

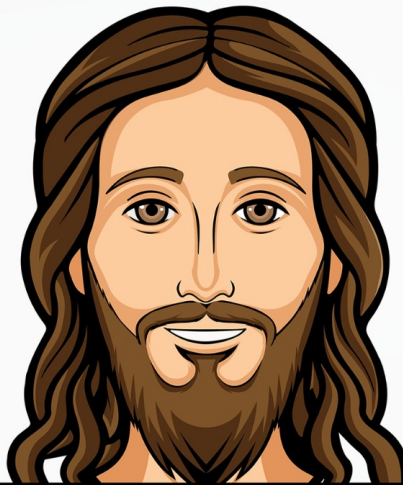


# LIFE @ LINCOLN

Sep/Oct 2025

Volume 13, Issue 5

## WDJSAD



## THE JESUS WAY

### SWSWD

**Sermon on the Mount - Matthew 5 - 7**

Jesus came to earth.  
To show us what to do, To show us what to say  
And to provide for our guilt and shame  
We would love to have you join us Sundays at 8:15 or 10:45



- con·nect
  - /kə'nek(t)/ - verb
  - past tense: **connected**;
  - past participle: **connected**
- To bring together or into contact so that a real or notional link is established.

### *CONNECTED*

What a great definition and something that we hear about often: Legos, puzzles, Velcro, extension cords, ice cream on our taste buds, two pieces of paper, paper chains, mustard on a corn dog, and spark plug cables. When things like these get disconnected, we can and often do get so frustrated. The connection is vital to things looking correct and working.

Society speaks often about the value of being connected to people. Commercials share about airlines, phones, social media, and events that can help us be connected. Our minds and hearts long for being connected, but yet we often don't always know how. Taking that first step can be difficult, because we don't know where it might lead (which is really growth and transparency - that we admire from afar and yet stay away from still.) I truly want to encourage the idea of taking a step of connectivity, or if you are connected well to continue and know of other opportunities.

Connecting with God - Here are three keys -

- One, making Sunday Worship attendance a priority.
- Two, set aside time to spend with God each day.
- Three, meeting with a small group of people to learn and walk through life together.

In this issue of Life @ Lincoln, there are many opportunities to be in a group of believers growing together, learning from each other, encouraging each other.

Certainly there are accidental connections and they are awkward: sap on your car, gum on your shoe, a pocket phone call, a car accident, etc. BUT the connections we want in life are almost always Intentional. I encourage you to take the time to make a regular connection with God, the Body of Christ and a small group of believers. God encourages it. One example of this is in Hebrews 10:24-25

***"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, and let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."***

It is appreciated when it happens, and yet we have a tendency to postpone taking the initiative in our connection with God and others.

We need to be connected to God.

God is good,

jon

## Wednesday Night Life Groups

6:00 - 7:15 pm

Scan for more  
Information



Embrace Grace provides support and community for single and pregnant young women and their families.



### **Men's Study with Pastor Jon**

Men join together to study various Biblical topics.



### **Entire Bible Chapter by Chapter**

Join us as we read through the Bible chapter by chapter.



### **Women's Group**

We join together to study the Bible, share life and encourage one another.

## Justin Linscheid - Assistant Pastor



### Growing Together in Christ

The Christian life was never meant to be lived alone. From the very beginning, God designed His people to walk with Him and with one another. Scripture describes the Church as a body, a family, and a flock—images that only make sense in the context of community.

So what does Christian growth in community look like? It is found in conversations that point us back to God's truth, in heartfelt prayers spoken over one another, and in the encouragement that keeps us moving forward when the journey is hard. It is serving together, studying Scripture with open hearts, and living out our faith in ways that bless both our church family and the world around us. It is walking side by side in a shared pursuit of Jesus, lifting one another when we fall, and embodying His love in how we care for each other.

As Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 reminds us,

*"Two are better than one... If either of them falls down, one can help the other up."*

Right now, how is God calling you to grow alongside others? Are you in a place where you are known, encouraged, and inspired in

your walk with Christ? If not, we would love to help you find that place.

This fall, explore the small groups and ministry opportunities on our website (scan the QR code) and consider joining one of our Sunday School classes. Whether you are new to Lincoln or have been here for years, there is a place for you to belong and grow.

