

Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church  
540 D Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-1054

Office Phone: 402-476-3888  
Fax Number: 402-438-5669

**Website:**  
Friedens.org  
**Church email:**  
office@friedens.org

Forwarding Service Requested

Pastor Katherine (Kate) Woolf  
[pastorkate@friedens.org](mailto:pastorkate@friedens.org)

Bev Mittan, Office Manager

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Lincoln, NE  
Permit #432

Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 34, Issue 10 — October 2019

PASTOR’S PAGE...

September has been an exciting outreach month for us, with two big community events. The first was the annual church/neighborhood picnic/block party: the weather was lovely and we had record numbers for supper and bingo! Many thanks to all those who helped to extend hospitality and make that event a success! More recently, on 22 September, the annual Streets Alive! event was held in the South Salt Creek neighborhood, and Friedens was right on the 2 mile route. Kathy Holland and Abby Newhouse put together a booth for us in front of the church serving popcorn with a variety of seasoning options and providing sidewalk chalk, bubbles, hula hoops, and corn hole for fun! Thanks to all those who came out to participate in the event or to help with the booth. It was a great event! It’ll be back in the neighborhood next year, so start brainstorming ideas of how we can be involved in a fun way! ☺

As many of you know, this will be my last newsletter article, as I will be leaving Friedens. My last Sunday at Friedens will be the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. (If this is news to you, please see my resignation letter which has been included in this newsletter also.) I am sad to be leaving Friedens and will miss you all and this community. I have enjoyed my time with you immensely and learned a great deal. We have done some really good ministry together and Friedens is taking steps toward being an engaged and integral partner to its neighborhood and community. I pray for you all that this work will continue and that the Spirit might work in your hearts and in your ministry to bring about wonderful things. I am deeply grateful for the myriad ways that people step up to serve at Friedens and make things happen; you are indeed small but mighty!

I have gotten several “what’s next?” questions. As for me, I will be serving at the transitional minister (interim) at Faith in Talmage, NE and Christ Lutheran in Delaware (near Syracuse) starting on 22 October. It will be a new adventure as I have never lived in a small rural community before! I expect that there will be a lot to learn.

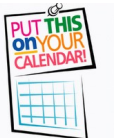
As far as what’s next for Friedens, the Church Council has already met with Pastor Megan Morrow, assistant to the bishop, to do some planning for the path ahead. As more information becomes available about what that will look like, I’m sure that they will communicate that to you all.

One of the important, but challenging, things about a pastor leaving a call is that the relationships we have had must change. Although we have been through many things together, and I still care about and pray for you all, I will no longer be your pastor, which means that I am no longer able to perform “pastoral acts” for you (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). This can be a difficult adjustment so, please, hear again: if you ask and I decline to do something, in the future, it is not because I don’t love and care about all of you, rather it is no longer my role to do those things for you. Setting these boundaries helps you all to build relationships with whoever your new pastor will be, and helps me to be able to better serve the congregation(s) where I am at the time. This doesn’t mean that friendships can’t continue between us, just that we can’t talk church.

Continued on next page

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO  
PASTOR KATE

**Please join us to honor Pastor Kate and wish her well as she leaves us to begin the next step in her ministry. Continental Breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall on her last Sunday, October 6, 2019 at 9:00 AM.**



Continued from front page

Below is an excerpt from a document provided by the Synod office regarding how congregations and former pastors are to relate to one another:

How the congregation responds to previous ministers is critical for the health of the congregation and the entire Church. Unhealthy ties to former ministers will negatively impact the congregation's ability to receive the ministry of the ministers that follow.

Congregational members make and maintain loving and caring relationships with their ministers and their family members. Within the realm of friendship, it is appropriate to continue such relationships. Hospitality is always proper. It is not appropriate to engage former ministers in discussions or to seek their advice concerning congregational matters or the current pastor.

Likewise, members should not turn to a former minister at emotional and ceremonial times with expectations that the person will perform any pastoral acts; i.e., weddings, funerals, baptisms, home communions, etc. Such requests immediately put both the current and former minister in very awkward positions. You can show high regard for the pastoral office your former minister held by seeking out the new minister to be your minister.

Source: *When a Rostered Minister Leaves: A Handbook for Pastors, Deacons, and Congregational Leaders*  
Nebraska Synod, ELCA, August 2017.

I will leave you with a bible verse that has been an important part of my life since I encountered it my freshman year of college, and which has seen me through a lot of transition, unknowns, and struggles:

"Have I not commanded you, be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

May these words accompany you as well and may you indeed be courageous in life and in ministry – willing to step out in faith, even when it is scary or challenging. And as you do so, may you know that the Lord your God is, indeed, with you, wherever it is that you may go.

God's blessings be upon you all!

