



lincolnchristianchurch.org

GOD FAMILY OTHERS

The Christian Call

Worship Services

8:15 am | Sanctuary

8:15 am | Fellowship Center

9:30 am | Fellowship Center

10:45 am | Fellowship Center

August 2026 | Volume 75 | Number 7

Fall Ministry Signups *August 23 & 30!*

KIDS MINISTRY

Kids Sunday School Teachers

Kids Sunday Worship

Kids Club

Weekday Preschool

Special Events

STUDENT MINISTRY

The Gathering (9th - 12th grades)

Fuel (5th - 8th grades)

Sunday School (5th - 12th grades)

CIY SuperStart (5th & 6th grades)

CIY MOVE (8th - 12th grades)

Special Events

The Gathering Meals

WORSHIP MINISTRY

*Good News (9th - 12th grades)

*HeartSong (5th - 8th grades)

*Kids Choirs (3yo - 4th grades)

*Open enrollment thru Sep 27

Sanctuary Choir

Fellowship Center Worship Band

Fellowship Center Vocal Team

Tech Team

Handbells

Instrumentalists

(Woodwinds, Brass, & Strings)

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

LifeGroups

Sunday School

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Men on Fire

Ladies Bible Study

Local Impact Ministry Team

Global Impact Ministry Team

Harvest of Talents



217.732.7618



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lincolnchristianchurch.org



PREACHING MINISTRY

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From Mess to Message

God loves us in spite of our messes. Aren't we glad God is patient with us? Patient? Yes! Loving? Yes! But not indulgent! He's not an uninvolved, pampering, spoiling father. He doesn't just look the other way when we fail to mature.

My adult children still laugh and tease me about it, but when my wife and I were raising them as teenagers, I would often need to remind them that "Adulthood is this direction!" It's amazing—a 13 year old has times when they can act like a 21 year old, and then the next minute they act like a 6 year old. Sometimes, we parents need to remind them, "Adulthood is this direction! Let's keep growing here." But sooner or later, all teenagers will make messes. So will adults.

Messes come in a lot of different ways. Sometimes they come through a strained relationship, a misunderstanding with a family member, a mistake at work, or perhaps a financial blunder at home. All of us have regrets, struggles, past pain, and failures that can trip us up. You may be looking at your life and thinking, "The mess I am in is absolutely, hands down—NOT beautiful." But your story is not done being written. The Bible is full of messy people whom God used and whose stories He rewrote. God often took a mess and made it into a story of great beauty.

Take for example, Rahab. She was born a Gentile. She worshipped pagan gods. She sold her body for money. That's right, she was a prostitute. That's the first part of her story. BUT . . . in the end, she experienced a conversion, she was used by the Lord, and she was grafted into the family of God!

Messy? You bet! BUT, God used her in his story of redemption. Amazing! Only our God could take such a messy story, a messy person, a messy life, and turn that mess into a message.

Very few people go through this life without having a mess or two . . . or several. I'm a mess too. Maybe it's time to just own it, and let God turn that mess into a message of hope and a testimony of redemption.

After all, I did!



Upcoming Sermon Series

- Aug 2 Rahab
- Aug 9 The Demonic
- Aug 16 Hosea and Gomer
- Aug 23 Mary and the Pharisee
- Aug 30 Samson

Jolly Seniors
presents



Salty Strings
Wednesday, August 26
10 am – 12:30 pm
Lincoln Christian Church
Fellowship Center

Devotions: Don Green
Lunch: Guzzardo's Choice
suggested donation: \$4

Please bring cookies or sweet treats to share!

Welcome New Members

By Baptism

- 5/31 Makayla Curry, Eleanor Cusey
- 6/14 Allison Lerma, Ashtyn Lerma
- 6/28 Lexie Collins
- 7/6 Chris Hackwith
- 7/7 Lynn Adams
- 7/10 Hudson Miller, Parker Potratz (at Little Galilee); London Kuhlrig (at CIY)
- 7/12 Lilly Benshoff
- 7/19 Amber Knowles