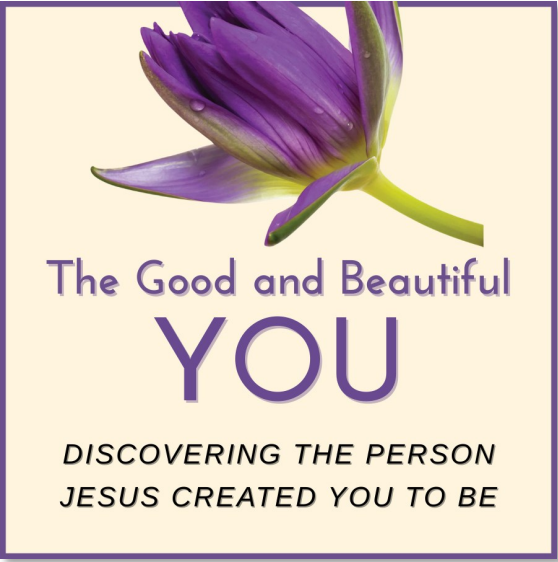
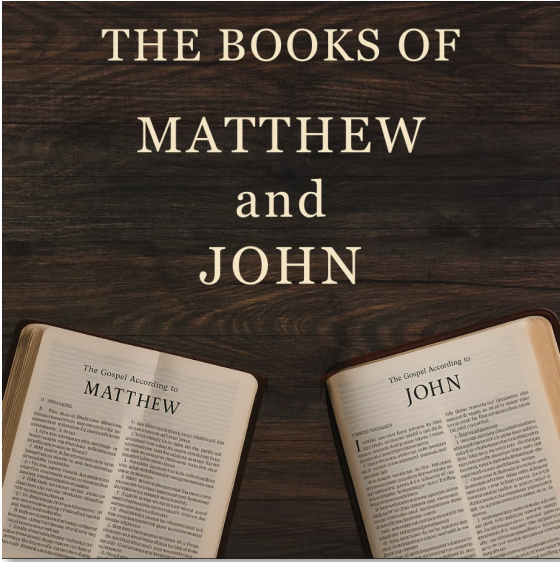
Christian community is not just another activity on the calendar. It is part of what it means to follow Jesus. When we grow together, we experience His love more deeply, live out His truth more fully, and experience the reality that we are not alone in following Jesus.





# Sundays School Fall Semester Beginning September 7th

Scan for more  
Information



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## Josh Imboden - Director of Student Ministries

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### Youth Sunday School

**S**tarting **Sunday, September 7**, Ignite Youth will have two Sunday morning opportunities for students. At **9:30 AM**, we'll kick off the day with a devotional and hangout time—a relaxed space to grab some snacks, play a few games, and connect with friends while starting the morning with a short devo. Then at the **10:45 AM service**, students will begin in worship with the congregation before being dismissed together for Youth Sunday School, where we'll dive into teaching, discussion, and growing in faith.



### MSM Nerf Wars

Get ready for the ultimate **Middle School Nerf Wars Night** on **Friday, September 6 from 6:26–8:30 PM**! The gym will transform into an epic battle zone with bunkers, obstacles, and nonstop action as squads face off in fast-paced Nerf showdowns. Bring your Nerf gun (we have extras if you don't have one) and a friend and gear up for a night of fun, laughter, and epic victories—you won't want to miss it! Check out [lincolnpres.org/msm](http://lincolnpres.org/msm) for more details.

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### Are you receiving our youth text updates?

To join our texting group, text your graduation year to (209) 528-5050 (i.e. text 2029 to (209) 528-5050).

To join our parents texting group, text **MSMPARENT** to join our Middle School Parent group or **HSMPARENT** to join our High School group.





## IGNITE Youth Sunday School

Starting **Sunday, September 7**, *Ignite Youth* will have two Sunday morning opportunities for students. At **9:30 AM**, we'll kick off the day with a devotional and hangout time—a relaxed space to grab some snacks, play a few games, and connect with friends while starting the morning with a short devo. Then at the **10:45 AM service**, students will begin in worship with the congregation before being dismissed together for Youth Sunday School, where we'll dive into teaching, discussion, and growing in faith.

