

December 2021



Friedens United Church of Christ Circuit Rider

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR TIM

“Mary, did you know?”

“Mary, did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new; This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you?” (Music/Lyrics by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene)

These past several weeks, the confirmands and I have been focused on the nativity story of Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus. We have read the Gospel scriptures and watched a video of this amazing story. Despite the fact that I have heard this story before, new questions continue to surface for me in my “pondering” on how this baby could change the world.

The story makes clear how much of a struggle it must have been for Mary and Joseph. It would have been easier for Joseph to deny Mary and refuse to accept her as his wife. It took much courage and faith to believe that a promise to the world of a Messiah was finally being realized in that moment in time to each of them as Jesus’ earthly parents.

“Mary, did you know thatthe sleeping Child you’re holding Is the great, the Great I AM? And when you kiss your little baby, You’ve kissed the face of God? Mary, did you know?” (Music/Lyrics by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene)

This season of Advent is about preparing with anticipation for the realization of a promise. It is about belief that God is finally going to show up/be present to bring hope and salvation. It is about preparing to receive God in whatever form and situation that God comes to us....and not tomorrow but today in this baby child, Jesus. The important question for us to answer is: will we receive God as Mary and Joseph received the baby in such an unexpected way and place? Can we dare to believe that God wants to come into our life and home and bring hope that we and the world will never be the same! That to me is the miracle of Christmas! God bless you in this special season of making room for Christ!

On the journey to Bethlehem together! Pastor Tim



Advent Family Lighting Schedule

- | | | |
|----------------|--|---|
| Nov. 28 | Hanging of the Greens / 1 st Sunday in Advent | *Yvonne & Swiss Kamm & Kacey Ruger |
| Dec. 5 | 2 nd Sunday in Advent | * Laurie Meyer, Kimberly Griffis & Whitney and Tripp |
| Dec. 12 | 3 rd Sunday in Advent | * Deb and Dennis Kniser, Kara and Michael Langford & Luca |
| Dec. 19 | 4 th Sunday in Advent | * Mike & Krystin Cantu & Peyton, Lacey, and Paige |
| Dec. 24 | Christmas Eve Service | * Carlene Keilbach, Crystal & Finley Rea |

~ Thank you to everyone for participating in this year’s Advent Services



- 1 Jeff Seymore
- 2 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

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec 9** – Property Board Meeting
- Dec 12** – **Homecoming Service!** *Bring a past member or a friend!*
- Dec 12** – Youth - Garden Glow at Botanical Gardens
- Dec 14** – Womens Guild Meeting @ Noon Bring Lunch & a gift exchange (\$10 or less)
- Dec 15** – McKendree University Campus Day 6pm
- Dec 17** - Girl Scout Badge Activity Event
- Dec 19** - Children's Christmas program during 10:15am Worship service
- Dec 24** – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7pm
- Dec 25** – Christmas Day
- Dec 26** – No Sunday School
- Jan 2** – No Sunday School

Weekly Events

Mondays

- 8:30 am – TOPS 8:30 am
- 9:00 am – Quilting 9:00 am
- 3:00 pm – Private Meeting
- * 2nd Mon. Girl Scout #467 7:00pm
- * 4th Mon. Girl Scout Leaders 6:30pm

Tuesdays

- * 1st Tues. Girl Scouts #461 4:00pm
- * 3rd Tues. Women's Guild 7:00 pm
- * 4th Tues. Girl Scouts #959 6:30pm

Wednesdays

- 9:00 am – Quilting
- 1:00 pm – Staff Meeting
- 3:30 pm – Confirmation Class



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Date	#	Sunday School
11-7	65	35
11-14	84	31
11-21	70	33
11-29	93	
12-5	76	24



December -
Our Church Mission **Ministries Unlimited**

HOME COMING Service December 12, 2021

Please join us for Homecoming Sunday Service, on December 12th. Whether you are a regular attendee or have stopped attending for whatever reason, it will be a Sunday of **Encouragement** and an opportunity to **Re-Connect** and start new **Memories** this holiday season with your church family.



