# **FPC First Report**

May2023 Issue 54 Volume 5

### Justice in Action is Happening in Lincoln!

Thursday, June 15th at 6:30pm at Horizons Community Church

You've been hearing about **Justice In Action**, and how you can be a part of helping our little corner of the world be a place where people come a little closer to the Kingdom of God.

If you care about others, and if you want to be a part of making this world a better place, there are many ways you can do that, from just showing up at events, to helping research solutions to issues, hosting house meetings, and serving on the Board. If you want to know more, contact Courtney Wittstruck, Jeri Brandt, and Christy Abraham for more info on how you can make a difference.

One easy way to participate: Join us for a celebration of the Justice Ministry we are doing thorugh Justice In Action! Everyone is invited to join Justice in Action to celebrate what we've built together. You can expect an uplifting night where we share stories, celebrate successes, and build momentum for our summer investment drive! The celebration will be on Thursday, June 15th at 6:30pm at Horizons Community Church.

What to know what we've done so far? Page 2 has the Justice In Action report on the Nehemiah Assembly held on Thursday, May 4.



## **Mission & Social Justice**

1,105 People of Faith Gathered to Address Public Officials for Improvements in Mental Health and Criminal Justice in Lancaster County and Lincoln

INCLUDING 52 PEOPLE WHO WERE THERE BE-CAUSE OF US!

The power of more than a thousand people was harnessed on Thursday night, May 4, 2023 at the Lancaster Event Center when well-researched solutions to weaknesses in access to Lincoln/Lancaster County mental health resources and barriers to participation in pre-trial diversion programs were addressed.

"Our philosophy is that there are two types of power in the public arena," explained *Justice in Action* co-president Rev. Kirstie Engle of First United Methodist Church of Lincoln. "The first is money and the second is people. We believe in the power of organized people. Organized people have the power to build the collective will to transform our community. That is the core of *Justice in Action*."



The proposals presented at the May 4th Nehemiah Action Assembly are improvements to two issues—the community's mental health and criminal justice systems—that emerged from a multi-level process of determining priorities by members of the *Justice in Action* network. The selection of the issues was followed by several months of meeting with experts, searching for reports and research findings, and analyzing available information to form specific, measurable, and time-bound solutions.

Lancaster County Commissioner Christa Yoakum and Lincoln City Council members Sändra Washington and James Michael Bowers heard the solution proposed by *Justice in Action* representatives to develop a navigation program in Lincoln/Lancaster County to increase accessibility to existing mental health resources. The proposed navigation stem—modeled on a successful program in Toronto, Canada—would conquer the maze that currently exists for those trying to find mental health support.

"A navigation program would provide a "front door" to available mental health resources, which hasn't existed since the Community Mental Health Center closed in 2014," said Rev. Kirstie. "Trained navigators serving as the first point of entry would assist Lincoln/Lancaster County residents in identifying available resources based on their specific situations."

All three elected officials present on stage for the mental health portion of the Nehemiah Action Assembly agreed to meet with *Justice in Action* and representatives of the Toronto Navigation program during the first week in June, as their schedules permit. They also agreed to work with *Justice in Action* to identify a solution to the maze of mental health resources by early 2024. Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird was also invited but unable to attend; she sent her soon-to-be chief of staff, T.J. McDowell Jr. as a representative.

Lancaster County Commissioner Rick Vest was on stage to hear the criminal justice proposal to increase participation in the County's successful Community Corrections diversion programs. The request made to Commissioner Vest was three-fold:

• Commit to increasing the Community Corrections budget by \$500,000 in the upcoming budget to add staff to accommodate additional diversion participants.

• Commit to adding \$100,000 to the Community Corrections budget to eliminate any and all fees for diversion programs.

Commit to creating a real-time, online dashboard that publishes data on the people in jail as well as people in diversion programs, including demographic information, so the racial disparity in both jail population and participation in diversion programs can be monitored and corrected.

Commissioner Vest explained that he can't make a commitment until a permanent Community Corrections director is in place but pledged to address the budget issues within 90-days of the new hire. He additionally advised the assembly that the development of a dashboard is underway, and he looks forward to hearing insights from *Justice in Action* based on the criminal justice reform research team's findings.

"Diversion is a broad term referring to "exit ramps" that move people away from the criminal legal system, offering an alternative to arrest, prosecution, and a life behind bars. Recidivism for those serving time in the Lancaster County Jail is around 60% while recidivism for those successfully completing a Community Corrections diversion program is only 20%, which means these programs improve public safety," said Rev. Kirstie.

