

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

"A Country Church with an Open Door"

Message from the Pastor

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And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. – Hebrews 10:24 –

I was enjoying lunch with Pastor Glen Schoeneberg on a recent Wednesday and sharing with him about all the good things that are happening at our church. He was inquisitive about how the church was doing and I was all too happy to relate all the ways our congregation has been reaching out to others this year.

While the COVID crisis, national unrest, and the looming elections have wreaked havoc in our world I believe that we have remained steadfast in our faith through it all. On September 26th when Franklin Graham was marching on Washington DC as evangelist Jonathon Cahn was leading a prayer event there we hosted a similar event here at our church for the Washington community.

"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations."

- Isaiah 42:6 –

Indeed, we have been called as the Lord's people to be a light, a beacon of hope for a hurting world. In times like these when so many are overwhelmed by fear of "what may happen" we are to remain resolute in our faith and trust Him. After all, God is still in control. So, what do we as Christians really have to fear? The answer is: absolutely nothing if we are trusting in the Lord.

As we enter the advent season I hope that each one of us would use the opportunity to draw closer to the Lord through prayer, study and meditation that He might reveal all the ways our lives can be a beacon of His love into the lives of others. And remember, when we seek to be blessing for others we receive a blessing in return.

~~~~~  
**Phone:** 936-878-2523

**Address:**

PO Box 306  
Washington, Tx. 77880

In His love,  
Pastor Eric

## In our prayers we remember. . .

Christina Holloway, Mary Lee Lewis, Ray Stolz, Ellis Werchan, Larry Young, Cory DeAeth, Kenton and Sharon Gross, Todd Kolkhorst, Ora Nell James, Gene Benker, Shirley Finke, Becky Barton and the family of Joyce Werchan and the family of Philip Hassell.



**Note: If you have anyone to add to the prayer list or remove, please contact Denise Stolz at the church office.**

## News, Events and Updates. . .



- “Yay”... effective November 1, we are adding the **Sunday School children** to the acolyte schedule and we will also have **Children’s moment**.
- **Congregational Meeting** scheduled after worship on November 15<sup>th</sup>. This annual meeting is to discuss and adopt the 2021 budget, elect five new council members to serve for 2021-22.
- **Totenfest** is scheduled during worship on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a special time when we remember those members that have passed away this past year. We will also have dedication of memorials at this same time.
- **Decorating the church** for the Christmas Season is November 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.
- **Hanging of the Greens** is scheduled on November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The **Women’s Fellowship** will be collecting items for hygiene kits to be given to the local Salvation Army. Listed are the items needed:
 

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 hand towel (16" x 28")</li> <li>- 1 wash cloth</li> <li>- 1 wide tooth comb</li> <li>- 1 tooth brush</li> <li>- 1 tube of toothpaste</li> <li>- 1 bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 plastic soap container</li> <li>- 1 deodorant (solid or roll on)</li> <li>- 1 disposable plastic razor</li> <li>- 1 travel size hand sanitizer</li> <li>- 1 travel size insect repellent</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The **Women’s Fellowship** decided to do a local project of providing Christmas gifts for the Brenham State School residents. The list to sign up for the ornament tree is in the narthex. Deadline for gifts is 11/19. You will find a box in the narthex for wrapped/bagged gifts placement. You can select one, two or as many as you want, purchase the item(s) listed on the ornament, bring it back to the church unwrapped (bagged with ornament attached) and the WF will see that they are returned to the school in time for distribution.

**Cards for nursing homes/** boxes in narthex. Also, a box of Christmas cards for anyone to take. If you want your card to go to a certain individual please note it on card and which nursing home.

**Women’s Fellowship Christmas party** will be held December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. and no WF meeting on December

- **UCC Women** will have their Christmas luncheon on December 6<sup>th</sup> after church. They will not have meetings in November or December.
- **The UCC Women are selling church calendars.** They are \$5.00/ea. If you are interested in ordering one, please call Nelda Buck at 713-805-1087. If you have any new names to add to the calendar, please let Nelda know.
- Bible Study every Thursday beginning at 10:00 a.m. Come join us and bring your bible or you can use one from the church. We are studying the Old Testament on Isaiah. Please check the calendars for dates of no Bible Study due to holidays.

## Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

### *Needing Volunteers*

*If you would like to volunteer at the Pantry, please contact Lou Ann Canatella.*

## Food Pantry Items Needed

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.**

November 1 – Open  
 November 8 – Open  
 November 15 – Open  
 November 22 – Open  
 November 29 – Open

December 6 – Open  
 December 13– Open  
 December 20 – Open  
 December 24 – (Christmas Eve)  
 December 27 – Sheri and Roger Finke



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

| Liturgist                        | Acolytes           | Ushers/Greeters           |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| November 1 – Vivian Kolkhorst    | Mitchell Schlabach | No Greeters at this time. |
| November 8 – Flora Mason         | Bailee Wilson      | “ “ “ “                   |
| November 15 – Heather Fuller     | Lila Ray Kennedy   | “ “ “ “                   |
