

Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church  
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Lincoln, NE  
Permit #432

Pastor Bud Christenson

Forwarding Service Requested

Dr. Mai Butler, Director of Music

Bev Mittan, Office Manager



**Dr. Mai Butler, Friedens Music Director**

**Dr. Mai Butler, our Music Director, is now offering piano lessons at Friedens.**

Dr. Mai Butler, originally from Miyazaki, Japan, began studying piano at age 6 with her mother. She moved to the US to study piano at age 20 and has lived here ever since pursuing her profession. She already has 20 years teaching experience. Mai's highest degree is Doctor of Musical Arts from UNL where she studied piano performance.

Mai enjoys competition, believes in it fervently. Her students have won prizes from music competitions and events. She herself has won many piano competitions in both Japan and the US. She has served as a judge at the Nebraska State Music Festival.

Mai cares about each student like family, regardless of age. She connects with her students and guides them to achieve an excellent piano education and musical experience. Students at all levels of accomplishment can learn from her. The love of music is important to her. She helps her students find a suitable pace for instruction so they too can learn to love and enjoy music as she does.

Mai has a family here in Lincoln. Outside of her work, she likes to go to parks with her 4 year old son, Ethan, and her husband, Rodney.

For more information about Mai's piano lessons, please contact Mai at 402-470-7412 or maibutler0612@gmail.com

# Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 36, Issue 8—August 2021

## ***PASTOR'S PAGE...***

Dear Friedens Family,

Summer is a busy time at Friedens. There is a bee-hive of activity at the church as members prepare for the annual garage sale. Garage sales are a lot of work, but I notice that those who are involved seem to be having fun. I realize that's an outsider's point of view since I am not capable of doing much to help.

Next comes Vacation Bible School. Julie is busy inviting children, recruiting volunteers and seeking donations.

Just over the horizon is the annual neighborhood picnic.

We are all watching with great interest what is happening in our community regarding the Covid-19 virus. Are we going to need to mask up again? We thought our midweek worship at Lancaster Manor would begin in July, then it was postponed to August, and now to September. I understand the Manor has new cases of the virus. Safety is the best policy, both for them and for us.

We were happy to have a service for reception of new members on July 25. Welcome to Ryan Shannon and Mindy Gartner. We all celebrate when new people join our family.

Summer is vacation time for me. Ruth and I will be attending my granddaughter Vanessa's wedding in Columbus, Ohio, on July 31. I'm happy to participate in a wedding in the role of grandpa. Someone else will worry about getting everything done right!

Ruth and I will be attending the Christenson family reunion on the weekend of August 7 near Granite Falls, Minnesota. My sister Ione and I are the only two left of the family of twelve children, but there are lots of nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews, and on and on. It will be nice if everyone wears name tags! I'm happy that we will be meeting on my niece's farm. It just seems right.

We are pleased to have Scott Johnson for pulpit supply for August 1. Scott tells me he has been here once before as a University of Nebraska student, and he is looking forward to coming back for a working visit. Scott is the campus pastor at Midland University in Fremont.

I'm happy that Patrick Crawford made time in his busy schedule to speak on Sunday, August 8. I'm also happy that his schedule is busy again!

I hope you and your family have some restful time this summer. God bless us, one and all.

Pastor Bud

**Message from our Council President**

We continue to work on a new lift at Friedens, and although it has been a slow process, we are making headway with the project. The finished project will be an enclosed lift, that can be operated by the person using the lift themselves. We have had to rethink several versions of it, as we have been trying to come up with something that will work for our church building, and our congregation. Nothing is done inexpensively anymore, so we have been working on the most economical way to get this done. In meeting with the Architect several times, I think we now have the concept that will work for our church. Not having a lift has made it impossible for some of our members to attend worship, and it also makes our church not as desirable when people want to have their wedding or a funeral at our church. So it is important that we have a functional lift again as soon as we are able. Access to our church for everyone is very important. I want to thank Chuck Schwahn, Norm Newhouse and Irene Newhouse, for all of their work that they have all been doing to get this done.

Gary Hardt-Council President  
ghardt7@yahoo.com

***AUGUST Birthdays  
and Anniversaries***

- (01) Eunice Worster
- (01) Barbara Brunken
- (02) Haylee Rutt
- (02) Timothy & Jan Bukoske (18 Yrs)
- (03) Verlene Owens
- (04) Al Scribner
- (06) Christopher Young
- (06) David & Jane Cosier (55 Yrs)
- (08) Susan Busker
- (09) Callen Hauschild
- (11) Carolyn Hogg
- (12) Shawn & Rachel Johanson (15 Yrs)
- (15) Linda Koch
- (17) Wilder & Verlene Owens (30 Yrs)
- (18) Michael Selvage
- (20) Joseph Towns
- (20) Karen Scribner
- (20) Bob & Carolyn Hogg (55 Yrs)
- (22) Jan Bukoske
- (23) Kathie Svoboda
- (26) Jean Wheat
- (26) Rich & Crystal Anderson (32 Yrs)
- (27) Olivia Brown
- (28) Dorothy Loos



***AUGUST WORSHIP***

**LEADERS**

**Altar Guild**

Jodi Urban & Kathy Holland

**Head Usher**

Gary Hardt

**Lectors**

- 8-1 Amy Rezny
- 8-8 Kathy Holland
- 8-15 Maxine Pfrimmer
- 8-22 Sue Busker
- 8-29 Megan Grimes

**Counters**

Deb Marr & Neoma Jones



**Volunteer Appreciation**

We have a lot of volunteers that help keep the church property itself up and running, and in good operating condition, so that we can all gather for worship service every Sunday and to hold the events that we have at Friedens. We would like to thank one of those volunteers this month.