Justice in Action invited County Attorney Pat Condon to attend the Nehemiah Action Assembly, as his office controls participation in diversion programs. County Attorney Condon was in Kearney at a meeting of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association so he was unable to attend; he did not send a representative. In two previous meetings with the county attorney and Justice in Action, Mr. Condon has expressed his interest in reviewing the criminal justice reform research team's findings and working with the group on the issues of our community.

Other elected officials who attended the first annual **Justice in Action** Nehemiah Action Assembly as observers included Lancaster County Public Defender Kristi Egger and Lincoln City Councilman Bennie Shobe. The Nehemiah Action Assembly is the beginning of conversation with public officials to achieve these improvements for all citizens of Lancaster County. Justice in Action will continue conversations with the appropriate elected officials, monitor their efforts, and report on the effect of the changes.

The cycle of listening sessions, issue selection and research, and a Nehemiah Action Assembly will be repeated annually by Justice in Action.



We Can Do This is a nonprofit offering weekend meals to kids in Lincoln. We have been doing this for more than six years now. In addition to offering a meal every We feed kids Saturday and Sunday, we have a food pantry, personal care closet, and holiday bags and gifts for the holidays.

Volunteers serve meals. Volunteers can adopt a day each month or volunteer once or a few times a year. Volunteers prepare, serve and clean up after. Saturday meals are served at 1:00 PM. Volunteers arrive about an hour before the meal is derived to prepare the food. Volunteers are usually there for 2 1/2 hours total. Depending on what is being served. Sunday meals are served at 2:30 PM because the center does not open until 1:00 PM on Sundays.

We need groups that are able to do a collection of nonperishable food items or personal care items.

We Can Do This is able to offer meals and other programs because of the support we receive from the community. It truly takes a village.

Please reach out to Susie Brown at wecandothis 1224@gmail.com or at 402-570-4922. You can also check out our website at wecandothislincoln.org

# Sue's Musings – Renewal Leave

"Musings" is a good word for this coming season, as I am preparing for my clergy renewal leave. This was part of the terms of call when you called me to be your installed pastor, that after seven years, I would have three months to rest, refocus, and renew, so that I can come back ready for another season of ministry with you, bringing my best to our joint work. Last year it felt like this was a long ways off, and it's hard to believe it's just a month away now. I will be on leave July 4 – October 4, 2023. My last Sunday in the pulpit is July 2, and my first Sunday back will be October 8. The Session and I are in the process of making sure that we've got all of my responsibilities covered for that time, and I'll share those details with you in next month's newsletter after we finalize them all.

When a pastor has been in the same positon for a long time, two things happen:

- 1. The pastor gets tired. There's a lot of what I call "holy grunt work" that happens behind the scenes that always takes more time than expected and yet is the grease that keeps things running. It is important work, and yet over time it feels like it takes more and more time and energy, taking away from more creative thinking and dreaming and what we think of (and look forward to) as the actual work of ministry.
- 2. The congregation comes to rely more and more on the pastor to do things, and the pastor picks up more and more things. It's not an intentional choice on either part, it's just part of the "creep" that happens. It doesn't help that pastors know how busy you are and so we don't want to ask too much of you, and yet it is in being asked that you find meaningful work.

So part of the clergy renewal leave program is to break both of those cycles, giving the pastor the opportunity to step back and reconnect with their passion for ministry, and the congregation the opportunity to step forward and find out who they are apart from the pastor. When we come back together, the hope is that we both come back renewed and excited for the future God has planned for us.

During these three months I'll be disconnecting from the church (it's going to be very hard to not get up and check my church email every morning!), and focusing on my connection with God, with Linda, and with myself. I'll start my leave with a trip down the Amazon. No internet, no phones, no opportunities to check email or Facebook or anything like that! For the rest of my three months, I'll be doing some traveling to see family and friends, and lots of time with my photography and learning the art of pottery. Creating things, whether through the art of photography or making things with my hands, is one way I experience God. I am looking forward to seeing how God uses those experiences to guide me in coming back to you with renewed focus and energy.

The Session is working on creating opportunities for you to experience renewal as well, through a spiritual retreat and pottery work. As those plans are finalized, more info will come.

I am looking forward to this leave, and I also know it will be hard to completely disconnect from my ministry with you, as that is so much a part of my life and who I am. Yet I am looking forward to deepening my relationship with Linda, who gives up so much so I can be your pastor, deepening my relationship with God, and connecting with my own passions.

