

Search and Call Tools for Congregations

Advancing the Spirit's guidance into God's future

INTRODUCING THE NEW LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Who
are
we

Who
is our
neighbor

Who is
God
calling us
to become

?

The new Local Church Profile is not just for congregations in search of a pastor. *All* congregations are encouraged to engage in its process of discovery every 3-5 years. The UCC Local Church Profile reflects valuable data, assesses ministry, clarifies change, and helps advance the calling of the congregation. Not just to be completed by a search committee – the more participation, the better!

MINISTERIAL EXCELLENCE,
SUPPORT & AUTHORIZATION

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Friedens Church of Washington
Washington, Texas

Pastor

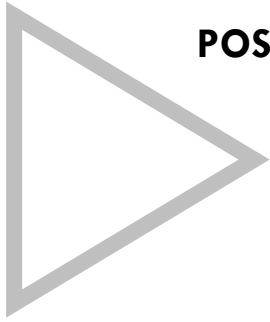
South Central Conference, Heart of Texas Association

February 2018

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

- Position Posting
- Who Is God Calling Us To Become?
- Who Are We Now?
- Who Is Our Neighbor?
- References
- Consent and Validation

*“God is able to provide you with every blessing, so that
having all sufficiency in all things at all times,
you may abound in every good work.”
(2 Corinthians 9:8)*



POSITION POSTING

LISTING INFORMATION

SCOPE OF WORK

COMPENSATION & SUPPORT

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: Friedens Church of Washington

Street address: 20301 FM 1155 E

Supplemental web links: <http://friedenschurch.com/>

Additional ecumenical affiliations (*e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships*):

Conference: South Central Conference

Association: Heart of Texas Association

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person (Name, Title, Phone, Email):

Dr. Don Longbottom Conference Minister

drdon@sccucc.org

480-322-5779

Summary Ministry Description:

Friedens is a place where people feel welcomed and comfortable, and is also a family oriented church. Friedens would like to be known as a beacon of light to the community. This should be the goal of all members and should be communicated from the church leaders and Pastor.

Photographs:



What we value about living in our area

1. Small country community with friendly, hardworking people.
2. Centrally located with a short drive to Bryan/College Station, Houston and Austin. Blinn College and Texas A&M are within 30 minutes driving range.
3. Bryan/College Station is one of the fastest growing area in the state.

Current size of membership: 274

Languages used in ministry (*other than English*): None

Position Title: Pastor

Position Duration:

Settled – a called position intended for longer-term ministry in which the minister moves church membership to the congregation and moves standing to related association

Compensation Level

Full Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? Yes

SCOPE OF WORK

Core Competencies:

The three core competencies the congregation feels that are the most important are:

1. The pastor should make pastoral calls on people in hospital and nursing homes along with those confined to home.
2. Pastor should be compassionate and caring person.
3. Pastor should be an effective preacher/speaker.

COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis: \$42,000 Salary Parsonage \$12,000 annually.

Benefits: Salary plus Benefits

What is the expected living situation for your next minister.

Parsonage on site or could be negotiated if this is found to be an issue with Candidate.

Comment on the residential/commuting expectations for your next minister.

There is a three bedroom two bath home on site of the church grounds, although this would be preferable there is some room for negotiating with a candidate. The two nearest communities are Brenham (17,000 population) and about a 17mile commute and Navasota (population 7000), which would be about a 10-mile commute.

State any incentives:

Pension, Sabbatical, vacation.

Describe peer and professional supports available for ministers in your association/conference:

Monthly Clergy gathering, Local Ministerial Gatherings and support for any other professional group that a candidate may already be engaged with.

If applicable, describe how your church will adopt part-time adjustments in the pastoral schedule to support a minister's bi-vocational employment:

This can be negotiable as we feel that a Pastor schedule can be flexible with few exceptions (ie. Worship service)

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Describe the ministry goals you envision your next minister co-collaborating with the congregation to achieve.

Friedens is a church with deep roots within the local community. The next Minister needs to be aware of the church history and help the church to use this history to help achieve growth not only in population, but spiritually.

Describe how your vision of the minister you are now seeking will assist the congregation in making an impact beyond its walls.

