

Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 36, Issue 12—December 2021

PASTOR'S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family,

This is a special time in the lives of many of us. Thanksgiving is over so it is time to put up the Christmas tree! When our children were young, we usually made a trip to the tree farm on the Saturday after Thanksgiving to pick a tree. A “real” tree was more than we could afford, but it was important to us. Each year we spotted a tree that looked just right for our needs, but then we walked up and down the rows to look at other trees. We usually came back and bought the first tree we had spotted.

One year we were on our way home with our tree in the back of the pickup. We didn't tie it down and were surprised when the wind blew the tree out of our pickup box and into the ditch. What surprised us even more was when a farm truck came from the opposite direction, a man jumped out of the truck and threw our tree into the back of his truck and drove off! The kids were angry and hurt. They wanted me to chase him down and get the tree back. Instead we went back to the tree farm and picked out a second tree.

I guess that is one version of Black Friday. Only this was Black Saturday. The second tree was more than we could afford but we bought it anyway. Once the tree was up and decorated we all forgot about that first choice tree.

On November 27th, we held the tradition of the “hanging of the greens” at Friedens. What a nice tradition that is! We decorated the sanctuary, got out the Advent wreath, put the Advent candles in place and set up our tree. We have a brand new tree this year!

Then, like all children everywhere, we will put our Christmas enthusiasm on hold and begin the wait. Advent is the season of waiting and anticipating. It is easy for us to think we are simply waiting for Christmas to come so we can open our gifts. But Advent is so much more than that. The waiting for Christmas is symbolic of our wait for God to complete the work he has begun. We wait with longing for a day when there will really be peace on earth. We wait for a day when everyone will share in the good life that we tend to take for granted. We wait for the fulfillment of the hope that life on earth will be “as it is in heaven.”

That is a great, but wonderful mystery. Christ will come again. We say it over and over every time we gather for worship. While we wait, we hope. It will happen in God's time and in God's own way. We trust that to be true.

Meanwhile we wait. Meanwhile we live in Advent anticipation.

God bless you and yours in this exciting time of anticipation. May God give you patience, hope and peace.

Pastor Bud

Message from our Council President

New Lift Project

When you come to the church, you will see that the construction of the new lift is now underway. The old lift has been demo'd, and they are making the old shaft area larger, to hold the new lift. The time line for the completion of the new lift is March 1st. So we will have it operational for Easter Services. Our goal is to have it completely paid for by the time it is completed. Of the estimated \$130,000 cost of this project, we have raised approximately \$101,000. Our goal is to not incur any debt for Friedens, when the new lift is completed. If you would like to contribute to this worthy project, you can do so by either mailing your donation to the church office, or by making a donation online at www.friedens.org. If mailing in a check, please mark it "Lift donation". If contributing online, please e-mail the church office afterwards and let them know that your online donation was for the new lift. We have had some very generous donations, from Friedens members and from friends of Friedens, to get us to the \$101,000 mark. We hope that we can close the \$29,000 gap and get this project paid for. Any size donation matters. If you would like more information on this, feel free to contact me personally. Thank you to all who have donated to our new lift, and thank you in advance to those of you who will be donating to this project that Friedens needs so badly, so that we can accommodate people who would like to attend worship services, weddings and funerals. Thank you.

Gary Hardt
Council President
402-314-5484
ghardt7@yahoo.com

Ground Breaking Ceremony



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
Larrie Schmidt	Lee Alexander	Molly Lyons	Sharon Trout
Reece Nelsen	Dorothy Loos	Crystal Anderson	Marie Kildau
Bob Hogg	Carolyn Hogg	Gisela Niebuhr	

Jeanette Christofferson (Jean Wheat's twin sister)

Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford's brother)

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban's brother)

Friends and Family of Jennifer Pinkerton (Irene Newhouse's daughter-in-law)

Friends and Family of Francis Koelzer (Fran Zessin's father)



Sending Healing Prayers

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: November 2021

Receipts: \$ 9,333.75

Disbursements: \$7,632.49

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
GENEROUSLY



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, December 11th, 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.

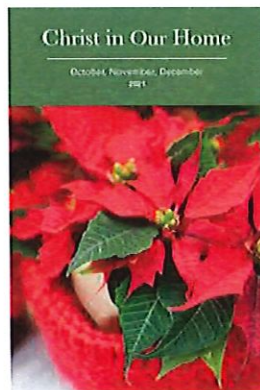
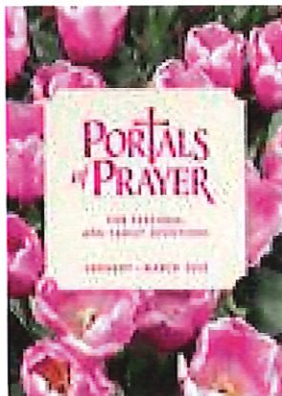
Come and bring a friend!

