



FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings All,

Happy Holidays!! And I really do mean Happy Holidays!! Just because we have had a year from...well you know where, doesn't mean that we shouldn't have a Happy Holiday season. After all, no matter what has happened this year, we should still celebrate the birth of Jesus in a joyous fashion. I hope that everyone and their families are doing well and keeping their spirits up.

I know that we had a little "taste" of in-person worship service a few weeks ago. I hope that everyone who attended was able to enjoy those services. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel in-person services again for the near future. We have had 1 staff member and a few members test positive for Covid, therefore, we are trying to be safe and not have service in the church. I hope that you are able to join us for our live stream or recorded services on a weekly basis.

The holiday season can be a stressful time, especially this year, with the added stress of Covid, Elections, kids out of school, etc. Please, take a minute to relax and take care of yourselves. To help you in doing this, a few members of the praise band have recorded some Christmas songs that I will be posting on our Facebook and YouTube pages each week. So, dim the lights, sit down, grab a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, light a candle and enjoy a few songs. I plan on posting these on Wed nights.

Pastor Tim and I continue to monitor the daily Covid numbers. We would like to have a Christmas Eve service, but it is not looking hopeful for in-church service. Especially, since that is typically one of our more "crowded" services. We will, however, record a service for Christmas Eve and post it on our social media pages.

I am learning more about how to use the video system that we purchased. I ask for your forgiveness in advance as sometimes I accidentally move the camera, or don't hit the right button, etc. I will get better (I hope). Regardless, I hope that the quality of the new system allows you to feel more like you are really there. Plus, you can now share our services with people not in our area. I know that we have some regular viewers from California and Arkansas.

In Christ,
Eric



We have been using this for quite some time now and have had much success with informing members this way. We do not want you to miss out on important information we share with our congregation. Please sign up today.

Text the following: [FriedensUCC](https://www.flocknote.com) To: [84576](https://www.flocknote.com)

Once you send that in, Flocknote will text you back a confirmation message AND another message with a link you'll need to click to complete the process.



Keep in touch with us
VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE

If you have any issues, questions or concerns, please see Eric.

Don't forget to like us on FACEBOOK

friedens@friedensucc-troy.org

December
BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jeff Seymore
- 2 Mary Chasteen
Kody McGhee
Sandi Zipprich
- 3 Connor Stephens
Jacob Whittington
- 5 Andrea Deloney
- 7 Kristofer Ferguson
Kyle Ferguson
Frances Layfield
- 10 Joe Zipprich
- 12 Dax Wilkins
- 13 Dennis Kniser
- 14 Karen Whittington
- 15 Jax Andreas
Cole Meyer
Matt Zipprich
- 16 Alyssa Matz
- 19 Gene Klenke
- 21 Jaden Stephens
- 27 Ted Gianaris
Stephanie Zipprich
- 28 Abraham Gianaris
Millie Leffert
- 29 Debbie Brendel
Wilma Edwards
- 30 Dylan Patton

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!



Due to the rising numbers, our in-person worship was only for a short time. With that being said, I hope you are able to enjoy the streamed service on Facebook and our newly steamed YouTube.

If we are being able to return to in person Worship we will need to comply with the regulations below. As before we will have 2 services to help minimize the amount of people in the building at each time

1.) Please wear a mask while in the building and around other members.

2.) **PLEASE NO DIRECT CONTACT WITH OTHERS.**

Feel free to wave and say hello from a distance. You may be comfortable with hugging someone, but they may not.