It would be very helpful that the candidate would have vision of outreach to the community in general, with involvement with food pantries, help with involvement of church groups (Women's Fellowship, UCC Women) in the local communities.

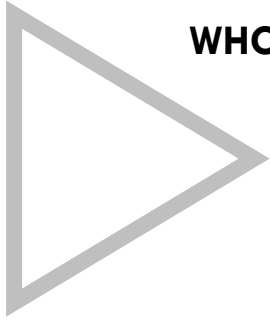
Specify language requirements or culturally-specific capacities preferred in a next ministerial leader, and why those matter to the congregation's sense of calling.

Congregation is essentially English speaking.

Appreciation of rural life would be good although accessibility to cities if desirable is available.

Based on what you have learned about who your church is, who your church's neighbor is, and who God is calling the church to become, describe four areas of excellence from *The Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry* that your next minister will display to further equip the congregation's ministry in these areas.

1. Exhibiting a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practices.
2. Engaging sacred stories and traditions.
3. Caring for all creation.
4. Strengthening inter- and intra- personal assets.



WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME?

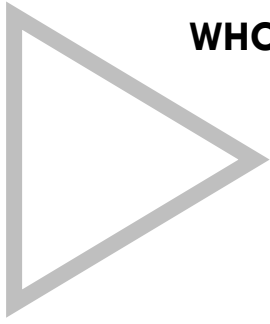
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

The congregation has multiple driving forces, which are faith hope and charity. The need to be an open church community to allow for growth spiritually should be of the utmost importance.

Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.

Friedens has not had a multi-year strategic plan in recent years. There are several things that are ongoing in the community that will make this an area that may require this to be done. The new pastor should be prepared to help with this challenge.



WHO ARE WE NOW?

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

11-YEAR REPORT

CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

CHURCH FINANCES

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Describe your congregation's life of faith.

Friedens is a traditional church which is shown in the faith of the congregation. The congregation is always very interested in the way the message is presented in all services. There is the belief that the Holy Spirit is always in our midst.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Friedens is a church with a rich history and members are very loyal to the church. This loyalty comes from the fact that many of today's members have roots that can be traced back to founding members over 125 years ago.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

Worship is usually traditional and held in the Sanctuary. The last Baptism involved the congregation and was very heartwarming. We believe if most members were asked to describe good preaching it would include a good message, interesting and attention grabbing, but always open to non-traditional worship.

Describe the educational program/faith formation vision of your church.

The church welcomes young members into positions of authority, which is evident by the younger members of church council and Sunday school leadership.

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

- When it comes to decision-making, how many hours are spent in meetings per month?

The Church Council meets monthly and other meetings are held when necessary.

- Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?

In 1974 there was a devastating fire that destroyed the church that had been built in 1911 and had been the center of the community for many years. The church members and community pulled together to rebuild the present sanctuary. One of the by-products that came from this disaster was the formation of a volunteer fire department, which has served the community very positively in the last 40 plus years.

- Can you provide the next minister with a copy of an organization structure, bylaws and/or annual report to further explain the patterns of the church's activity and governance? Yes

11-YEAR REPORT

CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	271	
Number of active non-members:	11	x
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	282	

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	80%	x
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	15%	x
Less than 5 years:	5%	x

Number of total participants by age:

0-11	12-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	<i>Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
4%	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	13%	15%	16%	x

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	10%	x
Joint household with minors:	25%	x
Single adults age 35-65:	30%	x
Joint household with no minors:	15%	x
Single adults over 65:	20%	x

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	40%	x
College:	35%	x
Graduate School:	7%	x
Specialty Training:	8%	x
Other (please specify):	10%	Less than high school x

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	65%	x
Adults who are retired:	30%	x
Adults who are not fully employed:	5%	x

Describe the range of occupations of working adults in the congregation:

Describe the mix of ethnic heritages in your congregation, and the overall racial make-up. Most UCC congregations tend to describe themselves as “diverse.” Yet, the vast majority of UCC congregations are mono-cultural. What does diversity mean in your context?

Has your congregation recently had a conversation about welcoming diversity, or do you plan to hold one on the near future (perhaps using, for example, the Welcoming Diversity Inventory)? Please note the date. Comment after the exercise:

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

Complete the following chart. Please leave blank any fields that are not applicable to your congregation.

