

Friedens Annual Report-2012

January 27, 2013- 9:30 AM

*FAITH*FORWARD

“If you have faith the size
of a Mustard seed...
nothing will be
impossible
for you.”



Matthew 17:20

Friedens United Church of Christ

Marc Hayden, Senior Minister

Sarah Haas, Associate Minister of Children and Youth Ministries

Erica Bair, Student Pastor

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Annual Congregational Meeting- January 22, 2012

President, Bill Richmond called the meeting to order at 9:35 on Sunday January 22, 2012

Bill then presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting.

- Opening Prayer
- Quorum Determination
- Minutes from November, 2011 Meeting
- Annual Report Highlights
- 2011 Financial Summary
- Recognition of Outgoing Council Members
- Nomination & Vote on New Council Member
- Office Manager Position, vote for Approval
- A Look Forward at 2012
 - Faith Forward, Offering Envelopes
 - The David Fund, Opportunities
- Closing prayer

Pastor Mark opened the meeting with a prayer.

- **Quorum**
 - It was established that a quorum (10% of the congregation) was present with more than 69 members in attendance.
- **Minutes**
 - Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting, November 20, 2011 were available for review. Amy Hardesty motioned that the minutes be approved as written. Justin Brady seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **Annual Reports Highlights – Bill Richmond**
 - 16 reports submitted
 - **Celebrations:**
 - Centennial Celebration and whole host of Activities
 - Pastor Sarah's 5 Year Anniversary
 - Shalom Service is a Year Old
 - **Outreach & Service:** Reach out and talk to people around you – engagement
 - High School & Middle School Experiences in Ohio & Locally
 - Bread for the World & Global Ministries involvement
 - Volunteer Support of Campus work Projects
- **Worship, Fellowship & Administering of Rites:**
 - A fundamental core within our church – as we support one another through all of our events
 - Over 150 Services led by our Senior Pastor
 - Welcomed 15 Adults into Membership
 - Confirmed 10 youth into membership
 - 12 Funerals, 6 weddings & 17 baptisms performed

- **2011 Financial Summary** 1/1/2011 through 12/31/2011 – Bill Richmond
 - Operating Fund – Beginning Balance was -\$719.00 (in the red without the David Fund bequests)
 - **The David Fund** – Memorial Fund and Endowment Fund were combined into one fund, David Fund, in 2011
 - The church received a wonderful undesignated gift from the estate of Susan Dammeyer in the amount of \$100,000.00
 - Without Susan’s bequest the David Fund would have \$6,188 – down 16% from last year
 - With one time gifts taken out we are down 11% with Susan Dammeyer’s bequest the David Fund is up 4% from last year
 - ◆ It was approved to utilize needed funding from the Susan Dammeyer’s bequest in the David Fund to pay for the Sanctuary refurbishment.
 - The Operating fund is down 1% and the Building Fund is down 50% in 2011
 - Using moneys from the Building Fund Friedens paid down the final payments to the CLWC’s construction vendors
 - 2011 Approved Annual Budget – \$829,498
 - 12 Month Expenses – \$687,551
 - Variance – \$141,949
 - Questions? – No questions at this time
- **Outgoing Council Members/ Recognition**
 - Troy Hicks – *Buildings & Grounds*
 - Linda Ealy – *Fellowship & Events* (thank you for your dedication time and talent in planning the church picnic and the centennial celebration)
 - Whitney Hayden – *Membership* (thank you for providing a welcoming environment)
 - Dennis McNulty – *Stewardship* (thank your organization and support)
 - Mari Prior - *Christian Education* (thank you for your one year commitment and help in creating a sustainable youth ministry)
- **Nomination & Vote for Open Council Position – Membership Chairperson**
 - Sharon Hedegard motioned to approve and elect Danny Sullivan to fill the Membership chairperson. Kathy Hoke seconded and the motion carried.
 - Still need to fill the Fellowship & Events Ministry Council
- **2012 Church Council**
 - Bill Richmond – President (2013)
 - Joe Walterman – Vice President (2012)
 - Becky Rissel – Secretary (2013)
 - Kim Yager – Finance Ministry/Treasurer (2013)
 - Justin Brady – Building & Grounds Ministry (2014)
 - Sharon Summers – Outreach Ministry (2012)
 - Adam Hayden – Equipping Ministry (2012)

