

Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 38, Issue 1—January 2023

PASTOR'S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family,

The hustle and bustle of Christmas has come and gone. I asked my neighbors, “How was your Christmas?” One said, “Very noisy!” He and his wife hosted a family of 35, including several grandchildren. Another said, “Very quiet.” He and his wife were alone, and he is living the last days of his life. Cancer has progressed. Another refused to answer his phone. He is an ex-prisoner, happy to be in his new apartment. Alone, trying not to get lost in self pity.

Our Christmas was quiet, except for the time we spent zooming with our family around the nation. We were blessed with a high energy hour with our children and grandchildren. It was wonderful and there was no mess to deal with when it was over.

We had a wonderful time with our Friedens family. The candle light Christmas Eve service was a delight. The quiet sounds of Silent Night, first verse in German, was a wonderful introduction to the Christmas festivities for us. Then we learned first hand how wonderful it is to be part of a church family when many family members showed up on “the first day of Christmas” to deal with a burst water pipe in the basement. By the time I learned of it all, the work was done and everyone was back at home. Thanks to many! Another example of “God’s work. Our hands!”

We refreshed our memories as we read the story of the first Christmas. Mary and Joseph left their parents and their home in Nazareth to make the difficult trip to Bethlehem to fulfill their obligation to the Emperor. God watched over them and the long awaited Savior was born in a stable, safe and warm and wonderful. Just ask Mary!

While we were worshiping, the rest of the world was dealing with the holiday in the best way they could. The Ukrainians were cold and in the dark, thanks to Russia, but it didn’t stop them from celebrating the birth of the Christ child. The migrants at the southern border, despite their homelessness, were doing their best to survive, while they hope and wait for a new beginning for their family.

So it goes around the world. Christmas is a reminder that we are not alone on this planet. We believe that the God who created the universe and the many creatures who inhabit it hasn’t forgotten us. He lives here with us amid the chaos and reminds us that we are all his. The twelve days of Christmas are followed by Epiphany which is followed by Lent, which is followed by Easter. The Christ child lived, and suffered, and died, and rose again. All this he has done that we might be his for eternity. It’s a faith worth clinging to.

Pastor Bud

Message from our Council President

This month we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 15th, directly following the 10:30AM worship service. We will take a short break for refreshments, and then we will start the meeting. If it goes like the last few year's meetings, the meeting won't take very long. But it is an important meeting. We have to approve our budget for 2023, and we have to elect 2 new council members, to replace the 2 who have come to the end of their term. And to do those things, we need to have a quorum. So your attendance is important. If you can, please come to church that Sunday and stay for the annual meeting. Approving our church's operating budget for this year, and electing 2 new council members are very important things to do, that require participation from the members of Friedens. A quorum is needed, so if you can come, please do. And if you have an interest in serving on the church council, please call the church office and let Bev know. If you have an interest but have questions on what all that entails, please don't hesitate to call or e mail me with your questions. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have, and to give you a good idea of what serving on the church council involves.

Gary Hardt

Council President

ghardt7@yahoo.com

402-314-5484

Friedens Wonderful Helpers

On Monday, December 26th, we had frozen pipes burst in our Fellowship Hall Kitchen. We had water everywhere in the Fellowship Hall. **Thanks to Gary Hardt, Rick Harris, Chuck Schwahn, Greg & Fran Zessin, Dave & Jane Cosier, Norm & Irene Newhouse, and Pastor Bud & his friend Chuck, and anyone else we failed to mention.** Because we have such great members that are so eager to pitch in and help, we have the situation under control. Thank you all so much!

Before



After



marriage or death in your family that you would like to share. Let us know if someone is hospitalized or needs our prayers. With your permission, this request will be added to the list of Prayer Concerns in the Sunday bulletin. If you would like immediate prayers for the individual, the office will initiate the Prayer Chain.

HIPPA regulations do not allow a hospital to notify the church if someone in our congregation is hospitalized. Please call the church office with this information at 402-476-3888 or email at office@friedens.org

Prayers....

Donna Splichal	Verlene Owens	Kimberly Render	Molly Lyons
Molly Lyons	Sharon Trout	Carolyn Hogg	Jean Wheat



Sending Healing Prayers

Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford's brother)

Barbie Creveling & her Family (Mother-in-Law of Anne Melang-thoren)

Family & Friends of Crystal Anderson

Crystal Anderson

Crystal Anderson passed away on Monday, December 12, 2022, at the age of 61. Funeral services were held at Roper and Sons South Chapel on December 19th at 2pm and burial at Prairie Home Cemetery in Holdrege, NE. Crystal was a long time member of Friedens. She was the spouse of Rich Anderson.