3.) *Sunday School will be week by week if numbers are within restrictions to meet for in-person.*

1st Service starts at 9:15 AM 2nd Service starts at 10:15 AM

4.) **IF YOU DO NOT FEEL WELL, PLEASE STAY HOME!**

Join us on Facebook for live videos and recordings of Sunday Services at:



<https://www.facebook.com/Friedens-United-Church-of-Christ-354214570387/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPSd5dwIb9TRs6c6NUc9fQg>

TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS



Wednesday, December 9th - 9a-noon

Thursday, December 10th - 9a-noon

Friday, December 11th 9a-noon

OFFICE CLOSED

Dec 24th

Dec 25th

Jan 1st



JOIN US FOR
ADVENT

- November 29** – First Sunday of Advent *The Ruger Family*
- December 6** – Second Sunday of Advent *Olivia Bosaw & Michael McVickar*
- December 13** – Third Sunday of Advent *The Westfall Family*
- December 20** – Fourth Sunday of Advent *Rick & Sherry Smith*
- December 24** – Christmas Eve *Meadow Family*

The CHURCH Office will be closed for visitors until further notice.



Mail, voicemails & emails are checked daily. Please leave a message if you need anything at all!

With the current epidemic, we are asking everyone to limit the office to only members and staff who are working and need to use the office area &/or the equipment. We wish we could converse and catch up like before, but we need to have a plan to protect each of us. Thank you all for understanding .



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR TIM

I wanted to share a little bit of the history and tradition of the Advent wreath and candles in the church and I share this from a UCC resource cited at the end of my article.

It is thought that the lighting of Advent candles reaches back to pre-Christian northern Europeans. During the darkest days of winter, they lit as many as twenty-four candles on an evergreen-covered wheel or wreath. By lighting a candle a day, they marked time, anticipating the return of the sun's light and warmth. By the 1500s, Christians adapted the Advent Wreath as a devotional way to prepare for the coming of Christ, the Light of the World.

The circle of evergreens reminds us of the eternal and ever-renewing promises of Christ. The colors of the candles are often purple or blue, noting the season's expectations of royalty, liberation, redemption, and hope. For the third Sunday of Advent, a pink candle is lit. This recognizes a shift of Advent from a prophetic vision of Christ's future and final return to a focus on the coming of Jesus, the Christ. Finally, on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, a center white candle is lit. The light of Christ is fully present. Jesus is born.

(<https://www.ucc.org/worship-worship-ways-year-a-ace-advent-liturgy-for>)

My prayer for our church during this Advent Season is that we are able to take time to prepare our hearts for the Light of the World. In the dark days of December and the lowest valleys of our lives, I invite us to find the light around us and be the light to others for the Light is sure to come! Happy Advent! Blessings, Pastor Tim



An Hour with Pastor Tim



Pastor Tim will be organizing "An Hour with Pastor Tim" every Wednesday. This will be posted on Friedens Facebook. We are looking for volunteers! If you are interested in having an interview with Pastor Tim or know someone who would be the perfect candidate, please contact the office.

Such a nice way to get to know your fellow members. Please tune in on Facebook every Wednesday to see each week's featured member.



Beautifully decorated advent wreath by Marilyn Wesselmann

By now you have received your advent wreath. We hope you are enjoying it and are able to join us live or by recording each for service during the Advent season. We are asking for members to share decorated advent wreaths on our Facebook page or through the office. We would love to see each of your ideas. We are so excited to see what you have done!!

Questions? Call the office

~ Memory Lane ~



Christmas in France - 2nd & 4th graders



Christmas in Italy – Pre-Kindergarten Class

**“CHRISTMAS AROUND
THE ‘WORLD’
DECEMBER 16, 1990**



Do you know a member that could use assistance with meals or groceries being delivered? We understand with the pandemic many of our members have been on ‘lockdown’ since the beginning in March. We want to help them, but we need you to do that. We are looking for a member/s to help head this mission and for names of members that would appreciate this service. List will be held in the office and emailed by request.

For the month of December we will be collecting canned goods & non-perishable food items each Sunday to be donated to the Ministries Unlimited.



December






We have minimal inventory of Scrip Cards (restaurants only). Please contact Sandy H or Monica to purchase!!



USHERS NEEDED
Please see Yvonne



For more information contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.



