

Greetings and peace to all of you,



Hopefully most of you may recall that several weeks ago during the sermon I issued a challenge to the congregation to do your best to read the entire Bible over the summer. Maybe some of you have taken that task seriously and have already begun. I hope so, because it makes a difference in our lives and the life of the Church when we spend time with the very book that we claim to be the norm and rule of our lives. The reason that I issued that challenge is because in my experience it is the most seldom read book among Christians. It is the least studied and is usually read from a critical standpoint than from a faith perspective.

Louis Evely, who was a French Roman Catholic and author of numerous books on prayer, preaching and religious subjects shared something interesting that I would like to share with you. "What must we do to read the Gospels with faith? It surely isn't enough to believe that everything written there actually happened once: we owe that much respect to any book of profane history by a reputable author. To read the Gospels with faith is to believe that everything in them is actually happening now, that they're a book of revelation, a book of discovery, that, far more than a history, they're a prophecy. They tell us who we are and what we're doing. They tell us how God lived among us.

But God continues to live with us. He's always the same, and so are we. What the Gospels relate is still going on today. They show us our life, how God loves us and how we treat Him-how we mistreat Him, too. So we mustn't read them like ancient history, a pious memory, a sentimental pilgrimage, but like the revelation they are: a revelation of God and of ourselves. We're announced, foreseen and prophesied in them, and we've only to find the right place, the words that concern us and are spoken directly to us." (For All the Saints. A Prayer Book For and By the Church Vol. II P. 422)

I find Evely's words to be most true. The Bible must be a book read in faith that is a direct revelation to our very core and existence. But the first hurdle to be crossed is that we must pick it up and read it to discover that revelation. If you have not yet begun I encourage you to start. And if you have questions, come see me and we will talk about them together.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Doug

**FROM OUR  
CHURCH RECORDS**

Attendance for May

	Sunday School	Worship
5/4	40	111
5/11	--	162
5/18	--	102
5/25	--	89



If you need a ride to Sunday worship service, call the office at 667-6535 and the church bus will come get you!

Newsletter articles are due on **June 15<sup>th</sup>**

You may:

- bring your articles to the office
- e-mail them to:

[friedenscircuitrider@hotmail.com](mailto:friedenscircuitrider@hotmail.com)

- fax the article: 667-6006



*June*

- 1 Corey Grotefendt
- 2 Carli Crews  
Kim Talbert
- 6 Sara Mollet
- 8 Kaden Barker  
LaVonne Brueggeman  
Kara Kniser
- 10 Courtney Talbert
- 11 Larry Bliss  
Lloyd Bliss  
Braden Porter
- 14 Katlyn Spears
- 15 Randall Grady
- 19 Kacey Ruger
- 21 Tom Fischer
- 22 Glen Stipes
- 26 Cindi Hoppes
- 27 Rosemary Rose
- 30 Marilyn Wesselman





## Ushers

- June 1** Rick and Sherry Smith  
Ron and Carol Klaustermeier
- June 8** Ron and Sandy Harbison  
Jim and Claudia Galaske
- June 15** Stacy Matz  
Marla Brown  
Georgia Wilkins  
Debbie Spears
- June 22** Joe Smith family
- June 29** Dennis Williams family
- July 6** Otis and Katie Carver  
Pat and Jenny Ruger

**If you cannot be present on your day,  
please call Yvonne, 667-8409**

## Liturgists

- June 1** Jackie Estes
- June 8** Jenny Ruger
- June 15** Jeff Estes
- June 22** Marla Brown
- June 29** Donna Bingham
- July 6** Bill Brown



Attendees at the last two Hobby Bees, held on 4/24 and 5/21, worked on decorating the whimsical bowls. We will have a nice assortment ready to sell at this year's Art and Quilt Show. The next Hobby Bee is scheduled for Saturday June 28, 2014 in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00am to noon. Please join us at whatever time fits your day. Bring a project to work on, or just observe and learn something new, or help work on the group project. For the group project, we will continue to add the decorations to the whimsical bowls. All supplies and instructions will be provided - this is an easy project that any skill level can enjoy. If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Betty Schiller at 288-1722 (home) or 616-6427 (cell) or email: [bettys0405@yahoo.com](mailto:bettys0405@yahoo.com).



# *It Happened Here – 35 Years Ago*

## *God, As I Understand Him*

Today I'll call upon my friend to help me through the day. And He'll answer me, so faithfully, "I'll be with you all the way." And I talk with Him each morning, about my problems of that hour. He listens so attentively, and gives me added power.

I know I've never seen Him, but I have no doubt He's there. For I meet Him every morning, in a quiet time of prayer.