### Totally Rad 80's Prom Gone Bad Murder Mystery

October 25, 2025 | 6:42-9pm

We decided to throw it back to the 80's! Life was different in the 80's... Apple computers were brand new in 1984, the video killed the radio star, phones were attached the wall, to see your friends you had to hop on your bike and meet somewhere, neon colors, having to catch your favorite tv show the first time around, Nintendo was fresh on



the scenes and would of thought they would have put the once iconic arcade out of business. Oh man, I pity the fool who wasn't there. Well let's flip the tape. This isn't your normal prom, something crazy is about to happen and it's not the latest breakdance move or Bon Jovi single on the 45.

This will be a night of mystery and solving the clues of a puzzle that you are a part of! Great night for anyone who wants to put their sleuthing skills to use or be apart of a live story! Must sign up to come. Must sign up by October 11th so we can get your character role to you!

NIGHT *to Shine*  
SPONSORED BY THE **TIM TEBOW**  
FOUNDATION™

Night to Shine is a global prom night experience for people with special needs. The event celebrates each guest as a king or queen with a red carpet entrance, dancing, and special activities. We have the privilege of serving alongside as the Gospel is shared that night. Spots are extremely limited. If under 16, contact Josh before registering. Event is in February, but we must sign up in the fall to reserve our spots. Information and registration is on [lincolnpres.org/hsm](http://lincolnpres.org/hsm)

## Raquel Perez - Director of Children's & Family Ministries



Wow, is Summer over? I don't know about you, but time flies when you are having fun and loving Jesus! LPCKids had a phenomenal Summer doing both those things.

We were able to bless our local pregnancy help center, Directions Medical Clinic, with lots of spare change that God will literally use to touch the hearts of some of the most vulnerable in our community.

We had the great honor of partnering with the Knit Wits all Summer to offer a knitting class for kids! It was such a joy to be a part of that experience. Plus, there were lots of fun family events offered too...Water Day, Bingo Night, NNO, and Family Prayer Night. It was a memorable summer full of laughter and Jesus.



Our Wednesday night kids program, Team Kid, kicked off too!! And it's not too late to sign your kiddo up. We've got a wonderful Team Kid year planned out for your kiddos.



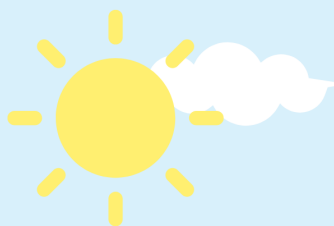
Plus, our service project for the fall is Operation Christmas Child!! During the fall season your kiddos will build the shoeboxes our church family will fill and donate supplies of our Family Shoebox Packing Party too. In October, we will be hosting a Fall Craft Night for families, so be on the lookout for details.



Visit our website to subscribe to our weekly LPC Kids Newsletter. It is the best way to get up-to-date information about what's happening with the kids and families of LPC. If you have any questions, contact me at [raquel@lincolnpres.org](mailto:raquel@lincolnpres.org). God Bless you and yours.







# TODDLER PLAYTIME

**Saturday, September 6th**  
**10:30AM-12PM**



**Sign-up  
Today!**



**(Parental Supervision Required)**



**LPCRKIDS**

# Fall Family Craft Night

**Wednesday, October 8th**  
**6PM-7:15PM**

## Nominating Committee Message

**G**reetings from the LPC Nominating Committee of 2025! We are making good progress with our work to obtain nominations for the positions of Deacons and Elders for the class of 2027 and 2028 respectively. We have received nominations from people who recognize a heart for service and leadership in fellow church members and have submitted their names.

What if you see those same qualities in yourself and you would like to nominate yourself to serve as a Deacon or Elder? We encourage you to do it. Don't pass up the opportunity to contribute to the very ministries of our church that you enjoy as a member. If you feel called to serve as a Deacon or Elder we want to hear from you.

Elders, together with the Pastors, lead and direct the ministries of the church. They are persons of faith, dedication and good judgment. Elders serve on Session, the governing body of the church. They also chair various church commissions through which our ministries are conducted. Twelve Elders are ordained to serve a three-year term.

Deacons are leaders who serve as the caring, compassionate arm of the church, providing loving support to all those in need within the church community. The primary area of service is the care of members, especially in prayer. Fifteen to eighteen Deacons are ordained to serve a two-year term.

