

Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 36, Issue 9—September 2021

PASTOR'S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family,

It seems like yesterday when we were looking forward to our family reunion and my granddaughter's wedding. We wondered if we could safely proceed while Covid is still on the loose. We did, and it looks like we made our way through those events with no dire consequences. However, Ruth and I are back to wearing masks when we go out in public. Summer has quickly slipped away and fall schedules are here, ready or not.

School is underway and we proceed with caution because we love our children and our teachers. Masks and social distancing are the order of the day again. Some people are angry and refuse to wear masks. People are confused and suspicious of the vaccine, while hospitals are overwhelmed with Covid patients, and a record number of people are dying.

We wonder what could be worse than Covid. Then we look around our world and find lots of other things to worry about and to pray about: social media spreading mis-information, gigantic fires in many places, devastating floods, hurricanes a constant threat, earthquakes causing chaos, refugees seemingly everywhere we look, people being rescued in Afghanistan! A native American leader says, "Mother Nature is angry!" Our scientists tell us that climate change is real, and they search for answers in our behalf.

I am not wise enough to know the answers to these life-threatening issues. I do know that we are all in this together. In my estimation, the best thing that could happen is for us to realize that we are all one human family. It would be wonderful if we could learn how to live and work together for the common good. We need to stop looking for someone to blame. When I point a finger at you, three fingers on that hand are pointing back at me. But blame has never produced any answers. It only divides us and makes matters worse.

I am encouraged by the number of people who are working to find solutions. A friend told me about a neighbor who just took her first trip in her new electric car. We hear about people who are creating co-ops in towns and neighborhoods to produce solar energy. We marvel at how quickly several vaccines were produced by people who are smarter than we are. All of this is to remind us that God is at work among us! I wonder what would happen if we all, at once, turned to the God of the universe in prayer, praise and thanksgiving! Is there a better option?

Keep your spirits up! Keep hope alive! Trust that God has not forgotten us and will never forsake us! Take care of yourself and of one another! Go forward with the assurance that God is with us.

Pastor Bud

Message from our Council President

We now have the drawing and estimate for replacing our current non-working lift, with a new lift that should last us for many years. It is important that we make our church accessible for everyone, regardless, if it is a worship service, wedding or funeral. The new lift will be user friendly, enclosed, and will come in directly into the church. We will be voting on moving forward with the fundraising for this, on Sunday September 26th, following worship service. Please plan on attending. It is important that we make this improvement to our building/church.

Gary Hardt

Council President

ghardt@yahoo.com

402-314-5484



Choir Members Needed

Friedens Choir needs additional voices to help with special music during worship services this fall. If you haven't sung in Friedens Choir before and would be interested in more information about it, please contact the church office and they will let our Music Ministry Team get in contact with you.

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	Ryan Shannon	

Jeanette Christofferson (Jean Wheat’s twin sister)
 Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford’s brother)
 Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban’s brother)



Sending Healing Prayers

Annual Church Picnic Cancellation

Per the church council’s decision, the Annual Church Picnic that was scheduled for September 12th has been cancelled. The main concern is that all of our inflatable attractions would be a direct hazard to the children that are in close contact with each other and possible not vaccinated. With the Delta Variant being so prevalent, the Church Council is cancelling this year. Their apologies to all friends and Friedens family.



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: August 2021

Receipts: \$ 9,026.00

Disbursements: \$ 9,975.02





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, September 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!

BRIDGES TO HOPE

"THE FEAST"

Freed for Life 2021

In the summer of 1997 Pastor Bud began staff training to work in the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Called by the Nebraska Synod, his calling was to start a congregation at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. The prisoners named the congregation "Followers of Christ Church."

It soon became evident that prisoners needed a lot of help if they were to succeed when they left prison. That led to the beginning of what we now know as Bridges to Hope.

In 2004 Pastor Bud began picking up prisoners from the Lincoln Community Correction Center and bringing them to church at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, taking them to lunch and teaching them in preparation for their new life when they were released from prison. Pastor Lowell Hennigs and the church council took notice and offered to help. That was the beginning of a program called the FEAST.

These programs needed financial support. Pastor Bud started Freed for **Life** to tell the evolving story of prison ministry and to raise funds to support the work. Prisoners (called Partners) were happy to help with the event and to tell their stories to our guests. Sheridan soon became home to Freed for **Life**, and the men's group generously and kindly provided food, prepared it, served it, and did the dishes!

Freed for **Life** 2021 will be on Sunday, November 7, 5:00 p.m., at Sheridan Lutheran Church, 70th and Old Cheney.

Pastor Bud and Ruth have purchased tables and would like to invite you to be our guests for dinner. Please sign the sheet in the narthex so we will know how many places to set.

Sunday, September 26th

1:00-4:30 pm

South Salt Creek Neighborhood

Streets Alive!



Healthy Lincoln.org

Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln

What is Streets Alive!?

Streets Alive! is a **FREE** outdoor event promoting physical activity, healthy eating and neighborhood vitality. A 1.5 mile stretch of Lincoln streets highlighting Park Middle School & the area neighborhood will be closed to motorized vehicles & open for all human-powered transportation.



What will be there?