Ways of Gathering	Estimated number of people involved in attendance	Who plans each of the listed gatherings? (<i>list any and all worship planners, such as various lay leaders, pastors, musicians, other staff</i>)

Adult Groups or Classes	30-45	Women's Fellowship and Women's UCC
Baptisms (<i>number last year</i>)	5	Pastor
Children's Groups or Classes		
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	60-100	Estimate
Church-wide Meals	5th Sunday and Lenten Meals	Church Council – All organizations of Church
Choirs and Music Groups	15	
Church-based Bible Study	6-8	Estimate
Communion (<i>served how often?</i>)	Monthly	
Community Meals	Annual Chili/Stew Fundraiser	Women's Fellowship/ Sunday School/UCC Women
Confirmation (<i>number confirmed last year</i>)	2	
Drama or Dance Program		
Funerals (<i>number last year</i>)	6	
Intergenerational Groups		
Outdoor Worship	1	Easter Sunrise Service
Prayer or Meditation Groups		
Public Advocacy Work	6	Estimate – Navasota food pantry volunteers
Retreats		
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)	4	
Worship (time slot: 10:15)	60	Average for 2017
Worship (time slot: _____)		

Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes		
Other		

Additional comments:

List all members or regular participants in your congregation who are ordained, licensed, or commissioned ministers. Indicate those with current United Church of Christ Three-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a congregation) or Four-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a ministry beyond a congregation).

Name	Three- or Four-Way Covenant? (3 or 4 or No)	Ministry Setting	Type of Ministry Role	Retired? (Y or N)

If one or more previous pastors or retired ministers currently hold membership in the church, describe their role(s) in the life of the congregation:

List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staff person serves as head of staff.

Staff Position	Head of Staff?	Compensation (full time, part time, volunteer)	Supervised by	Length of Tenure for current person in this position
Council President	Head	Volunteer		2 years
Office Manager	Staff	Part time	Pastor	New Position
Cleaning	Staff	Part Time	Council	3 years
Lawn Service	Staff	Part Time	Council	5 years

REFLECTION

Reflection: After reviewing the congregational demographics and activities above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's overall ministry?

CHURCH FINANCES

Current annual income (dollars used during most recent fiscal year)

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$114,839.00
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$
Fundraising Events	\$
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$105.00
Grants	\$ 0
Rentals of Church Building	\$2,440.00
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$ 0
Support from Related Organizations (<i>e.g. Women's Group</i>)	\$
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify): Interest	\$558.00
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$117,942.00

Current annual expenses: \$

Attach most recent church budget, spending plan, operating statement, or annual treasurer's report as shared publicly with the congregation, or – if your church does not pass an annual budget – list current budgeted expenses here.

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? Approximately 52%.

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church? No

Is your church 5-for-5, i.e. does it include each of the following contributions during the church year? (*indicate those included during the most recent fiscal year*)

X Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM – Basic Support)

X One Great Hour of Sharing

X Strengthen the Church

X Neighbors in Need

X Christmas Fund

In what way is OCWM (Basic Support) gathered? If calculated as a percentage of operating budget, what is that percentage? Based on membership

What is the church's current indebtedness? There is no debt currently.

Total amount of loan debt:

Reason for debt:

Are capital and other payments current?

If a building program is projected or underway, describe it, including the projected start/end date of the building project and the total project budget.

There are none presently ongoing other than standard maintenance of facilities.

If the church has had capital campaigns in the last ten years, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

If a capital campaign is underway or anticipated, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

Describe the prominent mission component(s) involved in the most recent (or current) capital campaign.

Does your church have an endowment? No

What is the market value of the assets? N/A

Are funds drawn as needed, regularly, or under certain circumstances? N/A

What is the percentage rate of draw (last year, compared to 5 years ago)? N/A

Describe draw on endowment, if any, to meet operating budget expenses for the most recent year and the past five years: N/A

At the current rate of draw, how long might the endowment last? N/A

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates: N/A

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): \$150,000

Investments (other than endowment): \$

Does your church have a parsonage? Yes

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$1000

How is the parsonage used? Living Quarters for Pastor

Street / City / State / Zip: 20251 FM 1155 E, Washington, Texas 77880

Finished square footage: 1800

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: 3/2

Assessed real estate value: \$150,000

Available for minister residence: Y

Expected minister residence: Y

Condition of structure, systems and appliances Good

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs.

