

AUGUST 2010

# HAPPENINGS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - LINCOLN, NEBRASKA  
2723 N. 50<sup>TH</sup> ST., (50<sup>TH</sup> & SAINT PAUL AVENUE) 466-1906  
WWW.FIRSTUMCLINCOLN.ORG



## “Feed my Lambs”

Here at First Church, we take these words of Jesus quite literally. One of our favorite “hands-on” ministry opportunities is to stuff the backpacks for the Backpack Program at Huntington Elementary School. On Friday afternoons shortly before the end of the school day, revolving teams of volunteers take food and place it in backpacks for 85 children to take home to feed their families for the weekend.



We are looking for a few new volunteers to help out on Friday afternoons. The time commitment is fairly minimal, usually a 1 ½

per month; but the rewards are priceless - the smiles and thank yous of children.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact the church office at 466-1906. There will be an orientation, training meeting toward the end of August to help connect you with other volunteers.

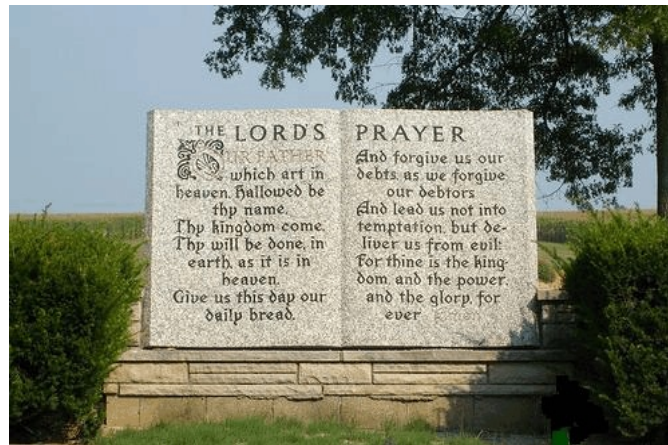


If you aren't available on Friday afternoons, you can participate in this ministry by providing funding for the food, or by

bringing food and placing it in the Food Bank bin outside the church office.

## The Prayer of Jesus

Our worship theme for August



### First Sunday, Aug. 1 - “ABBA”

Abba is the name for God that Jesus used in teaching the disciples to pray. This intimate term - referring to God as family - was radical in Jesus' day. This first Sunday of the series on the Lord's Prayer focuses on how addressing God in prayer is a way of defining our relationship and models for us relationship with others.

### Second Sunday, Aug. 8 - “On Earth as it is in Heaven”

Jesus' ministry offered tangible, visible signs of right relationship and pointed us toward God's will for “a little heaven on earth.” We focus on this Sunday in the series on what it means to pray “thy Kingdom come” ... on how our work bringing right relationship in the world can be a prayer of action every day.

### Third Sunday, Aug. 15 - “Give Us This Day”

Jesus offers us assurance that asking God to act in the world is not a waste of breath. An important part of prayer is petitioning the Holy One, naming needs. We are called to become mindful of the needs of the world and our own need to remember the Source of All Gifts.

### Fourth Sunday, Aug. 22 - “As we Forgive”

Forgiveness is our focus this Sunday. God is ready to forgive just as we have been made to forgive each other. What holds us back? Right relationship involves getting honest with God and with each other.

### Fifth Sunday, Aug. 28 - “Deliver Us”

Jesus draws on ancient Judeo liturgical tradition from the Psalms of lament ... “deliver us.” Just as his ancient Hebrew ancestors did before him, he calls on God to come, to stand with, to offer strength in time of trouble. The Christian tradition has closed this prayer with assurance that God's reign is at hand: “For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”

