



TRANSFORM 25 VOL. 3

Theme

"ENTRUST"

TRANSFORM



**PRECONFERENCE : ELDER PATHWAYS
OCTOBER 12, 2025**



**TRANSFORM 2025
OCTOBER 13-14, 2025**



Contact us
308-455-0878

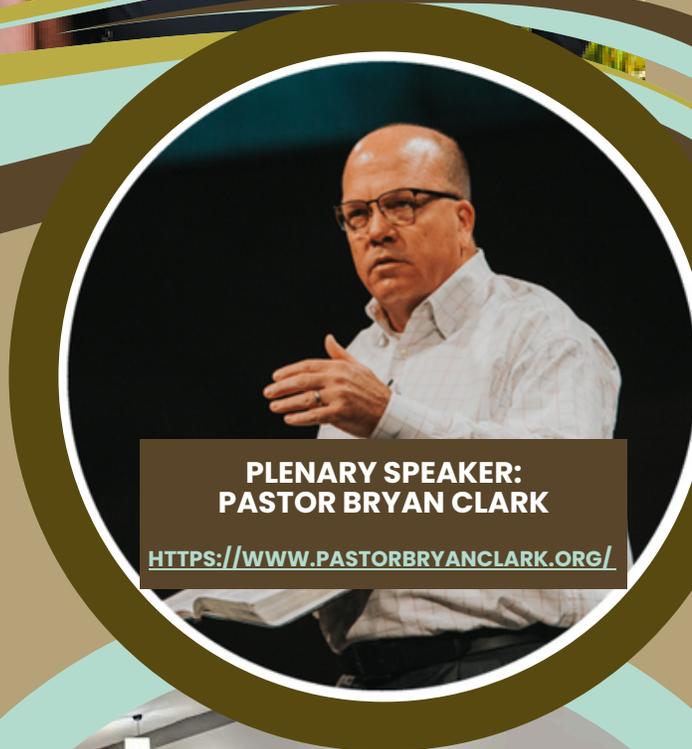


Visit our website
WWW.EFCAMIDWEST.ORG



LOCATION
**FIRST FREE CHURCH
3300 S 84TH ST
LINCOLN, NE**

[REGISTER HERE](#)



**PLENARY SPEAKER:
PASTOR BRYAN CLARK**

[HTTPS://WWW.PASTORBRYANCLARK.ORG/](https://www.pastorbryanclark.org/)

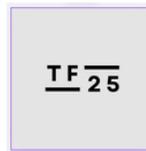


QR CODES & LINKS

WiFi: FirstFreeGuest



[CLICK HERE
BENEVOLENCE
FUND](#)



Annual Report
to the
Midwest District Churches

October 13-14, 2025

[CLICK HERE
ANNUAL REPORT](#)

ReachGlobal Pizza Dinner Monday
Click for More Information

[Click to Expand for
MORE INFORMATION](#)



[CLICK HERE for More
Transform 2025](#)

**INTRODUCING TWO NEW CHURCH
PLANT IN THE MIDWEST DISTRICT**

New Breath Church

Wichita Chinese Church

Click on **Church**
to View Video

PLENARY SPEAKER

**PLENARY SPEAKER:
PASTOR BRYAN CLARK**

[HTTPS://WWW.PASTORBRYANCLARK.ORG/](https://www.pastorbryanclark.org/)



Bryan Clark

Bryan graduated from Moody Bible Institute in 1980 and attended the University of Nebraska. He graduated from Talbot Seminary with a Master of Arts in Education, a Master of Divinity equivalency and Doctor of Ministry from Denver Seminary.

Bryan has served as a Senior Pastor for nearly four decades, serving 10 years in Broken Bow, Nebraska. He has been at Lincoln Berean since 1993. In August of 2021 Bryan transitioned to the role Senior Pastor Emeritus. Bryan continues to be involved in pastoral ministry, including serving as part of the preaching team, but no longer part of the senior leadership team. This change allows flexibility to serve the wider church in various ways. Bryan has been married to Patti since 1981 and has three daughters.

Joining us from the EFCA National Office

Scott Barber

Director of Pastoral Theology and Care Ministries



Scott has served as the senior pastor at Grace Community Church (EFCA) in Worthington, Minnesota, a congregation of 200 attendees, for almost 14 years.

