

# Fredsville Lutheran Church

## The Rev. Lee R. Gable, Interim Pastor

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## January 2023 Newsletter



### Children's Christmas Program - December 18th

The children worked so hard to make this year's Christmas Program special. We are very proud of them! Thank you to each child who participated. And a special thank you to all of the parents who helped make it happen! We couldn't do it without you.

### Annual Meeting

#### After Worship Feb. 12

At the Annual Meeting, we will be reviewing and voting on the yearly congregation budget, nominees for committees, and council positions. We need your presence and vote to have a quorum!

### Volunteers Needed at

#### New Aldaya

January is Fredsville's month for providing two volunteers each Sunday to push residents in wheelchairs to church on Sunday mornings. If you are willing to volunteer, talk to Sue Green (319-830-4337). You would need to be at New Aldaya at 10:00 a.m. and would be done by noon.

### Weather Reminder

If the Dike-New Hartford School District cancels classes or has an early dismissal, then any church activity for that day will be cancelled also. Any cancellations on Sunday morning are made by the Council President in consultation with the pastor. Cancellations will e-mailed to the congregation, posted to the church Facebook page, and listed on KWWL and KWWL.com.

## Pastoral Pondering ... "Thresholds"

At the right side of our front door hangs a wooden cross with a wooden dove at its center. This cross is made olive wood from Jerusalem. Like the olive trees that still stand in Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed before going to the cross. The grain in the wood reminds me of wisps of prayer rising into the air like incense and reaching outward like clouds rolling across the landscape we call home. The dove is flying downward like the image of the Spirit at Jesus' Baptism and each of our own Baptisms. This wooden cross was a gift given to me by my mentor pastor. This cross has traveled with me through the many moves at seminary. In 2014, the cross was the first thing we placed on the wall in our Pennsylvania home. Then it was one of the last things we packed up before we moved to Iowa. Now, this cross accompanies us here, in our Fredsville home.

To place this cross at the doorway marks this threshold with God's Love, reminding us that we encounter Christ each day. As we greet people at our door, we are reminded that it is the image of God who knocks each time. We are invited to see Christ in each other and to be Christ for one another. I remember this lesson from the Rule of St Benedict, an instruction guide for Monastic life. In Chapter 53: The Reception of Guests, it states, "All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matt 25:35)." How will we receive Christ at the threshold, of each new day, in our hearts, homes, and our life together as blessed, broken and beloved people of God?

As we go out the door, the cross reminds me that we enter the world around us that God has made in creative love. We are stewards of this Creation and Community. How will we be stewards in the way of Jesus? How will we steward this good land for generations yet to come? How do we carry the cross into our daily life, to be an instrument of God's love and grace? Then as we return from our daily adventures both grand and mundane, the cross reminds us that Christ makes a home with us. The Holy Spirit dwells with us and within us. (Rom. 8:9, 11; 1 Cor. 3:16)

As we cross the threshold of this new year, may we place a cross at the doorway of possibility that opens before us. I pray that we encounter Christ in our midst, the living Christ that greets us in the eyes of another. The Christ that surrounds us with beauty and calls us to stewardship. The Christ that welcomes us home to the warm embrace of love in the heart of God, here and now.

***May the Peace of Christ be with you always...***

*Pastor Lee*



## Birth Announcement



**Nora Elizabeth Faust** was born on December 13th, 2022, at 9:06 AM, weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz and 20 inches long. The parents are Mark and Marin Faust. The grandparents are Steve & Connie Faust and Tom & Jennifer Verhulst.

### Remember Them in Your Prayers

**Family of +Christina (Williams) Tischler+** - For her recent death.

**Ken Lyle** - Pr. Lee's friend, health incident & auto accident.

**Jeff Sandlin** - Being treated for a kidney issue.

**Tim Morgan** - Meridith Sandlin's brother who is battling cancer.

**Carol Watson** - Has on-gong health concerns.

**Marcia Andersen** - Undergoing treatment for cancer.

### Year-End Contributions

Offering that is received after December 30th will be counted for year 2023.

### Church Council

The Council did not meet in December so there are no minutes for this newsletter. The Council will meet on January 29th after worship.

### Family Clothes Closet

We would like to again open the clothes closet the first Saturday of each month from 10:00-12:00 p.m. In order to do this, we need two volunteers to open the back door, assist shoppers, and keep the clothes closet organized. Please contact the church office @ 319-989-2065 if you are willing to volunteer. We could also use donations of winter clothing including coats, mittens, etc.