We have an abundance of canes, walkers & wheelchairs. Do you know anyone who could benefit from one of these? Please contact the office to to setup a pick up time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Merry Christmas to you all,

What a different time we all are having as we continue on with the Corvid-19 virus. Hopefully, we will be in house for Christmas Eve, if not we will make the best of it. I hope you're tuning in to our live streaming on our Facebook page weekly. I also hope you are lighting your family advent candles and enjoying your chocolate treats from your advent calendar. So many things to do to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

If we are not back in church the week of Christmas, I will be delivering a special project for you and your family to do together. There is also a special treat from the Christian Ed board.

I hope you take the time to enjoy this special season. May your Holiday's be filled with love, kindness, and lots of joy.

Merry Christmas and peace to you and yours,

Stephanie



Operating Fund Activity

	October 2020	YTD
Income	\$21,428.16	\$193,663.81
Expense	\$13,295.73	\$145,907.32
	\$8,132.43	\$47,756.49



Operating Fund Activity

	October 2019	YTD
Income	\$19,231.74	\$206,624.78
Expense	\$14,795.32	\$214,721.63
	\$4,436.42	-\$8,096.85

Thank you to everyone for your continuation of donations!



COMMUNION 1ST

Sunday of each month!!

The 1st Sunday of each month is our Communion Sunday. We will have sealed juice & wafers for distribution for in-person worship. In online worship please use any items you feel comfortable with .

2021 Offering Envelopes
Pick up after December 5th



Monthly Missions December

-Ministries Unlimited

All donations be matched



DONATIONS NEEDED:



We have a box set up outside the office to assist with this urgent need of **SOCKS & UNDERWEAR** for Equipping the Called. Please feel free to drop off donations M-F 9a-2p or during service on Sundays. Any questions please contact the office.



Dear Friend, We have many changes this year during this economic and health crisis. For a person or community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other. no matter how small or how large your involvement is, you are important toward that success.

Once again, it is time to prepare for our annual Christmas drive. As we look forward to Christmas 2020, we anticipate another outpouring of grateful hearts for past blessings. While we have continually seen growth expressed in the amount of giving over the past years, we have also seen greater needs in our community.

The canned goods and monetary collections, which begin in many churches, schools and businesses during October, help fill a Christmas basket for each family. The monetary contributions are used to add turkey or ham and to maintain the pantry during the coming year. No deliveries will be made this year. Distribution will be at Bethel Baptist Church on December 19th as a drive-thru only.

This year, we will be purchasing gift cards for each family. **WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING TOYS AND GIFTS TO DISTRIBUTE.**

Checks may be mailed and made payable to Ministries Unlimited.

Names of families, who may not otherwise have a nice Christmas, may be submitted to any pastors or to Ministries Unlimited. Names will be kept confidential. Names must be submitted no later than November 22nd due to preparation & planning needs.

As we share hope and love with others, may the timeless message of Christmas fill your heart with special joy and love. Any assistance you can provide will sincerely be appreciated. Thank you, Betty Cothran, Pantry Director 618-505-5053

*Remember our shut ins when you
send out Christmas cards.*



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS



Liberty Square (618) 667-8964

Adeline Burgess 204 Liberty Square, Apt. #22 Troy, IL 62294

Hitz Home (618) 488-2355

Mary Ann Ambuehl 201 Bell St. Alhambra, IL 62001

Eden Village (618) 288-5014

Geraldine Rock 200 South Station Road Apt #9225 Glen Carbon, Il 62034

Alhambra Care Center (618) 488-3565

Rosemary Rose 417 E Main St. Alhambra, IL 62001

Morningside of Troy

Francis Layfield Morningside of Troy #317 39 Dorothy Drive Troy, IL 62294

Elmwood Nursing & Rehab

Thelma Huston 152 Wilma Dr Rm# 206 Maryville, IL 62062

Cards are available in the office. Contact Monica to set up a pickup time.

Forever in our hearts



Sue Ellen Hoppes, 86, of Maryville, IL, born Thursday, July 5, 1934 in Plymouth, IN and passed peacefully on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 in Maryville, IL.

Sue was a long-time faithful member of Friedens United Church of Christ, Troy, IL where she was active in the Women's Guild and Choir. She held a Masters in Elementary Education and loved teaching young children ending her career at Creative Beginnings. Sue enjoyed quilting, sewing, cooking and baking. Most of all she loved her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mearl and Edna (nee Noel) Strombeck; and her sister, Jane Brooke.

