

# JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

## FRIEDENS CHURCH OF WASHINGTON

### Inside This Issue

#### Page

- 1 - Message from Pastor Eric
- 2 - Remember In our Prayers
- 2 - News, Events & Updates
- 3 - Food Pantry Info.
- 3 - Refreshments & Fellowship
- 3 - Altar Flowers
- 3 - Worship Leaders
- 4 - Church Council Info
- 4 - Welcome Aboard!
- 5 & 6- Thank You's
- 5 - In Remembrance
- 5 - Watch Church from Home
- 6 - Women's Fellowship  
Missions
- 6 - Mrs. Claus
- 6 - Let's Eat!
- 7 - Spotlight on...
- 8 - January Calendar

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### Message from the Pastor

Happy New Year!

I am very excited about the opportunities for our church in this coming year. The capable leadership of our church council led us to make a milestone decision in the life of our congregation last year and as result we are now independent and non-denominational. So, we begin this New Year with a new identity, but what does this mean for us going forward?

**For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. - Ephesians 2:10 -**

Simply put, we were created by God in His image and pre-ordained to do the good works of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is, to build Christian community right where we've been planted - in the Birthplace of Texas. As a people God has already created for this purpose, we really don't need an overarching denominational structure to help us in our mission. The Good Lord has already blessed us with all the resources needed to succeed.

**His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the full knowledge of the one who called us by his own glory and excellence. - 2 Peter 1:3 -**

I'm excited by the opportunity we have been given to prosper and grow as a congregation in Washington, Texas - a place where more and more people appear to be moving to. As with all Christian enterprises, these efforts begin with prayer. So please pray for your church; pray for God to raise up additional leadership in our church and pray for God to bless all our undertakings in His name.

**And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. - John 14:13 -**

With the Lord on our side there is no limit to what we can achieve in His name and for His glory. As His church, we have already been handed the victory. So let us embrace this New Year with our heads held high as a victorious people. And then wait and watch with expectation as He continues to pour out His blessings upon us.

In His love,

Pastor Eric

## In our prayers we remember. . .

Larry Hargrave, Dorothy Hughes, Rose Lee Lohmeyer, Mary Lee Lewis, Paul Bellard, Ben Carbo, Madeline Almquist, Pat Beirute, Sylvia Budraitis, Francis Ramsey, Terry Humphreys, Joy & John Adkins, Douglas Buck, Ruth and Kenzie Garrett, Herb Kammel, Denise & Elroy Stolz, Erin Schwamyer, Wallace Bosse, Nicolas Hrechko, Shirley Finke, Lisa Latham, Ted Borgstedte III.



**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:

This month's meeting will be on January 4 in the fellowship hall at 4:30 pm (**please note the time change**) where we will discuss and make plans for the new year. All are invited – we welcome new members. If you like the new doors on the Activity Center, that is because we paid for them along with memorial money for Neal Bosse and made arrangements for the work to be done. That is just one of the many things we do for the church with money earned from our take out luncheons.

- **Women's Fellowship** announcements:

This month's meeting will be on January 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 2:15 pm. All are invited.

- **Bible Study:**

We meet in the Fellowship Hall 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 currently studying 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians. Please check the calendars for dates of no Bible Study due to holidays.

- **Choir:**

We sing during worship every first Sunday of the month and practice after worship every last Sunday of the month.

- **Sunday School:**

- o Thanks to all who supported our Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot on October 30.
- o Thanks to all the young disciples who participated in our Christmas Eve Program and all the grown-ups who worked behind the scenes to help make it happen.

- **Fishermen of Friedens:**

We 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

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

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

**March** – Canned meat (spam), Tuna, Chicken

**April** – Dried beans and peas

## 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.



- Jan. 1- Open at time of this printing
- Jan. 8 - Open at time of this printing
- Jan. 15 - Open at time of this printing
- Jan. 22 - Open at time of this printing
- Jan. 29 - Open at time of this printing

## Refreshments & Fellowship prior to Worship

- January 1 - Council
- February 5 - Women's Fellowship
- March 5- UCC Women
- April 2 – Sunday School
- May 7 – Council
- June 4 – Women's Fellowship