- **Open** – Fellowship & Events Ministry (2014)
- Danny Sullivan – Membership Ministry (2014)
- Bob Craig – Personnel Ministry (new 2013)
- Sheila Leachman – Worship & Arts Ministry (2013)
- Ellen Tuttle – Stewardship Ministry (2014)
- Larry Phillips – Technology Ministry (2012)
- Tom Probasco – Environmental Ministry (2012)
- Lisa Haver – Christian Education Ministry (2013)
- **Office Manager Position, vote for Approval**
 - Section 7.3 of the church bylaws: Administrative / Operational Staff
 - Requires Council Approval
 - Requires Congregational Approval
 - Received four resumes
 - Bob Craig spoke to each interested individual through a phone interview
 - Two candidates were selected from the phone interviews and brought in for panel interviews
 - Mari Prior has been selected to fill the Office Manager position
 - Need congregational approval
 - Linda Ealy motions that the congregation approve Mari Prior as the new Office Manager. Sheila Leachman seconded the motion and the motioned passed.
 - ◆ Mari Prior will receive the offer
- **A Look Forward at 2012**
 - Faith Forward – three key components
 - Fully funded 2012 budget
 - Filling the \$102,900 projected gap in the approved budget
 - filling the \$68,000.00 gap in Actuals received
 - Debt reduction – mortgage
 - Expand youth ministries
 - Improvement of youth spaces
 - Direct Community & Global Outreach ties
 - Local Outreach – helping our neighbors
 - ◆ Focusing on one Organization over the next four years
 - Exodus Refugees Immigration, Hunger Inc., Perry Senior Citizens, and Wheeler Mission
 - Hands on help and develop relationships
 - Global Outreach with Chile Missionary – Elena Huegel
 - ◆ <http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/>

- Equipping Ministry – Strengthen the Equipping Ministry
 - Hire a part-time staff position - Equipping Ministry Program
 - ◆ budgeted \$15,600.00 salary for ¾ of a year.
 - Planned to be implemented in 2011, but had to be postponed for financial reasons
- **Faith Forward : Goals**
 - Raise \$500,000 over the next 3 years
 - \$170,000 a year – based on giving units contributing on average \$13.00 more each week
 - 10% Tithe of our Faith Forward offerings will go to support Local and Global Outreach
- **Faith Forward: Needs – Involvement, Commitment & Support**
 - Involvement: Forums (first to be held on Sunday, February 12), Group Meetings, engagement with the Council.
 - Speaking with groups and seeking feedback
 - Creating dialogue with the congregation as a whole and moving forward
 - Commitment: Prayerfully consider what is right for your situation, how can you help, provide feedback/ a voice to the process.
 - Support: To follow through with your commitments, to assist our leaders, and to stay engaged beyond commitment Sunday.
 - Commitment/ Pledge Sunday is scheduled for Easter
- **Offering Envelopes**
 - Are available in the Narthex for pick-up
 - 3 categories
 - Operating – now includes the mortgage
 - Faith Forward
 - Building – capital funding
 - Friedens has \$27,000.00 in the building fund – saved for future building needs (like a new roof or other repairs for the building and grounds)
 - Jeff Leachman asked, “are there are any slated capital improvement plans for this year?”
 - Bill Richmond “no not at this time, but a new roof will be needed in the future”
 - Janet Granger asked, “how will we proceed if needs and actuals don’t match up?”
 - Bill R. responds, “If the operating fund goes to \$0.00 we would have to move money around because the mortgage and other bills have to be paid. If this happens the council will inform the congregation.”
 - The majority (75-85%) of our expenses come from the operating budget.
 - Financials will become more visible in 2012
 - Ed Vondrak states - “Several years ago it was formally voted in a congregational meeting, granting authorization for the church council to move money around from one budget line to another as needed.”
 - Bill R. – “Thank you Ed that is good to know. Any other questions.”

- Sally Craig – “If you are not sure how to allocate can we just put it in the total offering and you (financial ministry) can sort it out?”
 - Bill Richmond – “Yes, that is an option and it will probably go straight to operating, because that is where 85% of our need is.”
 - Joe Waltermann responds – “Faith Forward in our minds is... our family is prayerfully determining where we can expand our giving. What we currently give goes into the operating fund. What we can do as an extra effort goes into Faith Forward fund.”
 - Bill R. – “Thank you Joe. Faith Forward is anything above and beyond what you are currently giving.”
 - Kathy Hoke – “Where do special offerings go (Christmas, Easter, etc.) what category/ fund do they go into? Does it automatically go into operating?”
 - Bill R. – “If it a special fund or a special envelope they will be tracked through the special envelopes. Bob Moore does the tracking and the line item where it is to go, but if you put it into the traditional offering my suggestion that you have a note in your offering envelope so it can be tracked/ identified.”
 - Kathy H. – “What if I specifically want to give money to the youth programs?”
 - Kim Yager (Church Council Treasure) – “We did the envelopes so that we can break it down based on how our budget was planned for, so those are the main big buckets that we are targeting. In order for a donation to go specifically to the youth makes the accounting a lot harder. We will need a separate account for that and it becomes too cumbersome. I prefer that it goes into operating because at the end of the day that is where the funds are going to be paid out. Please keep it simple as possible.”
 - Bill R. – “Any more questions? If you have a question afterwards please come and see us”
- **The David Fund**
 - This fund is designed to combine the Endowment Fund and the Memorial Fund into a single donor specified fund. This fund will consist of one-time donations and special donations that are over and above regular offerings and not specified to be applied to any budgeted items.
 - Named after David the king who gave gifts so the first temple could be built by his 1st son Solomon
 - Bill Richmond “We must pay down the mortgage and other bills (electric etc.) – if we can’t meet these responsibilities with the operating funds we will pull out necessary monies from the David fund as necessary.”
 - **Outreach Opportunities** – money tithed from Susan Dammeyer estate. Giving back to others in greater need and being good stewards of our funds and gifts.
 - Work Trip to Birmingham Alabama
 - Week of April 23, 2012 (24-28)
 - Volunteers Needed (up to 20 can go)
 - Intergenerational Trip to the Dominican Republic in June (minimum age, 17).
 - Local Outreach Week for Youth in June.
 - Local Outreach like those mentioned in Faith Forward and others.
 - **Volunteer Opportunities**
 - We need a Fellowship & Events Chair person

