



# November 2021

## OUR MISSION:

To grow a loving community, equipped to take the message of Jesus to our world.

Dear Church Family,

At a recent worship service, I shared biblical purposes God has for the church (also called our Discipleship Pathway) in four steps which could be defined quite simply as: Worship→ Grow→ Serve→ Share.

So, if someone asked you why you go to church? Or what is the purpose or pathway for believers at church? You could very simply tell them that we only have four goals or expectations. We expect that every believer will 1) Worship God, 2) Grow in Community, 3) Serve the Body (of believers), and 4) Share with Our World.

Worship→ Grow→ Serve→ Share

LLRC longs for followers of Jesus to pursue maturity together by worshipping, growing, serving, and sharing the good news together! This is our biblical mandate and joy to pursue, and it is helpful to organize our thoughts and ideas around these biblical purposes for the church.

It was also exciting to share the vision or future picture that LLRC is pursuing in the next 5 years. In case you missed that, our current Vision Impact statements are:

- 1) We will have a physical environment here at church that's modern, warm, and ready for kids and families.
- 2) We will have dynamic worship that inspires all people to love and share their faith.
- 3) We will be a unified church family, ready to welcome and embrace all families.
- 4) We will be a church that empowers each person to know and use their gifts.
- 5) We dream of becoming a rock for the Norris Community.
- 6) And we will be a place that kids, youth, parents, and grandparents love to attend—a treasured part of a family's week.

Please pray for God's spirit and love to move in a mighty way, that we might be the people and church that He has called us to be!

Filled with His hope!

Mark

# SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Worship Greeters: Dean, Ron,  
Rick  
Deacons: Luke, Chad, Glen, Dave

## **November 7:**

Coffee: Deb & Bruce Docter  
Power Point: Avyn Olson  
Sound Tech: Robbie Morrison  
Church Lock-Up: Luke Sieck

## **November 14:**

Coffee: Mandy & Brandon Cramer  
Power Point: Jenn Childers  
Sound Tech: Taylor TeKolste  
Church Lock-Up: Dave Oltman

## **November 21:**

Coffee: Diane & Bill Wieskamp  
Power Point: Tammy Goering  
Sound Tech: Randy Sieck  
Church Lock-Up: Chad Bryant

## **November 28:**

Coffee: DeAnn & Kendall Weber  
Power Point: Beth Olson  
Sound Tech: Keith TenHulzen  
Church Lock-Up: Andy Johnson

Thank you for your Service!

# Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift!

The annual Operation Christmas Child mission project is here! This is a fun and simple way to share Christmas with a child in need, while also teaching your family the value of giving. OCC is an easy mission project that you can participate in by bringing a gift filled shoebox. LLRC will provide shoeboxes if you would like to participate. The shoeboxes will be available in Fellowship Hall next to the library. Don't forget to take a label to mark the age and gender. The LLRC Great Commission team will cover the shipping cost donation. This year's national collection week is November 15th - 22nd, so we ask that all shoeboxes be filled and ready to send out **by Sunday, November 21st**. Please contact Beth Sieck or Robbie Morrison for more information and instructions. Please remember that your shoebox may be the only gift the child receives. So, plan to pack quality items that will last and don't forget to make it fun! You can also build a shoebox online by visiting [www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline)

Some ideas of items to pack include:

- Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yos, Etch-A-Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.
- School Supplies: pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons, markers, stamps & ink pads, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.
- Hygiene items: toothbrush, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.
- More: Sunglasses, wind-up flashlights, ball caps, socks, t-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, small books, etc.
- NO Candy or Toothpaste in the boxes
- A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

Please remember that your box needs to remain open for inspections. Shoebox labels will be available at the OCC Table with boy/girl labels, and further instructions, please contact Beth Sieck for more information. Thank you again for helping to make *Operation Christmas Child* a success—

GIVE *Thanks*  
to the LORD,  
FOR HE IS GOOD;  
HIS *Love* ENDURES  
FOREVER!