By Transfer

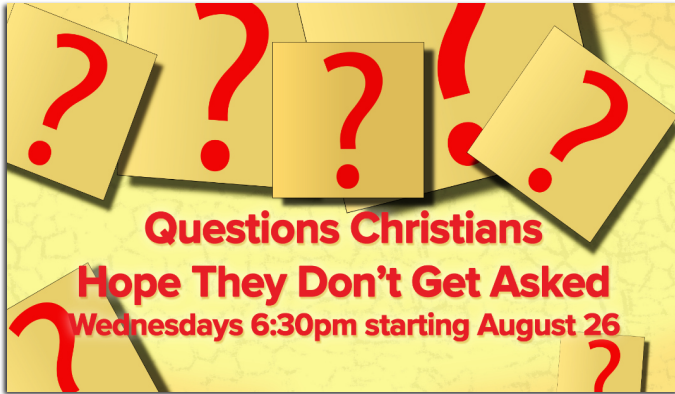
- 7/7 Sheila Adams



ADULT MINISTRY

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217.732.7618 x103



Wednesday Study: Questions Christians Hope They Don't Get Asked

Join us on Wednesday evenings starting August 26, for a series on tough questions Christians get asked (along with some biblical answers). Why believe in God? Why trust the Bible? Why does hell exist? And more! Led by Brandon Boyd, Minister of Adult Discipleship.

Men On Fire

Join with other men as they study ways to apply the powerful truths of the Bible to daily life and discuss how to live as godly men. Men on Fire meets Wednesday evenings this fall, starting August 26. Get more information in the Family Room during signups.



Being the Hands and Feet of Jesus



The Love Thy Neighbor Ministry exists to help our church members and neighbors with small, odd jobs that take less than 60 minutes. Since our launch in October 2025, we have helped members and neighbors with 38 jobs (moving bulky furniture, changing hard to reach light bulbs, moving fallen limbs, scooping snow in small drive-ways, and more). We currently have 27 members on our team from middle school students to retired folks! We work with and under the Local Impact Ministry.

If you find yourself or a neighbor in need of help with a small or odd job, call the church office, M-F at 217.732.7618. Tell the office staff what your need is and they will contact me. I will reach out to you to get the details and match the job with one of our volunteer church members. That's it!

Marci D'Andrea, Love Thy Neighbor Ministry



Build Faith & Friendships in a LifeGroup!

LifeGroups are groups of three to ten people who meet together, usually in a home or at a restaurant. Groups have discussion questions based on Sunday's sermon or other Bible study, pray together, eat snacks, and build friendships. If you were part of a LifeGroup last semester, existing LifeGroups resume meeting the week of September 13. If you are new to LifeGroups, stop by the Adult Discipleship table on August 23 or 30 and fill out a sign-up card. We will work to place you in a group for the fall semester (there's even an option for you to sign up to lead a group of your own choosing!). You can also sign up for a LifeGroup at lincolnchristianchurch.org/groups.



The fall semester of **Ladies Bible Study** will explore the New Testament book of Acts in Kristi McLelland's seven-session study, "The Gospel on the Ground: Grit & Glory in the Early Church." Sign up in the Family Room beginning August 23. The cost for the book is \$20. Scholarships are available.



STUDENT MINISTRY

zach.ramsey@lincolinchristianchurch.org

217.732.7618 x111



Student Ministry Website

lccstudents.com

Text Updates from the Student Ministry

Jr. High—text **jhfuel** to 97000

High School—text **thegathering** to 97000



You will receive text messages from Lincoln Christian Church. No purchase necessary. Message & data rates may apply. Reply STOP to stop. HELP for help. Terms: <http://97000.co/t>. Privacy Policy: <http://97000.co/p>.

Welcome 5th Graders!

Hey new 5th Graders, we can't wait for you to join the Student Ministry Sunday School starting August 9 on Promotion Sunday!



The Gathering (9th - 12th Grade Youth Group) starts Sunday, August 16, 6:00-8:00 pm. We will be kicking off the school year with an epic dodgeball tournament and cookout. You don't want to miss it!



Fuel (5th - 8th Grade Youth Group) starts on Wednesday, August 19, 6:30-8:00 pm. Our first meeting will be a cookout and dodgeball game that you won't want to miss!



Spider Man: Brand New Day

We've reserved the theater for this fun movie event, so register and pay in advance to reserve your tickets! For students in 6th - 12th grade and their families. Meet at the VIP Lincoln Grand movie theater, Saturday, August 1. Doors open at 2:45 pm.



CIY MOVE 2026

We had a great week at CIY MOVE at Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL. God is moving in the lives of our students. We had two students decide to be baptized! And we had four students who felt called to paid ministry in the Church or Mission Field. It was great to see the students grow!

Thanks for your support and offerings that make discipleship trips like these possible. We'd like to say a special thank you to all of you who have participated and given generously in our recent "This Envelope Needs a Hero" fundraiser! Your gifts will help us make CIY Move more affordable for our students next year!





