

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

Message from the Pastor

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Sometimes I wonder if our congregation gets tired of me talking about Lent so much, especially when it comes to fasting and things to give up during the 40 day season. I apologize if it seems like I make too big a deal out of this time between Ash Wednesday and Good Friday but it is very special to me. Perhaps I should tell you why...

27 years ago I was a young father who had just returned to church after 20 year hiatus. I had actually joined for my kid's benefit so that they would be raised up in church. I spent most of my time there trying to dodge attending anything beyond the worship service. But then someone grabbed me asking me to participate in something called a Maundy Thursday "passion play."

I tried to get out of it but they were insistent that I was the only one that could play the part – the part of Jesus. It turns out that most of the members were in their 60s and 70s leaving no one to portray Jesus who was exactly my age when he died. Very reluctantly I began the rehearsals with the rest of the cast (the 12 disciples) during Lent in 1992.

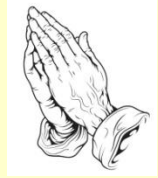
During the course of learning our lines and being dressed in biblical-period garb something began to happen to each of us. Saying the words Jesus and his disciples spoke, dressed in clothes like theirs, sitting at the table together and sharing that final scene, that last time that they were all together, had a profound impact on us. Suddenly, we felt what it must have been like to actually be there and we were forever changed by the experience.

I have had a lot of holy moments in 8 years in ministry but I don't think anything has affected me so profoundly as walking in Jesus' shoes for one night. So, if your pastor keeps making Lent sound like a big deal, he can't help it – it changed his life. May this special season bring changes to your life, as well.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Eric

In our prayers we remember. . .

Christina Holloway, Carolyn & Charles Wellmann, Sue Kiel Schwartz, Betsy & Neal Bosse, Minnie & Frank Crouch, Alma Kenjura, Melvin Loesch Jr., and Lee Borgstedte.



News, Events and Updates. . .

A Spring clean-up day is scheduled for April 6th beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the church. We could sure use your help, please come and lend a hand.

Easter Dates:

- Maundy Thursday Breakfast is Thursday, April 18th at 8:30 a.m. sponsored by the Women's Fellowship. All are welcome and please bring a guest.
- Tenebrae Service is Thursday, April 18th at 7 pm.
- Sunday School practice and Easter Egg hunt Saturday, April 20th at 10 a.m.
- Easter Program during worship Sunday, April 21st.
- Easter Sunrise Service is at 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 21st.
- Easter Service is Sunday, April 21st at 10:15 a.m.

As a reminder, Lenten Services will continue on Wednesday through April 10th. We will be having a pot luck on Wednesday April 10th so bring a dish and come join us. After that date Bible study will continue every Wednesday. See you on Wednesdays.

Walk to Emmaus. The dates for the next men's walk is April 12 – 14 and the next women's walk is April 26 -28. If you are interested in going to the Walk to Emmaus, please contact Pastor Eric Dehmer.

Women's Fellowship is taking orders for Easter lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to place an order, see Joy Dickschat or Lena Mae Goessler. Deadline for your order is April 7th and payment is needed when you order.

Women's Fellowship will host a luncheon for confirmands and graduates on Sunday, May 5 after church at the Activity Center. If you have someone graduating from high school, college or graduate school (masters or PHD) please contact Lou Ann Canatella by Monday, April 8. Lou Ann can be reached by phone or text at 281-63-5044 and email at lcanatella55@gmail.com. Please include the students full name, school, and the graduates plans for the future. Thank you.

Loss of Loved Ones

Prayers for the family of Carolyn Faye NeSmith Wellmann. Carolyn passed away peacefully at home to her heavenly life on March 23, 2019. Visitation was held on Tuesday, March 26th at Nobles Funeral Chapel. Funeral services was held March 27th at Friedens Church of Washington, UCC with Pastor Glen Schoeneberg officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Carolyn is the wife of Charles Wellmann and they were blessed with two children, Marsha Elaine and William Ray.

Sunday School Happenings. . .

Sunday School will have their Easter program practice on Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m. followed by a Easter Egg hunt.

Easter program will be during worship on Easter Day April 21st.



New Members

Please welcome **Sandra Borgstedte Antill** back to Friedens Church. Sandra joined on March 17th during worship. Sandra is so excited to be a part of Friedens Church again.

Also, please welcome **Stacey and Brady Becker** to Friedens Church. Stacey too has rejoined Friedens along with her husband on March 17th. Stacey and Brady Becker live in Washington, Texas along with their 2 children, Katie and Beau.

If you know of someone that is interested in joining Friedens Church, please contact Pastor Eric Dehmer at 936-878-2523.

Baptism

Cade Richard Williams son of Daryl and Sara Eckert Bosse is to be baptized on March 31st. Cade was born on November 21, 2018. The William's family live in Temple, Texas. Grandparents are Sally Stroech (maternal), Mark & Karen Eckert (maternal and Stepmother), and Tom & Debbie Williams (paternal). Sponsors are Tom Williams and Lindsey Eckert.

Church Council Happenings. . .

