



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
BROADLY INCLUSIVE
GROWING IN MISSION

THE MESSENGER

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COMPELLING CHRISTIANITY: A New Sermon Series

Fascinating things happen with Jesus in and around the water:

Near the water, he calls his disciples to come fish ... for people.

At the water's edge, he compels them to all get in the boat together.

In the shallows, he invites his disciples to go out into the deep water.

In the mist of the wind and waves, he calms the storm.

On the water, Jesus walks and invites Peter to participate in a miracle.

Calling to his disciples from shore, Jesus tells them to fish differently, and all of a sudden, their nets are overwhelmed with fish.

These are stories that have profound and surprising depth. Life-saving, life-giving, life-changing experiences are held in these biblical messages of Jesus. Through these stories, we can meet Jesus again as if for the first time.

And we can experience something miraculous, if we, like the disciples, listen to Jesus when he tells us all:

“Get in The Boat.”

Jesus wants us to journey to someplace new, where we can experience new life.

I invite you to come hear this sermon series, beginning September 10th. Experience anew the compelling message of Jesus Christ. Discover something of what makes Jesus so compelling. When we all get in the boat together, we may experience something miraculous.

Sincerely,

Andrew McDonald
Senior Pastor





CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

FAITH VILLAGE AND KINDERGARTEN OF EDEN CHILDREN ARE GETTING IN THE BOAT! We invite you to bring your children to Sunday School to grow with love for our Creator! Sunday School meets at 9:00 am and 10:45 am. Preschool Story Time meets at 9:00 am in room 210. Children will hear a Bible Story, work on an activity, and build community through play.

Kindergarten of Eden (Preschool) at 10:45 am, Room 210

Your preschool child aged 3-5 years is invited to join us as the new year commences, or at anytime during the year. The children will explore stories about Moses, and the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt. They will learn through stories, crafts, games, songs and play.

Faith Village (K- 5th Grade) 9:00-10:00 and 10:45-11:40 am, Lower Level

Each month starts a new unit focusing on a different Bible story. **September's unit: People Who Made a Difference-** children will see that all kinds of people of faith can make a great difference, and through them, we can learn more about God. Faith Village begins each week with a song, an offering (children will choose a mission project to support with their offering) and prayers. We ask that parents pick up their children at 11:40.

Middle School Sunday School (6-7th Grade) at 9:00 am, Lower Level

Providing 6th and 7th graders time to worship with their parents, this class meets at 9 am gives students a chance to "Explore the Core of the Bible", approaching such questions as: What is the Bible, and how do I use it? What are the differences between the Old and New Testament? How are the Biblical characters important to my faith? How does the Bible relate to me, today? This class is an important prelude to the Confirmation Class for students in 8th and 9th Grade.

Senior High (10-12th Grade) 9:00 am in the Youth Room, Lower Level

This program is currently under construction—join us and help us build it! Youth will look at what God requires of us as Christians and apply their gifts and talents to better serve God in our community, and empower others to do the same. Relevant studies from The Thoughtful Christian will be used to highlight current issues relating to Matt. 25:34-40.





YOUTH MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Pedals, Pipes & Pizza

*To introduce children to the
"King of Instruments" ...the Pipe Organ!!*

Friday, October 20 | 5:30-7:30 PM

Children are invited to meet the "King of Instruments". Dress up in your Halloween costume for a free pizza party and listen to the amazing, weird and spooky sounds of Westminster's beautiful Casavant organ. Piano students are encouraged to bring their favorite piece to play on Lincoln's second largest pipe organ. To register for Pedals, Pipes and Pizza or for more information about any of our music ensembles, contact John Ross at 402-475-6702



Children's Choirs

Our children's choirs meet for singing, games and activities Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm in Room 210. Erin Cunningham leads our Cherub Choir for 3 to 5 year old's, and Kaitlin Beck directs our K-5th graders in the Alleluia! Amen! Choir. This Fall, both choirs will sing in worship on the second Sunday of every month.



Erin Cunningham



Kaitlin Beck

Youth String Ensemble

String students are invited to join our Youth String Ensemble. We rehearse Sundays 10:00-10:20am in the Chapel. This group will perform a variety of musical styles several times this Fall.



