

# Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 38, Issue 5—May 2023

## *PASTOR'S PAGE...*

Dear Friedens Family,

Happy Easter! Fifty days of the Easter Season are flying by. Easter will end when Pentecost begins on May 28. It is always fifty days after Easter Sunday.

As we have noticed during our worship, the first Easter Season was a time of joy and a time of hardship for the early believers. Some of the believers met Jesus in person, but they didn't recognize him. While he was with them on earth he was another human being. But they knew he was someone very special by the things he did and the way he taught them. Early on he was condemned by the religious leaders for blasphemy. He was driven out of the synagogue in his home town of Nazareth and his neighbors tried to kill him.

Very soon Rome became concerned and watched him carefully because they feared he may cause trouble. He and his disciples hid out in the hills of Galilee. Jesus made occasional appearances, gathering crowds, teaching them and performing miracles for the people that were brought to him.

He, very intentionally, rode into the hostile city of Jerusalem to face his accusers. They appeared to win as he was tried, condemned and crucified as a common criminal. Pilate, the Roman judge who consented to his execution, worried that he might be a king. However, he was no threat to Caesar because he was the King of kings, and Lord of lords!

The believers watched him die, but they didn't realize he was destroying the power of death.

They met him alive, but in a new form. When he came to earth, born of the Virgin Mary, he had given up his place with his Father. Now he had returned to the heavenly realm to live and reign for all eternity. He came to visit and to instruct his followers. "Stay in Jerusalem until you receive a gift from God."

They did and life was risky for them. They were still Jews, but they were believing Jews. They were not to utter the name of Jesus in public. Plans were made to eradicate believers from the earth.

Then it happened! Pentecost! At a Jewish holiday in Jerusalem when the city was filled with pilgrims the sound of a mighty wind filled the city. The Spirit of Jesus (God) filled them all and they began to do what was forbidden. They spoke the name of Jesus. They told of his mighty deeds. They spoke in all the languages of people who were there from many nations. As Peter, who had denied Jesus, now spoke boldly, many became believers and were baptized.

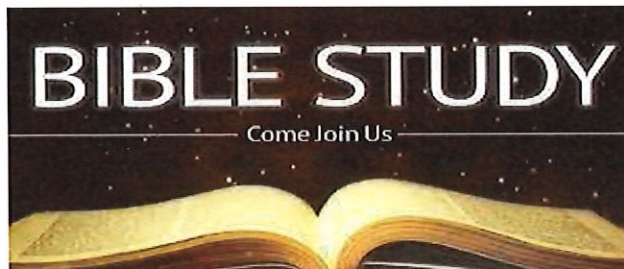
The Church was on its way! Hallelujah! And as we go on our way, Christ goes with us!

Pastor Bud

## Message from our Council President

If you are looking for a worthwhile project to donate to, we are going to have some repairs done to the exterior of all 4 sides of our bell tower. We have had some wind damage to those areas, and if we don't get the repairs done now, it can lead to more extension repairs in the future. Trying to keep this 116 year old building in good shape requires constant maintenance, and that is something that we haven't always been able to keep up with. The estimate for repairs is around \$4,000. It will require a lift for the workers to get up there to do the repairs. If you would like to donate to this project, you can send a check to the office and mark it "exterior siding repairs". Or you can drop a check in the offering plate with the same information on the memo line. This has happened over a period of time, and it is to the point now where we need to make the repairs to the building. Thank you

Gary Hardt  
402-314-5484



**Weekly Breakfast Bible Study for men and women every Saturday morning at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Free Bibles available or bring your favorite Bible. Join us for coffee and a light breakfast.**



### Sunday Morning Women's Bible Study

Deb Schellhorn has started a Women's Bible study on the book of Galations. It will be held on May 21st at 9:00am in the Annex Kitchen . Deb plans to have the Bible Study every other Sunday at 9:00am. Please RSVP the office or Deb (402-540-3014) if interested.

