

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

Office Phone: 402-476-3888

Website:

Friedens.org

Church email:

office@friedens.org

Pastor Bud Christenson

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Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 35, Issue 11—November 2020

PASTOR’S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family,

November begins for me with a heart filled with joy and thanksgiving for the privilege of being here with you. Last Sunday was a surprise because I had not thought about our first anniversary together. It is a year that has gone by very quickly. Thank you for the gift basket and the flowers for Ruth (and me). We had a little card reading party on Sunday afternoon. Your kindness brought tears to our eyes.

Covid-19 has forced us into worship while wearing masks on our faces and observing appropriate social distancing. We are fortunate to have enough space in our sanctuary to be together if we choose to come to church. On the other hand, the pandemic teaches us that technology offers new opportunities to reach out to worshipers around the world. And, we do have worshipers who are miles away. Perhaps you can help by getting in touch with people who are important to you and asking them to join us for worship.

As we move forward together, our next experience will be All Saints Day. I remind you that you are a saint and a sinner at the same time. We are sinners because we are born into this world of sin. Our sainthood stems from our baptism. We are in the world for the sake of the world. You have heard me say, “We are the working presence of God in the world.” Luther called us “little Christs!” We not only speak of the wonderful deeds of God, but we do the deeds of God.

I think it makes a world of difference when we think of ourselves as authorized agents of God in the world. It gives us a mysterious new confidence that surprises others and even ourselves. The good things we do for others are not a reflection of how wonderful we are in and of ourselves. They are a reflection of the image of God that lives in us and gives us our new identity.

This is one of my favorite benedictions: **As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May he go before you to show you the way. May he go behind you to encourage you, beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over, and within you to give you peace. Amen.**

God bless!

Pastor Bud

ORDER FORM ***POINSETTIAS***

\$8.00 each

Please order _____ Poinsettias for me. I am giving it/them:

_____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In celebration of _____

Ordered by: _____ Phone: _____

_____ I will take the plant(s) with me. _____ Please deliver the plant(s) to shut-ins.

Orders are to be into the church office by Dec 7th.
Please attach/enclose a check or cash for each Poinsettia ordered.
Or call church office @ 402-476-3888

Message from our Council President

On Tuesday November 10th we will be hosting a virtual concert fund raiser for Pastor Bud's "Bridges To Hope". This concert will be live streaming on Friedens Facebook page. Thrivent Financial is doing a funds matching, and this is a major fund raiser for Pastor Bud's prison ministry out reach. They will match up to \$20,000.00. Bill Chrastil will be the special guest entertainer for the fund raiser, and Bill will be singing a number of songs. Thrivent Financial will also be rebroadcasting this virtual concert, for their "Giving Tuesday" event. There are several ways that you can donate. You can mail the enclosed envelope in with your donation, you can go to Friedens.org and donate via our PayPal account, noting your donation for "Bridges To Hope", or you can leave your donation in the church offering plate on Sunday. While this is a virtual concert, you may also attend it in person if you would like to. There will be an opportunity to leave your donation at that time also. If you can't make it in person, please watch the live streaming of this event on our Facebook page.

Worship attendance continues to be good since we started worship services back in our sanctuary. We follow all State, City, and County health department guidelines of 6 feet between families, not passing anything between people, having plenty of hand sanitizer available, wiping down and sanitizing pews between services and providing face masks. Even with these regulations, we have plenty of room for people to come and worship. We continue to try to make worshiping at Friedens, part of your life, even during these challenging times. We will have a Thanksgiving Eve service this year, as we do every year. We will have an opportunity for fellowship following our Thanksgiving Eve service, with traditional Thanksgiving pies. This fellowship will be in our fellowship hall, and tables will be socially distanced. We invite anyone who is able, to bring 2 pies. Pies that are left over will go to the People's City Mission, for their Thanksgiving meal. We invite everyone to stay for pie, even if you are not able to bring a pie.

While we would love to see you at Friedens for worship service each Sunday, if you are not able to we invite you to worship with us via our Facebook live streaming of our Worship Service on Sunday mornings. The live streaming numbers have been good, and we love seeing your comments during and after worship. It's nice to see people from all over the country worship with us through our Facebook live streaming.

I want to continue to let you know that we appreciate everyone's financial support during this challenging time in our lives. Through your continued financial support, we have been able to keep our bills paid and keep Friedens Lutheran Church alive and well. While it has been challenging for everyone, we appreciate you all, and what you are doing to keep Friedens here. We ask for your continued support, so that we can see these challenging times through, and come out even stronger on the other side. If you would like to become a member of Friedens Lutheran Church, or know someone who would like to become a member, please contact the church office or myself. We would love to become their church home.

