



The Transformer

February 2010

717-866-4910

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, 301 W. Washington Ave., Myerstown, PA

February has become know as “The Love Month.” So I thought it would be appropriate to share a love story with you. I received the following email and was compelled to pass it on. Enjoy!

“While watching a little TV on Sunday instead of going to church, I watched a church in Atlanta honoring one of its senior pastors who had been retired many years. He was 92 at that time and I wondered why the church even bothered to ask the old gentleman to preach at that age.

After a warm welcome, introduction of this speaker, and as the applause quieted down, he rose from his high back chair and walked slowly, with great effort and a sliding gait to the podium. Without a note or written paper of any kind he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly he began to speak...

‘When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learned in my 50-odd years of preaching. I thought about it for a few days and boiled it down to just one thing that made the most difference in my life and sustained me through all my trials. The one thing that I could always rely on when tears and heart-break and pain and fear and sorrow paralyzed me... the only thing that would bring comfort was this verse...’

*Jesus loves me this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
we are weak but He is strong...
Yes, Jesus loves me...
The Bible tells me so.*

When he finished, the church was quiet. You actually could hear his foot steps as he shuffled back to his chair. I don't believe I will ever forget it.”

The email continued...

A pastor once stated, “I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children’s hymn ‘Jesus Loves Me’ (for the children of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best.”

The email continued with a “Senior version of Jesus Loves Me.” Specifically, for those who have white hair or no hair at all, for those who are over middle age (or even those almost there) and all others. Consider this version of Jesus Loves Me. Enjoy!

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.*

(CHORUS)

*YES, JESUS LOVES ME... YES, JESUS LOVES ME...
YES, JESUS LOVES ME, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.*

*Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.*

(CHORUS)

*When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song..
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near."*

(CHORUS)

*When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love.*

(CHORUS)

*I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.*

(CHORUS)

What song will you be singing this month? I hope it has the word “love” in it somewhere...

Peace,

Pastor Miller



SHUT-IN BIRTHDAYS

February 27
Mrs. Esther Yeakley
450 Yeakley Road
Myerstown, PA 17067

EASTER LILIES

If you are interested in ordering a lily to place in the church for Easter, 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. Last day to order is **February 28**

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

On February 7, food will be collected for the Lebanon County Food Bank. All gifts will be welcomed. There is a need for cold cereal, instant mashed potatoes, Spam, corned beef, canned chicken, canned pasta, vegetable soup, jams & jellies, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, combs, hair brushes, facial tissues and toilet paper. Please put all donations in the narthex.

WOMEN OF ELCA

Women of ELCA continue the Bible study of Romans, led by Janet Kehrli, on Monday, February 15 at 7 p.m. in the parlor. Passages to read before the study: Romans 9:1-33; 10:1-21; 11:1-16. All women are invited to attend.

200TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

A 200TH anniversary committee for Friedens is being formed. Contact Brian Beamesderfer if interested. Home number - 717-866-2975. E-mail, beames@verizon.net

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

We will not be doing a Lenten Devotional Booklet this year due to lack of interest.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

February 17

7:30 p.m.

Holy communion

COMPEER AND FRIENDS CONCERT

Friedens will be hosting the "Compeer and Friends" concert which will be held on Sunday April 11 at 7:00 P.M. Compeer is an organization that matches persons with mental health issues with a friend in the community. This is the fifth year for the concert and the first year that Friedens will be hosting. Performers from all walks of life will be sharing their musical talents. A massed choir involving several Lebanon County church choirs will also be performing. A free will offering will be taken to benefit Compeer.

See the March issue of the Transformer for a complete list of the musicians performing at the concert. For any further information, please call Jim Biever at 717-821-0130. See you there!

COFFEE HOUR

—A LOVING MINISTRY

Is it your desire to bless others and glorify God? Did you know? - Nobody is a whole chain, each one is a link. But take away one link, and the chain is broken. Nobody is a whole team, each one is a player. But take away one player, and the game is lost.

You guessed it. We need each other. You need someone, and someone needs you. This is where the coffee hour/fellowship time fits at Friedens. It's a time of showing love, caring and understanding. It's also a time for connecting with others, being devoted to one another in brotherly and sisterly love. Please consider investing in the lives of others during our Sunday morning coffee hour/fellowship time. It's not about food....It's about love.