*IN LOVING
Memory*



When we give freely.....

We are able to be a part of God's work at Friedens, in Lincoln and around the world. We serve an incredibly generous God and count it a privilege to give back to God what has been generously been given to us.

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Monthly Report: December 2022

Receipts: \$ 13,150.00

Disbursements: \$10,858.93

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Christmas Caroling December 4th

We had beautiful weather on Sunday afternoon, December 4th. We visited 12 shut-ins. They were Carolea Adams, Crystal Anderson, Carolyn Hogg, Dorothy Loos, Karen Michael, Robin Michael, Verlene Owens, Marian Ripenburg, Donna Splichal, Kathie Svoboda, Diane Wacker, Eunice Worster, and Reuben Worster. They enjoyed seeing us very much. We also distributed Christmas cards that the members of Friedens signed. We have made them smile. The Sunday School children made crafts for them



Carolers singing to the Home-Bound



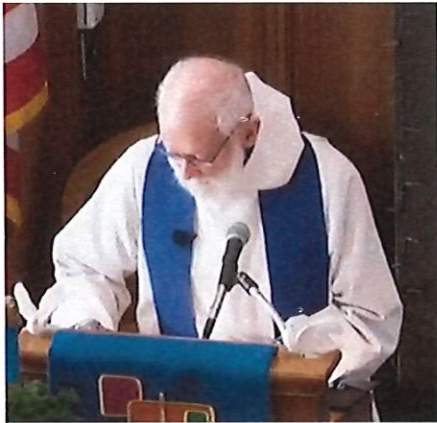
Sunday School making crafts for the home-bound

Mitten Tree 2022

Again this year, we gathered mittens/gloves, hats, scarves, and socks for both youth and adults. Elementary age mittens/gloves, hats, scarves, and socks will be donated to a neighborhood elementary school. Teen and adult sizes will be given to the Peoples City Mission. Thank you to all that donated so many wonderful items.



We were blessed to be able to have our German service again this year. Many of Friedens congregation and people in the community look forward to it. There were 103 attending and 7 people viewing online. Thanks goes to Pastor Bud who provided the English dialog and Rev. Michael Melchizedek who provided the German. A quartet of singers, Lynn Pepperd, Paula Nicholls, Abby Newhouse, and Karen Scribner, sang two special songs, "Kling, Glocken- enen" (Ring, Little Bell) and "Als Ich Bei Meinen Schafen Wacht" (Come, O You Shepherds). Karen led the congrega- tional singing of the carols. Thanks to Friedens members who contributed and helped serve the delicious baked goods following the service. Some of the German treats were cherry kuchen (cherry cake), pfeffernusse (peppernuts), vanillekipferl (vanilla crescent cookies), honig cookies (honey cookies), and spritz cookies. A great time was had by all. We honor Friedens German heritage well.



Pastor Bud Christenson speaking the English words.

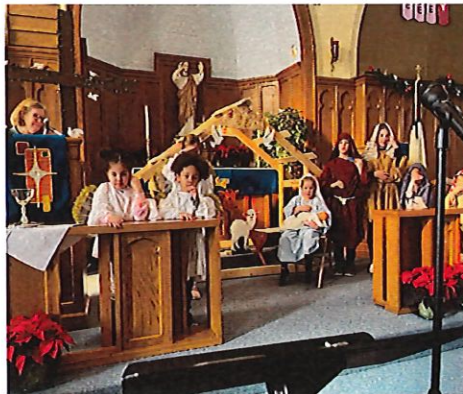
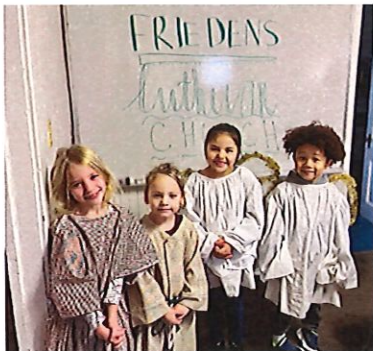


Lynn Peppard, Paula Nicholls, Abby Newhouse, and Karen Scribner, singing 2 German songs.



