

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

Message from the Pastor

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As I write this we are about to wrap up the re-upholstery of all the pews, benches, and chairs in the sanctuary and narthex. Normally, because of the large scope of work, this would be a very labor-intensive project to undertake in and of itself. But because of all of the stripped and broken screws holding the pews together it became even more time-consuming and aggravating. Isn't that just the way life is sometimes – all your time eaten up by something that you hadn't planned on and aggravating you in the process? Do you think God cares when this happens to us?

1 Peter 5:7 tells us, **Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.** In truth, if we take the time to involve the Lord in the struggles we experience it wouldn't seem nearly so much of an ordeal. The key is to engage with the Lord early on in whatever difficulties we're facing, allowing Him to shoulder the burden instead of us trying to do it on our own. Matthew 11:28 records these words of Jesus: **"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."**

Sometimes when we are feeling overwhelmed by the myriad of daily responsibilities which we undertake, and seem to be running out of time to do it all, that is exactly when we need to take time out to commune with the Lord. It's really not all about what all we need to achieve on our agenda today, it's more about how much more we can accomplish if we only entrust it to Him. We only possess a finite degree of strength but, Christ's power is infinite. **Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."** (Matthew 19:26)

Jesus wants us to be successful in all the endeavors we undertake for him. Within our own church the last couple of weeks we have experienced great success with the handful of volunteers who have come each day to move pews and fixtures from the sanctuary for the re-carpeting. Then, to move everything back in again and refasten the pews to the floor. This past week involved a similar process to get all the pews recovered. Through it all, the Lord has been with us and granted us every success. Our praises to Him rang loud and long on the first Sunday after all the work was completed.

Let us never hesitate to take our concerns before the Lord before we become overwhelmed by the burden. And, let us always sing songs of the loudest praise to His name and forever give Him thanks.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Eric

In our prayers we remember. . .

Mary Lee Lewis, Christina Holloway, Joyce Werchan, Edith Dickschat, Larry Young, Hilma Stolz, Ralph Holle, Glen Shahan, Raymond Barton, Sharon Dobbins, James Stolz, Cindy Miller, the family of Jack Baker, the family Danny Berger, the family of Charles Wellmann.



News, Events and Updates. . .

Since the newsletter was mailed on 10/30 the weekly Bible Study class has changed again and is now been moved to Thursday's at 10 a.m.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming November congregational meeting to be held on **November 10th**, when the new budget as well as the new council members will be presented.

Also, mark your calendar for **Totenfest**, which will be held on **November 24**. **Note:** the date was moved to the 24th as traditionally it is the Sunday before Advent begins.

Heart of Texas Fall Association Meeting is to be held on Saturday, **November 16th** at Trinity Church of Austin at 11 am. The meeting and lunch will be hosted by Congregational Church of Austin and Trinity. We anticipate having at least one Ecclesiastical Council for a candidate for ministry seeking ordination. Come join us as we make important decisions about ministry in this Council, as we connect and build community among our churches, as we do our Association business together, and as we seek to respond to the needs and ideas of our churches.

We will be **decorating our church for the Christmas Season** on Saturday November 30th beginning at 9:00 a.m. and "**Hanging of the Greens**" will be on December 1st during worship.

Church calendar: If you have any additions/changes/deletions and want to purchase a church calendar, please contact Nelda Buck at 713-805-1087. Deadline for changes is November 3 and deadline for purchasing is November 24th.

***New Friedens Church of Washington UCC Membership Directory will be printed in November**, please contact the church office as soon as possible if you have had any changes to your address, phone number, etc. Deadline for changes is November 15th.

Women's Fellowship will have a table at the upcoming "**Christmas in the Park**" on November 16, 2019 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Washington-on-the-Brazos Historical Site. We will be selling our Feeding the Flock Cookbooks and baked goods. Baked good donations, from the cookbook, would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 15 between 10:00am to Noon. If you plan to donate please put the name of your baked good on your donation. We found last year that the demand was greater for whole items, rather than small individual bags. For that person who has everything and is difficult to buy for, the cookbook makes a great gift. Cookbooks sell for \$15.00.

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

Sunday School Program will be December 22nd and practice starts the Sunday of November 10th during Sunday School.

Toys For Tots dance will be on Saturday, November 30th at Silver Wings.

Sunday School Happenings. . .



The **Sunday School Christmas Program** will be on December 22nd during Worship.

It's still not too late:

Sunday School is looking for individuals to teach a children's Sunday School Class? If you are interested, please contact Ashley Wilson.

Church Council Happenings. . .