217.732.7618 x114

A heart-felt thank you goes out to every volunteer who gave their time, energy, and talents to make VBS such a success! Whether you taught, decorated, served snacks, led games, registered families, led the kids in worship, or prayed behind the scenes, you made a lasting impact on the lives of these kids. I would also like to thank everyone that donated supplies, snacks, prizes, and financial gifts. Your generosity helped make the week possible and allowed us to create a welcoming environment for every single person who stepped through our doors.

Thank you, church family, for making another VBS such an impactful event for the community and for our kids. To GOD be the Glory!!!





WORSHIP MINISTRY

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The **Sanctuary Choir** kickoff is Wednesday, Sep. 9, at 6:30 pm. The Sanctuary Choir rehearses each Wednesday night from 6:30 – 7:45 pm. We present feature music in the 8:15 am Sanctuary service. The Sanctuary Choir is open to high school age and older. Even if you worship in the Fellowship Center services, there are lots of ways to work out your Sunday morning plan to still sing with us! Let's talk! We need more voices! Jump in anytime! We'll begin our Christmas music in mid-October.



GOOD NEWS

Good News is for students in 9th thru 12th grades. Kickoff is Sunday, Sep. 13, at 5:00 pm. Good News consists of Student Choir, T.R.A.S.H.* **, & Student Drama Team. Good News includes relevant music, focused drama, and great service opportunities in a fast-paced, high-energy environment all leading up to a fantastic tour, June 8-15, 2027 to Dallas, TX! Invite your friends! Pick up a brochure! Open enrollment in September and January.

*Laurin is directing T.R.A.S.H. **Evaluation required
T.R.A.S.H. = Teens Rescued And Serving Him

HeartSong is for 5th thru 8th grade students. Kickoff is Sunday, Sep. 13, at 6:00 pm. HeartSong includes service opportunities in music, worship, drama, and T.R.A.S.H.*! HeartSong will sing in *Celebrate! Christmas* as well as a three-day tour in April 2026. HeartSong rehearses each Sunday from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Grab a brochure to invite your friends!

Open enrollment in September and January.

*T.R.A.S.H. = Teens Rescued And Serving Him



heartsong



Kids Choirs

Kids Choirs will kickoff on Sunday, Sep. 13, at 6:00 pm. Kids Choir is for 3 year olds – 4th graders. We have a blast learning about music, worship, and Jesus! Kids Choirs meet each Sunday evening from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Come give it a try. We'll be working on some fun music for Christmas as well as our Spring musical in May 2027. Invite a friend or two or five!

Open enrollment in September and January.

Global Impact

Johnny and Janelle Knox

Johnny and Janelle Knox live and serve in Southeast Asia along with their three children Will, Hope, and Zoe and their pet dog, Mango. The last few months have been a whirlwind of activities for them. Here are some highlights:

In their current city of Chiang Mai, Johnny and Janelle have been supporting and working with many refugees from another Southeast Asian country. They had also been working with a foundation that ministers to children in group homes. In addition, they have been spending time learning the Thai language.

Seeing the needs around her, Janelle started graduate school. She is working toward her Masters degree in counseling at Asia Biblical Theological Seminary. In the fall, Janelle will also be working at a school for special needs students. *Pray for Janelle as she works, studies, is a wife and mother, and participates in ministry.*

Johnny has been busy launching a new ministry venture, Open Bible Images. This ministry provides "a growing visual Bible tool and open image library designed to help the world see Scripture more clearly." This opportunity provides employment opportunities for others and provides resources for many ministries. *Pray for Johnny as he continues to develop this new resource and that Open Bible Images will be a blessing to ministries across the world.*

During the month of May and early June, in addition to wrapping up the school year, the Knox family moved to a new home. Their new home is close enough the children can walk to school where Will is an incoming sophomore, Hope will be a 7th grader, and Zoe is entering 4th grade. In addition to a busy schedule of classes and extra-curricular activities, all three are active in their church youth ministry where Will often helps to lead worship. *Pray for all three Knox children as they grow academically and spiritually.*

On top of all these things, the Knox family spent 5 weeks of June and July in the U.S. visiting family in Indiana and Ohio. *Give thanks for the opportunity to visit and renew connections with family. Pray that this visit, while short, was rejuvenating.*

International Conference on Missions

will be in St. Louis, November 12-14. Register to attend ICOM for only \$20 per adult at our signup table on August 23 and August 30 in the Family Room! Or email us for the discount code at lccglobalimpact@gmail.com.