# Consistory Minutes: October 11, 2021

**Notes:** September minutes and Oct/Nov Calendar items were approved via email prior to October's consistory meeting.

## Consistory Meeting

1. (Pastor Mark) Meeting opened with Devotions: Chapter 12 & 13 of "Comeback Churches": **Revelation 3:20**. 1) What do you believe to be the top one or two factors that could revitalize our church? 2) What would you say are the major barriers to our church experiencing a comeback? 3) What else encouraged, moved, or spurred you on from chapter 12 or 13?
2. Prayer by Pastor Mark.
3. Mission Statement: Members shared our mission statement, "**To grow a Loving Community, Equipped to Take the Message of Jesus to Our World**". Discipleship Pathway: **Worship – Grow – Serve - Share**
4. Any Quick Strategic Leadership Team Project Updates? Several people have shown interest by signing up for small groups. Discussed volunteer job descriptions and surveys to place the right volunteers in the rights spots. Discussed community survey to find out more about Firth and its residents. Next SLT meeting is Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.
5. Youth and Media Update (Robbie). Future is looking very good for the youth programs. Successful Wednesday night turnouts.
6. Team Updates

**Congregational Care** – Rick DeBoer and Doug Wieskamp

**Discipleship/Education** – Dean Hestermann and Ron DeBoer: Children's church last Sunday had 18 attendees with extensive differences in ages. This made it challenging for a lesson to be successfully taught. Discussed breaking up the ages to prevent this problem from occurring in the future.

**Worship** – Chad TerMaat and Taylor TeKolste: Discussed implementing hospitality with worship so a better focus on guest and member relationships can be achieved.

**Building/Grounds** – Chad Bryant and Luke Sieck: Village approved retaining wall for west side of church. Will be getting a new heat pump for the parsonage.

**Outreach** – Andy Johnson and Dave Oltman:

**Great Commission Team** – Tammy Goering and Glen Gana:

7. Treasurer's Report – (September) Taylor TeKolste

General Fund	\$59,074.93
Building Fund	\$18,994.32
Memorial Fund	\$12,182.61
Branson Fund	\$5,169.63
The Fire Account	\$10,090.51
4JC Account	\$3,015.00
Script Fund	\$(910.99)
White Earth Mission	\$3,483.00
Kitchen Fund	\$771.00

**MSC** September treasurer's report

8. Fundraiser updates will be given to the congregation in the days ahead
9. HR team church staff reviews are in progress
10. Transitioning of leadership for next year (is there an agreed upon treasurer, VP, and clerk for next year?)
11. HR team church staff reviews are in progress

## Continued Consistory Minutes: October 11, 2021

12. Preparation of the nomination slate (steps of that process for deacons and elders and where are we in it?)  
Nomination slate should be finalized and given to Beth by Friday, Nov.5<sup>th</sup>. Nominations were tallied by Luke and Chad B. They were verified by Taylor and given to Elder Rick DeBoer.
13. Congregational meeting will be held Sunday morning, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> following church service. Pastor Mark will present a vision for the future. Taylor will present financials/budget to the congregation. Chad B will coordinate with other deacons to collect and tally votes for new officers. Consistory discussed food/beverage options this day. Tammy said she would take care of food/beverages.
14. Any old business? Any new business.
15. Next consistory meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 8th.
16. Snack – November (Ron DeBoer)
17. Motion to adjourn. **MSC**
18. Prayer requests and Circle of Prayer:

### Elder's Meeting

- Received the nomination totals for Elders and Deacons and planned to contact those who are eligible for the nomination slate.
- Discussed those in the congregation in need of care.

### Deacons Meeting

#### New Business

- Will be giving appreciation checks to LLRC administration.
- Heat pump for parsonage will be around \$5500.00.
- Gutters will be installed this week or next. Roughly \$1500.00.
- Discussed pushing retaining wall installation to the spring of 2022 due to budgeting.
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> will be fall clean up.

## Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 14

Plan to attend – and be in prayer for – our Annual Congregational meeting **Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> after worship**. During this meeting we will discuss next year's budget, and vote for 2 Elders and 2 Deacons to replace those going off at the end of the year.

We would like to thank those going off the Consistory for their work on behalf of our church family: Chad Bryant & Glen Gana, and Deacons Rick DeBoer & Tammy Goering

Additional items that we will discuss include: the 2021 financial report & 2022 budget, and discussion about the exciting things to come.

## Double Your Gift!

- For the rest of 2021, your generosity in paying for the Family Life Center will be doubled! An anonymous donor has promised to match any gift given to the Church Building Fund until the end of the year, up to \$50,000!
- Please designate your gift as going to the "Building Fund" and then know that it will be matched!
- If you are giving online, please let Kendall Weber know that it should be applied to the building fund.
- Thank you for your generosity and vision for this great facility and how it can be used by the community and in the ministry of our church!