# August Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Kathy Cummins Kevin Korell Amanda Garrett	9 <sup>th</sup>	Erin Outson Stetson Riggs Mary Fuller	16 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Bowman Sean Hall Tucker Robinson	24 <sup>th</sup>	Dan Howell Ken Mohr, Jr. Jeremy Badura
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Milton Schmidt Sue McLennan Maxine Harrison David Zeff	10 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremy Jurey Michaela Bland Jaida Jackson Mia Nielsen	17 <sup>th</sup>	Boyd Fulmer Chassidy Jackson Jessica Christie	25 <sup>th</sup>	Dorothy McGregor Sara Mayfield Jamie Kabourek Devin Nielsen
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jan Lesoing Jennifer Noble	11 <sup>th</sup>	Carol King Jeff Poland Arien Martin	18 <sup>th</sup>	Beth Hanna Ed Schneider Connie Million Jane Dougherty	26 <sup>th</sup>	Kailey Seitz Callie Brodd John Helter, Sr. Michael Burgess
4 <sup>th</sup>	Lydia Matthews	12 <sup>th</sup>	Randy Gettman Randy Gettman	19 <sup>th</sup>	Micah Wythers Sophie Lingren Harano Jasmyne Ore	27 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Schwindt Lucas Wiesen
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ryan Malone Kaleb Woodward	13 <sup>th</sup>	Deb McGuire Amy Bartolome Ebb Munden Jenni Nielsen	20 <sup>th</sup>	Guy Matson Lou Gaddis Marilyn Meahan Maddie Eilers	28 <sup>th</sup>	Anna Schwindt Isaac Patras Skip Riggs Dillon Forst Jonah Wiesen
6 <sup>th</sup>	Frank Dougherty Nola Jean Newsham Donna Harned Judy Berger Betsy Barent Caroline Caldwell Nolan Caldwell	14 <sup>th</sup>	Ethan Memming Ella Leach Arneda Buckmaster Lorie Hanson	21 <sup>st</sup>	Bill Venhaus, Jr. Deb Miller Amy Petersen Garrett Hanneman	30 <sup>th</sup>	Anita Jenson
7 <sup>th</sup>	Jan Tische Jan Blue Bill Brown Dan Davenport Amara Anderson	15 <sup>th</sup>	Brandon Garrett Grace Bartolome Dawn Wright Jeffrey Elliott	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Stacy Stupka-Burda Becky Williams	31 <sup>st</sup>	Dave Griffith Curtis Moeller
8 <sup>th</sup>	Karen Skinner			23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jan Malone		



## Whitehall Centennial Celebration

*100 Years of Serving Nebraska's  
Children and Youth*

**Sunday, August 8  
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**5903 Walker Ave., Lincoln, NE**

This celebration is for anyone who has lived, worked at,  
or has an interest in this historic complex.

The public is also invited. Included in the festivities will  
be a "Meet and Greet", speakers, sharing of memories,  
guided tours, refreshments, memorabilia to purchase and  
live music from Nebraska Humanities Council.

## Friends in Need

This past spring and now summer months have seen an  
increase of people (families, children, women, men)  
needing financial assistance. Most folks calling for  
help are embarrassed and feeling badly when calling.  
The church's human needs fund needs some additional  
dollars. If you wish to contribute, please make your  
check out to First United Methodist Church and mark it  
for Human Needs. The people needing help thank you!

- Coleen Seng

## New Member Sunday

Sunday, August 22, we will be receiving new members  
at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. A short orientation  
meeting will be held that same morning at 9:30 a.m. in  
Munden Parlor prior to the worship service. If you are  
interested in membership, please let us know by calling  
the office, 466-1906 or visiting with Coleen Seng.

## From the Green Committee ...

The keys to decreasing waste are:

**Rethink** – our needs and practices.

**Reduce** – what we need and buy.

**Reuse** – what we already have.

**Recycle** – after we have done the first three.

# August Lectionary

1 <sup>st</sup> Hosea 11:1-11	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jud 6:25-40	Acts 2:37-47	John 1:1-18
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jud 7:1-18	Acts 3:1-11	John 1:19-28
4 <sup>th</sup> Jud 7:19-8:12	Acts 3:12-26	John 1:29-42
5 <sup>th</sup> Jud 8:22-35	Acts 4:1-12	John 1:43-51
6 <sup>th</sup> Jud 9:1-16, 19-21	Acts 4:13-31	John 2:2-12
7 <sup>th</sup> Jud 9:22-25, 50-57	Acts 4:32-5:11	John 2:13-25
8 <sup>th</sup> Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
9 <sup>th</sup> Jud 12:1-7	Acts 5:12-26	John 3:1-21
10 <sup>th</sup> Jud 13:1-15	Acts 5:27-42	John 3:22-36
11 <sup>th</sup> Jud 13:15-24	Acts 6:1-15	John 4:1-26
12 <sup>th</sup> Jud 14:1-19	Acts 6:15-7:16	John 4:27-42
13 <sup>th</sup> Jud 14:20-15:20	Acts 7:17-29	John 4:43-54
14 <sup>th</sup> Jud 16:1-14	Acts 7:30-43	John 5:1-18
15 <sup>th</sup> Isaiah 5:1-7	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
16 <sup>th</sup> Jud 17:1-13	Acts 7:44-8:1a	John 5:19-29
17 <sup>th</sup> Jud 18:1-15	Acts 8:1-13	John 5:30-47
18 <sup>th</sup> Jud 18:16-31	Acts 8:14-25	John 6:1-15
19 <sup>th</sup> Job 1:1-22	Acts 8:26-40	John 6:16-27
20 <sup>th</sup> Job 2:1-13	Acts 9:1-9	John 6:27-40
21 <sup>st</sup> Job 3:1-26	Acts 9:10-19a	John 6:41-51
22 <sup>nd</sup> Jeremiah 1:4-10	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
23 <sup>rd</sup> Job 4:1, 5:1-11, 17-21, 26-27	Acts 9:19b-31	John 6:52-59
24 <sup>th</sup> Job 6:1-4, 8-15, 21	Acts 9:32-43	John 6:60-71
25 <sup>th</sup> Job 6:1, 7:1-21	Acts 10:1-16	John 7:1-13
26 <sup>th</sup> Job 8:1-7, 11-19	Acts 10:17-33	John 7:14-36
27 <sup>th</sup> Job 9:1-15, 32-35	Acts 10:34-48	John 7:37-52
28 <sup>th</sup> Job 9:1, 10:1-9, 16-22	Acts 11:1-18	John 8:12-20
29 <sup>th</sup> Jeremiah 2:4-13	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14
30 <sup>th</sup> Job 12:1-6, 13-25	Acts 11:19-30	John 8:21-32
31 <sup>st</sup> Job 12:1, 13:3-17, 21-27	Acts 12:1-17	John 8:33-47

