

Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church
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Friedens MESSENGER

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PASTOR'S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family,

The new year has arrived. It's 2021. Happy New Year.

We might be tempted to say, "How can we be happy when we live every day with a pandemic that is threatening our lives and the lives of our loved ones? How can we be happy when our nation seems to have collapsed into a chaotic political mess? How can we be happy when our way of life seems to be resulting in the destruction of the planet? How can we be happy when there are millions of refugees without a place to call home?"

These are all very important issues, but they are things in our world that we have very little control over.

We can do what we can to protect ourselves and each other from the virus by wearing masks, washing our hands, maintaining social distancing, and receiving the vaccine that researchers have prepared.

We can do what we can to be the best Americans we know how to be and vote to elect people who will help us to protect our democracy and the way of life we have come to enjoy.

We can do what we can to protect our planet from devastating pollution by following the lead of researchers who look for new ways for us to live "green."

These are all long term issues that will demand discipline from all of us. It all seems overwhelming. It causes me to turn to the prayer that AA uses at nearly every meeting:

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know
the difference." (Reinhold Niebuhr)

Meanwhile, in the church, we have come to the Epiphany Season, the season when God reveals to the world the meaning of the arrival of the baby Jesus at the stable in Bethlehem. Magi (wise men) from the East have concluded that this king's arrival is significant for the whole world. So they bring gifts to celebrate his birth.

John agrees, and comes out of the wilderness to announce that Jesus is the one promised, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

We have learned that we cannot conjure up peace and happiness from within ourselves. So we turn in prayer to the one who has the "whole world in his hands."

Pastor Bud

Upcoming dates...

January 10th— Epiphany Pageant (part of worship service)

January 14th — Church Council Meeting—6:30pm

January 17th — Congregational Annual Meeting (following service)



Message from our Council President

Happy New Year to everyone. We had an interesting Christmas season at Friedens. I am thankful that we were able to have our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service, as we do every year. We had 64 people attend in person for that service, so that was very nice. It was good to see families and visitors on Christmas Eve. We weren't able to have our traditional German Christmas Service this year, but we did have a new experience as we did a live streaming on our Facebook page of one of our German Christmas services from December 8th 2002. And, we weren't able to have a Sunday School Christmas program this year, so we live streamed on our Facebook page, our Sunday School Children's Christmas program from December 16th 1999. If anyone would like a copy of either of those services, e mail me and I would be happy to e mail you either or both.

For our annual Congregational meeting this month, I believe we may try something new. Since some people still aren't comfortable with coming to worship service in person because of Covid 19, we may try incorporating our meeting with Zoom. If you are a member and would be interested in attending this years meeting via Zoom, please e mail me and let me know. A final decision on this will be made at our January Church Council meeting.

As illustrated with the attendance at our Christmas Eve service last month, attendance at our worship services continue to be good, given the circumstances. We all appreciate Pastor Bud's and Mai's dedication to make our in person worship services available and meaningful. Our Facebook live streaming also has been a nice addition and is being utilized both in people worshipping with us live and during the following week. It is great to see comments, and to see new names that are unfamiliar to us. For in person worship, we continue to follow all city and Lancaster County Health Department directives. 6 feet between families, no passing of anything between attendees, hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes readily available and the sanctuary being wiped down between worship services.

Thanks again for all of your support, both physically and financially. Both mean everything to our ability to continue to minister to our members, friends and our community. We are always looking for new ways to serve and to connect to all of you. As we go forward, we look to enhance our live steaming efforts, so that we can stay connected to you, where ever you are, and what ever your circumstances. And we all know, Pastor Bud is always looking for creative ways to enhance our worship services and experience.

If you have any questions, you can call me or e mail me, or the church. We hope that you continue to worship with us, either in person or through our live streaming on our Facebook page. We thank you for being part of Friedens Lutheran Church.

Gary Hardt - Council President
402-314-5484

ghardt7@yahoo.com

JANUARY Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 03) Karen Michael
- (04) Chrystal Anderson
- (04) Wilder Owens
- (05) Bob Hogg
- (06) Randy Koch
- (09) Greg Loos
- (09) Maxine Pfrimmer
- (13) Aaron Vollenweider
- (17) Kirk & Jessica Beute (11 years)
- (17) Robert Sinn
- (20) Dora Sorensen
- (21) Jeff Harrington
- (21) Juan & Ashlie Uribe (7 years)
- (22) Charlie Hardt
- (24) Dave Allen
- (25) Alma Wilson
- (31) Jimmy Oltmer



JANUARY WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Neoma Jones

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

1-3 — Steve Russell

1-10— Peggy Russell

1-17— Kathy Holland

1-24— Irene Newhouse

1-31— Abby Newhouse



**Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and in
Friedens Sanctuary every Sunday at 10:30am**

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for **January 17th**.
It will be held in the sanctuary following the
service.