- Upcoming Council Position Openings: Vice President, Equipping, Technology, Environment
- Ministry Teams – Speak with the designated Chair Person
- Ushers: See Bob Cox
- Greeter Sign Up at Welcome Desk
- If you have a passion let us know - we can help direct it
 - Pair up and work in large and small groups for fulfillment inside and outside the church walls
- **Thank You**
 - For All You Have Done,
 - For All You Have Given,
 - For All You Will Do,
 - For All You Will Give
- **Closing Prayer**

Contact Bill Richmond for any comments or questions.

Meeting Adjourned with a closing prayer from Pastor Sarah at 10:29

Submitted by:
Rebecca Rissel
Church Council Secretary

Annual Congregational Meeting- November 18, 2012

President, Bill Richmond called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM on Sunday, November 18, 2012.

The agenda for the meeting was then presented.

Pastor Sarah led an opening prayer to begin the meeting.

- **Quorum**

Quorum was established with more than 64 members in attendance (10% of congregation).

- **Minutes**

Minutes of congregational meeting, January 22, 2012 were presented for approval. Bob Craig motioned for minutes to be approved as presented. Lisa Haver seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- **Mortgage**

- For a \$250 fee and a commitment to keep our mortgage with Citizens for three years, we've adjusted our mortgage rate to 5.75% for a mortgage payment of \$8203 a month.
- Council has agreed to continue to pay at the past rate so we will buy down an additional \$5000 by June 2014.

- **Budget and Finance Items**

- **2013 Operating Budget for Review**

- The 2013 Operating Budget was reviewed in great detail. Previously the budget has been set high so that there was flexibility to do more if needed. Council has tried to more accurately budget for projects and necessities and have cut costs wherever able.
- Highlights and clarifications on expenses:
 - Outreach and Worship were down slightly.
 - Christian Education was up slightly.
 - Discrepancy in Stewardship comes from the fact that envelopes are ordered in the fourth quarter.
 - Total supplies and administration was up because it includes needed technology upgrades.
 - Total maintenance and operating had a large discrepancy between spending and budget because we need to plan for special situations. For instance, last year we replaced the circulator for boiler and air conditioning for the office, which were not planned expenses.
 - Total Salaries and Benefits have changed because Pastor Sarah has gone part time to 20 hours a week. In addition, adjustments have been made to her housing/car allowance and Sarah has moved to Nathan's insurance. This doesn't reflect a savings, but a change that was evident.
 - No building expansion expense because this category has been eliminated.
 - David Fund expenditures were \$5000 for disaster relief and \$4000 for the choir room.

- **2012 Financial Performance Year to Date**

- Information was covered in detail.
- As a reminder the David Fund was created from the combination of the Endowment Fund and the Memorial Fund into a single donor specified fund of one-time donations.
- If we continue at this financial pace, we will be out of money in 10 years.
- Budget gap of \$94,810.12, of which \$30,000 in cuts could be made if necessary. \$64,810.12 is a hard gap that has been continuously sustained by special one-time gifts. To cover this gap we need to hit an additional weekly giving level of \$12,191.38 (for 250 giving units- \$48.77 additional per week; for 200 giving units- \$60.96 additional per week)
- Additionally, we have a large project ahead of replacing the Sanctuary Roof sometime in the next three years. We will plan to use the building fund without taking an additional

loan but would deplete the building fund with an estimated cost of more than \$50,000. Cost will be incurred when it is needed.

- **Faith Forward**

- Purpose is to square up annual budget. In addition, was meant to encompass “stretching” items of youth and equipping expansion, global mission investment which has been fulfilled with our commitment to Elena Huegel and debt reduction.

- **Questions that were entertained regarding the budget:**

- Kathy Hoke: “What is the \$200 difference in Worship Expenses?”

- Bill Richmond was unable to clarify and told Kathy he would let her know but he thought it was simply the difference in a small cost.

- Kathy Hoke: “Why did Supplies and Administration go up by \$2000?”

- Bill Richmond responded that the \$2000 was built into the office budget for a mailing cushion on the church newsletter.

- Kathy Hoke: “Why did Maintenance and Operations go down?”

- Bill Richmond responded that some contracts had already been paid in full for the year so there was no need to annualize. Additionally, upkeep expenses were backed off a bit.

- Kathy Hoke: “Why did Salary and Benefits change from proposed to current?”

- Bill Richmond responded that the social security was actually higher than the estimate, hence the change.

- Kathy Hoke: “What happened with the Equipping position?”

- Bill Richmond responded that only one applicant replied to the posting so they did not feel it was a competitive situation so did not fill.

- Sheila Leachman motioned to approve budget as proposed. Joe Stuteville seconded and the motion carried.

- Ray Raker thanked Bill Richmond for his hard work in presenting the detail of the budget to the congregation.