Council President

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

Church/Sanctuary built in 1976 with capacity of approximately 400, Parsonage on property that was built in the 60s and is 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with attached garage and fenced in back yard. The activity center is an old retired school house that has a stone exterior and 4 large rooms, a kitchen and an Auditorium. This building was built in the 1930's and was purchased by the church.

Describe non-owned buildings or space used or rented by the church:

All facilities are owned by the Church.

Which spaces are accessible to wheelchairs? All areas are wheelchair accessible.

Reflection: After reviewing the church's finances and assets described above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's mission and ministry?

Friedens Church of Washington is on sound financial footing, with no debt and with substantial savings and assets. The congregation is very faithful to the church and can be counted on to contribute to any emergency needs.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Name one to three significant happenings in the history of your church that have shaped the identity of your congregation. Add the most important event in the life of your church in the past 10 years.

The death of our Pastor unexpectedly in 2017 and the vote to stay in the UCC.

Describe a specific change your church has managed in the recent past.

The death of our Pastor unexpectedly in 2017 and the vote to stay in the UCC.

Every church has conflict, some minor, some larger. "Where two or three are gathered, there will be disagreement...." Describe your congregation's values and practices when it comes to conflict.

Friedens is a living entity and such there are always concerns and issues that come up from time to time. There are no specific areas that were not able to be resolved. The constitution and bylaws of the church are very defined and are used to resolve conflicts.

Ministerial History *(include all previous ministerial staff for the past 30 years)*

Staff member's name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Greg Felder	6 years	Yes
Ron Trimmer	8 years	Yes`
Jesse Campbell	6 years	Yes
Albert Henning	12 years	Yes

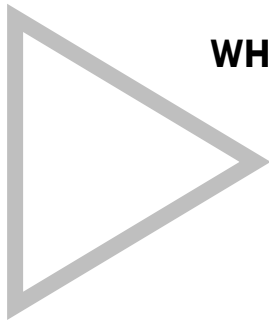
Comment on what your church has learned about itself and its relationship with persons who provided ministerial leadership:

Friedens has an active core group of members and has always been able to adapt to different leadership styles provided by different Pastors over the years.

Has any past leader left under pressure or by involuntary termination? No

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation? No

Has a past pastor been the subject of a Fitness Review while at your church? No



WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

COMMUNITY VISION

MISSION InSite

COMMUNITY VISION

How do the relationships and activities of your congregation extend outward in service and advocacy?

Friedens has been involved in last several years in providing health/hygiene kits and school supplies, which for a small congregation has been substantial. There is an annual chili/stew supper used as a fund raiser and open to the whole community and is well attended. Volunteer and support to local food pantries, support to Brenham State School.

Describe your congregation's participation in meetings, relationships and activities connecting the wider United Church of Christ (association / conference / national setting).

Friedens sends delegates to both association and conference meetings.

Many local churches love to tell the story of what they are doing in the community to transform lives. Some have identified certain aspects of their witness into the wider community using language shared with other UCC congregations. (Find more information as desired at ucc.org.)

Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessible to All (A2A) | <input type="checkbox"/> Just Peace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creation Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Mission Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Open and Affirming (ONA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful and Welcoming | <input type="checkbox"/> WISE Congregation for Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> God Is Still Speaking (GISS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other UCC designations: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Border and Immigrant Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Designations from other denominations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None |

Reflect on what the above statement(s) mean(s) to your community. Is your congregation interested in working toward any of the above statements of witness in the near future?

This is an area that Friedens would look to the Minister for leadership.

Describe your congregation's participation in ecumenical and interfaith activities (with other denominations and religious groups, local and regional).

The participation with other denominations and religious groups is certainly a positive consideration and is usually led by the Pastor.

If your congregation has a mission statement, how does that mission statement compare to the actual time spent engaging in different activities? Think of the range of activities from time spent gathering, to governance, to time spent going out. The Mission Statement is based in Faith and the Gospel of Jesus Christ and we strive to be community of faith that is open to all.

Reflect on the scope of work assigned to your pastor(s). How is their community ministry and their ministry in and on behalf of the wider church accounted for in the congregation's expectations on their time?

