



lincolncchristianchurch.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

The March 2025 Issue | Volume 74 | Number 03

March 21, 2025 6:30-8:30 pm



Enchanted Castle

Daddy Daughter Dance



217.732.7618



lcchurch@lincolncchristianchurch.org



lincolncchristianchurch.org



PREACHING MINISTRY

[ron.otto@
lincolncchristianchurch.org](mailto:ron.otto@lincolncchristianchurch.org)

217.732.7618 x104

The Story Gets Better

What are some of your favorite movie stories? Harry Potter, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings? We love them because of the great storytelling. The drama. The humor. Darkness vs. Light. Good over Evil. Why do we love stories? First, God has hardwired us for stories. And second, we all live in a story. Each of us has a story, tells a story, and has watched our story twist and turn. My story is uniquely mine and yours is uniquely yours. Every so often, something is added to our story that makes it even better.

That's what happened when Jesus was added to my story. Hope was introduced, and suddenly, I had a better ending than I could have imagined. You see, there is the story we planned, and then there is the story God is writing. Most of us have been through a plot twist more than once.

Oh, the dreaded plot twist! A rejection letter from college. The job layoff. The breakup. The health issue. The marital tension and trials. The rebellious and wayward child. The business closing down. The financial troubles. The death of a loved one. Life often takes a turn for the worse, and we are shell-shocked. We hate the new script. We pray for this chapter to close. But what if it's all leading up to a better story? Hard to imagine, but what if?

I type these words as someone who has been broken, beaten, and battered by the plot twists of life, but here I stand: a man who firmly trusts God more than I trust myself.

Every Christian story includes wounds, scars, goals sent to the gallows, dreams denied or deferred. Yet, God is doing more than we can imagine. In the end, I suspect we will reach heaven and see the entirety of our story and what God was up to all along, and we will agree that His story was far more beautiful and better than the one we were writing. In short, God has written a better story for us.

Throughout the biblical narrative, person after person has a story that is unique, but then Jesus is added and the story gets better. Join us starting in March as we discover the joy of allowing God to rewrite our stories in ***The Story Gets Better***.



Upcoming Series

3/2	Abraham ... Sacrifice of Isaac
3/9	Moses ... Passover ... Lamb
3/16	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
3/23	Paralytic lowered through the roof
3/30	Woman with blood issue



Jolly Seniors

Wednesday, March 26
10 am - 12:30 pm
Lincoln Christian Church
Fellowship Center

Program: "His Strings"
Devotions: Paul Boatman
Lunch: Baked Ham from Guzzardo's
Next meeting: **April 23, 2025**

Please bring cookies or sweet treats to share!



Welcome New Members

Mon.,	1/27/25	David White
Sun.,	2/9/25	Beau Melton
Sun.,	2/16/25	Elayna Marten Elyssa Marten





ADULT MINISTRY

brandon.boyd@lincolncchristianchurch.org

217.732.7618 x103

STARTING POINT EXPERIENCE
BOOST YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY FOR NEWER PEOPLE

SUNDAY, MARCH 2 10:45AM
PRE-REGISTER [LINCOLNCCHRISTIANCHURCH.ORG/EVENTS](http://lincolncchristianchurch.org/events)

Join us for the Next Steps Experience

This one-hour experience will 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.** The experience is great for people new to Christianity, new to Lincoln Christian, or for those who have spiritual questions. You can register for Starting Point Experience, hosted by Brandon Boyd, at lincolncchristianchurch.org/events.

Ministry Teams

Join the Team!

Ministry Teams serve our church family and our community. There is a place for everyone to serve—we need over 400 people every week to carry out God's work for Lincoln Christian Church. We have roles for greeters, kitchen workers, landscape team, handyman team, and many more. Information available at: lincolncchristianchurch.org/next.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS
sunday school

Beacons (9:30 am)

Senior Adults

Meets in Room 15

Crusaders (9:30 am)

Empty-Nesters

Meets in Room 16

The Open Door (9:30 am)

School-Age Families

Meets in Room 305

Encouragers (9:30 am)

Senior Adults

Meets in Family Room #1

LambSeekers (9:30 am)

Mixed Ages

Meets in Room 304

L.H. APPEL scholarship

Applications are available in the church office.

These scholarships are awarded annually to members of Lincoln Christian Church who will attend a Restoration Movement Bible college full-time in 2025-26.

Deadline for completed applications is

April 7

If someone in your family is considering attending a Restoration Movement Bible college in the 2025-2026 school year, there is scholarship assistance available through Lincoln Christian Church's L.H. Appel scholarship fund. Applications will be available in the church office starting March 17.