| November 22 – Wesley Stolz       | Katie Becker       | “ “ “ “                   |
| November 29 – Jim Latham         | Brooklyn Stolz     | “ “ “ “                   |
| December 6 - Becky Barton        | Quinn Schulze      | No Greeters at this time. |
| December 13 – Jim Latham         | Mitchell Schlabach | “ “ “ “                   |
| December 20 – John Walkoviak     | Lila Ray Kennedy   | “ “ “ “                   |
| December 24 – Ashley Wilson      | Bailee Wilson      | “ “ “ “                   |
| December 27 – Russell Borgstedte | Katie Becker       | “ “ “ “                   |

## Sunday School Happenings. . .

**Sunday school** is out for the summer.

Sunday School will have Christmas practice every Sunday starting on November 8th. The Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 20, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley @ 936-870-8166.



Also, Sunday School will be out for the holidays beginning December 27 through January 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will return to SS class on January 10, 2021.

## Baptism . . .

**Riggs Ryan Stolz** was baptized on October 11, 2020 at Friedens Church of Washington. Parents are Wesley and Amanda Stolz. Sponsors are Leslie & Barclay Stewart, Joshua Roehling and Jamie Goerlitz. Grandparents are Elroy and Denise Stolz of Washington, Tx. and Tommy and Carol Roehling of Brenham, Tx.

**Swayzee Marie Stolz** was baptized on October 25, 2020 at Friedens Church of Washington. Parents are Jim and Diane Stolz of Washington, Tx. Sponsors are Shelia jPinkard, Kayley Parsons, Travis Nichols and Joseph Milburn. Grandparents are James & Linda Stolz of Washington, and Sara Roberts.

**Tate James Wisnoski** was baptized on October 25, 2020 at Friedens Church of Washington. Parents are Emily Stolz and Cameron Wisnoski of Washington, Tx. Sponsors are Ashley Wilson, Kaydee Franke, Koby Owens and Kaleb Wisnoski. Grandparents are James and Linda Stolz of Washington and Johnny & Haven Wisnoski of Navasota.

## Loss of Loved Ones . . .

**Joyce Majors Werchan**, 101, passed away on October 23, 2020 peacefully in her sleep. She was born April 21, 1919 in Elgin, Texas and is preceded in death by her husband Walter. Visitation is at Cashner Funeral Home in Conroe on October 28 at 9 am to 10 am. Burial will be at the Elgin Cemetery with graveside service at 2:45pm on Wednesday, October 28, 2020. Joyce Werchan is the mother of Ron and Linda Werchan of Washington, Texas.

## Church Council Happenings. . .

### Council Members and duties:

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

| Church Council Work Schedule 2020 |                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| November 1                        | Charlie Canatella | Flora Mason    |
| November 8                        | Sandra Bosse      | Jon Wellmann   |
| November 15                       | Jim Stolz         | John Parsons   |
| November 22                       | Betsy Bosse       | Travis Eckert  |
| November 29                       | Kathy Kennedy     | Terry Campbell |
|                                   |                   |                |
| December 6                        | Charlie Canatella | Flora Mason    |
| December 13                       | Sandra Bosse      | Jon Wellmann   |
| December 20                       | Jim Stolz         | John Parsons   |
| December 24                       | Betsy Bosse       | Travis Eckert  |
| December 27                       | Kathy Kennedy     | Terry Campbell |

### Reminder: Women's Fellowship Fundraiser

**Time is running out – Get your tickets Soon!!!**  
 The Women's Fellowship will be having a **Quilt raffle**.  
 The Chicken Scratch Quilt Hand Made is shades of green and white (each person selling raffle tickets will have a color image to show.) Please see any Women's Fellowship member to purchase your raffle ticket(s). Tickets will be sold in books of 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Thank you for your support!**

*A bed without a quilt is like a sky without stars.*



### Church Garage Sale -

The church is having a garage sale on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 4 pm in Navasota at 1100 Manley Street. If anyone has anything they would like to donate, please call Cinday at 979-229-6710.



## Reminder: Washington Volunteer Fire Department

Time is running out – GET YOUR TICKETS SOON!!!!

Washington VFD is having a Gun Raffle and the drawing will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2020. The tickets are a donation of \$20.00 per ticket. If you are interested in purchasing a raffle ticket, please contact Pastor Eric Dehmer, Russell Borgstedte, Linda Oberhoff or any Washington volunteer firemen. Thank you for your support!

## Community Prayer Service for Our Nation

On September 26<sup>th</sup> we observed a Day of Repentance and a Return to the Lord. On this day they had opportunities at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. to repent as a body of believers and to let our light shine. Friedens Church of Washington also held an event under the pavilion where several area church members along with Friedens members joined together for the Day of Repentance and a Return of the Lord. Thanks to all that joined for this event.



## Toys For Tots

"Toys for Tots" is a program which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts. A box will be placed in the narthex to collect toys.



## New Address Change

Ron Trimmer  
23 Grandview Dr.  
Lake Ozark, MO 55049

Ron is now at Lake Ozark Christian Church  
1560 Bagnell Dam Blvd. / PO Box 194  
Lake Ozark, MO 65049

## First Responders Gift Baskets

The UCC Women's group have prepared four gift baskets to present to Washington Volunteer Fire Department and EMS, Navasota Fire Department, Grimes County Sheriff's Department and Washington County Sheriff's Department in recognition of Happy First Responders Day.