Friedens supports its Pastors to allow for participation in ministry's outside of normal day to day duties.

MISSION InSite

Comment on your congregation's Mission Insite report with data for your neighborhood(s) or area. What trends and opportunities are shown? This is something that has not been on the horizon of our church in recent years and could be an area that should be explored in the future.

How do your congregation's internal demographics compare or contrast to a) the neighborhoods adjacent to your church, and b) other neighborhoods with which your church connects?

Friedens was founded over 125 years ago by German immigrants and the community is a rural area and large percentage of today's congregation are descendant of those founding families.

How are the demographics of the community currently shaping ministry, or not?

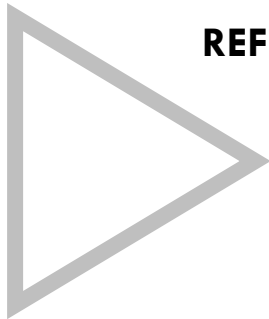
The area is a rural ranching/farming community along with many weekend residencies. The effect on the ministry is affected more by the core membership which still consist of older members.

What do you hear when you talk to community leaders and ask them what your church is known for?

Good food and fellowship is what Friedens is well known for and is something that is established by all of the church organizations.

What do new people in the church say when asked what got them involved?

New members are often tapped right away for involvement for new ideas and to help them to become a contributing members and new members seem to join with the thought of being contributing members.



REFERENCES

Name up to three people who have agreed to serve as phone and written references. Advise the three references: “The contact information you provide may be shared publicly. Please use contact information that you feel comfortable giving to candidates so they can reach you with their questions.”

Make sure they are not members of your church but are persons who know your church well enough to be helpful to candidates seeking more information. Request a letter from each reference in answer to the four prompts below. Attach the letters (up to three) as desired.

REFERENCE 1 – See Letter

Revernd Glen Schoeneberg

Interim Pastor for Friedens Washington / Former Pastor of St. Johns, Burton, TX

979-251-2611

revglens@gmail.com

REFERENCE 2

Rev. Dr. George Klett

Retired Minister

979-229-1103

klett1934@gmail.com

REFERENCE 3 – See Letter

Pastor Cindy Miller

Licensed UCC Minister

979-451-0806

sistermarycynthia@gmail.com

Dear Candidate for the position of Pastor;

Friedens Church of Washington is a beautiful facility in a beautiful location! Scores of Houstonians are moving to the area because the scenery and the lifestyle make it “a little piece of heaven”.

The church itself is made up of mostly families with strong ties to the area for generations. They love their church and work hard to maintain it and its ministry. There is a genuine desire to reach out to new folk in the community, and to help the church change to meet the needs of community newcomers. There is a strong children’s ministry, two active ladies’ groups, an adult Bible class, and a monthly game day at the church. Ladies volunteer in the Food Pantry in Navasota. When the Conference requests help with projects like Health Kits for Back Bay Mission, or School Kits for Church World Service, Friedens will always be at the top of the donation list. Probably their most notable quality as a church is their love for cooking! They put on some incredible meals ... made incredible by the quality and the quantity of food!

Most of the tasks that can divert you from ministry are taken care of. Denise Stolz takes care of the office chores (bulletins, newsletters, mail, letters, building bookings, and phone calls). She also has a passion for developing and maintaining the website for the church. Linda Oberhoff handles the sound equipment on Sunday morning. Dale Diathe mows the church and parsonage yard weekly and blows the sidewalks. Cindy Walkoviak cleans the church and fellowship hall weekly. Volunteers (like Dan Mohr, Jeff Stolz, John Walkoviak, and Charlie Canatella) will handle maintenance items that arise. So, you can be a Pastor as you choose!

These are “salt of the earth” people. They truly WANT to be the church. When someone noticed a bridge that had washed out on a nearby property, the church members raised \$700 at a moments notice, got a pipe donated, and used their equipment to install a new bridge! It was testimony to their good hearts! When a mother brought her autistic child to worship, and Sunday School; causing a huge scene in both places, the response around the church was NOT “get her and the kid out of here”, but what can we do to help. They have brought the mom meals and organized themselves to help “grandparent” the child. Awesome!