MUSIC PROGRAM & REHEARSALS

"The beginning of the program year is a great time to join one of our music ensembles!"

Here's a peak at some of the friendly faces that came together for our first rehearsals."



MUSIC REHEARSALS ON WEDNESDAYS

Westminster Carillon | Sanctuary | 6:20 pm

Alleluia! Amen! | Grades K-5 | Room 210 | 6:30 pm

Cherub Choir | Pre-K | Room 210- East | 6:30 pm

Westminster Choir | Sanctuary | 7:30 pm

Youth Strings rehearsals are Sundays, in the Chapel | 10:00-10:20am

Do you play a brass instrument? If so, we would love to have you join us!

Westminster Brass wants you! Rehearsals TBA. Contact John Ross at 402-475-6702 or john@westminsterlincoln.org for more information.

The Rising Worship Sundays at 9:20 AM

Rise Up & join our service with contemporary music in a casual setting. Three band leaders: Ben Heinisch, Andrea Von Kampen, and Andy Pappas offer their unique gifts each week.





Westminster is a place to worship, a place to serve, and a place to belong. One of our values is to build healthy relationships with one another and we believe it is important for everyone to discover a place where they can connect and grow. You are invited to become involved with any of our life groups at any time. For more information about any of these groups, please call 402-475-6702.

Get in the Boat with us: Disciples do things together and work together!

World on a Plate

If you enjoy cooking, fellowship over a good meal, and learning about current missionary work, World on a Plate is for you! Members explore international cuisine and PCUSA missions monthly at Westminster or in members' home. *Contact person: Kathy Rohwedder.*

Faith & Cancer

No matter where you are in your journey, this group is where cancer survivors can come together for fellowship, prayer and study. This Life Group meets every third Tuesday of the month from 7-8 p.m. in the Parlor. *Contact person: Bruce Sheffield*

History Buffs

History enthusiasts learn about a variety of historically relevant topics from guest speakers. Youth, men and women of all ages are invited to meet September through May on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the church. Periodic field trips maybe incorporated throughout the year. *Contact persons: Bruce & Margaret Sheffield.*

Ladies' Night Out

Ladies of all ages gather throughout the year from 5-7 p.m. at various Lincoln restaurants and pubs to enjoy an after-work drink and appetizer. These casual outings result in fellowship, connection with old friends and the opportunity to meet new women. No RSVP required; drop in at your leisure and bring a friend. Non-Westminster members welcome! *Contact person: Robyn Uebele.*

Lunch Bunch

This inter-generational group of men and women gather the first Tuesday of the month throughout the year at different Lincoln restaurants for friendship and lively conversation over lunch. All are welcome! *Contact person: Larry Wieskamp.*

Come As You Are - Coffee & Co.— This is a new Life Group for Sunday mornings, beginning on September 17 for those between 15 and 30 years of age. Coffee, scones, and casual conversation. Gather around a table with friends to discuss the weekly scripture passages and the sermon. Share your perspective on the message and how it relates to your life.

Knit & Sit

Meets year round on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library. Just come when you can. We warmly welcome any one who knits or crochets. If you would like to learn we'll teach you.

Green @ Heart

Westminster's 'green team'. When ways are discovered that Westminster can be more environmentally intentional, strategies are employed to raise awareness, eliminate waste, and reuse, recycle and reduce disposables. WPC has been recognized as a Earth Care Congregation by the PC (USA) since 2014.

Westminster Bridge Players

Meeting regularly September to May. Couples gather in member homes to play Bridge once a month. Play times and dates are determined each year based on player availability. Interested in joining? Call Kathryn Govaerts 402-483-1726, or Carol Bishop 402-488-1082.

Tour de Friends

Westminster cyclists meet on Thursdays at 5:45 pm. Group rides are typically 12-15 miles round trip and are designed for cyclists of all levels.

