

MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

Message from the Pastor

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I hate asparagus ... and my favorite food is SHRIMP! That's what I would say when I was a youngster. My mind was made up. That's the way I was. No chance of changing. But then, I got a little older, and thought I might want to test those hard-earned prejudices. Whoa! Asparagus was actually pretty good! Really good! Today, it is one of my favorites. And shrimp? I still love shrimp, but when I got to taste it side by side with lobster, I discovered I actually liked lobster better! Interesting how we can learn, and change, and discover ... about so many things.

Worship is one of those! We grow up thinking there is only one way to worship (usually the way our parents do). But when we try some alternatives, we are sometimes delighted to find the goodness in them. Do you feel closer to God if you sing traditional hymns, sit in pews, engage in ancient liturgy, and hear the pastor expound on a text? Great! But could there be other ways to worship that help you experience a deeper and richer relationship with the Creator? It is worth the effort to find out!

On the first Sunday of each month (beginning May 6th), we will have an early service! It will be at 8:30 a.m. and will be different from our 10:15 worship. Music will be "Praise Music" by guitar, keyboard and drums. There will be less liturgy, and more meditation; less expounding and more conversing. Yes, we will test some old ways of doing things and we will make some discoveries. You may find that the way you have been doing worship ... really is the best way for you. But then, you may find that there are ways of worshiping that make you feel much closer to our God. Either way, the second worship time will allow some good things to happen (Sunday School teachers will be able to worship, those who have events to attend will appreciate the early hour, and more people will have opportunity to participate in leading worship). Should be interesting! Should be exciting! Pass the asparagus, please!

In our prayers we remember. . .

Minnie Canatella Crouch, Sharon Dobbins, Sue Vierus, Carol Jensen, Jan Trimmer, Dottie Schoeneberg, Rose Lee Lohmeyer and Christina Holloway.

News, Events and Updates. . .

The UCC Women will have their hamburger cook-out on Wednesday, **May 2**, at 6:30 p. in the church fellowship hall. Members and guest are invited. Please RSVP to Betsy Bosse if you are attending.

If you are interested in attending Slumber Falls Camp, please see the bulletin board for scheduled camp dates or go to their website at <https://slumberfalls.org/summer-camp/>.

On **May 6th**, the Women's Fellowship will sponsor their annual potluck luncheon to honor those graduating from high school or college. If you have someone or know of someone please contact Lou Ann Canatella at 281-639-5044 or email lcangatella55@gmail.com so an invitation can be sent.

The Volunteer Fire Department will be having their annual WVFD Fundraiser BBQ meal on **May 20**. Meal tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased from Russell Borgstedte or Linda Oberhoff.

Friedens Vacation Bible School (VBS) is scheduled for **June 24 – June 28**. Meal provided beginning at 5:30pm – 6:00pm. VBS opening begins at 6:00pm. The theme this year is **Shipwrecked – Rescued by Jesus**. The cost is \$10.00 per person and includes a t-shirt. On Thursday evening we will have a small program for family and friends (time to be announced.) Register online at www.friedenschurch.com under events or Sunday School/VBS.

Thank you . . .

Thank you all for the food donations! It is always a BIG help when we receive food from y'all! You help us help families and seniors!

Sincerely,
Pat Gaston with CCS

Rental of Friedens Facilities:

If you would like to rent the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall or the Activity Center, please contact Denise Stolz at the church office at 936-878-2523 or email the church office at friedensoffice@embarqmail.com. (Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9 – 12). She will check availability and provide you with a rental agreement forms. All rentals are subject to approval by church council.

Did You Know . . .

