

MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

Message from the Pastor

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Recently I met with a number of the area clergy and church leaders in Washington at Mt. Zion Porter AME Church on FM 2726 to plan the National Day of Prayer observation on May 2nd. These were some wonderful folks who eagerly volunteered to help in the event and agreed that as the area churches in Washington, we need to be in prayer for our community.

I shared with them about my recent experience as a district court juror in a custody trial and what I learned in the process. That is, we have some poor folks living in Washington who have little hope of changing their fortunes. So, they turn to drugs instead as a temporary escape from their plight. Of course as Christians we have Jesus, which is a far better thing than just a temporary fix. What's more, Jesus instructs us to share our life-saving faith with others in Matthew 28:19-20a when he states, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

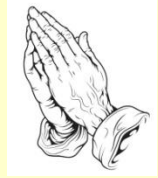
Christ's followers are not supposed to keep their never ending joy in the Lord to themselves. As the church of Jesus Christ we need to be reaching out to the lost in our community. Jesus actually gave his disciples instructions to do as he had done. In Luke 19:10 Jesus tells his disciples "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

My fellow clergy and church leaders in Washington will be coming together to pray for our nation and community at the national Day of Prayer observation at noon on May 2 at the Washington on the Brazos picnic pavilion. I hope that you will join us for this event and I'm sure that you will receive a rich blessing by attending.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Eric

In our prayers we remember. . .

Mary Lee Lewis, Christina Holloway, Charles Wellmann, Sue Kiel Schwartz, Jesus Maldonado, Betsy & Neal Bosse, Joyce Werchan, Christine Frances, Minnie & Frank Crouch, Elroy Stolz, Wayne Bosse, Tommy Holle, Diane Latham, Edith Dickschat and Larry Young.



News, Events and Updates. . .

Please join us for "National Day of Prayer" at the Washington on the Brazos Park on May 2 at noon. UCC women are sponsoring a light meal for the National Day of Prayer. Therefore, UCC Women will not have a regular meeting in May.

The spring meeting of the Heart of Texas Association will be on Saturday, May 4th, 2019 at St. Paul UCC in Corpus Christi. St. Paul is located at 5525 Lipes Blvd., Corpus Christi. However, if you are unable to attend, Pastor Eric will have a video conference connection via Zoom at Friedens in the Fellowship Hall between 11 a.m. to 12:30 pm.

Women's Fellowship will host a luncheon for confirmands and graduates on Sunday, May 5 after worship at the Activity Center and all church members are invited to attend the luncheon. Bring a dish to share.

Note: Confirmands and Graduates - Please let Lou Ann Canatella know ASAP if you and the number of your family members that will attend the luncheon given by Women's Fellowship in your honor. The deadline for RSVPs is Friday, May 3, 2019.

Women's Fellowship members that can volunteer to put together school bags and hygiene kits, please meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, May 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Reminder: Choir sings every first Sunday and holds practice the Sunday before. We are always looking for new members. Come join us!!

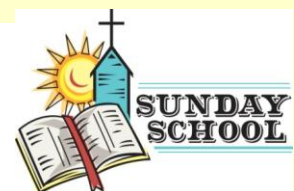
Mark your calendars for the Salad Supper scheduled for July 20 at 6:30 pm.

Sunday School Happenings. . .

The last day of Sunday School will be May 26 and there will be no Sunday School during the Summer.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 23 – 27, 2019 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm and dinner will be served. If you would like to help with VBS, please contact Ashley Wilson @ 936-870-8166.

You can sign up for VBS at: <https://www.myvbs.org/friedens2019/> also a link will be on the church website under Sunday School.



Thank You . . .

The Quilters would like to thank Pastor Eric, Pastor Glen, and Lena Mae & Hilbert Goessler for providing an air condition/heater for the Quilt room.

Their generous gift along with the time and effort of installation by Dan Mohr and Pastor Eric has been a blessing to us. We sincerely appreciate all of their gifts.

Terry Campbell, Sis Renn, Ora Nell James, May Dell Lanham, Rose Lee Lohmeyer, Joyce Boehm and Bobbie Briggs.

Church Council Happenings. . .

The ceiling at Activity Center is under repair as of 4/23, and should be complete May 4th.

We are working to finalize costs to repair the lights on the cross (steeple).

We have a new computer that was donated (thank you Jeff Stolz/Seidel/Schroeder) to be used by our envelope treasurer (old one crashed). This also resulted in a new program for capturing and reporting member giving. Thanks to Ron Werchan for finding a program at a reasonable cost, which includes future updates.