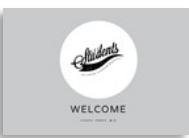
STUDENT MINISTRY

zach.ramsey@lincolnchristianchurch.org

217.732.7618 x111

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>.



WhirlyBall

Let's play some WhirlyBall! 5th-12th grade students and a parent can join us on March 22 as we head to Naperville, IL to play a cool new game. Players must be 54 inches tall! It's a mix of bumper cars, lacrosse, and basketball. Plus yummy pizza! \$45! Sign up by March 12 at lccstudents.com/events.

Read Books, Raise Money for Move

Every high school student can raise money for Move by reading books from the Student Ministry Bookshelf and writing a reflection. You receive \$15 per book and you can read up to four books. That's \$60 off the price of Move. The Student Ministry Bookshelf is at Fuel and The Gathering.

Scholarships for Move

8th grade students can apply for a scholarship for \$100 for Move. Applications can be picked up at the Student Info Desk or at lccstudents.com and are due May 4.

LITTLE GALILEE

CHRISTIAN CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

Camp Scholarships Available!

We have ten scholarships available for jr. high and high school students to help them attend camp at Little Galilee. Applications can be picked up at the Student Info Desk or at lccstudents.com and are due May 4. If you would like to use Family Fund-raising Account funds for camp, please contact the office by May 4.

Need Money for Trips? Buy Gift Cards, Earn Cash Back!

Families! Family Fund-raising Accounts help you raise funds through physical gift cards or online gift cards that earn cash back rebates for you to use for trips. You pay for the value of the gift card and a percentage of that money goes to your account at the church. You can buy gift cards at the Student Info Desk in the Family Room or online. For more info come see us at the Student Info Desk in the Family Room or go to lccstudents.com/parents.

Help the Student Ministry by buying Walmart Gift Cards

You can buy gift cards at the Student Info Desk in the Family Room to help students take part in discipleship events. You pay for the value of the gift card and a percentage of that money goes to the Youth Fund to help students who need financial aid!



LCC's First Cereal Sunday!

All kids in the Children and Student Ministry departments and their families are invited to join us for Cereal Sunday on March 30, 9-9:30 am before the 9:30 Sunday School hour. Anyone in the church who would like to donate a box or two of kid-friendly cereal can drop them off at the Welcome Center on or before Sunday, March 23.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

chuck.mcfadden@lincolchristianchurch.org

217.732.7618 x114

Thank you!!

Thank you!!

I would like to thank everyone who helped dip and decorate all the pretzels for our preschool fundraiser. We were able to dip 5,000 pretzels to benefit our preschool. We would not have been able to accomplish so much without our amazing volunteers! You are all greatly appreciated! I would also like to thank each and every one of you who came out and bought pretzels. You all were so generous and your willingness to help our kiddos from the preschool is incredible!

Preschool Enrollment

Enrollment is now open for the 2025-2026 school year! We offer both a 3-year-old and a 4-year-old class option. Lincoln Christian Preschool prepares children for kindergarten while also assuring them about how loved and valued they are by us and by our Lord and Savior. This spring we will graduate our 50th class and we are excited to continue this ministry for 50 more classes and beyond.

Thank you all so much for your support for our preschool!



PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Accepting applications for the 2025-2026 school year beginning February 10, 2025

PROGRAM AIMS TO :

Develop the student spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively

ENROLL YOUR 3-4 YEAR OLD

• 217-732-7618

• www.lincolchristianchurch.org/preschool

• hannah.brimner@lincolchristianchurch.org

Learning is fun at Lincoln Christian Preschool!



Daddy Daughter Dance

Our 4th annual Daddy Daughter Dance is coming March 21, 6:30-8:30 pm. We are extremely excited for this event! Our theme is **Enchanted Castle**, inspired by Cinderella's color palette. The tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the church. We are super excited to announce that Guzzardo's Italian Villa is coming alongside us again this year to offer a super generous deal. The night of the dance, each princess will get a free kid's meal when Dad buys his meal. Just show them your tickets when you order! In addition, grab a ticket at the dance for Top Hat Creamery and receive a free kids scoop for each single scoop purchased before 8 pm the night of the dance or the next day. It's going to be a terrific night! I look forward to this event every single year. I can't wait to see you there!!



I am the second largest rodent in the entire world. My teeth have an orange hue due to an iron rich enamel coating. I am an outstanding swimmer and an extremely hard worker. I am also very hospitable, I will share my home with another animal when it is needed. What am I ?

