

Friedens Church of Washington, UCC

*"A Country Church with a New Spirit"
Open Doors and Open Hearts*

Grace to you and peace in the name of Jesus Christ,

Thinking of Pentecost coming up, and the boldness associated with the coming of the Holy Spirit, I thought I'd share the following illustration: Rev. Ben Sharpe tells a story of a woman who was visiting a church one Sunday. Not being a regular attendee of the church, when the pastor made a good point in the sermon, she said, "AMEN!" Heads turned to see who was making that racket. Then when the preacher made a really good point, she said, "THANK YOU JESUS!" Folks were getting uncomfortable by then. Finally the preacher made an exceptionally good point and the woman stood up, waved her hands in the air and shouted, "HALLELUJAH!"

At that point the head usher came up beside her and said, "Madam, what do you think you're doing?"

She replied, "I can't help it, I've got religion."

The usher replied, "Well, you didn't get it **HERE** so sit down and be quiet."

My friends, over and over again in Acts, the Scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit brought "boldness" to the disciples and early followers of Jesus as they proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ, spreading our savior's love, healing folks, casting out demons—doing all the things that Jesus did.

As Pentecost comes upon us again, I encourage you to get swept up in the great Holy Spirit again. The Lord wants to empower you to step out in faith with boldness to do God's will. God is so good to us, fills our lives with such blessings; should we not give it back to God? And the Lord is still pouring out God's Spirit upon us, a spirit of transformation and power, a spirit of grace and renewal, a spirit of new life!

In honor of Pentecost which we will celebrate on May 31, I invite everyone to wear red, the color associated with the Holy Spirit. Just as tongues of fire appeared on all the disciples on that day of beginnings for the Church, may we be inspired, moved, and empowered by God's Holy Spirit at work in our lives.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Ron

Pastor Ron

Thanks Alex, Emily, and Jon!

I wanted to express my thanks and gratitude to the confirmation class for my gift certificate. I enjoyed teaching confirmation and I thank you for our time together. Pastor Ron

Thanks Tyler and Youth Group

I'd like to give a special thanks to Tyler Parks, our youth pastor, and all the youth who helped provide refreshments Easter morning. Tyler worked tirelessly to get the food, set it up, and make sure things went smoothly. The food was delicious and the fellowship was filled with the Spirit of the Risen Christ. Thanks youth group!

Youth Pastor taking off during summer to help out with camp

Our youth pastor, Tyler Parks, will be taking off during the summer to work at a Lutheran summer camp program in Wisconsin. He's helped out at such camps for several years and is one of the reasons he feels called to be a Christian Educator. We will miss him! During the summer, we will still try to have a few youth events for the kids.

Youth Pastor to Speak on May 3

I've asked Tyler Parks to speak on May 3, the day we honor our graduates and confirmands, which will also be Tyler's last day with us till he returns in the fall. I know his message will be particularly inspiring to the young people we honor. Thanks Tyler!

Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who helped out Easter morning to make the Free-Will Breakfast run so smoothly, especially the ladies in the kitchen and the kids and parents who came to help set things up. Without the help of these people we would not have been able to get everything ready on time. Also I would like to thank everyone who helped support our program by donating with a special thanks to the Women's Fellowship for their donation of \$100. Without your support the Youth Program would not be able to learn more about our Lord in fun new ways. Thanks to the donations, we were able to raise a total of \$330.50.

We as a Youth Group are greatly appreciative of your support.

Thanks Again,
Tyler Parks

Remember to Wear Red on Pentecost, Sunday, May 31

In honor of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, I invite everyone to wear red on Sunday, May 31, Pentecost! Red has always been associated with the coming of the Holy Spirit. Be bold! Thanks, Pastor Ron

Interested in Preserving Friedens History? Like Treasure Hunts?

The council would like a few folks with a passion for preserving our rich history and heritage (and also those with good organization skills) to help locate and organize some of our old publications and records: council and congregational meeting minutes, annual reports, old newsletters. This will be an adventure as we try and find these things, which are located in a variety of places around our church. The hunt may even take us to someone's home, like Ella Mae Borgstedte's, who has old newsletters from the 1930s! We need some folks to work with Joy to find and organize such information. Please let Pastor Ron or someone on council know if you are interested. Thanks!

Song Leader Schedule

Thanks to all our song leaders! We've heard many good things about our song leaders, who have done so much to help our worship!