Surviving are her husband, John David Hoppes whom she married December 24, 1961; her children, Jonathan Hoppes of St. Charles, MO, Christopher (Cindy) Hoppes of Hayes, VA and Heather Hoppes of Collinsville, IL; daughter-in-law, Cindi Hoppes of Maryville, IL; grandchildren, Spencer (Sarah) Hoppes, Alexander (Michelle) Hoppes, Jason Hoppes, Arianna Miles, Devin Williams and Aiden D. G. Johnson; and her sister, Ann McKinley of Long Beach, CA. Memorials may be made to Friedens United Church of Christ, Troy, IL. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.Richesonfh.com



Charles Ray Seymore, 82, of Troy, IL, born February 21, 1938 in Osceola, AR and passed away on Sunday, November 29, 2020 at Memorial Hospital East, Shiloh, IL.

Charles was a member of Friedens UCC, Troy, IL. He was a member of the Teamster Local and worked at Fairmont Horse Track. He enjoyed fishing, working on antique cars, attending car shows, camping and was a life time St. Louis Cardinal Fan. He will be missed by his family and his beloved dog Mellow.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Karin (nee Brenner) Seymore; a grandson, Robin Wallace; parents, Kenneth C. and Florence Olean (nee Driscoll) Seymore; and a brother, James C Seymore; brother-in-law, John Schutze.

Surviving are his children, Deborah Wallace of Troy, IL, Diana (Mark) Hartman of Collinsville, IL, Deseree (Steven) Seymore-Longhi of Collinsville, IL, Kevin Seymore of Hot Springs, AR and Andrew (Barbara) Seymore of Collinsville, IL; grandchildren, Jeramy (Trisha) Wallace, Ashley (Tim) Manville, Victoria (Evin) Miller, Christopher (Julie) Hartman, Samantha (Ray) Englar, Jacquelyn Hartman, Christian (Megan) Longhi, Jordan (Courtney) Longhi and Hunter Longhi; great-grandchildren, Emery and Landen Manville, Kylie, Nathan and Brenner Miller, Oskar and Zoey Hartman, Adalynn, Keegan and Carson Longhi; siblings, Yvonne (Swiss) Kamm of Troy, IL, Betty Lou Schutze of Ashley, IL, Stephanie (Dennis) Williams of Troy, IL and Bruce (Kim) Seymore of Guffey, CO; uncle, cousin, and friend.

Memorials to Randy's Rescue Ranch, 1400 East Hwy 50, O'Fallon, IL 62296. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.Richesonfh.com.



Welcome Babies



LUCA JAMES LANGFORD

November 5, 2020 12:04 am

Weight: 6 lbs 7 oz

Length: 20 inches

PARENTS:

Kara & Michael Langford

Grandparents

Dennis & Debbie Kniser



LUCA JAMES LANGFORD

November 12, 2020, 854am

Weight: 7 lbs;

Length; 19.5 inches long.

PARENTS:

Tim & Kelly Dougherty

Grandparents:

Kenny & Linda Grotfendt.

GOD, I ASK THAT YOU PROTECT THIS LITTLE LIFE. GROW THIS BABY INTO THE PERSON THAT REFLECTS YOUR LIGHT AND LOVE IN THE WORLD. I KNOW THIS CHILD IS IMPORTANT, THAT THIS CHILD IS DESTINED TO DO GREAT THINGS IN YOUR NAME. I PRAY STRONG PROTECTION OVER THIS BABY'S LIFE. AMEN.