## Women's Guild –

It was voted to donate two quilts to Hitz Home. The Kitchen Committee was given authority to purchase small wire racks for each table which would hold salt, pepper, cream and sugar.

The following recommendations from the Executive Board were read and approved: 1. The men's restroom is to be redecorated and 2. That carpeting in all entrances of the church be professionally cleaned. The dates of Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> were set as the days for entertaining our neighboring Guilds.

## CEB –

The Young Adult Group had a very good response of 12 people attending the first meeting. The group will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month with Bill Lee and Linda Rinkel as co-chairpersons.

## Mission Alive –

"Reach out, reach out and touch someone..." We all recognize that cute little jingle as it's used on radio and television a lot lately. It's all about communication. "It's the next best thing to being there." As Christians, we have the opportunity to 'reach out' to others. O.C.W.M is for us, 'the next best thing to being there.' Let's all do our best to support our church world mission by contributing generously.

## Open House for 'First Lady' of Friedens –

Mrs. Carrie Ottwein, lovingly known as "Grandma" Ottwein, will be 100 years old on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The Guild members, along with all our church members, want to congratulate her and remember her on this important day. "Grandma" Ottwein is near and dear to so many people. Her Christian influence has been felt and experienced by not only members at Friedens, but by individuals in the entire area. "Grandma" Ottwein, who now resides at the Madison County Nursing Home in Edwardsville, will be at Friedens' Fellowship Hall on June

10<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 p.m. The family has arranged this open house so that "Grandma" may meet and greet her many friends. Let's be on hand to help celebrate this glorious occasion with her!

Open House Invitation –  
The congregation is invited to an open house for Eden Village Care Center and Retirement Apartments on Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10 from 1-4 p.m.

Couples Club News –  
On June 16<sup>th</sup>, the Couples Club will hold another of their famous progressive dinners. Anyone wanting to attend this event **MUST** make reservations by June 9. The recreation committee had a great time going miniature golfing on May 20. All those who missed it will be considered for next year's recreation committee. HA HA!



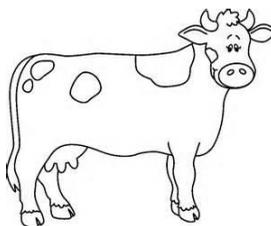
**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**

June 16

## **COW PATTY BINGO**

September 20, 2014 Noon-5pm  
At Friedens Cemetery

The event will take place on the vacant field behind Henning School located at 703 East Highway 40, Troy.



**\$10/square**

(each square is  
2' x 2')

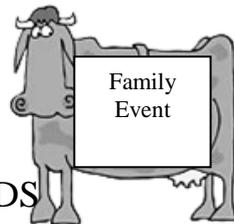
**Win up to \$1,000**  
*or*

**(20% of the total squares sold)**

Tickets will be sold until noon the day of the event!

This event benefits Friedens  
Cemetery

**MUSIC  
FOOD  
VENDORS  
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS**



This event is in memory of  
Harold Schwehr



Cemetery  
Committee

Dear Friedens Family,

In the past few months the Cemetery Committee has been reviewing and updating all policies and procedures.

One of our new policies that will take effect on July 1 will allow you as members of Friedens United Church of Christ the opportunity to purchase graves on a six month payment plan. You will have the opportunity to choose from the many graves that are available. After you have chosen a grave, you will sign an agreement for each grave with the Seller (Friedens UCC). Your first payment is due when the agreement is signed with the balance due on the sixth month. After the final payment is made on or before the six month period you will receive a deed for that grave. If the agreement is not completed by the end of the six month period you as the buyer will forfeit the property (grave) and the seller will return your payments made to that point and the grave will be made available to sell. Anyone who does not complete an agreement at any time will not be allowed

to enter into another agreement. When purchasing a grave there are a few things to know. As an owner of a grave you or someone else can be assigned as the occupant. As a grave owner you have the right to change the occupant at any time. This can only be done by surrendering the original deed along with a notarized statement indicating the change of the occupant. At that time a new deed will be submitted with the new occupant on the deed. If the grave owner passes before the occupant, the occupant cannot assign a new occupant to the grave or sell the grave without written proof that they are the heirs of the owner's property.

