

Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church
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Friedens.org

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PASTOR'S PAGE...

Dear Friedens Family and Friends,

The grocery clerk asked me, "Are you all ready for Christmas?"

I am not. But, I am busy preparing for the season of preparation. Advent is here.

I have written a Christmas pageant for the children. They are busy preparing special Christmas music, deciding which role they would like to play in the Christmas story and finding appropriate costumes. Adults are busy building a stable for our sanctuary, cutting out and painting animals, checking on lights. We are ready to gather for the "hanging of the greens." Are we having fun yet?

These are busy times, but joy-filled times. The child in me gets caught up in the preparations and the anticipation of the story of stories. Our Lord is coming to give new meaning to our lives and to assure us of life eternal. I hope you are getting caught up in anticipation as well. For me, anticipation is what gives meaning to my life, day by day.

During Advent Season, beginning on December 1, I invite you to come to worship a bit early so we can practice singing some of our favorite Christmas carols. We will also learn a couple of Christmas songs that may be new to some.

You are invited to bring a wrapped gift to the children's Christmas pageant on (or before) December 15. The gifts will be brought to the stable by the children during the pageant and then taken to the Barnabas store to be shared with children in need: winter jackets, hats, mittens, scarves. I encourage you to invite your family and friends to join us.

We are so very fortunate. We have a beautiful sanctuary to adorn for the Season. We have a wonderful family to share the Christmas happenings with. We have a story to tell to the nations and to each other. "Joy to the world, our Lord is come!"

Pastor Bud



Upcoming dates...

December 1— Christmas Caroling—11:45am—3:00pm

December 8 — German/English Christmas Service— 2:00pm

December 12 — Council Meeting

December 15 — Children/Adult Christmas Pageant—10:30am

December 24 — Christmas Eve Service—5:30pm

Endowment Fund

Friedens Endowment Fund was established many years ago to provide a vehicle for our Church to provide “outreach into the community” and to help others in our congregation to “grow in Christian faith and service to God’s people or new ministries of the congregation”. In 2018 we were blessed with a significant contribution to this fund by the estate of Daniel Wacker. During the past year, the Endowment Committee has managed the fund and worked to invest the principal so that it will continue to grow in value and allow for the distribution of the income. The Committee looks forward to accepting applications for grants from those who have a need for funding in the following areas:

- Scholarships or grants to members of Friedens for the purpose of attending Lutheran institutions of higher education
- Outreach into the community with grants to ELCA colleges, seminaries, social service agencies, or individuals with spiritual or economic needs
- Mission of the ELCA in America or overseas for development of professional leadership, educational ministries, world mission and ecumenism, and capital financing

To learn more about the Endowment Fund or to request a Grant Application, please contact one of the members of the Committee or the Church Office.

Endowment Committee Members:

Steve Russell – Chairperson

Bob Hogg – Treasurer

Irene Newhouse – Secretary

James Plucknett

Margaret Vogt

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: November 2019



Receipts \$ 93,972.18

Disbursements \$ 97,147.34

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.

Special Thanks

Thanks to **Randy Koch** for changing the three burned out flood lights ,way up high, in the sanctuary. We appreciate it!

Thanks to **David Cosier** for cleaning all of the spots from our Fellowship Hall carpet this past month. David did a great job on the carpet, removing all of the dirty soiled spots that our carpet has received over the past few years. The carpet looks great! Good job!

Thanks to **Rick Harris** for working on the furnace in the annex and replacing the furnace thermostat in the church sanctuary.

Lutheran Food Pantry

Food items available for purchase from the Lincoln Food Bank are very limited at this time. Therefore, we are having to rely heavily on items donated as well as purchasing food from grocery stores. Even though we try to find items on sale, buying items at the grocery store makes the money donated to the Food Pantry not go as far.

Items needed at this time include:

- Canned fruit
- Canned Peas
- Cereal
- Fruit Juice
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Tuna
- Monetary donations to purchase food



Thank you for your continuing support of the Lutheran Food Pantry!

JANUARY WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Maxine Pfrimmer & Carolyn Hogg

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Communion Assistant

5— Karen Scribner

19— Peggy Russell

Lectors

5— Sue Busker

12— Linda Dreith

19— Margaret Vogt

26— Kathy Holland

Greeters

5— Kathy Rempe

12— Deb Marr & Neoma Jones

19— Bob & Carolyn Hogg

26— Joyce Boerger & Kathy Holland



DECEMBER Birthdays and Anniversaries

- (02) Reuben Worster
- (06) Scott Dreith
- (06) Kim Neemann
- (08) Charles Schwahn
- (08) Stacey Schild
- (11) John Stavick
- (14) LeAnna Koch
- (15) Julie Erickson
- (16) Linda Westlake
- (19) Pastor Bud Christenson
- (25) Natalia Ledford
- (27) Kayla Johanson
- (29) Larrie Schmidt
- (31) John Worster



DECEMBER WORSHIP

LEADERS

Altar Guild

Kathy Holland & Jodi Urban

Head Usher

Gary Hardt

Communion Assistant

1— Peggy Russell

24 —Sue Busker

Lectors

1— Karen Scribner

8— Margaret Vogt

15—Irene Newhouse

22—Maxine Pfrimmer

24 —Abby Newhouse

29 —Kathy Holland

Greeters

1—Chuck & Lori Schwahn

8—Ron & Margaret Vogt

15—Steve & Peggy Russell

22—Amy Rezny & Anna

24—Irene & Abby Newhouse

29—David & Jane Cosier



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....

