



The Transformer

October 2014

717-866-4910

Friedens Lutheran Church, 301 W. Washington Ave., Myerstown, PA

God, I thank you that I am not like other people – Luke 18:11b

We really need to have some sympathy for the Pharisee in this story. He was a very meticulous person in the practice of his faith; he did everything perfectly. The problem was not how he went about his faith; the problem became the subtle element of pride about what **he** had done; it wasn't about what God had done. While his faith was directed toward God, his attention was focused on himself; comparing himself to others. It's sort of like if I was to buy flowers for Ann on our anniversary but wanted everyone, including her, to recognize what a great person I was for buying them.

At first blush, this is the kind of person who would seem to be an excellent member for a church. He would serve on all the right committees and give generously of his time, money and energy. Over time, however, he would want to be continually recognized for all the things that he did for the church. The tax collector, on the other hand, would not be a good candidate for membership in the church. Tax collectors were seen as people who compromised their integrity by working for the Romans and by making a handsome profit through overcharging their fellow countrymen and we certainly don't want anybody like that in the church.

And when people like the tax collector do make it into the church, many look at them with disapproval. The tax collector probably isn't involved in any of the overt practices of faith, but on that day, his attention was totally focused on God. He was totally honest about his failure to live as he knew God would want.

The question for all of us becomes where is our attention focused. When we are vulnerable before God, as the tax collector was that particular day, there is the possibility of transformation in our lives.

Joyfully,

Ken



Food Collection

On Sunday, October 5, food will be collected for the Lebanon County Food Bank. All gifts are welcomed. There is a need for Juice, instant mashed potatoes, 5 oz. canned chicken, canned chili, canned pasta, canned fruit, canned vegetables, soups, canned luncheon meat, 18 oz & 32 oz. jelly, complete pancake mix, hamburger helper, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toiletries.

• “Whatever fear still assails us is either a temptation of Satan or a remnant of the old man, for in Christ there can be nothing but supreme assurance and joy.”

—Martin Luther

• “Faith goes up the stairs that love has made and looks out the window which hope has opened.”

—Charles Spurgeon



Many
Eager
Ambassadors
Lending
Service...

Do you know anyone coming home from the hospital at Friedens, who will be homebound for one or two weeks and in need for meals?

Please call Joanne at 717/507-1997 to schedule the meals.

Searching for a New Pastor



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

McKenna Achenbach
Tad Achenbach
John Flesher
Chris Heft
Sister Janice Ruch
John R. Smith



The church office hours are
9 A.M.—1 P.M.
Monday to Friday.

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

August 2014

				% of Budget	
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,848.00	Goal to Date	\$214,784.00	90%
\$322,179.00	Rec'd	\$25,621.00	Rec'd to Date	193,311.00	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	56.00	Rec'd to Date	485.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	245.00	Rec'd to Date	2,015.00	

OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM—Adult Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9 AM—Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Traditional Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Youth Group</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9AM—Women Sew</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM—Adult Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 PM—Finance Committee</p> <p>7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9 AM—Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Traditional Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Youth Group</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Columbus Day</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>7 PM—Property Committee</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM—Adult Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 PM—Church Council</p> <p>7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9 AM—Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Traditional Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Youth Group</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7 PM—Women of the ELCA—Parlor</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9 AM—Women Sew</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM—Adult Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9 AM—Contemporary Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Traditional Service</p> <p>10:30 AM—Youth Group</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM—Adult Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble</p>	<p>31</p>	

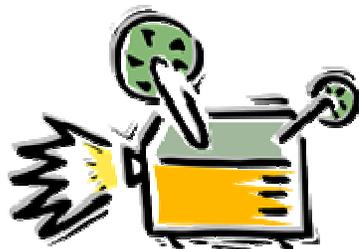




October 16
 Mr. Isaac Villanueva
 337 N. Delaware Ave.
 Minersville, PA 17954-1703



Fall is in the air and that means its time for a good cup of coffee. After a relaxing summer we hope you are ready to join in with the social time between church services. Again we are asking for help to serve the coffee, drinks and goodies. You are welcome to bring a snack to share, but coffee and snacks are provided, we just need help to prepare and serve. Find a friend and serve together. Coffee hour will start on Sunday, September 7th, a sign-up sheet is in the social hall and we hope you will be able to help continue our social time together. If you have any questions please contact Annette Beamesderfer, Carmella Deck or Susie Harper.

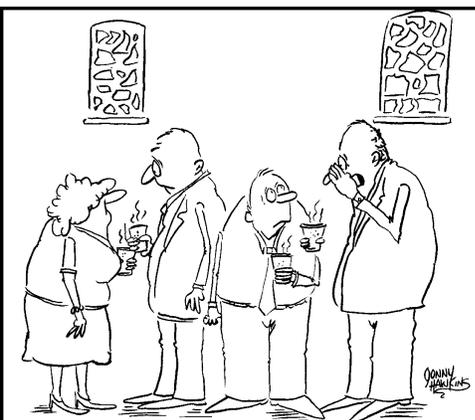


Enjoy technology? Like to learn something new? We are looking for Video Camera Techs for our 9 am Worship Tech Team. It's quite easy, not hard at all. Stop in the back of the sanctuary at the booth & see what it's all about! Connect with John Tice, Jim Kneasel, Sharon Riegel or Chris Riegel.

