

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

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Message from the Pastor

Happy New Year! So many good things happened in our church last year and I am anticipating even more blessings to come in 2020. In many ways I feel like we "turned a corner" last year as a congregation and that we should begin to see signs of a new spirit within our church. What do I mean by the term "new spirit?" From Titus 3:5 we hear these words: He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

While much was accomplished last year in the way of improvements to our church and new programs added, it is really the work of the Holy Spirit which brings renewal in our midst. Of course, we have to be willing to allow ourselves (and our church) to be renewed and not to simply cling to our past and thus prevent the spiritual action of regeneration. We all agree that we want our church to grow, which the Holy Spirit can readily bring about, but we have to be willing to let God work unimpeded. We also need to be willing to seek God's will, and once we've discovered it, walk it out in faith.

We may have preferences as to the direction we think the church should go, but what is Christ's preference – isn't the church His bride? This, I believe, is what we should be seeking as we move forward in life both as an individual Christian and a congregation; to discern the will of our Lord for His church. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us:

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

From the actions taken by a number of our groups this past year we are witnessing a more localized mission focus within our church, primarily right in our own neighborhood, in service to the Greater Washington community. I believe that this

is a very biblical approach of how Christ calls His bride to minister (primarily) right where the church is planted. I feel that we are already responding to the will of Christ in the direction we have chosen to head in 2020.

I am hopeful of the opportunities and look ahead eagerly for the plans that the Lord has in store for us in this New Year. I pray that you will join me in seeking the guidance of the Lord as we embrace the start of a New Year as His faithful disciples.

In the love of Christ, Pastor Eric

In our prayers we remember. . .

Edith Dickschat, Larry Young, Mary Lee Lewis, Christina Holloway, Joyce Werchan, Ralph Holle, Glen Shahan, Cindy Miller, Allen Schwartz, Jim Latham, Gordon Lohmeyer, and Alfred Thane.



News, Events and Updates. . .



Remember all annual reports and books to be audited are due in the church office by January 13th. January's newsletter will not be mailed out until the first or second week of January.

Our <u>Annual Chili/Stew Supper</u> will be held on Friday, February 7th for 5:00-7:00 pm at the Activity Center. Please mark your calendars and come out to support the Women's Fellowship and Sunday School. Anyone that would like to donate a chicken(s) (cooked/deboned w/broth), a monetary donation for the chili meat, please contact LaNell Langford at 935/878-2942 or Joy Dickschat at 936/878-2582. If you are making a donation (chicken or monetary) please bring one pie or if no donation, we are asking for 2 pies. A list of workers will be included in this newsletter. Raffle tickets for the quilt raffle are now on sell, please see Terry Campbell.

Weekly Bible Study class is on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

On behalf of the Friedens UCC Women, we would all like to **thank each and every one of you** for the support given in our first-ever basket raffle fundraiser. It was a huge success and money raised will go back to support future needs of Friedens — thereby making us "all" winners! Please join us in congratulating the following:

Russell and Mary Borgstedte - wine basket

Darlene Trant - spa basket

Kevin Goessler - pantry basket

Bonnie Mohr - baby basket

Nobles Funeral Chapel - movie basket

Doyleen Fairchild - Christmas basket

Love to all and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2020!

FRIEDENS UCC WOMEN

UCC Women - Our January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 2 at 6:00 pm. Then beginning February, we will begin meeting at 6:00 pm on the **first Wednesday of every month**. We invite anyone who would like to join us to come to our meetings.

Reminder: <u>Choir sings every first Sunday</u> and holds practice every <u>4th Sunday</u> of the month. We are always looking for new members. Come join us!!

The <u>2020 Membership directory</u> is complete and we started handing them out at church on Sunday 1/5/20. If you do not have your copy, please pick-up in the church Narthex.

A Big Thank you to John Walkoviak, Jeff Stolz, Wesley Stolz, Kasey Kennedy, Mark Dickschat and Dan Mohr for serving on council. We appreciate your dedication to Friedens Church. We want to welcome Charlie Canatella, Kathy Kennedy, Flora Mason, Betsy Bosse, Sandra Bosse and Jim Stolz (Jim is serving one year as a replacement) as the new members to council. Please see full council list under Church Council Happenings.

Church Council Happenings...