He came to recognize the significant value of being part of a movement that cares about pastoral health. Prior to his time at Grace, Scott served as a pastoral resident at Antioch Community Church (EFCA) in Minneapolis and earned his Master of Divinity from Bethel Seminary in Minnesota during that time.

In addition to pastoral experience, Scott brings clinical experience. He earned his Master of Science in Community Counseling from the University of Nebraska (2005) and served three years as a licensed professional counselor and manager of operations for a counseling center in Nebraska.

Scott and his wife Jane have two sons.

Hugo Concha

Director of Hispanic Ministries, Southwest District



Hugo Concha serves as a catalyst for Spanish-speaking ministries for EFCA Southeast. Hugo was born and raised in Chile, South America. As a young man, Hugo ministered with Youth With A Mission in Paraguay. In 2003, Hugo moved his young family to Lebanon, Pennsylvania to serve with the EFCA as a pastor and a church planter. Hugo and his wife, Gissella (and their three boys), moved to Jacksonville, Florida in 2016.

Carlton Harris

Acting President, EFCA



Carlton started ministry in 1981 as a pastoral intern at First Evangelical Free Church in Wichita, Kansas, and has spent 40 years in church leadership. He began his role at the EFCA national office leading the ReachNational division in September 2021 and was named acting president of the EFCA in April 2024. He and his wife, Carol, are members at [New Hope Church](#) (EFCA) in New Hope, Minnesota.

SCHEDULE

**No registration or fee required
for the Preconference**

SUNDAY: OCTOBER 12, 2025

Preconference: Elder Pathways

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Location:

Main Worship Center at First Free Lincoln

[Streaming Link](#)

MONDAY: OCTOBER 13, 2025

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 - 10:35 am	Plenary 1
10:45 - 11:45 am	Impact 1
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch/Affinity Groups
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Impact 2
2:00 - 3:00 pm	Impact 3
3:15 - 5:00 pm	Business Session
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Dinner (on your own)
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Plenary 2 <i>Evening Celebration</i>

TUESDAY: OCTOBER 14, 2025

8:30 - 9:00 am	Doors Open
9:00 - 10:45 am	Plenary 3
11:00 - 12:00 pm	Impact 4
12:00 - 1:15 pm	Lunch/Affinity Groups
1:15 - 2:30 pm	Plenary 4
CLOSING	

**All start times are listed in
Central Standard Time.**

JOIN THE LIVE VIDEO STREAMS

**In-Person Location:
Worship Center**

Elder Training

Sunday, October 12 - 6:30-8:00 pm

<https://vimeo.com/event/5315742>



Business Meeting

Monday, October 13 - 3:15 pm

<https://vimeo.com/event/5315746>



Evening Celebration

Monday, October 13 - 7:00-8:30 pm

<https://vimeo.com/event/5315760>

PRE-CONFERENCE

SUNDAY: OCTOBER 12, 2025

Preconference: Elder Pathways

6:30 - 8:00 pm (CST)

No registration or fee required for the preconference

Location:

Main Worship Center at First Free Lincoln

or

Call In: 308-455-0878

Live Stream

[Streaming Link](#)

If your senior leaders are unable to attend in person, we invite you to join us remotely on October 12th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM CDT via live video feed. This gathering provides an opportunity for team bonding and fellowship. The event is intended for pastors, elders, and prospective leaders. Participants will have the opportunity to submit questions via call or text, either in person or remotely.

BOOTHS

Multipurpose Room #109

- **APEX Missions**

APEX helps students take the next step in God's call to advance the gospel from here to everywhere.

- **Author's Booth**

See sample copies of books authored by MWD pastors with info on how to order your own copies.

- **Awana**

Come see how we can help meet your goals of Child Discipleship, offering solutions for midweek and weekend programs as well as weekly digital family devotions.

- **Brotherhood Mutual/Lightwell Insurance**

If you've ever felt like your church's insurance agent doesn't speak your language — we do. We work exclusively with ministries, we know the heart behind what you do, and we've got access to coverage others can't. Even if you don't switch, you'll walk away with something useful.

- **Caring Friends**

Find out about in-home care for people of all ages. From non-medical pediatric care to senior care, we offer personalized services that ensure independence, dignity, and peace of mind.