**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)

Donna Splichal

Verlene Owens

Molly Lyons

Jean Wheat

Sharon Trout

Joyce Boerger

Michael Ernst

Carolyn Hogg

Ken Schmidt



*Sending Healing Prayers*

Javier Lopez (friend of Pastor Bud)

Barbie Creveling & her Family (Mother-in-Law of Anne Melang-Thoren)

Michael Crawford (Patrick Crawford's brother)



"We Care" Door Offering"

Our Friedens families at times need help. This door offering will be on the first Sunday of every month starting on May 7th. These donations will be for Friedens family only. We all know that the cost of everything has raised substantially (rent, utilities, food, medical, and so much more).

This box which is in the back of the church says it all, "We Care". Please think about it, pray about it, and give from your hearts for those who need our help.

Please be sure to note your giving to the "We Care" fund if using a check or envelope.

Any questions can be forwarded to Fran Zessin (402-314-0800) or Kathy Holland (402-310-9153)

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## New Member Sunday

On May 7th, we will welcome three new members at our Worship Service. The new members are: Fran Harrington, Kristi Cosier, and Chuck Spencer. There will be a short reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall serving refreshments. Welcome to the Friedens family..



**matt talbot**  
kitchen & outreach

## Thank You Letter

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$500. Gifts such as this are vital to sustaining our daily hunger relief and homeless prevention efforts! In March, we provided what is equivalent to more than 12,000 meals. The number of people coming in for help is increasing and we are here to help, thanks to you! This is a tremendous blessing.

Thank you for being our partner in good times and bad!

Susanne Blue

Matt Talbot Executive Director

**Donation was made to Matt Talbot from an anonymous Friedens member.**

## Thank You Message

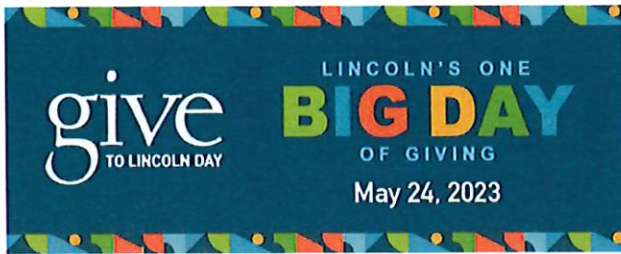
Dear Family and Friends of Friedens,

My sincere thank you for remembering me with the lovely fragrant Easter lily and basket of goodies.

A special thank you to Kathy Holland for bringing the gifts to me.

Sincerely, June Simpson





## BRIDGES TO HOPE

**Second Chances... It's what we do!**

### Give to Lincoln

This is the time for annual gifts to be given to our favorite charities. Give to Lincoln Day is May 24. The Board of Directors of Bridges to Hope has set a goal of \$40,000. Donations up to a total of \$500,000 will be matched by the Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall S. Unit 100, Lincoln, NE 68508.

Credit card donations can be given any day at [givetolincoln.com](http://givetolincoln.com).

Cash donations can be made on May 24.

Checks must be written to Lincoln Community Foundation and postmarked May 17 or before with Bridges to Hope in the memo line.

Thanks for your support.

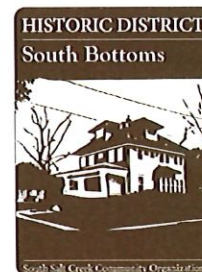
### South Salt Creek Community Organization Update

The South Salt Creek Community Organization (SSCCO) meets at Friedens on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Meetings are open to all residents within the South Salt Creek area. Currently Kathy Holland serves as the host to this group, representing Friedens. Other supporting organizations whose representatives attend include the Germans from Russia Museum (AHSGR), Immanuel Lutheran Church at 11<sup>th</sup> & Plum Streets, and Community Learning Center partners from neighboring schools.