Sausage, Eggs & Scripture

A men's Bible Study that meets at the Piedmont Bristro on Third Saturdays at 8 a.m. *Contact person: Jimmy Shelbourn*

Lohmen Group

Men and women of Westminster meet intermittently throughout the year to foster a broader Christian relationship and friendship with our "sister" church in Lohmen, Germany. This group hosts Lohmen members from Germany when they are visiting Lincoln. "Hostamania," the Lohmen group annual fundraiser, is a plant sharing sale held on Mother's Day Sunday. *Contact person: Nancy Leavitt*

Prairie Readers

Book lovers are invited to attend this monthly book discussion group. Women and men gather at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor the third Wednesday of every month. *Contact person: Faye Moulton*

Turning Pages

Turning Pages is a book club for female inmates at the Lancaster County Detention Center. Westminster members facilitate this group of usually 10-16 inmates, meeting once a quarter for four weeks on Monday nights from 6:30– 7:30 p.m. A wide variety of books are read, with titles suggested by volunteers and inmates. Members do not need to commit to attend every meeting. A background check and a short training session at the County Jail is required before volunteering. *Contact person: Deb Schorr*

Presbyterian Women of Westminster Circles

Presbyterian Women of Westminster Circles engage in monthly Bible study, mission, prayer and nurturing of one another. Women of all ages are welcome. PW Circles follow the expectations and goals of the National Presbyterian Women's Assoc. (PW/Presbyterian Church USA). Circles meet once a month September through June; meeting days, time and locations depend on the individual Circle.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Faith Building Blocks

Faith-building opportunities are designed to help children build a firm foundation of faith and strong sense of God's love, and to give families opportunities to learn and grow in faith together, from baptism through confirmation. Most of these "blocks" are one-session interactive classes designed for parents and children. All are welcome!

First step: The child's Baptism.

Second step: Preschool –Sunday School orientation occurs on Genesis Sunday when parents and children get acquainted with teachers and other families.

Third step: Kindergarteners will be presented with a Story Bible during worship on September 17. Other ages will have their opportunities in subsequent months. These steps continue through confirmation.

Parenting, Play and Prayer:

Parents of Young Children Life Group

A new Life Group will be beginning on Sept. 27, designed for parents of infants through age 5. Meet in Rm 210 in the Toddler Room area.

SECOND WEDNESDAYS: ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Special time of conversation and support for parents while the children are nurtured in supervised care.

FOURTH WEDNESDAYS: PARENT-TOT PLAYTIME

Develop friendships, foster social skills in small children.

Bring your family to the WOW supper at 5:45 pm. Children's choirs for preschool and older also begin at 6:30. Contact Barbara at Barbara@westminsterlincoln.org or call 402-475-6702, if interested.

spooktacular

Sunday, October 29, 3-5 pm.

"C" is for Christmas Sunday evening, December 3.

Caroling, crafts, food... you will hear more about it in the weeks to come.



Christmas Caroling



Visiting the Scribe Hut in Bethlehem



Chili Contest Winners



CONGREGATION NEWS & EVENTS

Westminster Membership Directory

The portraits have been taken and goals met so the Westminster Membership Directory should be available in September. Please watch for Member Care friends who will distribute them in the Garden Room.

Pancake Feed

Hosted by the Life Groups Committee

Sunday, September 24 – 8:30-10:30 am in the Garden Room

Enjoy a buffet style breakfast pancake feed including sausage and eggs. Freewill offering.

Westminster Food Pantry

Hunger and food insecurity has no color, race or religion, just an empty stomach looking for relief. For 26 years, Westminster has been feeding the hungry in Lincoln. Weekly, we provide food for six families. Consider becoming an asset to our community by donating to the local food pantry. You can pick up a list of needed items at the Food Pantry Box near the East entrance. We are currently in need of pork & beans, chili, rice, cooking oil and spaghetti sauce.

Journeying Together

The next class is September 24 at 9 a.m.

If you are interested in becoming a member or know of someone who is, please contact Marge at marge@westminsterlincoln.org or mark "Wish to Join" in the Friendship Pad.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Baptisms: Olivia Laine, daughter of Jayne and Evan Ellenwood and Henry Vernon Lloyd, son of Sara and Josh Lovell on August 13.

Wedding: Best wishes to Michaela Vander Weil and Edison McDonald who were married on August 19.

Bereavement: Comfort for the family and friends of Cheri Ryan who died on August 3.

