

Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church  
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Pastor Bud Christenson

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Dr. Mai Butler, Director of Music

Bev Mittan, Office Manager

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# Friedens MESSENGER

Volume 36, Issue 2—February 2021

## ***PASTOR'S PAGE...***

Dear Friedens Family,

Snow! It takes a lot of snow to have an impact on the Nebraska drought monitor. Thank God for every drop of moisture.

The magi have come and gone but Epiphany is still with us for a couple of more weeks. It's a season that easily gets lost in the calendar of events in the church year. I like Epiphany. It is a calm time between the rush of Christmas and the more intense season of Lent. Epiphany is the season in which we watch Jesus put his ministry into action by calling his twelve disciples and training them while he introduces the Kingdom of Heaven through his preaching and healing ministry.

Tell John what you hear and see. "The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away because of me."

That, in a nutshell, is the message of this season.

It speaks to us while we wait for a vaccine. While we have been wearing masks, social distancing, avoiding large crowds, cleaning everything we see and touch, others have been very busy. Researchers have been frantically searching for the answer, a vaccine that works. Hospital workers have been caring for as many patients as possible, putting their lives on the line in battling the disease. First responders have been racing to get us the help we need. Teachers and students have been searching for a way to keep the learning process going. The list goes on.

We have entered a new phase of the battle. Several vaccines seem to work. Now the challenge is to make a plan to produce as many doses as possible, distribute what's available to every community, and make a plan to speed up the process of vaccinating as many people as possible, as soon as possible. It exhausts me. Even though there is little I can do to help.

I can be patient. I can be content to keep my mask on and wait my turn. I can pray for those who are in the thick of the battle. I can trust that we will get better at waging the battle against this virus as we gain more experience. Help is on the way! A new day is coming! Like Easter!

Pastor Bud



### Message from our Council President

This year for our Annual Congregational Meeting, we had people in person attending and also people attending via Zoom. With the ability for people to attend the meeting via Zoom, we were able to have a quorum. In fact, we had slightly a few more people attend the meeting in whole, than we did each of the past 2 years. So in the uncertainty of the past year, that was good to experience.

If you are looking for a worthy project to donate to, we would really like to get a new lift put in this year. The one that we have now, is no longer functional at all. So we are unable to accommodate people with walkers or wheel chairs at all. This means that for worship services, weddings, funerals, luncheons, or any type of get togethers, those people needing a lift to attend, are not able to attend those things. So this will be a priority for us at Friedens this year. We have already had some people make very generous contributions to the lift project, so we are optimistic that we can get this done this year. A committee of myself, Chuck Schwahn and Norm Newhouse are working to come up with plans that will work with our church, and work with our budget. The cost of doing something like this has skyrocketed since we put on our new addition in 2007. So we are trying to figure out the most functional and at the same time cost efficient way that we can do this. If you would like to donate to the lift project, you can send your donation to the church office. Put a little note in it that it is for the lift project. Or you can go to [Friedens.org](https://Friedens.org) and donate through our website PayPal account. If you do that, please send us an e mail through the [friedens.org](https://Friedens.org) website and let us know that your online contribution was for the lift project.

If you have any questions on the lift project, or on anything connected with Friedens, you can call me or e mail me, or the church. We hope that you continue to worship with us, either in person or through our live streaming on Facebook. If you come and worship with us in person, think about inviting a friend. We thank you for being a part of Friedens Lutheran Church.

Gary Hardt  
Council President  
402-314-5484  
[ghardt7@yahoo.com](mailto:ghardt7@yahoo.com)

## *FEBRUARY Birthdays and Anniversaries*

(02) Rachel Johanson  
(05) Jane Cosier  
(06) Amanda Zweerink  
(06) Alexander Schild  
(08) Christin King  
(08) Colton Hauschild  
(11) Kathy Harris  
(11) JoAnn Ninneman  
(12) Abigail Newhouse  
(12) Bob Wessels  
(13) Nancy Svoboda  
(14) Daniel Trout  
(17) Peggy Russell  
(17) Geoffrey Wendland  
(18) Rick Harris  
(19) Anne Melang-Thoren  
(19) Malachi Detty  
(20) Lou Skrdlant  
(20) Breann Anderson  
(21) Nathan Johanson  
(21) Courtney Russell  
(22) Raven Pinkerton  
(24) Miles Melang-Thoren  
(24) Madeleine Melang-Thoren  
(28) Steve Russell  
(29) Nicholas Hardt

## *FEBRUARY WORSHIP*

### *LEADERS*

#### Altar Guild

Carolyn Hogg & Maxine Pfrimmer

#### Head Usher

Gary Hardt

#### Lectors

2-7 Megan Grimes  
2-14 Irene Newhouse  
2-17 Steve Russell  
2-21 Megan Grimes  
2-24 Kathy Holland  
2-28 Kathy Holland

**Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and  
in Friedens Sanctuary every Sunday at  
10:30 and February mid-week at 7pm.**





## Upcoming dates...

Ash Wednesday — February 17 — 7:00pm

Palm Sunday — March 28 — 10:30am

Maunday Thursday — April 1— 7:00pm

Good Friday — April 2 — 7:00pm

Easter —April 4 —10:30am

### Mid-Week Lenten Worship Services

February 24 — 7:00pm

March 3 —7:00pm

March 10 —7:00pm

March 17 — 7:00pm

March 24 —7:00pm



FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL HELP

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/>

The following Daily Devotionals are available in the entryway to the Sanctuary for the current quarter (January, February, March). Please help yourself to a copy.