Here is the current schedule through the month of May:

May 3	Thresia Schlabach and Kim Wellmann
May 10	Sandra Bosse and Janet Barrett
May 17	Bonnie Mohr and Jo Ann Buck
May 24	Shelli James and Kathy Pawlowski
May 31	Thresia Schlabach and Kim Wellmann

If you for some reason, you can't do it some Sunday, please switch with someone and be sure to let Joy know in the church office. Thanks!

If you would like to volunteer to be a song leader, please let Lois Holle or Pastor Ron know. You may choose to be at any microphone, including the one in the balcony if you don't want to be in front of the congregation. In order to lead, you don't need to be professional, mainly confident and energetic. Thanks!

Sound Person Needed

We'd like to train a few more folks on operating the sound system. It might be scary to contemplate, but Linda says it's not as bad as it looks! Actually, it's quite easy to get down the basics. Please let Pastor Ron or Linda Oberhoff know if you are interested. Thanks!

Youth Class meeting in May

I'd like to invited all the youth, junior high and older, that we are still meeting for Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9am. We've been using "Caffeine and Character" as a guide for class. It's a lot of fun (the book has some great ideas). Thanks to Tyler Park and Jacque Bartol for assisting! Ms. Bartol even brings us homemade muffins! Mmmmm. And in honor of "Caffeine," little cans of Dr. Pepper will be offered! Hope to see you during the month of May!

Youth Sponsors Needed

We'd like to get some more folks to act as youth sponsors for the kids, especially during the summer in Tyler's absence. We thank Sheri Finke for her help, but we'd like to see more folks get involved in this wonderful and important ministry. We really have a lot of fun with the kids! Please let Pastor Ron or someone on council know if you are interested. Thanks!

Wall of Crosses

On behalf of the church, I'd like to thank the confirmation class for their gift of the large cross and the start of the "Wall of Crosses." Folks can place crosses in this area in honor or memory of someone or even to commemorate a special event. If you would like to place a cross, please let the church council know. Thanks! Pastor Ron

Thanks!

- Thanks to all those who donated plastic eggs and/or candy for the Sunday school Easter Egg Hunt.
- Thanks to all who helped with the clean up day at church on April 4. The church looks great!
- Thanks to all who gave Easter flowers. The sanctuary looked beautiful!
- Thanks to all who helped out with egg hunt.
- Thanks to Tommy Holle for cleaning up the limbs behind the parsonage
- Thanks to Lois Holle and the rest of the cantata choir for a beautiful, Spirit filled cantata this Easter! Thanks also to Lind Oberhoff for managing the sound system and to Lena Mae Goessler for reading.
- Thanks to all the folks who helped with the Sunday School Easter Program—the Sunday School teachers and parents, and especially the kids! You guys did great!
- Thanks to all those who donated to youth group
- Thanks to Hilbert and Lena Mae Goessler for helping Tyler Parks clean up on Easter
- Thanks to all those who walked in the CROP walk and to all those who donated to the cause to help end hunger. And thanks to the CROP walk committee for organizing the event.
- Thanks to all those who helped with the Wednesday Lenten Meals
- Thanks to the parents of the confirmands for all their assistance throughout the year.
- Thanks to Linda Oberhoff for attending the spring association meeting

Slumber Falls Camp

Registration has started for Slumber Falls Camp. Remember, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the registration fee is provided by the UCC Women, Women's Fellowship, and Sunday School. We want to help as many kids get to camp as possible! And it's so much fun! Thanks to those groups for their generous support to help the wonderful outdoor ministry at Slumber Falls!

Friedens Church of Washington, UCC

Prayer list:

Keep these in your prayers: Hospitalized since last newsletter: Clint Bosse, Jillian Bartol, Frankie Dickschat, Albert Hartstack, Jon Jensen, Eddie Low Kiel, Emil Kiel, David Lanham, Rose Lee Lohmeyer, Jack Taylor, Prayer concerns for: Walter Bush, Clifford James, Erdine Lauter, Fred Dickschat, also Lynden Acton, Jordan Brown, Dolly Krause,

Newsletter:

Information for the newsletters needs to be in the office by the 20th of the month. Thanks!!

Fire Department Bar-B-Q:

The Washington Volunteer Fire Department will have their annual Chicken Bar-B-Q on May 17th. It is a drive thru serving 11 am- 1 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 from any Fire Dept. member. Deadline for tickets is May 10th.

