

OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, UCC

Message from the Pastor

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**Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6 -**

These words from the Book of Proverbs goes a long way to explain a key role of every congregation - to raise up the next generation in faith so that they can one day assume the mantle of leadership for the church that it may continue in it's Christian mission. We are just starting our 2022 Confirmation Class as I write this and I am very excited about our four candidates, Dilan Finke, Shelby Moreno, Mitchell Schlabach, and Brooklin Stolz and their journey of faith as we begin. Confirmation is a big commitment for not just the candidates and their parents, but also the church.

**"It Takes a Village to Raise a Child"** - traditional African proverb

Indeed, it is the congregation's investment into the young lives which will make the difference in their spiritual journey toward their confirmation. It's more than what the pastor imparts through his teaching in class; it's really about how the candidates feel about the church they are joining. Do they truly feel a part of the church or is confirmation just another part of the childhood journey toward adulthood to be obtained like a high school diploma or driver's license? Is it just another certificate to accumulate and hang on the wall?

I ask this question because it's pretty common knowledge that we have a pretty low "post-confirmation retention rate" in our church. What can we do to change that tread? Well, as it turns out I recently viewed an EA (Evangelical Association) pastor's forum on how churches achieve successful confirmations with high retention rates after the event. But the solutions offered require more than just the pastor's input into the young lives of the candidates - it requires the effort of every member of the congregation. Just as the proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child," so it takes the whole church to invest in the spiritual journey and ultimate retention of a confirmand. Likewise, we should be willing to openly share or faith with them. **We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.** - Psalm 78:4 -

This year candidates will be required to find a mentor to help them toward their goal toward confirmation; would you be willing to serve in that capacity for one of young people? If not, what would you be willing to do to help? Remember, it takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a congregation to raise up a child in the way that they should go in following the Lord. Please be prayerful about what you can do to help with this year's class and let me know what gifts you have to lend to that effort. Together, we can make a big difference in our young people's lives.

In His love, Pastor Eric

## In our prayers we remember. . .

Mary Lee Lewis, Shirley Finke, Kay Crawford, Angie Harville Singleton, Collin Smith, Ora Nell James, Polly Harville, Pastor Eric Dehmer, Rob Bond, Johnnie Ferguson, Addison Orlando, Richard Shimshack, Jeanine Falgout, Betty Dickschat, Christie Hollaway, Hattie Gross, Johnny Wisnoski, Danny Meekins, James and Jeanny Lawrence, Buddy May, Beatrice Stewart, the Warren family, the Meekins family, the Roese family, and the Garcia family.



**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. . .



- **IMPORTANT Meeting**- Mark your calendar for Friedens Church of Washington **Homecoming on October 17<sup>th</sup>**. This will be a congregational meeting and meal. Please be advised that a "2nd Reminder" of the letter regarding the Congregational meeting scheduled for October 17th was mailed Wednesday, 9/22 to all members. If you did not receive your letter, please contact the church office.
- **A Contemporary/Youth Service** will be held at 9:00 a.m. on October 3rd, (every first Sunday of the month). Please come and join us. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Eric.
- **Confirmation Class for 2021-2022** began on Wednesday, September 22 and will continue every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall until June 2022 (with holidays excluded).
- Friedens is still looking for a **Sunday School Superintendent**, if you are interested; please contact Pastor Eric Dehmer or Charlie Canatella. Also, if you would like to serve on Church Council contact Charlie Canatella.
- Emmuas Walks scheduled: Men's Walk #120 - October 7-10, 2021 and Women's Walk #121 - October 21-24, 202. Please see Pastor Eric for details.
- **"Wreaths across America"** in honor of Veterans on 12/18 in Friedens Cemetery. Sponsor a wreath for \$15.00. Contact John Barton 936-878-9985 or Linda Jurecka 979-877-4049.

### Monthly Reminders:

- **UCC Women** meet every first Wednesday at 6:00 pm. **On October 6<sup>th</sup>, please bring your Samaritan showbox.**
- **Women's Fellowship** meet every third Thursday at 2:15 p.m.
- **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.
- **Choir practice** is after worship the last Sunday of the month and sing each first Sunday during worship.

## Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

### *Needing Volunteers*

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

## Food Pantry Items Needed

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.**

October 3 – In memory of Arthur Steele  
 October 10 – In memory of David J. Stolz  
 October 17 – Open  
 October 24 – In honor of Scott & Monica Martin's Anniversary  
 October 31 – In honor of Keith & Thresia Schlabach's 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
 November 7 – Open  
 November 14 – Open  
 November 21 – Open  
 November 28 – Open



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

| Liturgist                        | Acolytes           | Ushers/Greeters                     |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| October 3 – Heather Fuller       | Katie Becker       | Mary Helen Steele & Cindy Walkoviak |
| October 10 – Wesley Stolz        | Brooklynn Stolz    | Elroy & Denise Stolz                |
| October 17 – Jim Latham          | Quinn Schulze      | Herbert & Dorothy Stolz             |
| October 24 – Becky Barton        | Mitchell Schlabach | Jeff & Amanda Stolz                 |
| October 31 – Jim Burke           | Bailee Wilson      | Abby Stolz and Kameron Stolz        |
| November 7 – John Walkoviak      | Lila Ray Kennedy   | Terrance & Elaine Warmke            |
| November 14 – Ashley Wilson      | Katie Becker       | Cindy & John Walkoviak              |
| November 21 – Russell Borgstedte | Brooklynn Stolz    | Craig & Cindy Wellmann              |
| November 28 – Sandra Bosse       | Quinn Schulze      | David & Kim Wellmann                |

## Church Council Happenings. . .

### Council Members and duties:

Charlie Canatella, President (2020-2021)  
 Flora Mason, Vice President (2020-2021)  
 Cindy Walkoviak, Treasurer (2021-2022)  
 Kathy Kennedy, Secretary (2020-2021)  
 Sandra Bosse, Church Clerk (2020-2021)

Ron Werchan, Envelope Clerk (2021-2022)  
 Betsy Bosse (2020-2021)  
 Jim Latham (2021-2022)  
 Monica Martin (2021-2022)  
 Don Kolkhorst (2021-2022)

### Church Council Work Schedule 2021

|             |                   |                 |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| October 3   | Sandra Bosse      | Monica Martin   |
| October 10  | Flora Mason       | Don Kolkhorst   |
| October 17  | Betsy Bosse       | Ron Werchan     |
| October 24  | Kathy Kennedy     | Cindy Walkoviak |
| October 31  | Charlie Canatella | Jim Latham      |
|             |                   |                 |
| November 7  | Flora Mason       | Don Kolkhorst   |
| November 14 | Betsy Bosse       | Ron Werchan     |
| November 21 | Kathy Kennedy     | Cindy Walkoviak |
| November 28 | Charlie Canatella | Jim Latham      |

### Information from the last council meeting:

Also, on **October 17<sup>th</sup>** Friedens is having a Homecoming (a meal will be included) and a Congregational meeting after worship.

The church council is looking for new council members for 2022-2023; therefore, if you are interested in serving on Friedens Church Council, please contact Charlie Canatella.

## Refreshments and Fellowship prior to Worship . . .

We will be having refreshments and fellowship prior to worship every first Sunday of the month. Therefore, on October 3, the church council will bring refreshments, so please come join us.

### Schedule for Refreshments

October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Women's Fellowship  
 November 7<sup>th</sup> – UCC Women  
 December 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School



## Sunday School Happenings. . .

SS is out for the Summer and will résumé on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Every first Sunday, at 9:00 a.m. a **contemporary service** aimed at youth and children (adults are welcome) will be held.



Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 31st (Heritage Sunday) after the church meal.

## Heritage Sunday – October 31<sup>st</sup>. . .

Everyone in the church is invited to wear Victorian period dress such as hats, etc, and bring a German covered dish for Fellowship meal after worship. (Examples: Sausage, german pototes, sweet rice, bratwurst, etc.

## Emmaus Walk Scheduled for October . . . Reminder

A **Men's Emmaus Walk** is scheduled for October 7 – 10, 2021 and it will be the Men's Walk #120. A **Women's Emmaus Walk** is scheduled for October 21 – 24, 2021 and it will be the Women's Walk #121. Please contact Pastor Eric if you are interested in attending either of the scheduled walks.

## REMINDER: Another option for providing your offerings to Friedens!

We now have a way to give using your phone, tablet, or the website for those people who don't like to write checks, and for members who live out of town and want a convenient way to give. You can still write checks or give cash; this will be convenient for those who do everything online. You will still be able to

designate where your money goes, ie. Offering, Repair fund, Disaster Relief, etc.

The app is called Tithe.ly and you can give using credit card, debit card or direct ACH withdrawal. There is a modest processing charge associated with the online giving. You will have the option to have the fee taken out of your donation, or adding the fee to your donation. The fee structure is: 2.9% + \$0.30 per Transaction Credit or Debit Card

1% + \$0.30 per Transaction for ACH direct transfer

3.05% + \$0.30 per Transaction American Express Cards

To use this service:

1. You can log on to the church website at [www.friedens.com](http://www.friedens.com), look for the Giving button (at the bottom of the homepage) and click there. You will be asked for your name, email and phone number the first time that you give. You can log on each time that you want to give, or you can set up a recurring gift so that you don't have to log on each time.
2. Also, You can go to the Apple app store or Google Play app store and download the **Tithe.ly** app (Not the Tithely Pay app\*). The Logo is a green leaf (see above) the first time, you will need to set up your account information and search for Friedens Church of Washington, TX. You will also have to set a pin number.

