



**Friedens United Church of Christ Monthly Newsletter - January 2023**

Taking the next step...

As the Christmas trees come down, the decorations get put back in their boxes, and we turn the page to a new calendar year (and liturgical season of Epiphany), we will look to the promise and hope of 2023.



What are your hopes for this new, young year? Have any goals you would like to achieve? What is waiting for you as these long winter nights slowly decrease...and we gain at least a minute of day light as each day passes.

The season after Christmas is Epiphany...it's the season of light. It will run all the way into late February, when we move into Lent. I would invite you to consider the ways in which you live out your faith in these coming weeks. How can we move forward in this new year, with new leaders on Consistory, with new goals, new challenges and new ways of being together? What places/ministries/ways of doing things have become stagnant and no longer serve us? Likewise, what areas do we need to shine "the light" on to better enhance, develop and encourage?

During this season, each person will be given a star with a word on it. I would encourage you to use the word on the star as "your word" for the year. Trust it is exactly the word you need to carry with you this year. Use this word in your prayers and develop ways to find how God might be calling you to live out your faith. Have fun with it, and I'd love to hear the stories of how it unfolds for you.

Be sure to stay connected to the events happening at your church. Find ways to share in the life of your church, and be sure to read about the activities in this newsletter...for we need your presence, prayers and participation.

See you in church!

*Pastor Covine*

**NOTE OF THANKS**

We would like to offer a sincere thank you for our Christmas cards and gifts. It is a pleasure to serve such a wonderful congregation and we look forward to spending 2023 with you. Wishing everyone a blessed, happy, and healthy New Year! The Staff of Friedens UCC



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 5 following the 10:15 am worship service. Mark your calendar. More details will be shared as they are finalized.



## 2022 BAZAAR REPORT

The Women's Guild is happy to announce that once again we had a successful Church Bazaar. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this happen!

Income = \$9,709.00

Expenses = \$1,766.79

Profit = \$7,942.21

Distribution of Proceeds:

Current Expenses (60%) = \$4,765.33

Building Fund (20%) = \$1,588.44

Sunday School (10%) = \$794.22

Women's Guild (10%) = \$794.22

## 2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2023 offering envelopes are available in the Narthex. Save the church postage fees by picking up your envelopes. Please do not begin using these envelopes until January.



## 2022 GIVING STATEMENTS - Joe Bilski, Treasurer



The 2022 Annual Giving Statements will not be mailed out this year. However, we have a new way to distribute them. If you wish to receive a statement, contact Financial Secretary Joe Bilski by calling 610-568-8418 or email [bilskijoe76@gmail.com](mailto:bilskijoe76@gmail.com). Joe will email your giving statement to you directly or leave one in the church office for you to pick up. This will save the church a great deal of postage, supplies and labor.

## WITH GRATITUDE

You will notice our new logo on the top of page 1 of this newsletter that we will begin using. Special thanks to Andrew Kline who designed the logo. We look forward to the ways our mission of "Together we serve with joy and love" will be used to let others know of our ministry in the community.

Thank you to the Women's Guild for their contribution of \$3,000 for upgrading the sound system in the sanctuary. We appreciate their generosity toward this project as we continue to enhance the worship experience—both in person and virtually.



## MISSION TEAM - Sue Henne & Shirley Riegel-Ferreri, Co-Chairs

Beginning in January 2023, we will only be holding one Saturday Drive-Thru Drop-Off collection each month. The date for January is Saturday, January 14 from 9 am to 11 am. Our January focus item for the Oley Valley Food Pantry will be jelly in 30 ounce containers (OVFP requests *no glass, please*) and rice in 1-3 pound bags (OVFP requests no smaller or larger sizes, please). The OVFP continues to see record-setting numbers each month, so it will be our goal to try to collect 250 jars of jelly and 250 bags of rice. This might be a tall order, but if we work together, we will be able to achieve this goal to help our neighbors in need. many thanks for your continued support of this very vital mission outreach project! The OVFP January distribution date is Wednesday, January 18 at 6 pm at Friedens Lutheran Church.



The Mission Team is looking for individuals or families to take responsibility for seeing that the Mini Free Pantry is stocked each month and that items are rotated so they do not reach their expiration date. If anyone is interested in helping with this project, please contact either Shirley Riegel-Ferrari at 484-336-5384 or Sue Henne at 610-944-6271 for more information.

Our mission to reduce, reuse and recycle continues as we collect new/old calendars, used ink cartridges, greeting cards, and cut coupons. All items can be placed in the designated boxes located in both Narthex areas or can be dropped off at any Drive-Thru Drop-Off event.



Thank you to all who attended or who helped to make our Advent Fellowship Brunch a huge success!