In love and gratitude for our ministry together,

Pastor Kate

## PRAYER CHAIN...

The Prayer Chain at



Friedens a vital part of the ministry we do. Caring for others in general, but especially for those in our church family, is what we are called to do. You are needed. Please call Maxine Pfrimmer (402-464-3024) and tell her you would love to be part of the prayer chain.

## School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

We have completed collecting items for School Kits. However, if you have items that you have not had a chance to drop off, please bring them. We will either make more kits, save them for next year or give them to a neighborhood elementary school.

We will be needing volunteers to help assemble our kits. This needs to be done by November 4th. If you are interested in helping, please speak with Kathy Holland (402-310-9153) or leave a message with Bev at the church office.



## Lutheran Food Pantry

Food items available for purchase from the Lincoln Food Bank are very limited at this time. Therefore, we are having to rely heavily on items donated as well as purchasing food from grocery stores. Even though we try to find items on sale, buying items at the grocery store makes the money donated to the Food Pantry not go as far.

Items needed at this time include:

- Canned fruit
- Cereal
- Condensed soups
- Pork and beans
- Spaghetti sauce
- Monetary donations to purchase food



Thank you for your continuing support of the Lutheran Food Pantry!

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP

### LEADERS

#### Altar Guild

Nancy Borrell & Jane Cosier

#### Head Usher

Gary Hardt

#### Communion Assistant

3— Sue Busker

17— Karen Scribner

27— Peggy Russell

#### Lectors

3— Sue Busker

10— Abby Newhouse

17— Karen Scribner

24— Margaret Vogt

27— Maxine Pfrimmer

#### Greeters

3— Rempe Family

10— Deb Marr & Neoma Jones

17— Linda Dreith & Carol Boellstorff

24— Bob & Carolyn Hogg

27— Alma Wilson & Judy Trampe



OCTOBER Birthdays  
and Anniversaries

- (03) Tina Strong
- (04) Matthew & Julie Hauschild (16 Yrs)
- (05) Shawn Johanson
- (06) Jewel Hardt
- (07) David Cosier
- (07) Linda Dreith
- (10)Sunny Detty
- (12) Brad Magnuson
- (13) Brian Husa
- (14) Richard & Susan Busker (30 Yrs)
- (14) Bev Wilson
- (16) Amy Rezny
- (20) Dwayne Greenwalt
- (20) Kent Vollenweider
- (22) Jeremy Cosier
- (25) Kayle Hardt
- (30) Rich Anderson
- (30) Myles Hardt



Jewel Hardt’s 95th Birthday Open House

You are invited to attend Jewel Hardt’s 95th birthday open house, Sunday October 6th at The Unitarian Church of Lincoln, 6300 A St. The open house is from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. No gifts please. Help Jewel celebrate this blessing God has honored her with.

Supply Pastor October 13th

Pastor Delmar Klover will be our supply pastor on October 13th. He is a retired pastor of Friedens. Information will be posted in the announcement of the bulletin regarding our future supply pastors.

OCTOBER WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Linda Vollenweider & Deb Marr

Head Usher

Kent Vollenweider

Communion Assistant

- 6— Peggy Russell
- 20 —Maxine Pfrimmer
- 27 —Fran Zessin

Lectors

- 6— Sue Busker
- 13—Maxine Pfrimmer
- 20 —Karen Scribner
- 27 —Linda Dreith

Greeters

- 6—Amy Rezny & Anna Fullerton
- 13—Irene Newhouse & Maria Kildau
- 20—David & Jane Cosier
- 27—JoAnn Ninneman & Jimmy Oltmer



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](mailto:office@friedens.org)



Prayers....

- |                |                  |                   |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Gary Overfield | Glenn Kollars    | Verlene Owens     |
| Donna Splichal | Crystal Anderson | Ron Vogt          |
| Larrie Schmidt | Robin Michael    | Danielle DuSchene |



- Lee Huelle (Jean Wheat’s brother)
- Doris Massman (Jean Wheat’s sister)
- Jeanette Chistofferson (Jean Wheat’s twin sister)
- Dean & Angie Dreith (Scott Dreith’s brother)
- Nancy Carpenter (Cindy Worster’s sister)

Veggie Van—October 24th...

The Veggie Van will return to set up shop in our driveway October 24th, 4:00—6:00pm. There will be an assortment of fresh, garden produce for sale.

The Veggie Van is a mobile vegetable and fruit market created by Community Crops, a non-profit organization, to increase awareness and availability of healthy food choices in several Lincoln neighborhoods. This outreach is sponsored by the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln. For those using the SNAP program, “Double up Food Bucks” will be available for sales from the Veggie Van. A Nebraska Extension representative will be present to explain this program to newcomers.



When we give freely.....

We are able to be a part of God’s Kingdom 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 given to us.

Year To Date Report: September 2019



- Receipts \$ 75,230.39
- Disbursements \$ 78,558.54

**Pastor Kate’s Resignation Letter...**

September 12<sup>th</sup> 2019

Beloved friends in Christ,

I have some words of Paul that I’d like to share with you, from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of the letter to the Philippians:

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.

