# Ancola lincolnchristianchurch.org

# The Christian Call

#### **Worship Services**

8:15 am | Sanctuary

8:15 am | Fellowship Center

9:30 am | Fellowship Center

10:45 am | Fellowship Center

September 2025 | Volume 74 | Number 8





#### PREACHING MINISTRY

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#### Let The LION Out

"The Gospel is like a caged **lion**. It does not need to be defended. It simply needs to be let out of its cage."

—Charles Spurgeon

Most of us remember the Cowardly Lion in the Wizard of Oz. He was an embarrassment to his kind. But he found his courage when he sought to let his true lion nature out. Jesus is described as the Lion of Judah. He is the picture of strength, wisdom, control, nobility, and fierceness. In *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, C.S. Lewis describes Aslan (the lion) this way, "'Course he isn't safe. But he's good."

Throughout the scriptures, we have encountered over and over those who are courageous vs. those who compromise. The crowds became a mob shouting for the crucifixion of Jesus. From the shadows, distant nobodies risked being associated with Jesus—Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus came asking for Jesus' body. That took courage. David standing up against a giant vs. his brothers cowering with Saul's armies. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refusing to bow to the image vs. the crowds who did. Elijah vs. the prophets of Baal. The stories go on and on, people who choose bravery over conceding.

Christians are asked to do the same—to separate ourselves from the philosophies of this pagan world and choose to follow Jesus, unashamed, unapologetic, and without compromise. We choose the hard path over the easy. We enter through the narrow gate vs. the wide path that leads to destruction. We side with good over evil, right over wrong, light over darkness, truth over lies, heaven over hell. Why? Because the Lion of Judah lives in us, and through us, and the time has come to let him out.

Our fall sermon series, "Let the Lion Out" is an unapologetic presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For there to be good news, there has to be bad news. Why are we holding back when eternity is in the balance? It's time to speak up. It's time for courage and confidence. It's time to call people to repentance. It's time to "Let the Lion Out."



#### **Upcoming Series**

9/7	True Gospel Calls People to Jesus
9/14	True Gospel Calls People to Repentance
9/21	True Gospel Calls People to Love
9/28	True Gospel Calls People to Invite





### Welcome New Members By Baptism

//2/	Carter Johnson
8/3	Kelsey Marten
8/10	Hailee Rempe
8/12	David Sullivan
8/17	Kadien Armour, Isabella Robinson



#### ADULT MINISTRY

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217.732.7618 x103

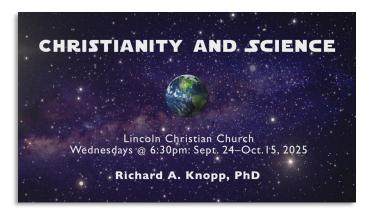


#### Join us for the Next Steps Experience

This one-hour experience allows us to walk you through the next steps on your spiritual journey—faith, friends, making an impact. It's a "road trip" that you won't want to miss.

This experience is designed to be your **very first step** beyond attending a worship service, and it is great for people new to Christianity, new to Lincoln Christian, or for those who have spiritual questions. Hosted by Brandon Boyd, Minister of Adult Discipleship.

Register at lincolnchristianchurch.org/events.



This four-week study led by Dr. Rich Knopp explains why we should recognize *a positive* relationship between Christianity and science. The series will cover the history and nature of modern science; interpreting Bible passages on creation; scientific pointers to God; and dinosaurs and Darwin. It's designed for high school youth and adults. Register at lincolnchristianchurch.org/events.



#### **Build Faith & Friendships in a LifeGroup!**

LifeGroups are groups of 3-10 people who meet together, usually in a home or restaurant. Groups have discussion questions based on Sunday's sermon (or other Bible study), pray together, eat snacks and build friendships.

If you are *new to LifeGroups*, you can find information at <u>lincolnchristianchurch.org/groups</u>. If you were part of a LifeGroup last semester, *existing LifeGroups* resume the week of September 7.



