



The Transformer

June 2014

717-866-4910

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

May We All Be Coffee

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil; without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, "Tell me what you see."

"Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied.

Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard boiled egg. Finally, the mother asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, "What does it mean, mother?"

Her mother explained that each of these objects faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they changed the water.

"Which are you?" she asked her daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?"

Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity do I wilt and become soft and lose my strength? Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, become hardened and stiff? Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you. When the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest, do you elevate yourself to another level? How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

May we all be COFFEE.

Ken



COFFEE HOUR NEEDS YOUR HELP

Ever wonder how coffee gets magically made in the morning for you nearly every Sunday? Well, all it takes is a few minutes of someone's time and a desire to help keep our social hour lively.

Members of the coffee hour committee are seeking helpers who are willing to volunteer to make it happen...we can't do it all ourselves!

Coffee, cookies and munchies are all purchased and waiting for someone each Sunday to pull together. We even have a new coffee pot! **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BAKE OR PURCHASE TREATS BY YOURSELF.** Sign up on the list in Stauffer Hall or talk with Susan Harper, Carmela Deck or Annette Beamesderfer. Your help is



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.



The Women of ELCA will meet Monday, June 16.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS



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

Searching for a New Pastor



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

April 2014

				% of Budget	
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,848.00	Goal to Date	\$107,392.00	91%
\$322,179.00	Rec'd	\$25,150.00	Rec'd to Date	97,237.00	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	54.00	Rec'd to Date	252.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	220.00	Rec'd to Date	955.00	

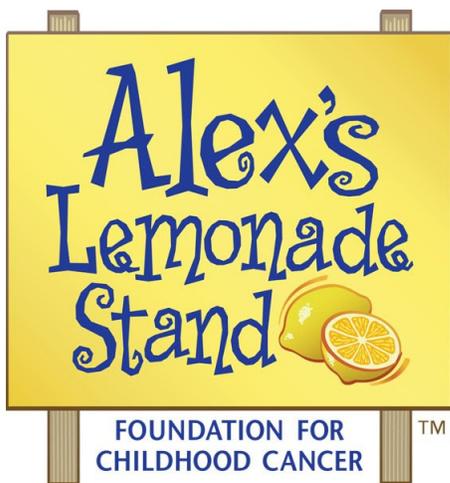




"SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School is coming to Friedens Sun, July 13th - Wed, July 16th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Come and join the wild, wacky, one-of-a-kind Jungle Habitat! WEIRD ANIMALS... Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind! For more info, please see Holly Heft or Kelly Stephenson."



On Sunday, June 1, food will be collected for the Lebanon County Food Bank. All gifts are welcomed. There is a need for instant mashed potatoes, 5 oz. canned chicken, canned chili, soups, canned luncheon meat, 18 oz & 32 oz. jelly, complete pancake mix, hamburger helper, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toiletries.



Children's Ministry will be hosting an Alex's Lemonade Stand Sat. June 7, from 10-12 in Smith's Candies parking lot. Sunday June 8, the children will be hosting coffee hour and serving Lemonade. Thank you for supporting our children in raising funds for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, which it's focus is to find a CURE for all childhood cancers!



TO OUR SHUT-INS

June 25
Mrs. Margaret Fessler
Spang Crest
945 Duke Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

June 28
Mrs. Roberta Sitler
Linden Village
100 Tuck Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042

JUNE 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>PENTECOST SUNDAY</p> <p>9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7 PM—Property Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9 AM—Women Sew</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>Flag Day</p>
<p>15</p>  <p>Happy Father's Day</p> <p>9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles</p> <p>WELCA Picnic</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>First Day of Summer</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9 AM—Women Sew</p> <p>6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7 PM—Church Council</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service</p>	<p>30</p>					

Lose Elected President of The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

The Rev. Dr. David J. Lose, Marbury Anderson Associate Professor of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, has been elected president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. David will assume his duties at the start of the 2014 academic year.

As his parents, we rejoice with David and share his excitement at the challenges he faces at Philadelphia Seminary, and we thought that the people at Friedens who know David would also rejoice with him and keep him, his family and ministry in your prayers.

Blessings and peace, Susan & Jack

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
May 15, 2014

Jody Appleby, called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

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

1. Opening Prayer: Sharon Riegel opened the meeting with prayer. Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9. Discussion followed.
2. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
 - a. Jim Kneasel made a motion to accept the April 24, 2014 Church Council Minutes. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Chris Heft made a motion to accept the April 2014 Financial Secretary's Report. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Sharon Riegel made a motion to accept the April 2014 Treasurer's Report. Jim Kneasel seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Ken Osborne shared his Pastor's Report for April 2014. Frank Armstrong made a motion to approve the April 2014 Pastor's Report. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried. Highlights of Pastor's Report include:
 - An update on Confirmation Class should be available by the end of the year.
 - Pastor Osborne will be on vacation Sunday, May 25, 2014 (after worship services) through Sunday, June 1, 2014. Joel Zinn is coordinating the Supply Pastor (Kirby Keller) for worship services on Sunday, June 1, 2014.
 - e. Sharon Riegel made the motion to give a \$25 donation to the Myerstown Activity Network for the 2014 Holiday Parade. Jim Kneasel seconded. Motion carried.