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

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

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



From our Council President

The Thanksgiving Holidays have come and gone, and Christmas is in full swing. I hope that everyone was able to spend some time with friends and family over the holiday period. This warm weather seems to make it tough to get into the Christmas mood. I know that I would not like to live in a warm climate and have a 70-degree Christmas every year. One thing that I found that seems to help get me into the Christmas spirit is to start doing "Christmas things". Go see the lights, start shopping, bake some cookies (my favorite is chocolate chip), watch some Christmas movies...but above all, attend worship services and take-in the Christmas messages that we talk about during Advent.

Speaking of Christmas Services...we will have a Christmas Eve service at 7:00 PM and a service on the day after Christmas, Sunday, Dec 26th at 10:15 AM.

Please plan on attending our Homecoming Service on Sunday, Dec 12th. If you know of someone who hasn't attended in a while, invite them back. Also, feel free to invite other friends and neighbors. Even if they don't become regular attenders, we would love to see them on that day.

As this time of the year tends to be busy, council will not have a meeting in December. As our new council president, Joe will be presiding over the meetings starting in January. I will provide a written summary of the past 3 years as president in my end-of-year letter.

I hope that everyone can find Peace, Joy, and the Love of Christ this holiday season.

God's Blessings,

Eric.



COMMUNION Sunday, December 5th & January 2nd

We will have sealed juice & wafers available for pick up for our online Worship or you may use any items you have on hand.





Thank you sooo very much to the six junior/senior youth, Jenny Ruger and Matt Zipprich for ALL your hard work on November 21. You filled over nine packed bags of raked leaves and I am sooo very appreciative of your fine work.
Marilyn Wesselmann

Thank you to all of our volunteers for keeping the wheels moving at Friedens. You are all appreciated!!

Thank you to everyone for all the prayers, cards, calls, meals and the amazing love offering for me and my family. Huge thank you to Sherry, Deb, Marilyn, Claudia, Cindy, Sandy and to everyone else that helped in covering the office during my recovery. A thank you to everyone that sent prayers. I will never be able to express my appreciation for all the love I felt. Thank you all! 😊 Monica



Emmaus

Hello Emmaus Friends, Emmaus Homes has always turned to our faith community for help, and today is no exception. I want to sincerely thank you for your gift of \$270.00.

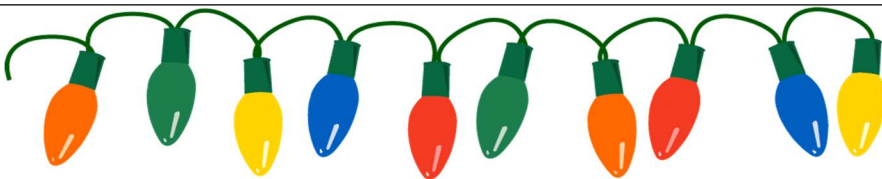
Emmaus is proud to be a leader in providing services to people with developmental disabilities, and our standard of care could not be possible without your gift. Your support provides the means for Emmaus clients to live the best life possible in their own homes and community. Emmaus depends on the continued support of donors like you, especially our faith-filled friends. We truly hope that the congregation at Friedens UCC is thriving. Thank you again for sharing your blessings with the people of Emmaus. Thank you, Lisa Key – Chief Development Officer



Dear Family & Friends,

On behalf of the residents, Board of Directors, and staff at Hitz Memorial Home, we would like to thank you for your donations of \$671.00 (mission of the month offering and mission matching) and \$198.00 (Pastor Tim's installation offering)
Your Generosity is an integral part of the commitment we can make to provide excellent service to our seniors.

Warmest Regards,
MaKenzie Wilson, RN- Administrator



- Dec 12** - Garden Glow at Botanical Gardens
- Jan 23** - Tubing at Hidden Valley
- Feb 12** - Super Bowl Sunday Sandwich Fundraiser
- Feb 25** - Bowling & Church lock-in

COME JOIN YOUTH GROUP!!