#### Men On Fire

Men on Fire meets Wednesday evenings this fall and resumes September 3.



#### 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 to serve for everyone! Find more information at <a href="mailto:lincolnchristianchurch.org/next">lincolnchristianchurch.org/next</a>.

The kitchen towel laundry ministry team wishes to thank all who have donated dishtowels, dishcloths, and rags of various sizes. They are always helpful, useful, and deeply appreciated!



#### STUDENT MINISTRY

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Student Ministry Website <a href="Iccstudents.com">Iccstudents.com</a>

#### 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: <a href="http://97000.co/t">http://97000.co/t</a>. Privacy Policy: <a href="http://97000.co/p">http://97000.co/p</a>.

#### **Fall Calendars**

Be sure to pick up Fall Calendars for both Jr. High and High School at the Student Info Desk or online at <a href="lccstudents.com/events">lccstudents.com/events</a>.



Sunday School for 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Sunday School meets 9:30 – 10:30 am every Sunday. Come learn more about Scripture!

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Rm 17

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Family Rm 2

9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade - Rm 10

11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade - Rm 12



Hey 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders, the Jr. High Bash will be Friday September 12, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. The cost is \$10. We will have pizza, dodgeball, tons of games, and some surprises. It is going to be incredibly awesome!



**High school students**, come on over and eat some pizza and hang out together after the home football game! We hope to see you there!

## Application Deadline September 7<sup>th</sup>

Current 8<sup>th</sup> Graders -Adults are eligible to go on our short term mission trip to Ecuador, July 18-25, 2026.



Visit <u>lccstudents.com/missions</u> for more information about the mission trip, and to download an application. You can also pick up an application at the Student Info Desk.



6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join us for OnMission—our own retreat for Jr. Highers, November 7-9 at Little Galilee Christian Camp. It is going to be an incredible weekend of serving people in central Illinois. The cost is \$50 for all supplies, food, a fun activity, and lodging. We can't wait! Sign up by Oct 12.

8th grade students who attend On Mission can apply for a \$100 scholarship for next summer's CIY Move.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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Happy September everyone!!! I am so excited to see what awesome things the LORD has planned for this fall. I love this time of the year. We like going to apple orchards and pumpkin patches, enjoying hay rides, sitting by bonfires, and watching football games. Do you have a favorite thing to do with your family during the fall months?



We will start to see the leaves change colors. The days will get shorter and the nights will get longer. But there is one light that never goes out—that is the light of Jesus. He is the light of the world. That means no matter how dark or scary things might seem, Jesus is always with us. This fall we can let our lights shine. We can share kindness, help others, and spread smiles every we go.







Annual family fall party at the Otto's house. We'll have a cookout, play outside, have a hayride, and of course, eat S'MORES!!!

The third annual **Light the Night** is set for October 30, 6:00-7:30 pm. Mark your calendars! Be on the lookout for more info!



#### **WORSHIP MINISTRY**

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The *Sanctuary Choir* kickoff is Wednesday, Sep. 3, at 6:30 pm. The Sanctuary Choir rehearses each Wednesday night from 6:30 – 7:45 pm. We present feature music in the 8:15 am Sanctuary service. The Sanctuary Choir is open to high school age and older. Even if you worship in the Fellowship Center services, there are lots of ways to work out your Sunday morning plan to still sing with us! Let's talk! We need more voices! Jump in anytime! We'll begin our Christmas music in mid-October.





**Good News** is for students in 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Kickoff is Sunday, Sep. 7, at 5:00 pm. Good News consists of Student Choir, T.R.A.S.H.\* \*\*, & Student Drama Team. Good News includes relevant music, focused drama, and great service opportunities in a fast-paced, high-energy environment all leading up to a fantastic tour, June 9-16, 2026 to NYC! Invite your friends! Pick up a brochure! Open enrollment in September and January.