3. Finance Committee did not meet in May. Future meetings will be scheduled “as needed”. The Council Rep at Finance Committee future meetings will be rotated.
4. Jim Kneasel reported Property Committee did not meet in the month of May.
5. At our September 25, 2013 meeting Andy Evenson and Thomas McKee highly recommended we compose a “Parental Leave Policy.” At our December meeting Pastor Osborne shared with the group his findings from Synod. At our February 20, 2014 meeting Pastor Osborne shared a sample policy/employee handbook from a local church. Chris Heft, a person from the Pastoral Search Team and Janice DuBois will work on composing a draft Parental Leave Policy.
6. At our December 19, 2013 meeting Chris Heft shared an update on Clearances/Background Checks for Liability Purposes. Pastor Blezard of Synod provided Chris with a website for Council to review. Pastor Osborne & Janice DuBois contacted other churches for sample policies. Pastor Osborne provided info on a “Safe Church” program featuring various sessions which will be offered here in Myerstown. At the February 20, 2014 meeting Jim Biever shared his thoughts/insights with the group. It was agreed to form a team of approximately 6 people to work on a “Safe Church Policy” for Friedens. Jim Biever and Keith DuBois have agreed to serve on this team. Mr. DuBois will contact other persons to serve on this team. The team hopes to have a Safe Church Policy drafted by the end of the summer.
7. A new report on the Capital Fund Appeal was not available at this time.
8. At the February 9, 2014 Annual Congregational Meeting no names were submitted for the Nominating Committee for Council. Council is to give suggestions of persons for Nominating Committee to Pastor Osborne & he will connect with them.
9. Council discussed the ongoing Cemetery concerns: chairman for cemetery and truck for cemetery.
10. At the April 24, 2014 meeting Council received a recommendation to once again form a Worship & Music Committee. After discussion Council agreed with this recommendation. Pastor Osborne will connect with the staff to serve on this committee: Praise & Worship Leader, Adult Choir Director, Bell Choir Director and Organist. Council is prayerfully considering congregational members to serve on this committee. Extensive discussion continued at the May meeting.
11. Chris Heft made the motion to approve having a local organization speak for 10 minutes during our June 8 services to help bring awareness to the community of the new “hands only CPR”. Sharon Riegel seconded. Motion carried.
12. Due to the Mission Trip, next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 7 pm.
13. Frank Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. Jim Kneasel seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Meeting closed with prayer lead by Pastor Osborne.

Respectfully Submitted
Sharon Riegel, Council Secretary

RESURRECTION

Resurrect something and it has new value and usefulness. You can take an old automobile, recondition all its parts and it is once again useful and of even greater value. Its engine fires with certainty and reliability. Its interior is clean and invitingly comfortable. Shining and dazzling, its exterior attracts adoring attention. This tired, worn and rusty old hulk now dramatically demonstrates how a refurbished object can have a new and vibrant life.

Have you ever experienced a mixture of emotions brought on by resurrecting the past into the present? Peruse through old scrapbooks and photo albums and you will. This activity brings the joy and the sadness of places and of others into the present. These resurrections are very comforting for they create within you a testimony from experiences and people that molded you and gave enrichment to your life. When you close the scrapbook and photo album this testimony remains with you fortifying you with new resolve. A resolve to keep faith with those people and with those experiences and give them a rebirth in your present. This perusal becomes a comforting and fulfilling personal resurrection.

The possibility that you have never had a personal resurrection does not preclude you never will. The beauty, the awesome grandeur and the mystery of resurrections are timeless. These qualities make it a certainty that into your life resurrection is coming.

Resurrect in action is resurrection. Resurrection never ends. It becomes an ongoing process of renewal that creates a devotional aspect to your life and your faith. So, if ever you feel faith, belief and devotion slipping, resurrect them and experience the wonder of renewal (resurrection). Everyday will be new and rewarding. Every experience will contain new possibilities. Through resurrection a new world and a new life emerges. As a new chick cracks open its shell of doubt and fear, it emerges into a bright new world of faith, hope and devotion...a world made possible by the greatest "Resurrection" of all. The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Respectfully,
F. A. Armstrong