### Birthdays

**Kaylee Nielsen - 1**

**Drew Petersen - 5**

**Zachary Nicholson - 7**

**Gavin Hines - 12**

**Jason Yearous - 12**

**Merlyn Petersen - 13**

**Kathi Heide - 17**

**Jered Lotts - 18**

**Christa Lotts - 19**

**Joanne Hanson - 20**

**Klayton Kruger - 20**

**Angela Syhlman - 22**

**Gavin Opoien - 23**

**Melissa Dufel - 26**

**Cameron Foust - 26**

**Scott Griffith - 26**

**Jeff Reinicke - 26**

**Becca Aronson - 28**

**Jeff Intlekofer - 29**

**Ann Hilliard - 31**

### Wedding Anniversaries

None

### Choir

Choir will not meet on a regular basis during January. If you would like to be added to the text/email list for choir please contact Jean Loger @ [jjloger@gmail.com](mailto:jjloger@gmail.com).



## Food Collection

In last month's newsletter we posted the "Reverse Advent Calendar" as a way to collect food for those in need. We are continuing this project for the month of January to help stock our shelves for the Little Free Pantry. When you go to the grocery store, please think of those who might need some extra help this season.

Boxes can be placed in the Fellowship Hall in the back of the room.

## Reverse Advent Calendar

*Each day add an item to a box. When your box is full bring it to Fredsville Lutheran*

- Crackers
- Minute Rice
- Canned Pears
- Canned Beef
- Spam
- Pasta Dinner Boxes
- Canned Corn
- Canned Mandarin Oranges
- Dry Cereal
- Flavored Applesauce Cups
- Fruit Snacks
- Canned Chicken
- Toilet Paper wrapped roll
- Soup (not tomato)
- Canned Pork
- Granola Bars
- Jam
- Ramen Noodles
- Canned Peaches
- Trail Mix
- Canned Potatoes
- Snack Size Graham Crackers
- Mac & Cheese
- Pop Tarts
- Cracker Jack Boxes
- Snack Size Peanuts
- Canned Carrots
- Cracker & Cheese Snacks

**Little Free Pantry by the Dike Library**



## Thank You Notes

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$1,000 on November 22nd to our ThreeHouse ministry.

Your generosity enables us to be here to listen, guide, and care for today's students, faculty, and staff at the University of Northern Iowa, Allen College and Hawkeye Community College.

**David Glenn-Burns, Campus Minister of Threehouse Collaborative Campus Ministries.**

Thank you to all who made and delivered the Strip pastry and thinking of me during this holiday season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! **Jeri Karr**

Thank you for the Danish strip! It was absolutely delicious! I appreciate the time and talent it took to make and bake it. You were so thoughtful to remember me at Christmas. Have a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year! **Susan Sherwood**



**Dancing around the Christmas tree on December 18th.**

## *A Word From Our Council President*

Hello Fredsville!

Happy New Year! I hope the New Year is finding you happy and full of left-over excitement from the holiday season. Christmas is a season. It has so much energy that builds up to the big day. Then, it's gone. Well, it doesn't have to be. I hope this year that amongst the new goals, the new ideas, and the new changes that are to come, we continue to find that Christmas feeling to last until the next season begins.

January is a time of reflection and change, but how about this year some things stay the same. As I looked through my "Jesus Always" devotional book for children, I opened it to this message:

"A Brighter and Stronger Love

I pray that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith. I pray that your life will be strong in love and be built on love." -Ephesians 3:17 ICB

"Live by What You Believe

We live by what we believe, not by what we can see." -2 Corinthians 5:7 ICB

This is my hope for you this upcoming year. Christmas is about Jesus and our belief in the Christ Child. All over the world people celebrate this holiday with rituals, traditions, and engaging in Church related activities. So, I wondered this year- what is really the purpose? Why do we do what we do? Why buy the

presents? Why make such a big deal about getting together? It's because of the reason. A faith that binds millions. A belief in the miracles that can happen if we follow the book of instruction given to us so many years ago. It is real. The Love that God has for us and the belief that the faith can make us a stronger people. If it is truly in your hearts, faith is stronger than any feeling you have. It will guide you, protect you, and provide for you.

In the Christmas season we rejoice in the good news of the birth of Jesus. We celebrate the promises and the hope to come. But, come January, it's over. This year, I encourage you to keep that holiday spirit going. Keep sharing the love in your hearts with others. Let your faith guide your actions as the Lord has called us to do. Be happy. The spirit that moves you during Christmas can live on throughout the year and until the season approaches again. Just think about what we can change if we live by faith. It takes only one...one small baby wrapped in a cloth lying in a manger to change the world. We too can be the one to make changes around us this upcoming year.