Reminder: A Spring clean-up day is scheduled for April 6th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Council Work Schedule

April 7	Wesley S.	Travis E.
April 14 –Palm Sunday	Kasey K.	Terry C.
April 18 – Maundy Thursday	John W.	Dan M.
April 21 - Easter	Mark D.	Jon W.
April 28	Jeff S.	John P.
May 5	Wesley S.	Travis E.
May 12	Kasey K.	Terry C.
May 19	John W.	Dan M.
May 26	Mark D.	Jon W.



Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

April 4 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 April 11 – Terry Campbell & Sis Renn
 April 18 – Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes
 April 25 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto

 May 2 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz
 May 9 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 May 16 – Terry Campbell & Sis Renn
 May 23 – Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes
 May 30 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto

Food Pantry Items Needed

April – Flour
 May – Canned Vegetables
 June – Drink Mixes, Boxed juice Drinks
 July – Dry Beans
 August – Canned Meat
 Sept – Canned Fruit
 October – Rice & Pasta
 November – Cornbread, Biscuit Mixes
 December – Your Choice – Bring early so
 pantries can distribute for
 Christmas.

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.

April 7 – Cindy & John Walkoviak in honor of their 32nd Wedding Anniversary.
 April 14 – Kevin & Bridgette Schulze in honor of Quinn's 7th Birthday.
 April 21 – Open
 April 28 – Open

 May 5 – Open
 May 12 – Open
 May 19 – Open
 May 26 – Open



Liturgist	Acolytes	Ushers/Greeters
April 7 – Ashley Wilson	Kayci Robinson	Elroy & Denise Stolz
April 14 – Russell Borgstedte	Kaden Kennedy	Herbert (Skeeter) & Dorothy Stolz
April 21 – Mary Borgstedte	Kylie Maxson	Jeff & Amanda Stolz
April 28 – Sandra Bosse	Mitchell Schlabach	Jim & Brittany Stolz
May 5 – Vivian Kolkhorst	Hunter Schlabach	Wesley & Amanda Stolz
May 12 – Flora Mason	Kameron Stolz	Terrence & Elaine Warmke
May 19 – Heather Fuller	Reece Collins	Cindy & John Walkoviak
May 26 – Wesley Stolz	Jace Easley	Cindy & Craig Wellmann

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

Events will be added here, please check calendar for all other meetings, etc.



- April 1 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- April 3 – Lenten Service (Sunday School to provide meal at 6 pm)
- April 6 – Spring Clean-up day at Friedens beginning at 9 a.m.
- April 7 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (UCC Women to provide)
- April 8 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- April 10 – Lenten Service (Pot Luck Meal at 6 pm) (Bring a dish and join us).
- April 12 – 14 – Mens Walk to Emmaus
- April 12-14 – Recycle at the Park
- April 15 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- April 17 – No Bible Study – come for the Tenebrae service on Thursday instead.
- April 18 – Maundy Thursday Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. & Maundy Thursday & Tenebrae Service at 7 pm.
- April 19 – Good Friday
- April 20 – Deadline for newsletter. Send to the church office information for the newsletter.
- April 20 – Sunday School Easter Program Practice at 10 a.m. followed by an Easter Hunt.
- April 21 – Sunrise Service at 7 a.m.
- April 21 – **Easter** Service at 10:15 a.m. (will include the Sunday School Easter program.)
- April 22 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- April 26 – 28 – Women's Walk to Emmaus
- April 29 – Confirmation Class 6 pm



- May 1 – Bible Study at 7:30 pm (meal at 6:30)
- May 2 – National Day of Prayer at the Washington on the Brazos at noon.
Also, UCC Women's Meeting at 6 pm.
- May 4 – Blinn Trustees Election Voting at the Activity Center.
- May 5 – Refreshments and Fellowship prior to Worship. Council to provide breakfast.
- May 5 – Confirmands and Graduates Luncheon after worship.
- May 6 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- May 8 – Bible Study at 7:30 pm (meal at 6:30)
- May 10 – 12 – Recycle at the Park
- May 12 – Happy Mother's Day
- May 13 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- May 14 – Council Meeting 7 pm
- May 15 – Bible Study at 7:30 (Meal at 6:30)
- May 16 – Women's Fellowship Mtg 2:15 pm
- May 20 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- May 20 - Deadline for newsletter. Send to the church office information for the newsletter.
- May 22 – Fun and Fellowship 2:15 and Bible Study at 7:30 (Meal at 6:30)
- May 25 – Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m.
- May 27 – Memorial Day Holiday
- May 29 – Bible Study at 7:30 pm (Meal at 6:30 pm)

Heart of Texas Association News

We are trying something new at our spring Association Meeting -- offering the option for people to attend by Zoom, a video and audio conference website similar to Skype but with the capacity for several people to participate. The meeting will be at St. Paul UCC in Corpus Christi on Saturday, May 4, at 11 am (10:30 registration for those attending in person). We are preparing for the possibility of having an Ecclesiastical Council for an ordination candidate, meaning that it is very important for us to have a quorum (attendance from a majority of our churches) at the meeting in person or electronically. Of course, we encourage people to be there in person and also to plan to enjoy some time in the Corpus Christi area (on a great weekend to be on the beach). However, we also recognize that the distance will be a problem for some. Anticipating this situation, we intentionally set up our Association bylaws to allow electronic attendance. We will be working over the next few weeks to set up a meeting that will use Zoom, and are planning to send out a letter with instructions in early April. We also anticipate scheduling a couple of times when people can try a trial login to Zoom to connect with our meeting website to be sure it works for those who will be using it. We will need churches who will be having people attend by Zoom to let us know and to try the login in advance. Let's work together to help this happen! It will be a big and good step for our Association that can enable us to continue to have good participation with our long distances.

