

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

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Message from the Pastor

The apostle James writes that if Christian faith does not manifest itself in good works then that faith is dead. In other words, as followers of Jesus our actions and love toward others should look like that exhibited by Christ himself. If we are not inspired by Jesus' love to commit ourselves to Christian action where needed then, by all appearances, we are lacking faith.

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

- James 2:14-17 -

One of the things that our new council president, Charlie Canatella, announced at our congregational meeting on January 26th was the formation of an outreach committee or Relief Response Team. The intent of this group is to be able to quickly respond to an emergency situation, like a family who has been burned out of their Washington-area home, has lost all their belongings, and has nowhere to go. The group would represent our church in its efforts through a dedicated fund.

This fund is supported by congregational giving through a special offering as well as other groups within the church. We will be collecting the special offering for this outreach program on Sunday, March 15th. I hope that you will prayerfully consider supporting this new ministry of our church dedicated to those found in need within our community. This is one of the ways that we can demonstrate how alive our faith is here at Friedens Church.

Usually our Lenten Study has a theme centered on an introspective examination of the heart in regard to our relationship with Christ and subsequent repentance for where we may have fallen short in that regard. This year our video study is a little different and is entitled "How Happiness Happens" by Max Lucado. As Christians, we should be happy. We'll be looking at all the opportunities we have for happiness while living out our faith through Christ. I hope that you'll plan to join us in this exciting study each Wednesday through Lent beginning March 4th at 7 with a meal at 6 pm. See you there!

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Eric

In our prayers we remember. . .

Edith Dickschat, Larry Young, Mary Lee Lewis, Christina Holloway, Joyce Werchan, Glen Shahan, Alfred Thane, Linda Werchan, Kay Crawford and the family of Dennis Holle.



News, Events and Updates. . .



Mark your calendars for these dates during Lenten and Holy week:

- Sunday School Pancake Supper is scheduled for February 25th at the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Ash Wednesday Service on February 26th at 7 pm.
- Lenten Service – March 4th, March 11th, March 18th , March 25th and April 1st at 7 pm (meal at 6 pm).
- Palm Sunday – April 5th
- Maundy Thursday Breakfast at 8:30 am on April 9th & Maundy Thursday & Tenebrae Service at 7 pm
- Easter Program Practice & Egg Hunt on April 11th at 9 am.
- Easter Service is April 12th @
 - Sunrise Service is at 6:30 am
 - Regular Service at 10:15 am with Sunday School Easter Program during Young Disciples moment.

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

Women’s Fellowship – Meet every third Thursday at 2:15 pm. We invite anyone who would like to join us to come to our meetings.

UCC Women – Meet every first Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm except during Lenten Season. We invite anyone who would like to join us to come to our meetings.

Reminder: **Choir** sings every first Sunday during worship and holds practice every 4th Sunday of the month after worship. We are always looking for new members. Come join us!!

The **2020 Membership directory** are complete and can be picked-up in the church Narthex.

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**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.....**

We cannot say thank you enough to everyone that supported our chili/stew supper. It was a huge success. Thanks to everyone that generously made a monetary and/or chicken(s) donation, all the wonderful pies and helped to prepare the food, served, etc... We could not have done it without everyone pitching in to support this annual event. We are so blessed to have members that support us and it is greatly appreciated. Again thank you!!

Thank you also for purchasing raffle tickets for the beautiful Red, White and Blue quilt. The winner was Barbara Adams.

Women’s Fellowship & Sunday School

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Church Council Happenings. . .

- Council voted to move the Easter Sunrise Service up to 6:30 am.
- Council will host the Lenten meal on March 25th and will serve chicken spaghetti.
- Purchase of communion supplies (wine, plastic cups, wafers) will be handled as "office supplies" and handled by the church office. Alter Guild will still furnish the bread loaf.