Just wanted to make a final note as your out-going Council President. We have accomplished a great deal during 2019, of which, none would be possible without the dedication, hard work, and support of many, many people. None greater than our Congregation. Your love for our church is truly a blessing, and one we should all be thankful for. There are many things that the 2020 Council will undertake as well. My prayer and hope is they receive the encouragement and support needed to accomplish the items and challenges that lay before them.

In our last newsletter, I mentioned that change is inevitable, and we are seeing that change begin with just one little spark. Change, while inevitable, is, and can be stressful. No one likes it, and it is human nature to resist it. We don't like to be outside of what we are used to, or our comfort zones. Think of all the changes that took place for those that came before us, and how that may have been frightening and uneasy for them. This became, for the most part, our here and now. Like those before us, we too are beginning to experience change that frightens us, but as those in the past that dealt with this "unknown" would have drawn upon their faith and trust in God. So too, we must do the same and pray that His will, and not ours be done.

Our piano concert was a tremendous success. For everyone that had a hand in this, my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to you. If you did not have the opportunity to attend, you really missed a special and moving performance by Susan Russell and soloist Rebecca Mersinger. WOW! Is all that comes to mind. The video which displayed her playing on the 2 monitors was awesome. In fact, this came about due to not being able to move our Baby Grand to a front and center location. This video perspective was special, and a special thank you to Ron Werchan for setting it all up and making it happen. During this performance, you really could see the piano moving.

This improvisation with the piano is much like what can be done in our lives, if we trust in His plan. Only God can take something we believe to be a hindrance or negative, and transform it into something beautiful.

My hope is that this performance can be expanded upon and perhaps be an annual event, perhaps even another performance that can explore the despair and hopelessness with the crucifixion of our Lord and Savior, culminating in that glorious day of His resurrection. Music has the ability to explore and move the spirit in powerful ways. Psalms 147:7 "Sing hymns of praise to the Lord; play music on the harp to our God."

May God's blessings be on each of you this coming year, and may our God show favor to our church.

Blessings, John Walkoviak

New Council Members and duties:

Charlie Canatella, President (2020-2021)
Travis Eckert, Vice President (2019-2020)
Jon Wellmann, Tresurer (2019-2020)
Kathy Kennedy, Secretary (2020-2021)
Sandra Bosse, Church Clerk (2020-2021)
Terry Campbell, Envelope Clerk (2019-2020)
Betsy Bosse (2020-2021)
Flora Mason (2020-2021)
Jim Stolz (2020)

Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

January 2 - closed

January 9 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto

January 16 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz

January 23 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber

January 30 - Terry Campbell & Sis Renn

February 6 – Betsy Bosse & Debbie Grimes

February 13 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto

February 20 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz

February 27 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber

Food Pantry Items Needed

January – Bring whatever you want.

February – Hot or cold cereal

March - Sugar

April - Flour

May – Canned Vegetables

June - Drink Mixes, Boxed Juice Drinks

July - Dry Beans

August - Canned Meat

September - Canned Fruit

October – Rice & Pasta

November - Cornbread, Biscuit Mixes

December – Your Choice – bring early so the food 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.

January 5 – Dusty & Kasey Kennedy for Kaden's 15th Birthday.

January 12-Open

January 19 – Keith & Thresia Schlabach for Mitchell's 11 Birthday.

January 26 - Open

February 2 - Open

February 9 - Open

February 16 - Open

February 23–Keith & Thresia Schlabach for Hunter's 15th Birthday.





<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Ushers/Greeters</u>
January 5 – Becky Barton	Brooklynn Stolz	Eden Harris & Vivian Kolkhorst
January 12 – Amanda Stolz	Quinn Schulze	Derrol & Arlene Herzog
January 19 – Flora Mason	Mitchell Schlabach	Doris Hinton & Sally Stolz
January 26 – Heather Fuller	Bailee Wilson	Ralph & Donna Holle
February 2 – Ashley Stolz	Lila Ray Kennedy	Eden Harris & Vivian Kolkhorst
February 9– Russell Borgstedte	Katie Becker	Derrol & Arlene Herzog
February 16 – Mary Borgstedte	Brooklynn Stolz	Doris Hinton & Sally Stolz
February 23– Sandra Bosse	Quinn Schulze	Ralph & Donna Holle

Sunday School Happenings...