The burn pile next to the Activity Center and in Cemetery have been burned thanks to Pastor Eric and Dan Mohr.

Items in discussion (in no particular order.)

1. Upgrade to sound system (features an anti-squeal or anti feedback function), also a new recording system (eliminating cassette tape).
2. Re-upholstering pews
3. Carpet replacement



Council Work Schedule

May 5	Wesley S.	Travis E.
May 12	Kasey K.	Terry C.
May 19	John W.	Dan M.
May 26	Mark D.	Jon W.
June 2	Jeff S.	John P.
June 9	Wesley S.	Travis E.
June 16	Kasey K.	Terry C.
June 23	John W.	Dan M.
June 30	Mark D.	Jon W.

Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

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

June 6 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz
 June 13 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 June 20 – Terry Campbell & Sis Renn
 June 27 – Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes

Food Pantry Items Needed

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.

May 5 – Lou Ann and Charlie Canatella for Charlie's Birthday.
 May 12 – Open
 May 19 – Ted & Linda Borgstedte Jr. for Ted William Borgstedte III 50th Birthday.
 May 26 – Open
 June 2 – Open
 June 9 – Open
 June 16 – Open
 June 23 – Open
 June 30 – Open



Liturgist

May 5 – Vivian Kolkhorst
 May 12 – Flora Mason
 May 19 – Heather Fuller
 May 26 – Wesley Stolz

June 2 – Jim Latham
 June 9 – Becky Barton
 June 16 – Amanda Stolz
 June 23 – John Walkoviak
 June 30 – Shelley Addison

Acolytes

Hunter Schlabach
 Kameron Stolz
 Reece Collins
 Jace Easley

Lila Ray Kennedy
 Katie Becker
 Bailee Wilson
 Quinn Schulze
 Mitchell Schlabach

Ushers/Greeters

Wesley & Amanda Stolz
 Terrence & Elaine Warmke
 Cindy & John Walkoviak
 Cindy & Craig Wellmann

David & Kim Wellmann
 Debbie Wellmann & Jon Wellmann
 Don & Jane Wellmann
 Tracy & Effie Wellmann
 Ron & Linda Werchan

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

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



- May 1 – Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30)
- May 2 – National Day of Prayer at Washington on the Brazos State Park at noon (meal included).
- May 2 – No UCC meeting
- May 4 – Blinn Trustees Election Voting at the Activity Center.
- May 4 – Spring Meeting of the Heart of Texas Association in Corpus Christi at St. Paul UCC.
- May 5 – Refreshments and Fellowship prior to Worship. Council to provide breakfast.
- May 5 – Choir Sings during worship.
- May 5 – Confirmands and Graduates Luncheon after worship.
- May 6 – Confirmation Class 6 pm
- May 8 – Bible Study at 7:00 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 7:00 (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 22 - Put together school bags & Hygiene kits at 10 a.m. in Fellowship.
- May 25 – Emmaus Reunion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m.
- May 26 – Last day of Sunday School for the Summer and Choir practice after worship.
- May 27 – Memorial Day Holiday
- May 29 – Bible Study at 7:00 pm (Meal at 6:30 pm)



- June 2 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (Sunday School will provide.)
- June 2 – Confirmation Sunday (Confirmands will be confirmed and receive communion).
- June 5 – Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm (Meal at 6:30.)
- June 6 – UCC Women Mtg. 6 pm.
- June 9 – Pentecost Sunday
- June 12 – Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm (Meal at 6:30.)
- June 14 – 16 – Recycle at the Park.
- June 16 – Happy Father's Day
- June 19 – Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm (Meal at 6:30.)
- June 20 – Women's Fellowship 2:15 pm.
- June 22– Emmaus Reunion Group Mtg. 8 a.m. Fellowship Hall.
- June 23 – 27 – Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. (Meal provided.)
- June 26 – Fun & Fellowship 2:15 pm and Bible Study 7:00 pm (Meal at 6:30.)
- June 30 – Choir Practice after worship.

July 20 – Salad Supper at 6:30 pm

Heart of Texas Association News

For those of you reading this article at the start of May, here's a reminder that our **Association Spring Meeting is on Saturday, May 4th, at St. Paul UCC, 5525 Lipes Blvd. in Corpus Christi**, beginning at 11 am. On the agenda is the **Ecclesiastical Council of CJ Wood**: her ordination paper has been sent to our churches and ministers, and we encourage all who attend to read it beforehand. These Councils are always enriching faith discussions! We urge those who cannot make it to Corpus Christi **to attend by Zoom internet link**, which will be set up for the 11-12:30 (voting) part of the meeting, as we need to have a quorum for that time and we value your presence. Those who still need an email copy of CJ's ordination paper or plan to attend by Zoom should contact me right away (at lizknash@gmail.com). **We will only be sending the Zoom link to those who request it and have learned how to use it.** We will set up a "trial run" (takes only a few minutes) for anyone who needs to learn to use Zoom to allow you to find out how to get the Zoom link to work.