- **Church Council**

- Five council positions will come open in January. Presented slate of church council members for these five positions is as follows:

- Environmental- Jeff Fisher

- Equipping- Jeff Brodzeller

- Outreach- OPEN

- Technology- Maria Smith

- Vice President- OPEN

- Sharon Summers motioned to elect the council members presented. Sheila Leachman seconded and the motion carried.

- Additional two positions of Outreach and Vice President will be filled at January 2013 Congregational Meeting

- **Thank You**

- For All You Have Done,
 - For All You Have Given,
 - For All You Will Do,
 - For All You Will Give.

- **Closing Prayer**

- **Meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.**

2012 Annual Report of the Senior Minister, The Rev. Marc S. Hayden

As a new year dawns I look back with gratitude and forward with anticipation. I am thankful for God's Spirit that has led us to work together for the building-up of the church and the sharing of Christ's love. Friedens United Church of Christ really is a caring and growing church family, thanks to God's dynamic presence and your faithful commitment.

A few highlights of the year past include:

- Beginning our second century as a congregation with our *Faith Forward*, that is, with renewed faith to put God first and the call to share the love of Christ near and far.
- Welcoming Erica Bair as our Student Pastor and Mari Prior as our Office Manager. Both have worked hard and enriched our fellowship with their kindness and commitment.
- Two safe and helpful learning and service trips. An adult team traveled to the Dominican Republic working with the Foundation for Peace, while a large youth team worked with various local mission partners to learn about local needs and how we can help.
- Having four of our members in seminary: Erica Bair, Steve Mojonier, Pam Taylor and Trisha Gilbertson.
- Many ongoing ministries of worship, fellowship, learning and community service that keep the church campus humming virtually every day.
- Christmas in July that supported the good work of Hunger Inc. and our missionary to Chile, Elena Huegel; and the Giving Tree that benefitted the families that lost their homes in the explosion in the Richmond Hills neighborhood, plus a \$5000 gift to the victims of tornados in southern Indiana.

The year 2012 was a busy and productive year. My sincere thanks to a talented staff and a highly devoted group of lay leaders who work cooperatively and tirelessly for the good of Friedens Church.

It is a joy serving with Pastor Sarah as well as Erica. During 2012 your pastoral team:

- Welcomed sixteen adults into membership and confirmed eight young people into Christian discipleship and church membership.
- Presided over eleven funerals, nine weddings, and eight baptisms.
- Led worship, administered the sacraments, and preached at over one hundred and fifty services of worship.
- Offered pastoral care and visitation during times of need and provided oversight to visitation with the homebound.
- Provided pastoral leadership and support to a variety of ministry teams.

It is exciting to be part of a family of faith that is making such a positive difference in our families, church, community and world. May the hope, joy and peace of God continue to be reflected in our efforts to love and serve like Jesus.

Annual Report 2012 from Associate Minister of Children and Youth Ministries– Sarah Haas

“Sing to God, sing praises to God; tell of all God’s wonderful works.” Psalm 105:2

Serving with Friedens United Church of Christ continues to be a blessing that I cannot fully describe. I am so grateful to serve with Pastor Marc and such a caring congregation. I am also extremely thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve in a part-time capacity after receiving the indescribable gift of a child.

Joining the children, helpers, and leaders who are part of Treasure Seekers Children’s ministry each week continues to bring me much joy. I greatly appreciate all the people who give of their time, talents, and treasures to make this ministry possible. I am also very grateful for the commitment and dedication of those who serve with Joyful Noise and Praise Makers.

Throughout 2012 the youth ministry has been focusing on living out the mission, values, and goals determined by the Youth Ministry Strategic Planning Team in consultation with Youth Ministry Architects in 2011. I enjoy meeting with the youth and adults who participate in Youth 6:12, Confirmation Class, and Youth Leading Youth, and I am very thankful for the leadership of our youth Sunday School teachers and the Psalm 89:1 leaders. This summer Friedens Youth were involved in their second in-town week-long summer mission trip for middle schoolers. During the week we served with Dayspring Community Center, St. Vincent DePaul, Exodus Refugee, Brooklawn Children’s Home, and Circle City Farm. During the summer children, youth, and adults also enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School under the leadership of Susan Burkhardt. It is outstanding to see everyone work together so well, and it’s powerful to feel God’s Spirit alive.

Although my roles with the Outreach Ministry Team and hospital visitations have changed in my transition to part-time, throughout most of 2012 I enjoyed the opportunity to continue to work with Bread for the World, the Global Ministries speakers, and special events such as Free2Walk and the Hope Art Show. I will serve our congregation and conference on the Wider Church Ministries Board and the Global Ministries Board until my term is over. I continue to be blessed our mission personnel, mission staff, and mission volunteers.

In the last few months of 2012 I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as Erica Bair’s SCOFE (Supervised Concurrent On-Site Field Education) Supervisor. I am grateful for the way Friedens has embraced its role as a teaching congregation while Erica serves as our student pastor, and I am thankful for Erica’s hard work and dedication.

One of my hopes is to offer resources for families with youth and children in order to help them continue to grow in their faith journey as followers of Jesus, so we may all be equipped to share the love of Christ with others. Please let me know if there are ways that I can be helpful to your families.