No Sunday School December 29th or January 5th. Sunday School will resume on January 12th.



Births

Doctors Dane and Jamie Pawlowski are proud to announce the birth of their son Liam Neal born November 16. He weighed 6 pounds and 3 ounces. He is welcomed home by his big brother Luke, grandparents Kathy and Steve Pawlowski and Great Grandmother Vivian Kolkhorst.

Loss of Loved Ones

Prayers for the family of **Hilma Marie Holle Stolz**, 94, passed away on November 27, 2019 at her home in Navasota, Texas. Hilma was born Saturday, December 13, 1924, to Willie H. and Adele Lauter Holle in Washington County at Washington-on-the Brazos. A lifelong member of Friedens Church of Washington, UCC, Hilma was baptized on February 8, 1925 and later confirmed on March 17, 1940 at Friedens Church. Hilma was the mother to Marla Kay Carroll and the late Connie Jean Stolz. Brother the late Arthur Holle, sister, the late Willie Dell Holle Lohmeyer and son-in-law the late James C. Carroll.



Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

Events will be added here, please check <u>calendar</u> for all other meetings, etc.



January 2 – UCC Women's Meeting at 6 pm

January 5 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (Council will provide.)
Also, Choir to sing during worship.

Also, Remove Christmas decorations from church.

January 9 – Bible Study at 10:00 am

January 10 – 12 – Recycle at the Park

January 12 – Installation of Officers and individuals of various church organizations.

January 13 - *All reports and books are due in the church office for audit.

January 14 - Council Meeting 7 pm

January 16 – Bible Study at 10 am and Women's Fellowship meeting 2:15 pm

January 22 – Fun and Fellowship at 2:00 pm

January 23 – Bible Study at 10:00 am

January 26 – Congregational Meeting after worship.

January 30 – Bible Study at 10:00 am



February 2 – Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by Sunday School. Choir to sing during worship.

February 5 – UCC Meeting at 6 pm

February 6 – Bible Study 10 a.m.

February 7 – Chili Stew Supper 5-7 pm

February 7 – 9 – Recycle at the Park

February 11 – Trustees Meeting 6:30 and Council Meeting 7 pm

February 13 – Bible Study 10 a.m.

February 14 – Valentine's Day

February 16 – Sunday School Valentine's Party

February 20 – Bible Study 10 am and Women's Fellowship 2.15 pm

February 22 – Emmaus Walk Reunion 8 am

February 23 – Choir Practice after worship.

February 26 – Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm

February 27 – Bible Study 10 am

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Heart of Texas Association News

I share with joy the ordination of Will Nelson on Sunday, December 22nd at Church of the Savior in Cedar Park. Will has been called to be the pastor of Union Congregational Church, UCC in Three Lakes, Wisconsin. We send Will off with our blessings and prayers for a fruitful ministry among the people of Union Congregational and Three Lakes.

At our Fall Meeting, we voted to give travel scholarships to all UCC youth and adult chaperones from this Association who go to the National Youth Event by voting to distribute \$8750 in money for this purpose from our Association budget. We anticipate that those scholarships will be about \$125 per person based on past numbers.

The National Youth Event (NYE), held every four years, is the largest gathering in the UCC, often bringing together 4000 people. We now partner with the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ in this event. I have been several times, and I know that it is a moving faith experience that those who go will never forget. The speakers are always outstanding, the worship is uplifting, the opportunities to meet UCC and DOC youth from all over the country are unparalleled, the choice of workshops is varied and plentiful, and the opportunities for service add to the experience. This year's NYE will be at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, July 22-25. It is for youth who have completed 6th through 12th grades. The registration fee (which includes dorm lodging, meals during NYE, and event registration) is \$375. A registration link is coming soon, but normally the registration deadline is in the late spring. The link for NYE is here: http://www.uccpages.org/nye2020/, and you can find videos of highlights from the past two NYEs

Here: https://www.ucc.org/youth/nye/media-gallery and

https://www.ucc.org/believe_calls_nye_youth_to_action I hope many of our youth will be able to join in this great, faith-building event.

We rejoice with Weimar UCC in the calling of their new pastor, Rev. Juvenal Cervantes. Rev. Cervantes will be moving to Weimar from Greeley, Colorado next June in order to allow family to finish the school year. He will be preaching at Weimar twice in the coming months. Our brothers in Christ, Gerry Metzger and Karl Tewold, have been providing pulpit supply to support Weimar in this time of waiting. We look forward to welcoming Juvenal Cervantes to this Association.