Members from at least four of our Association churches, including me, have traveled to Brownsville recently on Texas Impact "Courts and Ports" immersion trips. We went to witness and learn about the situation with migrants and asylum seekers at the US-Mexico border. Two of our Association church members, Cecelia Hawkins and Whit Bodman, have been part of the leadership for these trips. Members of Friends Congregational, Hope United, Open Cathedral, and Congregational Church of Austin have been challenged, disturbed, and spiritually enriched by participating. Our trips have included observing in the federal magistrate's court as people are brought in groups for what are mainly deportation proceedings; volunteering at the Humanitarian Respite Center run by Catholic Charities in McAllen for those requesting amnesty who have just been released from detention; walking over the bridge into Matamoros with a volunteer bringing supplies to those waiting to request amnesty on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande; and a discussion with a longtime advocate for border issues and migrants in the area. The deportation proceedings were for people, mainly from Mexico, who had been picked up crossing the Rio Grande, with the largest group being young people in their early 20s, apparently crossing to find work or to join relatives. Our observation both served to ensure that the proceedings follow the law and to see the humanity in what has become an abstract issue for many of us. When we went to the Respite Center, we encountered an almost overwhelming number of families with children and single people being released from detention, there to be helped with bus tickets to join family, with clothes, and with food for the day before traveling on to their destinations the same or next day. These were all people who had been found, in their interviews in detention, to have a well founded fear of violence and persecution in their amnesty claims, about to be released into a long court process to decide whether they can stay in the US. The people waiting without shelter on the Matamoros side are only being allowed into the US in very small numbers each day and week to request amnesty -- some had been waiting there as long as two months, dependent on groups from Brownsville to bring over food, water, and any basic supplies. I believe I speak for all of us who have gone in saying we have been moved tremendously by what we experienced and are searching for ways to respond with compassion. See <https://texasimpact.org/project/courts-ports/> for more information.

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	2 National Day of Prayer at *WOTBS Park (meal incl) No UCC meeting today <i>Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz</i>	3	4 Blinn Trustee Election Voting at Activity Center Spring Meeting of the Heart of Tx Assoc in Corpus Christi
5 Refreshments & Fellowship prior Worship- Council to provide and Choir Sings today. ~~~~~ -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). ~~~~~ Put Together school bags & Hygiene kits 10 a.m in Fellowship. Fun & Fellowship 2:15	23 <i>Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes</i>	24	25 Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am
26 Last day of Sunday School for the Summer. <i>Choir Practice after worship.</i> 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	

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*WOTBS – Washington on the Brazos State Park

**Food Pantry item for May is Canned Vegetables

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

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Refreshments & Fellowship prior to Worship- Sunday School to provide. ----- Confirmation Sunday L- Jim Latham A- Lila Ray Kennedy G- David & Kim Wellmann	3	4	5 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	6 UCC Women Mtg 6pm <i>Food Pantry Workers: Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz</i>	7	8
9 Pentecost Sunday L- Becky Barton A- Katie Becker G- Debbie Wellmann & Jon Wellmann	10	11	12 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	13 <i>Food Pantry Workers: Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber</i>	14 Recycle at the Park 14th – 16th	15 Recycle at the Park 14th – 16th
16 Happy Father's Day L- Amanda Stolz A- Bailee Wilson G- Don & Jane Wellmann	17	18	19 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30).	20 Women's Fellowship 2:15pm <i>Food Pantry Workers: Terry Campbell & Sis Renn</i>	21 Deadline for newsletter. Send to the church office information for the newsletter for July, August due to no newsletter during July and August.	22 Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am
23 L- John Walkoviak A- Quinn Schulze G- Tracy & Effie Wellmann <i>Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm</i>	24 <i>Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm</i>	25 <i>Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm</i>	26 Bible Study at 7:00 pm (meal at 6:30). <i>Fun & Fellowship 2:15 Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm</i>	27 <i>Food Pantry Workers: Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes Vacation Bible School 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm</i>	28	29
30 <i>Choir Practice after Worship.</i> L- Shelley Addison A- Mitchell Schlabach G- Ron & Linda Werchan						

2019

*WOTBS means "Washington on the Brazos State Park"

**Food Pantry item for June is Drink Boxes, Boxed Juice drinks

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