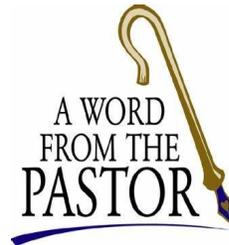




Friendship Focus January 2022

News for members and friends of Friendship Lutheran Church

Each new year brings change. As we shared at the congregational meeting in November, January will be a time of change for us and for the congregation. Our two year contract with Friendship ends on Sunday, January 23. We cannot begin to express our gratitude to God and the people of Friendship for this chapter we have shared together.



Things will be different, but you are not rid of us yet! After a month of traveling, Pastor Tim will return to Friendship to serve 3/4 time during the seasons of Lent and Easter (assuming a new pastor is not called sooner.) Pastor Mary will begin a new ministry focus - on art and spiritual direction, but will share a sermon or story once a month at Friendship, as long as Pastor Tim is here.

God continues to provide pastoral leadership for Friendship through the work of the North Carolina Synod. From January 24 - Feb 28, Dr. Gary Haddock, PhD, will serve as “interim for the interim”. He is an ELCA pastor, therapist, Intentional Interim and Healthy Congregations Consultant - and he lives close by in Conover. Most recently Pastor Gary served as interim at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Claremont. Look for more information about Pastor Gary in the February newsletter.

No matter what changes, we know that God’s love and care for us does not. We rejoice in that as we begin this new year!

+Pastors Mary & Tim

January News

Church office - will be closed on **Monday, Jan. 3rd.**

WELCA - will NOT meet in **January.**



Friendship Fellowship Supper - the first Monday of each month in the FLC at 6pm. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share or just bring yourself. **Jan. 3rd** is the next meal date.

Secret Sisters - will meet **Sat, Jan 8th, in the chapel.**

Drive-thru Benefit - Saturday, January 8th, there will be a drive-thru benefit for Gilda Fletcher to help with medical bills - **11am - 1pm.** The menu includes: 1/2 chicken, slaw, baked beans, a roll & dessert. If you are able to bring a dessert, please have it wrapped in individual pieces. We will need the desserts at the church by Friday, January 7th after 6 pm or Saturday morning by 10am. For questions, contact Betty Icenhour @ 632-7540.

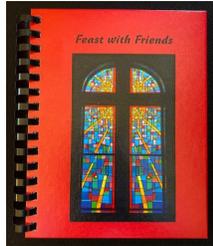


School Supplies - (Wittenburg) - The following items are needed at this time: binder clips, rolls of paper towels, Clorox wipes, Individual pre packaged snacks & bottled water. Drop them off in the Parish House garage. Thanks for your support!



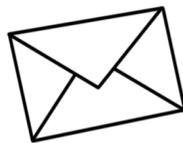
Red Cross Blood Drive -
Sun, Jan. 9th, 12:30-5 pm. Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Friendship Lutheran Taylorsville or contact Sue Bumgarner @ 828 381-7058 or Donna Icard @ 828 310-4890 to schedule your appointment.





Friendship Cook Books are still available at both services. **The cost is \$12.00.** They are full of delicious recipes and make a wonderful gift. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry of Alex. Cty. Please see Daphne Payne, Donna Icard or Becky Cline.

Newsletter Deadline- Send items for the **February** issue of **Friendship's Focus** by **Thursday, Jan. 20th.** Call the church office @ 632-4482 or email your items to friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com.



Offering Envelopes for 2022 are here!

Please pick yours up at either service, or come by the church during office hours and Penny will get them for you. Thank you for your faithful and generous sharing to the ministry of Friendship.

IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO COVID-19

Quarantine if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been fully vaccinated. Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if you need to quarantine.

People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have symptoms. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

Please remember to tell a pastor if someone who tests positive has been in the Friendship building. Thanks for keeping others safe and healthy!

To all 1st Monday Night Supper Supporters-

Thanks for your faithful attendance and support of the program; started many years ago by our Sunday School Class. Many of your parents. We are slowly but surely getting our regular group back from fear of being around people. We can thank God daily. I realize sickness and pain of getting older is taking it's toil on so many. I do know many are going places and not coming to the suppers; that is your choice.