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

### Liturgist

### Acolytes

### Ushers/Greeters

Jan. 1 – Jim Burke  
 Jan. 8 – John Walkoviak  
 Jan. 15 – Ashley Wilson  
 Jan. 22 – Russell Borgstedte  
 Jan. 29 – Sandra Bosse  
 Feb. 5 – Vivian Kolkhorst  
 Feb. 12 – Flora Mason  
 Feb. 19 – Heather Fuller  
 Feb. 26 – Wesley Stolz

Quinn Schulze  
 Mitchell Schlabach  
 Bailee Wilson  
 Lila Ray Kennedy  
 Katie Becker  
 Brooklynn Stolz  
 Beau Becker  
 Quinn Schulze  
 Mitchell Schlabach

Eden Harris & Vivian Kolkhorst  
 Derrol & Arlene Herzog  
 Doris Hinton & Sally Stolz  
 Ralph & Donna Holle  
 Billy Ray & Larry Jensen  
 Autumn Kelley & Julie Kelley  
 Dusty & Kasey Kennedy  
 Bill & Kathy Kennedy  
 Mark & Jane Krause

**Upcoming Events are marked on your calendars**

## Church Council Happenings. . .

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

Rodney Dickschat, President (2022-2023)

Russell Borgstedte, Vice President (2022-2023)

Marsha Wellmann, Treasurer (2022-2023)

Laura Hargrave, Secretary (2023-2024)

John Barton, Envelope Clerk (2022-2023)

Denise Stolz, Church Clerk (2023-2024)

Sandra Antill (2022-2023)

Linda Werchan (2023-2024)

Sheri Finke (2023 -2024)

Jim Burke (2023-2024)

### Church Council Work Schedule 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023

| <u>Sunday</u>             | <u>Council 2023</u> | <u>Council 2022</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1/1/2023 - Refreshments   | Denise S.           | John B.             |
| 1/8/2023                  | Jim B.              | Marsha              |
| 1/15/2023                 | Laura H.            | Rodney              |
| 1/22/2023                 | Linda W.            | Russell             |
| 1/29/2023 - 5th Sunday    | Sheri F.            | Sandra              |
| 2/5/2023                  | Denise S.           | John B.             |
| 2/12/2023                 | Jim B.              | Marsha              |
| 2/19/2023                 | Laura H.            | Rodney              |
| 2/22/2023 - Ash Wednesday | Linda W.            | Russell             |
| 2/26/2023                 | Sheri F.            | Sandra              |
| 3/5/2023                  | Jim B.              | John B.             |
| 3/12/2023                 | Laura H.            | Marsha              |
| 3/19/2023                 | Linda W.            | Rodney              |
| 3/26/2023                 | Sheri F.            | Russell             |

- Officers were elected (listed above) for the 2023 Church Council at the December 13 monthly meeting.
- Installation of officers will take place during the January 8 worship service. Christmas decorations in the sanctuary will be removed following the service.
- All annual reports of the various church committees are due in to the church office by January 15 for review by Audit Committee (Arlene Herzog, Nelda Buck, Tammy Lieber).
- A Congregational Meeting will be held following the worship service to approve the reports following worship on January 29.

## Welcome Aboard!

On Sunday, December 4 our congregation elected new five people to serve on Church Council through 2024: Jim Burke, Sheri Finke, Laura Hargrave, Denise Stolz, and Linda Werchan. We welcome you into your new role in service to the church and readily join with you in all your endeavors of leadership for our congregation. Welcome aboard!

## Thank you . . .

Brenham Bread Partners received the yearly monetary donation of \$1,000 from Friedens Church of Washington. The church also donates food items monthly. Representing Friedens is a three generation family: Linda Oberhoff, Thresia Schlabach and Mitchell Schlabach.



## In Remembrance...

- Gary Bosse, 72, of Guy, Texas passed away on December 1. A graveside service was held at Oakwood Cemetery, Navasota at 2:30 pm on December 6 officiated by Pastor Eric.
- Sherry Lynn (Schulze) King, 73, of Coldspring, Texas passed away on November 24, 2022. A graveside service was held at Oakland Cemetery, Coldspring at 1 pm on December 7 officiated by Pastor Eric.

## 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!

## Thank you . . .

The family of Jon Anastasiades would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the love and support shown to us during a very difficult time in our lives. Our gratitude goes out to all who gave of their time to help and provide a lovely service to honor his memory. We want to thank everyone for keeping us in your prayers, for the calls and visits, the cards and food. Thanks to all who stepped in to provide lunch following the service. Jon will be missed forever but we know he will live in the hearts of all who shared our grief. Your words and your kindness at our time of need will be treasured by our family.

