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PASTOR’S PAGE...

Coming out of the fierce storms and bitter cold of the latter part of the winter and into sunnier days and warmer temperatures, it seems that perhaps spring has arrived. That sunniness and warmth always gives me more energy to get things done and a feeling of lightness, like the burden of the winter has been lifted and the promise of spring is around the corner. Birds are out singing and trees are budding; reminders of new life that comes after the gloomy and cold season of winter. It brought to my mind a song that I first heard in seminary called “Follow the Heron” by Karine Polwart. If you’ve never heard it, it’s worth a listen. The song evokes the return of warmth and life to a world that has been cold and grey: “the back of the winter is broken and light lingers long by the door... we’ll play and delight as the dawn dances”. There is a sense of hope and joy. It’s a sense that we follow through Lent toward Easter.

We are just partway through Lent, and won’t arrive and the Alleluias of Easter until 21 April. Yet, the promise is there, waiting at the end of our time of reflection, service, prayer, and repentance; at the end of our time of preparation. We enjoy the spring much more for the fact that it follows the harshness of winter; and Easter speaks aloud even more joyfully coming at the end of Lent. We are acutely aware of the ways that we have sinned, the relationships broken, the reconciliation needed, as we have examined ourselves during Lent. This makes us particularly receptive and joyful at the absolution and gift of life offered by the Resurrection of Our Lord, celebrated at Easter.

As we continue our time of reflection during Lent, another of the lyrics from that song sticks out in my mind is the line: “stoked all our fires with fear”. It’s a wonderful image of the way that our fears can grow and multiply turning from a small spark into a massive flame. It helps us to imagine the ways that fear feeds off of fear and how it spreads; how it can seem like something that will provide safety, and yet can be very dangerous. In these past days we have read of terrorist attacks in New Zealand, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, France and the Netherlands, and there are many more that have gone largely unnoticed. A crisis of migrants at the US Southern border has been proclaimed. Close to home, floods took over, damaging property and taking lives. Another significant plane crash occurred.

ORDER FORM
EASTER LILIES
\$8.50 each

Please order _____ lilies 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 on Easter. _____ Please deliver the plant(s) to shut-ins.

Orders are to be into the church office by April 11th, 2019
Please attach/enclose a check or cash for each lily ordered.

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Responses to these have been different. With the airplanes, an abundance of caution reigned and a healthy fear prompts the search for causes and solutions. With the flooding, kindness and compassion have abounded toward those who suffer in their wake, working together for aid. Communities have been brought together; #NebraskaStrong. The terrorist attacks, however, and the border “crisis” create fear of a different kind: we are encouraged to mistrust those who are “other”. We are encouraged to see those seeking help as enemies and whole groups of people as bad based upon the actions of a few. Nuances are lost; “fires of fear” get stoked. During this season of self-examination, let us be cautious of the times that fear motivates us. Let us examine carefully the way our biases may lead us astray or someone else’s opinion might sway us from what our faith tells us to be true. Let us be honest about our own prejudice, while acknowledging situations where fear is warranted.

May we arrive at Easter together having renewed our commitment to follow Christ, having confessed the sin we have found in our lives, and rejoicing in the mercy of God and promise of the Resurrection.

Lenten Suppers at 6 pm

There will be a light supper prior to Lenten Worship every Wednesday. We will begin serving at 6 pm but join us when you can any time prior to our Lenten Service at 7 pm.

If you can volunteer to help with the meal or clean-up, look for the sign-up sheet in the entry way to the sanctuary. There are still some open dates in April.



PRAYER CHAIN...

The Prayer Chain at



Friedens a vital part of the ministry we do. Caring for others in general, but especially for those in our church family, is what we are called to do. You are needed. Please call Maxine Pfrimmer (402-464-3024) and tell her you would love to be part of the prayer chain.

New Website

Have you checked out our website recently? It has a new face-lift! Check it out at www.friedens.org. (It will forward you to the new website.) We’d love your feedback as it continues to be a work in process.

Pantry Needs...

Lutheran Food Pantry’s “wish list” includes:

Canned fruit, Canned peas, Cereal, Peanut butter, Jelly, Pork and beans, Saltine crackers, Fruit juice, Tuna, Boxed Mac and Cheese, Canned Meals (stew,ravioli). Any shelf stable food items. Manual can openers (gently used or new)

Personal care items (toilet paper, shampoo, bath/bar soap, lotion, toothpaste - even the sample size items) Money donations are always appreciated.

If you have some expired non-perishable food items you may include these in your donations to the Food Pantry. The Pantry will sort out what they can and can not use.

Save Best Choice Labels – The Lutheran Food Pantry will give these to the Foodnet program who use the labels as a fundraiser. Learn more about Foodnet here: <http://foodnetlincoln.org/>

*The label should include the UPC symbol and the words Best Choice right above the UPC.