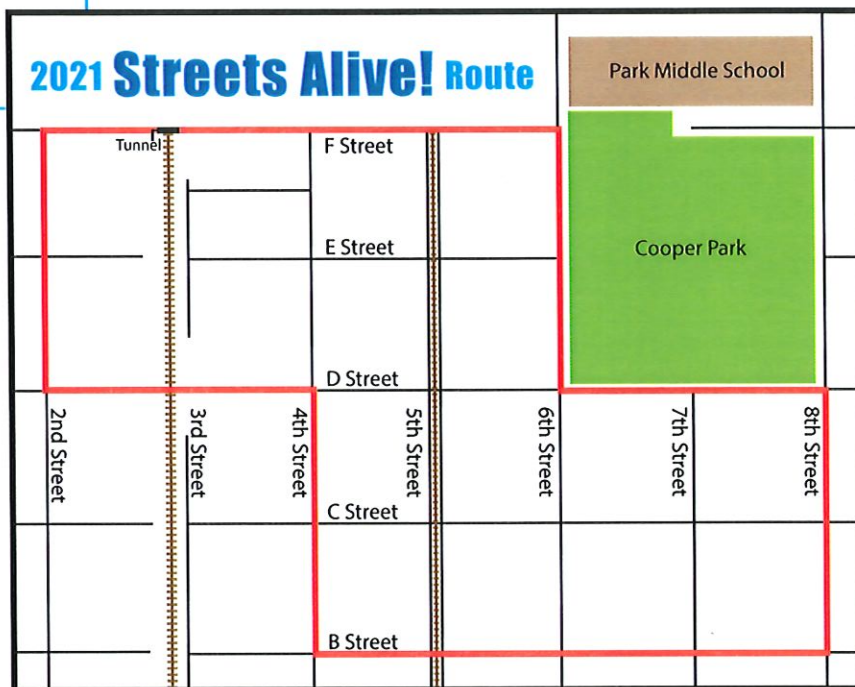
Streets Alive! offers fitness and dance activities, healthy food, music and entertainment, and healthy exhibits along the route.

Who can come?

Everyone is welcome! We encourage anyone who can walk, ride a bike, propel a wheelchair or push a stroller to get out and enjoy the event anytime between 1:00 - 4:30pm. You can join anywhere along the 1.5 mile route.



2021 Streets Alive! Route



How can I get involved?

We invite you to apply to exhibit, entertain, sponsor, or volunteer for this year's event. To get the scoop on all things Streets Alive! join our newsletter or check out our website.

www.HealthyLincoln.org/StreetsAlive



For more information:

Veronica Cockerill
vcockerill@healthylincoln.org

Thank You to our Sponsors!

Streets Alive! is a City of Lincoln sponsored event brought to you by Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln and many generous community sponsors.

Platinum Sponsors



Community Health Endowment of Lincoln

Gold Sponsor



SEPTEMBER Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 02 — Dan & Sharon Trout (43 yrs)
03 — Logan Scribner
05 — Nick King
08 — Mark & Sunny Detty (13 yrs)
10 — Jenna Rempe
10 — Dan & Linda Koch (44 yrs)
11 — Norm & Irene Newhouse (29 yrs)
14 — Bryan Logewolf
15 — Daniel Russell
17 — Karen Sinn
18 — Nancy Borrell
19 — Jonathan Zweerink
20 — Kathy Holland
21 — Nathan & Kayla Johanson (13 yrs)
22 — Marge Wessels
23 — Jodi Urban
25 — James Ripenburg
26 — Kris Plucknett
28 — Bryleigh Anne Garnham



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SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Jane Cosier and Fran Zessin

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

9-5 Peggy Russell

9-12 Steve Russell

9-19 Irene Newhouse

9-26 Amy Rezny

Counters

Irene and Abby Newhouse



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 two of these volunteers this month.

Thank you to **Dave Cosier** for devoting every week all summer and many summers for mowing our church lawn and also to **Fran Zessin** for having such a wonderful "green thumb" in keeping our plants and flowers looking beautiful all summer long.

Thank you **Dave** and **Fran**. We appreciate it very much.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Thanks to so many of you, we have tubs full of supplies for our School Kits for LWR! Our current goal is to make 100 kits. We are still in need of these items:

Scissors, child's size; blunt
Ballpoint pens, blue or black ink
Pencil Sharpeners

Items should be new. Please place your items in the container marked "School Kits" in the entryway to the sanctuary or you may drop them off at the church office.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

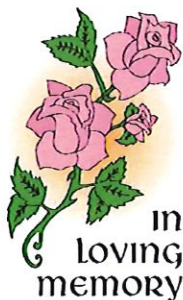
There will be a congregational meeting immediately following worship on **September 26th**. We will be voting on the revised plans set by the contractors for the lift at Friedens. This is an expenditure that is much needed so please plan to attend.

Memorial Thank You

Friedens wishes to thank the family of Carol Rohrig for the generous memorial in honor of Carol.

Carol passed away on August 10th. For the first part of her life, she was a member of Friedens.

To commemorate Carol's memory and impact of Friedens on her life, Friedens is honored to accept their gift of appreciation.



Small Business Spotlight

Each month we would like to spotlight a small business that is from Friedens or a friend of Friedens. This past year has been difficult for small businesses, and we'd like to make aware any small business that our Friedens Family has. If you have a small business that you would like spotlighted in the Messenger, any type of small business, please email the information to me. I think our Friedens Family would like to be aware of it and have the opportunity to support it. The Business Spotlight this month is on the back page of the Messenger.

Gary Hardt

ghardt7@yahoo.com

402-314-5484

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

Office Phone: 402-476-3888

Website:
Friedens.org

Church email:
office@friedens.org

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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