



Greeting and much peace to you.

“When you seek My face, put aside thoughts of everything else. I am above all, as well as in all; your communion with Me transcends both time and circumstances. Be prepared to be blessed bountifully by my presence, for I am a God of unlimited abundance. Open wide your heart and mind to receive more and more of Me. When your joy in Me meets My joy in you, there are fireworks of heavenly ecstasy.” (Jesus Calling, P. 199)

Last year the 4th of July seemed like it was going to be just another day. Jill and I hate fighting the crowds to go and see fireworks so we bought the kids a few sparklers, grilled a hamburger and settled in to finish out the holiday. However, it was about 8:30 that evening that we heard the first thunderous boom. It sounded as though it was right next door as the windows rattled, the kids jumped out of their skin and the dog went scrambling for a hiding place for the rest of the evening. For the next two and one half hours we sat in lawn chairs in our front yard to enjoy the show that had originated only a block away. It was a joyful time for everybody and the best display of fireworks I had seen in many years. They had spared no expense and we received a free display of splendor.

I wonder sometimes how many of us really feel those “fireworks of heavenly ecstasy” when it comes to our relationship with God. I fear that most of us trudge through our day not realizing the unlimited abundance of grace that God offers us every moment of the day. I fear that because we are so busy we miss feeling and experiencing the presence of God in everything that happens around us.

Our God certainly does take joy in us and we in turn should take joy in Him and all the things that he gives us without us having to earn any of it. Such is the grace of God. I encourage each of you to take time at every turn of your lives to open wide your hearts and be blessed by His presence. Hopefully you will begin to see that God’s fireworks happen every moment of everyday and not just on Sunday morning. Happy 4th of July to everyone.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug

FROM OUR CHURCH RECORDS

Attendance for June:

6/05	102
6/12	145
6/19	94



Items collected for Ministries Unlimited
in June were:

- 6 dozen eggs
- 1 box Hamburger Helper
- 120 packages Ramen noodles
- 48 cans soda
- 27 boxes macaroni & cheese
- 12 cans pork and beans
- 1 box instant oatmeal packets
- 1 jar hamburger dill pickles
- 1 package pasta side
- 9 rolls toilet paper
- 3 packages Goldfish crackers
- 2 cans soup
- 4 jars peanut butter
- 1 package dry pasta
- 2 boxes cereal

Hospitalized:

Gladys Skeens

Funeral:

Kent Brendel 7/18/64 – 4/13/16.

Memorial service 6/2/16.

Wedding:

Sean Smith and Jamie Todd were
united in marriage on June 11, 2016.

Baptism:

Miranda June Williams was baptized
on June 12, 2016.

McKenna Rose Schlemer was
baptized on June 12, 2016.

New Members:

Joey McDowell

Jennifer King

Thank you for your donation! The
items for **July** are: **pork n beans,
jelly, cereal, macaroni and cheese,
and bath soap.**



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



Ushers

July 3	Ron Harbison Joe Smith Swiss Kamm Sean Smith
July 10	Donna Bingham Marilyn Wesselman Julie Loehring Gladys Huston
July 17	Yvonne Kamm Crystal Gebhart Claudia Galaske Sue Hanks
July 24	Jamie Smith Jackie Estes Debbie Gebhart Katelyn Gebhart
July 31	Kellen King Jarod Willis Doug & Debbie Brendel
Aug. 7	Wayne Loehring Kenny Grotefendt Tom Fischer Ron Harbison

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



Liturgists

July 3	Julie Loehring
July 10	Vicki Fischer
July 17	Sean Smith family
July 24	Donna Bingham
July 31	Kellen King
Aug. 7	Marla Brown

Bus Drivers

July 3	Mike & Debbie Byrd
July 10	Joe Smith Donna Bingham
July 17	Pat & Jenny Ruger
July 24	Dennis & Cindy Westfall
July 31	Doug & Debbie Brendel
Aug. 7	Jim & Claudia Galaske

FRIEDENS quarterly → MISSIONS

During the months of July, August, and September, our missions will include Hitz Home, Emmaus Home, Hoyleton Ministries, and Kindercottage.



Birthday Blessings July

- 2 Kelly Grotefendt
- 3 Kathy Bathon
- 5 Sue Hoppes
- 6 Robert Little
- 8 Wendy Porter
- 9 JoAnn Longhi
- 12 Donna Bingham
Cami Talbert
- 16 Wanda Keil
- 17 Cynthia Smith
- 18 Sherri Gregson
Thelma Huston
Brandon Spears
- 19 Kevin Schiller
- 20 Clarence Adelhardt
- 21 Kayla Molohon
- 24 Karly Barker
Abbie Jarvis
Stephanie Williams
- 28 Brady Waggoner



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!