- **Christian Homes Care Community**

Christian Homes Care Community is a provider of quality housing and health care services. It is our pledge to offer choice, respect, privacy and independence to everyone who desires to be a part of our community. Whether you are looking for services for yourself, a family member, or a friend, we hope that at Christian Homes Care Community you will experience our vision and values in practice.

- **Christian Historical Biographies**

Historical Christian Biography Ministries seeks to edify contemporary Christians and their churches with the inspiring, instructive life stories of outstanding men and women of the Christian faith. Stop by our booth to consider how our writing and speaking ministries might benefit you, your family, and your church or other ministry. All our biographies are available at a nice discount, and you can register for a drawing to win a free book.

- **CIF (Christian Investors Financial)**

At Christian Investors Financial (CIF), our financial focus is squarely on ministry, and I would love to hear what's happening at your church.

Ministry matters to CIF, and I would enjoy talking to you about your church and the faith-based financial solutions we offer (investing, lending, capital campaigns, budgeting consulting, and more) so that more money can go back into ministry for Kingdom expansion.

- **EFCA Foundation**

Learn about planned giving, charitable gift annuities, investment distributions, donor advised funds, and so on.

BOOTHS

cont.

Multipurpose Room #109

- **Encore Generation**

Rethinking how your church approaches ministry to older adults is best considered over one on one conversations. A booth allows those who are curious, especially after attending the breakout sessions to unpack the possibilities.

- **Evangelism Shift**

Evangelism often scares people. Me too! But I love my friends, neighbors, co-workers and friends who are far from Jesus. What steps can I take to build authentic redemptive relationships with them and see them come to Christ? Stop by and let's talk!

- **FCMM (Free Church Ministers and Missionaries)**

To help your church to fulfill the scriptural mandate for caring for your staff, that "those who are taught the Word of God should provide for their teachers, sharing all good things with them." (Gal 6:6 NLT)

- **Global Assist**

Come talk with Global Assist for an update on how God is moving around the world through native-led ministries who are focused on disciple making and church planting.

- **IPM (Interim Pastor Ministries)**

You may be exactly what a church in transition needs - an experienced pastor who can guide them until they find Pastor Next. OR, your church might need an interim pastor at some point. OR, you're thinking of moving on to the next thing and you want to set up your church well after you go. Come by our booth to find out about all 3.

- **Kindred Spirits**

Pastors' Wives need one another. The Kindred Spirits retreats provide space for pastors' wives to connect and minister to one another, building lasting relationships. Pastors' wives, drop by! Pastors, drop by on her behalf!!!

- **LGBTQ + Issues (FreeThinking Ministries)**

Want to equip your church with solid theology and clear thinking at the intersection of faith and culture? Stop by the FreeThinking Ministries booth to learn how we can help train your staff and congregation to think biblically and critically on topics like human freedom, cultural engagement, and more. Let's talk about how our Scripture-based, reason-driven approach can strengthen your ministry.

- **M.A.P. (Ministry Apprenticeship Program)**

Find out how your church can become a MAP Church and also how you or someone you know can become a MAPPER. MAP develops church leaders through education and ministry experience to supplement the seminary pathway.

- **MWD Foundation**

We can boost your ministry with financial resources, grants, loans, and scholarships. Add to your facilities, your mission, or your education.

- **MWD Regional & Global Initiatives**

Find out about how to clarify your regional and global missions strategies and how your church can add members to the Kenya short-term mission team

BOOTHS

cont.

Multipurpose Room #109

- **MWD NextGen Ministries**

Youth leaders, drop by to connect and learn about new discipleship methods currently being developed. Other leaders, advocate for your youth leaders by dropping by and making sure they get connected to our youth leader network and resources.

- **MWD Women's Ministries**

Grab information on how you can equip and encourage women in the Midwest District. Enter your name in a drawing to win a book for women leaders in your church!

- **NAE (National Association of Evangelicals)**

Our mission is to honor God by connecting and representing evangelical Christians.
Our vision is a thriving evangelical community that is equipped to navigate complexity with biblical clarity.

- **Next Step Resources**

Don't leave a conference without buying some books!!!

- **Possibilities Africa**

Step into a story bigger than yourself—what many of our supporters call “a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.” When you decide to partner with Possibilities Africa, your support goes beyond short-term fixes to address the spiritual, economic, and next-generation challenges facing African communities by equipping pastors, helping families launch small businesses, and mentoring youth. Come by to see how God has been transforming lives for over 20 years through the partnership of individuals and churches like you—and yes, we'll even have Africa-shaped cookies waiting for you!

