

LIFE @ LINCOLN

Mar/Apr 2026

Volume 14, Issue 2



Jon Hathorn - Pastor / Head of Staff



I remember my first day at Lincoln. It was a little over eight years ago. Walking into church that day, I met a man named Roosevelt and paused to talk. I am sure he knew I was there for the first time.

He smiled and shook my hand, he made me feel like the most important person attending that day. He wasn't overwhelming he just smiled and said he was glad I was here that day.

It was so really nice of him to take the time to welcome me. He wasn't looking over his shoulder to see who else was there, he wasn't trying to get the handshake over or get the bulletin out of his hand and get me out of the way and move on to the next person. He made a wonderful impression. I am so grateful to him.

I was thinking about how much of a difference we can make in someone's life by just not being in a hurry and taking the time to be there for someone.

I look forward to all aspects of the church service each Sunday, and right now I am thinking about 3 special moments, 5 minutes before the service, the 2 minutes after the first song, and the 5 minutes immediately following the service. What a special moment to say hello to people we know and it is also a wonderful time to greet someone we don't know.

There may be someone sitting near you who is new to you or new to the church, and

maybe even new to town. What a special moment. It's nice to be cared for and nice to be welcomed.

If you meet people before church, greet them and again after that first song. If you meet them after the first song, greet them again after church

Here are a few thoughts:

- Invite them to Sunday School
- Introduce them to someone else
- Ask if they would like to sit by you
- Ask if you could sit be them
- Take them to get a cup of coffee in the activity Center Lobby.
- Hand them a connect card and let them know you'd like to make sure the staff knows they were here - they would love to meet you.

So many in our church do these things regularly, and I just wanted to remind us how special it is to show the love of God and the love of Lincoln.

God bless you.



THE SEVEN CHURCHES

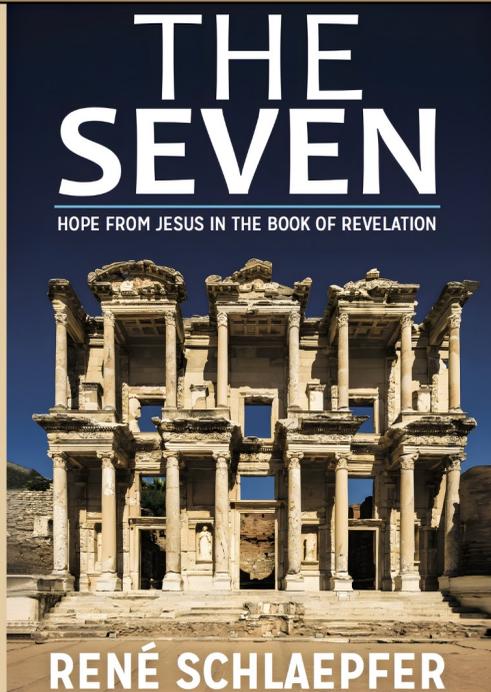
from the Book of Revelation

An all-church Study that involves a sermon series, small group discussions, and daily devotions.

Free books available starting Palm Sunday.

Sunday Morning Small Groups
starting April 12th

Need hope for the future? Seven ancient letters contain actual words of Christ from 20 centuries ago. They're in every Bible, tucked into the most obscure part of the mysterious Book of Revelation. But they're often overlooked because their symbolic language, addressed to seven first-century churches, can be puzzling to modern readers. How can their meaning be unlocked?



Justin Linscheid - Assistant Pastor



Our annual church wide garage sale is coming up on Saturday, March 21, from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This is a much loved community event that our neighbors regularly ask about, including many who visit us through our monthly Food For You outreach.

The garage sale is a meaningful way to bless both our church and our community. For us as a church family, it invites reflection. We live in a culture that encourages constant accumulation, often without us realizing it. Over time, we can begin to live as though this world is our final home rather than as people passing through with open hands and generous hearts. During this Lenten season, the garage sale becomes an opportunity to take inventory of our lives, to lighten our load, and to rediscover the freedom of simplicity and trust in Christ.

Everything donated to the garage sale helps support our Food For You ministry and the resources we offer to those in need. At the same time, our neighbors are able to purchase quality items at affordable prices, receive food boxes, and sign up for our Daily Word of Encouragement. It truly is a day filled with good for our surrounding community.