## Thanks for your Patience!

Thanks for all your flexibility this summer while construction has been taking place! We invite you to visit the second floor of the education wing to see the work that has been taking place in the hallways. New lighting, new wall surfaces - and now that the walls have been "furred in" we will begin the work of designing and painting murals that will make our education floor fun and welcoming for our children. Stay tuned for further developments!



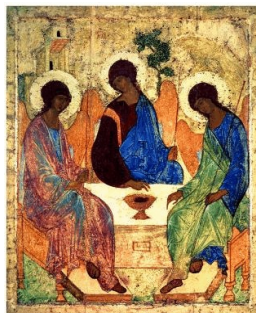
*Before new lighting.*



*After new lighting.*

## Companions in Christ

During 2009-2010, fourteen FUMC members participated in Companions in Christ: A Small-Group Experience in Spiritual Formation. This 28-week course of study began in late August 2009, and with breaks for Advent and Lent, concluded in mid-May.



During 2010 and 2011, FUMC again will be offering Companions in Christ. Weekly meetings will be Sunday afternoons, with breaks during Advent and Lent. The course begins August 29.

Designed for adults, the Companions program involves weekly meetings based on the previous week's reading and daily exercises. Exercises involve combinations of scripture reading, spiritual practice, reflection questions, and keeping a journal, usually taking about 20-30 minutes daily.

If interested in being part of this study, or curious to find out more, contact Pastor Jamie, [jamie@firstumclincoln.org](mailto:jamie@firstumclincoln.org), 466-1906, Liz Zeff, [ezeff@neb.rr.com](mailto:ezeff@neb.rr.com), or Margrethe Ahlschwede, [margahls@yahoo.com](mailto:margahls@yahoo.com).

## Engaged Encounter Weekend

This Encounter Weekend will be held in Lincoln, August 27-29 for couples who are preparing to be married or have been married in the past year. Engaged Encounter is a program recommended by the Board of Discipleship of the UMC. The focus of the weekend is upon the marriage and not the wedding. The major goal is to establish and practice good marriage communication skills and decision-making techniques.

Two Marriage Encounter Weekends will be held this fall in Lincoln - September 17-19 and at Camp Comeca, Cozad, October 8-10. The weekend begins on Friday evening and concludes on Sunday afternoon. The weekend is a private and personal time for each couple to escape from their busy everyday life, put God at the center of their marriage and rediscover the person they love. It is a weekend of renewal designed to rekindle your romance, improve and practice communication skills, and understand your feelings about various aspects of married life.

For more information about these Encounters - contact Russell & Lanita Evans, 308-520-1491, or email to [russellevans@internet-usa-net](mailto:russellevans@internet-usa-net) or see online at [www.encounter.org](http://www.encounter.org).



## National Cluck-Off Champion for 2010!

Our own Larry Pankoke grew up chasing chickens on his grandparents' farm near Beaver Crossing, Nebraska. All that time in the henhouse finally paid off as he was named the 2010 National Cluck-Off champion during Chicken Show activities in Bressler Park in Wayne, Nebraska. He beat a field of 31 other chicken impersonators to dethrone 11-time champion Del Hampton of Fort Smith, Arkansas who was on hand to defend his title one last time.

Larry, who also does an interesting impersonation of a calf in his repertoire, had not heard of the National Cluck-Off competition until his friends encouraged him to compete this year.