SSCCO has been instrumental in providing input to guide the renovations to Cooper Park, Lincoln's oldest park. The first phase of these improvements is nearly complete. LED lighting has been added. The northwest corner now has a shared school/community use playfield, a tennis court and two pickle ball courts. Work continues on a new entry plaza off of D St (across from 7<sup>th</sup> St.) with columns and an arch donated by TMCO Manufacturing. New sidewalks on the south and east sides of the park have been installed. Brick pillars on all four corners of the park have been installed. Yet to be completed is repair/removal of the stone landscaping along the west side.

SSCCO has also been working with the City Planning Department to replace the South Bottoms Historic District signs.

: ***South Bottoms Historic District Sign Selected by SSCCO***



### Upcoming events:

August 5: Cooper Park Party

October 14: AHSGR has partnered with Kinkaider Brewing to host an Oktoberfest on the AHSGR grounds. There will be family friendly activities and German food. AHSGR, Immanuel and Friedens churches will be coordinating the games and food.



# C H U R C H GARAGE SALE

## Garage Sale

August 10th thru August 12th

More details will be in The Messenger as time gets closer.



## Annual Church Picnic

Plans are in the making of our annual Neighborhood Church Picnic on September 10th. As time gets closer, we will post details in a future Messenger. It is always a fun day, so be sure to watch for details.

## **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 given to us.

### Monthly Report: April 2023

Receipts: \$ 12,543.00

Disbursements: \$ 9,907.65



## **What is the SCRIP PROGRAM?**

Scrip fundraising, now called **RaiseRight**, is a program that generates earnings from retailers, restaurants, fast food places; local and chain stores. Companies donate a percentage of your purchase of gift cards back to the fundraising organization. For example, Don & Millies donates 18% of the cost of a gift card. Purchase a \$10 card and \$1.80 goes to Friedens. Other retailers may not be as generous but, say you purchase 3, \$100 gift cards from Russ's Market, \$9.00 will be returned to the church. Many of those who participate in the **RaiseRight** (Scrip) program, purchase cards they know they will use consistently throughout the month, for example, grocery store gift cards.

Earnings through the **RaiseRight** (Scrip) program are designated for the general fund. Since the beginning of 2023, our small group of **RaiseRight** (Scrip) participants have raised \$170.00.

If you are interested in participating, you will find order forms in the entry way to the church. The form lists available cards, the denominations that are available and the percentage earned. Once you select the cards you would like to purchase, please give your order form and payment to the **RaiseRight** organizer, Kathy Holland. Orders are taken the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month and cards are distributed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

If you have questions about the **RaiseRight** program, please speak with Kathy Rempe, Fran Zessin, Maxine Pfrimmer or Kathy Holland.

## *MAY Birthdays and Anniversaries*

- (7) Steve & Peggy Russell (40 Years)  
(7) Scott & Semira Milliken (19 Years)  
(8) Jude Nothnagel  
(9) Daniel Koch  
(12) Laurie Chrastil  
(12) Keijuan Dorsey  
(13) Margaret Vogt  
(15) Brian Terrill  
(15) Hermann Siegl  
(15) Jim & Kris Plucknett (41 Years)  
(19) Naomi Grimes  
(22) Anaise Kaufman  
(23) John & Chantel Stavick (8 Years)  
(23) Deborah Marr  
(24) Kevin Melang-Thoren  
(25) Wendy Clement  
(26) Kent & Linda Vollenweider (39 Years)  
(29) Carolea Adams  
(29) Irene Newhouse



## *MAY WORSHIP*

### LEADERS

#### Altar Guild

Jodi Urban & Deb Marr

#### Head Usher

Gary Hardt

#### Lectors

- 5-7 Zane Mindrup  
5-14 Sue Busker  
5-21 Peggy Russell  
5-28 Irene Newhouse

#### Cantors

- 5-7 Karen Scribner  
5-14 Jodi Urban  
5-21 Abby Newhouse  
5-28 Patrick Crawford

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



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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