I do, indeed, thank God for all of you, for this wonderful community of messy, but faithful people, and for the love that you share with one another. I was blessed to be called to this congregation to serve as your pastor, serving you and serving both God and community alongside you.

We’ve done a lot in our 4 years together! Transitional ministry and exploring who God is calling us to be as a community here in the South Bottoms, Transformational Ministry and examining how God might be calling us to change and reach out in the future, and facing the financial realities that led us to consider alternatives to full-time pastoral ministry. Through all of that your tenacity and faithfulness has been a great gift and testament to the strength of your faith that God will always see you through.

I have learned much from you and you have loved and challenged me as I formed my pastoral identity. (I know it’s not easy raising a pastor! ☺) I have appreciated your compassion and love for me over the past four years. It has been a joy to watch your growing openness to what God might call you to in the future, and to your neighborhood. Just think: hosting two ethnic congregations and the neighborhood community organization, having gone around to meet neighbors, and welcoming new families into the church and the body of Christ! We have made wonderful music and experienced rich worship together.

Through laughter and tears we have walked together, seeking to be faithful disciples of Christ. Therefore, it is with regret and sadness, that I tender my resignation as your pastor, effective 12 October. My last Sunday with you will be October 6<sup>th</sup>.

I suspect this will come as an unwelcome surprise to many of you. The circumstances that have led to this decision were beyond my control. My time at Clark Jeary (now Yankee Hill Village), where I was serving part-time, has come to an end and I have been unable to find another part-time replacement that will provide the income and benefits that I need to continue my ministry here. And so, it has become apparent that I needed to seek a different place to serve. Sometimes God calls us the hard way.

Continuing with Paul’s words to the Philippians:

<sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> ... <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best...

The God who created you, saved you, knows you and loves you, goes before and accompanies you. You will not be alone as you move into the future. God will lead you, as God has always done, and the Synod will accompany you as well, helping you find a new pastor to serve here.

My love and prayers for you all will continue!

In Christ,

Pastor Kate

**We had another successful Church Picnic/Neighborhood Block Party** thanks to great weather and to all who volunteered! The turn out from the neighborhood was excellent! We estimate we had about 125-140 for the picnic dinner. The fellowship hall was full for bingo. Earlier that afternoon others stopped by to play games, play on the inflatables, climb the rock-climbing wall and to have face painting done. We had an array of game prizes that were a big hit.

We would like to thank these individuals for their hard work the day of the event:

**Set-up:** James Ripenburg, Malachi Detty; **Games:** Erin Schild, Lou Skrdlant, Karen Scribner, K.C. Melang-Thoren, Stacey Schild, Jodi Urban, Julie Erickson, Kathy Holland, Megan & Mark Grimes; **Bounce House:** Amy Rezny; **Penny Find:** Linda Dreith; **Prize Table:** Peggy Russell, Pastor Kate, Taylor Andrews, Jakob Jones; **Concessions:** Kayle Hardt, Dan Day; **Face Painting:** Tiana Dorsey, Anna Fullerton; **Food Prep & Serving:** Maxine Pfrimmer, Neoma Jones, Fran Zessin, Sue Busker, Kathy Rempe, Jenna Rempe; **Grill Master:** Scott Dreith, **Bingo Caller:** Jakob Jones.

We also want to acknowledge the gift from Sandy Everett /Runza Restaurants that made it possible for us to rent the inflatables and the rock climbing wall and to Gary Hardt whose commitment to this event provides the momentum to continue this tradition!

Again, thanks to everyone for participating, helping, and enjoying the day!!

With Gratitude,

Your Church Council

**Streets Alive 2019**

As Pastor Kate mentioned in her article, the Streets Alive event on September 22<sup>nd</sup> was a big success. Friedens was buzzing with activity. We had music, thanks to Mai Butler and Anne Melang-Thoren. Anne also brought along her jazz quartet. We had yard games and a back drop for a photo op.

In addition to our booth, we offered water to participants and opened up our church as a restroom stop along the route. The dunk tank was placed near Friedens so that they had a source for water in filling the tank. It is important to note that proceeds from the dunk tank will go towards the Streets Alive Community Development Project – improving lighting in Cooper Park.

Below is an excerpt from a communication from the organizer of Streets Alive as we worked with Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln in planning the event. “The Church has been so accommodating in helping to make this event a success. You truly are a cornerstone in the neighborhood. We are so very grateful that you have been working with us.”

And, a big thanks to our Friedens’s volunteers: Irene Newhouse, Amy Rezny & Anna, Julie Erickson, Gary Hardt, Pastor Kate, Mai Butler, Kathy Rempe and Peggy Russell.

Abby Newhouse & Kathy Holland, Coordinators