For all of you coming, it is appreciated, and I Thank God for all of you. It's a great time to eat, fellowship and join in with other Christians to thank God for the many blessings he gives us daily. Thank you Pastor Tim for your support. Everyone is invited to come on the 1st Monday night each month.

Peggy Jolly
(828) 632-6520

thank you

Thank You Friendship - We were blessed by a wonderful Thanksgiving meal delivered to our door. Thank you for sharing with us. Love, Katherine & Robert Allen.

Thank You Friendship for the bonus gift during the holiday season. We appreciate all you do for us & hope you all had a blessed Christmas & will have a bright, safe Happy New Year! From your Friendship Staff:
Pastors Tim & Mary, Penny, Denny, Ian, Steve & Silsa.

Thank you to EVERYONE who participated in our Christmas play this year! A special thanks to Nikki Icard & Payton Boyles for doing such a great job!

Thank you to each person that provided angel tree gifts this year! Alexander County Foster Parents Association appreciates your help giving kids a merry Christmas.

January Birthdays

Terry Payne	1/02	Amy Windsor	1/18
Wendy Watts	1/03	Ben Icenhour	1/19
Ella Bostian	1/05	Stasya Smith	1/22
Sharon Goble	1/06	Asher Wike	1/22
Ruth Hefner	1/08	Ethan Windsor	1/22
Terri Cook	1/10	Mabel Sweat	1/23
Raylie Stafford	1/10	Ivy Hayes	1/24
Sam Birchfield	1/11	Melissa Jolly	1/24
Larry Ingle	1/11	Wendelynne Pearson	1/24
Meghan Miglorie	1/11	Brenda P. Bowman	1/25
Debbie Deal	1/12	Mary Ann Icenhour	1/26
Jane Nichols	1/15	Marcella Icenhour	1/27
Kyndal Benfield	1/16	Dawn Shealy	1/27
Donna Bowman	1/16	Jared Mooney	1/28
Paulette Hefner	1/17	Tamara Harrington	1/29
Angie Smith	1/18	Rickie Gantt	1/30

HOME BOUND/EXTENDED CARE:

Kay Smith - Home

Fate & Ruth Hefner - Home

Audrey Arrington - Home

Emily & Carrel Icenhour - Catawba Valley Assisted Living
@ Rock Barn

**If you know of someone that should be added to or
taken off this list, please call the church office.**



Friendship Lutheran Church Council

November 9, 2021, Regular Meeting in Person

Members present Teresa Birchfield, Hannah Bostian, Wade Cline, Steven Deal, Robert Farrens, Leah Hayes, Diane Hollar, Jason Icard, Mary Ann Icenhour, Sandra Icenhour, Pat Payne, Dennis Rhyne, Starr Lynn Smith, Jimmy Watts, Pastor Mary Canniff-Kuhn, Pastor Tim Canniff-Kuhn, and Dana Frye. Absent: Eric Frye, Amy Palmer.

President Mary Ann Icenhour called the meeting to order, shared a devotion and led prayer.

Motion by Dennis Rhyne; seconded by Wade Cline to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on October 12, 2021, and electronic voting from October 20 and 29, 2021. Motion carries.

Treasurer's report for the month was distributed. How are ways we can share our blessings with others at the year end?

TEAM REPORTS:

Administration – Sandra Icenhour – No report.

Care – Amy Palmer – Wade shared that 46 units were collected at the blood drive. Kids enjoyed Trunk or Treat; 146 lbs. of food were delivered to the food pantry.

Learn – Hannah Bostian – Practices are underway for the Christmas program for Rooted kids and CREW youth. Sunday school is going good for classes who have resumed.

Worship -Teresa Birchfield – Additions to services have included an extra song at 8am and the Apostles Creed at 10:30. Ian Elkins will start November 10 as music director for 10:30 am and 8 am musician with practice for both services. The Longest Night service will be December 19 and the Christmas play will be presented at 9:15 during the SS hour. To move farther into “ways of the past” chairs will be set up in the fellowship hall for the 8 am service. People will be welcome to move the chairs to better suit their family needs for seating and/or spacing to feel comfortable.

Share – Diane Hollar – Time and Talent forms will be mailed out with the congregation letter and will be available at each service. Pastor Tim will talk about the importance of completing the sheet at the annual meeting.

Finance – Dennis Rhyne – No report.