A huge thank you to everyone who volunteers for Friedens. You are all very much appreciated. Working in the office I see a lot of what others do not. And I can tell you we have some hard-working individuals here. I want you to know I see it and he sees it. Thank you for all you do! ~Monica

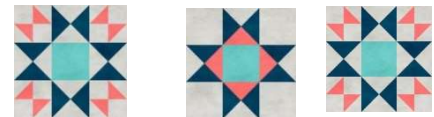
I really, really appreciate all the calls, cards & concerns for me while I was recovering. The delivery of the advent candle was a real delightful surprise. I do miss being at church to see everyone. Thank you all so much for everything! ~Millie Leffert



PLEASE JOIN US IN SHOWERING OUR COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE WORKERS WITH THANK YOU CARDS. WE ARE IN NEED OF 1000 HANDWRITTEN CARDS TO ACCOMPANY GIFT BAGS FOR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY DECEMBER 13TH. NOTHING CRAZY JUST A FEWS WORDS TO LET THEM KNOW WE APPRECIATE THEM! PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF BLANK CARDS.



Quilt Show 2020



Even though the 19th annual Quilt & Art Show was cancelled for 2020, the Friedens Women's Guild were able to have their annual fundraiser on November 14th. There was a large selection of gift items and gift cards from thirteen local and surrounding businesses. Other items included Afghan, pottery, oil painting and baskets for both men and women. Due to Covid the quilt is still being finished. The #1 item, being quilted by Friedens ladies, was won by Chris Hall of Troy. We would like to thank all the business and members who helped make this a huge success. Also, a big Thank You to Gloria Mannz & Sue Hanks for the selling of raffle tickets.

The raffle winners are:

2020 quilt - Chris Hall
 Painting – Debbie Spears
 Pecans – Eva Slogger
 Dunkin Daunts GC – Annette Grady
 Movie Night GC – Susan Sanchez
 Book of Stamps – Thomas
 Movie Night Basket – Gary
 Troy Frozen Foods GC – Guideon Richeson
 Dominos GC – Deb Kapp
 Casey's GC – Santa
 Bundt Cakes GC – George Bauer
 Car Wash GC – Gladys Huston
 the Pampered Basket – Gloria Mannz
 Melaleuca Basket – Sandy Harbison

Men's Basket – Monica Hunsdorf
 Lotus Yoga – Monica Hunsdorf
 Stationary Basket – Vicki Fischer
 Pottery – Virginia Bailey
 Sweet Threads on the Market GC – Margaret Wilson
 Rada Cutlery – Darrin Pearce
 Rada Cutlery - Joyce Park
 Rada Cutlery - Sue Hanks
 Sausage Dinner tickets – Bob Fergas
 Sausage dinner tickets - Linda Grotefendt
 Lees Catering GC – Casey @ Ace
 Afghan – Vicki Fischer
 Angel – Guideon Richardson
 Time Tribune 1 yr subscription – Guideon Richeson

Thank you again for all you did to make 2020 a success!!
 Womens Guild President, Diana Bauer

SHOP -LOCAL-



Lyle and Brenda W. have Metro East Yard Dice for yard games like Yardzee/Farkle and Yowzer Yard Tower (big Jenga). We have a basic webpage at www.metroeastyarddice.com and also a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MetroEastYardDice/>.

We are also part of Maryville Farmer's Market. I'm not sure if many of the members know about the market but it's a great resource, especially during this time. They've been having the markets a little different because of everything going on but it's been working out well. Until everything is more "back to normal" the market will be a drive thru and it's being held at Maryville Village Hall building on Thursday evenings from 5-6. The easiest way to find out information about what vendors will be at the market during a given week and what products that will be available is to follow the market Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MaryvilleILFarmersMarket/>.

They have then been posting an event each week that lists each vendor and what they have available. Orders are taken beforehand and paid for online. If you order something, you just drive up anytime between 5-6 pm on Thursday and pick up your order(s) from the vendor(s) without having to have contact with anyone or go into any stores for various meat or produce as well as other specialties. We've worked very hard the past couple of weeks to get a fairly smooth system going. ~ Lyle and Brenda W



STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

618-667-7001

~ YOUR LOCAL TRAVELING HAIRDRESSER ~
I COME TO YOU!
HAIRCARE FOR HOMEBOUND AND SHUT-INS



Newsletter submissions are due on November 25th for the December CR. You may e-mail them to: friedens@friedensucc-troy.org



Welcome to The Giving Tree, a gift, home decor and clothing boutique located on the downtown square in beautiful, historic Highland, Illinois.