MAY WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Jodi Urban & Deb Marr

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Communion Assistant

5— Sue Busker

12 —Karen Scribner

19 — Becky Roberts

26 —Peggy Russell

Lectors

5 — Sue Busker

12 —Kathy Holland

19 — Maxine Pfrimmer

26 —Margaret Vogt

Greeters

5 —Deb Marr & Neoma Jones

12 — Linda Dreith

19 — Bob & Carolyn Hogg

26 — Alma Wilson & Joyce Boerger





APRIL Birthdays
and Anniversaries

- (1) Tiana Dorsey
- (4) Linda Rasmussen
- (4) Norm Newhouse
- (8) Marissa Schild
- (11) Collin Detty
- (14) Jameson Moore
- (15) Judy Trampe
- (16) Julie Hauschild
- (18) William Ledford
- (22) Kimberly Render
- (22) Siobhan Allen-Logewolf
- (23) Danielle Hauser (Urban)
- (29) Donna Splichal



APRIL WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Maxine Pfrimmer & Carolyn Hogg

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Communion Assistant

- 7 — Karen Scribner
- 14 — Becky Roberts
- 18 — Peggy Russell
- 21 — Maxine Pfrimmer
- 28 — Fran Zessin

Lectors

- 7 — Kathy Holland
- 14 — Abby Newhouse
- 21 — Irene Newhouse
- 28 — Maxine Pfrimmer

Greeters

- 7 — Steve & Peggy Russell
- 14 — Amy Rezny & Joyce Boerger
- 18 — Irene Newhouse & Maria Kildau
- 21 — Nancy Borrell & Jane Cosier
- 28 — Rempe Family

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. You can also call the Pastor @ (316)371-0803, in case of an emergency.



Prayers....

Bud Bergen
Gary Overfield
Kimberly Render
Donna Splichal
Larrie Schmidt
Izzabella DuSchene

Verlene Owens
Robin Michael
Rose Rezny
Barb Roth
Donna Hershey

Nancy Carpenter (Cindy Worster's sister)
Dean & Angie Dreith (Scott Dreith's Brother)

Doris Massman (Jean Wheat's sister)
Teresa Palazzo (Jeremy Erickson's wife)
Marilyn Skare (Sue Busker's mother)

DuSchene Family

Friends and family of Gerre Blake

Friends & Family of Nellie Russell (Steve Russell's mother)



Sending Healing Prayers

BARB KOTH

Usher Volunteers Needed

If you would like to help usher at Sunday's worship service,

we could use help in one of 2 ways:

- 1) Volunteer to be "head usher" on a monthly rotating basis. No more than 2 months out of each year.
- 2) Volunteer to help the head usher with the offering and communion.

We can use help in both areas. If you have an interest in helping in either of these two areas, or have questions, please contact Gary Hardt at ghardt7@yahoo.com or 402-314-5484.

Thank you,

Gary Hardt

Save the Date

Spring Cleaning at Friedens
Saturday April 6th at 9 am



When we give freely.....

We are able to be a part of God's Kingdom 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.

Year To Date Report: February 2019

Receipts \$ 5,243.33

Disbursements \$ 7,264.11

APRIL Opportunities to Grow in Faith

The subject of adult forum Sunday @ 9:30 for the season of Lent will be Praying Congregations....

Come join us!



Upcoming Events in the Neighborhood

The South Salt Creek neighborhood has been selected for the site of the annual “Streets Alive!” celebration by Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln. The tentative date is Sunday, September 22nd, 1:00 -- 4:30 pm. “Streets Alive!” is an outdoor movement festival celebrated in cities across American that cordons off a two-mile route in the neighborhood. This is a FREE community event that promotes active living and healthy nutrition in a fun and interactive way. There would be exhibitors, free health resources, food and fun. The “Streets Alive!” planning group also works with the Historic Preservation Commission to identify historical homes or other features in the area.. The planning group is being formed. Speak with Pastor Kate or Kathy Holland if you have ideas to share as to how Friedens could be involved.

The 2nd Annual Cooper Park Celebration is being planned for Saturday, June 1st. More information on this event will be shared in future newsletters.

Spring Cleaning

We will work until Noon so come at the time that works best for you. All of the routine cleaning of the church is done by volunteers. This day will give us the chance to get some deep cleaning done.

Many hands make light work!!

Upcoming Dates...

Spring cleaning — April 6th / 9:00 am

Palm Sunday — April 14 / 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday — April 18 / 7:00 pm

Good Friday — April 19 / 7:00 pm

Easter Breakfast — April 21 / 9:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt — April 21/ 9:45 am

Easter Worship w/Communion — 10:30 am

Mid Week Worship and Soup Supper dates

April 3,10

Lenten Suppers @ 6:00

Worship (Holden Evening Prayer) @ 7:00

