

**December 2025**

*Join Us for Worship!*  
Sundays 9:00 am

# The Friedens Messenger

**FRIEDENS United Church of Christ**  
313 East Main St.  
Warrenton MO 63383-2007  
636-456-8218  
[office@friedensuccwarrenton.com](mailto:office@friedensuccwarrenton.com)

## Kid's Corner

Our November was spent preparing for the Children's Nativity Program on December 14th. We've been going through each part of the nativity story from Gabriel and Mary to the wise men going to see Jesus. We've been really focusing on what it means that Jesus is Emmanuel - God with us.

Lest you think we committed the unforgivable sin of forgetting Thanksgiving, we had fun creating these turkeys to showcase some of the things we're grateful for.

We hope to see you at the Warrenton Christmas parade on December 6th and in church for the children's program on the 14th.



## Upcoming Events

- **Tues. Dec. 2** - "Sister" Pot Luck Dinner 6:30pm
- **Fri. Dec. 5** - Cookie drop off till 4pm
- **Sat. Dec. 6** - Cookie Walk 8am - 11am
- **Sun. Dec. 7** - Communion
- **Tues. Dec. 9** - Coffee w/Pastor Jeremy at 10am
- **Sat. Dec. 13** - Wreaths Across America 11am
- **Sun. Dec. 14** - Kids Nativity Service  
Christmas Brunch
- **Tues. Dec. 16** - Coffee w/Pastor Jeremy at 10am
- **Sun. Dec. 21** - Lippstadt Christmas Service 7pm
- **Tues. Dec. 23** - Coffee w/Pastor Jeremy at 10am
- **Wed. Dec. 24** - Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Service at 7 pm

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\*Pastor Jeremy is out  
from November 26th to Dec. 2nd  
Then he is out December 26th to January 3rd

## 2025 Church Council Officers

Bill Petersmeyer .....President  
 Jessica Thomas.....Vice-President  
 Peggy Williams.....Secretary  
 Gloria Berrey.....Treasurer

## Attendance

In person service only.

### November 2025

11/2 127  
 11/9 115  
 11/16 94  
 11/23 140  
 11/30 Unknown

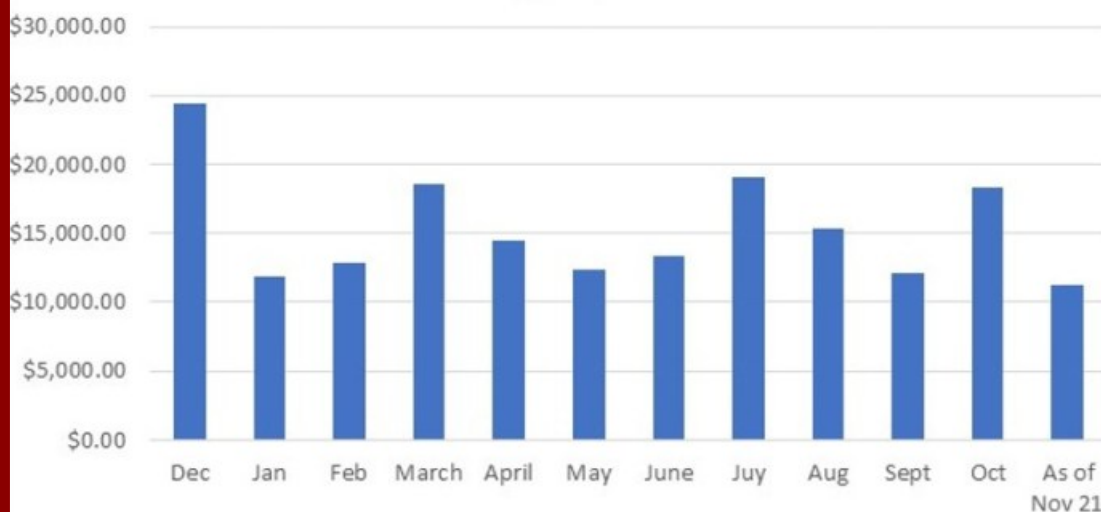
## Our Church Staff

Jeremy Carr .....Pastor  
 Cathy Reash.....Office Administrator  
 Pam Bryant.....Bookkeeper  
 Peggy Williams ..... Church Organist  
 Amy Herbel ..... Children's Ministry  
 Guy Schreck ..... Chancel Choir Director  
 Susie Rowan ..... Praise Band Director  
 Bill Petersmeyer .....Bell Choir Director  
 Susie Rowan ..... Accompanist  
 Ned Quest..... Accompanist