Live by your faith always. I pray that this is part of your New Year's resolution to yourself.

God Bless you this upcoming year and always,

*Brenda Cooper, Council President*

# Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions for January 2023

from SundayandSeasons.com

## Sunday, January 1 - 1st Sunday of Christmas - Lessons & Carols (White)

*As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, we look towards Epiphany (January 6).*

*Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Hebrews 1:1-4** - *God has spoken to us by a Son*
- **Isaiah 52:7-10** - *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet who bring good news*
- **Colossians 3:12-17** - *Chosen and beloved do everything in the name of Jesus*
- **Matthew 2:1-12** - *God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star*
- **Psalms 98** - *Sing a new song to the Lord*

## Sunday, January 8 - Baptism of Our Lord (White)

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Isaiah 42:1-9** - *The servant of the Lord brings justice*
- **Psalms 29** - *The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)*
- **Acts 10:34-43** - *Jesus' ministry after his baptism*
- **Matthew 3:13-17** - *Revelation of Christ as God's servant*

## Sunday, January 15 - Second Sunday after Epiphany (Green)

*Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.*

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### **Prayer of the Day**

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

- **Isaiah 49:1-7** - *The servant brings light to the nations*
- **Psalms 40:1-11** - *I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)*
- **1 Corinthians 1:1-9** - *Paul's greeting to the church at Corinth*
- **John 1:29-42** - *Revelation of Christ as the Lamb of God*

### **Sunday, January 22 - Third Sunday after Epiphany (Green)**

*Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be "caught" in the net of God's grace and mercy.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

- **Isaiah 9:1-4** - *Light shines for those in darkness*
- **Psalms 27:1, 4-9** - *The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps. 27:1)*
- **1 Corinthians 1:10-18** - *Appeal for unity in the gospel*
- **Matthew 4:12-23** - *Revelation of Christ as a prophet*

### **Sunday, January 29 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (Green)**

*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

- **Micah 6:1-8** - *The offering of justice, kindness, humility*
- **Psalms 15** - *Lord, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)*
- **1 Corinthians 1:18-31** - *Christ crucified, the wisdom and power of God*
- **Matthew 5:1-12** - *The teaching of Christ. Beatitudes*

## **A note from Sue Green, Editor of Fredsville's 150th History Book**

I would like to publicly apologize to **Maggie Christiansen** for forgetting to put her Fredsville memory in our 150th Book. It had gotten "filed" in the wrong place on my computer and I didn't see it until last week. When I apologized to Maggie, she replied, "*That's OK Sue, don't worry about it. There are much bigger problems in this world.*" **If only, we could all have such a forgiving heart as Maggie!**

### **Maggie Christensen**

I began attending Fredsville after marrying Bob in 1959. Bob and I always took our three children: Kirk, Keri & Kris to church. Years back, I sang in the choir, taught the 5-year-olds in Sunday School, occasionally read the scripture in church and sometimes helped with the Bazaar. I also helped with the Aebleskiver Meal. That was always a lot of fun! I've made a lot of friends through attending Fredsville Lutheran Church.

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I also found these memories, written up by Jean Loger, that were shared at the Open-Faced Sandwich Luncheon that was held in September of 2021. They also should have made it into the Fredsville History Book. **My apologies for not including them in Fredsville's 150th Book.**

### **Marilyn Andersen Gift**

Marilyn's parents were Harold & Esther Andersen. She commissioned Gene Lehmann to create the historical display. Marilyn remembers Fredsville School and the fun times - like sliding down the hill. If the church bell rang during school, there was immediate silence to show respect. Her mother and Anna Stub (pastor's wife) were good friends. Marilyn remembered how the cemetery used to be all pea gravel - no grass.

### **Mary Kay Madsen**

Mary Kay's parents were Harold and Lenora Madsen, and her Great-Grandpa Johnson was a founding member and the first Council President. Mary Kay noted that the junipers in the cemetery are planted at the corners of the old church and the bell sets where the altar was.

### **Marcia (Dieken) Andersen**

Marcia was the wife of Gary Andersen (deceased). Marcia shared that her German family wondered about the open-faced sandwiches and remarked "Where's the top?"

### **Beth Andersen Koenen**

Beth is Marcia and Gary Andersen's daughter. She fondly remembers attending Luther League and the aebleskiver suppers: making the aebleskivers and cleaning up afterwards. There was always a lingering smell of aebleskivers in the Steege's house (Vicar's Villa) afterwards where the aebleskivers were fried. Beth remembered that her Grandma (Agnes) Andersen always made sure that the sandwiches were done right. She was very strict about this. Beth took confirmation from Pastor Joe Sibert and there was a big test at the end.

