

November 2023 Newsletter



Friedens Church of Washington

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The Real Reason of Thanksgiving

by Susan Holle

We think of Thanksgiving when our families gather at a relative's house to eat a turkey dinner with dressing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, green bean casserole, and rolls. Afterward, many people watch football, but Thanksgiving is more than that. It's a time when we thank God for what He has given us. Unfortunately, in our secular world and the whitewashing of history, people forget why we celebrate Thanksgiving. The reason is to thank God that we live in America, where we can worship Him and for the families and friends He has given us.

The pilgrims knew this all too well. What we know as the "first Thanksgiving" happened between late September and November in the fall of 1621. The pilgrims wished to celebrate their first fall harvest and thank the Lord. Even though forty-five pilgrims out of the hundred and two passengers on the Mayflower and half of the crew perished, they still had things to be thankful for. Their devout faith, God's grace that the rest of them survived the winter, and the three Native Americans the Lord put in their path after the winter's thaw, which were Samoset, an Abenaki Sagamore of the Eastern tribe, and Tisquantum (Squanto), the last survivor member of the Patuxent tribe, and Massasoit, the chef of the Wampanoag tribe.

Samoset was the first English-speaking native the pilgrims met, and they found him friendly. Days later, he introduced them to Squanto, who helped them immensely. Squanto brokered peaceable relations between the Pilgrims and the local Pokanokets and then with the Wampanoags. The pilgrim's leaders agreed to protect the Wampanoags against their enemies, and Massasoit agreed to do the same. Squanto lived with the Pilgrims as an interpreter, guide, and advisor for twenty months. He introduced the settlers to the fur trade and taught them how to sow and fertilize native crops.

The colony governor, William Bradford, sent four men on a fowling mission for the feast to go with the beans, lettuce, spinach, cabbage, carrots, peas, and corn they harvested. They probably killed turkeys, ducks, and geese. The Wampanoags brought five deer and likely different types of seafood. The celebration lasted for three days. According to Edward Winslow, there were fifty-three pilgrims at the harvest feast. We know Massasoit brought ninety of his tribe people.

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Larry Hargrave, Rose Lee Lohmeyer, Elroy Stolz, Judy Burke, Joey Helms, Ralph and David Holle, Dorothy Hughes, Mary Lee Lewis, Paul Bellard, Madeline Almquist, Pat Beirute, Sylvia Budraitis, Francis Ramsey, Joy & John Adkins, Ruth and Kenzie Garrett, Herb Kammel, Erin Schwamyer, Shirley Finke, Jenny Fritz, Rachel Brieno, Jackie Wood, Michael Canatella, Cindy Wellmaker, Bill Newsom, Melanie DeAeth, Leah Weld, David and Kenney McAlpine, Taylor Willis and Nichole Brooks, Troy Weigand and Robin Dutton.



Note: If you have anyone to add to the prayer list or remove, please contact the church office or email the church @ friedenschurchofWashington@gmail.com. Numerous concerns have been raised by congregational members about the unknown names remaining on the prayer list for months. Please review the list above and contact the church with updates of any of the names listed above. Thank you.

News, Events and Updates. . .

Frieden's Women announcements:

- Friedens Women will have their meeting November 1st at 4:30pm.
- Friedens Women will be going to Martha's Bloomers for their Open House on Friday, November 17 @ 5:30. If anyone wants to join us let Flora know.
- Our Christmas luncheon will be Dec. 3, after church. Place to be determined.

Women's Fellowship announcements

- There is a take-out meal being planned. Watch this space for further announcements.
- The next meeting will be on November 16th at 2:15 pm.
- We will be taking orders for birthday calendars again this year. Calendars are \$5 ea. Orders, any additions/ deletions/ corrections must be submitted by Nov 15th to LaNell Langford or Tammy Leiber.
- Women's Fellowship will be providing refreshments on Saturday Dec. 16th Wreaths Across America service at 10 am.

Bible Study announcements:

We meet in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday beginning at 10:30 a.m. Come join us and bring your bible or you can use one from the church. We are currently studying the Book of Revelation. Please check the calendars for dates of no Bible Study due to holidays.

Choir announcements:

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

Sunday School announcements:

Happy Thanksgiving!

The Sunday school will start practicing for the Christmas program on November 12 during Sunday school.

Confirmation

The 2024 confirmation class will begin Wednesday, October 4 at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The class will include Katie Becker, Lila Ray Kennedy, and Bailee Wilson. Stacey Becker will be on hand with Pastor Eric teaching the class.

Upcoming Events are marked on your calendars

Food Pantry Volunteer Workers

Needing Volunteers

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

Food Pantry Items Needed

Nov. – Stuffing/cornbread mix, canned sweet potatoes

Dec. – Coffee, tea, cocoa, bottled fruit juice

Jan. – Canned Soup and Canned Chili

Altar Flowers

Nov. 5- Open

Nov. 12- Open

Nov. 19- Open

Nov. 26- Open

First Sunday Refreshments & Fellowship prior to Worship

Nov. 5 – Friedens Women

Dec. 3 – Altar Guild

Jan. 7 - Council

Note: If you are unable to serve on the dates

below, please contact the church office.