- **Prairie School Retreat**

Stop to visit our booth which says “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest”. Mark 6:31
If you are in need of rest and reflection, you are welcome to come and stay as long as you like. We don't charge anything but just want to serve you who serve the Lord.

- **Prepared**

We'd love to have you visit the Prepared booth to hear how we are working to strengthen the local church by equipping women theologically, biblically, and in their practical ministry skills. We'll share stories with you of the ways God's used Prepared to help women experience growth and transformation in their personal lives and ministry leadership.

- **ReachGlobal**

We invest in disciplemakers to establish the Church where the gospel isn't known. Drop by to find out how your church can support ReachGlobal missionaries or how you can explore becoming a missionary for Gospel work around the world. Also, drop by to sign up for the Monday Night pizza dinner on us!

BOOTHS

cont.

Multipurpose Room #109

- **ReachGlobal Crisis Response**

Looking for a Way to Serve?

At ReachGlobal Crisis Response, we believe every crisis is a new mission field. No matter your age or stage of life, God can use you to bring help, hope, and the love of Christ to those in need. Join us as we rebuild lives and share the gospel in the wake of disaster. Be part of God's mission in the midst of crisis.

- **Standing Stone Ministries**

If you are prepping for a sabbatical or just need to connect with someone for encouragement in the ministry please visit the Standing Stone booth with Travis & Ruth Purkerson!

- **Timberlake Ranch Camps**

You should visit Timberlake's Booth as we exist to help the local church in effectively proclaiming the gospel and discipling the saints. Our desire is to assist the local church so help us know how best to do that for you.

- **TIU/TEDS (Trinity International University/ Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)**

TEDS is the EFCA's gift to the Evangelical Church! Theological training in partnership with the local church is now more affordable and accessible than ever!

- **Youth Challenge, Inc.**

You won't want to miss this exciting opportunity to get the kids in your church and community deeper into the Bible!

IMPACT SESSIONS 1 & 4

Monday 10:45–11:45
Tuesday 11:00–12:00

CIF (Christian Investors Financial), Room B018

Patrick O'Dell

Ministry matters to CIF, and I would enjoy talking to you about your church and the faith-based financial solutions we offer (investing, lending, capital campaigns, budgeting consulting, and more) so that more money can go back into ministry for Kingdom expansion.

Demystifying Church Insurance: What you don't know could cost you., Room 135

Jordan Isaacson, Brotherhood Mutual Insurance / LightWell Insurance Advisors (formerly American Church Group)

Church insurance is a confusing field that constantly changes. What you have had in place for the last several years might no longer be adequate. Come learn from experts in the field to make sure you get your insurance in order, regardless of your provider.

International Partnerships & MWD Networks: Kenya & Beyond, Room B014

Kerry Relihan, MWD Director of Regional & Global Initiatives

Nathan Musgrave, Associate Pastor of Heartland EFC in Central City, NE

Come explore how MWD churches can network to partner in significant strategic roles with a quality international ministry. We already have a great partnership as an example and an opportunity for you – being servants with Lifeway Global to reach the Unreached People Groups (UPGs) of Northern Kenya. Come learn how to join your church as part of our Teaching Teams, Medical Teams or Agricultural Teams that are making an impact.

Island Dwellers in Women's Ministry, Room 107

Jane Schaible, MWD Women's Leadership & Discipleship and Women's Ministries Director at First Free Wichita

Is the women's ministry a well-managed island resort? Or is it committed to the mainland? It can be a struggle to know how to build bridges between our church leadership and our women's ministries. This session will explore the problem when ministries operate as their own island, and then focus on ways churches can guide and equip women to further their local church's mission.

Lead Pastor Champions of Worship Ministries, Room 113

Donald Adams, MWD Worship Pastor, and Associate Pastor, Living Faith Church, Firth, NE

This session is designed for lead and solo pastors to learn how to lead the worship leaders, both volunteers and paid.

Learning Curves & Lightbulbs Room 102

Geoff Safford, Lead Pastor, Bethel Church, North Platte, NE

Learning Curves—we never stop learning—and sometimes life throws us a curve, and we have to know on the run because we are in the middle of the turn! At other times, we learn in a lightbulb moment! It is in the "Aha! I get it!" moment that God often speaks to us, and we never forget it. This session looks at our need to multiply congregations in communities around our district, and how churches of any size can impact the success of new congregations.