There are a lot of things taking place in the last few months of this year, and there have been many things accomplished that would not be possible without the support of all of you (Congregation). The carpet installation is complete, and looks nice. The Installers finished in 3 days' time, and while their work was fantastic, the short time to complete would not have been possible without the help of many people coming together to remove, move, and then re-install pews, the organ, piano, altar and the many other items. While I am not listing every name that assisted, I do want to say a special thanks to our very own Pastor Eric, who did a lions share of the work. We are truly blessed.

The coverings for the pews is scheduled to be completed by October 19th, and again, a big shout out to Pastor Eric, and Jim Latham and Dickie Dickschat for basically having to disassemble the pews in order to remove the cushions for upholstering, and then re-assemble afterwards.

I, as I'm sure most would agree, find it amazing that the carpet and pew coverings held up so well for 46 plus years. A real testament to the quality of material being produced at that time.

The new sound system has been ordered, and will be installed soon as well.

I am in the process of compiling and submitting the information for the plaque of donors for these 3 amazing projects.

As my time serving as Church Council President comes to an end, I look back and realize what an honor it is to serve you all, and our church. To those that will be rotating off Council at the end of this year, and those that remain, thank you for serving. I have enjoyed serving alongside you all.

To those that made the decision to be willing to serve on Council; Thank you, your willingness and dedication to serve our church is greatly appreciated, as is any person willing to serve on the various committees or organizations within our church.

Council Work Schedule

November 3	Kasey K.	Terry C.
November 10	John W.	
November 17	Mark D.	Jon W.
November 24	Jeff S.	John P.
December 1	Wesley S.	Travis E.
December 8	Kasey K.	Terry C.
December 15	John W.	
December 22	Mark D.	Jon W.
December 24 (Christmas Eve)	Jeff S.	John P.
December 29	Wesley S.	Travis E.



Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

November 7 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 November 14– Terry Campbell & Sis Renn
 November 21 – Jim Latham & Debbie Grimes
 November 28 – Closed due to Holiday
 December 5 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto
 December 12 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz

Food Pantry Items Needed

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 sign up sheet on the hall bulletin board.

November 3 – Travis & Lindsey Eckert – Molly's Baptism
 November 10 – Open
 November 17 – Open
 November 24 – Open
 December 1 – Open
 December 8 – Open
 December 15 – Open
 December 22 – Open
 December 29 – Roger and Sheri Finke – Case's 5th Birthday.



Liturgist	Acolytes	Ushers/Greeters
November 3 – Shelley Addison	Mitchell Schlabach	Rodney & Celeste Dickschat
November 10 – Ashley Wilson	Bailee Wilson	Amanda Easley & Kayci Robinson
November 17 – Russell Borgstedte	Lila Ray Kennedy	Travis & Lindsey Eckert
November 24 – Mary Borgstedte	Katie Becker	Kay Finke and Tim Finke
December 1 – Sandra Bosse	Lila Ray Kennedy	Roger & Sheri Finke
December 8 – Vivian Kolkhorst	Quinn Schulze	Brett & Becky Fowler
December 15 – Flora Mason	Mitchell Schlabach	BJ Fowler & Brandi Fowler
December 22 – Heather Fuller	Bailee Wilson	Joe & Heather Fuller
December 24 – Wesley Stolz	Lila Ray Kennedy	Hilbert & Lena Mae Goessler
December 29 – Jim Latham	Katie Becker	Robert & Debbie Grimes

Loss of Loved Ones

Prayers for the family of **Charles Wellmann**, 70, passed away on October 18, 2019 at his residence in Navasota. Charles was born July 5, 1949. He married Carolyn NeSmith Wellamnn on June 2, 1973. Charles Wellmann is the father of Marsha and Wesley Murrell of Houston, Texas and William Wellmann of Navasota, Texas and the brother of Tracy and Effie Wellmann and Craig and Cindy Wellmann both of Washington, Texas.

Our dear Compadre, **Jesus Francisco Maldonado**, was born September 9, 1950. He lost his courageous battle with cancer on October 13, 2019. He left behind his beloved wife of 39 years, Elsa; children Elsy (Jeffrey), Jesus Jr., and Eric (Dara); grandchildren Alek and Charles; six loving sisters; and numerous family members. He was a loving and kind man and will be missed greatly. We appreciate your prayers and concerns for him this last year. Thank you and God bless, Russell and Mary Borgstedte

Prayers for the family of **Daniel "Danny" Joe Berger**, 61 of Navasota, born on February 20, 1958 and passed away Friday, October 18th at Brazos Valley Hospice Inpatient Facility in Bryan from a long battle with cancer. Danny is the brother of Denise and Elroy Stolz of Washington and the uncle of Wesley & Amanda Stolz of Washington, Texas and Leslie and Barclay Stewart of Richardson, Texas.

Births

Cooper Philip Roberts born on September 19th weighing 8 lbs 5 oz, 20" at 7:40 a.m. to Katie and Philip Roberts of Brenham Texas. Grandparent is Lauren Bush and the late Walter Bush of Brenham, Texas. Great Grandparents are Earl "Skipper" & Alverne Stegemoller of Washington.