Council Members and duties:

Charlie Canatella, President (2020-2021)

Travis Eckert, Vice President (2019-2020)

Jon Wellmann, Treasurer (2019-2020)

Kathy Kennedy, Secretary (2020-2021)

Sandra Bosse, Church Clerk (2020-2021)

Terry Campbell, Envelope Clerk (2019-2020)

John Parsons, (2019-2020)

Betsy Bosse (2020-2021)

Flora Mason (2020-2021)

Jim Stolz (2020)



Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

March 5 – Lou Ann Canatella & Jamie Noto
 March 12 – Betty Dickschat & Sally Stolz
 March 19 – Bonnie Mohr & Tammy Leiber
 March 26 – Terry Campbell & Sis Renn

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

Food Pantry Items Needed

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 sign up sheet on the hall bulletin board.

March 1 – Open
 March 8 – Open
 March 15 – Memory of Ann & Arnold Weghorst (by Flora Mason)
 March 22 – Open
 March 29 - Open

 April 5 – In honor of John & Cindy Walkoviak's 33rd Wedding Anniversary
 April 12 – Open
 April 19 – Open
 April 26 – Open



Note: If you are unable to service on the dates below please contact the church office.

| Liturgist | Acolytes | Ushers/Greeters |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| March 1 – Flora Mason | Bailee Wilson | Don Kolkhorst |
| March 8 – Heather Fuller | Lila Ray Kennedy | Mark & Jane Krause |
| March 15 – Wesley Stolz | Katie Becker | LaNell Langford & Michael Langford |
| March 22 – Jim Latham | Brooklynn Stolz | May Dell Lanham & Virginia Layton |
| March 29 – Becky Barton | Quinn Schulze | Charlie & Kelli Lara |
| April 5 (Palm Sunday) – Amanda Stolz | Mitchell Schlabach | Jim & Dianne Latham |
| April 12 (Easter) – John Walkoviak | Bailee Wilson | Carson & Ray Lauter |
| April 19 – Ashley Wilson | Lila Ray Kennedy | Hollis & Elizabeth Lehrmann |
| April 26 – Russell Borgstedte | Brooklynn Stolz | Charles & Tammy Leiber |

Sunday School Happenings. . .

Pancake Supper on February 25th at 6:30 pm at Fellowship Hall.

Easter Practice and Egg Hunt April 11th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Easter Program on Easter Sunday, April 12th during Young Disciples time in worship.



New Member

William (Bill) Thomas Kennedy II of Washington, Tx joined Friedens Church of Washington on 2/2/2020. Bill is the husband of Kathy Kennedy and the father of Dusty and Kasey Kennedy.

Baptisms

Carter Shane Parsons was baptized on February 16, 2020. He is the son of Logan & Shelley Parsons of Navasota, Texas. He was born on April 17, 2019 in College Station, Tx. Grandparents are Tanya & Kelly Parsons of Washington and Larry & Elizabeth Eickenhorst of Navasota. Sponsors are Stacey Male, Kristine Poston and Alan Johnson.

Loss of Loved Ones

Dennis Charles Holle, age 82, peacefully passed away Thursday, February 13, 2020. Dennis was born in Washington, TX. on February 23, 1937 to Charlie and Nelda Holle. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Holle of Belton, sons Chuck and his wife Ralyn of Industry, Chris and his wife Jennifer of Temple, sisters Frances Anderson of Granbury and Bobbie Jean Hobbs of Hallettsville and her husband Billy, 4 grandchildren; Megan Holle Simmons and her husband Sam, Madison Holle, Benjamin Holle and William Holle.

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!!

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



- March 1 – Refreshments/Fellowship prior to worship service (Women's Fellowship will provide.) Communion Sunday. Also, Choir to sing during worship.
- March 4 – Lenten Service 7 pm (meal at 6 pm & UCC Women's to provide). No UCC Mtg.
- March 5 – Bible Study 10 am.
- March 10 – Council Meeting 7 pm
- March 11 - Lenten Service 7 pm (meal at 6 pm & Women's Fellowship to prepare meal).
- March 12 – Bible Study 10 am.
UCC Women's dinner @ the Western Club 6:30 pm
- March 13 – 15 – Recycle at the Park
- March 18 - Lenten Service 7 pm (meal at 6 pm & Sunday School to prepare meal).
- March 19 – Bible Study 10 am. and Women's Fellowship Meeting at 2:15 pm.
- March 22 - Choir practice after worship.
- March 25 – Fun and Fellowship at 2:00 pm and
Lenten Service 7 pm (meal at 6 pm & prepared by Council.)
- March 26 – Bible Study at 10 am.
- March 28 – Emmaus Reunion Group 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- March 29 – Pot Luck after worship.