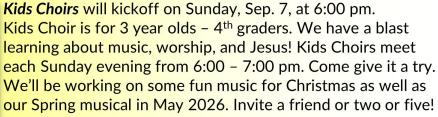
\*Laurin will be directing T.R.A.S.H. \*\*Evaluation required T.R.A.S.H. = Teens Rescued And Serving Him

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

Open enrollment in September and January.

\*T.R.A.S.H. = <u>Teens</u> <u>Rescued</u> <u>And</u> <u>Serving</u> <u>Him</u>





Open enrollment in September and January.



#### GLOBAL IMPACT

#### **Pioneer Bible Translators**

"Kila mtu anapaswa kuwa na Neno la Mungu katika lugha yake—lakini bado kuna mamilioni ya watu ulimwenguni wasio na Biblia wanayoweza kuelewa." (Swahili)

In other words: "Everyone should have God's Word in their own language, but there are still millions of people in the world without access to a Bible they can understand. Together with you, we are grateful that our congregation has a long-standing partnership with Pioneer Bible Translators through prayer and financial support."

Our mission partners, Rondal and Janice Smith, who have served PBT in many different roles over the last 50 years, and Jan Barczuk, now Director of European Recruitment and Development, keep in close touch with us through newsletters, video updates/meditations, and personal visits (Jan will be here September 13-14). They recognize and appreciate our church's involvement in helping to take the Gospel to every ethnic group.

The Word of God in the heart language of people transforms lives! PBT began 50 years ago to raise and dispatch translation teams around the world and remains committed to translating the Bible and planting churches among the world's least-reached people groups, those who are marginalized, those who live in hard-to-access places, and those who are deaf. PioneerBible.org.



#### Don't Miss This Upcoming Unique Opportunity

Your Global Impact Team is honored to invite you, your family, and friends to a special viewing of the acclaimed documentary, "A Faith Under Siege: Russia's Hidden War on Ukraine's Christians" at the church on Saturday evening, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. Our Mission Partner, Jan Barczuk, will be here for a special Q&A session after the movie. He is very familiar with the perseverance of Ukrainian Christians as they face persecution and war. As a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, more than 650 religious sites in Ukraine have been damaged or destroyed and at least 47 religious leaders have been killed. Christians in Ukraine have drawn (continued in bottom right column)

#### **LOCAL IMPACT**

#### **Lincoln Logan Food Pantry**

Lincoln Christian Church has been contributing support to the local food pantry for over 20 years. The pantry serves many individuals in Lincoln and Logan County each month.

#### Here are the numbers for July 2025:

Individuals served	1,403
Children served	477
Households served	418

In September 2025 the food pantry is asking for donations of the following items: boxed Hamburger Helper, canned pork and beans, or baked beans.

Individuals, classes, or groups are welcome and encouraged to donate food throughout the year. Donations can be left at the food pantry area up the ramp entrance. They also accept donations from local gardeners.

Lincoln Logan Food Pantry 125 North Logan Street Lincoln, IL 62656 217.732.6644



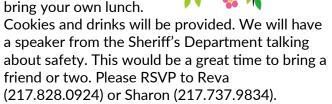
Hours:

Tuesday, 9:00 - 11:00 am Thursday, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Anna Seefeldt, Local Impact Team Member

#### Widows of Wisdom

WOW's next meeting will be on Friday, September 5 at 11:30 am. We will meet in Room 15 at the church building. Please



(continued from Global Impact column)

encouragement from knowing that their stories are being shared, welcoming an 'Army of prayers and support'. Plan to see this short documentary, bring your questions, and visit with Jan, someone we know and trust with personal, hands-on experience and insight.

Carolyn Neal, Global Impact Team Member



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JOIN US IN KIDMIN FOR GRANDPARENT'S DAY!
SEP 7 FROM 9:00-9:30AM









HARVEST OF
TALENTS

Musical Offering

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 2:00 pm | SANCTUARY A free will offering will be collected Funds raised by this Harvest of Talents event provide global hunger relief







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