FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at First Lutheran Church

OCTOBER 25-NOVEMBER 1, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP ON REFORMATION SUNDAY!

Today we celebrate God's grace—a gift freely given—and the Spirit's continuing work of renewal in the church and in our lives. Rooted in faith and freed by grace, we are called to share God's love through lives of service. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here!

ENOUGH TO SHARE

Today we continue *Every Blessing in Abundance*, our four-week stewardship journey leading to Commitment Sunday, November 8. This week's theme, *Enough to Share*, invites us to consider how our blessings can bless others.

"...so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." —2 Corinthians 9:8

Our time, abilities, resources, compassion and faith become meals for families, care for neighbors and opportunities for ministry. Together, our gifts reach farther than we could alone.

Today, Travis Kahl will offer our Temple Talk. As you listen, consider: **What has God placed in your hands that you can share with others?** Write your anonymous response on the reflection card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate during the offertory. We'll add it to the Overflowing with Blessings board in the Commons.

Pick up your stewardship packet in the Gathering Area! Personally prepared for you, it includes all the resources you need to participate in the campaign

Council's challenge: If we reach 40% of our financial pledge goal by November 1 (next Sunday!), Church Council will donate **$1,000 to the Lincoln Lutheran Food Pantry**! Return your 2027 pledge today or this week to help us meet the challenge.

Learn more and pledge at flclincoln.org/stewardship, or scan the QR code to go directly to the online pledge form.

A SWEET WAY TO SAY "THANK YOU!"

Stop by the Gathering Area this morning from 9:30–10:30 AM as we celebrate Pastor Appreciation Sunday! Enjoy some special treats—more than just donut holes!—and take a moment to thank Pastor Erin, Pastor Andrew and Pastor Ron for their ministry, care and leadership.

Share your gratitude in person or write a note to let them know how they have made a difference in your life. Pastor Ron couldn't be with us today, but don't let that stop you from writing him a note. We'll make sure he receives it!

WILD WOMEN: RSVP TODAY!

Join the Wild Women of First tomorrow evening, Monday, October 26, from 6–8 PM at The Forum (6301 S. 58th Street) for laughter, conversation and autumn-inspired food. Dinner is provided with a freewill offering.

Wear purple for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and bring NEW hygiene items for Voices of Hope, such as full-size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes or period products.

Women of all ages—and friends!—are welcome. RSVP on Realm, at wildwomenoffirst@gmail.com or by scanning the QR code.

NEED A RIDE TO YOUR POLLING PLACE?

First Lutheran's Transportation Ministry volunteers can help you get to your polling place on November 3 to vote. Email Linda Maack (lindasmaack@gmail.com) or call/text at 402-560-6040 by Monday, October 26 to reserve a space.

FALL FUN TO SUPPORT LAS ABEJITAS FAMILIES

Rising costs and delayed state subsidy payments are creating challenges for Las Abejitas Bilingual Education Center and the families it serves. You can help children continue receiving safe, caring, high-quality child care! Attend the Fall Fun Carnival on Thursday, November 5, from 5–7 PM at First Lutheran. Admission is free, with carnival games, a bounce house, food, prizes and more. Donations of raffle baskets, carnival prizes and funds are welcome, along with $100 sponsored game tables. To help, contact office@lasabejitas.net. All proceeds support scholarships for families struggling with child care expenses. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/las-abejitas-fall-festival.

CHRISTMAS TREES NEEDED FOR GIFTS OF HOPE

Have a Christmas tree you could lend us? We're looking for trees to use at our Gifts of Hope Market on December 5–6. Trees can be returned following the market. If you can help, contact Sunni Richardson at sunni.shalom@gmail.com or Kari Hoeft at karibrandt@hotmail.com. Thank you for helping us create a festive, welcoming space!

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS: NOVEMBER 1-8

Help support veterans at Victory Park Veterans Residence on Lincoln's historic VA campus! The Community Connections & Collaborations and Social Ministry teams are providing a catered Veterans Day lunch and collecting needed supplies.

Beginning next Sunday, November 1, stop by the Gathering Area table for an envelope to contribute toward the meal. Through November 8, we'll also collect: body wash, shampoo, shaving supplies, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, nail and hair care items, laundry essentials, surface, bathroom and floor cleaners, dish soap and dishwasher detergent. Most residents are men, so please keep that in mind when choosing personal care items.

Thank you for sharing a warm meal and everyday essentials with our veteran neighbors!

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

We hold in prayer all who are facing ongoing or recent health concerns or life challenges, including M. Joyce Hansen, Sylvia Kempf, Betty Miller, Mary Brass, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Vern Westberg, Rod Price, Margrett Wehland, Michael Dalton, Pastor Marsha Anderson, Beth Strasheim, Ruby Augustine, Velda Schmidt, Jane Zatechka, Julius Swen, Terry Lander, Tom Hoeft, Pat Frank, Cynthia Holt, Carl Kramer and Dan Horn. We extend our sympathy to the family of Ruby Augustine, who passed away on October 14. Her memorial service was held on October 24.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FIRST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Pastor Appreciation Reception (Gathering Area)
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for 3 Year Olds-12th Grade
9:30 AM - Adult Forum
9:30 AM - Faithful Conversations
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26
9:00 AM - First Fitness
1:30 PM - Coffee Talk
6:00 PM - Wild Women of First (The Forum - 6301 S. 58th Street)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
10:00 AM - Staff Planning Session
5:45 PM - Bible Study
6:00 PM - Columbarium Committee
7:00 PM - Property Committee

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28
6:30 AM - Faith to Go!
10:30 AM - Bible Study
6:30 PM - Stewardship Team
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29
9:00 AM - First Fitness
6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 PM - Gather & Gab

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
5:00 PM - Worship in the Chapel

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 - LET'S MEET THE COUNCIL'S 40% STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE!
8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Fellowship Time
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for 3 Year Olds-12th Grade
9:30 AM - Adult Forum
9:30 AM - Faithful Conversations
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
6:45 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision