

Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 37, Issue 2—February 2022

PASTOR'S PAGE...

February 2022

Dear Friedens Family,

It is easy to see that the workers from Cheever's Construction Company are busy building the structure to house our new lift. It is comforting to know that they know what they are doing. It is my understanding that when the structure is in place they will take final measurements to send to the lift company. Then we trust that the lift company knows how to build the lift that will serve our members for years to come.

While that work is being done, we are busy doing our part. We are raising money to pay for the lift. The chart in the narthex indicates that as of last Sunday we have raised \$118,000+ of the estimated \$130,000+ needed. Together we will make it happen!

Looking back to the beginning of this church year we recall the process of moving through the Advent Season, lighting one blue candle each week. We followed that with a beautiful celebration of the birth of our Savior. Covid tried to destroy our celebration with the children's pageant. Twelve children dwindled to four when the day of the pageant arrived, but adults stepped up to rescue the event and four beautiful children participated.

The twelve days of Christmas led us to the Epiphany of our Lord. Now the Epiphany Season moves us forward toward the seasons of Lent and Easter. Epiphany is the season when we celebrate the "making known" of God's loving purpose in sending his Son. We celebrate the knowledge that the coming of the Savior is a cosmic event. The magi from the far east are led by a star in the heavens to discover and announce the birth of Jesus. Human wisdom and the Creator's design work together to "make known" the love that God is expressing for all people.

Lent is the next season on the horizon. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 2, we will acknowledge that our sin has been our downfall. Eternal death is the threatened consequence. However, God has a bigger plan and a bigger heart than sin and evil can conquer. The Easter victory celebration is our target, April 17.

I have written a new series of "Conversations with Jesus" for our brief Wednesday evening services. Together we will contemplate how Jesus may have looked into the lives of important people who shared the story of his death and resurrection.

Covid still threatens, but we will move forward with live worship and live streaming to share this important experience. May God bless our journey!

Pastor Bud

Message from our Council President

New Lift Project

Progress continues on our new lift. The goal is to have it completed before Easter. The project has been running on schedule, and we are hoping that it continues to run on schedule. We are almost to our fund raising goal as well. The goal is to raise \$130,000, in order to have it completely paid for when it is completed. To date, we have raised \$118,000. So we still need to raise \$12,000 to get the lift completely paid for. We appreciate everyone's contribution to this project. We are hoping that we can raise the remaining needed amount, this month. If you are able to help get us to our goal, you can mail your check into the church office, or drop it in the offering plate at church. Please mark it "lift" in the memo line and envelope. Your contributions and donations to this much needed project is appreciated.

With our goal to have the new lift done before Easter, we will be planning the Easter worship services this month. The plan is, to have our traditional Easter morning breakfast, before the Easter worship service, as we did last year. Having the lift operational by then, it will get those worshipers who need that assistance, the ability to get to the Fellowship Hall as well as the sanctuary. If you haven't been able to come to worship services for awhile because of our lift not working, we hope that you will plan on being with us for this year's Easter breakfast and worship service. We will have more on that coming soon.

I want to thank everyone's participation in the life of Friedens Church. We are doing more things at Friedens right now, despite the pandemic over the past 2 weeks. It is a very active place, and we hope that you will be moved to come and worship at Friedens, and to volunteer, where you see opportunities that interest you. This year we will celebrate Friedens 115th year anniversary. We will have a special worship service and luncheon, to celebrate those 115 years. Planning for that celebration will start soon also. We hope you make plans to come to that special celebration, when that date is announced.

Thank you all, for all you do.

Gary Hardt

Church Council President

ghardt7@yahoo.com

402-314-5484

When we give freely.....

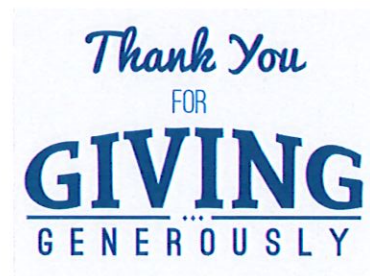
We are able to be a part of God's work at Friedens, in Lincoln and around the world. We serve an incredibly generous God and count it a privilege to give back to God what has been generously been given to us.

Monthly Report: January 2022

Receipts: \$ 11,862.00

Disbursements: \$21,938.46

Note: The excess cost of disbursements this month is due to our expenditures for our lift project. We are asking for your prayers and financial support during this project.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers... Please let the church office know if there has been a birth, baptism, 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	Roy McKinney
Deb Marr	Lee Alexander	Molly Lyons	Sharon Trout
Reece Nelsen	Dorothy Loos	Crystal Anderson	Marie Kildau
Bob Hogg	Carolyn Hogg	Gisela Niebuhr	Ron Vogt
Jean Wheat	Julie Erickson		

Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford's brother)

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban's brother)

Janice Zackery (Crystal Anderson's mother)

Bryce and Chelsea Robinson (Bev Mittan's granddaughter & husband)

Scott Andreasen (Bev Mittan's nephew)

Family and Friends of Larrie Schmidt

Family and Friends of Shirley Engle



Sending Healing Prayers

Shirley Engle

Shirley Engle passed away Saturday, January 8th, at the age of 91. In years passed, Shirley was Friedens church secretary. She also was the pianist at Lancaster Manor's weekly church service. A memorial Service and Celebration of Life will be celebrated later in the Spring or Summer.

In Loving Memory



Larrie Schmidt

Larrie Schmidt passed away Monday, January 17th, at Saint Elizabeth's hospital. He was 85 years old. Larrie was a cousin to Bill and Cindy Story. He was a member of Friedens since 2009 and was homebound for quite some time. Funeral services were held at Friedens on January 30th.

In Loving Memory



Progression of ADA Lift Project



Ground Breaking Ceremony



Stained Glass Window Moved to new location



Street view of the continued lift construction



Close up view of the continued lift construction

Endowment Fund

Friedens Endowment Fund was established many years ago to provide a vehicle for our Church to provide “outreach into the community” and to help others in our congregation to “grow in Christian faith and service to God’s people or new ministries of the congregation”. In 2018 we were blessed with a significant contribution to this fund by the estate of Daniel Wacker. Since this time, the Endowment Committee has managed the fund and worked to invest the principal so that it will continue to grow in value and allow for the distribution of the income. The Committee looks forward to accepting applications for grants from those who have a need for funding in the following areas:

- Scholarships or grants to members of Friedens for the purpose of attending Lutheran institutions of higher education
- Outreach into the community with grants to ELCA colleges, seminaries, social service agencies, or individuals with spiritual or economic needs
- Mission of the ELCA in America or overseas for development of professional leadership, educational ministries, world mission and ecumenism, and capital financing.

To learn more about the Endowment Fund or to request a Grant Application, please contact Irene Newhouse, Treasurer or the Church Office.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

FEBRUARY Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 02) Rachel Johanson
(05) Jane Cosier
(06) Amanda Zweerink
(06) Alexander Schild
(08) Christin King
(08) Colton Hauschild
(11) Kathy Harris
(11) JoAnn Ninneman
(12) Abigail Newhouse
(12) Bob Wessels
(13) Nancy Svoboda
(14) Daniel Trout
(17) Peggy Russell
(17) Geoffrey Wendland
(18) Rick Harris
(19) Anne Melang-Thoren
(19) Malachi Detty
(20) Lou Skrdlant
(20) Breann Anderson
(21) Nathan Johanson
(21) Courtney Russell
(22) Raven Pinkerton
(24) Miles Melang-Thoren
(24) Madeleine Melang-Thoren
(28) Steve Russell
(29) Nicholas Hardt

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Maxine Pfrimmer

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

2-6 Maxine Pfrimmer

2-13 Mark Grimes

2-20 Megan Grimes

2-27 Irene Newhouse

Counters

Irene & Abby Newhouse

Conversations with Jesus

Wed., March 2nd Mother Mary

Wed., March 9th Peter

Wed., March 16th Mary Magdalene

Wed., March 23rd Lazarus

Wed., March 30th Martha

Wed., April 6th Nicodemus

Pastor Bud has written "Conversations with Jesus" for our Wednesday evening Lenten services. Together we will contemplate how Jesus may have looked into the lives of important people who shared the story of his death and resurrection.

Wednesday evening 7:00pm

March 2nd thru April 6th

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 23rd, immediately following our worship service. Twenty-six members were present which constituted a quorum..