POINSETTIAS



If you are interested in ordering a poinsettia to place in the church for Christmas, now is the time to do so. To order, please use the envelopes provided on the narthex bulletin board and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. The cost is \$6.50 each. Your order will need to be placed by **NOVEMBER 26**. You have a choice of red, white, pink or marble.



"Psst...pass it on...secret meeting, 8:00 tonight to squelch gossiping."

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
September 18, 2014

Jody Appleby, President, called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.

Present: Jody Appleby (President), Frank Armstrong (Vice President), Janice DuBois, Chris Heft, Jim Kneasel, Jon Koller, Elaine Lasch (Treasurer), Ken Osborne (Interim Pastor) and Sharon Riegel (Secretary).

1. Opening Prayer: Frank Armstrong opened the meeting with prayer and scripture, Romans 12:2. Discussion followed.
2. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
 - a. Janice DuBois made a motion to accept the August 21, 2014 Church Council Minutes as corrected. Jon Koller seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Frank Armstrong made a motion to accept the August 2014 Financial Secretary's Report. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Janice DuBois made a motion to accept the August 2014 Treasurer's Report. Jim Kneasel seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Frank Armstrong made a motion to approve the August 2014 Pastor's Report. Chris Heft seconded. Motion carried.
 - e. Thank you letter from Michael Youse, Executive Director, Lutheran Camping Corporation for our recent gift of \$10,000 to the Seeding The Future Capital Campaign.
 - f. Thank you letter from On Fire Youth Ministry of Myerstown for our recent gift of \$500.
 - g. Thank you letters from LutherCare for our recent gifts of \$53 and \$75 to Spang Crest.
3. Elaine Lasch reported the following future Finance Committee meeting dates are set to discuss 2015 budget: Thursday, September 25 at 6:30 pm & Thursday, October 9 at 6:30 pm. Sunday, November 23 has been set as a target date for congregational meeting for 2015 budget.
4. Jim Kneasel reported on the Property Committee meeting of September 9, 2014.
5. A report on the Capital Fund Appeal was not available.
6. Council discussed the ongoing Cemetery concerns: chairman for cemetery and truck for cemetery.
7. Chris Heft, Chairman of Pastoral Search Team, provided Council with an update.
8. Council discussed the recent break in at church.

(Continued next page)

9. Frank Armstrong made the motion to appoint Len Schott, Jocelyn Whitmoyer & Judy Zinn to the Auditing Team. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.
10. Janice DuBois provided an update on Missionary Sponsorship. With the retirement of the Kucks from service in Jamaica, Friedens will now have a dual sponsorship:
- Missionary Stephen Deal and his wife, Marta Giron. Stephen is the regional representative in Central America, which includes El Salvador.
 - Global Ministries in El Salvador: support to form and train pastoral teams of lay and clergy members. This training will be monitored and funds controlled by Stephen Deal.
11. Next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 7 pm. A person to be determined will prepare opening prayer/devotional.
12. Jim Kneasel made the motion to adjourn. Chris Heft seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Meeting closed with sharing of joys and concerns and prayer lead by Pastor Osborne.

Sharon Riegel, Council Secretary

COMPROMISE

Compromise is a word of great importance. Yet it is denigrated and avoided at all costs in many present day managerial and institutional discussions. Why...because its very mention means concession and concession to some has a very debilitating connotation. Concession to many means a form of weakness, a lack of commitment or resolve. Numerous great movements and institutions present today could have been destroyed and relegated to the ash heap of irrelevant history if not for compromise and concession.

A negative use of compromise will result in shameful and disreputable concessions. That meaning of compromise is held by those who view compromise as an anathema and to be continually avoided. Perhaps with assistance from those who believe in the power of positive thinking, this negativism can be transformed.

Compromise touches our very existence and promotes a resolute accord for harmonious living. Without it we flounder in quarrelsome discord. A dreary existence develops from an attitude of "I'm right and you are wrong" - "It's my way or the highway." With a modicum of mutual respect, understanding and concern, universal good will emerge from the blending of different approaches to reach the same desired goal. All that is required is to adjust by mutual concessions, which means compromise...a word of great importance.

Respectfully,
F. A. Armstrong

SPANG CREST 2014-2015 VOLUNTEER NEEDS

ONGOING NEEDS

- 1. Chapel Pianist: One Sunday a month. 2:30—3:30 PM
- 2. Gift Shop Worker:
 - Fill in a shift:
 - Mornings: 9:30 AM—1 PM
 - Afternoons: 1 PM—4 PM
 - Saturdays: 11 AM—1PM

 - Shifts available include: 1st Monday afternoon
 3rd Monday morning
 3rd Friday morning
 4th Monday morning
 4th Friday morning
- 3. Provide Entertainment: Your church, ladies group or youth group could sponsor a Bingo game, sing-a-long or monthly birthday party. Afternoons, evenings or weekends.

SHORT TERM:

- 1. Craft Show: Sell Weaver Bologna products at the PA Christmas Craft Show at the Farm Show Complex. Dec. 3-7, 2014
- 2. Farm Show: Sell Weaver Bologna products at the annual Farm Show In Harrisburg. January 10-17, 2015.

Appropriate orientation for all volunteer tasks will be provided. If interested in these or any other volunteer opportunity, contact Karen Kreiser at 274-1495 or kkreiser@luthercare.org.