Shirley Kline
Coffee Hour Chairperson



FEBRUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Group-Haucks 7pm-Mens Group-Parlor	2 6pm-Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble 7pm- Womens Group-Parlor	3 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Adult Choir	4 7pm- Womens Group-V. Hauck	5	6
7 9am-Holy Communion 10:30am-Holy Communion	8 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Group-Haucks 7pm-Mens Group-Parlor	9 6pm-Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble 7pm- Womens Group-Parlor	10 9am-Strong Women 9am-Women Sew 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Adult Choir	11 7pm- Womens Group-V. Hauck	12	13
14 9am-Holy Communion 10:30am-Holy Communion	15 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Women of ELCA-Parlor 7pm-Mens Group-Parlor	16 6pm-Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble 7pm- Womens Group-Parlor	17 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7:30pm-Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	18 6:45pm-Church Council 7pm- Womens Group-V. Hauck	19	20
21 9am-Holy Communion 10:30am-Holy Communion 11:30am-Annual Cong. Meeting	22 9am-Strong Women 5pm-Strong Women 7pm-Group-Haucks 7pm-Mens Group-Parlor	23 6pm-Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble 7pm- Womens Group-Parlor	24 9am-Strong Women 9am-Women Sew 5pm-Strong Women 6 pm-Soup & Bread 6:45pm-Lenten Study 7:30pm- Worship	25 7pm- Womens Group-V. Hauck	26	27
28 9am-Holy Communion 10:30am-Holy Communion						



Our Spring LIFE group Semester is right around the corner. Groups will begin facilitating the first week of February. Your last chance to sign –up is February 7th. 2010. The following is list of the groups and their locations.

(February 1st – April 10th 10 weeks)

Bruce Kauffman & Andy Feitzinger

(Men's Group) Open to all, Monday Evenings 7pm - 8:30pm

Location, the church Parlor. Our Study will be; "Dare to be Uncommon" by Tony Dungy. This curriculum explores tough questions men ask. And provides biblical answers, relationship building along with great discussions. Examine your life and aspire to a life of renewed integrity influence and faith. You will explore Scripture, encounter character-building insights and uncover what it means to live a life of true significance.

Child Care is not provided for this group

Robert & Valerie Hauck

(General Group) Open to all, Monday Evenings 7pm-8:30pm

Location, 21 Manor Dr, Lebanon

Our Study will be "Crazy Love" by Francis Chan. Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. — it's falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, you will never be the same.

Child care can be provided for this group

Janice DuBois

(Women's Group) Open to all, Tuesday evenings 7pm- 8:30pm

Location, Church Parlor. Our study will be; "Gardening Mercies" by Laurie Ostby Kehler. This study shows how our lives are played out against the backdrop of God's creation, the garden. We learn to recognize the Spiritual and emotional weeds that keep us from drawing close to the garden's Creator. We will also discover the gardens many lessons in hope, peace, love, mercy, and redemption.

Child Care is not provided for this group

Valerie Hauck & Amber Miller

(Women' Group) Open to all, Thursday evenings 7pm – 8:30pm

Location, 21 Manor Dr., Lebanon. Our study will be; "The Chocolate Boutique" *Simply Relevant* is a relational study that encourages new friendships and allows women to discover how relevant God's Word is to our lives today—no matter who you are and where you are in life. This curriculum will guide women in discovering all about God's grace – how richly, extravagantly, and surprisingly He indulges us with his love and grace. What better metaphor for grace is there than chocolate!!!!!!

Child care is not provided for this group.

*You can now register for groups on-line!!!!

Lent 2010

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17 with Ash Wednesday Worship Service beginning at 7:30 P.M. During this solemn time of worship we will reflect on our need for God’s mercy and forgiveness as we invoke God to help us begin anew. We need to begin anew because we know that we are made of dust and to dust someday we will return...

But Lent isn’t about dying and turning to dust; it’s about living and turning to Jesus. Repentance means “to turn around and start fresh.” Just as the season of spring brings forth new life so too does the Season of Lent. This is a time of year when God is doing a new thing all around us as winter gives way to spring. It’s appropriate then to invite God to do a new thing within us -- turning us from death to life. As part of this renewal process we will gather every Wednesday during Lent for on going reflection and discussion using the following schedule:

- 6:00 Soup & Bread Supper
- 6:45 Bible Study (The Book of Acts)
- 7:30 Worship Service (Including Dramas)

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Study</i>	<i>Worship</i>
Week 1:	February 24	Acts 1-6:7	Drama - Zacchaeus
Week 2:	March 3	Acts 6:8-9:31	Drama - John
Week 3:	March 10	Acts 9:32-12:24	Drama - Leah
Week 4:	March 17	Acts 12:25-16:5	Drama - Martha
Week 5:	March 24	Acts 16:6-19:20	Drama - Samaritan Woman

HELP FOR HAITI

On Tuesday, January 12, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake rocked the island country of Haiti, primarily impacting the capital, Port-au-Prince.

Offices, hotels, houses and shops have collapsed. The presidential palace is in ruins and many churches have been destroyed. Hospitals are overflowing and the search for survivors is intense.

The streets of Haiti are filled with people in shock and searching for loved ones among the rubble.

Your help is needed today to bring immediate relief and continued hope for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. About 3 million lives, one-third of Haiti’s population, are affected by this earthquake.

Already one of the poorest countries in the world (70 percent of Haiti’s population lives in extreme poverty), this catastrophe will exacerbate the suffering felt by many already living with hunger and poverty.

ELCA Disaster Response is already working through long-standing partnerships on the ground to provide emergency food, water, shelter and medical supplies.

Financial gifts are urgently needed. 100 percent of all gifts received will be used for immediate relief and ongoing recovery in Haiti. Your prayers and generous gifts will make a life-saving difference. Please give today. Please mark your gift “Help for Haiti”.