Gary Overfield

Glenn Kollars

Verlene Owens

Donna Splichal

Crystal Anderson

Robin Michael

Larrie Schmidt



Dean & Angie Dreith (Scott Dreith's brother)

Nancy Carpenter (Cindy Worster's sister)

Dave Worster (Cindy Worster's brother)

Pastor Jim Melang (Anne Melang-Thoren's father)

Bill Koelzer (Fran Zessin's brother)

Ron Shoup (Jodi Urban's brother)

Church Volunteers Needed

Additional volunteers are needed to help give the church a thorough cleaning prior to all our December activities. Please meet at the church Saturday, December 7th at 9am.

Thank you in advance from your volunteer cleaning crew:
Jane Cosier Peggy Russell Kathy Holland Fran Zessin

Friedens Facebook Page

If you use social media, please "Like" Friedens Facebook page. We will be using that page as one of the ways to let people know if there is a change in worship service this winter, due to bad weather. We also will have upcoming events at Friedens on our Facebook as well as pictures and information from events. Because of the weather that we had last winter, we would like to have several means available to us to let members know about any changes or cancellations due to weather. Please "Like" our page so that you can keep informed. Any questions, please contact Gary Hardt (402-314-5484).

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Thank you for your generous donations to the Thanksgiving Basket Fund. A total of \$416.00 was collected. Working with the needs of each family, we provided a turkey to two families and grocery gift cards to all six families.

Social Ministry Team



Pies Donated to Peoples City Mission

Thank you to all who brought a pie or two for our Thanksgiving Eve Service. A total of 32 pies were donated. Of these, 22 were taken to the People's City Mission for guests to enjoy on Thanksgiving Day.



Christmas Caroling—December 1st—11:45am

This activity is encouraged for members of all ages and abilities. Come join us in singing Christmas carols and in bringing some holiday cheer to Friedens homebound members. A lunch will be provided and then we will divide into groups and go caroling.



Usher Volunteers Needed

The Christmas season is here. We are in need of extra volunteers to help usher our special Christmas services. If you have an interest in helping, or have questions, please contact Gary Hardt at ghardt7@yahoo.com or 402-314-5484



SCRIP Program



As you make plans for Christmas gifts, consider buying your gift cards through the Scrip program. During December SCRIP orders will be taken Sunday, December 8th and delivered the following Sunday, December 15th.

Order forms can be found in the entry way of the church. Once you've decided on your order, turn it in to Kathy Holland along with payment for cards ordered.

Checks should be made payable to Friedens Lutheran Church.

Christmas Pageant

Men and Women! Grandpas and Grandmas! Uncles and Aunts! Listen up!

The Christmas Pageant is coming on **December 15 at 10:30 AM**. This is an opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus with our children. It is also an opportunity to celebrate our children. It is an opportunity to hear them sing birthday songs to Mary's boy child.

The animals are already here in the stable, waiting patiently for the arrival of Mary and Joseph, and waiting patiently for you to join them in anticipation of the long-expected Savior King.

Buy a gift for a child (jacket, hat, mittens), wrap it and place it under the tree in the narthex. The children will bring the gifts to the manger, and we will take them to the Barnabas community store to be shared with families in need.

Invite your family and friends and join us at the stable.



Thank you to **Dan Koch** for constructing the stable.

Thank you to **Chuck Spencer** for constructing the stable animals.

Thank you to **Jodi Urban** for painting the stable animals.

Everyone did a fantastic job!!

Mitten Tree 2019

We have had a mitten tree at Christmas time for the past several years. We will still have the tree but with a couple changes this year. Please bring warm winter items for children (coat/jacket, mittens/gloves or hats and scarves). We would ask that you bring your items wrapped in time for the Christmas Pageant December 15th. Our gifts will be used as a part of the pageant. Donated items will be taken to the Barnabas Community Store. Pastor Bud will tell us more about the Barnabas Store or read about it here: www.barnabascommunity.org

Fröhliche Weihnachten!

German/English Christmas Service

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

540 "D" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

Free Event – All Are Welcome

Cookies and drinks will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

Please contact the Friedens Church office if you have any questions, 402-476-3888

Or visit our website friedens.org