

Today we call on you to help us to save and maintain this piece of East-West-German history. We hope that the bells will ring just the same tomorrow, to call together people for a common prayer, this time without a separating border – **referring to the motto „Gemeinsam Grenzen überwinden!“ („Overcoming frontiers together!“)**

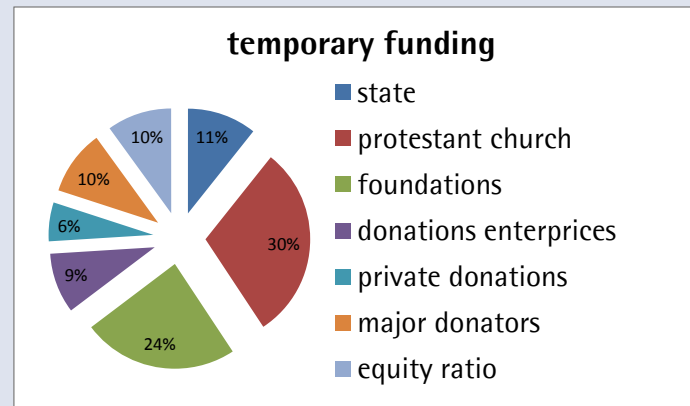
Our goal is to rebuild Friedenskirche and the Parish Community Center as a house for all generations.

What we intend to change to make our church sustainable:

- new liturgical concept for the church
- entrances and toilets on the first floor disabled-friendly
- improved lighting using borrowed light (roof windows)
- more energy efficient heating and electric facilities
- fire prevention in accordance with regulations
- elimination of polluted elements
- new roof and new entrances
- enlargement of the parish community hall
- enlargement of stockrooms



This project will cost us approximately 1,2 million dollars. We can only do this with a secure funding, based on a good ground. Many partners will help us, but we nevertheless need donations and help.



Here are some of the costs we have to cover:

1 (of 6) church pews	1750 dollars
1 church pew (painting)	125 dollars
1 church chair (of 120)	210 dollars
1 chair community hall (of 80)	175 dollars
1 table community hall (of 15)	325 dollars
1 roof window (of 10)	550 dollars
To tile the roof (1 tile)	40 dollars

We also welcome and appreciate volunteer work. Are you able or/and clever, are you capable, have you learned a trade? Great! Then please let us know and become a part of our community resource. Having no money to share does not mean you cannot help. Everybody has a talent!

Please note: Since 2015 we are a member of the „map of freedom“ <http://www.friedenslandkarte.de>



You can help in many different ways. Small donations, large donations, ideas, events and contacts are all appreciated.

You can help us for example by:

personal donations, finding a donor/sponsor for us, giving us a testamentary gift...

Please speak to us, we will help you donate and manage your donation worthily and transparently.

Donations account:

Owner: Evang.- Luth.
Kirchengemeinde Wildenheid-Meilschnitz
IBAN DE 13 7836 0000 0000 4019 43
BIC GENODEF1COS
VR-BankCoburg e.V.



Patron Elke Protzmann

2. Mayor of the city of Neustadt bei Coburg and district council

Contact and Requests

Contact persons:

Jörg Herrmann, minister
Eva Gempel, church warden

Adress:

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Tel.: +49 9568 5639
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Gemeinsam

Grenzen

überwinden



Modification of
Friedenskirche



„Send in your dollars for the wooden church crusade.“*

These were the words US-american presenter Fulton Lewis ended with his radio-transmission in the beginning of the 50-ies. Through this audio message the **wooden church crusade** became an entire success.



With 48 churches, one for each state of the United States and one for the capital Washington they wanted to show a flag against an inhumane and separating Iron Curtain and for mankind coming together in a free way and celebrate their faith. With the ringing oft he bells the people in the East should be given hope for physical and mental freedom and the people in the West should be summoned together for a prayer.

Since then, 60 years passed by. A lot has changend.



What remained is the Friedenskirche Wildenheid, one of the approximately 24

accomplished churches of the wooden church crusade and a little piece of East and West Geman history as well.

Cornerstone ceremony

The protestant church in Wildenheid was build thanks to Hermann Steiner, who was a local factory owner as well as an important representative and a volunteer of the Bavarian Protestant Synod in the 1950s.

A certificate was read out at laying of the foundation stone in Wildenheid, and a bible, choir book and a catechism were added. American flag was flown in honor of the American Christians. "Friedenskirche" meaning "the church of peace" took its holy orders on 16th October 1955. It was the first church in Upper Fankonia beeing financed by fundraising company wooden church crusade.



Ambassadors of faith

These houses of God should be seen as ambassadors of faith between American and German people.



Since the opening of the former German borders, the "Friedenskirche" neighbors Sonneberg in Thuringia, in central Germany.

Visitors to the church are welcomed by the words "He is our freedom" (Eph 2,14) carved into headstone above the main entrance. This quotation

of the Letter to Ephesus does not only give the church its name, but it also reminds visitors of the pivotal message of faith: **freedom between God and people, and freedom among people themselves.**

One hundred years since the beginning of WWI and seventy years after the end of WWII, at a time where we see wars and conflicts rage in over a third of the world, it is perhaps now more than ever imperative to focus our thoughts on God. His intention of freedom and reinforcing the hope of a united world.

Our community has set out to newly define the subject of freedom in our society because we believe that freedom is more than just the hush of weapons. Freedom means making it possible for different people to live together and take part in the offerings of our protestant community.

There are many issues surrounding this vision and some of our members describe them here:



Ilse Götz

I am confined to my wheeled walker and it would be a great help for young and also old people if our Friedenskirche was wheelchair accessible and disabled-friendly.



Miriam Langer-Wüstefeld with Felix and Tom

For mums, such as me, it is important that children can follow the proceeding. Therefore we would like to have a good access to seats, with prams as well as with baby strollers. It would also be nice, if the children had a better front view."



Petra Eckstein und Regina Beyer from a sheltered workshop Wefa

We feel to be a part of the protestant community and people with physical disabilities also want to take part in our community events. Constructional measures could vitally facilitate their stay in the building.



Ina Rempel, teenager

Youth club windows are polluted, the old paint emits. We would love for the rooms to be nice, so that we can use them regularly and socialize there more often.

pics: Bosecker, private, Evang. Kirchengemeinde, morguefile, Goldbach