- April 1 – Lenten Service 7 pm (meal at 6 pm & TBA who will prepare meal).
UCC Women meeting changed to 5:00 pm (before Lenten Service).
- April 2 - Bible Study at 10 am.
- April 4-- Our Heart of Texas Association Spring Meeting will be at Wiemar UCC in Wiemar, Texas-- starting at 11:00 a.m.
- April 5 – **Palm Sunday** - Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by UCC Women. Choir to sing during worship.
- April 9 – Maundy Thursday breakfast 8:30 and **Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm.**
- April 10 – Good Friday – No Service.
- April 10 – 12 – Recycle at the Park
- April 11 – Easter Program Practice and Easter Egg Hunt at 9 am.
- April 12 – Easter - Sunrise Service at 6:30 am and Easter Service at 10:15 am.** with the **Sunday School Program** held during Young Disciples moment.
- April 14 – Trustees Meeting 6:30 and Council Meeting 7 pm
- April 16 – Bible Study 10 am. and Women's Fellowship 2.15 pm
- April 22 – Fun and Fellowship 2:00 pm
- April 23 – Bible Study 10 am.
- April 25 – Emmaus Reunion Group 9 am
- April 26 – Choir Practice after worship.
- April 30 – Bible Study 10 am

Heart of Texas Association News

Our Heart of Texas Association Spring Meeting will be on Saturday, April 4th, at Weimar UCC.

Registration starts at 10:30 am with the meeting **beginning at 11**. We will start with worship in the sanctuary and then move to lunch and our meeting in the Weimar church's fellowship hall. We anticipate having people go through the lunch line right after worship, so we can eat and meet at the same time. Our offering will go to donate to provide supplies to those living outdoors at the border in Matamoros awaiting asylum. We will be accepting money and supplies (list of items needed to be distributed later) to be sent down on a trip that United Christian is making later this spring. Those who wish to stay a bit after the meeting are welcome to help sort donated supplies. All paperwork (agendas, reports, and other paperwork we have handed out in the past) will be posted on the Heart of Texas Association website, <http://hotaucc.org/>, the week before the meeting. In order to save paper, we ask that people download these from the website, as we will have only a few copies.

At our meeting, we anticipate discussion and a vote on whether to support the formation of a conference-wide fitness review committee. A fitness review, in the United Church of Christ, is a serious and demanding process that takes place when the fitness of a minister for ministry is brought into question, usually due to a serious accusation. At this time, fitness reviews are held at the Association level by our Committee on Ministry, which has the general task of oversight of ministers in the UCC. When a fitness review occurs, Committee on Ministry members have to be trained in the process, members must recuse themselves if they are close to the person who is the subject of the review, a trained team must be sent to interview people close to the situation, and there are other demanding aspects of the process. During the time of the fitness review, the other tasks of the Committee on Ministry need to continue and, as in any situation where there is a problem of this sort, it is difficult to get work done. Some other Conferences have moved fitness reviews to a Conference level committee, which allows a group to be "on call" with ongoing training and without other ministry oversight tasks to handle. At our Association Meeting, we will be deciding whether to support this initiative, and our meeting is scheduled in time to give our answer to the Conference Board at its April meeting as they prepare for a possible decision at the South Central Conference Annual Meeting in June. In addition, we anticipate discussion on a few proposed changes to the Conference bylaws.

We also anticipate having either one or two Ecclesiastical Councils, following ordination interviews for one or more candidates to be held at the Committee on Ministry's meeting on Tuesday, March 31st. I will be sending out the information on Ecclesiastical Councils to our churches and ministers as soon as we can on March 31st, and we will be posting the relevant ordination papers on our website as soon as possible.