Another update we have made was updating the decoration policy that is posted at the cemeteries entrances. We spent a lot of time reviewing other local cemeteries to come up with a uniform set of rules. There wasn't much to change from what our original rules were we are just making sure they are being followed more closely. With these updates we will maintain our cemetery at the highest level, providing a serene and welcoming resting place for your loved one, and for families and friends to visit. The following is the new policy:

## Friedens Cemetery Grave Decoration Policy

- Remembrance lights are not allowed in cemetery
- Two flower vases per grave
- Artificial flowers in plastic or metal vases will be allowed if placed in line with or directly in front of marker or monument
- No glass containers
- Statues which are not integral part of a monument or headstone are not allowed
- No trees, shrubs or plants
- No wall, fence or coping shall be placed around grave or lot
- No shepherd hook or banner/flag holders
- No grave shall be opened on any lot if there are any unpaid charges against the lot that have been incurred by the lot owners
- All Christmas decoration must be removed by March 1st
- The Director has the right to remove any and all flowers when they become worn, faded or outdated

If at any time you have a question or concerns please contact the office. Someone from the cemetery committee will get I back to you as soon as possible.



### **Women's Guild**

The Women's Guild had its annual family banquet on Monday, May 19 in Fellowship Hall, which was decorated as a jungle. President Schiller welcomed the guests and led us in prayer.

She thanked everyone for coming and thanked all the various committees involved with the planning of the event. We had a wonderful potluck that included fried chicken and many delicious sides and desserts.

Following the meal Audrey Deeren began the entertainment of the evening with a scavenger hunt. There were many laughs as our guests were able to find the various items that Audrey requested.

Kyle Metze, Olivia Bosaw and Hayley Pattison provided the musical portion of the entertainment, accompanied by Audrey. We heard show tunes from The Little Mermaid, Pajama Game, and Thoroughly Modern Millie. Our special guest was The Cat from the musical Suessical. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the songs. A good time was had by all!

## Stewardship Message

### Stewards of All Ages Strengthen the Church

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place... – Acts 2:1*

When the day of Pentecost had come, and all those Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents from afar were gathered, do you suppose there were any children present? And when all who heard the Spirit-filled Galileans speaking about God's deeds of power in a multitude of languages returned home, what do you suppose their children made of their excited accounts? Our children are always learning. As the song says, "teach your children well" and "feed them on your dreams."

Many UCC congregations receive the Strengthen the Church offering on Pentecost Sunday. When I proposed this to our church's Mission Committee, the youth members quizzed me about what the offering supports. When I mentioned planting new churches and renewing existing ones, one asked, "We received a grant once, didn't we?" Yes, we did! Then I offered that because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that God is still speaking. "Just like on Pentecost!" "We're a Stillspeaking church." They know their

stuff! Finally, I talked about developing spiritual life in our youth and young adults through Regional and National Youth Events. There were smiles all around. It was "yes" to Strengthen the Church.

Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through your gifts to the Strengthen the Church offering, they can become a reality.

*A message from Stewards in the Household of God: a Resource for Holistic Year-round Stewardship available from United Church of Christ Resources.*

June 2014

God is still speaking,

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



This resource is a free service and is made possible by your gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission.



Have you accepted  
Pastor Doug's challenge?



Congregational  
Meeting  
**June 29**

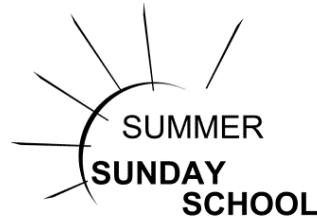
# Tricky Tray

Thanks to all who made Tricky Tray a successful event! The chairs were full and a good time was had by all. This year we had great quality trays! A family attended who had never attended a church event together. A new family and their grandchildren attended and there were plenty of smiles and laughter. The Sunday School children did many things to earn tickets for a month leading up to this annual event. The Lord's Prayer was learned and recited by almost all of Friedens' kids from 3 year olds to the entire Confirmation class. Kellen King even learned the books of the Bible in the New Testament. Kellen ended up having over 200 tickets! Friedens Kidz 3<sup>rd</sup> – high school helped hand out the Trays. We may have not made the \$\$\$\$ we had hoped for but all in all it was a wonderful fun family event!

I, along with many others, went home with some super nice things and gift certificates to some of the finest restaurants in the area!

Thank you to all who donated items, bought tickets, picked up items, prepared the food, set things up,

made posters, sold tickets, called the winners and did all of the other jobs that had to be done to pull off such an event. Each and every one are greatly appreciated. It takes many people and many hours of prep work for any event this one being no exception. So thank you to each and every one!



June 8<sup>th</sup> through August, Sunday School we be during the Worship service. Children will leave the Sanctuary after "Time with Children". They will travel downstairs for Sunday School. Parents can pick up their children in the Art Room after Worship.

From June through September, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month is Family church day; there will be no Sunday School. There are also a few other dates when Sunday School will not meet.