## Monthly Financial Report

<u>October</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Income	\$21,659.57	\$181,782.55
Expenses	<u>\$21,769.05</u>	<u>\$183,860.75</u>
Net Income	-\$109.48	-\$2,078.20

## Offerings by Month





## Secret Sisters

We have 32 women participating in our Secret Sisters activity, and the gifts have been piled on the table in the narthex each Sunday. Our carry-in dinner will be on Tuesday, December 2, at 6:30 p.m. Everyone should bring a dish - whatever you'd like. Meat will be provided. We'll have our "big reveal" then so bring your last gift (no more than \$20) and see who your Secret Sister is!

If you find any information  
in the Church Directory incorrect,  
please call 636-456-8218  
or email Cathy at  
[office@friedensuccwarrenton.com](mailto:office@friedensuccwarrenton.com)



## DORCAS/WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

November 12, 2025

Twelve members were present at the November 12, 2025 meeting.

Bonnie presented a program with reminiscences on past Thanksgivings. She and other members shared traditions and memories.

The Thanksgiving in-gathering is continuing through November 23 and a large amount of food has already been brought in.

The December meeting will be the annual Christmas luncheon. Members will carry in side dishes and meat will be purchased.

Donations will be made to Agape, Meals on Wheels, Operation Backpack, Turning Point, and Veterans of the Cross for Christmas, as well as monetary gifts to office staff and Pastor Jeremy.

The Cookie Walk will be on December 6. Cookies should be brought in on Friday, December 5.

As always, all women are invited to attend the monthly meetings! We have a short business meeting, a program presented by members, refreshments, and bingo.

*Christmas and Advent time!  
Time is the measurement of motion through space.*

*A day is the revolution of the earth.  
A month is the revolution of the moon around the earth.  
A year is the revolution of the earth around the sun.*

*But time as such is without any apparent meaning. Just a spinning planet with an orbiting moon orbiting a star...repeating the process for the past four and a half billion years.*

*To give time meaning we need a story!  
For almost two thousand years the church has had the wisdom and creativity to mark time by the gospel story of Jesus. This is time made sacred. This is the church calendar.*

***Advent** anticipates the coming of Messiah.*

***Christmas** celebrates the birth of Jesus.*

***Epiphany** remembers the revelation of Christ to Gentiles.*

***Lent** is the solemn journey to the cross.*

***Easter** is the celebration of the resurrection.*

***Pentecost** marks the birth of the church.*

***Ordinary Time** (or Kingdom Time) leads us through the year and back to Advent.*

*How we tell time determines who we are. If you expect fireworks on 4th of July you are an American. Calendars make and create culture.*

*The American calendar tells the American story.*

*The Secular calendar says there is no story — only politics and commerce.*

*The Christian calendar tells the Christian story.*

*Brian Zahnd says “To reduce the Christian calendar to a day for Christmas (a day when we don’t go to church) and a single Sunday for Easter is an almost total capitulation to secularism. “*

*You can be sure we will be doing all we can to emphasize the four weeks of Advent and the twelve days of Christmas that lead to Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and Pentecost. We believe the Jesus story is the true story that saves the world. We believe this so deeply that it’s how we tell time. Come, Lord Jesus!*

*Grace, Peace and Joy,*

*Pastor Jeremy*





Dear Friedens Congregation,

Thank you so much for your generous donations of gifts and money for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox mission this year. We received 52 filled shoeboxes that will bring joy and the beautiful message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to precious children this holiday season. We also received over \$200 that I used to purchase gifts and donate to the shipping cost of the shoeboxes. Each shoebox is such an impactful gift to the child and their entire family. I am so grateful to everyone who participated in this mission and also for praying for the children who will receive your gifts. Thank you and God bless you. Have a wonderful Christmas!