## Who the UCC Endorses

During the church forum which took place on Wednesday, September 16th a number of people expressed interest in reading the United Church of Christ's endorsement of Black Lives Matter and Planned Parenthood on the denomination's website. These pages can be found online at:

[https://www.ucc.org/justice\\_racism\\_black\\_lives\\_matter](https://www.ucc.org/justice_racism_black_lives_matter)

[https://www.ucc.org/news\\_united\\_church\\_of\\_christ\\_clergy\\_hold\\_service\\_of\\_blessing\\_at\\_planned\\_parenthood\\_06232019](https://www.ucc.org/news_united_church_of_christ_clergy_hold_service_of_blessing_at_planned_parenthood_06232019)

**Upcoming Events are marked on your calendars  
(see attached November and December).**

## Heart of Texas Association News

Our Heart of Texas Association Fall Meeting met on Zoom on Saturday morning, October 24th. We had a good turnout with 13 of our churches represented. Open Cathedral led our opening with a video worship on YouTube that included excellent music -- with one of the musicians sharing from out of state, creative video segments, and a reflection by Ryan Hart. We appreciate deeply their skilled, faithful, and uplifting work.

The meeting began with a time of recognition for Hope United on their tenth anniversary. Their council president, Jim Robichaux, shared about their send off for Ron Trimmer as Ron and his family left for Missouri, the recent interim time with Kyle Walker leading worship, and the exciting news of a new designated pastor coming on board. Jeremy Albers, Director of Slumber Falls Camp, shared with us that the camp is in difficult financial condition because all of the groups that were scheduled to come have canceled due to COVID-19, stopping the major revenue stream. Slumber Falls was able to have our UCC summer camps last summer due to careful planning and hard work to keep people safe (no one got sick), but the revenue that is needed to support the camp is missing for now. Jeremy is working quarter time, and major fundraising is needed. We also recognized and lifted up our chaplains with great gratitude as they continue their life giving work in this time of real risk. Our attendees connected with a breakout time in small groups, and representatives from each of the churches present shared quite a bit about the life, challenges, and things to celebrate in their churches -- always a rich time in these meetings. Finally, we appreciated the excellent presentation that Campbell Lovett, our Interim Conference Minister, gave on the proposed Unified Conference level Fitness Review Committee and the work needed in the next few months to be able to make a decision on whether to join with the other South Central Conference Associations in forming this committee.

An important decision at this meeting, made during our financial report time, was to donate \$5000 of our dedicated youth funds to Slumber Falls Camp. We did this both to show our financial support and because we had funds set aside to give scholarships to the National Youth Event last summer, which had to be cancelled as an in-person event. Also, we are encouraging our churches to give as generously as possible to Slumber Falls.

I also shared the news of my trip last week out to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi to deliver 110 hygiene kits -- 100 from Friends Congregational Church and 10 from Friedens Gay Hill -- along with a check from Friedens. The staff at Back Bay Mission welcomed me and received our gifts with joy, as the need among the homeless people they serve with these particular donations is greater than ever. We are encouraging giving to Back Bay Mission along with Slumber Falls as an offering from our churches.

We offer congratulations to Crystal Silva-McCormick and Church of the Savior. Crystal has been their designated pastor since Mary Wilson retired last spring. In this role, a designated pastor has a contract for a specified period of time, during which the pastor and the church can decide to make the call a permanent one as a settled pastor. Church of the Savior recently voted to call Crystal as their settled pastor. Our joy and prayers for a thriving ministry go with Crystal and Church of the Savior as they embark on this profound calling together.

Blessings in Christ, Liz Nash, Association Minister



# November

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                                                         | Tue                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                   | Thu                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Fri                                                                           | Sat                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1</b> No Refreshments &amp; Fellowship prior to worship.<br/>                     *Sunday School Trunk or Treat after church in parking lot.<br/>                     ***Daylight Savings Time<br/>                     *Choir to sing during worship.<br/>                     *Harp Concert by Susan Russell at 3:00 pm<br/>                     L- Vivian Kolkhorst<br/>                     A- Mitchell Schlabach<br/>                     G- Not at this time</p> | <p><b>2</b></p>                                                                                             | <p><b>3</b> Election Day</p>                                                               | <p><b>4</b> No UCC Meeting</p>                                                                                        | <p><b>5</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p><b>6</b> Church Garage Sale at Navasota at 1100 Manley St. 8 am to 4pm</p> | <p><b>7</b> Church Garage Sale in Navasota at 1100 Manley St. 8 am to 4pm</p>                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>8</b><br/>                     L- Flora Mason<br/>                     A- Bailee Wils on<br/>                     G- Not at this time</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>9</b></p>                                                                                             | <p><b>10</b><br/>                     Council Meeting<br/>                     7:00 pm</p> | <p><b>11</b> Veterans Day<br/> </p> | <p><b>12</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>13</b></p>                                                              | <p><b>14</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p><b>15</b> *Congregational Meeting after worship.