



YOUR FCC CONNECTION  
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH—AURORA, NEBRASKA  
JULY 2023

Pastor Penny's 2 shekels

If you are like me, you can't help notice all of the craziness and chaos that is ensuing around our country and world. Have you found yourself either caught up in the drama, worried about everything going on and obsessed with the news, or helplessly ignoring all of it residing to the fact you can't do anything about it anyway. You are not alone, basically everyone falls into these 3 categories.

Maybe you have even opened up your Bible looking for answers or reading up on end time prophesy. The main common thread is Evil is running amuck. It is rearing its ugly head and hell bent on deceiving as many people as possible., filling them with hopelessness, depression, despair, anxiety, and a desire to run away from it all.

I remember as a kid growing up the commercial slogan "Calgon take me away!" Oh if it were that easy, but right now there doesn't seem to be a place to escape from the madness. Except for those of us who know where our solid ground and peace comes from. A peace that passes all understanding and that is Yeshua, Jesus Christ. He is the one we put our hope in, he is the one that casts out the despair and quiets the anxiety. He is the one that keeps us above water and on solid rock not sinking shifting sand. And It is because we know how the story ends that we can sleep restfully at night because no matter what the enemy tries to do.... God still wins.

If nothing else, we learned from 2020 that we can't take anything for granted. And we do not know what the future looks like, only God does. So I encourage you this summer to relax, take that time to enjoy the simple pleasures of life, like family, get togethers, camping, cruising on the water in your boat, fishing, swimming in the pool, pulling weeds in your garden or flower bed, enjoying the view from your deck or porch, conversing with the neighbors, or just sitting in the swing next to the fire pit sipping a drink with a loved one.

Whatever makes your heart happy and eases the tension, do it. We have been blessed with so many little things that bring us joy, tiny things that brighten our day and urges us to look for others that we can pass that joy onto. While none of us are guaranteed a tomorrow, we can certainly live today to the fullest regardless of what is going on around our lives. God calls us to focus on him not the chaos, he says try me and test me, see that I am good. We know and are promised that he will provide for whatever we need physical-ly, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. May you continue to have a Blessed Summer and Pass it On!

Shalom,

Pastor Penny



## Live Life in the Spirit

Just wanted to give an update on our new vodcast/podcast. God is using it in awesome ways and we are reaching people all over the world for Christ! We are discussing and tackling the tough issues we are facing today, those oddities and obscurities in the Bible. We are waking Christians up who have sat in church their whole lives and did not know any of these important things. And because of the content we discuss we are bringing in new people that are hearing about God and Jesus for the first time. This is so exciting! We encourage all to not only listen and watch but to share it with your friends. It is so easy with our QRcode that takes you right to our website. We are on Rumble, Youtube, spotify, i heart radio, apple podcast, itunes and a bunch more! plus you can just click on the link on our site and watch or listen. Be sure to check out our inspirational blogs as well.

We ALSO have our first shirts for sale! "God is still writing your story. Stop stealing the pen!" They come in black and white shirts. If you would like one let us know they are \$25 and a great way to start a conversation with anyone who reads your shirt!



SCAN ME



God, we come to you today to offer prayers for our family and friends. We ask that you look after them today and keep them safe.

Scott, Donna Goertzen, De Sandell, Don "Sonny" Hofmeister, Zandee Nelson, Louise Hack, Lee & Val Jones, Bob & Sharon Nunnenkamp, Rob Nunnenkamp, Helen Nowka, Dick Grosshans, Jim Ptacnik, Lee Hutchison, Karren Radcliff, Connie Nicklasson, Tanna Skarniak, Pat Anderson, Betty Stephenson, Gus Jacobitz and Mary Jacobs

**We also pray for all those in our congregation and beyond who may be suffering from with illness or the stress of a family situation..**

***We pray for those who suffer in silence that they may feel our prayers.***

If you want to add someone to our prayer list, we don't need to have a last name or know their situation. They do not have to be a member of our congregation – we pray for all the people. All requests are by permission only. Please contact: Linda Ptacnik (402-694-3297). ([lindap@hamilton.net](mailto:lindap@hamilton.net) or 402-631-9422 or [fcc@hamilton.net](mailto:fcc@hamilton.net)) I will see that your requests are shared – as well as updates as they are received.

When I am out of town and/or unavailable, Tanna will be handling the e-mail requests. Just contact me and I will pass on the information to her.