But I'm not gone yet! Let's enjoy this next month and share our hopes and dreams for this unique time in the life of our church and our time together.

ROOTED IN GOD - OPEN TO GRACE - FILLED WITH JOY

### **Christian Education**

Now that the 2022-2023 Christian Education school year has wrapped up, I'd like to take a moment to thank all our



CE volunteers, without whom we could not function. FPC is blessed to have some truly wonderful people who are dedicated to the CE and faith formation ministries of our church. So I'd like to thank the following for their educational ministry with our children, youth, and adults during this past year. We are deeply grateful to: Cassie Woods Madden, Sherry Knapp, Connie Philippi, Cindy Lloyd, Mary Pfoltner, Walt & Carol Schacht, Nate Van Meter, Jim Wagner, Arta Smith, Janna Loehr, Caitlyn Andrews, Kelly Peate, Julie Van Meter, Vena Alesio, and Audrey Richert... thank you all!

Weekly Sunday morning classes are on a summer break until we start back up again in the fall. But be on the lookout for some special summer fellowship and faith formation opportunities such as a church picnic and the occasional summer Sunday gathering. Weekly Sunday classes resume on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> with our Celebration Sunday.

Faith at Home resources packs will be made available throughout the summer. This family resource will be emailed out to all families the last week of each month. The resources contain weekly activities and rituals for families to enrichen faith while at home.

The Return of Flat Jesus!!! Are you traveling this summer, doing some fun activities for the young and old? Whether you are in worship weekly or traveling the country, a fun way to remember that Jesus is with us always is to take Flat Jesus with you on your travels. You can download a copy of flat Jesus or pick up a laminated version here at the church. Then all you have to do is take a selfie of you and Flat Jesus on your travels and email them to Kris at dce@fpclincoln.org. We'll add them to the monthly newsletter and church the church bulletin board after your trip.





Church office hours are changing for the summer.

Starting June 5 through September 1 the church office will be open Monday - Thursday 7 am - 5 pm and closed on Friday's.

Carrie is going to Dallas Texas July 17 - 23 for continuing education. We will need help in the office during her absence to help with answering the phone, receiving mail, and greeting visitors.

Carrie will also be going on vacation from August 30 - September 15 this year and we could use some help in the office while she is visiting her Mom.

If you have a few hours to spare, please use the QR code to sign up to help in the office.



### **Music Notes**

# Arts for the Soul Music & Fine Arts Series Saturday, April 29

We welcomed Kelly Ross & friends from the ECHO Collective and Poe Dee from Catholic Social Services. They talked about what their organizations do to help new refugees & immigrants who come to Lincoln. They also talked about the challenges that these people face in trying to fit into a new culture, learn the language, find jobs, etc. Attending were also three women who had gone through the ECHO Collective program and were displaying some of the things they make and sell now as new American entrepreneurs.





On Sunday, April 30, the Christian Education and Music & Fine Arts Committee jointly sponsored Oscar Rios Pohirieth at First Presbyterian.

First, as part of the Fifth Sunday Breakfast, Oscar talked about his experiences working at LPS with refugee and immigrant families for 24 years. Then, at 10:00, he played in our worship service





# **Summer Choir and Bells**

Starting in June we will have summer choir and handbells. Both are for not only those who have sung or played bells before, but also for those who have never sung or rung bells but would like to give it a try! The only rehearsals will be on the Sunday morning before we sing/play.

We will meet at 9:10 am and take part in the 10:00 am worship service (for the bell Sunday please be there by 9:00 a.m. to get set up).

No choir robes or bell black dress. The music will be easy to learn in the short rehearsal time before church. This would be a great way for new people to give it a try!

It would be helpful for both groups, but especially for the bell Sunday if you would let Brian Pfoltner know in advance if you plan to participate.

You can email him at: musicdir@fpclincoln.org or call the church 402-477-6037

Here are the dates and groups:

June 4--Bells (9:00)

June 11--Choir (9:10)

June 18--Choir (9:10)

June 25--Choir (9:10)

May 14, 2023 ~ Music Sunday Brass, Choir, Percussion, Bells and Children's Choir



### South Sudan News

#### THE CAUSE OF SUDAN CONFLICT AND Its NEGATIVE EFFECT ON SOUTH SUDANESE.

An armed conflict between rival factions of the military government of <u>Sudan</u> began on 15 April 2023, when clashes broke out in western Sudan, the capital city of <u>Khartoum</u> and the <u>Darfur</u> region. As of 9 May, at least 700 people had been killed and more than 5,100 others had been injured.