Portals of Prayer (Concordia)

Christ in Our Home (Augsburg)



**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)

### Baptism

Welcome to Haylee Zweerink who was baptized on January 24th as our newest member of our community of faith. We rejoice with her parents, Josh Larson and Bonnie Zweerink.



### Prayers....

Donna Splichal	Verlene Owens	Kimberly Render	Greg Zessin
Larrie Schmidt	Lee Alexander	Molly Lyons	
Reece Nelsen	Dorothy Loos	Pastor Del Klover	
Crystal Anderson	Sharon Trout	Eric DuSchene	



*Sending Healing Prayers*

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban's brother)

Friends and Family of Jewel Hardt

Friends and Family of Helen Koelzer (Fran Zessin's step-mother)

### 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: January 2021

**Receipts: \$8,986.00**

**Disbursements: \$8,505.09**



### Jewel Hardt

Jewel Hardt passed away early Saturday morning, February 6th, In her sleep. She was 96 years old.

She was a beautiful, wonderful lady. She was Kind, funny, welcoming, positive, unselfish and she loved her family. Jewel had a curious spirit, and a good heart. She was a fixture at church every Sunday morning. When she was born, her father thought that she was a jewel, so he named her Jewel.

She loved her family. 3 children, seven grandkids and 22 great-grandkids. She was an amazing influence on the lives' of a lot of people and she will be missed.

*In Loving Memory*





### Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, immediately following our worship service. Twenty-seven members were present including a few who took part in the meeting through the Zoom platform.

Reports from Pastor Bud and Church Council President, Gary Hardt, were accepted as printed as well as the minutes from the 2020 annual meeting, the Treasurer's report and all of the committee reports. All of these reports are printed in the annual meeting booklet. Copies of this booklet are available in the entryway to the church or contact the church office and Bev will mail you a copy.

No Council members are going off Church Council this year so no Council election was necessary. Current Council members are: Gary Hardt, Stacey Schild, Kathy Rempe, Irene Newhouse, Amy Rezny, Sue Busker and Fran Zessin. Mark Grimes was elected to the Endowment Committee to replace Jim Plucknett who has moved to Florida. With the uncertainty as to whether Synod Assembly will be held this year, the election of Synod Assembly delegates was deferred until plans are made known.

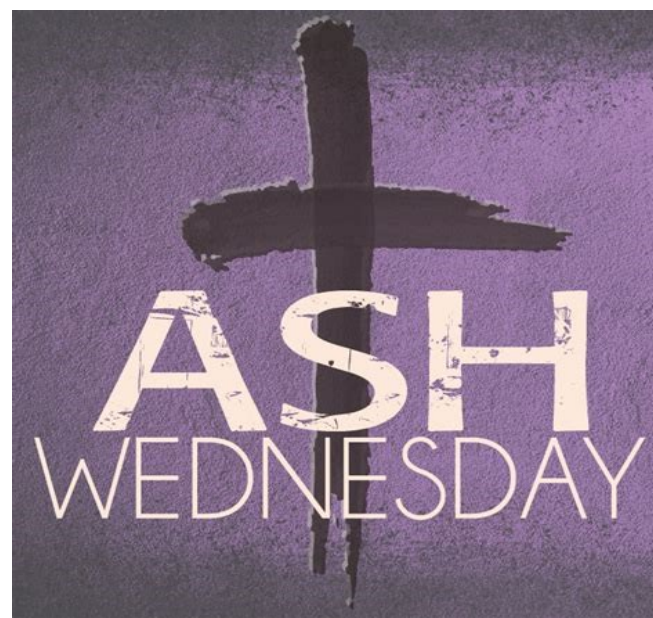
Irene Newhouse reviewed the proposed budget for 2021. The budget was approved as proposed with expected income of \$120,510.00 and projected expenditures of \$110,278.00, a difference of approximately \$10,000.00.

A statement of thanks for Pastor Bud's efforts in making Friedens worship services unique & engaging and for his patience, faithfulness & guidance in leading our congregation was unanimously agreed upon. In turn, Pastor Bud thanked everyone for their cooperation and willingness to keep working in any way possible through the pandemic in order to do God's work for each other and for our neighborhood.

The meeting was adjourned following the approval of the Resolutions and was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

### 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 or our mid-week Lenten services, we can now record each 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.



**February 17, 2021 7:00pm**

### **A "to do" list for us (Followers of Christ)**

**Note: Pastor Bud shared these "guideposts" with us during one of his recent sermons. 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

### Lutheran Food Pantry

Here is a list of the items currently needed by the Lutheran Food Pantry:

Pork and Beans

Jelly

Saltine Crackers

Breakfast Bars (Pop Tarts, granola bars, etc.)

Canned tomatoes

Cereal

Canned Pears

Snack items (small packages of cookies, crackers, nuts)

Personal care items

Thank you for continued support of the Lutheran Food Pantry.



**Feeding the Community**

Below is a list of items that **Bridges To Hope** currently needs. Please drop off donations on Sunday morning or call the church office to arrange a time for drop-off. Thanks for your much needed help!

Men's underwear (Boxers, all sizes)

Men's Shirts (Dress & Casual, all sizes)

Men's Jeans (sizes 38, 40, 42)

Men's T-Shirts (White)

Men's work socks

Hygiene products

Laundry Soap

Pots & Pans

Kitchen Appliances (small)

Lamps (small)

Blankets & Sheets (Queen size)

**BRIDGES TO HOPE**

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