FOUNDATION BIRTHDAYS

The following contributed to the Foundation in honor of their August Birthday:

Debbie Benesch, Lynn & Ellen Davis Anniversary, Elly Dawson, Barbara Dinsdale, Freda Gregg, Karen Janovy, Sushil Lacy, Sandi Larson, Harriet Peterson, Romona Riley, Franny Seward, Marge Wilnes.

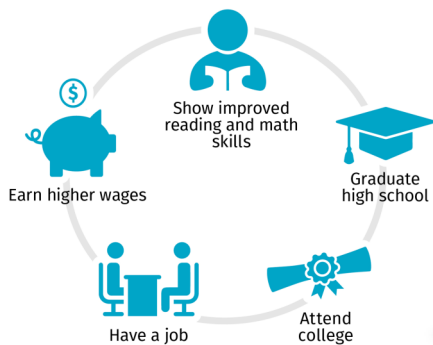


IS IN THE BOAT!

#1 Preschool Center in Nebraska-We are the first and Only center to reach level 5-the TOP level! In addition-we are also the only faith based program in Lincoln to be NAEYC Accredited | National Association for the Education of Young Children.

The case for quality child care.

The type of child care you choose for your child can have a big impact on their future. Early learning builds the foundation for skills needed in school, work and life, with 90 percent of brain development occurring before age 5.



Step Up to Quality helps families identify early childhood providers who demonstrate a commitment to quality care. Step Up to Quality programs go beyond what is required because they strive to do better for their children's and families' futures.

Every step counts.

Step Up to Quality is not a typical rating system -- it's a path. Whether a child care provider is at Step 1 or Step 5, they are making a statement: that they want to be the best they can be for the benefit of their children and families. Programs are rated based on meeting quality standards.

- Step 5 - Far exceeds quality standards
- Step 4 - Exceeds quality standards
- Step 3 - Meets quality standards
- Step 2 - Approaching quality standards
- Step 1 - Committed to quality improvement



National Association for the Education of Young Children

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY!

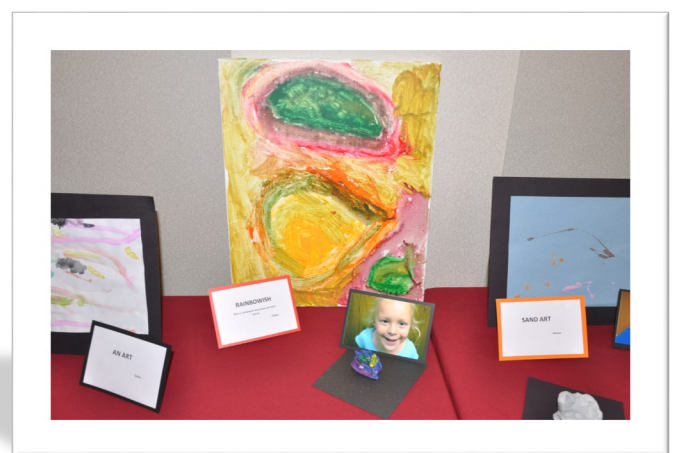
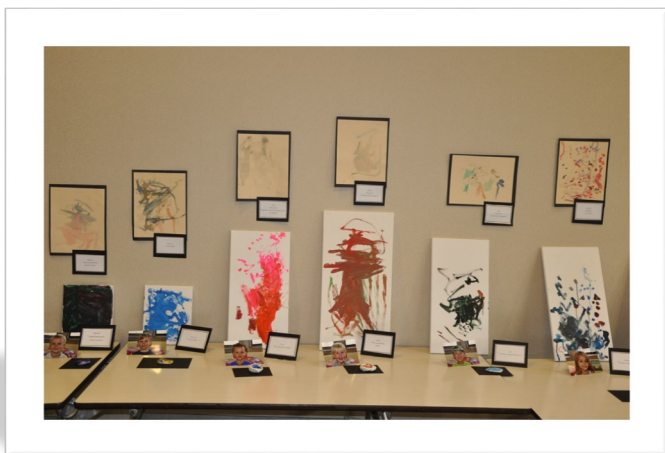
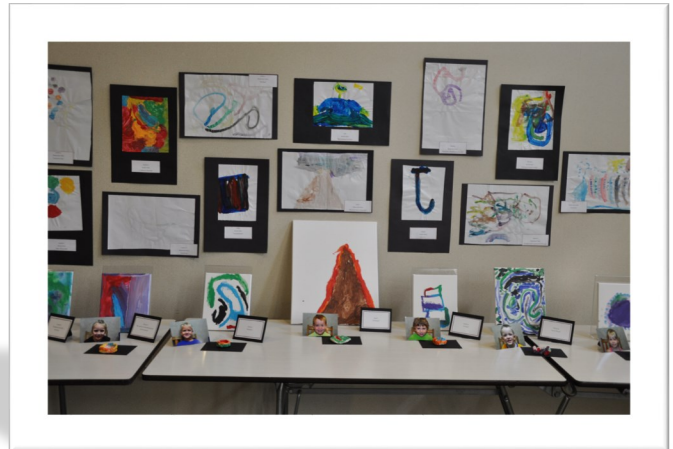
Sunday, September 17