DEACONS / ELDERS / COMMUNION PREP

July 2

Elders: Sanderson / Sanderson  
Deacons: Luthy / Luthy . Willis  
Communion Prep: Tanna Skarniak

July 9

Elders: Sanderson / Sanderson  
Deacons: Anderson / Weinrich / Skarniak  
Communion Prep: Linda See

July 16

Elders: Nielsen / Anderson  
Deacons: Forsman / Nunnenkamp / Nunnenkamp  
Communion Prep: Connie Nielsen

July 23

Elders: Anderson / Nielsen  
Deacons: Enderle / See / Dorsey  
Communion Prep: Karen Wilshusen

July 30

Elders: Phillips / Phillips  
Deacons: OUR YOUTH  
Communion Prep: Linda Ptacnik

Parents: Our Youth is scheduled to fill the 5th Sunday of the month. Please be sure to have them to church a little early for a walk-through.

**If you cannot serve on your Sunday, please get someone to replace you.**

**We are currently passing the offering plate and communion—there will be disposable communion available at the back of the sanctuary until the current stock is depleted.**

***If you are comfortable with it, it is satisfactory if only One Elder offers prayers and serves.***

JULY BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

July 2 Delores Ellyette  
July 2 Hannah Enderle  
July 10 Mike Gross  
July 14 Kelsey Swolley  
July 18 John Schulz  
July 19 Chuck Enderle  
July 21 Jim Willis  
July 26 Pastor Bruce Bradley  
  
July 28 Justin & Jessica Clark

CWF LADIES

**Next Meeting  
Salad Supper  
September 5, 2023**

We are working on a special meeting for the month of October...Tanna and I visited with a lady from York who paints rocks with an inspirational touch. She has offered to do a workshop with us that month. More details will be available in the coming months. SO EXCITED!!!

*Give Christ your concerns, worries, what-ifs. Put all those cares on Him for His shoulders are broad enough to carry them. And, the amazing thing is that He actually wants them!*

*God, I come to you today with all my burdens. They are rolling off my shoulders and onto Yours. Thank You for sharing your strength. Amen.*

**Pastor Penny**

**Cell Phone: 402-440-4605**

**Email: [pastorpennys2cents@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpennys2cents@gmail.com)**

**Website: [fcaurorane.org](http://fcaurorane.org)**

**You Tube: First Christian Church of Aurora NE**

**Facebook: First Christian Church of Aurora NE**

**For Inspirational Messages, go to YouTube Penny Schulz**

First Christian Church:

Our heartfelt thanks, we send to you for the beautiful rose and the exquisite cross. The cross is so appreciated by our family.

Thank you for the support of our church family. Everyone has been so caring and helpful through the years, as well as the love we felt at this difficult time.

Many thanks to those who prepared the luncheon and worked in the kitchen and served. It was very much appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Donna Goertzen & Family

Thank you for the calls, cards and prayers after my fall. I am happy to report that nothing was broken—on me or the concrete. Thanks for sending home a great meal from the Father's Day Brunch for me and Jim—we devoured it!!

—Linda P

**OUR FIRST EVER FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH** was well attended. So much so, we ran out of food! Special thanks to the casserole bakers—Jean Sanderson, Sandy Anderson and Lyn Seifried. Also thanks to Louise Mills for the yummy cinnamon rolls and to Linda Ptacnik and Pat Phillips for the fresh fruit. And to Pat Phillips who provided the biscuits and gravy. We are already looking forward to next Father's Day!

Here is a list of our Chairpersons for Committees at FCC. In the back of your church workbook, there is a "job description" for each committee and officer. Should you have something to discuss or see an issue that needs to be addressed, please give the chairman a heads up and they can help you or direct you to the person (or persons) who will help. .

Worship—Pat Willis 402-694-2079

Christian Ed—April Campbell 402-2523

Property—Terry Willis 402-694-2029

Pastor/Parrish—Carol Nunnenkamp 402-694-1428

Edgerton—Bonita Forsman 402-694-2899

CWF Church Leader—Jean Sanderson 402-694-2700

CWF Treasurer—Karen Wilshusen 402-694-3486

Memorial—Jean Sanderson 402-694-2700

Membership/Stewardship—Pat Phillips 402-694-3302

The Backpack "Apples" will be delivered soon to those participating in the program this year. We still have some backpacks left from the generous donation from Sandy Anderson last year. Because I was absent for two weeks, I did not get a complete count on our participation, but I took upon myself to commit to what we did the previous year—SEVEN BACKPACKS. If there are more signed up, we may just split the load. Get with me after church on July 9th and I will get your "Apple" to you.