Liturgist

November 5 – Ashley Wilson

November 12 – Russell Borgstedte

November 19 – Sandra Bosse

November 26 – Vivian Kolkhorst

Acolytes

Brody Parsons

Quinn Schulze

Bailee Wilson

Brooks Parson

Ushers/Greeters

Autumn & Julie Kelley

Dusty & Kasey Kennedy

Kaden Kennedy & Kameron Stolz

Don & Vivian Kolkhorst

Wreaths Across America

This year's observance will be held on Saturday, December 16 at 10 am under the pavilion unless there is inclement weather in which case it will take place in the sanctuary. Wreaths will be placed in honor of each branch of service to our country and volunteers who served are encouraged to contact Linda Jurecka to do so. Wreaths can also be ordered by Linda and the cost is \$17 for one but if you buy two, you get the third one free. We are asking that you submit one picture of each of your family members living or deceased who have served or are currently serving in the military. Do not send your photo by text or a picture you have taken with your cell phone. lcandatella55@gmail.com or lindajureck@att.net

The Real Reason of Thanksgiving

by Susan Holle
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As a profoundly religious people, the Pilgrims undoubtedly prayed at the feast. Their prayers were spontaneous, however, and the exact words are unknown.

The Pilgrims' first recorded religious day of thanksgiving was held in 1623. Plymouth had a severe drought. "Upon which," said William Bradford, "they set apart a solemn day of humiliation, to seek the Lord by humble and fervent prayer, in this great distress." That same evening, it began "to rain with such sweet and gentle showers as gave them cause of rejoicing and blessing God... For which mercy, in time convenient, they also set apart a day of thanksgiving."

In the middle of the Civil War, on October 3, 1963, President Abraham Lincoln issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation encouraging Americans "in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea, and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens." Thanksgiving has been celebrated in the United States ever since.

Even when Americans went through hard times, they remembered that God was in control and thanked the Lord for the blessings He had given them. That's the real reason of Thanksgiving.

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Thursday Matinee

Bring your brown bag lunch and join us after Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall for a Christian movie matinee. We have already enjoyed *Monumental* and *Paul, Apostle of Christ* and the *Left Behind Trilogy* and will be viewing *Heaven is for Real*, *The Shack*, and many more following. Come join us on Thursdays at noon and enjoy the popcorn at the movie with us.

Church Council News

- The Search Committee continues their work regarding prospective ministerial candidates.
- We will be decorating the church on November 25 for Christmas. Everyone is invited to help out and make our church beautiful for the Christmas season.
- Work continues on the parsonage and we are currently getting quotes for repainting and flooring replacement.
- Council is seeking bids on repairing the outside auditorium door facing the fire station.
- Would you like to serve your church by becoming a council member? We are in need of those who would like to do so to list their name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. You'll be glad you did.
- We are getting closer to completion of the Constitution and By-Laws updates.
- If you are interested in serving on council, please sign up or contact a council member.

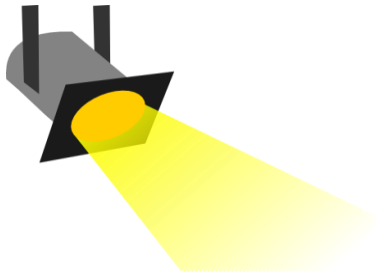
Church Council Work Schedule For July 2023		
Sunday	Council 2023	Council 2022
11/5/2023	Denise Stolz	Marsha Wellmann
11/12/2023	Jim Burke	Rodney Dickschat
11/19/23	Laura Hargrave	Russell Borgstedte
11/26/23	Linda Werchan	Sandra Antill

Thank you:

Thanks to the Sunday school and church members, we have 34 boxes to send to Samaritan's Purse. They will be sent overseas except for some Indian Reservations here in the states. Thank you all of you who gave money to help pay the shipping cost of the boxes. In conversation with the head of the Christmas box program for our area, I learned that the \$10.00 not only pays for shipping, it also pays for a book of Bible stories to be given to each child. The children are asked to attend a series of Bible classes. Those that finish will have a graduation ceremony. I understand that the parents are very proud of their children that complete the course and graduate. The reason for this program is not only to make sure that children receive a gift but also to lead them to Christ.

Thank you:

Lou Ann Canatella and Linda Jurecka wish to thank those who have volunteered pictures of our church's veterans for posting on our bulletin boards in preparation for our Veterans Day Observance during the worship service on Sunday November 12. We thank Lou Ann and Linda for their dedication in compiling, copying, and plating all the pictures on our bulletin boards in a most attractive manner – don't they look great? The next time that you see Lou Ann or Linda please make sure to compliment them on a job well done!



Spotlight on Shoebox Ministry

by Friedens Roving Reporter



This year Frieden's Women invited members of the congregation to assemble shoeboxes with items for boys and girls in need all over the world and are then distributed by Samaritan's Purse Ministries. Our Sunday School stepped up to the challenge and filled 8 boxes which were presented on the altar table during our October 8 worship service (above) during the young disciples moment. After our young disciples presented their shoeboxes they placed hands on them as the pastor led them in a prayer of dedication for their service.

Additionally, \$99.50 was collected as our loose plate offering to defray shipping and handling costs. Thanks go to Friedens Women for leading this outreach effort and everyone who contributed toward this great ministry to benefit those in need. Blessings to everyone involved as you have become a blessing for others through your gifts.

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Non-Profit Organization
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