Nomination forms are located at the welcome desk in the lobby of the sanctuary. Forms may be given to the church office (sealed in envelope) or to one of the Nominating Committee members as listed on the bottom of the form, or emailed to Duffy Ruffin at [duffygr@comcast.net](mailto:duffygr@comcast.net). These forms need to be returned to the Committee by September 30, 2025. You may put it in the offering boxes, mail or drop it by the church office in a sealed envelope.

We thank you for your prayerful nomination of a candidate, whether you nominate yourself or a church friend, and the church as a whole is the beneficiary. You are welcome to pose questions to the Nominating Committee: Duffy Ruffin, Tom Beck, Nancy Kaneko, Sandy Evans, Cindy Wong and Ann Wunsch.



# September Birthdays



1 Rebecca Severin	16 Norma Yamaguchi	Shirley Weeks
2 Jayla Lathan	19 Debbie Brooks	27 Hanna Fetters
5 Drew Meyers	Kip Mellor	Merrilee Chapman
6 Lisa Richers	20 Jan Mueller	28 Donald Cottman
9 Jenna White	Jim Best	Judy Borth
12 Eric Verheyden	22 Teri BetGeorge	29 Ron Ehrlich
Justin Linscheid	24 Barbara Zumwalt	
15 Dan Cliburn	26 Sandy Harmon	

# October Birthdays

2 Colyer	18 Andrea Shakespeare
5 Christine Frey	Nancy Kaneko
Tim Nguyen	19 Molly Foster
8 Angie Marulo	23 Hunter Chambers
9 Shirley Dvorak	24 Nathan Maloy
Zach Graham	25 Karen Morelli
11 Ron Borth	26 Lynda Farrar
12 Charlene Nelson	27 Cindy Abrescy
Marty Lamie	30 Suzanne Sage
14 Rhonda Messerer-Jacobson	31 Joan Mellor
15 Christine Johnson	Judith Flaig





**L**incoln Church has two **YouVersion** groups (one for men and one for women) that meet daily in the *YouVersion App*. This allows you to participate in the study each day at a time and place that is convenient for you. How can that be you say? Simply open the app each day and read the plan that the facilitator previously sent out.

The study has a devotional/teaching part that you read or maybe watch a video, and then you read Scriptures that pertain to that days study. Once done with that, you will see

a section that allows for individual participation. Participants can comment on what God showed them and how God impacted their life with that days reading. (You are NOT obligated to make a comment!) People learn so much from the comments and they build a strong community together to support in prayer as well.

This is the perfect blend of technology and Scripture reading that fits into your daily rhythm. Click the Join Now Button to become part of the group.

If you don't already have the YouVersion Bible App, download it now here (<https://www.bible.com/app>).

The group facilitator must first invite you to join the group in YouVersion Bible App. Once invited, you accept the invitation and you are ready to go.