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### **Letha Petersen**

Letha remembers the custodian, Karl Nielsen, ringing the bell when someone passed away. She recalled attending services in Danish the first Sunday of each month.

### **Betty (Sorensen) Criddle**

Betty is Letha Petersen's sister. She recounted the poem "For Whom the Bell Tolls". Betty shared that the Sunday School teachers had meetings in the parsonage with Pastor and Anna Stub. Anna would teach the lessons to the Sunday School teachers so they then could teach them to the children. Betty remembers fondly the Christmas programs, dancing around the Christmas tree and the children getting a sack at Christmas time that contained an apple.

### **Catherine (Nielsen) Petersen**

Catherine remembered that her Grandma Anna Nielsen helped with the bazaar. Her Grandma Nielsen was not a seamstress, but she was good at sewing "over the shoulder" aprons with a pedal sewing machine. These aprons were then sold at the bazaar. Catherine also remembered that the farmers would donate a load of hay or corn at an auction - with the money going to the church. The Harvest Festivals were a big deal.

### **Merlyn Petersen**

Merlyn talked about the church bell. Before they tore the old church down, his father-in-law Harlan Nielsen and Merlyn's father lowered the bell through a hole they cut in the floor. Merlyn's 33 Massey Harris tractor was used. It was joked that Fredsville (meaning Peaceful Village) could have been named "Esther-ville" because at one time there were 5 ladies named Esther that lived near the corner at the bottom of the hill, an Esther Sorensen, Esther Andersen, Esther Krog, Esther Lovell and Esther Stage.

### **Karla Foust**

I remember that the Esthers, Emly Steege, and Ella Terhark were the neighborhood watch gals.

### **Keene Petersen**

Keene remembers sitting in the balcony near the bell and remembers the ropes, pulleys and squeaky noises.

### **Vernon Johnson**

Vernon remembers that his mother wrote letters to her family in Danish. She was able to do this because she learned to write in Danish at the Dane School that was held in the auditorium in the summers. Vernon also remembered the auditorium. It had a stage, a small room in the back, a basement that housed a restroom, the kitchen and the dining hall. The church and the auditorium were the center of the community. The "Cedar Dane Players" presented a play in the Auditorium. Vernon's father was in the play. The program was hand-printed.

### **Carlyn Baugus**

Carlyn was one of the eight girls that were the last class to be confirmed in the old church by Pastor Stub. Her mother helped break the ground for the "new" church.

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**My third apology also goes to Jean Loger.** She submitted these notes from her in-person conversation with Margaret (Markussen) Cundy held on July 23, 2021, when Margaret was 110 years old. The interview was held in Margaret's room at New Aldaya with Theresa Elverum and Jean Loger. This, too, had gotten filed in the wrong place and did not make it into the Fredsville 150th History Book.

**Margaret (Markussen) Cundy - 110 years old**

Margaret's grandparents were Anna Elizabeth (Lizzy), 1852-1941 and Hans Lauritsen, 1848-1935. They are buried in the Fredsville Cemetery. Anna and Hans were the parents of Laurits, Annette and Dorothea. Margaret thought that her grandparents donated land for the cemetery. Though Margaret lived most of her life in Cedar Falls, she remembered the trips she would make with her mother to water the flowers at the Fredsville cemetery. They would often catch a ride with the mail carrier since they didn't have a car. Margaret shared that one time they got caught in a rainstorm on the way back to Cedar Falls and had to stop at the old stone barn (that no longer exists). She remembered attending Dane School in the auditorium. The Dane School included gymnastics classes. Margaret's Dad and Uncle were in a band that often played at the dances held at Fredsville.

**Note: You may want to print these pages and put them in your 150th Fredsville History Book.**

*The Meaning of the  
Snowflake*



Every new snowflake comes to the earth  
as a picture of our Saviour's birth,  
because they are sent from up above  
and remind us of God's care and love.

Snowflakes gently cover the world in white  
and hide what's unlovely from our sight,  
showing us how He covers our sin  
and gives us His grace when we come to Him.

Each one is so intricate and small  
because Christ sees the details of us all,  
and just as two are never the same  
the Lord knows and calls us each by name.

So may every snowflake bring Christ to mind  
and in every bit of white may you find  
a reason to celebrate anew  
and a reminder of His love for you.

-Holley Gerth-





Pictures taken by Pastor Lee during the December Blizzard in sub-zero temperatures.

A sun dog or mock sun, also called a parhelion in meteorology, is an atmospheric optical phenomenon that consists of a bright spot to one or both sides of the Sun.