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

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

NOVEMBER Birthdays and Anniversaries

(01) Bonnie Zweerink

(02) Rick Holland

(04) Marion Ripenburg

(06) Charlotte Hogg

(07) Fran Zessin

(14) Scott and Linda Dreith (35 Yrs)

(19) Sharon Trout

(19) Greg and Kim Neemann (44 Yrs)

(21) Jeremy Erickson

(21) Adam Vollenweider

(23) Gisela Niebuhr



Upcoming Dates

November 10th— Bridges To Hope Virtual
Concert

November 25th—Thanksgiving Eve Service
and Pie Fellowship

December 13th— German Worship Service

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Nancy Borrell & Jane Cosier

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Lectors

11-1 — Anna Fullerton

11-8— Jim Plucknett

11-15— Irene Newhouse

11-22— Abby Newhouse

11-25— Amy Rezny

11-29— Kathy Holland



FRIEDENS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Lectors Needed

We are in need of additional Lectors. If
you would be interested in volunteering
in this role, please contact Donna
Splichal at 402-430-0224.

Thank you!

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 (October, November, December). Please help yourself to a copy.

Portals of Prayer (Concordia)

Christ in Our Home (Augsburg)



Currently, the Food Pantry is in need of the following items:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Canned Fruit | Canned Vegetables |
| Soups | Pork n’beans |
| Tuna | Canned Chicken |
| Jelly | |



COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

We continue to collect the following items to benefit our mission partners and local service organizations.

Best Choice Labels for the Lutheran Food Pantry

Coupon Flyers for our local Lion’s Club. Volunteers clip coupons which are sorted and sent overseas to military families in Germany.

Teddy Bears for the People’s City Mission

Personal Care Items for the People’s City Mission, Lutheran Food Pantry and Bridges to Hope

Box Tops for Education for Mosaic in Axtell (although company has revamped it’s program, you can still find the cut out label on a few products)

If you are attending worship at Friedens, these items may be left in the entryway. If not, please contact the church office to arrange for a time to drop-off.

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	Sharon Trout
Reece Nelsen	Bob Wessels	Dorothy Loos	
Crystal Anderson	Maxine Pfrimmer	Pastor Del Klover	



Nancy Carpenter (Cindy Worster’s sister)

Bill Koelzer (Fran Zessin’s brother)

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban’s brother)

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: October 2020

Receipts: \$7,465.00

Disbursements: \$7,724.30



November Calendar

There will not be an November 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.



Summary of Council Meeting, October 15, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President, Gary Hardt, followed by a prayer by Pastor Bud. There were eight members present. The Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved as presented.

Friedens Wedding Policy has been changed to reflect Lancaster County's COVID-19 guidelines. It was also suggested that the name and phone number of all attendees be taken for possible contact tracing.

The Boys & Girls Club has inquired about the use of the Fellowship Hall should schools go to all virtual learning. Jamie Schmick and Brylin Brown were in attendance and spoke with the Council about use of the Fellowship Hall for educational support for members of the Club. There would be 15 students per session (morning and afternoon) with two staff members present for each session. Boys & Girls Club has insurance but we will need to check with our insurance company to determine if their insurance is adequate. The Club would be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting. A final decision was not made at this time.

Pastor Bud presented the Council with a plan for a virtual concert featuring Bill Chrastil. The concert would take place in the Sanctuary on November 10th. Thrivent has offered to match dollars raised up to \$20,000. This will be done for "Giving Tuesday" as a fundraiser for Bridges to Hope.

Thanksgiving Eve Service is currently on as scheduled, including a pie fellowship following the service. As in previous years, donated pies will be taken to the Peoples City Mission Wednesday evening.

Pastor Bud is working on something special for Advent and Christmas which will include the children. There will be no Christmas Caroling this year. The German Service is currently being planned for the second Sunday in December.

Gary Hardt adjourned the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Giving Tuesday Virtual Concert

Friedens Lutheran Church will host a virtual concert at 7:00pm on Tuesday, November 10th, featuring Billy Chrastil.

Billy is a favorite of our congregation and is well known for his impersonations of Elvis and other artists and for his music skills, both vocal and instrumental. He has won many awards, is in the Nebraska Country Music Hall of Fame, the South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame and is one of Branson's favorite performers.

Thrivent Financial has chosen Bridges To Hope as the recipient of Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Donation will be matched by a grant up to \$20,000 provided by Thrivent.

Please plan to join us virtually on Facebook. Donations may be sent to the church office and designate your donation for Giving Tuesday. Enclosed is an envelope for your convenience to mail the donation for Giving Tuesday and Bridges To Hope

GIVING TUESDAY

BRIDGES TO HOPE



Nebraska Family Helpline
1-888-866-8660
24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

We are an outreach program working with public and private partnerships, volunteer groups, non-governmental organizations, and faith-based entities. We provide community-based counseling and identify unmet needs during disasters. For More Information, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaStrongRecoveryProject/>

Lutheran World Relief School Kits—Final Report

129 School Kits were delivered to the in-gathering site at BC Terminal (formerly Brown Transfer Terminal) in Omaha on Monday, November 2nd. Once again, Friedens' efforts shattered all expectations, in view of COVID-19 and limited shopping opportunities for many. We do know that our 2019 School Kits were delivered to children in Mali, Africa in August of 2020.

Again, thank you to everyone!

Kathy Holland for the Social Ministry Team