Baptisms

Molly Ann Eckert was baptized on November 3, 2019. She is the daughter of Travis and Lindsey Eckert. Grandparents are Sally Stroech, Mark & Karen Eckert, and Alan and Myrna Siemsglusz. Great grandparents are Wayne & JoAnn Bosse, and Nita and Charles Eckert. Sponsors are Adrienne Siemsglusz, Kevin Dreyer, Dalton Feldmann and Brittni Knebel.

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

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



- November 3 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (Sunday School will provide.)
Also, Choir to sing during worship.
- November 6 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm
- November 7 – No UCC meeting.
- November 8-10 - Recycle at the Park
- November 10 – **Congregational Meeting after worship.** Also, Christmas Program practice begins.
- November 12 – Council Meeting 7 pm
- November 13 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm
- November 16 – Women's Fellowship "Christmas in the Park" and Heart of Texas Fall Assoc. Meeting
- November 20 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm and deadline for newsletter articles for the church newsletter.
- November 21 – Women's Fellowship Meeting at 2:15 pm
- November 22 – UCC Women – Christmas in the Garden –Martha's Bloomers
- November 23 – Emmaus Reunion Group meeting at 8 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
and Children's Halloween at Friedens Church – watch more info to come.
- November 24 – ***Totenfest** and Choir practice after worship.
- November 27 – No Fun & Fellowship at 2:00 pm and No Bible Study
- November 28 – Happy Thanksgiving.
- November 30 – Decorating the Church for the Christmas Season and **Toys for Tots at Silver Wings.**
*** Totenfest was moved to the 24th. The date was moved to the 24th due to traditionally, it is the Sunday before Advent begins.**



- December 1 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (Sunday School will provide.)
Hanging of the Greens in church. UCC luncheon at Beavers and drawing of the baskets. Also, Choir to sing during worship.
- December 4 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm
- December 5 – Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon at 11:00
- December 10 – Trustee Mtg 6:30 and Council Mtg 7 pm
- December 11 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm
- December 13-15 - Recycle at the Park
- December 18 – Bible Study at 6:00 pm
- December 19 – No Women's Fellowship Meeting
- December 22 – Sunday School Christmas Program during church.
and deadline for newsletter articles for the church newsletter.
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 pm
- December 28 – Emmaus Reunion Group meeting at 8 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
and Children's Halloween at Friedens Church – watch more info to come.
- December 29 – Pot Luck after Worship and Choir Practice after worship.

Heart of Texas Association News

As previously announced, our **Heart of Texas Association Fall Meeting will be held Saturday, November 16th at Trinity Church of Austin, 4001 Speedway in Central Austin,** <https://www.trinitychurchofaustin.org/>. We are trying a new format for this meeting by having brunch with small sandwiches and hearty finger foods. Congregational Church of Austin is the host in charge of lunch, with major help from Trinity and other Austin cluster churches. The food will be available in the sanctuary and can be brought in at Trinity to eat, so we anticipate letting people get up to get food as they wish during the meeting, instead of breaking the meeting in two parts to have lunch. We will ask people to give a "love offering" of the amount you choose to help with lunch expenses. **Registration and brunch will begin at 10:30, the meeting will start at 11 with worship, and we anticipate ending by 2 pm.** Trinity has a parking lot directly across Speedway from the church. All from our Association churches are invited to join us for worship, in an offering to Friends of the Conference designated for new church starts, for making and renewing friendships, for a business meeting, for the Ecclesiastical Council of Cam Burton (James Cameron Burton), and possibly for a second Ecclesiastical Council. We also anticipate hearing from our seminary students. We also want to save paper so **we will be posting all documents for the meeting (Cam's ordination paper, the agenda, reports, etc.) on the Heart of Texas Association website at hotaucc.org** a week before the meeting. **Bring a laptop if you can to be able to read items,** as we will only print a very small number of packets.

During the meeting, we anticipate voting on a number of items. We will be bringing to our membership a resolution of continued support for Licensed Ministry, joining with the rest of the South Central Conference in commitment to support this ministry which is being changed in some other areas of the United Church of Christ. We will be voting on a budget for the year to be presented by our Treasurer, Joe Ward. We will be voting to allocate a designated amount per person for scholarship money for the upcoming UCC National Youth Event this year, to be held at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana on July 22nd - 25th, 2020.

