



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

October 2026 | Volume 75 | Number 9



Experience the Harvest



43rd Harvest of Talents for World Hunger
Saturday, October 24, 7 am – 1 pm, auction 2 pm

Shop

7 am - 1 pm – shop handcrafted items, homemade treats, and unique experiences from the spacious sales floor and silent auctions

2 pm – join in a spirited live auction

Snack

7 - 10 am – breakfast rolls, breakfast burritos, fried potatoes, hot & cold drinks

10 am - 12:45 pm – vegetable beef soup, sloppy joes, pulled pork, Italian beef, tacos, mac & cheese, fried potatoes, chicken nuggets, apple sundae bar, assorted desserts, hot & cold drinks

Service/Experience

9 am - noon – outdoor family fun area with petting zoo, campfire, s'mores kits, balloon art, face & pumpkin painting, Brew 66 Coffee truck

8 am - noon – spa (hair braiding & tinsel, nail art, massage, henna)

9 am - noon – GAP food packing

Join us for Celebration Sunday, October 25!

All funds raised will be presented to International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES) to feed the hungry around the world in Jesus' name during Worship Services at 8:15, 9:30, and 10:45 am at Lincoln Christian Church



217.732.7618



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PREACHING MINISTRY

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Behold Your God

I climbed three more Colorado mountains this summer. That makes 19, and I didn't start until I was in my 50's. In the beginning, it was just a bucket list thing for me. It has become so much more. In nature, I cannot keep myself from seeing God in creation. Just like every fingerprint is unique with its high points and valleys, when I stand on a mountain, I see God's thumbprint. *"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands"* (Psalm 19:1 NIV).

Like many of you, my cup can get dangerously low. A week in the mountains or near an ocean fills my cup. It's not just creation as much as it is acknowledging the Creator—joining in worship of Him with creation.

Nature is like a grand cathedral that echoes praise to our Creator. Every mountain peak, every rushing river, every rustling leaf expresses worship in its unique way. When we observe nature, we recognize how all of creation is continually glorifying God. The birds sing their morning songs, waves crash against the shore in rhythmic adoration, whales jump, eagles fly, and deer run. And we are invited witnesses to the praises of nature.

Another season is about to begin. Fall is upon us. Soon, trees will change their colors. God's passion for diversity will be on display. Leaves will fall, winds will pick up, trees will sway. If you listen, you can hear nature clapping its hands for its Creator. *"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands"* (Isaiah 55:12).

Look. Listen. You can see it, right? The adoration of creation for it's Creator.

Our fall sermon series will be a journey of observing how God put his attributes on display through huge moments—what many explain away as natural events. But they are wrong. Look closer. Open your eyes. Trust your senses. God is showing you who He is. There is nothing natural about any of it. Come, and Behold Your God.



Upcoming Sermon Series

Oct 11	Creation	Gen. 1-2	Power
Oct 18	Burning Bush	Exo. 3	Presence
Oct 25	Pillar of Cloud/Fire	Exo. 13	Guidance
Nov 1	Mount Sinai	Exo. 19	Holiness/Law
Nov 8	Mount Carmel	I Kgs. 18	Judgment
Nov 15	Whisper Cave	I Kgs. 19	Stillness
Nov 22	Valley of Bones	Eze. 37	Restoration
Nov 29	Global Impact Sunday		

Jolly Seniors

Wednesday, October 28

10 am – 12:30 pm

**Lincoln Christian Church
Fellowship Center**

Program: Heaven Bound Gospel Quartet
Devotions: Fred Johnson
Lunch: Baked Ham
suggested donation \$4

Please bring cookies or
sweet treats to share!



Welcome New Members By Baptism

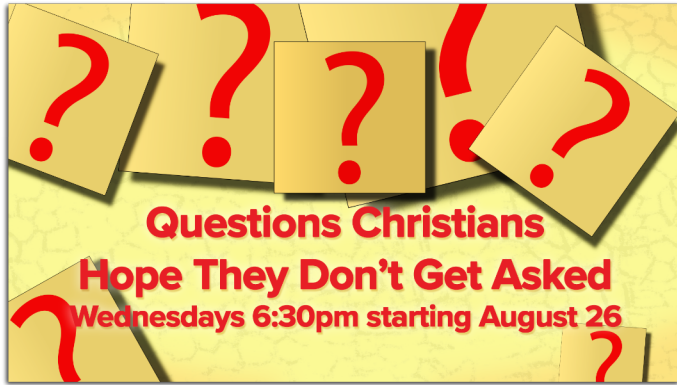
8/30 Heidi Zenor
9/1 Mandy Banister



ADULT MINISTRY

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

Join us on Wednesday evenings through November 4, for a series on tough questions Christians get asked (along with some biblical answers), including: 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 who are seeking God, learning the Bible, becoming more like Christ, and making an impact on their families, workplaces, and communities. Men on Fire meets Wednesdays, at 6:30 pm in Room 300.