Rt. Rev M. Melchizedek speaking the German words

Children's Christmas Program 2022



This year's Christmas Program was on December 18th during the 10:30 service. Peggy Russell was the narrator for the pageant. Mai Butler and Patrick Crawford provided music. Karen Scribner helped the children learn the words and actions to the song "Away in the Manger". The children were very excited about presenting the story of Jesus's birth and God's love for us. Those participating this year were Shepherds: Anna Fullerton, Cooper Hardt and Bellamy Hardt. Angels: Naomi Grimes, Ethan Butler and Charlie Hardt. Mary: Arryanna DuSchene. Joseph: Kenny DuSchene. A big thank you to all who helped with the program, those who were able to come to the service or watched it on livestream and those that were able to join us in the fellowship hall following the service to eat cookies and enjoy each other's company during this special time of the year. A special thank you to the parents of the children for bringing them to Sunday School, helping with the costumes and preparations for the program.

JANUARY Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 03) Karen Michael
(4) Wilder Owens
(4) Georgiane Crawford
(5) Randy Koch
(5) Arryanna DuSchene
(09) Greg Loos
(09) Maxine Pfrimmer
(13) Aaron Vollenweider
(15) Patrick Crawford
(17) Kirk & Jessica Beute (13 years)
(18) Robert Sinn
(20) Dora Sorensen
(21) Jeff Harrington
(21) Juan & Ashlie Uribe (9 years)
(22) Charlie Hardt
(24) Dave Allen
(25) Alma Wilson
(31) Jimmy Oltmer



JANUARY WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Deb Marr & Neoma Jones

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

1-1 Kathy Holland

1-8 Hermann Siegl

1-15 Bob Wessels

1-22 Bob Wessels

1-29 Sue Busker

Cantors

1-1 Karen Scribner

1-8 Patrick Crawford

1-15 Abby Newhouse

1-22 Jodi Urban

1-29 Steve Russell

Counters

Irene & Abby Newhouse

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 15th. It will be held in the sanctuary following the service. All committee reports are due in the church office by January 8th.

Please plan to attend.

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

Poinsettias 2022

IN HONOR OF:

Friedens active women, by Kathie Svoboda

Kathie Svoboda, my grandmother, by Kate Godfrey

Jeremy & Kristi, Jill, Jason, Jackson, Jameson, our family, by Dave & Jane Cosier

Naomi's Adoption, by Mark & Megan Grimes



IN CELEBRATION OF:

Pastor Bud & Ruth Christenson, by Carolea Adams

Deborah, Scott, Nancy, Barbara, Stacey, my children, by Kathie Svoboda

Christ's Birth by Mark & Megan Grimes

IN MEMORY OF:

Stan Trampe, by Judy Trampe

Richard & Beverly Rasmussen, by Deb Peterson

Leroy Butherus, Jacob & Emile Butherus, by Sondra Butherus

Francis & Marj Koelzer, Bill Koelzer, by Greg & Fran Zessin

Al & Dorothy Zessin, John & Katherine Welsch, by Greg & Fran Zessin

Jan Perrin, by Deb Schellhorn

Donald Brunken, my husband, by Barbara Brunken

Mr. & Mrs. R.S. Adams, beloved parents, by Carolea Adams

Marcia R. Adams, precious sister, by Carolea Adams

Dr. & Mrs. H.M. Goede, Gerald H. Goede, Ronald W. Goede, by Carolea Adams

Pastor Del Klover, by Carolea Adams

Edwin & Leura Lind, grandparents, by Julie Erickson

Kenneth & Jewel Hardt, parents, by Julie Erickson

Molly & John Schreiber, Frieda Patchen, Martin Koolen's son, by Kathie Svoboda

Sally Svoboda, my daughter, by Kathie Svoboda

Sally Svoboda, my mother, by Kate Godfrey

Christmas Eves spent with my grandparents, George & Katherine Kaufman, by Kris Plucknett

Andrew & Elizabeth Beltz, by Steven & Catherine Beltz /Melvin & Deloris Bellinger

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Deer, Earl Borrell, by Nancy Borrell

Jack Pfrimmer, Bob Hogg, by Maxine Pfrimmer

Martha Yost Kraft, by Vicki Norton

Ray & Lucille Rempe, Owen & Nelva Beethe, Carolyn Beethe, by Kathy Rempe

Dale Meyer, Lawrence Blume, by Mark & Megan Grimes



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Friedens.org

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Permit #432

Pastor Bud Christenson

Dr. Mai Butler, Director of Music

Bev Mittan, Office Manager

Forwarding Service Requested

POLKADOT

Neighborhood Bike Shop & Custom Cycles



Many thanks to Paul Wesley Knopp, owner of Polkadot Bicycles of Nebraska, who has donated this child's bike for a Christmas present to a child needing a bike. We are so blessed for Paul to make this generous donation.

Paul Wesley Knopp
Polkadot Bicycles of Nebraska
3863 South Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-730-1820