This group is open to all 6th-12th grade students.
Please call Jenny Ruger with any questions at 618-977-3945.





FRIEDENS KIDZ



Merry Christmas from Friedens Kidz!

We want to thank each and every one who gave of their time, talents, money and/or supported the children and youth in any way. We especially want to thank the Christian Education Board for all they have done throughout the year for our kids: Sandi Zipprich, Georgia Wilkins, Debbie Byrd, Laurie Meyer, Nicole Richardson, and Karen Ferguson. The activities and excitement that occurred this year could not have happened without them. Thanks to our Sunday children's School teachers, Jenny Ruger and Matt Zipprich, our adult teachers, Georgia Wilkins and Pastor Tim. Thanks to Pastor Tim who has also taught the confirmands class. We thank Marla Brown who assisted with being the second adult during confirmation class. We thank our Christmas Program staff, Carolyn Catalano, Laurie Meier, Tracey Berkemeier and Nicole Richardson.

Thank you, Jenny Ruger who is our youth group leader.

We also thank all the staff and helpers of our VBS who helped in so many ways.

Our Santa Fest workers, we thank you.

Thank you to the many businesses that supported us this year as well: Williams Excavating & Construction, Williams Toy Storage & WrapCo Graphics.

Thank you, Monica, for all the help along our way.

Last but not least, thank you Trisha Williams & Cali Kennedy for our December surprise!

It takes many to pull off what we have this year. We came back strong, and it certainly shows. Covid led us on a road we were all unfamiliar with. It still throws a curve with the ways we have done things; however, we have adjusted well.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Year!

Stephanie

Calendar of Events for Sunday School

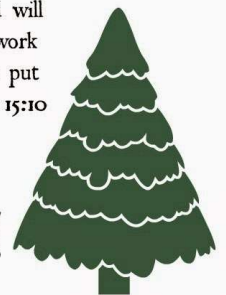
December:

- ▲ 5th & 12th Practice for the Children's Christmas program during Sunday School (PLEASE BE THERE)
- ▲ **3rd 6-8 p.m. Children's program prop making, cookie baking and pizza! Fellowship Hall**
- ▲ 4th Santa Fest 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- ▲ 19th Children's Christmas program during 10:15am Worship service
- ▲ December 26TH & January 2nd NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- ▲ **Parents: all children are to be picked up from Sunday School at their classroom at 10 a.m. Thank you!**


Thanks for lending a
'HAND'
to our Children's
Ministry!

"...the Lord your God will
bless you in all your work
and in everything you put
your hand to." Deut. 15:10




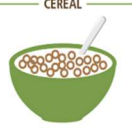


Merry
Christmas!



CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS



Are you between 19-45 ish?? We are looking for you to help us by offering feedback for a new fellowship opportunity! **Contact Pastor Tim** at pastor@friedensucc-troy.org or call 618-334-9992.

CANNED FRUITS & VEGGIES 	CANNED MEAT 	CANNED BEANS & SOUP 
CEREAL 	WHOLE GRAIN PASTA & RICE 	PEANUT BUTTER 

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

New! **Office Hours**

Open **9am-noon**

Appointment Only **after 1pm**

Local Events

Dec 10 - Twas The Night Before Christmas St. Jacob 6p – 8p
- Christmas In The Park Marine 6:30p-7:30p

Dec 18 - Tri-Township Library Book Sale
-Grocery Giveaway Church of Christ 10a

Ministries UNLIMITED
The Pantry • 310 Collinsville Road • Troy, Illinois 62294

Ministries Unlimited Needs:

- * Saltine Crackers
- * Oyster Crackers
- * Canned Fruit
- * Paper Towels
- * Deodorant

MISSIONS Offerings
December – Ministries Unlimited

For the Month of December, we are collecting canned goods and monetary donations for the Ministries Unlimited Christmas baskets. Friedens will match donations dollar for dollar for the Christmas donations drive! Please address donations to Friedens UCC, Memo: Ministries Unlimited. Must be written to Friedens UCC to be eligible for mission matching

WE'RE SELLING RADA CUTLERY

Speak to a Women's Guild Member for the best Cutlery around! *Many items in stock!!*

Classes Every Wednesday 3:30-4:30pm

Friedens Confirmation

Join us for Year of the Bible 7th grade and up welcome!

flocknote

Sign up for FLOCKNOTES

Text: **FriedensUCC**

To: **84576**

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.