Sympathy:

Sympathy to Arthur L. Steele and family. Arthur's mother, Myrna Steele passed away on April 24th in Navasota.

Sunday School:

During May the students will be learning about Abraham and Sarah. Hope you will come and join us.

VBS

Friedens will be joining several other churches for a fun-filled "Son Rock-Kids Camp" at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wiedeville **June 8-12, 5:30 – 8:30 pm**. A registration form will be sent home with each child in May or call Stephanie Maxson 936-825-7037 or 936-825-4240 to register your child.

Thank you:

Jack and I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for all of your prayers and good wishes during his recent surgery. We both appreciate your hospital visits, your cards and your calls.

A special thank you to Pastor Ron for keeping me company during Jack's surgery and his follow-up visits. We are very blessed in having such caring friends. Thanks again to all of you.

Jack and Sandy

Thank you to everyone for the cards, phone calls, visits and inquiries during my recent eye surgeries. My lens implant was very successful and vision in my eye is now 20-25. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

Will Stolz

Dear Choir members,

Thank you so much for the \$\$ you gave me. As you know, it isn't necessary but is appreciated. I used it on our trip. We enjoyed our time away and hope it will help to replenish our spirit.

Thanks again, *Lois*

The Confirmation Class of 2009, consisting of Alexandria Lehrmann, Emily Stolz, and Jon Wellmann, donated a large wrought iron cross as their gift to the congregation. This is the first piece to what is hoped to be an ever-growing Wall of Crosses. Members are encouraged to donate crosses of their choosing to commemorate special events such as births, baptisms, weddings, birthdays, etc. , or in memory or in honor of loved ones. The Wall of Crosses is located on the brick wall just inside the back entrance to the church.

There are a few guidelines in donating crosses. The crosses can be no larger than the cross donated by the Confirmation Class – that cross will be used as the centerpiece of the Wall. Donor plaques other than the one with the centerpiece cross will not be allowed, but you are encouraged to note the commemoration and the donor on the back of the cross. The crosses must also be hung using adhesive backing or special brick hanging clips – no holes will be drilled in the wall!

If you would like to donate a cross, please contact a member of the Church Council.

We look forward to watching this cross mosaic grow!

The Crop Walk committee would like to say thanks to all who participated in our Crop Walk. Special thanks to Wal-Mart for \$50.00 gift certificate, Subway for chips, Dale Borgstedte for water, Brookshire Bros. for buns, Bluebell for ice cream, Betsy Bosse for chili and LaNell Langford for wieners. We would also like to thank Bobbie Oberhoff, Keith Schlabach and Hunter Schlabach for having water at the end of Bosse Rd. Also thank to Clint Bosse for being there to pick up some who could not quite make it. Thanks to LaNell, Mary Helen, and Rose Lee for preparing and serving the hot dogs. Our oldest walker was 82 and the youngest was 3 months. We were proud to have raised \$1419.33 of which 25% goes to the Navasota Food Pantry. Next year we hope it will be bigger and better.

Those who walked to raise money were:

Bonnie Mohr	Sis Renn	Betty Dickschat
Dan Mohr	Travis Eckert	Misti Corn
Flo Mason	Lindsey Seimglusz	William Corn
Vivian Kolkhorst	Betsy Bosse	Jackson Corn
Ron Trimmer	Jane Krause	Shelli James
Jan Trimmer	Sally Stolz	Floyd Kimich
Sandy Taylor	May Lanham	Mary Sanchez
Jo Ann Bosse	Stephanie Maxson	Paul Britton
Terry Campbell	Tyler Parks	Barbara Britton
Sandra Bosse	Kathy Pawlowski	Colin Miller
Linda Oberhoff	Thresia Schlabach	Clay Bosse
Russell Borgstedte	Mitchell Schlabach	Mr. & Mrs. Henry Sanders