Please plan to attend.

A “to do” list for us (Followers of Christ)

Note: Pastor Bud shared these “guideposts” with us during his sermon August 30th. They are based on one of the scripture readings that morning, Romans 12:9-21.

Put love into action....

- Hate what is evil; cling to what is good
- Be devoted to others
- Honor others above self
- Don’t lack in zeal; keep your spiritual fervor
- Be joyful in hope
- Be patient in afflictions
- Be faithful in Prayer
- Share with people in need
- Practice hospitality
- Bless those who persecute you
- Rejoice with those who rejoice
- Mourn with those who are mourning
- Live at peace with everyone
- Do not take revenge
- Love your enemies

The following Daily Devotionals are available in the entryway to the Sanctuary for the current quarter (January, February, March). Please help yourself to a copy.

Portals of Prayer (Concordia)

Christ in Our Home (Augsburg)



Worship by E-mail

If you or someone that you know does not do Facebook, but would still like to be able to watch each Sunday’s worship service, we can now record each Sunday’s Worship Service and send out via e-mail to watch after the service. Just let us know the name and e-mail address and we will e-mail them the video recording of the worship service.



Special Thanks to Paul Knopp

Friedens would like to thank Paul Knopp, who owns the “Polkadot Bicycle Shop” at 3863 South Street, for his thoughtful donation of a little girls “Frozen” bicycle. Paul contacted the church and wanted to donate this bicycle for us to give to a little girl for Christmas. It was very generous of Paul and very much appreciated. Paul’s family has a generational connection to Friedens Lutheran Church. Friedens thanks Paul for this thoughtfulness and generosity. Thank you Paul..



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	Eric DuSchene
Larrie Schmidt	Lee Alexander	Molly Lyons	
Reece Nelsen	Dorothy Loos	Pastor Del Klover	
Crystal Anderson	Maxine Pfrimmer	Sharon Trout	



Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban’s brother)
Friends and Family of Tom Kidd (Ruth Christenson’s son)

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: December 2020

Receipts: \$10,799.54

Disbursements: \$ 9.914.90



January Calendar

There will not be a January calendar inserted in this month’s Messenger. However, worship in our sanctuary, as well as live streaming worship are both at 10:30am. As more activities resume we will start inserting a calendar.



CHRISTMAS 2020



FRIEDENS CHRISTMAS SEASON



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Poinsettias 2020

IN HONOR OF:

Donna Splichal by Kathy Rempe

Verlene Owens by Kathie Svoboda

Gary Hardt by Kathie Svoboda

Dorothy Loos by Kathie Svoboda

Francis Koelzer by Greg & Fran Zessin

Kathie Svoboda, Dorothy Loos, & June Simpson by Kathy Holland

IN CELEBRATION OF:

Christ's Birth by Megan Grimes

Hannah, Natalia, & William Ledford (Friedens Confirmants) by Kathie Svoboda

Kathie Svoboda by Greg & Fran Zessin

IN MEMORY OF:

Harry Edward Yost & Martha Yost Kraft by Vicki Norton

Leroy Butherus, Emile & Jacob Butherus by Diane Butherus

Andrew & Elizabeth Beltz by Steven & Catherine Beltz/ Melvin and DeLoris Bellinger

Martin Luther (founder of Lutheran Church) by Kathy Rempe

Dale Meyer, Larry Blume, & Clayton Starns by Megan Grimes

Rohrig Schreiber & Kissler families (long time members) by Kathie Svoboda

Rev. Stanley Floth, Conrad & Molly Floth, & Gerald Floth by Sharon Floth

Robert & Rose Rezny, Jim Hofpar, & Chip Fullerton by Amy Rezny

John & Elizabeth Kildau Sr., John Kildau, Ryan Pinkerton, & Brad King by Irene Newhouse

Marj Koelzer, Bill Koelzer, Al & Dorothy Zessin by Greg & Fran Zessin

Lloyd & Jean High by Kathy Holland

Pete & Mollie Harris, George & Martha Cosier by Dave & Jane Cosier

My husband, Donald Brunken by Barbara Brunken

Four friends and relatives who passed away recently by Ron & Margaret Vogt

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 by Carolea Adams

Edwin & Leura Lind (grandparents) by Julie Erickson

Kenneth Hardt (father) by Julie Erickson



Mitten Tree 2020



Again this year we gathered mittens/gloves, hats and scarves for both youth and adults. Elementary age mittens/gloves, hats & scarves will be donated to a neighborhood elementary school. Teen and adult sizes will be given to the Peoples City Mission. Thank you to everyone for the generous gifts for our children and adults in our community

Social Ministry Team