If you are interested in serving on the day of the sale or during donation drop off times, please watch for sign ups in the Sunday

bulletin or contact me directly at Justin@lincolnpres.org.

Looking ahead to April, we will begin a church wide study on the seven churches in Revelation. There will be several Sunday and small group opportunities to explore the words of Jesus together, and everyone will receive a free daily devotional to accompany the sermon series and group discussions. Some of Jesus' words to the churches are affirming, and some are challenging. My prayer is that this season will draw us closer to Him, helping us listen carefully and align our lives more fully with what Jesus desires for His church.

Church-Wide Garage Sale Drop-Off Times

Sunday 3/15	12pm - 2pm
Monday 3/16	8:30am - 7:00pm
Tuesday 3/17	8:30am - 3:00pm
Wednesday 3/18	8:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday 3/19	8:30am - 3:00pm

Please bring gently used items to our church activity center. Donation slips will be available. If you have books to donate, please note that we will only be accepting children's books.

Thank you for your generosity!



Lincoln Church Garage Sale

Saturday, March 21, 2026

7AM - 12PM

6241 Gettysburg Pl. Stockton, CA

ONE DAY

ONLY!

GOOD DEALS | FREE SNACKS | GREAT CAUSE



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Good Food - Good Fun - Good Friends

Saturday, April 4th at 8am

Lincoln Church | 900 Douglas Rd

Josh Imboden - Director of Student Ministries



Looking Back

Our Parent-Teen Banquet was such a special night for our families. We were grateful to have Josh Griffin from Mariners Church share with us, He connected so well with both students and parents and challenged us to think about what our name means and what it means to be personally known and called by name by our Heavenly Father. It was incredible to see parents and teens leaning in, laughing, and having meaningful conversations that don't always happen in the busyness of life. It was a powerful reminder that when families slow down and grow together, God does something really special.



IGNITE Youth Sunday School

At 9:30 AM, students can enjoy a relaxed time together with games, conversation, and a cereal bar, along with a short devotional to start the day centered on God's Word. During the 10:45 AM service, students begin in worship with the congregation before being dismissed for Youth Sunday School, where they'll engage in teaching, discussion, and practical faith application.



Mark your calendars for March 29! At 9:30am in the youth room, our youth ministry is hosting **BREAKFASTMANIA**, a special morning for middle and high school students. With great food, high energy, and meaningful connection, it's a fun and welcoming space for students to build friendships and grow in their faith together.

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.





Rev up for the ultimate Car Rally! High school students will team up in groups of four (or be placed on a team) for a fast-paced, car-based scavenger hunt around town. Using their phones, teams will race against the clock to solve clues, complete creative challenges, and earn points along the way. It's an exciting night of teamwork, problem-solving, and fun. Students must sign up in advance to attend. For details and registration, visit lincolnpres.org/hsm.



Our Middle School Ministry is hosting a high-energy Messy Game Night from 6:26–8:30pm and it's exactly what it sounds like! Students will compete in gloriously, hilariously messy games designed to build friendships, create laughter, and make lasting memories. We're talking "wear old clothes and maybe say goodbye to them" messy! Beyond the chaos, nights like this help students feel connected, welcomed, and excited to be part of a community where they can grow in faith together. If you know a middle schooler, this is a night they won't want to miss!

Our Middle School group have launched Youth Alpha, and it's going strong! Each week, students are diving into engaging videos and open discussions, asking deep theological and life questions. The conversations have been lively, honest, and thought-provoking as we explore faith, purpose, and what it means to follow Jesus.



Daily Word of Encouragement

Eternal Perspective

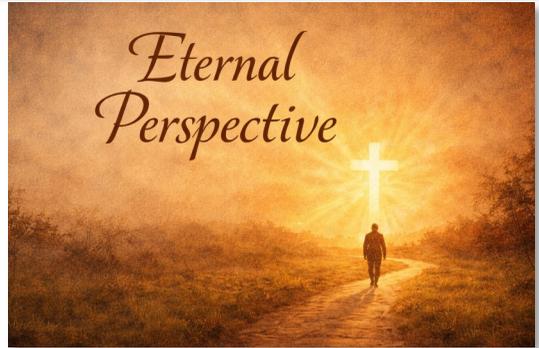
“You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you. At best, each of us is but a breath.