Trusting in God, I look forward to serving with you as we share the love of Christ with others in 2013. Thank you for your prayers and all the ways you use your gifts to be part of building God’s peaceful and beloved community.

2012 Annual Report from the Student Pastor- Erica Bair

This semester I have been quite fortunate to be able to be student pastor for Friedens. Student pastor is a title much like student teaching. I am able to explore the idea of being a minister while taking classes and having a mentor and Ministerial Support Committee to help guide me.

Throughout the first official semester of being a student pastor, I was able to explore a wide range of ministerial duties. My most regular responsibilities were pastoral calls (about twice weekly I would call and/or visit with a member of the congregation who needed calling upon) and helping to lead in worship in various ways. I also planned and co-taught high school Sunday school. Lastly, I had the opportunity to plan a Global Gathering where the members of the mission trip to the Dominican Republic spoke.

Although this past semester (starting at the end of August) was the start of my title officially being student pastor, I also was able to participate in Friedens on a voluntary basis for the whole year. Before being a student pastor, I mostly worked with Christian Education in various roles. I was primarily involved with the youth ministry by representing it on the CE ministry team, taught high school Sunday school, helped with the youth mission experience, and helped with Youth 6:12. I also was able to participate in children's ministry by being on the Treasure Seekers rotation with fourth graders, and led a preschool team for Vacation Bible School. Lastly, I got to help a bit with adult education by leading a women's retreat right before starting as student pastor.

2012 Annual Report from the Council President- Bill Richmond

Year one... hundred and one. It's hard to believe another year has passed. It seems not so long ago I was writing about our centennial year, 2011, reflecting on celebrations, a time of recalibration, and the opportunity for renewal as we embarked upon the journey into our second century.

As it turned out 2012 was a busy year in a very different way than in years past. There was no single event, or set of events, that jump out to me as defining moments for our congregation, however, this does not mean our year lacked value - quite the contrary.

In 2012 we came together and lived out our faith in a number of ways. Rather than take credit for their exceptional efforts I will leave the details, and the stories, to the various Ministry Chairs to share in their reports. What I will say is this; on a daily basis, members of our congregation actively contribute their time and talents to benefit others within our church family, to the community, and to the world far away from the south side of Indianapolis. In addition to the work of our members and friends, the facility we have built is hosting a broad spectrum of activities for children and adults and we are providing a safe and wholesome environment for personal and spiritual development.

From a business perspective we had a decent year, however, we cannot be content to sit on our laurels. We kicked off Faith Forward early in the year and we will continue to increase the communication about what Faith Forward is, and our goals around it, so we can all have a greater understanding of this effort (an admitted shortcoming in 2012). We will also continue to expand upon the level of communication provided around our finances. We will do this through the Newsletter, the bulletins, and through face-to-face interactions like the "Council Is In" booth.

In future years, when I look back on 2012, whether as the head of the church council or the head of my family, it will be a hard year to describe. Many challenges were faced and overcome, some challenges remain in God's hands and will play out in God's time - all require our patience and will provide us wisdom. The good news is God's hand and God's spirit is present in all we do and all we face. In 2013, I hope we are all able to recognize God's presence in our lives, to grow in His spirit, and to share in His peace.

Thank you for all that you do for Friedens, and for all the ways you are a blessing to our congregation.

2012 Annual Report from Building and Grounds Ministry- Justin Brady

The buildings and grounds of Friedens Church are in good shape thanks to the efforts of so many good stewards; members and guests of Friedens Church taking excellent care of the facilities.

Of special note, in 2012, the community garden produced hundreds of pounds of food for Hunger, Inc. and other charities. The environmental team maintains the garden like a team of professionals. One shortcoming of the location of the garden is that we have no water on the south side of the road. Max Garrett became aware of the problem and, for his Eagle Scout project, decided to build a rain water collector. He organized a team of volunteers and completed the project in a day. Their efforts will help to feed the south side of Indianapolis! A big thanks to Max and his team!

The environmental team, among other things, maintains the beautiful butterfly garden outside of the CLWC.

The job of maintaining the Church buildings and grounds continue to grow as our new facilities expand and existing facilities age. We are able to keep maintenance costs to a minimum due to the faithful support of Church members and friends of Friedens. If you have any interest in sharing your time and talent to help keep Friedens facilities operating, please contact the Church office or drop a note in the comments box outside the office door. We need all the help we can get and there are plenty of jobs to help out with, ranging from changing light bulbs and window washing to organizing Church “workdays”. Thanks for your support in 2013!!

Annual Report from Christian Education Ministry- Lisa Haver

The Christian Education Ministry Team oversees the education opportunities for all ages, youth ministry, family ministry, nursery and offers retreat when leaders are available or interested.

Creative Spirit, led by Judy Brehob and Kyrmen Rea-Hedrick, offers our young children bible stories crafts and music. Though the numbers vary from week to week, the enthusiasm and joy these children give brings joy to the heart. Our thanks also go out to the parents and helpers. Praise Makers, led by Sally Perkins and Rebecca Vernon, offers our 2nd through 5th graders music, bible study and creative ways to bring them to life. Thanks go to Doc Rissel and Erica Bair for leading our youth in Sunday morning education. Dick Bailey continues to lead one of our adult classes and Sharon Hedegard diligently finds topical classes and leaders for short term learning opportunities in the Parlor class.