## God's Kids Club

We are thankful for all of the smiling children we have seen and the parents who bring them each week to GKC! We appreciate our faithful volunteers and the time they spend preparing for Wednesday nights. The kids and adults enjoyed working with 4JC's for our craft night.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Wednesday, November 24-No GKC

Wednesday, December 15-Christmas Program; Parents, please watch your email for more details

**Thank You! To our wonderful volunteers with our Wednesday Family Night programs:**

**GKC Directors:** Mandy Cramer & Kari Gottwald

**3&4 Year Olds** – Brenda Rice, Brittany Hart, & Jenn Childers

**Pre-Kindergarten** – Bonnie Walvoord, Claudette Docter, Nikki Oltman

**Kindergarten** –Beth Olson & Jenn Heetderks

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade-** Shawn & Marie Gouldin, Beth Sieck

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** -Brenda Carlow & Jared Brock, Amy & Chad TerMaat

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** – Sarah Lefferdink & Clark Mulder

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade** –Chad Bryant, & Kendall Weber

**Music** – Jordan Hays

**Crafts** – Dani Rasser

**4JC:** Robbie Morrison, Steve Anthony, Janelle DeBoer, Alexis Bryant

**The Fire:** Robbie Morrison

**Meal Team:** Pearl Wieskamp, Doug & Patti Wieskamp, Bill & Diane Wieskamp, Peg & Gary Hartgerink, Mary Ann Doeschot, Mel Harms

## BRANSON TRIP 2021

Our Branson bus trip on September 29-October 2 was one we have been talking about since we returned and honestly don't think we will ever forget! God guided our trip from start to finish and surpassed our imaginations by allowing us to take TWO buses with only two seats open on both buses! Twenty-six of these passengers had never gone with us before, so it was fun to get to know new people and renew old friendships too.

The group voted the live production of "Jesus" at the Sight & Sound Theatre as their favorite. However, we found it interesting that EVERY show was voted someone's favorite. The Hughes Brothers & The Dailey & Vincent Show each received the same votes for the group's least favorite, although again, EVERY show, with the exception of the production of "Jesus," was voted someone's least favorite. This indicated to us that we met our goal of choosing a wide variety of shows for people who have a wide variety of tastes.

Among the seven meals included in the trip the group chose lunch at the Dietz Family Buffet near Clinton, Missouri as their favorite. The food was fresh and tasty with a wide variety to choose from.

The comments regarding the trip were very encouraging. Linda, Kathy, and Ilene were all three very pleasantly surprised how smoothly the trip went with 104 people! Thank you for your prayers for us. One of the vocalists at "O Happy Day" sang the song, "Somebody's Praying," and immediately it made us think of you back home praying for us. We felt your prayers in a mighty way. Our theme verse from the start has been Ephesians 3:20: "Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us to accomplish more than we might ask or think."

Linda, Kathy, and Ilene would like to invite YOU to go with us to Branson November 15-18, 2022, to see some Christmas shows, Lord willing. Please mark your calendars.

## **Parents of Youth and Congregational Sponsors**

Nothing brings youth together like good snacks! One way to support our youth and youth programs is helping provide snacks! If you're interested in providing a weekly snack to the 4JC and FIRE programs, please contact Robbie Morrison for more information. Thank you!

### **4JC**

4JC will continue to meet after the community meal on Wednesday evenings in the Family Life Center youth room starting at 6:30pm with snacks and drinks! 4JC ends at 7:30pm, so please plan rides accordingly. For future updates, events, and scheduled activities, please check LLRC's Facebook page for announcements. We hope to see your middle school students Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm! If you haven't done so, please register your middle school student at [livinglifereformed.org](http://livinglifereformed.org) (second scrolling banner).

### **Power Connection 2022 for Middle Schoolers!**

Attention middle school parents! Our youth have an incredible opportunity for the Holy Spirit to transform their beliefs into a lifestyle of faith in Jesus through a weekend conference in St. Paul, MN July 29th - 31st! Don't let your youth miss this chance to attend Power Connection 2022! Power Connection is an event for middle school students currently in grades 6th - 8th and their adult leaders. It is organized by the Synod of the Heartland Youth Ministries. Registration opens in January, so you have plenty of time to arrange for this opportunity! For more information about Power Connection 2022, please visit [www.powerconnectioninfo.com](http://www.powerconnectioninfo.com) or contact Youth Pastor Robbie Morrison.