- ... that the Search Committee is finishing up the church profile, so we will be officially "looking" very soon!
- ... that our offering at Easter was one of the best ever?
- ... that Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 24th (Sunday), through the 28th (Thursday), from 5:30 to 8 p.m.? If anyone would like to help prepare meals contact Ashley Wilson.
- ... that schoolhouse ceiling repairs will be taking place April 30 through May 18?
- ... that Denise Stolz has got our new website up and running? Check it out at www.friedenschurch.com. Also, thanks to Ron Werchan for providing great images for the site.
- ... that the church office got a new computer and printer and thanks to Ron Werchan on getting all purchased, picked up and set-up.
- ... that we will be adding a second service (a Praise Service), on the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m.?
- ... that Dan Mohr repaired the lighting on the cemetery flag, and is working on the lights by the back door?
- ... that Jeff Stolz brought his equipment and he and Roger Finke repaired the loose flashing on the roof peak, and replaced bulbs that only they and God could reach?
- ... that Flora Mason is attending the "Walk to Emmaus" in April? Ask her about her experience.
- ... that we are honoring graduates during the morning worship, Sunday, May 6th? Please let Lou Ann Canatella or Denise Stolz know of any graduates you are aware of.
- ... The Heart of Texas Spring Association was held in College Station on 4/21 and thanks to the Friedens members that provided food for the meal and especially thank you to Linda Oberhoff for attending the meeting and taking the meal.
- ... that Friedens is ... AWESOME?

Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

May 3 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz
 May 10 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 May 17 – Terry Campbell & Sis Renn
 May 24 – Betsy Bosse & Debbie Grimes
 May 31 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto
 June 7 - Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz

Food Pantry Items Needed

May – Canned Vegetables
 June – Drink Mixes, Boxed Juice Drinks
 July – Dry Beans
 August – Canned Meat
 September – Canned Fruit
 October – Rice & Pasta

Altar Flowers

Flowers can be placed in church in memory/honor of loved one(s) or special occasions. See signup sheet on the hall bulletin board.

May 6 – Jeff and Amanda Stolz
 May 13 – Ted & Linda Borgstedte Jr.
 May 20 – Open
 May 27 – Open
 June 3 – Open
 June 10 – Open



April Worship Leaders

Liturgist

May 6 – Vivian Kolkhorst
 May 13 – Flora Mason
 May 20 – Heather Fuller
 May 27 – Becky Barton
 June 3 – John Walkoviak
 June 10 – Shelley Addison

Acolytes

Reece Collins
 Jace Easley
 Brooklynn Stolz
 Kayci Robinson
 Kaden Kennedy
 Kylie Maxson

Ushers/Greeters

Neal and Betsy Bosse
 Wallace and Bernice Bosse
 Wayne & Jo Ann Bosse
 Nelda Buck
 Terry Campbell
 Lou Ann & Charlie Canatella

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

May 2 – UCC Women's Hamburger Cook-out
 May 6 – Fellowship Breakfast
 May 6 – Graduates luncheon
 May 8 – Trustees 6:30 pm and Council meeting 7:00 pm
 May 13- Happy Mother's Day
 May 17 – Women's Fellowship meeting at 2:15 pm
 May 20 – Washington VFD BBQ Meal fundraiser
 May 23 – Fun and Fellowship 2 pm
 May 28 – Memorial Day

June 3 – Fellowship Breakfast
 June 24 – 28 – Friedens VBS 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Heart of Texas Association News

Our Heart of Texas Association gathering on April 22nd at Friends Congregational UCC in College Station was an outpouring of generosity. The "potluck" project of bringing supplies for hygiene kits and assembling them for Back Bay Mission resulted in 77 kits, enthusiastically assembled at the end of the meeting. We voted to pay up to \$300 to buy supplies to complete the kits that didn't have the full list of supplies, but our expenditure from Association funds will be much less because of another generous gift -- Linda Oberhoff presented the payments in the lunch basket, meant to reimburse Friedens Washington for the delicious lunch they provided, as a gift toward completing the hygiene kits. A member of Friends Congregational obtained a donation of nice cloth bags for the kits, bags that can be reused by the homeless folks who receive these kits from Back Bay Mission. We also had a group who drove 4 hours each way from St. Paul Corpus Christi, a generous gift of time to be with us, much appreciated by everyone there. Of course, we also deeply appreciate the gift Friends gave by hosting us when Weimar's building was not ready, and Dan DeLeon's gift of an inspiring opening worship.

