

# FRIEDENS REFORMED CHURCH

P O BOX J

TRIPP, SD 57376

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Summer 2022



## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

Dear Friedens Family,

The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:130

Since I came to Friedens, I have preached through Isaiah 53, Nahum, 2 Peter, Hebrews, and now we're about 20 sermons into a series on 1 & 2 Samuel. This method of preaching is referred to as Expository Preaching. I would like to share with you the rationale behind this type of preaching and why I believe that expository preaching is superior to all other forms of preaching.

"The end of all preaching is to bring men under the influence of God's Word; and nothing seems so likely to make men understand the Word as lectures in which the Word is explained. It was so in Chrysostom's days; it ought to be so again. The idea, no doubt, like every good theory, may be easily ridden to death; and I believe that with ignorant, semi-heathen congregations, a short pithy text often does more good than a long passage expounded. But I have no doubt of the immense value of expository preaching, when people will bring their Bibles to the service, and accompany the preacher as he travels on, or go home to their Bibles after the service, and compare what they have heard with the written Word." Excerpt from J.C. Ryle's "Estimate of Manton" in volume 1 of the works of Thomas Manton

Expository preaching is superior to all other homiletic methods. We take as our theme this passage from Psalm 119:130 because expository preaching is nothing other than "unfolding" God's Word, and we are told here that it is this which gives light and understanding.

The Hebrew word rendered "entrance" in the NKJV is the word pethach, which means "opening" in a figurative sense. This is why other versions render the word as "opening." This is an acceptable rendering so long as we keep in mind that it is meant in a figurative sense that implies disclosure rather than a door. Other forms of the word's root, pathach, mean to open wide (literal or figurative); specifically to loosen, begin, plough, carve: - appear, break forth, draw (out), let go free, (en-) grave (-n), loose (self), (be, be set) open (-ing), put off, ungird, unstop, have vent. And so we can clearly see the point being made by the Psalmist. It is only by opening, unfolding and drawing out the meaning of God's Word that there can be light and understanding.

There are other passages of Scripture that confirm this view. In Luke 24:27, 31, it was Jesus' expounding of the Scriptures that opened the eyes of the disciples' understanding. Acts 17:3 has Paul opening the Scriptures and it was this opening which brought many of his listeners to saving faith. Nehemiah 8:8 says, "They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read."

Expository preaching takes the actual words of Scripture and sets about to explain them from their context and how all of Scripture teaches the same things. The Reformers and Puritans were truly

models for great preaching. If you have ever read a Puritan sermon, you'll know what I mean. If you haven't, you should!

The Puritan model is best seen in the sermons of Thomas Manton and John Flavel. First the text is read. Next, some details of the context and background are given. The text then is broken up into its various clauses and phrases, with all the ramifications explained. This leads to the statement of the passage's "Doctrine," i.e., the theological truth which the passage teaches. The body of the sermon is spent expounding this doctrine through references to many other parts of Scripture. The Puritans, like the Reformers before them, believed in the principle that Scripture interprets itself. This is why they always interpreted a given passage in the Bible in the light of the rest of the Bible. They never came upon a verse and thought, "Wow! This is a new doctrine taught nowhere else in the Bible." If you think that a passage is teaching a doctrine taught nowhere else in the Bible, you've misinterpreted it.

Finally, the Puritan sermon always ended with pastoral, or practical applications of the doctrinal truths learned. Puritan sermons were almost always split right down the middle: about half doctrinal and half pastoral application.

This is truly the biblical model. Paul's epistles have this same quality. About midway through you will find a "therefore" that begins a section of applying the doctrinal truths expounded on in the first part of the letter. There is no superior method of preaching.

Appended are three principles that are a great guide in biblical interpretation. I found these in my notes. I didn't formulate them. If anyone recognizes them and knows the source, let me know. I would gladly give credit where credit is due.

### 3 Principles of Interpretation

- We must aim to allow the Scriptures, in whole and in each of their parts, to function as God intends.
- The function or meaning of any individual passage of Scripture should first be sought by attempting to determine what its human penman intended in writing it.
- Ultimately, our interpretation of any particular biblical passage must acknowledge and take into account the fundamental unity and consistency of God's whole written word.

Pastor Andy

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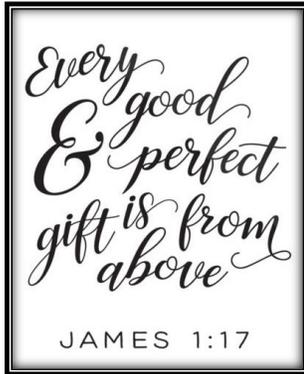
## NEXT CHAPTER OF THEIR LIVES

Congratulations to this year's high school graduate Chrissy Schmidt. We celebrated Chrissy and her accomplishments in church on Sunday, May 22.