The ministry of Treasure Seekers continues to be a joyous worship and learning experience for our children during the worship hour. Coordinated by Pastor Sarah and the marvelous team of volunteers who help her, our children are truly blessed by this ministry.

Susan Burkhardt directed our Vacation Bible School which was well attended and well supported

Erica Bair led a day retreat that focused on the ancient meditation practices of the early church.

The nursery welcomed a new staff person, Diane Walsh, and congratulated Melissa Engelau on the birth of her son.

Youth 6-12 began to meet twice per month starting in the summer. Our dedicated youth and leaders participated in several mission projects.

Pastor Sarah arranged several training sessions including Safe Church Practices, which was recorded so that new and returning volunteers could view the training at their convenience. Also Mentoring and building supportive and encouraging relationships was offered for all adult leaders and helpers.

2012 Annual Report from Communications- Lindsay Eichelman

The Communications Ministry has been busy in 2012 continuing to build and shape this new ministry. With the addition of Mari Prior in the church office, we were able to further streamline the church newsletter process. Because of Mari's skill, hard work and assistance, we were able to make the newsletter a monthly offering with even more changes coming for 2013. We, as all ministries, are always still looking for volunteers willing to help with writing, graphic design, mail pieces, special projects, web content, social media and other areas of communications interest. We continue to build this ministry, so the sky is the limit!

Key tasks and highlights from 2012:

- Continued to use some of 2011 advertising plan to reach greater Southside community.
- Assisted with advertising and marketing for:
 - Spaghetti Dinner
 - Garage Sale
 - Holiday Worship Experiences
 - General Friedens Information
- Continued to grow and develop the church newsletter
 - Process created for newsletter preparation
 - Newsletter now offered monthly
 - Edited layout for church newsletter
 - New format for e-news and mail option coming for 2013

Very special thanks to Mari Prior for all the time, effort, dedication, patience and skill she has put forth over the last year to move the church newsletter into a church office process. It wouldn't be possible without her and the rest of the church office staff to get all communications pieces prepared and to the congregation in a timely manner.

The Communications team looks forward to more growth and amazing things for Friedens in 2013!

2012 Annual Report from Environmental Ministry- Tom Probasco

Members: Rudy Brinker, Rosie Fecteau, Janet Granger, Sarah Haas, Steve Mojonnier, Tom Probasco, Sharon Summers.

Ongoing projects included:

- Recycling of paper, #2 plastics and aluminum cans. (Tried unsuccessfully to expand recycling of other material through a new service offered by Community Recycling Solutions.)
- Friedens Community Garden (started 2009), providing vegetables for plot holders and Hunger, Inc. again this year.
- Butterfly Garden (started 2010).

New projects included:

- Contacted four local colleges with environmental studies programs about collaboration with us on a naturalization project for the pond on Friedens's property. (A couple indicated possible interest in the future, but not ready to work with us currently.)
- Evaluation/cost estimate for pond restoration by JFNew/Cardno with idea we might apply for a grant through their foundation, the Jimmy F. New Foundation. (Cost even after typical size grant from this foundation would be quite high.)
- Started distribution of *Indiana Living Green* at Friedens.
- Eagle Scout project by Max Garrett has provided the community garden with a rain catcher system and picnic table.
- Began participation in Energizing Indiana's Community Outreach Program whereby the church receives \$25.00 for each completed home energy audit signed up through Friedens.

2012 Annual Report from Equipping Ministry- Adam Hayden

The Equipping Ministry completed its third year of service to Friedens with the close of 2012; this year also marks the completion of Adam Hayden's three-year term as Equipping Chairperson. Adam will continue his involvement as a member of the Equipping Ministry. Beginning January 2013, Jeff Brodzeller assumed the Equipping Chairperson role.

The Equipping Ministry Team has connected its work to the following guiding statement:

Friedens Equipping Ministry equips people to go into the world, grounded in faith and community, and use their gifts to transform lives by loving and serving like Jesus.

The purpose of the Equipping Team under Adam's direction has been to help Friedens members and friends understand their daily activities through the framework of responding to the call to love and serve like Jesus. Each of us has an opportunity to model love, service, and extravagant welcome every day in the workplace, at home, at school, at the gym, running errands, and anywhere else our lives may lead us.

Highlights from 2012 accomplishments include:

- Facilitating Leadership Development sessions with the Friedens Council
- Partnering with the Faith Forward Team to analyze trends in Time-Talent-Treasure Pledges made by Friedens members to better understand the resources and areas of interest held by the Friedens community
- Guiding the Shalom Service Planning Team through an Equipping training series

Adam would like to express his personal thanks to each member of the Equipping Team who contributed to this ministry during 2012, including: Pastor Sarah Haas, Ron Beebe, Jeff Brodzeller, Roger Engelau, Brinn Granger, Sam Hanley, Mike Hastings, and Heidi Richmond.

