



February 2016

The Tidings

Ministerial Moments

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As I sit here on this cold and snowy day, I am in remembrance of that first week when I came here 9 years ago. That's right, as of Feb. 1 I will be celebrating my 9th anniversary at Friedens. That first week I was greeted by a snowfall. First Susan Oyler called and asked if I needed anything. Well, I guessed, a snow shovel. In a few minutes, she was at my door with a snow shovel. Then Kay called and asked if I needed anything. I think I need salt, I said. Kay was quickly at the house with salt. Now since the only time I had been in snow in over 20 years was when our family went to the mountains, I can say I was a little concerned about slipping on anything icy. The result was that I salted a path from the parsonage to the church so strongly that it melted the next snowfall as well.

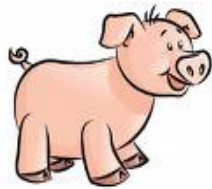


My beloved Daisy didn't know what to make of the cold. She was a California dog and our vet had suggested that I get her a raincoat and winter coat before we moved back here. When I first tried to try coats on her, she gave me the reaction that "real dogs don't wear coats", but as we got into the snow and ice traveling here, her reaction towards wearing them was more and more favorable.

Funny thing, while many of my friends who live in Southern California or high school friends who have since moved to Florida boast of their weather, I've never minded having four seasons. We've had an unusually mild November and most of December, so in spite of the current cold, it's time for it. What I am really enjoying though is that on clear days, I can already see daylight lasting longer telling me that spring is near.

Life comes in cycles. In the past month, I am sorry to say, we lost Albert Galle. We heard the hymn "In the Garden" at his funeral. There are perhaps two hymns fitting for a lifelong farmer, one would be the old favorite, "In the Garden", and the other is the newer "In the Bulb there is a Flower". It's interesting, but last week in Sunday

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Wurstmarkt

Coming Soon!!!

See details Page 3

February



Birthdays

Emma Schmierbach	15
Lori Selman	16
Julie Imes	18
LaJune Fulton	19
Bryan Childers	20

Anniversaries

Dennis & Cindy Galle 21

Greeters and Ushers for February

FEBRUARY

Feb. 7 - Gary & Susie Stewart, Ron Geisel

Feb. 14 - Gary & Susie Stewart,

Mandi Schmierbach & Family

Feb. 21 - Mandi Schmierbach & Family

Feb. 21 - Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter

MARCH

Look for new Usher and Greeter List in March's Tidings

Why Go to Church?

One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for church, to which he replied, "I'm not going."

"Why not?" she asked.

"I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me, and two, I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why you SHOULD go to church:

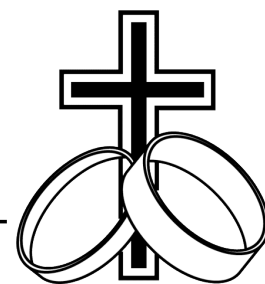
One, you're 59 years old, and two you're the pastor!"

Upcoming March Dates

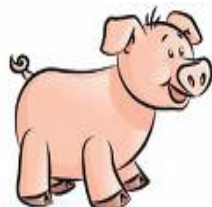
- March 2 - 7 pm at Holy Ghost in Darmstadt
- March 4 - Dartball Tournament—Tentative
- March 6 - One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
- March 13 - 9 am Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast before church
- March 19 - Wurstmarkt

Special Announcement

After church on Sunday February 14 will be the wedding of John Barrett and Lea Scruggs-Parker. All members of the congregation are invited to enjoy in this special celebration. A light luncheon and entertainment will follow in the church fellowship hall following the nuptials.



Next Wurstmarkt - Saturday March 19th 3 pm to 7 pm



Funds and Fellowship is always in need of helpers to set up Fellowship hall, tear down and of course the need of pies. They start at 8:00 am with peeling of potatoes and cooking. Tear down is around 7:00 pm. There will be a work schedule and pie sign up in the entrance at the church. So come on out and help Funds & Fellowship with the Wurstmarkt if you're free.

New Council Members

- Pete Dressel
- Duane Waeltz
- David Schneidewind
- Ruby Lehman

Ministerial Moments (Continued)

school as we began our last session on the introduction to the Gospel of Mark, it mentioned that to experience the Resurrection, one has to die. I had never thought of it that way. Immortality means that one never dies, but to be resurrected, as Jesus was, one must die. It is an interesting concept which I must give more thought to.

Anniversaries, and new beginnings; I've already mentioned that my 9th Anniversary at Friedens is Feb. 1. The church's 125th anniversary began sometime in January, and on Feb. 14 we will celebrate the new beginnings of marital life for John Barrett and Lea Scruggs-Parker from which we hope there will be many anniversaries to come. The days are lengthening. The Pre-Lenten Breakfast will include something about Martha & Mary, even perhaps giving as Paul Harvey used to say "the rest of the story." Ash marks the foreheads of all who believe on Ash Wed. The Adult Sunday School Class will be doing a study on prayer. The Thursday afternoon Bible Study will be doing a study which I believe is called "Bible 101". There are even special Lenten Devotionals for the confirmands this year. Lent is a time of prayer, contemplation and perhaps repentance and/or renewal. As we approach Easter, we will see the earth give new birth and that is one of the signs of the coming of the Lord our God.

Blessings, Pastor Gail

Goat for Dinner

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having.

"Goat," the little boy replied.

"Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?"

"Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.' "



*****Lord, keep Your arm around my shoulder and Your hand over my mouth.**

FEBRUARY 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 6:30 pm	2	3 Choir 7:00 pm	4	5 Dartball here 7 pm	6 Pre-Lenten Breakfast 8:30 am
7	8 Council Mtg. 7 pm	9	10 Ash Wednesday @ Friedens 7 pm, Choir after	11	12 Dartball at Addieville	13
14 Post-Sunday Service - Wedding	15 President's Day	16	17 Lenten Service @ Trinisty UCC Biddleborn 7 pm, Choir after	18	19 Dartball here 7 pm	20
21	22	23	24 Lenten Service @ _____, 7 pm, Choir after	25	26	27
28 Post-Church outing to Pioneer Cabin	29	Sunday Feb. 14 Post-Sunday Service – Wedding of John Barrett & Lea Scruggs-Parker All members invited. Luncheon catered afterwards.		Sunday Feb. 29 Post-Church outing to Pioneer Cabin, sign up in the entryway.		



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