We also appreciate the generosity of those who have committed to serve in new ways in the Association. We have three new members on our Committee on Ministry. These include Rev. Cecile Adam, retired Seton Medical Center chaplain (but still very active) and member of Congregational Church of Austin; Rev. Darrin Holub, pastor of Evangelical UCC, Lyons, and Friedens UCC, Gay Hill; and Michelle Dupy, member of St. Peter's Church of Coupland. Rev. John Gage, senior pastor of United Christian Church in Austin, is the new Committee on Ministry chair, and Pastor Cindy Miller of St. John's UCC, Burton, continues as the registrar. Pastor Charlotte Albert of St. Peter's Church of Coupland, came on board as our Association secretary. She joins continuing officers Pastor Janet Sherman of Faith UCC, New Braunfels, as moderator; Linda Coats, member of Friends Congregational UCC, College Station, as vice-moderator; and Joe Ward, member of Faith UCC, New Braunfels, as treasurer. All of our new Committee on Ministry members and our secretary were voted in at our spring meeting.

At our recent Committee on Ministry meeting, we had an ordination interview with Will Nelson and have recommended him for ordination, with his Ecclesiastical Council to be held at our fall association meeting. Will is a member of Church of the Savior in Cedar Park, and earned his Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. We will send out his ordination paper in the weeks before the meeting for all to read in preparation. We also welcomed René Slataper, member of Congregational Church of Austin, as a Member in Discernment. René is about to start seminary at Lexington Theological Seminary in their mainly online program. He is the third of our current Members in Discernment to be part of the Lexington program, a historic seminary of the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ that is very welcoming to UCC students, and the fourth to be part of an online program. We congratulate Will and René, and look forward to learning how they will be called to serve in Christ's ministry.

I look forward to taking our gift of hygiene kits out to Biloxi, Mississippi to the Back Bay Mission May Board of Directors meeting. I know these gifts will be deeply appreciated.

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister



May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>UCC Women 7pm</i>	3 <i>Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz</i>	4	5
6 <i>Fellowship Breakfast Confirmand & Graduate Luncheon L-Vivian K. A-Reese Collins G-Neal & Betsy Bosse</i>	7	8 <i>Trustees -6:30 pm Council-7 pm</i>	9	10 <i>Bonnie Mohr Tammy Leiber</i>	11 <i>Community Recy- cle- Washington Park thru Sunday</i>	12 <i>Community Recy- cle- Washington Park thru Sunday</i>
13 Happy Mother's Day <i>L-Flora M. A-Jace Easley G-Wallace & Bernice B.</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>Terry Campbell Sis Renn Womens Fellowship 2:15 pm</i>	18	19
20 <i>L-Heather F. A-Brooklynn S. G-Wayne & JoAnn B.</i>	21	22	23 <i>Fun & Fellowship 2pm</i>	24 <i>Betsy Bosse Debbie Grimes</i>	25	26
27 <i>L-Becky B. A-Jayci Robinson G-Nelda Buck</i>	28 <i>Memorial Day Holiday</i>	29	30	31 <i>Lou Ann Canatella Jamie Noto</i>		



June 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3 Fellowship Breakfast L-John W. A-Kaden Kennndy G-Terry Campbell and Ora Nell James</p>	4	5	6 UCC Women 7pm	7 Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz	8 Community Recycle – Washington Park thru Sunday	9 Community Recycle – Washington Park thru Sunday
<p>10 L-Shelley Addison A-Kylie M. G-LouAnn & Charlie Canatella</p>	11	12 Council–7 pm	13	14 Bonnie Mohr Tammy Leiber	15	16
<p>17 L-Jackie Schroeder A-Mitchell S. G-Reba Corley</p>	18	19	20	21 Terry Campbell Sis Renn Womens Fellowship 2:15 pm	22	23
<p>24 L-Ashley Stolz A-Hunter S. G-Betty Dickschat VBS –5:30-8:00pm</p>	25 VBS –5:30-8:00pm	26 VBS –5:30-8:00pm	27 Fun and Fellowship 2 pm VBS –5:30-8:00pm	28 Betsy Bosse Debbie Grimes VBS –5:30-8:00pm	29	30