Reports from Pastor Bud and Church Council President, Gary Hardt, were accepted as printed as well as the minutes from the 2021 annual meeting, the Treasurer's report and all of the committee reports. All of these reports are printed in the annual meeting booklet. Copies of this booklet are available by the usher's station or contact the church office and Bev will mail you a copy.

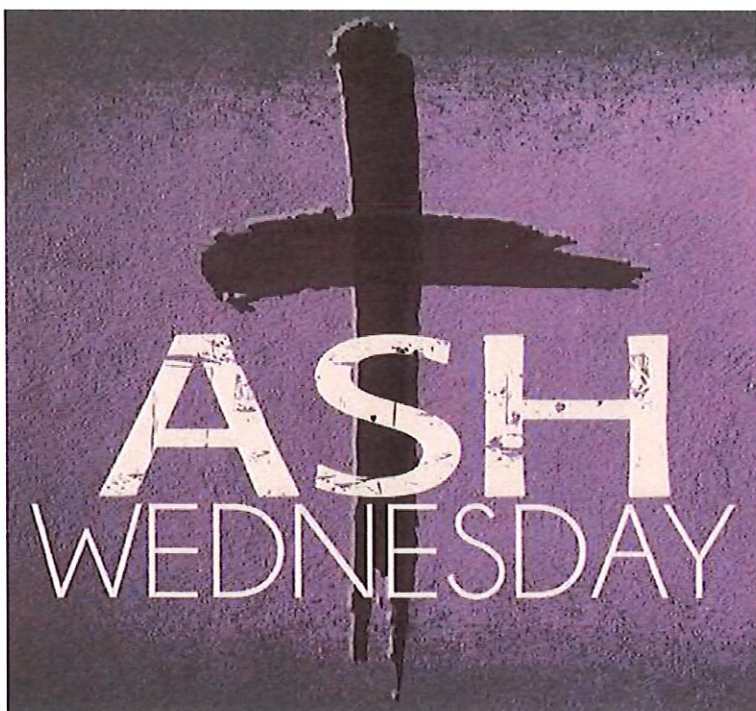
No Council members are going off Church Council this year so no Council election was necessary. Current Council members are: Gary Hardt, Stacey Schild, Kathy Rempe, Irene Newhouse, Amy Rezny, Sue Busker and Fran Zessin. With the uncertainty as to whether Synod Assembly will be held this year, the election of Synod Assembly delegates was deferred until plans are made known.

Irene Newhouse reviewed the proposed budget for 2022. The budget was approved as proposed. Per the Lift Project written report , there is still about \$15,000 needed to pay for the lift.

Fran Zessin explained how ordering gift cards through SCRIP worked. She encouraged people to do it, as the church gets a percentage of each order. We participate in this program through Lincoln Lutheran School.

Pastor Bud thanked everyone for all the support and remembrances on his birthday and Christmas..

The meeting was adjourned following the approval of the Resolutions and was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.



March 2, 2022 7:00pm



On the first Sunday of every month, Don and Millie's at 5600 South 56th St. (56th and Hwy. 2) is inviting Friedens members to eat at their restaurant any time during business hours on that day. In appreciation of our attendance, Don and Millie's, will send us a check for 20% of their receipts from Friedens orders. When you order, make sure to tell them you are from Friedens. Enjoy!

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Website:

Friedens.org

Church email:

office@friedens.org

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Permit #432

Pastor Bud Christenson

Forwarding Service Requested

Dr. Mai Butler, Director of Music

Bev Mittan, Office Manager



SCRIP PROGRAM

The SCRIP program is a great way to support the ministry of Friedens.

Through our SCRIP program, consider buying gift cards from a variety of restaurants, fast food places, local and chain stores. The order forms are in the racks in the Narthex (Purple form). Kathy Holland will be taking orders over the phone the week of February 6th. Payment can be made for your order by mailing your payment to the church office or you can turn in your payment with your order on February 13th at Sunday worship. Checks should be written to Friedens, specifying SCRIP on the memo line.

Earnings through the SCRIP program are designated for the general fund. If you have questions about SCRIP, please contact Kathy Rempe, Fran Zessin, Maxine Pfrimmer or Kathy Holland.