## 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.



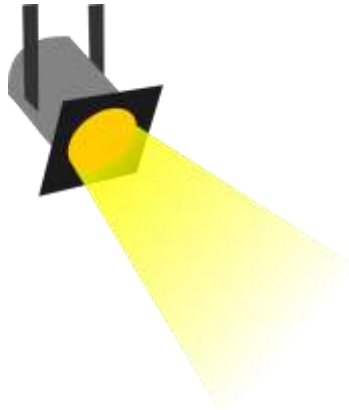
Rose Lee Lohmeyer poses as “Mrs. Claus” with Santa on Sunday, December 11 in the Activities Center during the Loesch family reunion, the day before her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

## Let’s Eat!

**Don’t forget that refreshments are served before worship in the Fellowship Hall provided by Church Council on January 1, 2023.**

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**Also, we will have a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall following our congregational meeting on January 29.**



# Spotlight on Friedens Chancel Choir

by the Friedens Church Roving Reporter

Our Chancel Choir is led by our capable director, Diane Latham, and performs every first Sunday. They are always looking for more participants (everyone has a choir voice) to join to their numbers. Choir rehearsal is at 9:45 am before church each first Sunday.

This year, our choir performed an outstanding Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December, 18 with Dean Dickschat providing the accompaniment on his keyboard and leading the closing hymn, O Holy Night. We are truly blessed to have all these members willing to lend their gifts to the glory of God.



# January

| <i>Sun</i>                                                                                                                                  | <i>Mon</i>                                                           | <i>Tue</i>                                                                                             | <i>Wed</i>                                                                      | <i>Thu</i>                                                                 | <i>Fri</i>                                                              | <i>Sat</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>1 Holy Communion</b><br>L-Jim Burke<br>A-Quinn Schuize<br>G-Eben Hams & Vivian Kohnorst<br>9:45 Fellowship<br>Choir Sings during Worship | <b>2</b>                                                             | <b>3</b><br>Washington VFD Meeting @ 7 pm.                                                             | <b>4</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ Parsonage<br>UCC Women Mtg. at 4:30 pm. | <b>5</b><br>Bible Study @ 10 a.m                                           | <b>6</b><br>10 am - Fishermen of Friedens work at Navasota food pantry  | <b>7</b>   |
| <b>8</b><br>L-John <del>Wxxxxxxx</del><br>A-Mitchell Schabach<br>G-Daryl & Ariene Herzog<br>Installation of Officers                        | <b>9</b><br>6 am - Fishermen of Friedens deliver for Bread Partners  | <b>10</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house<br>Trustee Mtg at 6:30 pm<br>Council Mtg at 7:00pm | <b>11</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ Parsonage                              | <b>12</b><br>Bible Study @ 10 a.m                                          | <b>13</b>                                                               | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>15</b><br>L-Ashley Wilson<br>A-Bobbes Wilson<br>G-Coris Hinton & Sally Stolz<br>Annual reports due in office                             | <b>16</b>                                                            | <b>17</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                                    | <b>18</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ Parsonage                              | <b>19</b><br>Bible Study @ 10 a.m<br>Women's Fellowship Meeting at 2:15 pm | <b>20</b><br>10 am - Fishermen of Friedens work at Navasota food pantry | <b>21</b>  |
| <b>22</b><br>L-Russell Borgsteede<br>A-Lisa Ray Kennedy<br>G-Rajni & Donna Hollie                                                           | <b>23</b>                                                            | <b>24</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                                    | <b>25</b><br>9 am - Wednesday Quilters @ Parsonage                              | <b>26</b><br>Bible Study @ 10 a.m                                          | <b>27</b>                                                               | <b>28</b>  |
| <b>29</b><br>L-Sandra Blossie<br>A-Katie Becker<br>G-Billy Ray & Larry Jensen<br>Congregational Meeting after church                        | <b>30</b><br>6 am - Fishermen of Friedens deliver for Bread Partners | <b>31</b><br>9 am - Tuesday Quilters @ school house                                                    |                                                                                 |                                                                            |                                                                         |            |

2023

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