May Income	\$17391.75
May Expenses	<u>\$17256.16</u>
Gain (Loss)	\$ 135.59
Year to Date Income	\$94,381.13
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$88,014.86</u>
Gain (Loss)	\$ 6,366.27



Community Meal

July 27, 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Everyone is welcome! Come join us for a great meal and fellowship. Spread the word, the dinner is free and open to the community.



Cakes are needed for the cake walk stand at the Troy Home-coming!

Delight the chairwoman of the stand, sign up before she needs to make phone calls!



In observance of Independence Day, the church office will be closed on July 4.



Summer Lunch Program

Friedens, along with 3 other Troy churches, will be handing out bag lunches for those who are in need of them, Monday through Friday.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

At Meadow Drive Park and Silver Creek Elementary



July 21, 22, & 23

Thursday, July 21st is Family Night

Children's parade at 6:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday parades are also at 6:30 p.m.



VBS, Sunday school, Youth trip & Scavenger hunt!

Praying, Planning, Praying,
Planning and yes some more
Praying, planning, searching,
shopping, moving furniture,
decorating, free family meals,
music, Bible stories, fun games,
crazy science experiments, videos
and mission projects, and oh, yes,
crafts (BAT HOUSES!), Kids,
youth and adults, love, lots of love!
All of this makes for one fabulous
week of Vacation Bible School at
Friedens.

At the time of this writing we have
over forty children signed up to
attend our Vacation Bible School.
We have over fifty staff preparing
to share love, kindness and most
importantly the love of Jesus to all.
We are two weeks away from this
exciting time at Friedens where we
reach out to our community.

It takes many people, time and
money to pull off what we do here
for this week long event. Is it worth
it? I say, hands down, YES! I along
with several others spend many
hours preparing and planning for
this event. The planning for next
year's VBS has already begun. VBS
may only happen for a week once a
year; however it never leaves my
mind! I have been involved with
VBS for many years and it still
brings a smile to my face and joy to
my heart.

I tell our volunteers that the goal we
have for this week is to let every
child know that Friedens is a safe
place for them to be them self's.
Have fun and feel the love of Jesus
through us all. We want every child
who enters our building to know we
are ready and have prepared a place
for them at Friedens. When they
leave for the last time on Friday
evening after the wonderful
program and a belly full of ice
cream we want their memories to be
ones they will never forget. I want
God's love from this week to
remain with them forever! I most
certainly want them to return along
with their families to become a part

of our church family. However the years of experience has shown me this probably won't happen. Is it worth it again I say yes!

I thank you my Friedens family for the support you have shown to me and this event. It takes us all to pull off a VBS that is second to none! July 26th – 31st we have 21 from Friedens who will be traveling to Florida for the National Youth Event in Florida. I ask that you keep us in your prayers as we travel and take part in this event with UCC youth across the country. We thank you for your support and well wishes. We will be sharing our experience with you when we return.

Thank you again for filling envelopes, buying pizzas, buying lunch and giving us every opportunity to make funds to make this trip possible! Friedens church is full of great people and we are proud to say this is our home church.



July 26
6:30 – 9 pm

Can You Step In?

Our custodian, Tony, will be on vacation from August 17 - September 10. Volunteers are needed to clean the church during this time. Please contact Diane Seymore if you are able to help.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

July 31
11:30 a.m.



Please help Kindercottage by saving these and getting them to the church office.

They are as good as cash for Kindercottage!



FRIEDENS FINDING JESUS!



July Sunday school Schedule

3 rd	NO Sunday School
10 th	Claudia Galaske
17 th	Claudia Galaske
24 th	No Sunday School
31 st	Sandi Zipprich

Scavenger Hunt

Pick up a copy of the directions on the hall tables.

During the summer months we will be having a family scavenger hunt! There are 7 clues. You have from June - August to find them all. It's a family event that will be fun!

Once you have found a clue take a family selfie with the object that you found. Share your photo on Friedens Face Book Page. We will then place them in a file for all to see.

The best part of this is by the end, not only will you have had fun, your family will have many faith filled

summer memories. You will also have 7 family photos!

On Rally Day we will show our photos on the big screen and make a banner.

Have a fun, safe summer and enjoy !

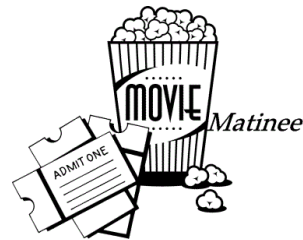


Stephanie

Newsletter articles are due on **July 17th**

You may:

- bring your articles to the office
- e-mail them to:
friedenscircuitrider@hotmail.com
- fax the article: 667-6006



"Miracle
from
Heaven"
July 21
12:30 p.m.