Thank you to **Rick Harris** for coming out to the church Sunday morning, July 18th, during worship service and fixing the air conditioner. **Rick** climbed up in the attic during worship service, and replaced a broken belt on the air handler, so that we could all have air conditioning during the service. Thank you **Rick**. We appreciate it very much.



## Vacation Bible School

July 28-31, 2021.



Friedens Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran Church worked together this year to provide Vacation Bible School at Friedens. Our theme was “Rocky Railway-Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through”. The lessons were about how Jesus’ power helps us: do hard things, gives us hope, lets us live forever, and to be good friends.

VBS gave the children and adults the opportunity to develop friendships and build relationships with each other and with our Lord and Savior.

**The 20 children that participated this year enjoyed the Railroad Theme. They learned more about Jesus through Bible stories, songs, crafts, science, games, and snacks. During each session they collected tags with Bible verses on them to help them remember God’s words.**

We had two mission projects this year. We collected T-shirts, socks and underwear to donate to Bridges of Hope to help adults in need and we collected children’s books for Transformation, who will give out the books free to children. We will continue to collect for these two projects for 3 more weeks.

We had a great team of loving people to make VBS a success for all. **A special thanks** to our church family and friends for giving of themselves and using their talents to share God’s love.

Volunteers included **24 adults, 8 middle school children and 1 high school student. A huge thank you goes to the following who also were part of our VBS team that made VBS happen:**

**Church members and friends** who donated money and food (snack) supplies and kept us in their prayers.

**Parents and grandparents** who brought their children so that they could experience God’s love in action.

**Church members** who invited children they knew.

**Decorating/Cleaning up/Taking down of decorations.**

**Sheridan Lutheran Church:** Sharing VBS posters and decorations with us.

**Immanuel Church:** Sharing VBS materials and supplies.

**Grace Lutheran:** Partnering with Friedens for a successful VBS.

Thanks to you all!

The Education Committee



**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....**

Donna Splichal	Verlene Owens	Kimberly Render	Roy McKinney
Larrie Schmidt	Lee Alexander	Molly Lyons	Sharon Trout
Reece Nelsen	Dorothy Loos	Crystal Anderson	Marie Kildau
Bob Hogg	Carolyn Hogg		



*Sending Healing Prayers*

Jeanette Christofferson (Jean Wheat’s twin sister)

Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford’s brother)

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban’s brother)

Friends & Family of Bill Story (Father of Bill Jr., Cindy, & Jim Story)

### **Happy Birthday—Dorothy Loos**

**Dorothy Loos**, a long time member of Friedens, will be celebrating her **100th birthday on August 28th.**

Anyone wishing to send her a card to make this day special, her address is:

Dorothy Loos, 735 W. Garfield, Lincoln, NE 68522



### **Membership Directory Update**

In the near future, Friedens volunteers will be making phone calls to members to obtain a current address, current phone number, and an email if you subscribe to one. It is important for Friedens to have current information for a variety of reasons. It has been quite a while since we have requested this. Please help these volunteers by offering any information that will assist us in contacting our members.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### **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 give to us.

**Monthly Report: July 2021**

**Receipts: \$ 11, 447.79**

**Disbursements: \$ 8,372.36**





**Men's Fellowship/Bible Study**

Pastor Bud would like to invite interested men from Friedens for a **Fellowship Bible study at 9:00am on Saturday, August 14th, in the Fellowship Hall at Friedens.** Pick up a free Bible and enjoy a cup of coffee, a cinnamon roll, juice, and a short Bible study on the Gospel of Mark. Pastor Bud is hoping many of you will join him for a monthly fellowship gathering.

Come and bring a friend!

**Thank you Bill Chrastil**

**Bill Chrastil** performed some of his Gospel Songs during our church service on July 18th! He sang "Amazing Grace", "How Great Thou Art", "One Pair of Hands", and "Lead Me, Guide Me". Bill has done special music at Friedens over the years, and Bill's family has had Friedens connections for many years. If you happened to have missed the service, it is available by live-streaming on Facebook for July 18th.

**Thank you Bill!!**



**Reception for Milestones in Ministry**

On Sunday, July 18th, a reception was held in our Fellowship Hall after worship service honoring Pastor Bud and Bob Wessels for their number of years in the ministry. The Synod recognized Pastor Bud for his 55 years in the ministry and recognized Bob Wessels, a member of Friedens, for his 60 years in the ministry. This is a terrific accomplishment and both of these pastors deserve great recognition. We had a great attendance to celebrate this event.



**Garage Sale 2021**

**Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!**

We made \$5000 this year due to generous donations of items and baked goods. A special thanks to Bob and Carolyn Hogg who donated most of their household furnishings for the sale.

It was a lot of work and we had so many customers.

The bake sale and lunch also went over very well.

Every year many people come to collect shoes and clothes to send to different places in the world such as Africa. Friedens makes a huge difference for so many people.

We can not say enough of a thank you to those who volunteer from just a few hours to days and days, donating items and baked goods, and also those who took the leftover items to different places.

To make this event a success it takes lots of teamwork and that is why this event was again a very big success.

This year we took leftover items to:

Bridges to hope, Bud's Thrift Shop, Transformation, St. Theresa Thrift Shop, Salvation Army, Matt Talbot Kitchen, Inspiration, and Russ's floral Shop.

Thanks again to everyone!!

Fran Zessin