GREETINGS FROM THE PRAISE AND WORSHIP DIRECTOR

My name is Gloria Horn, and I am so happy to be at Friedens helping to lead worship with the Praise and Worship Band. Speaking of the band, I would like to take a moment to introduce them by name.

Valerie Hauck-- vocals
Sarah Herb-- cello, vocals
John Flesher-- guitar, vocals
Jonny Kohler-- guitar
Jake Topping---guitar
Matt Topping-- piano, vocals
Steve Snyder-- drums

We are also fortunate to have Chris Riegel and Brett Scharff help out with the sound. If you are interested in helping out with running the sound equipment for the band, please leave a message for me in the church office.

You will be trained.

I am looking for help to grow our music ministry, in particular a bass guitar player, an electric guitar player, and a male vocalist. If you have this gift or know of someone that does, and feel you could be a dedicated member of this ministry, please call or email me at gmhorn16@verizon.net to set up an interview and audition time.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

This past Christmas Eve, Friedens was fortunate to have a group of children sing a song at the 4:00 p.m. Service. Many people commented to me how wonderful it was to see and hear the children singing. Therefore, I'm calling all children between the ages of 3 and 10 to participate in the Easter Sunday service at 9:00 a.m.

Rehearsals will be held during the 9:00 a.m. Service during children's church starting on Sunday, March 7 as well as on Wednesday, March 10.

Wednesday evening rehearsals will be held in the parlor from 6:30-7:00 P.M.

For more information, contact Gloria Horn or leave a message for her in the church office.

Quote of the Month

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest accomplishment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

-- Leo Buscaglia

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church

Congregational Council Meeting

Jan. 21, 2010

Bob Hauck, Congregational Council President, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Present: Jody Appleby, Jeffrey Gumpert, Carol Hartlieb, Bob Hauck (President), Dottie Kemble, Jill Kreider (Secretary), Joanne Maurer, Pastor Miller, and Denise Noll. Excused: Elaine Lasch. Absent: Greg Gardner

Bob Hauck opened with scripture reading from James 1:2-8 and a devotional called "Struggle with Doubt." Discussion occurred. Pastor Miller offered the opening prayer.

1. New council members, Denise Noll, Jody Appleby, and Jeffrey Gumpert were welcomed.
2. Election of Council Officers:
 - a. Joanne Maurer motioned to nominate Bob Hauck for Council President. Dottie Kemble seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Vice President position tabled until next meeting.
 - c. Dottie Kemble motioned to nominate Jill Kreider for Council Secretary. Carol Hartlieb seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Joanne Maurer motioned to nominate Millie Treat for appointment as Financial Secretary. Dottie Kemble seconded. Motion carried.
 - e. Dottie Kemble motioned to nominate Elaine Lasch for appointment as Treasurer. Carol Hartlieb seconded. Motion carried.
 - f. Joanne Maurer motioned to nominate Sally Sholley for appointment as Assistant Treasurer. Dottie Kemble seconded. Motion carried.
3. Minutes : Dottie Kemble motioned to accept Minutes from Dec. 17, 2009 Council Meeting and from Jan. 3, 2010 Congregational Meeting. Joanne Maurer seconded. Motion carried.
4. Communications and Reports:
 - a. Financial Secretary's report reviewed. Joanne Maurer motioned to accept report. Carol Hartlieb seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Treasurer report reviewed. Carol Hartlieb motioned to accept report. Dottie Kemble seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Property committee report reviewed. Joanne Maurer motioned to accept report. Carol Hartlieb seconded. Motion carried.



Jill Kreider reported the following communications received:

Thank you letter from Luthercare for gift of \$1,500 and also for gift of \$2,708.33 for Spang Crest Manor.

Thank you letter from Luthercare Child Care Programs for gift cards purchased for families who attend the Luthercare day care centers.

Thank you letter from Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania for gift of \$1,000 designated for Kirchenwald use.

Pastor Miller reported the following:

Life Groups will be starting Feb. 1st through April 10th.

Pastor Miller has been invited to be 1 of 5 Pastors called to share ministry of transformation of their church with the Synod.

Ash Wednesday Service to be held Feb. 17th at 7:30 PM.

Wednesday in Lent begin Feb. 24th. 6:00 PM Soup and Supper. 6:45-7:30 PM Study book of Acts. 7:30 PM Short service with Drama.

Financial help for Haiti

Apologized for forgetting to install new council members last Sun. and asked to install them this coming Sun.

5. Council Members information updated.
6. Reflection from Congregational Meeting held Jan. 3, 2010. Discussion occurred.
7. Responses from questions asked at Congregational Meeting reviewed. Discussion occurred.
8. Endowment Budget for 2010 reviewed. Pastor Miller motioned to accept budget. Dottie Kemble seconded. Motion carried.
9. Congregational Business Meeting Scheduled for Feb. 21, 2010 following second service.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By

Jill Kreider, Congregational Council Secretary