Two sun dogs often flank the Sun within a  $22^\circ$  halo. The sun dog is a member of the family of halos caused by the refraction of sunlight by ice crystals in the atmosphere.



Sun dogs typically appear as a pair of subtly colored patches of light, around  $22^\circ$  to the left and right of the Sun, and at the same altitude above the horizon as the Sun.



A beautiful winter serenity photo taken at the Grundy County Lake.





## January 2023, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

### **Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families**

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) works to provide services to Iowa children and families and to share their stories with the community. As a way of amplifying our communities' voices, we invite you to be a part of the annual Lutheran Day on the Hill event.

Join Lutheran Services in Iowa and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for Lutheran Day on the Hill in Des Moines on March 14, 2023! This day is essential for amplifying the voices of those who are not heard, for seeking social justice and for empowering people to exercise their right and responsibility to be part of the legislative process.

If you are interested in joining LSI for Lutheran Day on the Hill, visit our website at <https://lsiowa.org/ldh/>. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](https://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **A Journey of Overwhelming Joy**

After going through fertility treatments and being told they weren't able to have any more kids, Dani and her husband pursued their foster care license in 2015 and have cared for 13 kids since.

"Throughout our journey of being foster parents, we've had many great placements," said Dani. "Our shortest placement lasted five days when we cared for a girl, whose mother was incapable of watching her while she recovered in the hospital, and our longest lasted 18 months."

Dani shared that one of their biggest blessings was having the opportunity to adopt some of the children they fostered. The family adopted their first child at age one, and they had plans to adopt another when the child turned 18 years old.

"Every time our family adopts another child, I get the same feeling of overwhelming joy," said Dani. "I feel like any expectant mom –not being able to contain my joy when their adoption comes up, and telling everyone I know about it."

Dani shared that it is hard to explain the full impact fostering – and the lows and highs it brings – has had on her family. "We've cried, stressed and lost a lot of sleep. We loved, laughed and had so many firsts," said Dani. "But I still tell everyone who is considering being a foster parent to do it. It's a roller coaster, but so worth it."

# JANUARY 2023

| SUN  | MON                                    | TUE                            | WED                                       | THU  | FRI  | SAT                             |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| 1<br>9:30 Worship  | 2                                      | 3                              | 4<br>5:30 Handbells<br>6:30 Confirmation  | 5<br>9:00 Quilters                         | 6<br>Pastor Lee's Day Off                        | 7<br>10 am-12 pm Clothes Closet |
| 8<br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 S. School                       | 9<br>5:00 (Zoom) NEIA Care of Creation | 10<br>12:00 Pillowcase Dresses | 11<br>5:30 Handbells<br>6:30 Confirmation | 12<br>9:00 Quilters                        | 13<br>9:00 Fancy Fingers<br>Pastor Lee's Day Off | 14                              |
| 15<br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 S. School                      | 16                                     | 17                             | 18<br>5:30 Handbells                      | 19<br>9:00 Quilters                        | 20<br>Pastor Lee's Day Off                       | 21                              |
| 22<br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 S. School                      | 23                                     | 24                             | 25<br>5:30 Handbells                      | 26<br>Newsletter Deadline<br>9:00 Quilters | 27<br>Pastor Lee's Day Off                       | 28                              |
| 29<br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 S. School<br>10:30 Council Mtg | 30                                     | 31                             | 1<br>5:30 Handbells                       | 2<br>9:00 Quilters                         | 3<br>Pastor Lee's Day Off                        | 4                               |

## A Recap of Fredsville's Activities for the Month of December

- Over twenty strip trays were assembled and given to shut-ins and others.
- One large box of pill bottles was sent to Matthew 25: Ministries.
- College Care Packages were sent to our nine college students.
- Two thousand dollars was given to Bremwood for the Angel Tree project.
- The Clothing Closet was open four different times to those in need.
- Eleven poinsettia plants were purchased to support the Gladbrook-Reinbeck FFA Club.
- A food drive was begun through a "Reverse Advent Calendar."
- Jerry & Sue Green volunteered at New Aldaya to wheel residents to their worship service on Sundays.
- The WinGS youth participated in Christmas caroling in the Dike community.
- Volunteers painted the basement parsonage walls.
- A group from Fredsville attended "Christmas with Wartburg" in Waverly.
- The children put on a wonderful Christmas program and played the bells.
- Pastor Lee and Pastor Dena had an Open House at the parsonage.
- Merlyn & Catherine Petersen provided oranges and apples for the children after their Christmas program.
- The Choir blessed us with their voices during worship.