Rusha Austin Scholarship – Starr Lynn Smith – No report.

Preschool – Pat Payne – Work continues on guidelines for the board and for the preschool in general.

Building & Grounds (BAG) – Cleaning overhead in the fellowship hall needs to be planned. Matt Payne had volunteered to do this. Jason will get with Matt and prepare to get this task planned with the team.

Technology – Steven Deal – Two issues facing the church are speed and coverage. Speed for the internet has been increased with very little change (\$4) in the monthly billing. Issue with coverage can be fixed. Motion from the Team to fix the coverage issue with a cost of up to \$2,500.00 by replacing the 6 outdated routers. Motion carries.

Cemetery – Robert Farrens – Jon Hayes has talked with Robert about the guidelines for the cemetery. What is and is not allowed around the grave? Could a sign be posted with the guidelines stated? Jimmy will take this special project and see what he can get done.

Transition – Leah Hayes – Training will take place November 19/20. Timeline posters will be updated, and Doug Ramsey will give an update at the congregation meeting. Holidays will slow the process some in moving forward.

Special Projects – Jimmy Watts – Cemetery guidelines will be checked on.

PASTORS REPORT:

The pastors shared their thanks for the gifts, cards and encouraging words they received for Pastors Appreciation

**(Minutes continued on next page)*

month. It makes a big difference, especially in challenging times, to know that their work is seen and appreciated, and they are grateful. They pointed out that Friendship is good at saying Thank You and that is very important. The majority of the pastors time continues to go to administration and communication, worship leadership and pastoral care. In addition, this month included teaching confirmation. Pastor Tim worked with Worship and Music Team to contract with Ian Elkins and continues to help with his transition into the position of music director. Pastor Mary is working with the Preschool board to develop operating procedures. Worship services requiring special preparations included the Ordination of Oscar Shepherd and Reformation/Confirmation. Pastoral care calls and visits continue, and this month included a service of internment for Doug Ramsey's mother. The pastors continue to stress that it would be difficult for one full time pastor to meet current expectations AND start new initiatives. Friendship will need additional staff in order to grow.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mary Ann has spoken with the Nutrition Program site director. Currently they have no vision for what the future holds. They feel they could use a smaller space. They do not need a kitchen. Only 4 are visiting the site currently to eat. All other meals are picked up and delivered. We would like to know the number of meals that are picked up and delivered and is this a central location for those picking up and delivering the meals. Motion by Jimmy Watts; seconded by Diane Hollar to renew the contract for 6 months (expiring June 30, 2022) and ask for demographics of the program. Motion carries. Mary Ann will call and discuss this with the site director and ask for the demographics of the program.



NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Sandra Icenhour; seconded by Dennis Rhyne to adjourn the annual congregation meeting at 10:20 am if still in session to prepare for the 10:30 am worship service and reconvene Sunday, November 28, 2021, at 9:15 am. Motion carries.



The Wittenburg Fire Dept has asked to use the fellowship hall for their annual supper as they have used it for many years. Council has no issues with this.

Pastors Tim and Mary shared their plans for when their contract expires in January. They have plans for other directions and retirement fun with family. Pastor Tim has discussed two options for council to consider for after January. Motion by Dennis Rhyne; seconded by Teresa Birchfield to enter a new contract with Pastor Tim beginning in March 2022. Motion carries. Pastor Tim will address this at the congregation meeting.

Thanks to the outgoing council members for their work.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned with prayer.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. Wade Cline is scheduled to share a devotion.

ELECTRONIC ACTION:

November 10, 2021

Motion by Dennis Rhyne; seconded by Wade Cline to present all paid staff with 2% of budgeted line item as a year-end gift. Motion carries.