We also celebrated our two foreign exchange students Eliza Madumarova (host family Mark and Jen Gemar) and Lennard Bolius (host family Gary and Jody Schnabel).

Good luck wherever your journey takes you!





## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

LaVern A. Schaefer, age 93 passed away peacefully at home with his family at his bedside and went home to the Lord on Friday, May 20, 2022. Funeral services were held on May 27.

### Friedens' Nursing Home/Assisted Living Residents (With Addresses and Birthdays)

1. Maydean Dewald – Borman Manor; 501 N. 4th St., Parkston, SD 57366 Birthday: Feb. 13
2. Elva Brosz – Avera Assisted Living; 400 West Fir St; Parkston, SD 57366 Birthday: Feb. 22
3. Betty Wormsbecher – Avera Assisted Living; 400 West Fir St; Parkston, SD 57366 Birthday: Feb. 1
4. Curtis Huether – Avera Assisted Living; 400 West Fir St; Parkston, SD 57366 Birthday: Sept. 24

### Friedens' Shut-ins

1. Maynard Dewald—P.O. Box 152, Tripp, SD 57376
2. Pauline Finck— 28848 SD Hwy 37, Tripp, SD 57376

## The 5-Finger Prayer



**Thumb:** Pray for those closest to you: your family and friends.

**Pointer finger:** Pray for those who point you in the right direction: your teachers, and other leaders in your life. Pray for wisdom and support.

**Middle finger (tallest):** Pray for those that lead us: those in government, in business, in church leadership. Pray for guidance and wisdom.

**Ring finger (weakest):** Pray for those who are poor, sick, in pain, in trouble: those most in need.

**Pinkie finger (smallest):** Pray for yourself and your own needs.

## MONUMENTAL: CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATNESS

Celebrating God's Greatness was the theme to this year's Vacation Bible School. Friedens Reformed Church, First American Lutheran Church and Hope Lutheran Church worked together to provide a fun-filled learning experience for children in our communities. Bible stories about Joseph being sold by his brothers, being imprisoned, and in the end reuniting with his family were shared with 61 children, ages four to 12. VBS was held during the week of May 23rd with a closing program performed on May 27th. Thank you to the many people who volunteered their time and energy, as well as food items, to help share God's greatness with the youth in our communities.

The daily mission offering this year provided school supplies to students and teachers on Native American reservations. A \$1 donation can supplement school supplies for one child for a whole year. The mission offering collection amounted to \$407.



## WOMEN'S GUILD UPDATES

The school year concluded with our Friedens' T-D high school graduate Christina Schmidt, daughter of Tom and Connie Schmidt, and foreign exchange students Eliza Madumarova from Bishkek, Kyrgystan and Lennard Bolius from Berlin, Germany, being recognized with a short program and gift on May 22. Eliza's host family was the Mark Gemar family, while the Gary Schnabel family hosted Lennard. We at Friedens pray our Lord will show them His way to success and happiness through service to others, as they each choose their path in life.

The family of Goldie Winckler recently donated twenty floral table centerpieces and two floral arrangements to the Guild in Goldie's memory. Goldie's talent and love for crafting can be seen in each piece and will be used to grace our church and reception hall.

Church World Service was recognized on June 19 with a Blanket Sunday collection of \$420. We as a church are making a difference for those who have been displaced, are refugees or are victims of disaster. Thank you for your support!

Friedens' funeral committees served the LaVern Schaefer funeral on May 27. We extend our sincere condolences to LaVern's family. The Guild continues to be very appreciative of our friends and church volunteers who come forward with the food donations as well as donating your time in serving our families.



Friedens' 2022 Potato Topper event is once again in the planning stages and is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14. Watch for further information. We hope to see you there!

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## CHURCH DAMAGED IN STORM

On May 12, our community was hit by damaging winds. We were fortunate that only structural damage occurred with only minor physical injuries to our residents. The Church roof had many shingles blown off with small leakage into the sanctuary. Insurance proceeds will cover new shingling. Roofers should be onsite sometime in July.



## OFFERING SCHEDULE

July	3	General Fund
	10	General Fund
	17	Benevolent Fund
	24	General Fund
	31	General Fund
Aug	7	General Fund
	14	Building Fund
	21	General Fund
	28	Benevolent Fund
Sept	4	General Fund
	11	Building Fund
	18	General Fund
	25	Benevolent Fund

WATCH BULLETIN, WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK FOR UPCOMING EVENTS!

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Psalm 33:12

*God Bless  
America*