Blessings in Christ, Liz Nash, Association Minister

ANNUAL CHILI/STEW SUPPER Friday, February 7, 2020 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Friedens Activity Center

PUBLICITY		MAKE & SERVE COFFEE/TE	Δ.		
Lena Mae Goessler	Lou Ann Canatella	Arlene Herzog, Co. Chr.	Sally Stroech		
20114 11140 00000101	2007 00	Ashley Wilson, Co. Chr.	Kelli Lara		
COOK CHILI		Carol Borgstedte	Lindsey Marek		
Sis Renn, Co. Chr.	Inez Fuqua	Lindsey Eckert	Jackie Schroeder		
Tammy Leiber, Co. Chr.	Bonnie Mohr				
Mary Helen Steele	Joy Dickschat	HELP CARRY ROASTERS & S	TIR CHILI & STEW		
Barbara Humphreys	Nelda Buck	T.J. Marek, Co. Chr.	Tex Maxson		
Sandra Antill		John Walkoviak, Co. Chr.	Dusty Kennedy		
		Steve Pawlowski	Tim Wilson		
COOK STEW		Tracy Wellmann	Scott Martin		
Denise Stolz, Co. Chr.	Betsy Bosse	Dalton Wellmann	Brian Smith		
Effie Wellmann, Co.Chr.	JoAnn Bosse				
Lena Mae Goessler	Linda Werchan	KITCHEN HELP			
Betty Dickschat	LaNell Langford	Linda Oberhoff, Co. Chr.	Lucy Lorenz		
Ora Nell James	Debra Busa	Linda Stolz, Co. Chr.	Glenda Maxson		
Tracy Wellmann	LaBeth Snyder	Debbie Wellmann	Flora Mason		
Jim Latham		Susie Nolan	Doris Hinton		
		Jana Dehmer	Celeste Dickschat		
SERVE CHILI		Donna Holle	Tanya Parsons		
Elaine Warmke, Chr.	Kim Wellmann	Jane Wellmann	Ollie Walker		
Amy Stolz	Sally Stolz	Kristyn Smith			
SERVE STEW		7 PM KITCHEN HELP/CLEANUP			
Jane Krause, Chr.	Elizabeth Lehrmann	Heather Fuller, Co. Chr.	Wesley Stolz		
Jan Anastasiades	Ginger Scott	Cindy Walkoviak, Co. Chr.	Joe Young		
	G	Stephanie Maxson	Rodney Dickschat		
<u>CASHIERS</u>		Amanda Stolz	Don Roese		
Joy Dickschat	Thresia Schlabach	Joe Fuller	Mark Dickschat		
Lou Ann Canatella		Michael James	Chris Walkoviak		
		Trevor Dickschat			
TAKE OUT					
Debbie Grimes, Chr.	Dorothy Stolz	WAIT TABLES & REMOVE TRAYS			
Becky Barton	Vivian Kolkhorst	Kasey Kennedy, Co. Chr.	Sheri Finke		
Amanda (Wesley) Stolz		Monica Martin, Co. Chr.	Emily Stolz		
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Kathy Pawlowski	-	•		
Sandra Bosse	Kathy Pawlowski Bernice Bosse	Bridgette Schulze	Kylie Maxson		
Sandra Bosse		Bridgette Schulze Candace Marek	Kylie Maxson Jacque Bartol		
Sandra Bosse CUT & SERVE PIE	Bernice Bosse	Bridgette Schulze Candace Marek Kaden Kennedy	Kylie Maxson Jacque Bartol Julie Kelley		
Sandra Bosse		Bridgette Schulze Candace Marek	Kylie Maxson Jacque Bartol		

Kameron Stolz

Shelley Addison

Brittany Stolz

Patsy Molitor

Shelli James

Emily Moreno

BUYING & DECORATING COMMITTEE

Bonnie Mohr Lou Ann Canatella

CLEAN UP, PUT CHAIRS ON DOLLIES, AND TRASH PICK-UP

Travis Eckert, Co. Chr.

Charlie Canatella, Co. Chr.