*\*The Tithely Pay app is for churches that sell things such as a bake sale and want to be able to take credit card payments. This will not work for tithing.*



## Loss of Loved Ones . . .

**Teresa Roese**, 60, of Navasota, passed away Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at CHI St. Joseph Hospital in College Station, Texas. Visitation was Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup> at Nobles Funeral Home in Navasota, Texas. Funeral was September 16<sup>th</sup> at Faith Outreach Christian Center with Pastor Henry Sanders officiating. Interment will follow in Oakland Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Nobles Funeral Chapel. Teresa is the ex-wife of Don Wayne Roese.

**Brooke Roese**, 32 of Navasota, passed away Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at CHI St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan. Visitation with family and friends will be held from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Nobles Funeral Chapel. A celebration of her life will be at 11:00 am, Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Faith Outreach Christian Center with Pastor Henry Sanders officiating. Interment will follow in Oakland Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Nobles Funeral Chapel. Brooke is the daughter of Don Wayne Roese.

**Chase Wayne Meekins**, 36 of Navasota, passed away Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Visitation with family and friends was held from 5:00 – 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Nobles Funeral Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at First Baptist Church of Navasota with the Rev. Clyde Larrabee officiating. Interment will follow in Oakland Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Nobles Funeral Chapel. Chase was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mace and Ruby Meekins.

**Danny Joe Meekins**, 57 of Navasota, passed away Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in College Station. Visitation with family and friends was held from 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at Nobles Funeral Chapel. Funeral services was held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at First Baptist Church in Navasota with the Rev. Clyde Larrabee officiating. Interment will follow in Oakland Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Nobles Funeral Chapel. Danny was preceded in death by his parents, Mace and Ruby Meekins.



Originally mailed on June 18, 2021 and  
Mailed again on September 22, 2021.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reminder

Dear Members of Friedens Church,

Once again Friedens Church finds itself at a crossroads. We have an important decision to make together as a congregation. The climate in today's society is different from when most of us were growing up, and certainly very, different from when Friedens Church was founded some 130 years ago. As a result, the denomination, UCC, to which our church belongs, has attempted to change with the times. The UCC seems to be pulling away from the teachings of the Bible in favor of society's current trends.

As a result, many in our congregation are questioning our continued membership in the UCC. Since we no longer donate financially to the UCC, and they have not interfered with the daily operation of our church other members feel our church should remain in the UCC.

However, you must look at the bigger picture. How do the policies of the UCC affect Friedens Church? True the UCC is not interfering with our church operations. But our membership in the UCC is affecting potential growth and membership. There have been several families that considered becoming members until they checked into the UCC and found what they stand for and what they promote.

Many of us remember and fear a repeat of the divide that occurred in Friedens Church several years back, and understandably so. However, of greater concern is do the policies and practices of the UCC represent the teachings of the Bible, and do we as a Church, and a Child of God want to be a part of that organization.

On Sunday, May 23, 2021, at our congregational meeting a motion was made, seconded, and passed by a majority with one opposing, to take a vote in October to either leave or maintain Friedens Church membership in the UCC. **That vote will be taken on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at congregational meeting directly after church.** I want every member to understand that we need two thirds of the congregation (approximately 195 members) in attendance at this meeting in order to take a vote.

Before you make your decision, I urge you to search the UCC website at [www.UCC.org](http://www.UCC.org) (see below QR scan) to familiarize yourself with the policies and practices of the UCC. If you have a friend or family member that does not have access to the internet, please share with them the information you find.

In closing I would like to encourage all you, both our senior citizens and our young families to please put this important congregational meeting in October on your calendars. This decision needs to be determined by the majority of our members, so we hope you will take a look at the UCC website and join us in October to cast your vote.

Sincerely,  
Charlie Canatella  
Church Council President



## Thank you . . .

Due to the recent outbreak of Covid, John Walkoviak has resumed sanitizing the church weekly.

Thank you John Walkoviak for always thinking about the safety of our church members.

## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA -

### HONOR VETERANS ON DECEMBER 18

FRIEDENS CEMETERY SPONSOR A WREATH FOR \$15.00

CONTACT JOHN BARTON (936 878 9985) or  
LINDA JURECKA (979 877 4049)

A short ceremony will take place at the pavilion on December 18th and if you purchased a wreath for a loved veteran then you can place it on their gravesite.

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





# Friedens Church of Washington

## October

| <i>Sun</i>                                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>Mon</i>                                       | <i>Tue</i>                                                   | <i>Wed</i>                    | <i>Thu</i>                                                                                                | <i>Fri</i>                            | <i>Sat</i>                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                  |                                                              |                               |                                                                                                           | <b>1</b>                              | <b>2</b>                                                                                       |
| <b>3</b> Refreshments (by Women's Fellowship) & Fellowship prior to Worship. Communion, Choir singing<br>L-Flora Mason<br>A-Katie Becker<br>G-Mary Helen Steele & Cindy Walkowiak                        | <b>4</b>                                         | <b>5</b> EMS Helicopter Hanger Dedication at WVFD at 2:00 pm | <b>6</b> UCC Women's 6:00 pm. | <b>7</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br>Men's Emmaus Walk #120                                              | <b>8</b><br>Men's Emmaus Walk #120    | <b>9</b> Roese family benefit at Sons of Hermann Lodge - 5pm to 7pm.<br>Men's Emmaus Walk #120 |
| <b>10</b> Men's Emmaus Walk #120<br>L-Wesley Stolz<br>A-Brooklyn Stolz<br>G-Elroy & Denise Stolz                                                                                                         | <b>11</b>                                        | <b>12</b> Trustee's Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg 7:00 pm             | <b>13</b>                     | <b>14</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.                                                                       | <b>15</b>                             | <b>16</b>                                                                                      |
| <b>17</b> Homecoming (includes meal) & Congregational Mtg.<br>L-Jim Latham<br>A-Quinn Schulz<br>G-Harbert & Dorothy Stolz                                                                                | <b>18</b> Bread Partners (Fisherman of Friedens) | <b>19</b>                                                    | <b>20</b>                     | <b>21</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br>~~~~~<br>Women's Fellowship at 2:15 pm<br>Women's Emmaus Walk #121 | <b>22</b><br>Women's Emmaus Walk #121 | <b>23</b><br>Women's Emmaus Walk #121                                                          |
| <b>24</b> Women's Emmaus Walk #121<br>L-Becky Barton<br>A-Mitchell Schlaabach<br>G-Jeff & Amanda Stolz                                                                                                   | <b>25</b>                                        | <b>26</b>                                                    | <b>27</b>                     | <b>28</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.                                                                       | <b>29</b>                             | <b>30</b>                                                                                      |
| <b>31</b> Heritage Sunday and covered dish lunch after church. Bring a dish to share. SS - Trunk or Treat (Halloween) Choir practice<br>L-Jim Burke<br>A-Beilee Wilson<br>G-Abby Stolz and Kameron Stolz |                                                  |                                                              |                               |                                                                                                           |                                       |                                                                                                |

2021

# Friedens Church of Washington

## November

| <i>Sun</i>                                                                                                                                                           | <i>Mon</i>                                       | <i>Tue</i>                   | <i>Wed</i>                    | <i>Thu</i>                                                                        | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>1</b>                                         | <b>2 Election Day</b>        | <b>3</b> UCC Women's 6:00 pm. | <b>4</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.                                                | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>7</b> Refreshments (by UCC Women) & Fellowship prior to Worship, Communion, Choir singing<br>L-John Walkoviak<br>A-Lila Ray Kennedy<br>G-Terrance & Elaine Wannke | <b>8</b>                                         | <b>9</b> Council Mtg 7:00 pm | <b>10</b>                     | <b>11</b> Veteran's Day<br>Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.                              | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b>  |
| <b>14</b> SS Christmas program practice<br>L-Ashley Wilson<br>A-Katie Becker<br>G-John & Cindy Walkoviak                                                             | <b>15</b> Bread Partners (Fisherman of Friedens) | <b>16</b>                    | <b>17</b>                     | <b>18</b> Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.<br>~ ~ ~ ~ ~<br>Women's Fellowship at 2:15 pm | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>21</b> SS Christmas program practice<br>L-Russell Borgstedt<br>A-Brooklyn Stolz<br>G-Craig & Cindy Wellmann                                                       | <b>22</b>                                        | <b>23</b>                    | <b>24</b>                     | <b>25</b> Happy Thanksgiving                                                      | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>  |
| <b>28</b> SS Christmas program practice.<br>Choir to Practice after worship.<br>L-Sandra Bosse<br>A-Quinn Schulze<br>G-David & Kim Wellmann                          | <b>29</b>                                        | <b>30</b>                    |                               |                                                                                   |            |            |

2021