Thanks again to everyone,

Vivian Kolkhorst & Flo Mason

Brazos Association News

The Brazos Association welcomes, at our spring meeting on Sunday, April 26, those who have agreed to serve as Association officers and committee members. Rev. Mary Wilson, pastor of Church of the Savior, has committed to serve as Vice-Moderator. Wes Davenport, member of St. John's UCC, Burton, moves from being Vice-Moderator to Moderator. Those who have committed to serve as Church and Ministry Committee members include Licensed Minister John Boydston, pastor of Evangelical UCC, Lyons and Friedens UCC, Gay Hill, as well as Anne Wehrly, member of Friends Congregational UCC, College Station and former Brazos Association Moderator. Anne is currently serving as chair of the planning committee for the Annual Meeting of the South Central Conference of the UCC with, as we say, a "full plate" until the meeting is over in early June. John and Anne are taking the places of Church and Ministry chair Rev. Ron Trimmer, pastor of Friedens UCC, Washington and Dorothy Wolff of Faith UCC, Bryan. Tim, Ron, and Dorothy have contributed a great deal of time, wisdom, and heartfelt caring to our Association. I am personally grateful to them, and I know the Brazos Association is grateful to them as well. Our Executive Board membership rotates as churches appoint them except for Treasurer Larry Winklemann of St. John's, Burton and Secretary Kay Finch of United Christian, Austin. We are grateful to all of these members for their service and warm fellowship, along with the continuing members of the Church and Ministry Committee that oversees and nurtures our ministers and in-care students.

At our recent Church and Ministry meeting, we welcomed Ana Deter of Friends Congregational into the Licensed Ministry preparation program and we approved Rev. Karl Tewold, pastor of Faith UCC, Bryan, for dual ministerial standing in the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. Ana has already completed the first part of the Licensed Ministry program of study. She currently shares her faith and leadership in many ways at Friends. Karl was called to Faith UCC last May, and is providing pastoral leadership at this time of transition and building in a new location. We appreciate his lively, engaging spirit and look forward to supporting him in his ministry at Faith.

With joy, too, we celebrate the opening worship, on Palm Sunday, of Evangelical Lyons in their new sanctuary. They are looking to fill their new, larger space with life, faith, and members. Our prayers are with them! They anticipate having a formal dedication of the sanctuary to the ministry of Christ in mid-June.

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Brazos Association Minister

Dear Members of Friedens,

I would like to thank the members of the church for the cross and bookmark that were given to us on our Confirmation. They will be reminders of this special day in my life.

I would also like to thank Pastor Ron, my mentor, Eddie Bosse, and all the members of the Congregation for their support and encouragement.

Jon Wellmann

The symbols of Easter

Christianity has many symbols; the most recognizable is, of course, the cross. There are a number of symbols linked with Easter or the Resurrection: the butterfly, the lily, the pomegranate, the phoenix and the peacock.



The butterfly represents the Resurrection and eternal life. It emerges from its cocoon or chrysalis and gloriously rises into the sky in its splendid new body. Similarly, Jesus and his followers are born into a new life on Easter.

The lily is perhaps the most common Easter symbol because it's displayed during Easter worship services and blooms around this time each year. The lily's bulb decays in the earth, yet new life sprouts from it in the form of the flower — reminiscent of the new life that emerged from the tomb so many years ago.

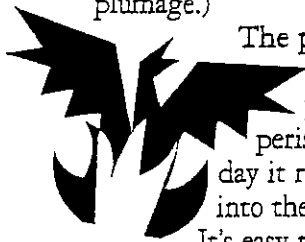


The pomegranate is used as a symbol of the power of Christ and his Resurrection because of the many seeds that burst forth from the fruit.

These seeds represent the many believers who follow Christ. They also represent the magnificence of divine grace and the fertility of the Word.

The peacock sheds his feathers annually.

Each year the feathers grow back more beautiful and more brilliant in color. This renewal symbolizes eternal life or resurrection. There's also a myth that the peacock's flesh doesn't decay after death — immortality. (The peacock is sometimes used to represent human vanity, because of the way he proudly struts and displays his plumage.)



The phoenix was a mythical bird that lived in the Arabian Desert for five hundred years. It set its own nest on fire and perished in the flames. But on the third day it rose from its own ashes and ascended into the sky as a new and beautiful creature.

It's easy to see why the phoenix represents immortal life and the Resurrection.

[images above: BUTRFLY7, POMEGRNT, PHOENIX1]

Did you know?