We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing. We heap up wealth, not knowing who will spend it.” Psalm 39:5–6

This prayer speaks to every living person. Whether we live to be one hundred years or our lives are far shorter, our time on earth passes quickly. This is a prayer that asks God to press the brevity of life into our hearts so that we live with wisdom and clarity.

Throughout church history, many Christian monks practiced what was called *memento mori*, which means “remember you will die.” Some monasteries kept skulls or bones in their prayer spaces, not as something grotesque, but as a visual reminder of life’s shortness and the reality of eternity. At first, this practice sounds unsettling and just plain weird. And maybe it is a bit strange. Yet when placed alongside a prayer like Psalm 39, its purpose becomes clearer. We all know, at least intellectually, that we will die one day. Still, most of us push that truth far from our minds and allow it to shape our lives very little.

The psalmist refuses to do that. He reminds us just how fleeting our days truly are. In verse six, he observes that people rush



around being busy for no lasting reason. They worry. They strive. They store up possessions. And in the end, death removes it all from their grasp. This is the same sobering conclusion reached by the writer of Ecclesiastes. Life lived only for what is temporary is ultimately meaningless.

The wise response, then, is not despair, but devotion. It is to live for what is eternal. It is to give ourselves to God and to invest our lives in what He says will last. Live this day unto God and for His glory, knowing that your days are short.

If you are alive and reading this, God has a purpose for you today. Step into that eternal purpose and step out of the empty and restless way of life that so many settle for in this world.

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.





Good Friday Service and Dinner

Starts at 6:00pm with Dinner
Special Program & Communion at 7:00pm
"The Sounds of Easter"



Easter Sunday Service

"The Resurrection Day"

April 5th
8:15am and 10:45am

Deacon Message

Mark tells us a wonderful story about the healing of the daughter of a synagogue official named Jairus. After the miraculous healing, Jesus gives what Mark calls a strict order: Give her something to eat.

Although Jesus accomplishes miracles, He also offers practicality. "Girl's gotta eat." So it is with all who have gone through a stressful time, and your deacons help organize one bit of practicality. We organize meals for those who, whether experiencing a traumatic illness or surgery or even a joyful event such as the birth of a baby, need would appreciate help putting good food on the table.



If you are willing to provide an occasional meal, please text Tara Silva at (209) 603-2037.



Knowing, Loving and Supporting Children in Need

Wednesday | March 11th | 6:00 - 7:15 pm | 900 Douglas Road

March Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Jenelle Maloy | 15. Donna Halboth | 20. Dave Oberholtzer |
| 4. Jared
VanZwaluwenburg | 16. Dottie Edaburn
Liam Tacla | Tami McGregor |
| 5. Duffy Ruffin | 17. Janet Beck | 22. Lanny Fertig |
| 7. Camron Rezanian | Kristen Colton | 23. Char Gray |
| 10. Lauren Sage
Linda Davies | 18. Betty MacRae | 24. Lise Karnes |
| 11. Jeida Lavendar
Jette Asis | 19. Joan Speirs
Tess Reynolds | 26. Paul Singh |
| 12. Anna Woods
Craig Potter
Rick Robbins | | 27. Marcus Nalls
Megan Worth |
| | | 29. Fernando Asis
Pam Luna |
| | | 30. Christie Ferguson |

April Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Hal Armstrong
Magdalin Zakhary | 11. Jamie Peña | 26. Carol Sharpe |
| 2. Brittany Bobrow
Tom BetGeorge | 12. Tammy Nalls | 27. Barb Vallandingham
Karyn Johnson
Sandy Evans |
| 3. Sydney Reynolds | 13. Gary Tacla | |
| 4. Josie Ferguson | 15. Leroy Alford | |
| 6. Brandon Doolan
Elgin Robinson | 16. Jim Wilcox | |
| 9. Bill Chapman
Ralph Swann | 22. Bree Laguna
Marie Todd | |
| 10. Jim Duncan | 23. Regina Brown | |
| | 24. Eve Barton
Kathy Vermillion
Noralee Willard | |





Sunday Worship: 8:15am & 10:45am

Sunday School: 9:30am

Follow us:

We're on the Web at: www.lincolnpres.org



Lincoln Presbyterian Church



@lincolnpresbyterian



LincolnPresbyterianChurch

Lincoln's Mission:

**To know and love God, to know and love people,
and bring the two together through Jesus Christ.**

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm | closed 12-1pm | Friday 8:30am-Noon