Roger Finke

Charlie Lara

John Barton

David Wellmann

Don Hinze

James Schroeder

Larry Jensen

Larr

Derrol Herzog Charles Wellmann
Elroy Stolz Brady Becker
Keith Schlabach Kevin Schulze
John Neal Roese Ray Stolz
Jon Wellmann Cody Wellmann

Don Wellmann Kevin Bartol
Brian Dickschat Russell Borgstedte
John Parsons Logan Parsons
Carson Lauter Hunter Schlabach

Jace Easley

TICKET PRICES:

Adult Tickets - \$10.00 Children (6-12) - \$5.00 This includes a bowl of chili or stew, bread, crackers, tea, coffee, and a slice of pie.

Extra servings: Whole Pie - \$10.00 Slice of Pie - \$2.00

Extra Serving Chili/Stew - \$3.00

TAKE OUT:

Quart of Chili/Stew - \$10.00 Pint of Chili/Stew - \$5.00

CHAIRPERSONS:

Please contact your workers to schedule a time for them to work. If you are unable to work, please let your chairperson know so they can either find someone or adjust the work schedule. Thanks!

All women of the church are to bring pies for dessert – one pie if you are donating chicken or cash, two pies if no donation. For donations, please contact Joy Dickschat or LaNell Langford by February 2nd. Thank you for your support!

If your name has been omitted and you would like to volunteer, please contact LaNell Langford.

QUILT RAFFLE/SALES

Terry Campbell, Chr. Rose Lee Lohmeyer May Dell Lanham Virginia Layton Dianne Latham

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 UCC Women's Meeting at 6 pm	3	4
				Food Pantry closed.		
5 Epiphany Sunday Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by Council. Removal of Christmas	6	7	8	9 Bible Study 10 a.m. Food Pantry Workers: Bonnie Mohr	10	11
decorations after worship. Choir to sing during worship today. L-Becky Barton A- Brooklynn Stolz G-Eden Harris & Vivian Kolkhorst				Tammy Leiber		
12 Installation of Officiers & various church organizations L-Amanda Stolz A- Quinn Schulze G-Derrol & Arlene Herzog	13 *Annual Reports and Books are due in the church office for Audit.	14 Council Mtg 7 pm	15	16 Women's Fellowship Mtg 2:15 pm Bible Study 10 a.m. Food Pantry Workers: Terry Campbell Sis Renn	17	18
19 L-John Walkoviak A- Mitchell Schlabach G-Doris Hinton & Sally Stolz	20	21	22 Fun & Fellowship at 2 pm	23 Bible Study 10 a.m. Food Pantry Workers: Betsy Bosse & Debbie Grimes	24	25 Emmaus Reunion Mtg 8:00 a.m.
26 Congregational Meeting after worship. Choir to practice after worship. L-Shelley Addison	27	28	29	30 Bible Study 10 a.m. Food Pantry Workers: Lou Ann Canatella Jamie Noto	31	
A- Bailee Wilson G-Ralph & Donna Holle						2020

Food Pantry item for January is "bring whatever you would like".

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

- Feb	ruary					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat 1
2 Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by Sunday School. Choir to sing during worship. L-Ashley Wilson A- Lila Ray Kennedy G-Ora Nell James & Shelli James	3	4	5 UCC Meeting at 6 pm	6 Bible Study 10 a.m Food Pantry Workers: Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz	7 Chili Stew Supper 5–7 pm Recycle at the Park 7 - 9	8 Recycle at the Park 7 - 9
L-Russell Borgstedte A- Katie Becker G-Billy Ray Jensen & Larry Jensen	10	11 Trustees Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg 7 pm	12	13 Bible Study 10 am Food Pantry Workers: Bonnie Mohr Tammy Leiber	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 SS Valentines Party L-Mary Borgstedte A- Brooklynn Stolz G-Autumn Kelley & Julie Kelley	17	18	19	20 Bible Study 10am Women's Fellowship 2:15 pm Food Pantry Workers: Terry Campbell Sis Renn	21	22 Emmaus Walk Reunion 8 am
23 Choir Practice after worship. L-Sandra Bosse A- Quinn Schulze G-Dusty & Kasey Kennedy	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm Fun & Fellowship 2 pm	27 Bible Study 10 a.m Food Pantry Workers: Betsy Bosse Debbie Grimes	28	020

Food Pantry item for February is "Hot or cold cereal".

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