Additionally ... Larry, the National Cluck-Off Champion - (not to be confused with Larry, the Cable Guy) is going to be featured on Lance's Journal on KOLN-TV 10/11 during the 6 p.m. newscast on either Monday, August 2 or Wednesday, August 4. They will also replay the feature again between 5 and 7 a.m. the morning following it's original airing. So tune in, set your DVR or watch it online after it airs at [www.kolnkgin.com](http://www.kolnkgin.com) under Lance's Journal.

### Birthday Open House ...

Many of you may remember LaRoy Seaver who was an Associate Pastor here at First Church back in the 70's or 80's.

LaRoy will turn 90 on September 21<sup>st</sup>. An Open House will be held in his honor a little earlier on Sunday, August 22 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at his and Mary's home in Estes Park, Colorado.

Cards may be sent to him any time in August or September at his and Mary's home - 1901 Ptarmigan Trail #102, Estes Park, CO 80517.

**Vacation Bible School starts Monday, August 2 through August 5 from 5:30 - 8:00 PM at First Church. If you would like your child to attend - please pick up a registration form in the church office. If you can volunteer to help with activities - please contact Brent Shaw at 466-1906.**

### Recycling Site Volunteers

The month of August is here again. School will soon be starting. It also means it is time for the folks of First UMC to volunteer to help monitor the City Recycling Site in University Place. It is still located at 47<sup>th</sup> and St. Paul Ave.

This is one of the busiest recycling locations in Lincoln. We need your help. Conley Hinrichs will be at the worship services on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup> and again August 8<sup>th</sup> to sign you up for a date you might be able to serve.

With the new roll-off containers being used makes the effort less involved than it used to be. The plastic bottles and containers and the newspapers are the main things that need to be checked. New guidelines for the work are now being prepared.

The people of First UMC have been very helpful in this effort over the past several years and we want to thank all of you who have helped. We still need your help again this August and new volunteers are also needed.

### Textile Art Exhibit

The Harmonics,  
a textiles art group of  
Elizabeth Sterns, Judy  
Lane, Lois Wilson,  
Margrethe Ahlschwede,  
Marty Eischeid and  
Zita Schneider

invite the congregation to their exhibit, August 18 - September 23 at the Bernina Sewing Studio, 1501 Pine Lake Road, Suite 12, including the opening reception, Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. The exhibit, the third annual for Harmonics, is titled "What Brings You Comfort? Expressions in Textiles."

## OLLI Class Involving First UMC Quilters

First UMC members who belong to the Lincoln Quilters Guild will be part of the presentation team for a course offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) in September and October. The course is: *Inspired by Cloth: Quilts, Artists, and Stories from the Lincoln Quilters Guild*. Sessions will be presented on Thursdays starting on September 9 and continuing through October 14. Each session will be from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at the Bernina Sewing Studio, 1501 Pine Lake Rd., Suite 12.

Topics and Presenters are:

1. Harmonics – Exhibits of a Textile Arts Group - Margrethe Ahlschwede, Lois Wilson, Marty Eischeid, Zita Schneider, Elizabeth Sterns, Judy Lane.
2. Lessons Learned and Studies in Nature - Lois Wilson.
3. A Literary Quilt Challenge - Chris Taylor, Sheila Green, Sandy Anderson, Lois Wilson, Margrethe Ahlschwede.
4. Cloth Feed Sacks and Antique Quilts – Gloria Hall.
5. LQG Outreach Projects – Elizabeth Sterns, Sheila Green, Vicky Skuodas, Joyce Pope, Jean Ang, Anita Dover, Judy Lane, and others.
6. Memory Quilts – Shirley Chaffin and Sheila Green

Enrollment fee is \$25. Participants must be members of OLLI. For a complete schedule and membership information, call 472-6265 or email [olli@unl.edu](mailto:olli@unl.edu) or visit the website at <http://cehs.unl.edu/olli/>

## Hiroshima Lantern Float 2010 Saturday, August 7, 7:15 - 9:15 p.m. Northeast shore of Holmes Lake Holmes Park, Lincoln, Nebraska

Lantern floats in Japan are used to guide the souls of the dead to their rest. In recent times they have been used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to commemorate the people destroyed by the first atomic bombs. The purpose of the event in Lincoln is to remind us of what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to will that such events never again occur.

This years event is sponsored by First UMC, Trinity UMC, Aldersgate UMC, First Mennonite Church, Lincoln Friends Meeting, First Lutheran Church, First Plymouth UCC Peace and Justice Committee, the United Nations Association of Lincoln, the Prairie Peace Park, and Nebraskans for Peace Lincoln Chapter. First Church furnishes the insurance coverage that makes this event possible.