It began with attacks by the paramilitary <u>Rapid Support Forces</u> (RSF) on government sites. Airstrikes, artillery, and gunfire were reported across Sudan including in Khartoum.

As of 23 April 2023, RSF leader Mohamed Hamdan "Hemedti" Dagalo and Sudan's *de facto* leader and army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan claimed control of government sites, including the general military headquarters, the Presidential Palace, Khartoum International Airport, Burhan's official residence, and the SNBC headquarters.

The conflict between the two generals has led Sudan to the brink of renewed civil war.

<u>Background</u>: The <u>history of conflicts in Sudan</u> hasconsisted of foreign invasions and resistance, <u>ethnic tensions</u>, <u>religious disputes</u>, and competition over resources. In its modern history, <u>two civil wars</u> between the central government and the <u>southern regions</u> killed 1.5 million people, and a <u>continuing conflict</u> in the western region of <u>Darfur</u> has displaced two million people and killed more than 200,000 people.

Since <u>independence</u> in 1956, Sudan has had more than fifteen military coups and it has also been ruled by the military for the majority of the republic's existence, with only brief periods of democratic civilian parliamentary rule.

#### Political context: Sudanese transition to democracy

Former president and military strongman <u>Omar al-Bashir</u> presided over the <u>War in Darfur</u>, a region in the west of the country, and oversaw state-sponsored violence in the region of Darfur, leading to charges of <u>war crimes</u> and <u>genocide</u>.

Approximately 300,000 people were killed and 2.7 million forcibly displaced in the early part of the Darfur conflict; the intensity of the violence later declined.

Key figures in the Darfur conflict included <u>Hemedti</u>, a warlord who commanded the <u>Rapid Support Forces</u> (RSF) which evolved from the <u>janjaweed</u>, a collection of <u>Arab</u> militias drawn from camel-trading tribes active in Darfur and portions of <u>Chad</u>. Al-Bashir relied upon the janjaweed and RSF to crush uprisings by ethnic Africans in the <u>Nuba Mountains</u> and Darfur. The RSF perpetrated mass killings, mass rapes, pillage, torture, and destruction of villages and were accused of committing <u>ethnic cleansing</u> against the <u>Fur</u>, <u>Masalit</u>, and <u>Zaghawa tribes</u>.

Key leaders in the RSF have been indicted by the <u>International Criminal Court</u> (ICC) of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity although Hemedti was not personally implicated in the 2003–2004 atrocities. Bashir formalized the militias in 2013, creating the RSF as a paramilitary organization and giving its commanders formal military ranks; Hemedti was given the rank of <u>lieutenant general</u>. In 2017, a new Sudanese law gave the RSF the status of an "independent security force". Under the patronage of al-Bashir, Hemedti became wealthy and powerful, acquiring gold mines in Darfur.

Bashir sent RSF forces to quash a 2013 uprising in South Darfur and also deployed RSF units to <u>fight in Yemen</u> and <u>Libya</u>. During this time, the RSF also developed a working relationship with the Russian private military outfit <u>Wagner Group</u>. These developments ensured that RSF forces grew into the tens of thousands, including thousands of armed pickup trucks, which regularly patrolled the streets of Khartoum. The Bashir regime allowed the RSF and other armed groups to proliferate to prevent threats to its security from within the armed forces, a practice known as "<u>coup-proofing</u>".

In December 2018, protests against al-Bashir's regime began, the first phase of the <u>Sudanese Revolution</u>. Eight months of sustained civil disobedience were met with violent repression. In April 2019, <u>the military (including the RSF) ousted al-Bashir in a coup d'état</u>, ending his three decades of rule; the army established a <u>Transitional Military Council</u>, a <u>junta</u>.

Bashir was imprisoned in Khartoum; he was not turned over to the ICC, which had <u>issued warrants for al-Bashir's arrest on</u> <u>charges of war crimes.</u> <u>Protests calling for civilian rule</u> continued; in June 2019, the RSF perpetrated the <u>Khartoum massacre</u>, in

which more than a hundred demonstrators were slain and dozens were raped. Hemedti denied orchestrating the attack.