After the fall meeting, **Trinity will host the ordination of Cam Burton, pending a vote to approve him for ordination, at 3 pm, and all are invited to stay for this joyous event.** The timing for this ordination is unusual, as we normally wait about a month to ordain someone who has a call to a ministry site after an Ecclesiastical Council. However, Cam is coming into the UCC from the United Methodist Church, which has a path for chaplaincy ministry that does not require ordination as our UCC process does. Cam is already a certified chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains, having served on the chaplain staff of St. David's South Austin Medical Center for over 7 years where he currently serves as the Spiritual Care Coordinator. For Cam to continue his board certification and ministry at St. David's after ordination in the UCC, he needs to be ordained and then endorsed by the national UCC chaplain endorser as quickly as possible.

We hope many of you can come to our Fall Meeting and stay for the ordination we anticipate happening. And, to add some fun, we will be having dessert and a door prize at the end of the meeting. Come and see what goodies we come up with!

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2
<p>3 Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship (Sunday School to provide)</p> <p>Choir to sing during worship today.</p> <p>L- Shelley Addison A- Mitchell Schlabach G- Rodney & Celeste Dickschat</p>	4	5	6	<p>7 No UCC Mtg. Bible Study at 10 am</p> <p>~~~~~ <i>Food Pantry Workers:</i> <i>Bonnie Mohr &</i> <i>Tammy Leiber</i></p>	<p>8 Recycle at the Park 8th – 10th</p>  <p>~~~~~</p>	<p>9 Recycle at the Park 8th – 10th</p>  <p>~~~~~</p>
<p>10 *Congregational Meeting after worship. *Christmas Progam Practice today.</p> <p>L- Ashley Wilson A- Bailee Wilson G-Amanda Easley & Kayci Robinson</p>	11	<p>12 Council Mtg 7:00 pm</p>	13	<p>14 Bible Study at 10 am</p> <p><i>Food Pantry Workers:</i> <i>Terry Campbell &</i> <i>Sis Renn</i></p>	15	<p>16 WF “Christmas in the Park” Selling Baked Goods and Cook Books</p> <p>~~~~~ Heart of Texas Fall Assoc Mtg at Trinity Church of Austin at 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p>17 *Christmas Progam Practice today.</p> <p>L- Russell Borgstedte A- Lila Ray Kennedy G-Travis & Lindsey Eckert</p>	18	19	20	<p>21 Women’s Fellowship Mtg @ 2:15 pm Bible Study at 10 am</p> <p><i>Food Pantry Workers:</i> <i>Jim Latham &</i> <i>Debbie Grimmes</i></p>	<p>22 UCC Women “Christmas in the Garden” at Martha’s Bloomers</p>	<p>23 Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am</p>
<p>24 *Totenfest Choir practice after worship. *Christmas Progam practice.</p> <p>L-Mary Borgstedte A-Katie Becker G-Kay Finke & Tim Finke</p>	25	26	<p>27 No Fun & Fellowship</p>	<p>28 No Bible Study</p> 	29	<p>30 Decorating the Church for Christmas beginning at 9 a.m.</p> <p>*Toys for Tots at Silver Wings</p>

Food Pantry item for November is Cornbread, Biscuit Mixes.

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

2019

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship (Women's Fellowship to provide) . "Hanging of the Greens" *UCC luncheon at Beavers & the drawing during church. Choir to sing during worship today. L- Sandra Bosse A- Brooklynn Stolz G- Roger & Sheri Finke</p>			<p>4 Bible Study at 6:00 pm</p>	<p>5 UCC Women's no mtg. Bible Study at 10 am Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon at 11 Food Pantry Workers: Lou Ann Canatella Jamie Noto</p>		
<p>8 L- Vivian Kolkhorst A- Quinn Schulze G-Brett & Becky Fowler</p>		<p>10 Trustee Mtg 6:30 pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm</p>	<p>11 Bible Study & 6:00 pm</p>	<p>12 Bible Study at 10 am Food Pantry Workers: Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz</p>	<p>13 Recycle at the Park 13th - 15th </p>	<p>14 Recycle at the Park 13th - 15th </p>
<p>15 L- Flora Mason A- Mitchell Schlabach G-BJ Fowler & Brandi Fowler</p>			<p>18 Bible Study at 6:00 pm</p>	<p>19 Bible Study at 10 am Women's Fellowship no regular mtg.</p>		
<p>22 <i>Sunday School Christmas Program during church.</i> L- Heather Fuller A- Bailee Wilson G-Joe & Heather Fuller</p>		<p>24 Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm L- Wesley Stolz A- Lila Ray Kennedy G-Hilbert & Lena Mae Goessler</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas! No Bible Study Class No Fun & Fellowship</p>	<p>26 No Bible Study</p>		<p>28 Emmaus ReUnion Group Mtg at Fellowship Hall at 8 am</p>
<p>29 Pot Luck after worship. Choir Practice after worship. L- Jim Latham A- Katie Becker G-Robert & Debbie Grimes</p>		<p>31 New Year's Eve</p>				

2019

Food Pantry item for December is your choice.

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