Sunset occurs on August 7<sup>th</sup> at about 8:30 p.m.; darkness will come about one-half hour later. Materials for the lanterns and plans for making them will be provided at the site. Music provided by Native American flutist, Michael Murphy:

## Play about Nagasaki

*(A reading play)*

In conjunction with the Lantern Float (see article below), the play, **Foie Gras and the Public Servant** will be presented at the Lincoln Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street on Friday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. The play is by Hayashi Kyoko, a victim of the bombing of Nagasaki who lived with radiation sickness for over forty years after the Nagasaki bombing. Her play was written in the 1980s and broadcast on Japanese radio. The action takes place on the green fields of the dead in Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington, D.C. at a time when a tourist Japanese medical doctor named Okita visits and meets the ghost of an American war veteran and their conversations then ensue. The play concerns memories and the construction of meaning for our lives.



Following is the schedule for the evening (times are approximate).

- 7-7:30 PM: Meet at Holmes Lake to assemble lanterns and socialize.
- 7:30-7:40 PM: Greetings from Nobuko Tsuku, translator of Japanese survivors' atomic bomb literature.
- 7:40-7:55 PM: Lela Shanks, peace/justice advocate, reading accounts of August 6-9, 1945.
- 7:55-8:10 PM: Greg Kosmicki, poet and editor for the Backwaters Press reading poetry describing the creation.
- 8:10-8:40 PM: Marilyn Mecham, IMN: "The religious implications of nuclear arms": assembling to carry lanterns to lake.
- 8:40 PM: Assembled group carries lanterns to the lake.



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*An Open-Spirited Community of Faith & Action*  
Located just west of Nebraska Wesleyan University  
2723 North 50<sup>th</sup> Street - Lincoln, NE 68504-2765  
[www.firstumclincoln.org](http://www.firstumclincoln.org)

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You're Always Welcome ...

Sunday Worship  
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School  
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

2723 N 50<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE 68504-2765  
402-466-1906  
Office: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Larry Moffet  
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Pastor Jamie Norwich McLennan  
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[jamie@firstumclincoln.org](mailto:jamie@firstumclincoln.org)



## UMW News by Ruth Knight, UMW President:

I just returned from the Nebraska Cooperative School of Christian Mission. The school was excellent. Education and Spiritual Growth is a very significant part of our UMW Purpose. Rev. Sally Ruggia-Haden was our leader for the study "For the Love of God." The study covered the Epistles of John. First John is a very short chapter - presumed to have been written by Paul - that teaches us about the love we receive from God and the need for us to share this love with one another. If I remember correctly the word "love" is mentioned 52 times in this short chapter.

The study "Joy to the World" reviewed the history of how the mission emphasis started, went out from the Western countries into the African, South American, and Asian continents and how that has changed today. We now have missionaries going out from those continents into the mission fields. Church is now defined as "mission". Mission begins at home - mission is sharing the love of Jesus with those both near and far. This was a very enlightening study. The study of Sudan was continued this year as the geographical study. Next year we will study Haiti.

The Nebraska Cooperative School of Christian Mission is a joint venture sponsored by both the Nebraska United Methodist Conference and the United Methodist Women. It is open to anyone who wishes to attend, not just UMW members. Both clergy and laity are eligible to receive credit for attending this school. The UMW provides scholarship dollars to assist with the cost of attending the school. It is most disappointing that we do not have anyone from our own congregation taking advantage of this assistance and attending the school. My hope is that we do better next year.

## Share the Harvest Program:

This program supplies our Matt Talbot team with frozen vegetables for soup and fruit for dessert crisps to be served to the homeless and working poor at Matt Talbot Kitchen for nourishing and tasty meals. There are several ways you can be a part of Share the Harvest:

- Freeze excess garden vegetables and fruits. Just wash, peel and/or remove seeds, cut into bite-sized pieces. Place in freezer bags labeled for Matt Talbot and the contents. Bring to the church - place in kitchen freezer.
- If you don't have time to process/prepare the food, bring your excess produce to church any Sunday from Aug. 1 through Sept. 12 and leave in one of the collection boxes by the narthex, the gym, or by the office. Please do not drop off during the week - these boxes are checked only on Sundays.
- Be a volunteer veggie chopper. Volunteer to process the vegetables/fruits left in the collection boxes. We need choppers every week. You can take the produce home with you and process at your convenience, thus it fits into your busy schedules - usually taking 30-60 minutes. If you can sign up for a Sunday - contact Joyce Gettman at 782-8235 or email her at [jgettman@windstream.net](mailto:jgettman@windstream.net).