Local Impact

Christian Child Care

Dear Lincoln Christian Church,
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

For those of you who do not know us, Christian Child Care, Inc. is one of your Local Impact missions. We have been a licensed childcare provider since 1989 for your community. We were founded through a vision from five local Christian organization's leadership which deemed quality childcare a high need in Logan County. These founding organizations were Lincoln Christian Church, Lincoln Christian College and Seminary (now Lincoln Christian Institute), Christian Homes, Inc. (no longer in existence), the Christian Village, and Jefferson Street Christian Church.

Since 1989, CCC has grown from 19 children on opening day to our present enrollment of 102 children. We provide Christ-centered, quality child care for children aged six weeks through twelve years, year-round. Our program is nationally accredited through the National Accreditation Commission and we have earned recognition of the highest level of quality child care as a Gold Circle of Quality designee through the Illinois Excellence program. What does all that mean? It means children are supported in the best possible environments, taught by educated teachers who chose children as their passion, and parents are supported so they can work and meet the needs of their families. It also means that there is a connection formed between parents and teachers.

LCC, you help make this happen. These achievements could not have been possible without the generous support of your Local Impact ministry back in 1989 and still today. Your support is so very important to the children we serve. Your partnership with CCC is a blessing! You are helping your community thrive!

Heather McEvers, Director
Christian Child Care

Widows of Wisdom

The next WOW meeting will be on Friday, August 7, at 11:30 am at Lincoln Christian Church. Our special guest will be Stephanie Hall. She is a master gardener and has a very interesting talk prepared for us. A light lunch will be served. RSVP to Reva (217.828.0924) or to Sharon Simonson (217.737.9834).





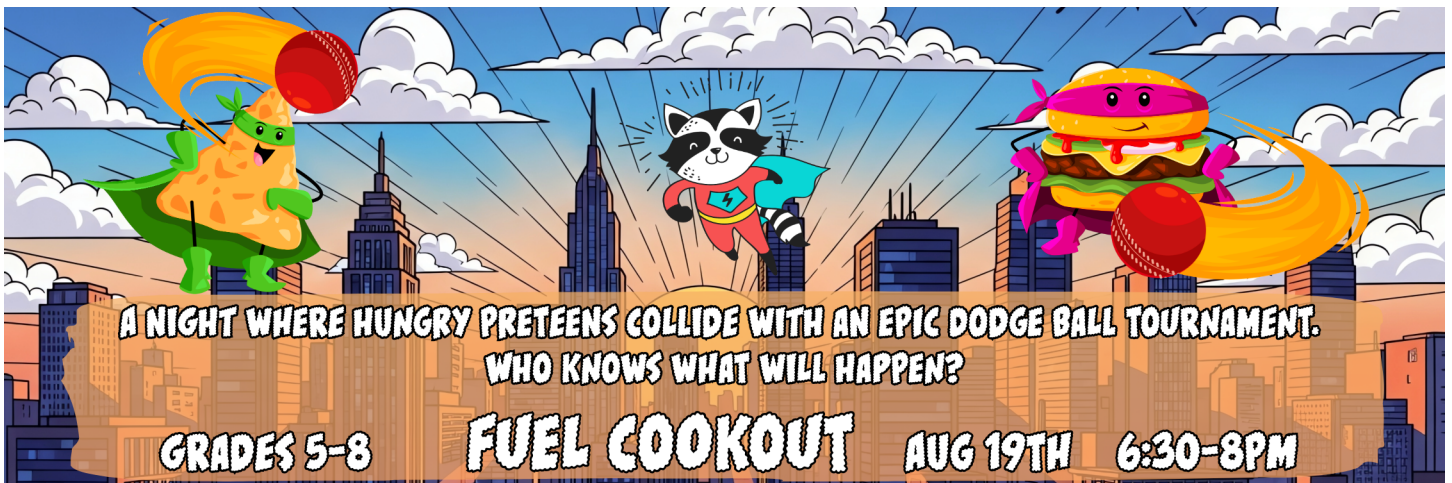
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**"You won't want to dodge us
for this grillin' good time!"
-Corny Youth Assistant**

Grades 9-12 Gathering Cookout Aug 16th 6-8 pm



Starts: Aug 26 Wednesdays 6:30-7:45 pm

**Guess who's
back!**

Back again?

**Kids Club
is back!**

**Tell your
friends!**



LCC Newsletter Recipient

Address Label 1" x 2.625 (5/8)"

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