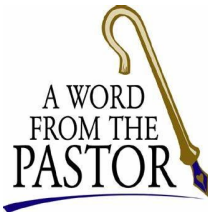




# Friendship Focus

## January 2021

News for members and friends of Friendship Lutheran Church



After Christmas, the church enters the season of EPIPHANY, which means “REVELATION”. Having an “epiphany” is that “AH HA moment” when understanding breaks upon us - when we discover something that had been hidden before.

The feast of Epiphany (Jan 6) marks the end of the Christmas season, and celebrates the wise ones searching for Jesus until they found him, and then offering their gifts to him as a sign of their devotion to the newborn king. **The star is a symbol of Epiphany.** As its light guided the magi, so God sends us guidance in people, places and events - drawing us closer to Jesus so that we may offer our gifts.

As we begin a new year, we give thanks for those who continue to offer their gifts in this place. Because of your generosity and the frugality of leadership and staff, we ended the year with excess! And so, Council identified seven agencies that are doing God’s work and are in special need of support. We sent year end gifts to five food pantries - Hiddenite, Stony Point, Alexander Crisis Center, 957 Mobile Café and Living Waters, Cherokee. We also sent generous gifts to our church camps - Lutheridge/Lutherock and Agape/Kure Beach. We rejoice to show our devotion to our newborn King, by sharing our treasure, just as the wise ones did on that first Epiphany.

Your congregational council also chose new officers to guide Friendship through 2021. Look for the list of these STARS on the back page of this newsletter. Please continue to support your Friendship leaders with your ideas, encouragement, prayers and participation in the life of our church. Each time we open God’s word, gather for worship (in person or online) or share our gifts in service to our neighbor, we discover more about God’s great love for us. May this be a true season of EPIPHANIES for each of us - in Jesus’ name. +Pastor Mary

## January News

WELCA will **NOT** meet in January.

ROOTED Bible Study - for younger children - will meet each Wednesday night in the Family Life Center from 5:45-6:45 pm. Call Payton Boyles or Nikki Icard for more information.

CREW - for middle & high school youth - will meet each Wednesday night in the Family Life Center from 6 -7pm in the Family Life Center. Call Taylor Payne for more information.

Secret Sisters will meet **Saturday, January 2nd at 9 am in FLC.**

CARE Team delivered 236 lbs. of food to the Christian Crisis Center the week of Christmas. **Thank you!**

In my life, I have met some pretty amazing people who have forever changed me. I don't know if you know how but each one of you have helped me on days when I felt discouraged, uncertain of what the day or weeks ahead may bring or simply feeling blue. It could be your smiles, words, prayers and your kindness that always pulls me through. We greatly appreciate the prayers, texts, calls, support & monetary gifts you have provided to me and my family through my journey of receiving a heart. I truly can't Thank You enough.

Love you all,  
Whitney Dillard & family

We want to thank you for your contribution of \$5,000.00 to the Hiddenite Family Campground Benevolence Fund through East Taylorsville Baptist Church. Thank you for being a part of this effort to help these families get their lives re-established. These funds will be used to help these families in cooperation with our local Department of Social Services.

Rev. Jamie Steele  
Senior Pastor

**Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, Jan. 10th, 12:30-5 pm.**

If you have questions or want to give blood, call Sue Bumgarner at 828-381-7058, for homemade cakes/cookies, call Donna Icard at 828-310-4890, or to volunteer as a helper (serving food or work at the desk) call Jewell Elder @ 632-3544.



**Newsletter Deadline**-Send items for the **February** issue of **Friendship's Focus** by **Thursday, Jan. 21st.**  
Call the church office @ 632-4482 or email items to friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com.