Last month's answer: Llama



WORSHIP MINISTRY

laurin.hill@lincolnchristianchurch.org

217.732.7618 x107

**Sponsor a mile for \$5.49 of our 1,722-mile June tour!
We only have four weeks in March to "Move that Bus!" all the way home.
Track our progress each week at the big map in the Family Room!**

GOOD NEWS TOUR 2025 JUNE 3 - 10

- Monday, June 2 | 7:00 pm HOME CONCERT Lincoln Christian Church Lincoln, IL
- Tuesday, June 3 | 7:00 pm Adventure Christian Community Davenport, Iowa
- Wednesday, June 4 | 6:30 pm Lathrop First Christian Church Lathrop, Missouri
- Thursday, June 5 | 6:30 pm First Christian Church Webb City, Missouri
- Friday, June 6 | 7:00 pm Zion Methodist Church of Gordonville, Missouri
- Sunday, June 8 | 9:00 & 10:30 am Community Christian Church Alton, Illinois
- Sunday, June 8 | 6:30 pm First Christian Church Flora, Illinois
- Monday, June 9 | 7:00 pm First Christian Church Columbus, Indiana
- Tuesday, June 10 | 6:00 pm CLOSE-TO-HOME CONCERT Atlanta Christian Church Atlanta, Illinois



Lincoln Christian Church • Lincoln, Illinois presents

heartsong

[jr. high choir] [T.R.A.S.H.] [drama team]

IN CONCERT



**Sunday, April 6 4:00 pm
Lincoln Christian Church
204 North McLean Street | Lincoln, Illinois**

Help Move That Bus! in March!

You can help Move That Bus! for GOOD NEWS' tour in June by sponsoring a mile for \$5.49 of our 1,722-mile trip! Sponsor one mile, ten miles, fifty miles, one hundred miles ... Your choice! Every mile counts!

You can mail a check to the church made out to LCC and put MTB in the memo line. Thank you for your help as we share the GOOD NEWS of Jesus!

GLOBAL IMPACT

BJ and Mary Leonard

Serving in Kenya

The Global Impact Team thanks the Leonard family for their recent video greeting and communion/offering meditation and prayers. They are a delightful family,



and we cherish their friendship and communication. They enjoyed a nice Christmas season with family traditions with BJ's mom and brother. The Leonards praise God for his faithfulness through their first year of service in Kenya, learning how to live in a new country, a new language, new home and schools, and a new network of friends. They greatly appreciate your encouragement, prayers, and support! Sign up for their newsletter at <https://tinyurl.com/BJ-Mary>.

Mary is teaching English and Bible studies while getting registered as a professor. BJ will soon be certified as a professor in Kenya, planning to serve as an academic dean at a missionary college while teaching five missions classes. They are involved with launching a new youth development, disciple-making, leadership program for a new generation of Christian influencers in Kenya! The family is excited to host families, church teams, and interns for participation in God's Kingdom work in Kenya.

Carolyn Neal, Global Impact Team member



Download a guide or follow along each day to Pray for the Muslim World!



30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World

This 30 day prayer initiative has been in existence around the world since 1993 and invites Christians to pray with love and respect for Muslim families, peoples, and nations. To learn more, scan the QR code above or visit pray30days.org.

LOCAL IMPACT



living|alternatives
pregnancy resource center

The Pregnancy Resource Center is in need of more volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering and would like more information, please call 217.735.4838 and ask for Becca.

Living Alternatives is committed to providing excellent care, compassionate support, and honest information to those facing pregnancy decisions through authentic relationships that display grace, honor life, and foster community. One of their goals, through the counseling and education they offer, is to discourage abortions.

A few of the free services they offer are:

- * Pregnancy tests
- * Ultrasound exams
- * After abortion counseling
- * Adoption support
- * Parenting classes
- * Classes for fathers

Larry Simson, Local Impact Team Leader

Widows of Wisdom

WOW will meet on Friday, March 7 at 11:30 am in Room 15 at Lincoln Christian Church. We will have a soup lunch and continue our study of women in the Bible. Hope to see you there! Please RSVP to Sharon at 217.737.9834.



Do you need



4



Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3HW89js>.



lincolncchristianchurch

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Harvest of Talents Spring for Tea

Sat, April 12 at 11:30 am

LCC Fellowship Center

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\$30/Ticket

Sales Feb. 16-Mar. 20

at the church office or online at  
[lincolncchristianchurch.org/events](http://lincolncchristianchurch.org/events)

while supplies last

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Funds raised by this Harvest of Talents event
provide global hunger relief



4th Sunday
March thru September

Aluminum can recycling
for Harvest of Talents!

Bring aluminum cans
to the truck with the Harvest sign
in the parking lot
outside Door C from 8 to 11 am

Funds raised
by this Harvest of Talents event
provide global hunger relief



LCC Newsletter Recipient

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

HERE @9.25"