### NO SUNDAY SCHOOL:

May 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

June 1<sup>st</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

July 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

September 7<sup>th</sup>

# Thank You To Our VBS Staff



Directors: Diane Seymore - Stephanie Williams

Leadership team: Claudia Galaske – Jenny Ruger

Decorating: Claudia & Jim Galaske (please ask Claudia where and when she needs help)

Registration: Carol Deloney – Sandy Harbison – Ginny Bailey – Debbie Byrd  
Sound: Eric Bosaw – Mike Schroeter

## Zoo Station Leaders:

Story: Marla Brown – Fred Keil – Carol Deloney

Music: Donna Bingham – Julie Loehring – Joe Smith

Theater: Barb Toennies – Sue Hanks – Jennifer Estes

Crafts: Debbie Byrd – Dianna Bauer

Science: Doug & Debbie Brendel

Games: Pat Ruger – Claudia & Jim Galaske – Blake & Jake Hildenbrand

Snacks: Laura Lally – Deb Gebhart – Amy & Abigail Schroeter – Jane Maedge

## Zoo Crew Leaders:

Pre-K (1): Jenny Ruger – Emily Toennies

Pre –K (2) Pam Hildenbrand – Cami Talbert

Kindergarten – Jennifer King – Kayla Molohon

1<sup>st</sup>: Carrie Andreas – Katlyn Spears – Kellen King

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>: Katelyn Gebhart – Kerstyn Deichmann

4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>: Georgia Wilkins – Robin May – Crystal Gebhart

Face Painters: Dianna Bauer – Debbie Byrd – Ginny Bailey – Mandy Corey – Katlyn Spears

## Evening Meals:

Chairperson - Mary Emmons

Meal time Helper – Tiffany Kramp

Monday – Mary Emmons (hot dog meal)

Tuesday – Donna Bingham & Sherri Gregson (taco salad)

Wednesday – Stephanie Williams (pizza)

Thursday – Friedens Women’s Guild (casserole)

# What's Happening & What's NEW at Friedens VBS 2014?

*Dinner every night for everyone!*

Each family will receive a music CD of the VBS songs

Everyone will receive an arm band each night.

In Crafts each child will be painting their own 11x14 canvas.

Question of the Night! What is the most popular answer?

## *Themed nights!*

Tuesday face painting (animal faces)

Come early and get yours painted

Wednesday weird HAIR night

Thursday mix-matched clothes night

Friday evening our own Friendly Cow may just make an appearance!

New items for games (Egg balance and team games)

## *ADULT VBS CLASS!*

This class will be Monday – Thursday  
Starting time will be right after the opening. This is a discussion class.  
Perfect opportunity for parents!



June 1<sup>st</sup> \*NO Sunday School\*

June 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday School

June 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday School

June 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday School - Come paint  
Bird Houses

June 29<sup>th</sup> \*NO Sunday School\*



## *School's Out Cook Out!*

The Youth Group will be having a cook out on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.!

This is for all youth, entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We're

going to have hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, melon, chips, and drinks.

We may have water balloons!

C'mon out and welcome summer!



Thank you to  
all our choirs: Kid's Choir, Children's Bells,  
Chancel Choir, Peace Bells for adding  
beautiful music to our worship services!  
Happy Summer Break!

Thank you!  
Jenny



Items collected for Ministries  
Unlimited in May were:  
12 boxes macaroni and cheese  
1 small can soup  
1 large can soup  
1 4-roll pkg. toilet paper  
9 bars soap  
1 package pasta dinner  
1 can roast beef  
1 package fried rice  
1 can tuna  
3 boxes taco shells  
2 packages taco seasonings  
1 box twin pouch mashed potatoes  
1 sweet potato  
1 package always thins  
96 cans soda  
1 large bottle pine glow disinfectant

Thank you for your donation! The  
items for **June** are: **peanut butter,**  
**margarine, soup, jelly, spaghetti**  
**sauce.**



This year we have a sign-up sheet for  
the items on the snack wish list.

The sign-up sheet is posted on the  
wall just outside the Conference room.  
If you would like to contribute to the  
VBS Critter Café, please write your  
name and phone number next to what  
you would like to bring. I have listed  
the total amount we will need of each  
item. Most of the items have 1 space  
per box, bag, jar, etc. If you want to  
bring more than 1 box/bag/jar of  
something, simply write down how  
much you will be bringing.

Items can be left in the box under the  
sign-up sheet; monetary donations  
can be placed in the offering plate  
(please mark them "VBS snacks"),  
given to Laura Lally, or left in the  
office with Judy.

Please call me if you want to sign up  
for something over the phone, or if  
you need to change your item, or for  
any questions. Thank you! Laura  
830-2297