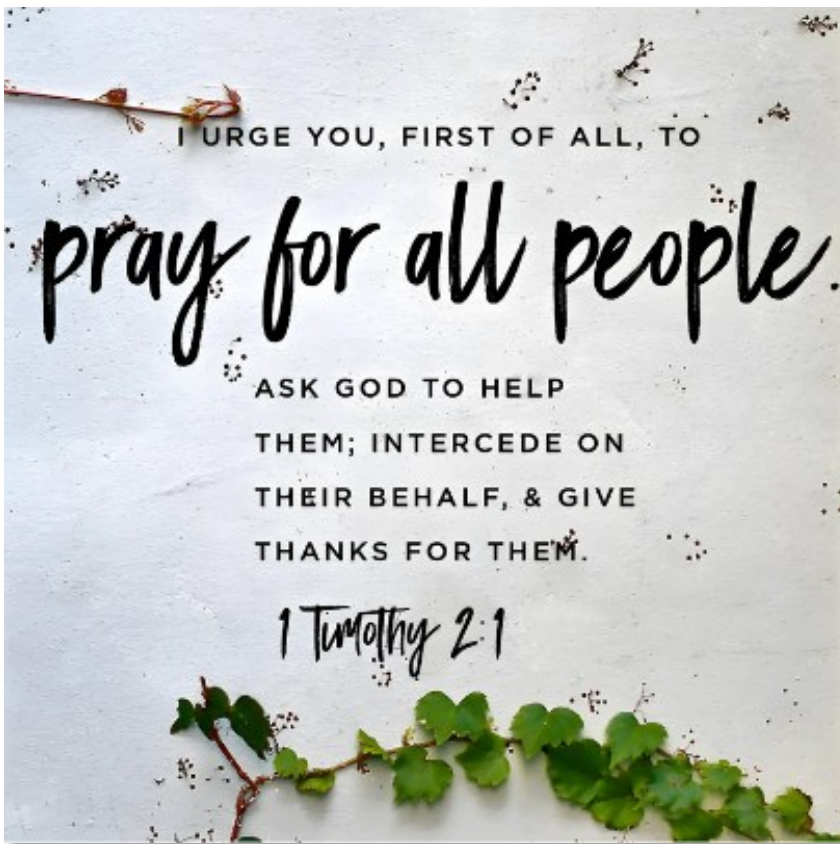




## Deacon Message

The Apostle Paul may be remembered for his evangelism through his missionary journeys and for his letters to the churches he founded and the leaders he mentored. But it is clear he was a man of fervent and faithful prayer. After a beating and an arrest, he was reported to be loudly singing praises and praying to God. Fortunately, the deacons at Lincoln Presbyterian Church have not faced beatings and arrests, but in a way, we

reflect his commitment: We pray for you. And we delight in doing so. Every deacon meeting ends with prayer, and deacons bring forth the requests they have been allowed to share. If you are in need of prayer, whether in praise of something God has done or in supplication in asking for God's help, feel free to reach out to your deacon. We love hearing from you, and we love bringing your requests to God.



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## Daily Word of Encouragement

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*"Gather the pieces that are left over.  
Let nothing be wasted."* John 6:12



One of the luxuries of living in our wealthy country is being able not only to enjoy hearty meals, but to have leftovers the next day. Sometimes these taste even better the second time around. While anyone can bring out and serve leftovers, it's amazing what good, creative cooks can do to whip up something fresh and new using what was part of yesterday's meal. Some of the cooking shows even feature youngsters displaying their culinary skills by creating dishes out of limited resources, proving that amazing transformations can take place in the hands of a master artisan.

Jesus is the Master Artisan who invites us to bring our "leftovers" to Him for re-creation. What are the fragments left behind when we are bereft of loving relationships, hopes and dreams yet unfulfilled, losses brought about by poor health and/or old

age? Jesus sees the possibilities if we are willing to surrender to Him whatever we have left. For as the song writer says, "Little Is Much When God Is In It." Any unfinished business left over from last year? Make this a year of accountability to self and others. As Christ took the five loaves and two fish and multiplied them, He wants to multiply our bits and pieces of life to His own glory. Looking back on painful experiences can have value for lessons learned, such as compassion for others in similar circumstances, so all is not lost if God uses us to minister comfort to others with a testimony of how God showed up. No time for personal devotions or prayer? Fragments of time throughout the day can become precious prayer times, such as on that drive to work. An entire chapter of scripture may be difficult to recall, but the Holy Spirit can bring one word, verse or phrase to mind at just the moment it is needed. Just can't do what you used to do? Hosting a small group or mentoring a young Believer may be a new calling in your new season of life.

Remember: the smaller the fragment, the greater God's glory as He takes it, blesses it, multiplies and distributes it to enrich your own life and the life of others.

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Lincoln's "Daily Word of Encouragement" is written by members of the Lincoln Family and shared each day as a source of inspiration and spiritual nourishment.

Scan this QR code to sign-up



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# Prayer

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**A**s individuals, as families, as a local church and as believers all around the world - we need to live lives seeking God. Here are some prayer tips for us all.

## **Remember that we are speaking to God**

He is almighty and He loves us. We need to remain seeking His

*"Give ear to my words oh Lord, consider my meditation."* Psalm 5:1

## **Praise and Adore Him**

He has never made mistakes and He is always worthy

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name."*

Psalm 103:1

## **Allow God to be Real With You**

He already knows it, let's allow Him to help us know

*"Search me, O God, and know my heart; Test me and know my anxious thoughts - and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."*

Psalm 139:23

## **Seek Forgiveness - He loves us and makes us clean**

*"If we confess our sin, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."* I John 1:9

## **Trust Him**

He knows the past, present and future and he truly cares.

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and we will direct our paths."* Proverbs 3:5-6

IF REGULAR PRAYER IS NOT ALREADY A PART OF YOUR DAY - Start today by setting aside 3 minutes each day. What a great start.



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## **The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Lincoln Presbyterian Church**

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