Sincerely,

Kim Moreau

### **Special Shout Out from Rev. Carr**

**Guy Schreck** – We appreciate Guy leading the holiday decorating team of the church! Everyone who helps seems to have so much fun!!! The Lord sees your hearts and service in His name! Bless you all.



**Please join us!**

The National Wreaths Across America Day is Saturday, December 13th at 11:00 am (Rain or Shine) at Lippstadt Cemetery. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the ceremony and help us lay wreaths at the graves of all 67 of our fallen veteran heroes. You can also donate to help cover the cost of the wreaths we lay for veterans at Lippstadt.



You can also:

1. Plan to join us to cheer/welcome the Wreath Delivery Semi into Warrenton and help unload boxes of wreaths sometime during the first week of December at Holy Rosary Parking Lot. We plan to line Hwy 47 and Hwy M from Interstate I-70 to the parking lot behind Holy Rosary Church. The Wreaths are brought from Maine so we don't know the exact day and time but it will be during the first week of December; that they will arrive. More information to come!
2. Donate snacks/treats/gift cards for our Semi Truck Driver. The drivers donate their time, fuel costs and use of their semi for this very important delivery. We want to show them how much we appreciate them.

Thank you for supporting the 2025 National Wreaths Across America Day. We are excited about the opportunity to honor ALL the veterans laid to rest in Lippstadt Cemetery and hope you will consider helping us. Please call Karen Corder for questions at (314)910-8790.



# Thanksgiving Ingathering/Turkey Drive

Thank you so much to everyone who brought non-perishable items for the Thanksgiving ingathering. We did a rough count and there were at least 925 items that were taken to Agape.

- Thank you to Dorcas/Women's Fellowship for reviving this tradition.
- Thanks to Henry Prior for carrying all the bags and boxes of food to the front and arranging them around the altar each Sunday. Didn't it look great to have so many food items up there?
- Many thanks to all the Sunday School kids who helped bag up all the items so they could be taken to Agape. Their enthusiasm was catching and we got done really quickly.
- Thanks also to all who carried bags and boxes outside.
- We had so much food that it wouldn't all fit into one car. We appreciate David Avis who loaded all the "overflow" items into his truck and delivered the second load to Agape. We took a grand total of 706 pounds of food there!

"Many hands make light work" was definitely in play today!

We didn't just stop with the ingathering though. We also did the Turkey Drive, where we asked for monetary donations that Agape uses to purchase turkeys and other items that are included in the Thanksgiving dinner boxes they prepare for needy families. Doing both the ingathering and the Turkey Drive was asking a lot, but as usual our Friedens Family came through on both.

The first week Pam issued a check for \$505 to Agape from the donations received, which was a really good amount. But then the next week, more donations came in and a second check was written for \$475. And then....the next week Pam wrote a third check for more money that had come in, and this one was for \$850! In total, Friedens collected \$1,830 for Agape!

Our Friedens Family is amazing. Coming together, opening up hearts and wallets - we've really made a difference to a large number of families this Thanksgiving season. Thank you to everyone for making both these projects so successful. Agape is so grateful for our generosity.



**November 11, 2025**

- The "lunch with the Carrs" will continue on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month beginning in January.
- We discussed shortening another pew to help with handicapped individuals.
- We will be purchasing new mats for the ramp outside, the ramp inside and the Main Street entrance.
- Council officers for 2026 will be Jane Wilbas president, Linda Schneider vice president, Gloria Berrey treasurer, and Peggy Williams secretary.
- Outside Christmas lights on the church will be displayed. If you would like to donate in memory or in honor of someone, that would be appreciated. There will be forms handed out.
- New council members will be installed in January.
- Office manager, Cathy Reash, has put her resignation in. She will be staying until the end of the year. The hours will remain the same. A job description will be written up.
- Our December meeting will be at Guy's house with the new members invited to attend. This will be a carry in dinner.