Our friends at United Christian in Austin have called an interim Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Laura Barnes, who will be beginning her ministry on May 1. Laura served churches in Danville, California and in San Mateo, California before moving back to her hometown in Dallas, where she has served more recently in interim ministry. United has had a thorough and intentional search process for their interim, with their excellent staff and gifted group of members who serve elsewhere in ministry leading the church during the search. Many of us, myself included, were delighted to meet Laura at the Clergy Retreat in February. We join United in welcoming her to the Heart of Texas Association.

Our South Central Conference Annual Meeting this year will be in New Orleans, always a treat to visit, on Friday May 31- Saturday June 1st. The SCC gathering will be at the Jung Hotel, near downtown and the French Quarter. The theme is "Resurrection Insurrection" with Ron Buford as the guest speaker. Ron currently serves as pastor of the Congregational Church of Sunnyvale, California and was the leader of the God is Still Speaking campaign in the UCC. He gave our ministers a real gift as our Clergy Retreat leader and speaker, with his gracious, articulate, and engaging presence. I hope many of you will go to New Orleans to hear him, to join in fellowship and worship, and to enjoy! Registration information, along with clergy boundary training information, can be found at <https://sccucc.org/2019-scc-annual-meeting-registration/>.

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Confirmation Class 6 pm	2	3 Lenten Service @ 7pm (Sunday School serving meal at 6pm)	4 UCC Women's Mtg 6 pm <i>Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber</i>	5	6 Spring Clean- up day at Friedens beginning at 9 am
7 Refreshments & Fellshp prior Worship- UCC Women to provide. Choir will sing today. L- Ashley Wilson A- Kayci Robinson G-Elroy & Denise Stolz	8 Confirmation Class 6 pm	9 Trustees Mtg 6:30pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm	10 Lenten Service @ 7pm (Pot Luck Meal @ 6pm so bring a dish to share)	11 <i>Terry Campbell & Sis Renn</i>	12 Recycle at the Park 12 th - 14th	13 Recycle at the Park 12 th - 14th
14 Recycle at the Park L- Russell Borgstedte A- Kaden Kennedy G- Herbert & Dorothy Stolz	15 Confirmation Class 6 pm	16	17 No Bible Study. Come for the Tenebrae service on Thursday instead.	18 Maundy Thursday Breakfast @8:30 am Maundy Thursday & Tenebrae Serv at 7 pm No Women's Fellshp mtg. <i>Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes</i>	19 	20 Sunday School Easter Program Practice at 10 a.m. followed by the Easter Egg Hunt
21 Sunrise Serv 7 am EASTER Serv @ 10:15 am SS Easter Program L- Mary Borgstedte A- Kylie Maxson G-Jeff & Amanda Stolz	22 Confirmation Class 6 pm	23	24 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30). Fun & Fellowship 2:15	25 <i>Lou Ann Canatella Jamie Noto</i>	26	27 Emmaus Reunion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am
28 L- Sandra Bosse A- Mitchell Schlabach G-Jim & Brittany Stolz	29 Confirmation Class 6 pm	30				

*Food Pantry item for April is Flour.

*The calendars are continually being updated so be sure to replace your calendar each month when you receive your current newsletter.

2019

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	2 UCC Women Mtg 6pm National Day of Prayer at *WOTBS Park (meal incl) <i>Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz</i>	3	4 Blinn Trustee Election Voting at Activity Center
5 Refreshments & Fellowship prior Worship- Council to provide. ----- -Confirmands and Graduates Luncheon. L- Vivian Kolkhorst A- Hunter Schlabach G- Wesley & Amanda Stolz	6 Confirmation Class 6 pm	7	8 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	9 <i>Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber</i>	10 <i>Recycle at the Park 10th – 12th</i>	11 Recycle at the Park 10 th – 12th
12  L- Flora Mason A- Kameron Stolz G-Terrance & Elaine Warmke	13 Confirmation Class 6 pm	14 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	15 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	16 Women's Fellowship 2:15pm <i>Terry Campbell & Sis Renn</i>	17	18
19 L- Heather Fuller A- Reece Collins G-Cindy & John Walkoviak	20 Confirmation Class 6 pm	21	22 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30). ----- ~ Fun & Fellowship 2:15	23 <i>Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes</i>	24	25 Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am
26 L- Wesley Stolz A- Jace Easley G-Craig & Cindy Wellmann	27 Memorial Day	28	29 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	30 <i>Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto</i>	31	

2019

*WOTBS – Washington on the Brazos State Park

**Food Pantry item for May is Canned Vegetables

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