MEN ON FIRE



Adult Sunday School

A great first place to connect with new friends and to learn the Bible is in one of our five adult Sunday School Classes. We have classes for all adults. Our classes are fun places to study the Bible with friends. Stop by the Welcome Center or visit lincolnchristianchurch.org/next for more info about class options.

Beacons

Family Room 1 | Seniors | 9:30 am

Crusaders

Room 16 | Empty Nesters | 9:30 am

Encouragers

Room 15 | Seniors | 9:30 am

Open Door

Room 305 | School-Age Parents | 9:30 am

Lamb Seekers

Room 304 | Mixed Ages | 9:30 am

You Can Make an Impact

A key step in your spiritual growth is to join a ministry team to serve our church family, our community, and our world. You can serve as a greeter, kitchen worker, groundskeeper, and more. We have a place for everyone to serve! Find more information at lincolnchristianchurch.org/next.



Have you registered for ICOM? International Conference on Missions (theicom.org), November 12-14 in St. Louis, MO has something for everyone in your family. Cost is FREE for ages 0 through high school and

\$10 for college students. Adults attend for only \$20 when using the discount code 2026STLADULT or 2026STLFAMILY.

Want to attend for FREE? We need volunteers to help with ICOM Kids on Friday morning, November 13. Volunteers attend the entire conference for FREE. Contact lccglobalimpact@gmail.com for more information.

Unable to attend in person? Register for the Virtual conference and save using the code online2026.



STUDENT MINISTRY

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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>.



Harvest of Talents for Students!

We encourage 5th-12th graders to get involved in the Harvest of Talents. Do you have a talent that you would like to share? Or maybe you could help with set up and tear down! The Harvest always needs extra hands, and there are countless ways to get involved. One of the best ways is to go up to an adult who has served for years and ask them if you can be their apprentice. You will learn the reason for the harvest: feeding hungry people around the world for Jesus! How cool is that?! Contact Bethany Henry for more info (217.871.6054).

Show Up. Be a Blessing.

I get on phrase kicks where a phrase becomes all-consuming for me. I see its need and impact everywhere. I talk about it constantly since it's so important. My current phrase is "Show Up. Be a Blessing." It's become a marching order for me. While I strive to be the ever-optimist, in reality I'm a critical "realist" who bluntly shares my opinions about the ills of society, organizations, and people's choices. Thankfully, sanctification is a real theological truth, and the Holy Spirit is still working on me.

Here's why this phrase resonates with me right now: If the Church (all generations) doesn't "Show Up and Be a Blessing" we risk blowing it with people under 30. So many young people just aren't interested in Church. *Barna*, a church research group, says that teens and college students are curious about Jesus (awesome), but this interest is not really translating into commitment to Him. News stories of revival are based on vibes, not research, according to Ryan Burge (look him up).

A large percentage of Boomers love Jesus (and Boomers make up a substantial percentage of the population). So, what happens in 10 years? We all need to "Show Up and Be a Blessing." You can summarize all of Jesus' work on earth by that phrase. He showed up everywhere for everyone. And when he did, He blessed people. What if we did this for the younger crowd, especially kids, teens, and 20-somethings? They need loving Christians who "Show up and Be a Blessing," so that they can come to Jesus. Jesus is calling people to Him, and sometimes, our lack of showing up and blessing makes Jesus look bad. Generation Alpha kids and teens in our town need us to "Show Up and Be a Blessing" so they can see Jesus. If they can connect to Him, they can find the saving love and life-giving forgiveness that only Jesus can offer.

How do we "Show Up and Be A Blessing" to Gen Alpha? We must change our mindset: Gen Alpha is the church of today, not just tomorrow. Listen to them. Be interested in their lives. Go up to students on Sundays and tell them you are glad they're part of our church. Champion them! If you have a Gen Alpha kid in your family, don't force it, but talk about the stories of Jesus. They are curious about Jesus. Invite them! Even if they say no, asking shows you care. Set up teens to be leaders in the Church. Serve at our church in the kids and student ministries. Give money to Little Galilee and CIY.

Let's do it! I'm "All In" (another favorite phrase) on making this happen. We don't have much time to turn this ship around.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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There is something special about the fall. The leaves begin changing colors, the air gets cooler, pumpkin everything starts showing up everywhere, and our kiddos seem to have about 47 times more energy than they did all summer!! Fall is here and I LOVE it! October is always a fun month in Children's ministry. We have games with pumpkins, fall crafts, and, of course, our Light the Night event!