In August 2019, after international pressure and mediation by the <u>African Union</u> and Ethiopia, the military agreed to share power in an interim joint civilian-military <u>unity government</u> (the <u>Transitional Sovereignty Council</u>), headed by a civilian Prime Minister, Abdalla Hamdok, with elections to take place in 2023.

However, in October 2021, the military seized power in a coup led by Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) leader Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and RSF leader Dagalo known as Hemetti. The Transitional Sovereignty Council was reconstituted as a military junta led by Al-Burhan, monopolizing power and halting Sudan's brief transition to democracy.

Tensions between the RSF of Hemetti and the Sudanese junta of Abdel Fattah al-Burhan began to escalate in February 2023, as the RSF began to recruit members from across Sudan. A brief military buildup in <a href="Khartoum">Khartoum</a> was succeeded by an agreement for de-escalation, with the RSF withdrawing its forces from the Khartoum area. The junta later agreed to hand over authority to a civilian-led government, but it was delayed due to renewed tensions between generals Burhan and Dagalo (Hemetti), who serve as chairman and deputy chairman of the Transitional Sovereignty Council, respectively.

#### Chief among their political disputes is the integration of the RSF into the military:

The RSF insisted on a ten-year timetable for its integration into the regular army, while the army demanded integration within two years.

Other contested issues included the status given to RSF officers in the future hierarchy, and whether RSF forces should be under the command of the army chief – rather than Sudan's commander-in-chief – who is currently al-Burhan himself. They have also clashed over authority over sectors of Sudan's economy that are controlled by the two factions (The military, and RSF). As a sign of their rift, Dagalo expressed regret over the October 2021 coup.

On 11 April 2023, RSF forces deployed near the city of Merowe and in Khartoum. Government forces ordered them to leave, but they refused. This led to clashes when RSF forces took control of the Soba military base south of Khartoum.

On 13 April, RSF forces began their mobilization, raising fears of a potential rebellion against the junta. The SAF declared the mobilization illegal.

On 15 April, the <u>Rapid Support Forces</u> (RSF) attacked several <u>Sudanese Armed Forces</u> (SAF) bases in Sudan, including Khartoum and its airport. Clashes between the two groups occurred at the <u>Presidential Palace</u> and at the residence of General al-Burhan. In response, the SAF closed all airports and conducted airstrikes on RSF positions.

Fighting between the SAF and the RSF continued in Khartoum, with heavy weaponry being used.

#### Negative Effects on South Sudanese who live in Khartoum and Economic effect on South Sudan.

Sudan and South Sudan were just separated in 2011. Thousands of South Sudanese are still in Khartoum, the capital city of Sudan because their houses, business, and churches are not moved to South Sudan after separation. The Sudanese war in Khartoum has caused bad and dangerous situation for South Sudanese. Thousands of South Sudanese who fled the war are now occupying the border towns of South Sudan.

On their way to South Sudan, their belongings were looted by Paramilitary Force of Hemetti. They are suffering a lot due to lack of food, shelters, and water. People are sleeping in open spaces on the ground. Those who remained in Khartoum are facing the worse situation. The paramilitary or Janjaweed attacked their houses and taking their belongings. In MAY 14, 2023, on Sunday morning, the rebel Rapid Support Militia fired bullets at Christian worshipers in Al-Masalamah Church in Omdurman, at least three people were wounded.

Since South Sudan depends on oil economically, this war has already caused the worse economic situation on South Sudanese government because the flows of oil from South Sudan to port Sudan has already been interrupted.

Both Sudan and South Sudan's oil production is at risk. Oil flow to terminals will likely be impacted and exports are expected to be reduced due to supply disruptions.

Let pray for both Sudan and South Sudan citizens who are in that dire situation. By Jock Tut Paleak

# This & That...



Please save the Date for June 25 from 4 - 7 pm for a fun-filled send off for Pastor Sue before she goes on her Renewal Leave! More information will be coming up in the bulletin inserts and Wednesday emails.

Please keep Pastor Jock in your prayers as he travels to Ethiopia June 18 - July 14 to officiate at Luka Thor's wedding.