## PERU MISSION TRIP - Sue Henne

Clean out your closets of unwanted new or gently used shoes and bring them to church. There is a collection box in the Narthex to drop your shoes into. We will take sneakers, sandals, boots, dress shoes, and slippers. Please pair shoes by tying the laces together or by using a rubber band. Sorry, but no single shoes can be accepted. This is an easy fund raiser that won't cost you any money. Shoe collection will run through the end of April 2023.



## VIRTUAL WORSHIP



Friedens UCC provides live streaming of weekly Sunday worship services on Zoom and on our YouTube page, Friedens UCC Oley. We continue to work to improve your virtual experience with the installation of cameras and upgrading the electronic connection. If you are unable to join in person, the information to connect is the same every week and can be found on our web site [www.friedensuccoley.org](http://www.friedensuccoley.org) under the *Access to Virtual Worship* tab. To aid your worship experience, links for weekly bulletins are posted under the *Bulletins* tab.

**2023** HAPPY NEW YEAR

## FRIEDENS WEBSITE



Have you taken the time to visit our website [www.friedensuccoley.org](http://www.friedensuccoley.org) lately? In addition to historical information and programs we offer, you will find links to virtual worship, copies of the weekly bulletin, the monthly newsletter and the live church calendar. There is also a link to view the Friedens Digital Cemetery.

## FINANCIAL UP-DATE - Cindy Conrad, Treasurer

INCOME			
Category	October Total	November Total	Year to Date
1- Offerings	\$ 23,673.63	\$ 18,563.23	\$ 170,425.79
2- Sponsorships	\$ 116.00	\$ 224.00	\$ 2,437.97
3- Investments	\$ 95.74	\$ 1,739.02	\$ 14,278.79
4- Rental/Usage Income	\$ 2,775.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 18,730.00
5- Support Programs/Other	\$ -	\$ 61.33	\$ 241.69
6- PPP Loan Proceeds			\$ -
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 26,660.37</b>	<b>\$ 21,487.58</b>	<b>\$ 206,114.24</b>
EXPENSES			
Category	October Total	November Total	Year to Date
1- Salaries/Benefits	\$ 7,543.76	\$ 12,169.49	\$ 113,542.05
2- Operational Expenses	\$ 607.27	\$ 1,720.67	\$ 8,651.18
3- Heating/Utilities	\$ 685.48	\$ 3,433.94	\$ 18,663.93
4- Property Expenses	\$ 724.93	\$ 1,190.22	\$ 9,478.38
5- Insurance	\$ -		\$ 7,663.00
6- Worship Expense	\$ 1,173.02	\$ 698.02	\$ 9,120.36
7- Giving/Mission Donations	\$ 200.00		\$ 525.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 10,934.46</b>	<b>\$ 19,212.34</b>	<b>\$ 167,643.90</b>
INCOME			
- LESS PPP LOAN PROCEEDS			
-- INCOME - LOAN PROCEEDS	\$ 15,725.91	\$ 2,275.24	\$ 37,514.04
INVESTMENTS			
Category	October Total	November Total	
BUILDING FUND	\$ 26,723.61		
MEMORIAL/ENDOWMENT FUND	\$ 269,109.57		
RALPH GROFF INVESTMENT FUND	\$ 70,542.61		
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 366,375.79</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

## ATTENDANCE HISTORY

NOVEMBER	FIRST SUNDAY	SECOND SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY	FOURTH SUNDAY	FIFTH SUNDAY	NOTES
2020	85	62	82	86	78	Virtual
2021	59	60	52	41	N/A	In-Person/Virtual
2022	84/13	79/2	66/25	62/13	N/A	In-Person/Virtual

## PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Bruce Smith, Kathy Weidner, David Adams, Betty Heck, Scott Youse (*son of Linda Youse*), Cathy Schaeffer (*friend of Sara McMaster*), Georgette Bush (*friend of Dawn Bortz*), Gloria Romig, Cindy Hoffman, Larry Kegerise, Sara McMaster, Ray Monyer, Haleigh Ott (*great-niece of Sara McMaster*), all those serving to protect our country.



## EMERGENCY CLOSING



In the event of snow, ice or any inclement weather that will make travel difficult, cancellation information will be posted on WFMZ 69 News and WFMZ.com. We will also implement our new text message feature to notify everyone whose cell phone number we have. If you want to be included in text messaging, contact the church office with your cell phone number. During the week, if Oley School District is on a two-hour delay, the church office will open at 11 am. If the schools are closed, the church office may be closed. Please call before coming in.

## NOTE OF THANKS - Animal Rescue League

"Lloyd thanks you. At 12 years old, the Chihuahua was found abandoned in a cage inside of his finder's new home upon moving in. After giving him food and care, his finder found a large mass on his neck. Once he arrived at the Animal Rescue League, our medical team evaluated him. While we unfortunately received the news that the mass was cancerous, we were relieved that it was able to be surgically removed in its entirety. We may not know what happened to him prior to coming to the ARL, but we know that Lloyd's fighting spirit and happy-go-lucky personality is awe inspiring. It wasn't a surprise that he quickly found a loving family who will support him through the rest of his golden days.