Operating Fund Activity

	October 2021	YTD
Income	\$22,838.13	\$215,384.94
Expense	\$20,296.08	\$161,664.01
	\$ 2,542.05	\$ 53,720.93

OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

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



Remember our Shut-Ins when sending Christmas cards



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 400 South Station Road Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Morningside of Troy

Jacquelyn Estes 39 Dorothy Drive #309 Troy, IL 62294 618-505-0262

Francis Layfield 39 Dorothy Drive #317 Troy, IL 62294

San Gabriel Memory Care (618) 288-1863

Virgil Whittington 241 Magnolia Dr. #7 Glen Carbon, Illinois

Friedens Family Connection

Looking for members to assist with connecting to our homebound members. If you can help, please feel free to call Deb Brendel.



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.

<https://www.facebook.com/MaryvilleILFarmersMarket/>.

~ Lyle and Brenda W



Welcome to The Giving Tree, a gift, home decor and clothing store. We've got you covered from head to toe with cozy comforts! Great gift ideas, as well!! 923 Main St Highland, Illinois

Monday: CLOSED Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
 Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 Thursday: 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM
 Friday: 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM
 Saturday: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Sunday: CLOSED Curbside pickup available.
 FREE delivery in Highland. 654-2008.





Jessica Harrison-Wilkins
 Exclusive Agent - Three locations to serve you!
 - Troy, O'Fallon, Granite City


Newsletter

DECEMBER

25

Deadline

EMAIL ARTICLE TO FRIEDENS@FRIEDENSUCC-TROY.ORG



DuBois Center

Have a question? Call Us **618.787.2202**
 Address 2651 Quarry Road DuBois, Illinois USA 62831
 Office Hours Monday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm
 Fax: 618.787.7701
dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org




JULIE LOEHRING
 REALTOR®

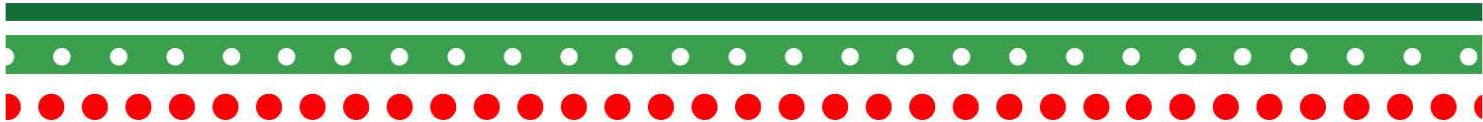
618.667.3404 C 618.530.2301
 T 800.342.1411 F 618.667.7274
julie.loehring@gmail.com
brownrealtors.com/julieloehring
 530 Edwardsville Rd Troy, IL 62294

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

FRIEDENS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

207 East Center Street
Troy, Illinois 62294

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

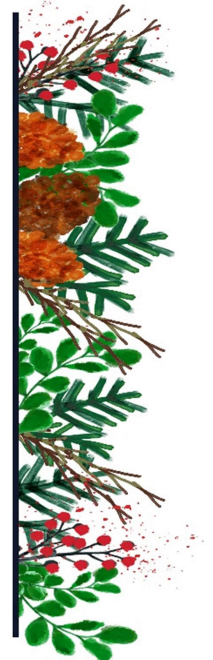


Meet Our Staff

Rev. B. Tim Harrison	Pastor
Monica Hunsdorf	Administrative Assistant
Stephanie Williams	CE 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
Jim Galaske	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