<br/>                     L- Heather Fuller<br/>                     A- Lila Ray Kennedy<br/>                     G- Not at this time</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>16</b></p>                                                                                            | <p><b>17</b></p>                                                                           | <p><b>18</b></p>                                                                                                      | <p><b>19</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br/>                     -----<br/>                     Women's Fellowship at 2:15 p.m.<br/>                     -----<br/>                     Deadline - gifts for ornament tree.</p> | <p><b>20</b></p>                                                              | <p><b>21</b> Christmas Holiday Market at the Washington on the Brazos</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>22</b> *Totenfest<br/>                     Choir Practice after worship.<br/>                     L- Wesley Stolz<br/>                     A- Katie Becker<br/>                     G- Not at this time</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>23</b></p>                                                                                            | <p><b>24</b></p>                                                                           | <p><b>25</b> Fun &amp; Fellowship at 2 pm</p>                                                                         | <p><b>26</b> No Bible Study<br/>                     No Women's Fellowship Meeting</p>                                                                                                                                         | <p><b>27</b></p>                                                              | <p><b>28</b><br/>                     Emmaus Reunion Group 9am<br/>                     -----<br/>                     Decorate the Church for Christmas Season at 9:00 a.m.</p> |
| <p><b>29</b> "Hanging of the Greens"<br/>                     No Pot Luck<br/>                     L- Jim Latham<br/>                     A- Brooklyn Stolz<br/>                     G- Not at this time</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>30</b><br/> </p> |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                  |

2020

# December

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                | Mon                             | Tue                                                                | Wed                             | Thu                                                                                                                                                        | Fri                                                                                                              | Sat       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 | <b>1</b>                                                           | <b>2</b> No UCC Meeting         | <b>3</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br>Women's Fellowship Christmas Party at 11:00 am.<br>**Drawing of Quilt.                                               | <b>4</b>                                                                                                         | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b> UCC Christmas Luncheon after worship.<br>NO Refreshments & Fellowship prior to worship.<br>SS Christmas Practice during SS<br>L- Becky Barton<br>A- Quinn Schulze<br>G- Not at this time. | <b>7</b>                        | <b>8</b> Trustees Meeting at 6:30 pm<br>Council Meeting at 7:00 pm | <b>9</b>                        | <b>10</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.                                                                                                                        | <b>11</b>                                                                                                        | <b>12</b> |
| <b>13</b> SS Christmas Practice during SS.<br>L- Jim Latham<br>A- Mitchell Schlabach<br>G- Not at this time.                                                                                       | <b>14</b>                       | <b>15</b>                                                          | <b>16</b>                       | <b>17</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br>No Women's Fellowship meeting                                                                                       | <b>18</b>                                                                                                        | <b>19</b> |
| <b>20</b> Sunday Christmas Program during worship.<br>L- John Walkoviak<br>A- Lila Ray Kennedy<br>G- Not at this time.                                                                             | <b>21</b>                       | <b>22</b>                                                          | <b>23</b>                       | <b>24</b> No Bible Study<br>No Fun & Fellowship<br><b>Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 pm</b><br>L- Ashley Wilson<br>A- Badlee Wilson<br>G- Not at this time. | <b>25</b> Merry Christmas<br> | <b>26</b> |
| <b>27</b><br>L- Russell Borgstedte<br>A- Katie Becker<br>G- Not at this time.<br>No SS for children                                                                                                | <b>28</b><br>No SS for children | <b>29</b><br>No SS for children                                    | <b>30</b><br>No SS for children | <b>31</b> New Year's Eve<br>No Bible Study<br>No SS for children                                                                                           |                                                                                                                  |           |

2020