VBS 2009 June 8 -12

"Son Rock Kids Camp"

at

Immanuel Lutheran Church (Wiedeville)

4529 Wiedeville Church RD

Brenham, TX

979-836-6780

Daily Activity Schedule & Responsibilities Monday Through Thursday

1. Meal	5:30 -- 6:15	Immanuel / Wiedeville
2. Opening	6:15 -- 6:25	Pastors
3. Story time	6:25 -- 6:45	Zion / Zionsville - Break into 2 or 3 Groups
4. Music A	6:45 -- 7:05	St Matthew / Sandy Hill - one half of kids
=		Group A
5. Crafts B	6:45 -- 7:05	Friedens / Washington -one half of kids =
		Group B
6. Music B	7:05 -- 7:30	St Matthew / Sandy Hill - one half of kids
=		Group B
7. Crafts A	7:05 -- 7:30	Friedens / Washington -one half of kids =
		Group A
8. Games & Snack	7:30 -- 8:00	St John Prairie Hill

Schedule for Friday June 12 -

5:30 - kids arrive to practice singing	St Matthew / Sandy Hill + ??
6:00 - Songs & (Skit?) final round up	St Matthew / Sandy Hill + Pastors?
6:30 - Hamburgers & Games	Immanuel / Wiedeville food - St John / Prairie Hill = Games
7:30 - Sending Prayer	Pastors

Those honored on May 3, 2009:

Confirmands --Alexandria Lehrmann,
Emily Stolz, and
Jon Wellmann.

High School -- Victoria Lehrmann, Sarah Vierus, Travis Warzon,
Matthew Wellmann, Rebecca Wellmann, all from Brenham High School
and Cody Wellmann from Magnolia High School.

College -- Katie Bush—University of Houston
Tracy Dickschat- Texas State University in San Marcos,
Kay Lynn Grice Diorio – Blinn Nursing School
Sheri Finke- Texas A&M
Brandi Fowler- University of Phoenix
Kristyn Herzog- Sam Houston - Huntsville
Wm Dusty Kennedy- Sam Houston
Emily Lanham- Texas State University
William Lehrmann- Texas A&M
Heath Leiber- Sam Houston
Bridgette Snow Schulz- Sam Houston
Lindsey Leiber Young- Texas A&M

Returning from active duty --- Jenna Lanham.

Friedens Church of Washington, UCC

Liturgists	Acolytes	Ushers/Greeters
May		
3- Bonnie Mohr	Raelynn Maxson	Gary & Sally Stroeck
10- Dane Pawlowski	Will Corn	James & Vivian Kolkhorst
17- Kelley Ragusa	Lane Boenker	Jack & Sandy Taylor
24- Shelley Schluens	B J Fowler	Skeeter & Dorothy Stolz
31- Jackie Schroeder	Drake Pawlowski	Charlie & Kelli Lara
June		
7- Ashley Wilson	Spencer James	Kevin & Jacque Bartol
14- Gary Bogan	Blake Wellmann	Preston & Melissa Boenker
21- Mary Borgstedte	Trey Krause	Clyde & Kitty Miller
28- Sandra Bosse	Todd Wellmann	Don Hinze & Julie Kelley

Calendar of events:

May

- 3- Graduates and Confirmands covered dish lunch
- 5- TEEA meeting 2 pm.
- 6- UCC Women meeting 7 pm.
- 10- Mother's Day
- 11- Trustee meeting 6 pm.
- 11- Church council 7 pm.
- 11- 4-H meeting 7 pm.
- 21- Women's Fellowship 2:15 pm.
- 27- Fun and Fellowship 2 pm.
- 31- Pentecost

MAY

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31								

June

- 2- TEEA meeting 2 pm.
- 3- UCC Women meeting 7 pm.
- 8- Trustee meeting 6 pm.
- 8- Church council 7 pm.
- 8- 4-H meeting 7 pm.
- 8-12 VBS at Wiedeville Lutheran Church
- 21- Father's Day
- 24- Fun and Fellowship 2 pm.
- 26- Church wide Salad Supper 7 pm.
@ The Activity Center

JUNE

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	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
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	28	29	30					

Food Pantry Workers

- May 7 – Mary Borgstedte & Sandy Taylor
- 14- Mary H. Steele & Jan Trimmer
- 21- Bonnie Mohr & Vivian Kolkhorst
- 28- Sis Renn & May D. Lanham

Welcoming committee

- May 3 – Linda Oberhoff & William Corn
- 10- Shelley Schluens & Rose L. Lohmeyer
- 17- Sandra Bosse & Terry Campbell
- 24- LaNell Langford & Willie D. Lohmeyer
- 31- Heather Mason & Mary H. Steele