2012 Annual Report from Fellowship and Events Ministry- Lisa Brinker

Members:

Linda Ealy	Shelby Baker	Peg Stanish
Elinor Morr	Kathy Carlson	Sandy Bailey
Ann Clark	Bev Arthur	Diane Ludlow
Lisa Brinker, Chair	Larry Smith	

Church-wide Activities and Events:

- *Provided reception for Confirmands (April 1st)
- *Sponsored all church “pitch-in” for Tom and Monica Liddle; Missionaries for East Timor (July 29th)
- *Provided reception for Eric Bair upon her installation as Youth Pastor (August 19th)
- *Sponsored church picnic at German Park (September 23rd)
- *Sponsored a Women’s Christmas Tea (December 7th)
- *Provided continental breakfast for Christmas Cantata to choir members and their spouses (December 8th)

Special Thanks to:

- *Our Gracious God, our Pastors, Church Family and our immediate families for support of our ministry
- *The committee members for their faithful service and encouragement
- *Linda Ealy, for continuing to be a mentor and chairing when I have been unavailable due to illness
- *Larry Smith and Gary and Ann Clark, for assisting with coffee service
- *Mari Prior, for always asking how she can help or assist
- *Cookie Bakers for baking support
- *To Bob Morr, Gary Clark, Dick Bailey and Rudy Brinker for set-up, take down support and helping with clean-ups
- *Those that support our coffee fund with free will donations
- *German Park for providing park for \$1.00 rental fee
- *Moonwalks and More, for their contributions to our church picnic

2012 Annual Report from Membership Ministry- Danny Sullivan

Diane Billiard stepped down after 5 faithful years of our visitor welcome team. The position will remain unfilled as we re-evaluate the need for it. Dale and Karen Nay have continued to visit our members in the community as well as provide them with communion. Sharon Hedegard manages the email prayer chain and sends weekly and as needed updates. A new membership pictorial was made available through in house printing and electronically. The office staff continues to update the information on demand. At the beginning of 2012, we had 666 members. We received 26 new members (including confirmands) and lost 15 members through death or transfer. The total membership as of 12-31-2012 is 677.

2012 Annual Report from Outreach Ministry- Sharon Summers

The Outreach Ministry is a reflection of the generous and caring spirit of the congregation at Friedens. Sharon Hedegard, Mike Hastings, Susie Engelau, Pastor Marc, and Pastor Sarah are the guiding forces behind the Outreach Ministry. The support of the people of Friedens makes it possible for us to share the love of Christ with our local and global community.

Organizations that received support from the Outreach budget in 2012 were Our Church's Wider Mission (UCC), Brooklawn Child and Family Services, Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Exodus Refugee and Immigration, Foundation for Peace, Hunger, Inc., Perry Senior Citizen Services, Perry Township Religious Education Association, Wheeler Mission, Bread for the World, and Midwest Food Bank.

In 2012, the Outreach Ministry participated in some new initiatives. Working with the Faith Forward team, we selected Hunger, Inc. as our local Outreach partner and Elena Huegel, Global Ministries mission personnel in Chile, as our global Outreach partner. We were able to contribute more than 2,000 pounds of food, from food drives and the Community Garden, and more than \$8,000.00 to Hunger, Inc. We contributed almost \$6,400.00 to the Shalom Center in Chile, where Elena Huegel works. Another new program this year was the Friedens Seminary Scholarship, which gives financial support to members of our church who are pursuing a seminary education.

Friedens contributed \$5,000.00 to help victims of the spring tornadoes in Holton, Indiana. We also gave \$3,235.00 for residents of the Richmond Hill neighborhood, who were victims of the recent explosion there. We gave 206 boxes of cereal to the Midwest Food Bank, and hosted fundraisers for famine relief in Africa and for victims of violence in Congo. Members and friends also represented Friedens in the Free2Walk and CROP Walk.

In June, a group of nine energetic and hard-working people traveled to the Dominican Republic to participate in the Friedens 2012 international Outreach Experience. They worked there with an organization called the Foundation for Peace. The Friedens' community enthusiastically supported fundraising efforts for this trip that included garage sales, spaghetti dinners, and bake sales. Also in June, over 20 Friedens' youth had the opportunity to participate in a local Outreach Experience called Summer X. They worked at local organizations and also traveled to Brooklawn in Louisville, KY.

Throughout the year, Global Gatherings hosted presentations about Kenya, Congo, Sri Lanka, Dominican Republic, and East Timor, as well as local foreign exchange students from a variety of countries.

2012 Annual Report from Stewardship Ministry- Ellen Tuttle

This committee works closely with the Financial Secretary, the Counting Committees, and the Financial/Treasurer. They are responsible for reporting and communicating incoming funds. Awareness for financial need and fund raising are, also, part of their mission.

Communication to the congregation has been one major focus. We have introduced cumulative numbers for operations and faith forward budget vs. where we are for each week. Stewardship mission moments and thoughts from the congregation have been added to our monthly Newsletter. Becky Rissel has created a bulletin board showing time and talents of many who serve. Also, a poster was placed in the Narthex to mark our progress each month for both operations and Faith Forward.