There will be lots of flexibility in how you chose to use your time as Pastor. The congregation responds wonderfully to just being loved. Hospital calls, nursing home visits, and your presence at times of pain or celebration, will endear you to the church family and community! You will be greatly loved!

Friedens is a place where you and your family could find rich blessings for abundant life. It is a place you could do some powerful and satisfying ministry! I offer highest recommendations!

Rev Glen Schoeneberg
979-251-2611
revglens@gmail.com

Cynthia J. Miller, LM
900 Spinn Street
Brenham, Texas 77833
(979) 451-0806

June 14, 2018

Dear Candidate for Pastor's Position at Friedens Church, Washington, Texas

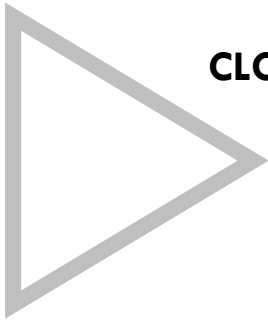
It is my pleasure to write a letter of reference for Friedens Church UCC of Washington, Texas. I am a Licensed Minister with the Heart of Texas Association of the South Central Conference of the United Church of Christ. I am a member of St. John's UCC in Burton, Texas and I serve my Association by providing pulpit supply for the member churches. In the last 20 years, I have preached at Friedens occasionally, but since last September (2017) I have preached there regularly once or twice a month since their Pastor Greg Felder passed away.

I find the congregation to be warm and welcoming with strong family ties throughout. They have an ongoing love of the gospels and sacraments and they have a strong Sunday School program. I usually have between 10 and 12 children present for Children's Sermon. The people also have great participation in local mission programs including: Brazos Valley Food Bank donations; preparing hygiene kits for the homeless at our Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS; and preparing school kits for deserving children at the beginning of school year. Recently they helped a local citizen repair a driveway that was destroyed by flood waters. They also are eager participants in fund raising for the church and for the local fire department. The ladies at Friedens LOVE to cook. When Pastor Greg died, I found them to be very resilient and ready to do whatever it took to keep the church running smoothly.

I would suggest three areas for improvement. First, the congregation needs to prepare themselves to be more flexible and adaptable to changes. They need to accept the challenge of alternative ways of worship, managing the church and its cemetery. The second thing is that they must realize their pastor cannot do everything. More group and committee leaders are needed. The third area for improvement would be in their music program. They need a choir director, a relief pianist and more participation in choirs and chime bells.

Lastly, I would like to say that, as a woman minister, I have been enthusiastically welcomed and supported by the congregation. In the past, I don't think they had much, if any, experience with women clergy. But I have had nothing but acceptance and love from them.

In Christ's name,
Cynthia J. Miller, LM



CLOSING THOUGHTS

CLOSING PRAYER

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION VALIDATION

CLOSING PRAYER

Include here any prayer or dream for the minister you imagine journeying toward you... a poem, for example, or a Scripture passage or a piece of music that is meaningful to your Search Committee:

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The covenantal relationship between a church and those called by that church to serve as pastors and teachers and in other ministerial positions is strengthened when vital information is openly shared by covenantal partners. To that end, we attest that, to the best of our abilities, we have provided information in this profile that accurately represents our church. We have not knowingly withheld any information that would be helpful to candidates.

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending suitable new minister for our church, we have been authorized to share the information herein with potential candidates. We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further knowledge, information, and opinions about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between calling bodies and persons seeking a ministry position.

1. Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile? *(for example, church council or consistory, transition team, etc.)*
2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Signed:

Charlie Canatella

Search Committee Chairperson

June 20, 2018

VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

The congregation is currently in good standing with the association / conference named.

Staff Comment:

To the best of my knowledge, ministerial history information is complete.

Staff Comment:

To the best of my knowledge, available church financial information is presented thoroughly.

Staff Comment:

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature: *Rev. Dr. Donald J. Longbottom*

Name / Title: Rev. Dr. Donald J. Longbottom

Email: drdon@sccucc.org

Phone: 480-322-5779

Date: 6/19/18

This document is created through support to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) and is only possible through the covenantal relationships of all settings of the United Church of Christ.

“Jesus answered them, ‘Have faith in God!’” – Mark 11:22

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