**January Birthdays**

Terry Payne	1/02	Ben Icenhour	1/19
Wendy Watts	1/03	Stasya Smith	1/22
Ella Bostian	1/05	Asher Wike	1/22
Sharon Goble	1/06	Ethan Windsor	1/22
Ruth Hefner	1/08	Mabel Sweat	1/23
Terri Cook	1/10	Ivy Hayes	1/24
Raylie Stafford	1/10	Melissa Jolly	1/24
Sam Birchfield	1/11	Wendelynne Pearson	1/24
Larry Ingle	1/11	Brenda P. Bowman	1/25
Meghan Miglorie	1/11	Brantley Hefner	1/26
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
Amy Windsor	1/18		



## Our Sharing

### OFFERINGS

NOVEMBER, 2020

YTD

CURRENT	\$31,350.55	\$279,938.89
BENEVOLENCE	\$2,036.70	\$13,951.65
BLDG/IMPROVEMENT	\$2,650.00	\$36,159.00
PRESCHOOL	\$205.00	\$1,560.00
WORLD HUNGER	\$410.00	\$3,675.00
BACKPACK MINISTRY	\$250.00	\$2,845.00
ADULT MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$2,632.00
YOUTH MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$235.00
CHOIR FUND	\$0.00	\$315.00
FRIENDSHIP NUTRITION	\$0.00	\$100.00
OUTDOOR IMP./PLAYGROUND	\$150.00	\$1,200.00
CHRISTIAN CRISIS CTR	\$45.00	\$1,105.00
MOBILE CAFÉ	\$0.00	\$100.00
ASH WED./LENTEN OFFERING	\$0.00	\$842.00
AUDIO/VISUAL	\$0.00	\$80.00
FOOD PANTRIES	\$0.00	\$550.00
LUTHERIDGE	\$0.00	\$60.00
FOOD PANTRIES	\$200.00	\$750.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF	\$0.00	\$40.00
AUSTIN SCHOLARSHIP	\$0.00	\$25.00
WHITNEY DILLARD LOVE OFF	\$210.00	\$2,392.00

### SPENDING

NOVEMBER, 2020

YTD

CURRENT	\$24,098.77	\$270,960.56
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### **HOME BOUND/EXTENDED CARE:**

Vickie Church—Home

Lou Ann Frye—Shepherd's House-Trinity Village

Fate & Ruth Hefner—Home

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

## Prayer Concerns



**We pray for these friends and family of Friendship. Please call the church office to add or take someone off this list.**

Alisha Echerd Goggans	(J. Gant-11/20)
Krista White	(L. Jolly-11/25)
Will & Karen Hamilton	(W. Pearson-11/25)
Kevin Moore	(T.Hefner-12/7)
Terry & Janet Mitchell	(S. Smith-12/7)
Cody Brabson	(C. Jolly-12/7)
Carol Mason	(H. Bostian-12/7)
Carter Lehmons	(H. Bostian-12/7)
Ken & Kathy Lundy	(D. Ramsey-12/9)
Alisha Echerd Goggans	(J. Gant-12/14)
Wayne Cratty	(W. Pearson-12/14)
Mae Elliott	(P. Mary-12/21)
Tonya Desjardins	(C. Kerley-12/21)
Whitney Dillard	(L. Hefner-12/21)

**We believe in the resurrection and the communion of the saints, but the pain of death is still real. Please keep the families & friends of these saints in your prayers.**

### Family & friends of:

Georgia Riddle	(D. Hollar-11/19)
Johnny Arritt	(B. Greathouse-11/25)
David Locklear	(D. Frye-12/4)
Paige Navy	(L. Cothren-12/8)
Gail Gant	(J. Gant-12/14)
Alice Icenhour	(P. Mary-12/14)
Ronald Deese	(D. Smith-12/21)
Vergie Punch	(W. Cline-12/21)
Judy Davis	(M. Ann Icenhour-12/22)
Waitsel Wike	(D. Frye-12/23)

**Friendship Lutheran Church Council**  
**November 9, 2020 Regular Meeting in Person**

Members present Teresa Birchfield, Hannah Bostian, Steven Deal, Robert Farrens, Leah Hayes, Diane Hollar, Jason Icard, Jeff James, Guy Kerley, Amy Palmer, Monty Payne, Doug Ramsey, Dennis Rhyne, Starr Lynn Smith, Pastor Mary Caniff-Kuhn, Pastor Tim Caniff-Kuhn, and Dana Frye.

President Doug Ramsey called the meeting to order with a devotion and lead prayer.