### **Immerse Summer Mission Project**

Immerse is a 6-day ministry experience in Lincoln for high school and middle school youth groups through F Street Church. Participants serve families, churches, and organizations in need throughout the Lincoln area. The goal is to inspire youth to be passionate about Christ and compassionate toward people. There are only 4 open weeks left for this mission opportunity in June and July! June 7th-12th, June 28th-July 3rd, July 5th-10th, and July 19th-24th. The group minimum is 5 in addition to the adult leaders. These spots are filling up fast, so please let Youth Pastor Robbie Morrison know what week you're available for this awesome opportunity! For more information, please visit [immerselincoln.org](http://immerselincoln.org).

### **FIRE**

The Fire will continue to meet on Wednesday nights in the Family Life Center youth room with snacks and drinks! Come early at 7:45pm to enjoy the open gym. The Fire will start in the youth room at 8:08, don't be late! Program will finish around 9pm followed by small groups. Small groups will end before 9:30pm. High Schoolers, invite your friends and please register at [livinglifereformed.org](http://livinglifereformed.org) (third scrolling banner) if you haven't done so! Hope to see you there!

# Birthdays

- 2 Corben Carlow
- Megan Ebbers
- 4 Cheryl Hestermann
- 6 Julie Hafer
- 7 Sierra Bryant
- 8 Brad Riensche
- Pearl Wieskamp
- 9 Jeff Gottwald
- Beth Olson
- 12 Chad Bryant
- 16 Brooklyn Doeschot
- Cary Prange
- 18 Mike Brown
- 19 Brandon Oltman
- 20 Kris Morrison
- 21 Michael Anderson
- Tysha Bryant
- 22 Kailey Bartek
- 24 Austen Hartgerink
- Will Hays
- 28 Matthew Sieck
- 29 Amy Thimm
- 30 Ashley Auman
- Rick DeBoer

**Mary & Martha Circle**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 10**  
**1:30pm**  
 Lesson—Linda DeBoer  
 Bonnie Walvoord



## Wednesday Family Meals

- Nov 3**— Breakfast Casserole, Pancakes, French Toast, Applesauce
- Nov 10**— Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Roll, Dessert
- Nov 17** — Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Vegetables, Salad, Cinnamon Rolls
- Nov 24**— No Meal or regular programs: Please, join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00pm

## Anniversary

16-Taylor & Leah  
 TeKolste (2)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS – November

<b>Tuesdays</b>	6:30pm	Prayer Gathering
<b>Wednesdays</b>	5:30pm	Family Meal
	6:30pm	4JC's
	6:30pm	GKC, Small Groups
	8:00pm	The Fire
<b>Fridays</b>	6:00am	Men's Group at Homestead
<b>Mon, Nov 1</b>	1:30pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene Docter)
<b>Fri, Nov 5</b>		No School for Norris
<b>Mon, Nov 8</b>	7:00pm	Consistory Meeting
<b>Wed, Nov 10</b>	1:30pm	Mary & Martha Circle
<b>Sun, Nov 15</b>	10:45am	Congregational Meeting/Meal
	7:00pm	Afterglow
<b>Mon, Nov 22</b>	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene Docter)
<b>Wed- Fri Nov 24-26</b>		No School Norris
<b>Wed, Nov 24</b>	7:00pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service
<b>Thurs, Nov 25</b>		<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>



Living Life Reformed Church  
603 Russell, Box 295  
Firth, NE 68358



### Wednesday Night

**5:30-6:30pm:**

Fellowship Meal

**6:30-7:30pm:**

4JC (Middle School)

**6:30-7:30pm:**

God's Kids Club

**6:30-7:30pm:**

Women's Bible Study

**8:00-9:00pm:**

The Fire (High School)

### Sunday Morning

**9:30-10:30am:**

Worship Service &  
Livestream on YouTube

### To Contact Us

**Church Office Hours:**

9:00am-12:00pm

**Mark Starr:**

320-262-9952

mark@livinglifereformed.org

**Robbie Morrison:**

402-304-9049

robbie.morrison@livinglifereformed.org



## Thanksgiving Evening Service

Wednesday,  
November 24  
7:00 pm

**Phone:** 402-791-5800 • **Email:** church@livinglifereformed.org

**Website:** livinglifereformed.org • **Facebook:** [Living Life Reformed Church | Facebook](#)