Daily Devotions

The following Daily Devotionals are available in the entryway to the Sanctuary for the next quarter (January, February, March). Please help yourself to a copy or request a copy to be mailed to you.

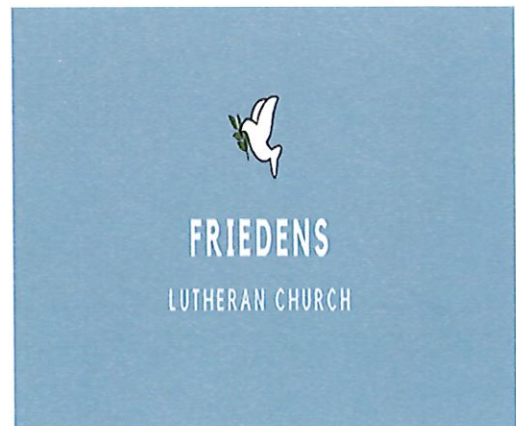
Portals of Prayer (Concordia)

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.





SCRIP PROGRAM

The Scrip Program – a great way to prepare for the holiday & support the ministry of Friedens.

As you make plans for Christmas gifts, consider buying gift cards through our Scrip program. A wide variety of restaurants, fast food places, local and chain stores are available. Many of us who use Scrip cards regularly purchase grocery store gift cards. During December Scrip orders will be taken Sunday, December 12th and delivered December 19th - 21st. Arrangements can be made to have the cards delivered to your door.

If you are interested in purchasing SCRIP cards and need an order form, please contact the church office. Orders will be taken over the phone by Kathy Holland (402-310-9153) beginning Wednesday, December 8th through the evening of Sunday, December 12th. Payment can be made for your order by mailing your check to the church or by using Paypal through our website. Or you can turn in your order and payment at Sunday worship on the 12th. 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 talk to Kathy Rempe, Fran Zessin, Maxine Pfrimmer or Kathy Holland.

Mitten Tree 2021

Again this year we will be gathering 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. Collection period: December 6th to January 7th. Please leave your donations on the mitten tree in the back of the sanctuary or drop them off at the church office. Thank you!!

Social Ministry Team



DECEMBER Birthdays and Anniversaries

(02) Reuben Worster

(06) Scott Dreith

(06) Kim Neemann

(08) Charles Schwahn

(08) Stacey Schild

(11) John Stavick

(13) Bev Mittan

(14) LeAnna Koch

(15) Julie Erickson

(16) Linda Westlake

(19) Pastor Bud Christenson

(25) Natalia Ledford

(27) Kayla Johanson

(29) Larrie Schmidt

(31) John Worster

★ HAPPY ★
BIRTHDAY!

DECEMBER WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Kathy Holland and Jodi Urban

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

12-5 Megan Grimes

12-12 Mark Grimes

12-19 Anna Fullerton

12-24 Irene Newhouse

12-26 Kathy Holland

Counters

Deb Marr and Naomi Jones

Children Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 19th at 10:30am

Please join us on Sunday, December 19th for the Christmas story told by our children. We have the stable and the animals in place preparing for Baby Jesus. It's a wonderful story don't miss it.

It will also be live-streamed on Facebook.





Fröhliche Weihnachten!

German Christmas Service

Sunday, December 12, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

540 "D" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

Free Event – All Are Welcome

The Rt Rev. Michael Melchizedek will provide
the German dialogue.

Pastor Bud Christenson will provide the English dialogue.

This family event welcomes everyone to enjoy a Christmas service of words and songs in English and German. We follow state, city and county Health department guidelines and directives. Face masks are available. We have plenty of room in our sanctuary and balcony seating, and have hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes throughout.

We will also be live streaming the service on [facebook.com/friedenslincoln](https://www.facebook.com/friedenslincoln)

Cookies and drinks will be served following the service.

Please contact Friedens Church with questions 402-476-3888,

or visit our website [friedens.org](https://www.friedens.org) or like us on facebook: [facebook.com/friedenslincoln](https://www.facebook.com/friedenslincoln)

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

Office Phone: 402-476-3888

Website:

Friedens.org

Church email:

office@friedens.org

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage

Paid

Lincoln, NE

Permit #432

Pastor Bud Christenson

Forwarding Service Requested

Dr. Mai Butler, Director of Music

Bev Mittan, Office Manager

POLKADOT

Neighborhood Bike Shop
& Custom Cycles

“This month’s spotlight on a Frieden’s Family connection small business is Paul Knopp’s Polkadot Bicycle Shop. Please support this small business if you have the need.

Polkadot Bicycles is a shop which specializes in adult bikes for commuting, trails, touring and gravel roads riding. Whether you’re going to Denton or Denver we have the bike for you. We offer bikes by Reid, KHS, Masi and Roll. Sole Importer of Kroon Bicycle Products from Holland LU “