Westminster Preschool children will sing in the 10:30 worship.

Preschool Children's Art Show

Sunday, September, 17 | Fellowship Hall

Preschool would like to welcome Westminster Church Members and the surrounding community members to the Annual Preschool Art Show. Please stop by and see their wonderful creations and meet & greet with the young artists.



The children have been working hard and having fun preparing for their annual art show.



WOW WESTMINSTER ON WEDNESDAYS



A Passion for Justice, Not Crystal Balls

Wednesday evenings | 6:30 PM | Lounge

ADULT EDUCATION

It is often mistakenly believed that the prophet's role was to predict the future. However, the Hebrew prophets of the Old Testament played a very different role. Many were tapped by God to deliver divine messages during times of political and religious corruption. Thus, they were frequently critical of their societies, preaching about justice and morality. Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn will enlighten us as to the courageous role that various Hebrew prophets played during Old Testament times.

- **September 6 – “First” Isaiah**
- **September 13 – Jeremiah, Ezekiel**
- **September 20 – “Second” Isaiah, Zechariah**
- **September 27 – Jonah, Malachi**



WOW WESTMINSTER ON WEDNESDAYS

WOW — Westminster on Wednesdays

Need a night to unwind this Fall from the hustle of school activities and work meetings?

Every week, we serve a home-cooked meal followed by adult education, WOWXL, Knit N Sit and music rehearsals.

WOW DINNER MENU'S

Served in Cole Hall 5:45-6:30 PM

\$4/Children, \$6/Adults, \$17 Max/Family

All dinners include salad, fruit & dessert

SEPTEMBER 6— Pork loin and mashed potatoes

SEPTEMBER 13— Baked chicken, cheesy potatoes

SEPTEMBER 20—Spaghetti w/ meatballs

SEPTEMBER 27—Soup and baked potato bar

WOWXL—6:30 PM | Youth Café

Youth in grades 6-8 meet weekly during the school year for engaging activities and to grow in faith together.

Knit N Sit— 6:30 PM | Library

Come knit or crochet with us. If you don't know how, we will gladly teach you. Women and men of all ages are welcome.

MUSIC REHEARSALS

6:20 pm Westminster Carillon | Sanctuary

6:30 pm Alleluia! Amen! (Grades K-5) | Room 210

6:30 pm Cherub Choir (Pre-K) | Room 210 — East

7:30 pm Westminster Choir | Sanctuary



Some of the many beautiful creations made by the Knit N Sit Life Group.



ADULT EDUCATION & BIBLE CLASS

SUNDAY MORNINGS | 9 am—10 am | Meet in the Lounge

Adult Education

Building Stronger Communities through Early Childhood Education and Well-Being

The first years of life are a unique and vital stage in the human life cycle. This is the period when children first acquire the skills that will shape who they become as individuals.

Education, business and civic leaders agree: the economic growth and quality of our communities are directly linked to the cognitive and character skills laid down in early childhood.

-First Five Nebraska

September 10: “Building a Stronger Nebraska through Early Childhood Initiatives” by Michael Medwick of First Five Nebraska.