Prayers of the Church

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.” ~
Philippians 4:6-7*



**Please call the church office to add or
take someone off this list.**

Linda Triplett	(M. Icenhour-11/24)
Phil Hefner	(L. Hefner-11/29)
Jody Moore	(T. Birchfield-11/29)
Donald Smith	(T. Smith-11/29)
Jamie Arritt	(B. Greathouse-11/29)
Bonnie Wallace	(B. Greathouse-11/29)
Allen & Judy Hefner	(B. Bowman-12/6)
Tony Cothren	(W. Cline-12/6)
Ed Lupo	(W. Cline-12/6)
Lovenia Icenhour	(K. Ramsey-12/6)
Teresa Bolick	(K. Ramsey-12/6)
Bennie & Emo Bebber	(E. Bebber-12/7)
Maynard Annas Jr.	(T. Annas-12/13)
Ray Fox	(B. Bowman-12/13)
Tammy Hayman	(D. Ramsey-12/14)
Adam Jolly	(L. Jolly-12/19)
Susan Sharon	(D. Ramsey-12/19)
Torie Rhoney	(R. Buff-12/19)
Larry & Jane Martin	(H. Wike -12/21)
Greg Barr	(H. Pharr -12/22)
Carmen Cline	(H. Bostian-12/23)

Family & friends of:

R.L. Icard	(M. Icenhour-11/29)
Mike Mackaman	(D. Ramsey-12/1)
Cameron Woods	(P. Shealy-12/2)
Hilda Simmons Seter	(W. Cline-12/19)
Fred Cline	(W. Cline-12/19)
Bill Jordan	(C. Bowman-12/19)
Anthony St. Clair	(D. Ramsey-12/22)
Lou Ann Frye	(P. Mary-12/23)
DC Winebarger	(D. Deal-12/23)

Our Sharing

OFFERINGS

	<u>NOVEMBER, 2021</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$20,284.10	\$286,074.20
BENEVOLENCE	\$2,725.00	\$19,289.00
BLDG/IMPROVEMENT	\$3,790.00	\$64,953.15
PRESCHOOL	\$230.00	\$3,191.49
WORLD HUNGER	\$140.00	\$3,605.00
BACKPACK MINISTRY	\$220.00	\$4,394.00
CHRISTIAN CRISIS CTR	\$175.00	\$4,013.22
MOBILE CAFÉ	\$0.00	\$380.00
FOOD PANTRIES	\$30.00	\$525.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF	\$0.00	\$120.00
RUSHA AUSTIN SCHLOR.	\$0.00	\$1,145.00
CRUISEIN 2021 ALEX. CO. SCH.	\$500.00	\$7,078.00

SPENDING

	<u>NOVEMBER, 2021</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$21,835.89	\$268,803.18

Friendship Council gave year end Christmas gifts to the following ministries on behalf of the Church:

Stony Point Food Pantry
 Hiddenite Food Pantry
 Christian Crisis Center
 The Mobile Café
 Lutheridge Camp
 Agape Camp
 Living Waters Lutheran Mission
 Lutheran Disaster Response (Tornado Relief)



We give thanks for the generous support of Friendship members that made it possible to share in this way.

★ Church Council and Staff

Council (Term ending)

Mary Ann Icenhour - President ('22)
 Wade Cline - VP & CARE ('22)
 Nikki Icard - Treasurer ('22)
 Dana Frye - Recording Sec ('22)
 Guy Kerley - Financial Sec ('22)
 John Bostian - LEARN ('23)
 Marty Buff - RA Scholarship ('23)
 Tyler Hall - Tech ('23)
 Gary Richey - Cemetery ('23)
 Steve Shealy - Finance ('23)
 Monica Stafford - Worship ('23)
 Eric Frye - Building ('22)
 Sandra Icenhour - Admin ('22)
 Pat Payne - Preschool ('22)
 Jimmy Watts - SHARE ('22)

Staff

Denny Teague Sexton
 Penny Stikeleather Parish Secretary
 Silsa Moore Organ and Piano
 Hope Wike Preschool Dir
 Tim & Mary Interim Pastors
 Canniff-Kuhn

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Penny is in the office Mon-Thurs,
 9:30-4:30 (Lunch-12:30-1:30)
 The office is closed on Friday.

A pastor is in the office Mon-Wed
 mornings whenever possible. They
 are available by email at
pastortimck@gmail.com or
pastormaryck@gmail.com. You may
 also reach the pastor on call by
 cell phone: 828-551-4650.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch if
 you have a pastoral concern, or if
 there is something the pastors need to
 know.

FRIENDSHIP LUTHERAN CHURCH

5300 Church Road
 Taylorsville, NC 28681
 Phone: 828-632-4482
www.friendshiptaylorsville.org
friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com

NON-PROFIT
 POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 106
 Taylorsville, NC 28681

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED