

NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON

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### Message from the Pastor

Last year at this time I didn't know if I would be able to continue serving as your pastor as stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma continued to advance in my head and neck in spite of 8 weeks of chemo and radiation. By Thanksgiving it looked like we might be fighting a losing battle. By Christmas things looked even more grim and I started treatment at MD Anderson early in the next month.

**The Lord will fight for you, and you only have to be silent.**

- Exodus 14:14 -

The Lord did indeed fight for me, and won the battle - I've been cancer free since March of this year. And for that I am immensely thankful. I'm thankful for the prayers that my community of faith, Friedens Church, lifted up to heaven on my behalf. I pray for others every day but it's a real "wake-up call" when you discover your church is actively praying for you.

**The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.** - James 5:16b -

Indeed, I am living proof of the effectiveness of powerful prayers of intercession made on my behalf and I am grateful to be a part of such a faithful church family. To me, there is just so much to be thankful for this year and I think that Thanksgiving Day will have a very special meaning for me, as result. While we should thank Him every day we really need to take stock of the blessings we have received from His bounty all year long.

**Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.** - 1 Thessalonians 5:18 -

What about you - what are you thankful for this year? Have you thought about it? As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year may we all consider what the Lord has done for us and our many blessings. And, may God be with you throughout the celebration of the holidays this year.

In His love,

Pastor Eric

## In our prayers we remember. . .

Larry Hargrave, Dorothy Hughes, Rose Lee Lohmeyer, Cathy Coronet, Judy Burke, Mary Lee Lewis, Paul Bellard, Ben Carbo, Madeline Almquist, Pat Beirute, Sylvia Budraitis, Francis Ramsey, Terry Humphreys, Joy & John Adkins, Brian Smith, Douglas Buck, Kelly, Ruth and Kenzie Garrett, Herb Kammel, Elroy Stolz, Frank Gurrola, Harris Lohmeyer, Erin Schwamyer, Dan Mohr, Bernice and Wallace Bosse, rain



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

## News, Events and Updates. . .

- **UCC Women** announcements:
  - Diane Latham was elected as new Vice-president; Betsy Bosse agreed to remain treasurer for one more year.
  - UCC Women will no longer handle the birthday calendar.
  - The November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at Martha's Bloomers.
  - Meetings will begin at 4:30 p.m. next year.
  - UCC Women are still collecting Christmas shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse. They are due November 1st. Boxes contain socks, hair brushes, ribbons, magic markers and other small items that we take for granted. These go to foreign countries and some remain here in the US.
  - We welcome new members.
- **Women's Fellowship** announcements:
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> – Women's Fellowship monthly meeting at 2:15 p.m.
  - Women's Fellowship Mission Project – we are continuing to collect school/ hygiene supplies, and nursing home bingo prizes. A box is in the narthex for your donations and lists are posted on the hall bulletin board if you are interested in donating. Thank you for your contribution.
  - Also, remember that we are collecting for Samaritan's Purse. Contribution can be placed in the offering plate with a note designated to this cause. If you are interested in what this organization is doing around the world and locally, please go to their website at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)
  - Birthday Calendars – If you are interested in purchasing a birthday calendar, please let Mary Helen Steele or Sis Renn know by November 27<sup>th</sup> . If you have additions, deletions, or corrections, please submit these when you purchase your calendar. Calendars are still \$5.00.
- **Bible Study** meets 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 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians. Please check the calendars for dates of no Bible Study due to holidays (Thanksgiving).
- **Choir** sings during worship every first Sunday of the month and practice after worship every last Sunday of the month.
- **Sunday School:** During the fall schedule, Sunday School is at 9 a.m. every Sunday morning.
- **Fishermen of Friedens** deliver food for Washington County Bread Partners every third Monday and unload the food bank truck at the Navasota Pantry every other Friday. See the pastor for more information if you'd like to help.

## 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** -Stuffing Mix, Canned Sweet Potatoes & Corn Bread

**December** – Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Bottled Juice

**January** – Canned Soup (chicken noodle, chicken & rice & vegetable beef) & Canned Chili

**February** – Hot cereals Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, Cream of Rice, Grits

## 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.

Nov. 6 – Clint & Sandra Bosse in honor of Sandra's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Nov. 13 –

Nov. 20 –

Nov. 27 –



## Refreshments & Fellowship prior to Worship

November 6 – UCC Women

December 4 – Sunday School

January 2 - Council

February 6 - Women's Fellowship

March 6– UCC Women



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

### Liturgist

### Acolytes

### Ushers/Greeters

Nov. 6 – Ashley Wilson  
 Nov. 13 – Russell Borgstedte  
 Nov. 20 – Sandra Bosse  
 Nov. 27 – Vivian Kolkhorst

Katie Becker  
 Lila Ray Kennedy  
 Brody Parsons  
 Brooks Parsons

Dusty and Kasey Kennedy  
 Kaden Kennedy and Kameron Stolz  
 Don and Vivian Kolhorst  
 Harry and Barbara Kolkhorst

Dec. 4 – Flora Mason  
 Dec. 11 – Heather Fuller  
 Dec. 18 – Wesley Stolz  
 Dec. 25 – Becky Barton

Quinn Schulze  
 Bailee Wilson  
 Teagyn Wilson  
 Beau Becker

Jim and Lois Kolkhorst  
 Mark and Jane Krause  
 Eric & Lori Dehmer  
 Charles and Tammy Lieber

**Upcoming Events are marked on your calendars (see attached calendar for November).**

## Church Council Happenings. . .

**Council Members and duties:** (In parenthesis is the term on council).

Rodney Dickschat, President (2022-2023)

Ron Werchan, Vice President (2021-2022)

Cindy Walkoviak, Treasurer (2021-2022)

Marsha Wellmann, Secretary (2022-2023)

Sandra Antill, Church Clerk (2022-2023)

John Barton, Envelope Clerk (2022-2023)

Don Kolkhorst (2021-2022)

Monica Martin (2021 -2022)

Jim Latham (2021-2022)

Russell Borgstedte (2022-2023)

### Church Council Work Schedule 2022

|             |                    |                 |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| November 6  | Marsha Wellmann    | Cindy Walkoviak |
| November 13 | Rodney Dickschat   | Don Kolkhorst   |
| November 20 | Russell Borgstedte | Jim Latham      |
| November 27 | Sandra Antill      | Monica Martin   |
| December 4  | John Barton        | Cindy Walkoviak |
| December 11 | Marsha Wellmann    | Don Kolkhorst   |
| December 18 | Rodney Dickschat   | Jim Latham      |
| December 24 | Russell Borgstedte | Monica Martin   |
| December 25 | Sandra Antill      | Ron Werchen     |

### Summary of Congregational Meeting

145 were in attendance Homecoming Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> when a congregational meeting took place after the worship service to vote on a constitutional change, which passed by a wide margin. Following the vote, a motion was made from the floor to exit the South Central Conference of the United Church of Christ. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of exiting and through that action, we effectively became a non-denominational church.

Where does that leave us? We were founded as an Evangelical congregation and have never departed from those worship practices and traditions and will continue to do so. In that sense, nothing has really changed which will alter the life of the church. We will remain an antonymous, self-governed congregation, led by an elected church council, as we always have been. Please address any questions you may have concerning this change with Church Council President, Rodney Dickschat, or the pastor.

Church Council Notes:

Thanks to all who participated and helped make the Called Congregational Meeting, lunch, and activities a success. We will move forward with the decisions made during the meeting. We are still looking for volunteers for Church Council for 2023-2024. If you are interested, talk to a council member or sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex. A Congregational meeting is scheduled for November 13 to elect new council members and approve the 2023 Budget.

Rodney

### Wreaths Across America Day

**December 17, 2022 - 11 AM**

**Deadline to sponsor a wreath for \$15.00 is November 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Coordinators John Barton or Sandra Antill**

## Thank you . . .

Dean Dickschat has been using his God-given talents to serve this church in a variety of ways, employing both piano and vocal skills as well as preaching. We appreciate all his contributions to our church and value his service as many are really excited about his music and his message.

Our blessings were doubled on Homecoming Sunday last month when he and his wife Joy joined with our congregation as new members. We celebrate having Dean and Joy as part of our church and look forward to a bright future together. We extend a Christian welcome into our fellowship with the Lord, Dean and Joy!

## Thank you . . .

Debbie Wellmann served as our interim Sunday School Superintendent for the last 6 months and not only kept our children's ministries going, but also brought a number of welcomed changes. She was able to procure a new wall-mounted TV, DVD player, and laptop computer, which will greatly improve teaching sessions. So, for all the good things she contributed to further our children's Sunday School program we say "thank you" for a job well done.

## Thank you . . .



Thanks to our Church Council for planning and organizing our Homecoming Sunday event last month – it was a spectacular and well-attended time of food and fellowship, and bingo afterwards (picture above right). We also thank those who helped in any way, as well as all those who came to make it a special event. Good food, good fellowship, and a great congregation – what more could anyone ask in a church?