## Agape Share A Christmas Program

Friedens is invited to participate in Agape's Share a Christmas program to make sure that every family experiences the love, joy, and light of Jesus this holiday season. Your generosity can make that possible!

Please bring a new unwrapped toy to church by December 9th and place it on the table in the Narthex labeled Agape Toy Drive. You can also place monetary donations in the small basket and those donations will be delivered to Agape with the collected toys. Another way to participate is to donate directly through their website at [www.agapemo.org](http://www.agapemo.org). They also have wish lists on Amazon, Target and Walmart where you can purchase gifts directly.

Agape's Ex. Director Michelle Bernth expressed her gratitude stating "These gifts will impact the families in our local community who might be struggling this time of year. Every donation -- whether a toy, a dollar, or a prayer -- reminds struggling parents that they are not alone. It's a reflection of the love that we are called to share and a tangible way to bring light into the darkness for our neighbors this Christmas."

Please contact Kim Moreau at 626-297-5902 if you have any questions. Thank you and God bless you!

2025 Christmas Lights

Order Form

Cost: \$20.00

IN HONOR

Please Print Clearly

IN MEMORY

Please Print Clearly

FROM:

Deadline for placing order is December 22nd

# December Birthdays

04—Mike Holt Aaron Williams	14—Eileen Boehm Kelly White
06—Austin Holt	16—Tim Mackenberg Samantha Swoboda
07—Morgan Corder Shirley Sida	20—Katie Shaw Nancy Wulff
09—Jason Koper Rayna Santiago Raelynn Thomas	21—Sheila Gruenefeld
10—Karen Corder	22—Bonnie Nelson
12—Kelly Garrett-Fowler Larry Moeller	26—Melanie Williams
13—Bracksten Carr	30—Brooke Jaeger



If your birthday or anniversary is not appearing in the monthly newsletter, please let the office know those dates so we can add it.

# December Anniversaries

**Helen & Jerry Pherigo**

December 2 ~ 58 years

**John & Vicki Handlang**

December 9 ~ 30 years

**Matt & Kim Handlang**

December 13 ~ 28 years

**Melvin & Joyce Handlang**

December 29 ~ 63 years

**William & Cheryl Tappmeyer**

December 29 ~ 53 years

**Bill & Amanda Petersmeyer**

December 30 ~ 25 years



# December Servants

## Ushers

Jeff Hoelscher, Larry and Karen Bade  
Bill Petersmeyer/Kevin Eusterbrock

## Children's Church Volunteers

Karen Petersmeyer

## Call to Worship/Liturgists

Dec. 7 Miles Klinginsmith and Bill Petersmeyer  
Dec. 14 Bracksten Carr and Karen Gentry  
Dec. 21 Hunter Holt and Benjy Carr  
Dec. 28 Zoey Wray and Kim Moeller

## Acolytes

Dec. 7 Autumn Stroer and Emma Petersmeyer  
Dec. 14 Paris Hamilton and Paisley Hamilton  
Dec. 21 Zoey Wray and Hayden Arnette  
Dec. 28 -



# December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Bell Choir 5:30 pm	4	5	6 Cookie Walk 8am-11am 
2nd Sunday of Advent 7 Pastor Jeremy Carr Communion	8	9 Coffee w/Pastor 10 am Council Meeting 6:00pm	10 Dorcas Meeting Noon Bell Choir 5:30 pm	11	12	13  11:00 am
3rd Sunday of Advent 14 Pastor Jeremy Carr 	15	16 Coffee w/Pastor 10 am	17 Bell Choir 5:30 pm	18	19	20
4th Sunday of Advent 21 Pastor Jeremy Carr Lippstadt Service 7pm	22	23 Coffee w/Pastor 10 am	24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm	25 Merry Christmas 	26	27
28 Rich Barton and the Celebration Band	29	30	31 			