September 17: “Building a Stronger Lincoln through Early Childhood Programs” by Michelle Suarez of Prosper Lincoln.

September 24: “Building a Stronger Westminster with Our Preschool and Faith Village Programs” by Suzanne Schneider, Westminster Preschool Director and Barbara Hipple, Director of Children and Family Ministry.

Westminster Bible Class

GOD’S URGENT CALL—Join us any Sunday in September | 9AM | Parlor

Our Fall lesson series theme leads us from God’s Call, our summer study, into God’s Covenant with us. In September, we begin our study in the Old Testament exploring the covenants God established with the people of Israel. As always, you are invited to drop in anytime. Coffee and donut holes are waiting along with a friendly, spirit-filled group of Westminster friends.

Unit 1 Signs of God’s Covenant

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME	LEADER
September 3	Genesis 8:20-9:17	The Rainbow	Gary Haller
September 10	Genesis 17	Circumcision	Ellen Davis
September 17	Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 31:12-18; Isaiah 56:1-8	Sabbath Observance	Ellen Davis
September 24	Ezekiel 36-37; Titus 3:1-11	Spirit-Filled Heart	Bill North



LIFE GROUPS SEPTEMBER MEET UPS

Lunch Bunch

We are meeting at Parkers Smoke House— “BBQ for the Soul” at 84th & “O” Street on September 5 at 11:30 AM. Come for fellowship & good food. All are welcome.

Tour de Friends

Group rides will resume on September 14. We will meet at the Children’s Zoo at 5:45 pm and ride to the UNL Dairy Store for ice cream. Aprox. 6 miles round trip. All are welcome.

Come As You Are - Coffee & Co.

Sunday mornings, beginning on September 17

If you are between 15 and 30 years of age, join us on for coffee, scones, and casual conversation. Meet in Fellowship Hall from 10:00 until 10:30 a.m., right after The Rising. Gather around a table with friends to discuss the weekly scripture passages and the sermon. Share your perspective on the message and how it relates to your life. Discussion leaders will be Adam Luedtke, Devon Nelson, and Andrew Finkner.

Prairie Readers

Wednesday, September 20 | 1 PM | Westminster Parlor | Facilitator: Judy White.

Book: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman | Facilitator Judy White

Meet Ove. He’s a curmudgeon—the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him “the bitter neighbor...” But must Ove be bitter just because he doesn’t walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time? Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove’s mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents’ association to their very foundations.

Sausage, Eggs & Scripture

Saturday, September 16 | 8 AM | Piedmont Bistro- 1265 S Cotner Blvd

Men’s Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn. Continuing a study of Ephesians.

More information? Call Questions: Contact Jimmy— 402-475-6702.

Ladies Night Out

Tuesday, September 19 | 5-7 PM | Hop Cat 601 “P” Street All are Welcome!

History Buffs

Saturday, September 9 | Lounge | 9 AM

Tim Anderson, a noted journalist and author will be speaking on the topic of the Nebraska poet laureate, John G. Neihardt. Tim is a prominent speaker for the Neihardt Historical Site in Bancroft, Nebraska at their annual spring conference. He is the author of the recently published book, Lonesome Dreamer, The Life Of John G. Neihardt. We are honored to have him available for this special presentation.



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2110 Sheridan Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68502
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Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

You are Invited for a Day of Purpose and Fun

Mission and Outreach Committee is sponsoring Westminster Church members and friends to help at a Habitat for Humanity build that is scheduled for September. Volunteers are needed to help with the build and/or to provide food for the lunch. No skills are required for the work and all tools will be provided. Volunteers must be 16 and older. Those under 18 will need a parent/guardian consent signature. This is our opportunity to help provide a Lincoln family with a home. More information will follow as details are finalized.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Saturday, October 21

Meet at the church at 8 AM for coffee & fellowship

Each work team will depart at 8:30 AM to their worksite and work until 11 AM or noon depending on the project. There will also be an opportunity to support the Friendship Home on Sunday, Oct 8 in the afternoon.

For more info on the projects and to sign up, call or email Jennifer Smith at jsmith67@neb.rr.com or 402-525-6560.

"Whatever you do to the least one of these, I tell you in truth that you do unto me." Matthew 25:31