Although Lloyd's story is unique, his need for your support is just like every other animal that we welcome into the shelter every day. Your support helps to pay for lifesaving medical care and surgeries for animals just like Lloyd. We cannot thank you enough for your generous gift of \$310. We will make sure to use it for more animals in need." - Ashley Mikulsky, ARL Chief Development Officer

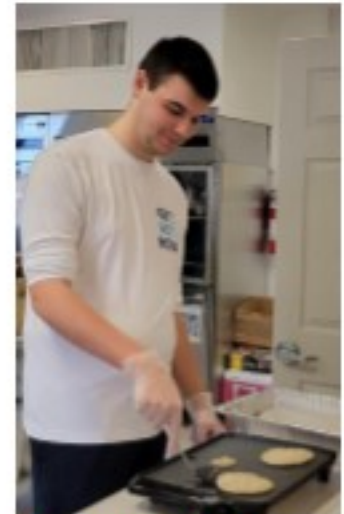
## FRIEDENS HAPPENINGS



L to R: Jennifer Koch, Bethany Children's Home, receiving a check from Carol Miller (R) from the Friedens Giving Tree Project



Ashley Mikulsky, Animal Rescue League, receiving donations from the Friedens UCC Christmas Pet Collection



Andrew Kline making pancakes at the Mission Team Advent Brunch



L to R: Shirley Riegel-Ferreri & Dee Johnson serving Betty Levan & Olivia Leach at the Mission Team Advent Brunch



Confirmation Class L to R: Pastor Corrine, Sylvie Beverage, Olivia Leach, Jenna Hoffman, Stella Williamson, Kara Weiser



Hoffman Family lighting the Advent candle



Weiser Family lighting the Advent candle

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 Jean Hafer  
 7 Estella King  
 10 Matthew Nixon  
 10 Derek Wolfe  
 13 Dawn Bortz  
 17 Lauren Schaeffer  
 18 Daniel Christ  
 18 Donna Lorah



18 Joanna Reckley  
 21 Jay Estep  
 21 Kelsey Feeq  
 21 Rev. Dr. Tyson Frey  
 27 Brian Burkert  
 27 Vicki Row  
 28 Kayla Hetrick  
 29 Sandra Funderburk

## 2023 WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP

2023 Reader, Flower Sponsor and Bulletin Sponsor sheets are posted in the Narthex. Sign up for your favorite dates. If you sponsor the flowers (\$40) or bulletins (\$8), please fill out a green sponsor form (found on the shelf under the sponsor sheets) and place it in an offering plate along with your payment. You may also contact the church office at 610-987-3536 to reserve your favorite date/s.

DATE	BULLETIN SPONSOR	FLOWER SPONSOR
January 1, 2023	Joey & Dee Johnson	Joey & Dee Johnson
January 8, 2023	Glenn Hoffman	Glenn Hoffman
January 15, 2023		
January 22, 2023		
January 29, 2023		
February 5, 2023		
February 12, 2023	Mark & Bernice Hoch	Mark & Bernice Hoch
February 19, 2023		
February 26, 2023		
March 5, 2023		Bill & Kathy Mathues
March 12, 2023		
March 19, 2023	Fern Schaeffer	
March 26, 2023		
April 2, 2023		
April 9, 2023 - Easter 7 am		
April 9, 2023 - Easter 10:15 am		
April 16, 2023		
April 23, 2023	Dot Hamm	Sheila Gilberry
April 30, 2023		
May 7, 2023		
May 14, 2023 - Mother's Day		
May 21, 2023		
May 28, 2023 - Pentecost		
June 4, 2023 - Trinity Sunday		
June 11, 2023	Erma Miller	
June 18, 2023 - Father's Day		
June 25, 2023		



Friedens United Church of Christ  
 337 Main Street  
 Oley, PA 19547

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 U.S. Postage  
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Return Service Requested



## JANUARY 2023

Friedens United Church of Christ  
 337 Main Street, Oley, PA 19547  
 610-987-3536

[www.friedensuccoley.com](http://www.friedensuccoley.com)

**Sunday Worship**  
 10:15 am

**Rev. Corrine Dautrich**  
 610-739-8471  
[pastor@friedensuccoley.org](mailto:pastor@friedensuccoley.org)

**Denise Bucciaglia**  
 Office Administrator  
[office@friedensuccoley.org](mailto:office@friedensuccoley.org)

**Regular Church Office Hours**  
 Monday thru Thursday  
 9 am to 1 pm

**Newsletter Editors**  
 Rev. Corrine Dautrich  
 Denise Bucciaglia  
 Carol Miller

### THE LAST LAUGH



*You two quit it or I'm turning  
 this caravan right around!*