Planning Now for Life After Paychecks, Room 104

Jerry Rich, Vice President with FCMM Benefits & Retirement (FCMM)

Help pastors plan appropriately for the future, whether they are 25 or 65. Find out all the different ways you need to prepare and how to take advantage of clergy-related tax law.

IMPACT SESSIONS 2 & 3

Monday 1:00–2:00
Monday 2:00–3:00

Citizens and Strangers: Kingdom Approaches to Loving the Foreigner, Room B014

Joel Kersey, Representative for Kansas and Oklahoma, National Association of Evangelicals (NAE)

Immigration debates are raging around the country. How can the Church respond to this divisive issue in a way that respects our national laws while also honoring God's command to love our immigrant neighbor? Come and learn how to equip local congregations to support the immigrant community while also working to improve national laws that value both citizens and strangers.

FreeThinking Ministries, Room 113

Josh Klein, Director of Cultural Engagement for FreeThinking Ministries

Exploring new progressive interpretations of supposedly pro-LGBTQ+ scriptures, understanding the ideology and bracing for the evangelistic opportunity. As churches we need to know what the arguments are and why they exist in order to best know how to reach the people that are affected by them. Josh Klein of FreeThinking Ministries does an overview of the most recent arguments to keep us up to date and then offers a few paths forward for churches looking to both speak to the issue and reach out to those who need Jesus.

M.A.P. (Ministry Apprenticeship Program) for Developing a Culture of Leadership Development, Room 107

Levi Landrigan, Youth Director at Heartland EFC, Central City, NE

Jim Strecker, Directional Pastor at Bethel EFC, North Platte, NE

The MAP (Ministry Apprentice Program) is an EFC Midwestern District initiative to help churches of all sizes embrace and participate in developing the next generation of ministry leaders. Helping the next generation identify their calling, the MAP engages young adults, post-college, and mid-career candidates in a “training hospital” approach for ministry leadership preparation. Discover how the MAP can support you and start taking the next steps to cultivate a culture of leadership development within your church.

Ministerios Hispanos (En Español), Room 135

Hugo Concha, Director of Hispanic Ministries, Southwest District

David Santos, Biligual Pastor, Camino de Vida, Lexington, NE

Contaremos con la participación de Hugo Concha, Director de Ministerios Hispanos de la EFC Southeast, quien compartirá con nosotros durante el Affinity Lunch y también estará facilitando un workshop en español dirigido especialmente a los pastores hispanos. (We will be joined by Hugo Concha, Director of Hispanic Ministries for EFC Southeast, who will speak with us during the Affinity Lunch and will also be facilitating a workshop in Spanish specifically for Hispanic pastors.)

Multiplying Disciples: How Senior Pastors Can Champion Next-Gen Ministry, Room B018

Lige Reed, Midwest District Director of NextGen and is the Pastor of Family Ministries at Minden, NE EFC

Senior pastors hold the unique position to cast vision and create systems that multiply disciples across generations, yet many feel uncertain about how to effectively support ministry to today's teenagers. This session combines cutting-edge research from Fuller Youth Institute with time-tested relational discipleship methods to show senior leaders how to become catalysts for transformative youth ministry. Walk away with tools and resources for championing next-generation ministry that produces disciples who make disciples.

Reaching and Unleashing the Encore Generation, Room 104

Amy Hansen, PhD, Lecturer for the Department of Gerontology, University of Nebraska, Omaha

Chris Holck, President of Encore Generation Consulting

What if your church's greatest untapped potential for Kingdom influence is the Encore Generation, those age 55 plus? Is ageism real and does it exist in your church? In your leadership? This Impact session will help you assess how your church is doing in reaching and unleashing this age group and give you some practical ideas you can take and begin implementing in your churches. Because, “If they're not dead, they're not done!”

Relational Evangelism: Living as a Witness in our Everyday Encounters, Room 102

Bruce Dick, National Coordinator for EvangelismSHIFT USA with Ambassadors for Christ International

Most people are more introverted than extroverted. And most Christians do not have the gift of evangelism. Yet we are called to “do the work of an evangelist” (2 Timothy 4:5). But we are scared to do so even though we care about friends, neighbors, co-workers and family members who are far from Jesus. What if we could learn to live as a witness in our everyday encounters? What if we could purposefully develop redemptive relationships with those we know and love? Come for a conversation about what we have learned to see this happen in some really encouraging ways!