## In Remembrance...

Shelley Riechers Addison went home to the Lord on October 8 in Belize. Our prayers are with her husband Chris and the rest of the family. Her memorial service was 10 a.m. Saturday, October 22, at Grace Community Fellowship.

## Want to Watch Sunday Worship from Home?

We are now streaming our Sunday services on Face Book Live so that anyone can be a part of our worship services, whether they are sitting in a pew or not. Just go to the "Friedens Church of Washington" page on Face Book and click on the arrow of the picture posted that Sunday morning and you can stream the service. We'd love to see you in person, but hope that you can still feel "connected" via the web. Happy viewing!

## What About You?

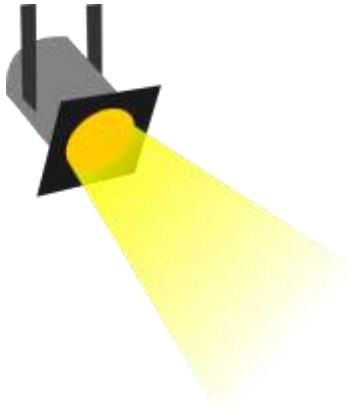
Do you have a desire to serve your church but haven't figured out how best to do so? Do you want to make a difference for your church to help it grow for the future? One way you can achieve your goal is to volunteer to serve on Church Council. We are currently seeking those who want to make a difference for next year's council. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex where you can register for consideration to serve. Please pray about volunteering today – your church needs your participation.

## Seasonal Missions of Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship is still collecting school and hygiene supplies. The school supplies will be delivered to local schools later when these items will be needed to complete the school year. Hygiene supplies will be delivered to the local nursing homes or the Senior Center in Brenham. The boxes are in the narthex.

We also voted to start collecting items to be delivered to the local nursing homes for bingo prizes. Items that are being collected include: snacks, (prepackaged crackers, puddings, popcorn, goldfish, pretzels), drinks, (flavored water, diet drinks, Gatorade); coloring books, word find books, notepads, magazines, color pencils, markers, etc. and miscellaneous items such as purses, wallets, scarves, and costume jewelry. A list of the items needed will be posted on the bulletin board.

We will be sponsoring the Christmas Ornament Exchange Program for the Brenham State Supported Living Center again this year. A sign-up sheet with names and items wanted will be posted in the Narthex later when it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Women's Fellowship.



# Spotlight on Friedens Church Council

by the Friedens Church Roving Reporter



Our Church Council works diligently behind the scenes to ensure the continued operation, upkeep, and success of our church. They deal with fiscal and the physical matters concerning our church plant to keep it running smoothly. They also participate with hands-on involvement behind the scenes as well, such as setting up tables and decorating for our recent Homecoming Sunday dinner at the Activities Center, along with all the legwork required to prepare for our recent constitutional vote on that day. A big part of our church's success is a direct result of the dedication of our enterprising Church Council.

If you would like to be a part of a dynamic group that is focused on the continued success of the church, you could aspire to no greater service than becoming a member of Church Council. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, if you would like to be considered for the 2023 election. Great things come from those who willingly give themselves in service to the Lord. Consider the blessings that you will receive as you seek to be a blessing to others while serving in the leadership of your church.

# 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><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house<br>7 pm - Fire Dept. meeting @ Station 2 | <b>2</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ parsonage<br>6 pm - UCC Women's Meeting | <b>3</b><br>10 am - Bible Study                                          | <b>4</b>                                                                | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>6</b>                           | <b>7</b>                                                             | <b>8</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house<br>7 pm - Church Council meeting         | <b>9</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ parsonage                               | <b>10</b><br>10 am - Bible Study                                         | <b>11</b><br>10 am - Fishermen of Friedens work at Navasota food pantry | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>13</b>                          | <b>14</b><br>6 am - Fishermen of Friedens deliver for Bread Partners | <b>15</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                         | <b>16</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ parsonage                              | <b>17</b><br>10 am - Bible Study<br>2:15 pm - Women's Fellowship meeting | <b>18</b>                                                               | <b>19</b>  |
| <b>20</b><br>Totenfest             | <b>21</b>                                                            | <b>22</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                         | <b>23</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ parsonage                              | <b>24</b><br>Happy Thanksgiving!<br>No Bible Study                       | <b>25</b><br>10 am - Fishermen of Friedens work at Navasota food pantry | <b>26</b>  |
| <b>27</b><br>Hanging of the Greens | <b>28</b>                                                            | <b>29</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                         | <b>30</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ parsonage                              |                                                                          |                                                                         |            |

2022