Motion by Guy Kerley; seconded by Dennis Rhyne to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on October 20, 2020. Motion carries.

Treasurer's report was distributed. Motion by Guy Kerley; seconded by Dennis Rhyne to present employees with a 2%-year-end bonus gift. (2% based on their budgeted line item.) Motion carries.

**TEAM REPORTS:**

*Building & Grounds (BAG)* – Guy Kerley/Jason Icard/Steven Deal – Guy has talked to 2 contractors about their original roof estimates and is waiting for updates.

*Worship & Music* – Monty Payne/Teresa Birchfield – No report.

*Sharing & Stewardship* – Diane Hollar/Robert Farrens/Starr Lynn Smith – No report.

*Learning & Christian Education* – Hannah Bostian/Leah Hayes – Trunk or Treat was a success. Children's Christmas program is a work in progress.

*Caring & Outreach* – Amy Palmer/Hannah Bostian – Has a meeting planned for November 10, 2020.

*Administration* – Jeff James – Jeff shared Penny's thanks for the additional week of vacation after 5 years of service that was added to her job description.

*Finance* – Dennis Rhyne – No report.

#### PASTORS REPORTS:

The pastors offered their thanks for the monetary gift that was given to them for Pastor Appreciation month in October. They have moved into their new rental home and will be taking a vacation in mid-November to see their son in Connecticut. They are working to get communion to the home bound. The list of home bound has increased due to the virus. Plans are being made to have 3 services on Christmas Eve. Hopefully, there will be a service for everyone. Masks will be required at some and optional at others. Final decisions will be made in consideration with the recommendations of the Governor and NC Synod Guidelines. Volunteers are still needed to learn how to use the camera for live streaming. The pastors met with the executive team to receive the feedback council offered on how they are managing the tasks of administration, pastoral care, and worship leadership. They offered ten observations about the life and ministry of Friendship and asked council members to give them prayerful consideration. They are happy to share these observations with anyone interested.

#### BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting is planned for Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 9:15 am. Use of the FM Transmitter would allow people to participate in the meeting from the parking lot. Council member voting requires written ballots.

The new copier lease with Sharpe Business has been completed. Systel Business Equipment has picked up the old copier.

Jason Icard is expecting a second quote on the lawn care contract this week. Currently there has only been 1 quote submitted.

John Adair and Patrick Watkins will be working together to prioritize the audio wish list.

Many thanks were offered to Doug Ramsey, Jeff James, Guy Kerley and Monty Payne for their service on council the last three years.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, December 15, 2020.

# ★ Church Council and Staff

## Council & Officers

Mary Ann Icenhour, President  
 Wade Cline, Vice-President ★  
 Nikki Icard, Treasurer  
 Dana Frye, Recording Secretary  
 Guy Kerley, Financial Secretary  
 Steven Deal  
 Teresa Birchfield ★  
 Amy Palmer  
 Robert Farrens  
 Hannah Bostian  
 Diane Hollar  
 Jason Icard  
 Dennis Rhyne  
 Starr Lynn Smith  
 Leah Hayes  
 Eric Frye  
 Sandra Icenhour  
 Pat Payne  
 Jimmy Watts

## Staff

Denny Teague	Sexton
Penny Stikeleather	Parish Secretary
Silva Moore	Organ and Piano
Patrick Watkins	Choir Director
Lori Branch	Preschool Dir
Tim & Mary	Interim Pastors
Canniff-Kuhn	

Please be in touch by cell phone:  
 828-551-4650 or by email - pastortimck  
 @gmail.com / pastormaryck@gmail.com  
 if you have a pastoral concern, or if there  
 is something you think the pastors should  
 know. They are happy to arrange a way  
 to visit with you safely if there is a need.

The church office is staffed, but is closed  
 to all non-essential business. Help to  
 protect our staff by wearing a face mask if  
 you need to enter. Please do not go in any  
 private offices. THANKS!

## **FRIENDSHIP LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5300 Church Road  
 Taylorsville, NC 28681  
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[www.friendshiptaylorsville.org](http://www.friendshiptaylorsville.org)  
[friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com](mailto:friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com)

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 Taylorsville, NC 28681

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