We've got you covered from head to toe with cozy comforts! Great gift ideas, as well!!

Open Tuesday-Friday 10-5:30; Saturday 9-2:00.

Curbside pickup available.

FREE delivery in Highland. 654-2008.

Let The Giving Tree be your source for Christmas and every occasion!!

TGT is moving into 36 years servicing the Highland community and beyond. I grew up in this community and my heart is anchored here. I can't thank my loyal customers enough for supporting me throughout the years.

Hope to see you soon! Laurie Manwaring



Allstate
You're in good hands.

Jessica Harrison-Wilkins
Agency Owner



Exclusive Agent – Three locations to serve you!

- Troy, O'Fallon, Granite City

618-667-8494 jharrison3@allstate.com



Adopt a Family

THIS CHRISTMAS

**Please join Friedens UCC in supporting 2 families for the holidays.
Both families are foster homes for children in Madison County.**

We have a drop box at the elevator entrance to the church for you to drop off purchased items. Gift cards can be mailed or dropped off during office hours, Monday – Friday 9am-2pm. We will update list as children are purchased for. If you are interested in sponsoring a child, please contact the office so we can update the list to help each child get items off their wish list.

Please see below for information on each child.

Any questions please contact the office 618-667-6535



Family 1

Gift cards & personal hygiene and household items would be helpful for the family.

- Male – 12** size-16 shoe - 9.5 He is into games and building things. He loves fidget type toys and drawing.
- Male – 11** size-10 shoe - 2.5 Loves Lego sets and doing things with his big brother. Enjoys drawing.
- Male – 9** size-8 shoe - 2.5 Is into video games and doing outdoors activities, Wants Nerf guns.
- Female – 7** size-8 shoe - 2 Is a girly girl that loves jewelry kits and hair stuff. Wants baby alive.
- Female – 2** size-3t shoe -7t Is a girly girl that loves to play with puzzles and building type. Wants tricycle

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2EWUNBB14OJXB?ref=wl_share

Family 2

Gift cards & personal hygiene and household items would be helpful for the family.

- Male - 12** size- 14-16 Likes to put things together and play video games.
- Female – 10** size-12-14 Loves to sing and do crafts. Really wants a karaoke machine.
- Male -8** size-10 Has really started enjoying Beyblades and playing video games.
- Female – 3** size-3t Is the typical princess loving girl. Would love some princess outfits to dress up in.
- Male – 16mths** size-12-18mths Is working hard to catch up developmentally and needs educational toys & games

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2GCP5KP4ZM1TD?ref=wl_share

FRIEDENS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

207 East Center Street Troy, Illinois 62294

Phone: 618-667-6535 E-mail: friedens@friedensucc-troy.org

Fax: 618-667-6006 Website: www.friedensucc-troy.org

FRIEDENS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

207 East Center Street
Troy, Illinois 62294

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Meet Our Staff

Rev. B. Tim Harrison	Pastor (fill-in)
Monica Hunsdorf	Secretary
Stephanie Williams	CE Director
Michael McVickar	Choir Director
Jim Galaske	Sound Operator
Eric Bosaw	Sound Operator
Fred Keil	Screen Operator
Claudia Galaske	Screen Operator
Diana Bauer	Women's Guild President

CHURCH COUNCIL

Eric Bosaw	President
Joe Smith	Vice-President
Deb Brendel	Past- President
Laura Lally	Secretary
Sandy Harbison	Treasurer
Sandi Zipprich	Christian Education Board
Donna Bingham	Mission & Evangelism Board
Jeff Estes	Finance Board
Dennis Westfall	Property Board
Claudia Galaske	Property Board
Yvonne Kamm	At-Large
Kurt Sachtleben	At-Large

E-mail: friedens@friedensucc-troy.org

Council mail: Council@friedensucc-troy.org

Don't forget to like us on FACEBOOK

friedens@friedensucc-troy.org