We're going to have a great time celebrating local heroes, seeing rescue vehicles, and getting more candy than any one person could have. (If you find a piece of candy in the church three months from now, just leave it there. It is now part of the building!) But underneath all the fun there is something much more important that we want every child to know.

Jesus loves them.

The leaves change. The weather changes. Their favorite Halloween costume will change. Their favorite candy will change 15 times before it is gone.

But Jesus' love never changes.

Our goal in Children's ministry is to help each kiddo learn Jesus' story, know they are loved by GOD and by us, and that they are uniquely and wonderfully made in God's image.



Light the Night

Light the Night is coming on October 30! Mark your calendars and make plans to come on out for all the fun!

Volunteers Needed

This is a big event that requires lots of hands on deck!

First, we need :

Candy
Candy
Candy
and more
CANDY!



Keep an eye out for the candy drop off in the

Family Room on Sundays. There may be a contest to see which container collects the most candy!



Second, we will need volunteers to fill bags for the kids who will come and participate in the evening and volunteers that night. It is a huge event and one of my favorites.

NEWS FROM COPE: Harambee 2026

COPE invites you to join them for an incredible morning experiencing what life is like in West Pokot and raising money for COPE Ministry on Saturday, October 10 from 9-11 am at Jeff Street Christian Church in Lincoln, Illinois. There will be experience stations for you to explore and enjoy many different parts of life in West Pokot, Kenya. Enjoy a delicious breakfast, Silent Auction, and a presentation from a special guest speaker. It is going to be a wonderful morning with something for the whole family! See you there!



WORSHIP MINISTRY

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It's Almost Time to Sing!

You have a couple of opportunities to sing!



The first opportunity is to be a part of the carolers for "Hometown Christmas" on Dec 4, 5 to 7 pm. We sing outside for 20 to 30 minutes at the top of each hour. Dress warmly! We are caroling outside. No rehearsals required. Just email me to sign up so I know how many books to have available.



The second opportunity is to sing with the **Worship Choir** for *Celebrate! Christmas 2026*. We will combine adults with the Fellowship Center vocalists, and our students from *Good News* and *HeartSong* for a dynamic multi-generational worship leading ensemble! *Celebrate! Christmas* is during our three services on Sunday morning, Dec 13, at 8:15, 9:30 and 10:45 am in the Fellowship Center accompanied by the worship band.

You'll be provided with the music and the listening songs as early as Nov 4 to memorize three

songs on your own. The listening songs are available both online or on a CD. There are some short rehearsals you can join if you like, but be ready and memorized by dress rehearsal on Wednesday, December 10.

- Wed, Nov 4: 7:30–8:00 pm
- Wed, Nov 11: 7:30–8:00 pm
- Sun, Nov 15: 5:35–6:00 and/or 6:00–6:25 pm
- Wed, Nov 18: 7:30–8:00 pm
- Sun, Nov 22: 5:35–6:00 and/or 6:00–6:25 pm
- Wed, Dec 2: 7:30–8:00 pm
- Sun, Dec 6: 5:35–6:00 and/or 6:00–6:25 pm

Not optional:

Wednesday, Dec 9 (DRESS REHEARSAL)
from 8:10 – 9:00 pm

Sunday, Dec 13 in all three morning services in the Fellowship Center (the first 25ish min. of each service)

Please email me to let me know of your interest in the *Celebrate! Christmas* Worship Choir at laurin.hill@lincolncchristianchurch.org.

*All the nations
you have made
will come and
worship before
you, Lord;
they will
bring glory
to your name.*

Psalms 86:9

Global Impact

Thailand Sustainable Ministries (TSM)

David and Sharon Filbeck

TSM works to plant church communities that are financially and spiritually self-sustaining. David has planted numerous cocoa orchards and has an American style deli. Both ventures employ Thai workers and the profit from these businesses directly supports ministry in Thai churches. David and Sharon both serve as mentors to native Thai ministers at several churches throughout Thailand.

The Filbecks report "Our community youth sports outreach is beginning to show results. The past three Sundays youth from the program have been attending services on Sunday morning. We are asked to pray for our youth. They are from our small community here outside of Chiang Mai and are from non-Christian homes. Pray for the two Thai men who serve as evangelists/coaches who meet with youth almost daily and that our sports outreach reaches hearts of these young people and their families."

Opportunity: Do you enjoy sports, especially soccer? Would you be interested in helping with youth sports camps in Thailand in 2027? Email lccglobalimpact@gmail.com for more information.