IMPACT SESSIONS –

IMPACT 1: 10:45-11:45 – MONDAY

ROOM

IMPACT 4: 11:00-12:00 – TUESDAY

Learning Curves & Lightbulbs

Geoff Safford

102

Planning Now for Life After Paychecks

Jerry Rich

104

Island Dwellers in Women's Ministry

Jane Schaible

107

Lead Pastor Champions of Worship Ministries

Donald Adams

113

Demystifying Church Insurance:

What you don't know could cost you.

Jordan Isaacson

135

International Partnerships & MWD Networks: Kenya & Beyond

Kerry Relihan, Nathan Musgrave

B014

CIF (Christian Investors Financial)

Patrick O'Dell

B018

IMPACT 2: 1:00-2:00 – MONDAY

ROOM

IMPACT 3: 2:00-3:00 – MONDAY

Relational Evangelism: Living as a Witness in our Everyday Encounters

Bruce Dick

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Reaching and Unleashing the Encore Generation

Amy Hansen, Chris Holck

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The MAP for Developing a Culture of Leadership Development

Levi Landrigan, Jim Strecker

107

FreeThinking Ministries

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Citizens and Strangers: Kingd Approaches to Loving the Foreigner

Joel Kersey

B014

Multiplying Disciples: How Senior Pastors Can Champion Next-Gen Ministry

Lige Reed

B018

AFFINITY LUNCH

Monday

- Tim & Sherri Peterson - Room 107
Counseling in Pastoral Ministry
- Scott Barber & Travis Purkerson - Room B005
I Don't Wanna Burn Out
- Leeta Christie - Room 102
Ministry Wives
- Kerry Relihan - Room 104
Missions / All Peoples
- Lige Reed - Room B014
NextGen Ministries
- Jerry Rich - Room B018
Personal & Church Finances, Financial Planning Q&A
- Hugo Concha & David Santos - Room 135
Spanish-speaking
- Bill Yaccino & John Simons - Room B010
TEDS (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)
- Jane Schaible, Sarah Powers, Nikki Dieker & Carolyn Poage - Room B020
Women in Ministry (and Prepared)
- Donald Adams - Room B008
Worship

AFFINITY LUNCH

Tuesday

INSTRUCTIONS

- The topics for the Tuesday Affinity lunches will be determined by YOU! Throughout the day Monday, there will be large sheets of paper on the walls for different categories of questions. Write down your questions, ideas, and topics for discussion and that's what we'll discuss on Tuesday.
- Use the following QR code to find the listing of questions for each room to choose which group you want to join. We will have the rooms posted before lunch on Tuesday. (The QR code works now, but the document will be updated live at the conference.)



[Click Here to View
Tuesday Affinity Lunch](#)

HOTELS

HOTEL BLOCKS ARE UNDER THE NAME TRANSFORM 2025
CLICK ON A LINK TO BOOK YOUR HOTEL AT THE GROUP RATE

\$89 PER NIGHT / KING AND QUEEN ROOMS
AMERICINN LINCOLN SOUTH

[AMERICINN LINCOLN SOUTH - CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

\$99 PER NIGHT / DOUBLE KING AND KING WITH PULLOUT ROOMS
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES - LINCOLN SOUTH

[HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES - LINCOLN SOUTH - CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

\$103 PER NIGHT QUEEN / \$113 PER NIGHT KING
FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES LINCOLN SOUTHEAST

[FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES LINCOLN SOUTHEAST - CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

CUT-OFF DATE: GUEST ROOM BLOCK WILL BE AVAILABLE UNTIL **SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025** – ANY REMAINING GUEST ROOMS IN BLOCK WILL FALL BACK INTO HOTEL INVENTORY. AFTER CUT-OFF, ANY GUESTS NEEDING ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE OFFERED THE BEST AVAILABLE RATE AT TIME OF BOOKING.

MUST CANCEL AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO SCHEDULED ARRIVAL DATE
TO AVOID PENALTY EQUAL TO ONE NIGHT ROOM & TAX CHARGES.