Finally, on Sunday, February 16th, the Friends Congregational Church Choir sang the Requiem by John Rutter in Carnegie Hall in New York City as part of the Distinguished Concerts Orchestra and Singers Series. I had the privilege of hearing this inspiring and beautiful concert, along with several folks from Friends. **Congratulations, Friends choir!**

Blessings in Christ, Liz Nash, Association Minister

March

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|---|------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1 Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by Women's Fellowship. Choir to sing during worship. L -Flora Mason A - Bailee Wilson G -Don Kolkhorst | 2 | 3 Primary Elections | 4 No UCC Meeting ----- Lenten Services at 7 pm (Meal at 6 pm) UCC Women to prepare meal. | 5 Bible Study 10 am <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> LouAnn Canatella Jamie Noto | 6 | 7 |
| 8 L -Heather Fuller A - Lila Ray Kennedy G -Mark & Jane Krause | 9 | 10 Council Mtg 7 pm | 11 Lenten Services at 7 pm (Meal at 6 pm) Women's Fellowship to prepare meal. | 12 Bible Study 10 am UCC Women's Dinner @Western Club6:30pm <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz | 13 Recycle at the Park 13-15 | 14 Recycle at the Park 13-15 |
| 15 L -Wesley Stolz A - Katie Becker G -LaNell Langford & Michael Langford | 16 | 17 | 18 Lenten Services at 7 pm (Meal at 6 pm) Sunday School to prepare meal. | 19 Bible Study 10 am <i>Women's Fellowship Mtg 2:15 pm</i> <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Bonnie Mohr Tammy Leiber | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Choir practice after worship. L -Jim Latham A - Brooklynn Stolz G -MayDell Lanham & Virginia Layton | 23 | 24 | 25 Fun & Fellowship @ 2 pm ----- Lenten Services at 7 pm (Meal at 6 pm) Council to prepare meal. | 26 Bible Study 10 am <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Terry Campbell Sis Renn | 27 | 28 Emmaus Reunion Group 9 am |
| 29 Pot Luck L -Becky Barton A - Quinn Schulze G -Charlie & Kelli Lara | 30 | 31 | | | | |

2020

*Food Pantry item for March is Sugar.

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

April

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------|--|---|--|--|---|
| | | | 1 UCC Meeting 5 pm Lenten Services at 7 pm (Meal at 6 pm) | 2 Bible Study 10 am <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Betsy Bosse Debbie Grimes | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Palm Sunday Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship provided by UCC Women. <i>Choir to sing during worship.</i> L-Amanda Stolz A- Mitchell Schlabach G-Jim & Dianne Latham | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Women's Fellowship Maundy Thursday Breakfast 8:30am Maundy Thursday & Tenebrae Service 7 pm <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Lou Ann Canatella Jamie Noto | 10 Good Friday No Service Recycle at the Park 10-12 | 11 Sunday School Easter Program practice and Egg Hunt 9:00 am Recycle at the Park 10-12 |
| 12 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30 am Regular Service 10:15 am SS Program during worship. L-John Walkoviak A- Lila Ray Kennedy G-Carson & Ray Lauter | 13 | 14 Trustee Mtg 6:30 pm Council Mtg 7 pm | 15 | 16 Bible Study 10 am Women's Fellowship 2:15 pm <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Betty Dickschat Sally Stolz | 17 | 18 |
| 19 L-Ashley Wilson A- Bailee Wilson G-Hollis & Elizabeth Lehrmann | 20 | 21 | 22 Fun & Fellowship 2:00 pm | 23 Bible Study 10 am <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Bonnie Mohr Tammy Leiber | 24 | 25 Emmaus Reunion Group 9 am |
| 26 <i>Choir practice after worship.</i> L-Russell Borgstedte A- Katie Becker G-Charles & Tammy Leiber | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Bible Study 10 am <u>Food Pantry Workers:</u> Terry Campbell Sis Renn | | |

2020

*Food Pantry item for April is flour.

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