FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at First Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER 8-15, 2026

WELCOME TO COMMITMENT SUNDAY!

Welcome to Commitment Sunday at First Lutheran! Today we give thanks for God's abundant blessings and make our pledges to support the ministry we share. Whether First Lutheran is your church home or you're visiting today, we're glad you're here to reflect with us on God's blessings and how we can share them with others.

ABUNDANCE OVERFLOWS

"...this ministry...overflows with many thanksgivings to God." (2 Corinthians 9:12)

Today is Commitment Sunday and the final week of *Every Blessing in Abundance*. We have good reason to give thanks! By November 1, we reached 73% of our pledge goal, well past the Council's 40% challenge. Thanks to your generosity, the Lincoln Lutheran Food Pantry will receive a $1,000 gift from Church Council.

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged! If you've been meaning to make your 2027 pledge, today is a great day to do it. Together, we can meet our goal and even go beyond it, supporting the ministries we share at First Lutheran and in our community. You will find pledge cards in the pew racks or you can scan the QR code to pledge online.

For today's Temple Talk, Fred Ohles and Mark Mesarch will share a skit about another way we practice generosity: giving our time and talents. As you watch, consider this week's reflection question: *How is God inviting you to let generosity overflow through your life?*

Our campaign wraps up this week, but stewardship continues all year. Visit https://flclincoln.org/stewardship and pledge anytime in the weeks and months ahead.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR BINGO!

If you're 65 or older, join the Seasoned Adults at First Lutheran on Thursday, November 19, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM for bingo, prizes and treats! Sign up in the Gathering Area or on Realm.

CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY WE SHARE

Today we celebrate *Every Blessing in Abundance* and give thanks for the ways God has called us to accompany others through discipling, engaging, welcoming, partnering and advocating. We celebrate the relationships we've built, the neighbors who have walked alongside us and the opportunities God is opening for us to serve together in the years ahead.

That's what makes Commitment Sunday special. We get to gather as one congregation, give thanks for the ministry we've shared and make commitments that help First Lutheran plan for what comes next. Today we will hear from Aaron Renkenberger of Mosaic, a partner we welcome into our building each weekday for day services. It's one example of what becomes possible when we share what God has given us.

After worship, everyone is invited to the Activity Center for a hot lunch catered by Chef au Chef. Whether First Lutheran is your church home or you're visiting today, we would love to have you at the table!

SHARE THANKSGIVING DINNER AT FIRST

Join others for Thanksgiving dinner at First Lutheran on Thursday, November 26, at noon. Come on your own or bring family and friends!

Hosted by the Fellowship Committee, turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy will be provided. Bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to share (two dishes per family, one per individual).

RSVP at https://bit.ly/thanksgiving_lunch_2026 or on Realm.

SUPPORT AND HONOR OUR VETERANS

Today is the last day to help provide a catered Veterans Day lunch and everyday essentials for residents of Victory Park Veterans Residence. Pick up a meal donation envelope at the Gathering Area table or bring personal care, laundry or household cleaning supplies.

Veterans Recognition | Sunday, November 15

Join us in the Activity Center for a continental breakfast at 9:30 AM and a recognition program around 9:50 AM.

If you're a First Lutheran veteran or wish to honor a deceased spouse, parent or child who served, email the veteran's name, rank, branch and service dates to llwcarlson@gmail.com. To display memorabilia, request table space and arrive by 9:15 AM.

BENEDICTINE WISDOM FOR OUR TIME

How can our faith help us find peace and respond to the challenges of today's world? Join First Lutheran member Carol Olson and fellow Benedictine Oblates for *Let Peace Be Your Quest and Aim: Benedictine Wisdom for Our Time* on Saturday, November 14 at 9:30 AM. This free gathering will draw on the Rule of St. Benedict and include time for silence, reflection and sharing. Attend in person at the Donlan Conference Center at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital's Lincoln Campus or join via Zoom. Contact Carol at chococd68@gmail.com for details.

BUY COFFEE AND SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

Stock up on your favorite brew or pick up a holiday gift! Order coffee from Lincoln's Coffee Roaster through November 14. Each 12-ounce bag is $20, and proceeds help send our youth to the 2027 National Gathering in Minneapolis.

Order through one of our youth or pick up a form in the Gathering Area. Pay by cash or check to First Lutheran Church with "The Coffee Roaster" in the memo. Coffee should be ready about five days after we place the group order. Youth will deliver orders placed with them. All other orders can be picked up at First Lutheran.

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 sympathies to Steve, Beth, Bryce and Lainey Johnson on the death of Steve's father, Nile.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FIRST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 - COMMITMENT SUNDAY
10:45 AM - Worship with Livestream
Noon - Commitment Sunday Lunch
Noon - Nuer Worship

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9
9:00 AM - First Fitness
9:00 AM - Cook for Matt Talbot Kitchen
1:30 PM - Coffee Talk
6:00 PM - Budget Committee
6:30 PM - Community Connections & Collaborations Team
7:00 PM - Keeping God's People in Stitches

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
11:00 AM - Serve Lunch at Matt Talbot Kitchen
12:30 PM - Staff Meeting
2:00 PM - Lydia Circle
5:30 PM - Fellowship Committee
5:45 PM - Bible Study
7:00 PM - Congregational Council

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
6:30 AM - Faith to Go!
10:30 AM - Bible Study
Noon - Catered Lunch at Victory Park Veterans Residence
6:00 PM - Christian Education Committee
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12
7:00 AM - Adult Forum Planning Team
9:00 AM - First Fitness
6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 PM - Gather & Gab

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
8:00 AM - Saturday Morning with the Guys & Gals
5:00 PM - Worship in the Chapel

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 - YOUTH COMMITMENT SUNDAY
8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Veterans Recognition Continental Breakfast and Program
9:30 AM - Faithful Conversations
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for 3 Year Olds-12th Grade
10:45 AM - Worship with Livestream
Noon - Nuer Worship