internationally through the amazing work of our 11 partners. But the impact doesn't end here! Check out our online Gifts of Hope catalog at [https://bit.ly/2024\\_GOH](https://bit.ly/2024_GOH) to support these amazing partners year-round. Giving back isn't just for December - spread hope any day of the year!

[www.flclincoln.org](http://www.flclincoln.org) / 402-488-0919

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## GET READY FOR ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEWS

Join us for two preview sessions ahead of the annual meeting, scheduled for Sunday, January 12, and Sunday, January 19, from 9:30 to 10:30 AM in the Activity Center. Each session will feature unique information, so attending both is highly recommended to gain a comprehensive understanding of the nominated candidates for elected office and the proposed 2025 budget. Mark your calendars for the congregational annual meeting on Sunday, January 26, which will include a spaghetti feed fundraiser at noon.

## JOIN US FOR LUNCH & LEARN: TACKLING HOUSING, MENTAL HEALTH AND JUSTICE REFORM!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH! Join us at Noon at the Activity Center for a free light lunch and an update on what our Justice in Action Team is doing to tackle three key community issues. Know someone struggling with housing in Lincoln? Someone dealing with poor mental health and lacking resources? Curious about how Diversion programs for non-violent offenders could lower local taxes? Come hear what Justice in Action is working on!

## IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

M. Joyce Hansen, Sylvia Kempf, Donna Nelson, Pastor Bill Peterson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Mary Brass, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Ralph Hayden, Gloria Van Ackeren, Bob Wessels, Tracy Troutman, Elaine Dlouhy, Rod Price, Margrett Wehland, Elaine Kruse, Mike Snyder, Michael Dalton and Verla Youngquist. Our sympathies go to the family of Judith Heller who passed away on December 20. Her memorial service was held at First Lutheran on January 3.

## WHAT'S YOUR TOUCHSTONE VERSE FOR THE WEEK?

It could be from a hymn, reading or something in the sermon! Write it below. Read, pray and discuss it this week to help you connect with it!



## THE WEEK AHEAD AT FIRST

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 - NOISY OFFERING

8:15 AM - Worship & Livestream  
9:30 AM - Adult Forum & Learning Hour for 3 year olds-high school  
10:45 AM - Worship  
Noon - Nuer Worship  
6:45 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision

### MONDAY, JANUARY 6

9:30 AM - Fitness Class  
1:30 PM - Coffee Talk  
7:00 PM - Special Congregational Council Meeting

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting  
5:45 PM - Bible Study Group  
7:00 PM - Executive Committee

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

6:30 AM - Faith to Go!  
10:30 AM - Bible Study Group  
6:00 PM - Discipleship University  
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

9:30 AM - Fitness Class  
7:00 PM - Gather & Gab

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

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

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

8:15 AM - Worship and Livestream  
9:30 AM - Annual Meeting Preview Session  
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for 3 year olds-high school  
10:45 AM - Worship  
Noon - Nuer Worship

## OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR PICK UP

If you requested offering envelopes for your 2025 contributions, please visit the table in the Gathering Area to pick up your personalized box. Thank you!