In late August, devastating floods impacted the Pua and Nan provinces where Thai churches are located. David is working with church leaders to help coordinate relief efforts. Praise God that one of these churches had 12 baptisms in July! Pray that relief efforts provide opportunities to share the Gospel and the new believers grow in their faith.

David and Sharon enjoyed a brief visit with family in the U.S. in July where they were able to visit with children, grandchildren, and Sharon's elderly mother. They give thanks for this opportunity to connect with family.

Leslie Starasta, Global Impact Team Leader

Local Impact

Hope on 5th

People sleeping on park benches or in the doorways of downtown businesses is not a common sight the way it is in many cities not too far from us, but that doesn't mean that a lack of secure housing isn't a problem for many of our neighbors. Many go to bed at night wondering if they will still have a place to sleep tomorrow, and more than a few end up on a friend's couch, in the seat of their car, or somewhere else out of the public eye. For some of our neighbors, being unhoused is an invisible, but very real, problem.

Since 2024 Hope on 5th has provided Lincoln and the surrounding region with a safe and welcoming place for those who are at risk for experiencing homelessness and addresses the underlying causes that expose them to it. Currently 22 men, women, and children are benefiting from the transitional housing programs that it offers. Those that are admitted as residents are offered a wide range of services that will help them move toward a more stable, permanent housing situation.

Each resident is offered a room with a bed, desk, microwave, minifridge, and bathroom facilities. Showers are available in-room for most, and within the residence for all. Additionally, within the building are a number of services that will assist the residents in addressing many of the issues that often contribute to being unhoused. Trillium substance abuse counseling has offices on the premises. AA and NA have group meetings on the premises nearly every day of the week. Individual mental health counseling is available for those seeking it. Land of Lincoln Legal Aid has a law office in the building for those in need of legal services.

Many organizations provide occasional meals to the residents, and churches are at the forefront of providing the aid and support that makes what we do possible. We so appreciate the funding that Lincoln Christian Church provides that is making it possible to give our residents a hand up toward a more stable future!

Tom Funk, Hope on 5th

Widows of Wisdom

WOW will meet at the church building on Friday, October 2, at 11:30 am. We will have a good time getting to know a little more about each other. Please bring your own lunch. Two of our ladies have offered to make dessert, so drinks and dessert will be provided. Bring your friends! Questions? Call Reva McFadden (217.828.0924) or Sharon Simonson (217.737.9834).





lincolncristianchurch

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Harvest of Talents

Every hand grows the Harvest

Thank you for helping in the 43rd Harvest of Talents with your prayers, talents, time, and resources!
Contact the Church Office (217.732.7618), Natalie (217.737.7254), or Bethany (217.871.6054)

New at the Harvest

- Enjoy all dine-in food options in one convenient location in the Fellowship Center area. Final service at 12:45 pm. Dining room closes at 1 pm.
- Family Fun area outside Door C. Bottle feed a calf. Paint a pumpkin. Roast s'mores. Enjoy balloon art. Get your face painted. Sip gourmet coffee & drinks.

Other ways to prepare for the Harvest

- 30 Days of Prayer Calendar; copies at the Welcome Center or sign up for daily email delivery at harvestoftalents.org
- Fill an IDES SonFish Bank and return it to the church by Oct 11.
- Preorder soup & breakfast rolls for Harvest Day, or frozen rolls for the holidays on Oct 4 and 11 at the Welcome Center or in the church office by Oct 14.
- Sign up for GAP food packing Oct 4 and 11 at the Welcome Center or online at harvestoftalents.org.

Donation check-in times in the Family Room

- Mon., Oct 19, 4 - 7 pm
- Tues., Oct 20, noon - 7 pm
- Wed., Oct 21, noon - 7 pm
(Please check-in all handcrafted items by Wednesday evening; note *no* Thursday hours.)
- Fri., Oct 23, 9 am - 7 pm (Fresh baked goods, treats, and donations from out-of-town)

Volunteers needed

- to serve food, assist in the dining area, wash dishes, help set up & tear down
- to donate handcrafted items suitable for gift-giving or services & experiences to be sold
- to make treats or baked goods (please label items that contain nuts or peanut butter)
- to paint faces, help with pumpkin painting, clean & power wash parking lot after zoo
- to donate pumpkins or hay bales for outside
- to come pack food with GAP

Join us for Celebration Sunday, October 25!

All funds raised will be presented to International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES) to feed the hungry around the world in Jesus' name during Worship Services at 8:15, 9:30, and 10:45 am at Lincoln Christian Church

LCC Newsletter Recipient

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

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