Those serving on the Faith Forward committee were: Roger Engelau, Jeff Brodzeller, Evelyn Eldridge, Becky Rissel, Lindsay, Eichelman, Joe Waltermann, Adam Hayden, Pastor Sarah and Pastor Marc. This committee explored ways to fulfill the mission of giving over and above the operations budget. The congregation has expressed the need to serve in our local and wider community of faith. This year the bulk of mission funds were given to Hunger Inc and Elena Hugel. Also, extra giving funds were to be slated to help pay down the mortgage debt.

Mid-year, it was decided that Faith Forward would operate under Stewardship and would continue with a like-minded goal. Jim Eichelman, Joe Stuteville and Rick Huddleston were added to this team.

We strive to encourage, educate and inform the congregation in the concept of stewardship. However, our main goal, as always, is to work for God's Kingdom using the teachings of Jesus Christ as our leader.

Ellen Tuttle
Stewardship Chair

2012 Annual Report from Technology Ministry- Larry Phillips

The Tech ministry was formed to provide a uniform process for the application of computer, telephone, and audio visual systems for our members and users of our facility.

Active members: Keith Barnett, Ken Granger, Larry Phillips, Mark Kendall, Michael Kendall, Roger Alting, Jeff Leachman

Projects completed during the year:

- Continued audio / video support for weddings, meetings, and other special events
- Recording of services
- Maintain and upgrade A/V, telephone, and computer systems
- Continued updates to web site / streaming audio (sermons) / newsletter mailing
- Modify web calendar and event submission forms.
- Replace internet mass mailing process with applet directly linked to Church Windows.
- Increase video streaming of sermons
- Replace Pastor Marc's office system with laptop
- Supply video splitter and cable to stage monitors for paperless band performances.
- Begin recording Shalom sermon to DVD.
- Begin upgrade of PC systems to MS Office '10
- Provide custom reports from Church Windows for council and ministries
- Release mobile version of Friedens web site – mobile.friedensucc.org

2012 Annual Report from Worship and Arts Ministry- Sheila Leachman

Looking back at 2012, we accomplished several things. The first item is the completion of the Choir Room renovation in July. With a donation from Lilly Raker, we were able to purchase new cabinets, table and robe racks. New paint was also added which was greatly needed. With all the changes to the choir room, they now have a more workable space and more filing capabilities. We combined music for all ages into one space making it more accessible for all the directors.

We also were able to repair the Christmas wreath that hangs in the sanctuary. Special thanks to Ty Roach, son of Eric Roach from the Shalom Service. We hope now that we no longer store it behind the screen that the wear and tear will no longer be an issue.

We had a successful Lenten and Christmas season in 2012. The services were very meaningful and we thank every person who was involved that made these services possible. We even added a Blue Christmas service this year that was aimed to help those who may be sad during the Christmas season for various reasons. We hope those who participated found it meaningful.

We also added step risers for the children's choirs, constructed by Justin Brady. These have been a valuable asset to our young choirs and have been very useful. Thank you, Justin for your help.

Each year brings new challenges, some easy and some more difficult but I have a very talented and willing group of people who offer their gifts each day in service to God. Without each person on my committee, each task would not be completed and our committee would not run as smoothly as it does. Thank you to each of you who donate your time and talent to our church!! I appreciate all that you do.

If you think you'd be interested in joining our group, please let me know. I'm sure we can find something that you'd love to help with whatever the job may be.

I look forward to another great year in 2013!!

God bless,

Sheila Leachman

Worship and Arts Chairman

2012 Annual Report from Finance Ministry- Kim Yager

Friedens United Church of Christ

Financial Summary (as of December 31st, 2012)

Year-to-Date	Current Operating Fund*	Building Fund	David Fund	Faith Forward Fund	Total
Beginning Balance: 12/31/11	27,434.57	27,482.54	133,896.06	-	188,813.17
12 mo. Receipts	559,686.59	33,957.81	82,690.65	45,313.25	721,648.30
12 mo. Expenses	629,207.51	250.00	9,554.42	9,531.33	648,543.26
Ending Balance: 12/31/2012	(42,086.35)	61,190.35	207,032.29	35,781.92	261,918.21
YTD Profit/(Loss)	(69,520.92)	33,707.81	73,136.23	35,781.92	73,105.04

2012 Approved Annual Budget

	Current Operating*	Building	David	Faith Forward	Total
Approved Annual Budget	682,727.00	-	-	-	682,727.00

*Current Operating category also includes required Mortgage Principle and Interest as of Jan 1, 2012. Amt transferred to Op Budget \$101,706

Mortgage

Ending Balance: 12/31/2011	\$ 1,240,331.51
Ending Balance: 1/31/2012	\$ 1,238,186.83
Ending Balance: 2/28/2012	\$ 1,236,031.22
Ending Balance: 3/31/2012	\$ 1,233,864.60
Ending Balance: 4/30/2012	\$ 1,231,686.92
Ending Balance: 5/31/2012	\$ 1,229,498.12
Ending Balance: 6/30/2012	\$ 1,227,298.15
Ending Balance: 7/31/2012	\$ 1,225,086.96
Ending Balance: 8/31/2012	\$ 1,222,864.47