#### **Committees**

- Business, Stewardship & Finance Cheryl Rennick, Janna Loehr, Sue Bolz, Sherry Knapp
- Christian Education Audrey Richert, Cindy Lloyd, Connie Philippi, Julie & Nate Van Meter, Kelly Peate
- Foundation Board Cheryl Rennick, Carol Ott Schacht, Janna Loehr, Jim Wagner, Pam Carrier, Julie Van Meter
- Hospitality Rick Cypert, Jim & Marlene Wagner, Pam & Mike Boyle, Carol Ott Schacht Media Paul Jasa, Linda Brodzik, Jim and Debbie DeFrain, and Steve and Owen Hill
- Mission & Justice Shereen Mills, Jeri Brandt, Courtney Wittstruck, Pam Carrier, Christy Abraham
- Music & Fine Arts Jan Enstrom, Katie Pinch, Lou Ann Miller, Louise McCormally, Steve Henderson
- Nominating Betty Tenhulzen, Christy Abraham, Carol Ott Schacht, Jerry Philippi, Jim Wagner, Nancy Janike, Owen Hill, Debbie DeFrain
- Online Ministry Brad Hinrichs, Vena Alesio, Jessica Mills, Amanda Gleissner, Mary Gleissner, Nancy O'Brien
- Personnel Paul Jasa, Brett Richert, Harry Olthoff, Jeri Brandt, Julie Van Meter Property - Lynn Bonge, Gary Hughes, Joan Berglund, Bill Janike, Nate Van Meter, Trev Peterson. Walt Schacht
  - Worship & Sacraments Terri Sherman, George Wheeler, Christy Abraham, and Arta Smith who recruits our liturgists

#### **Deacons:**

 Sandy Bonge, Audrey Richert, Nancy Janike, Shannon Janike, Shannon Diedrichsen, Rick Houck and Jerry Philippi.

#### Session

• Walt Schacht, Steve Henderson, Carol Ott Schacht, Vena Alesio, Jessica Groop, Sue Bolz, Cheryl Rennick, Shereen Mills, Rick Cypert, Jeri Brandt, Terri Sherman, Cindy Lloyd, Paul Jasa, and Brett Richert.

#### **Renewal Leave Task Force**

• Vena Alesio, Janna Loehr, Julie Van Meter, Terri Sherman

#### **Staffing Task Force**

• Shereen Mills, Julie Van Meter, Vena Alesio, Walt Schacht, Jeri Brandt

#### **Risk Assessment Team:**

• Dianne Frydendall-Smith, Janna Loehr and Nate Van Meter

#### **Presbytery Commissioners:**

• Cindy Lloyd, Audrey Richert, alternate Cheryl Rennick

#### Presbyterian Women

• Joan Berglund, Arta Smith, Nancy Janike, Terri Sherman, Lynne Hughes, Carlene Waldron, Christy Abraham, and so many more

Spring Fellowship Trip Walt Schacht and Carol Ott Schacht and Nate and Julie Van Meter

Sewing Group and Knitting Class: Irene Colburn and Amy Peterson, and Nora Chismore.

**Stephen Ministers -** Betty Tenhulzen, Bill Janike, Ruth Stephenson, Gary Hughes, Sue Bolz, Sherry Knapp, Carlene Waldron, Jim & Debbie DeFrain, LeAnn Hammar, Barbara Hansson

#### **All Others**

• Then there are all of you who pick up trash around the church even when it's not your job, who help out in the office when Carrie is on vacation, who answer phones, stuff envelopes, take photos, provide food and a helping hand for meals and receptions, and answer the occasional request out of the blue for help on all kinds of things.



Dear First presbyterian Church,

my wife and I recently dropped in to visit while in Lincoln

because my grandfather, Glover Leitch, was pastor there

for many years. Carrie cross very graciously showed us

around and gave us two copies of the history of the church,

which my dad and his sister have both very much enjoyed

reading (and so did we!). We just wanted to say thank

you. Though we are not ourselves religious, we appreciate

your inclusivity and the many ways you support people

who need it. I like to think my grandfather would be

proud and pleased to see that the church is in good hands!

— Jonathan Leitch + Sarah Edmunds



First Presbyterian Church 840 South 17th Street Lincoln, NE 68508 www.fpclincoln.org Info[at]fpclincoln.org 402.477.6037

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Please notify the church office of any name, address, email, and/or telephone changes.

### First Presbyterian Church

Where faith is nurtured, curiosity is encouraged, diversity is welcomed, and all are loved.

#### Did you know?

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We now have **Venmo** - <u>@FPCLincolnNE</u>

You can still give by text as well by texting MissionPossible to 73256

### **Sunday Worship Times**

In-Person Worship Services
10 am - English - (Livestreamed at https://fpclincoln.online.church)
12 pm - Nuer

Events & Opportunities fpclincoln.org/events

**Worship Online:** Fpclincoln.online.church