

*"Peace with God, peace  
with others, and peace in  
your own heart."  
~ Rick Warren*



*Sunday, December 29, 2024*

Music Prelude

Bell Tolling - Welcome to Worship (*\* = all who are able, please stand*)

Prelude "Bethlehem's Treasure" Praisesound

\*Call to Worship

Sing aloud with gladness to our gathering God,

**Who draws us in from far and near.**

Be radiant over the goodness of the Lord.

**Come, rejoice in the dance.**

\*Song of Gathering "Light of the Stable"

*Prayer cards are collected during the Hymn.*

\*Gathering Prayer (unison)

**God of abundance, you graciously provide for all of your children. Open our hearts, our hands, and our homes to all your creation by the richness of your grace in Jesus Christ, sealed with the promise of your Holy Spirit, who intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words and in whose power we pray. Amen.**

\*Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 41-52  
Psalm 148

Children's Moment

Sermon "Surprises Abound" Rev. Tracey Harris

\*Hymn of Response "Away in the Manger" Black Hymnal, # 124

Offertory

We respond to God's forgiveness and empowerment with thanksgiving and praise. As we have been blessed, so we share. May our offerings express compassion and kindness within our faith community and in our outreach to our immediate surroundings and to the world.

Offering Song "Labor of Love" Praisesound

**\*Doxology**

*Praise the Lord, the coming King! All you saints God's glory sing!  
Praise God all you heav'nly hosts: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Gloria! In excelsis Deo! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!*

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**We are thankful for the love that gave us life, for the mission that gives purpose to our days, and for the peace that Christ grants to us. We give ourselves as well as our money, that your Word may spread where it is not known and take root where it has not been heeded. Amen.**

Faith in Action

\*Song of Sending          "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"          Black Hymnal, #129

**\*Commission and Blessing**

Live for the praise of God's glory.  
Live as beloved children of a generous God.  
**Amen.**

**\*Benediction**

Music Postlude

**FRIEDENS UCC STAFF**

**PASTOR**                                  Reverend Tracey Harris ~ [pastortracey@friedens-ucc.org](mailto:pastortracey@friedens-ucc.org)  
618-830-3919

**ACCOMPANIST**                         Katie Thomsen

**CHURCH OFFICE ADMIN.**             Sharon Brune ~ [churchoffice@friedens-ucc.org](mailto:churchoffice@friedens-ucc.org)  
636-946-2884 (*Office*)

**FRIEDENS LIVESTREAMING VOLUNTEERS**

**BROADCASTERS**                     Dylan Brune

**CAMERA**                                 Debbie Ayres, Sharon Brune, Marie Haupt, Connie Pickering, Sara Vollmar

**SOUND**                                     Galen Brune, Jeff Hitchcock & Jackson Vollmar

**POWER POINT**                         Marie Haupt, Sandra Leezy, Debi Gravemann

**PRAISESOUND**                         Jim Anderson, Karen Hitchcock, Sue Lienemann, Abby Wissmann

**DECEMBER FINANCIAL  
UPDATE**

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING
12/1/2024	75	\$3770.00
12/8/2024	78	\$2177.00
12/15/2024	125	\$5380.00
12/22/2024	To Be Announced	

**WEEKLY BUDGET \$4095.00**

***Thank you for your Contributions***

**LITURGIST** . . . Jim Anderson

**ACOLYTE** . . . Volunteer

**USHERS** . . . Clark Fischer and Leon Kolkmeier

**USHER/CONSISTORY** . . . Karla Sheffer and Mike Schaefer

**DONUT HOUR** . . . Connections

**NEXT SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR** . . . Consistory

**COUNTERS** . . . Barb McCarthy and Ron Gravemann



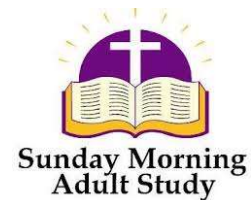
PLACE DONATIONS IN THE WELL OF HOPE OR IN  
BLACK CONTAINER OUTSIDE OF THE VESTIBULE.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Toilet Tissue  
Kleenex  
Men's and Women's Deodorant  
Shampoo and Conditioner  
Laundry Detergent  
Dish Soap



Tuesday evening at 7 pm and Wednesday morning at 9 am.  
Bible Study is held in the Conference room. Please bring your bibles.

Sunday mornings after Worship Sunday  
School is held in the Hospitality Room



Family Fun Event ~ Bowling

Where: St Charles Lanes

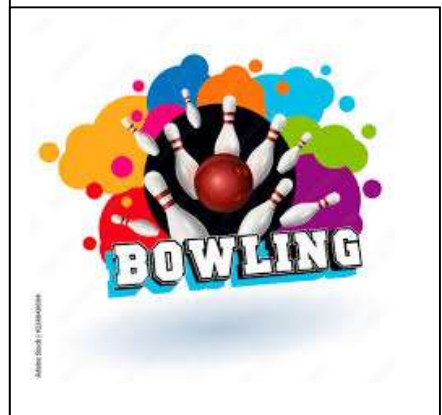
When: Saturday, January 11 @ 12 Noon

Includes: Pizza, soda & shoes included &  
2 hours of bowling

Adults: 15.95 Youth: \$5.95

Deadline to sign up is January 5.

Sign up sheet is located on the Church  
Office window.



**ALL Annual Meeting reports from each committee are due by Tuesday, January 14. Please send them to the church office. Thank you.**



**CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26  
AFTER WORSHIP**

**NOISY OFFERING ~ Collected the first Sunday of the month during Children's Moment.**

**Currently Christian Education is collecting to support Loaves and Fishes, and we will contact them when we reach our \$500 goal. The next organization we will collect for is Lydia's House, which is a UCC supported organization that offers secure housing and immediate community for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.**

