



The Transformer

July 2013

717-866-4910

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

Dear friends,

As you might imagine, the passage from Luke this past week has been much on my mind as I prepared for the service. But there are a number of different ways to work with this passage; Sunday's sermon was only one of them.

For instance, the authority of Jesus was expressed in a striking way in this passage. Everyone in the story recognized Jesus' authority and everyone was disturbed by it. The man possessed with demons begged Jesus not to torment him. But, was it the demons talking or the man? If it was the man, why would he think Jesus was tormenting him? Could he have grown so accustomed to his role as the village crazy man that he didn't want to face the responsibility of what it would mean to be cured?

Twice the demons acknowledged Jesus' authority. 1) They begged him not to be sent into the abyss; and 2) they begged him to send them into the swine that were feeding nearby. Jesus' response bordered on compassion for the demons. Instead of treating them as an enemy to be vanquished, he listened to their plea.

When the pigs all rushed down the hillside and were drowned, the people in the city asked Jesus to leave. They saw the results of his healing in the person of the man sitting beside him now restored to his sanity. They also understood the economic cost to their village; the swineherd was a source of income for them. Jesus was disturbing all of this.

Lastly, the man healed of all the demons begged to go with Jesus; but Jesus told him to return and proclaim the good news of what God had done for him.

Everyone in this little story feared the authority of Jesus in their lives for different reasons. I can't help but wonder what fear we have of the authority of Jesus? What would happen if we let Jesus have authority of our lives? Would it cure us; would we be happy with the cure? Would we be happy with the new life Jesus offered or are we comfortable right where we are?

Are those outside the church enemies to be vanquished or people to be loved? Does Jesus threaten our economic well-being? Do we want to risk what we possess by letting Jesus into our lives? What chaos would ensue by submitting to the authority of Jesus? Are we ready to deal with the uncertainty of not being in charge and truly letting God reign in our lives?

These are all questions that popped up as I played with the passage from last week. They are all worthy topics of a sermon; even more they are worthy topics for us to wrestle with as we go about our lives as children of God.

Joyfully,

Ken

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

May 2013

				% of Budget	
Current Budget \$321,625.00	Goal Rec'd	\$26,802.00 \$22,699.00	Goal to Date Rec'd to Date	\$134,010.00 116,598.00	87%
Spang Crest	Rec'd	99.00	Rec'd to Date	261.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	260.00	Rec'd to Date	1,250.00	



CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL is continuing to search for a person or persons to serve as **CHAIRMAN OF CEMETERY BOARD**. Please connect with a council person if you or some one you know would enjoy using their gifts in this important ministry area. Council Persons names/pictures are posted on the bulletin board outside the Parlor.



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, Caremla Deck or Annette Beamesderfer. Your help is appreciated by coffee drinkers everywhere!

ATTENTION --- YOUR HELP NEEDED

In order to bring our records up to date we ask you to fill out the form below and bring it to the church office or put it in the offering plate.

NAME _____

E-mail address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Thank you for filling out this form.

SAVE THE DATE! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Sun, July 14th - Wed, July 17th
6:00 to 8:00 pm

"Kingdom Rock" will empower your little ones to stand strong with epic Bible Adventures, Imagination Station and crafts, tournament games and rockin' music!!

Register at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/FriedensMyerstown

or call the church office. Deadline is July 1st. *****To access this site, enter the web address in your Address Bar, not via Google.*****

"Ages 3 (potty trained) thru 5th grade are welcome, bring a friend!"

"We could use a few more volunteers to help, so please contact Holly Heft or Kelly Stephenson if you will serve in this very rewarding ministry!"

Come and join the fun of VBS 2013! We're going to ROCK!



Food Collection

On Sunday, July 7, 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 luncheon meat, jelly, 18 oz & 32 oz., complete pancake mix, hamburger helper, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toiletries.



The volunteer cleaning team will remain in action for 2013. Because of our budget deficit, nothing was proposed for professional cleaning service again.

I want to thank all the members who helped to keep our facility clean this year. We hope that others might join in whenever they can.

Please call Barb or Gene Lessig, at 866-2291 if you would like to help.



Thank you for the cards, visits, meals, phone calls and encouragement during my recovery from back surgery. Please keep me in your prayers as I continue with the slow process of healing.

I am blessed to be a member of the caring community at Friedens. God has used you and your acts of kindness to minister to me, and I ask His blessing on our congregation.

Judy Zinn

Searching for a New Pastor



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

JULY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 	5	6
7 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	8	9 7 PM—Property Committee	10 9 AM—Women Sew 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Re- hearsal	11	12	13
14 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service 6-8 PM—VBS	15 Deadline for News- letter articles 6-8 PM—VBS	16 6-8 PM—VBS	17 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Re- hearsal 6-8 PM—VBS	18 6:45 PM—Church Council	19	20
21 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	22	23	24 9 AM—Women Sew 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Re- hearsal	25	26	27
28 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	29	30	31 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Re- hearsal			

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
May 16, 2013

Jeff Gumpert (President) called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

Present:

Jody Appleby (Vice President), Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert (President), Chris Heft, Elaine Lasch (Treasurer), Joanne Maurer, Denise Noll, Ken Osborne (Interim Pastor) and Sharon Riegel (Secretary).

1. Pastor Osborne opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Devotion/Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-7. Discussion followed.
3. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
 - a. Denise Noll made a motion to accept the April 25, 2013 Church Council Minutes. Jody Appleby seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Jody Appleby made the motion to accept the April Financial Secretary's Report. Joanne Maurer seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Denise Noll made a motion to accept April Treasurer's Report. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Pastor Osborne shared a copy of his Pastor's Report for April 2013. Pastor plans to attend the Synod Assembly in June at Messiah College. He also reported no one from the congregation expressed an interest in attending as delegates. Pastor will be off July 1-7, 2013 and August 5-11, 2013. Pastor Kehrlri will lead worship on July 7 and August 11.
 - e. Thank you letter from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for April 2013 donation totaling 116 pounds.
 - f. Thank you card from Janet Moyer for the gift basket for Secretary's Day.
 - g. Thank you letter from Borough of Myerstown for the 2013 contribution of \$250 to their PILOT program.
4. An update was shared on the Furnace Replacement. Property is looking at the end of July/August for installation.
5. An update was shared on the Video Recording and Projection Equipment Upgrade. This team is currently meeting with 2 different vendors.
6. The group discussed the continued need to find a person or persons to serve as Chairman of Cemetery Board. We may need to consider making this a paid position. Pastor Osborne will connect with Roger Kauffman for further input/discussion.
7. A congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary between services at 10 am on Sunday, May 19, 2013 for the election of the Pastoral Search Team (Call Committee).

(continued next page)

.....

8. Jeff Gumpert shared updated email correspondence with Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania for their "Seeding The Future" campaign. The group again agreed it would not be beneficial at this time to commit to this campaign.
9. Jeff Gumpert will attend the May 28, 2013, Finance Committee meeting.
10. Pastor Osborne shared a report of the May 14, 2013 Property Committee meeting.
11. The Council Nomination Committee for 2014 will be Joanne Maurer and Denise Noll. Joanne and Denise will be finishing their second 3-year terms the end of 2013.
12. Pastor Osborne gave an update on the Ministry Site Profile Team. Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert, Roger Kauffman, Violet Schaeffer, Len Schott and Judy Zinn have agreed to serve on the team.
13. Pastor Osborne will schedule a New Members Class in the near future. If you know of any person or families who would like to join Friedens, please ask them to connect directly with Pastor.
14. Children's Ministry will be hosting an Alex's Lemonade Stand on Sunday, June 9, 2013 in honor of Landon Kreider. The theme is "Mix. Pour. Find a Cure for Childhood Cancer."
15. Jody Appleby shared a concern of a member about handicap accessibility in our restrooms and also smoke detectors in our building. Joanne Maurer will connect with Property Committee on these items.
16. Jeff Gumpert read a letter of resignation dated May 14, 2013, from Valerie Hauck, Director of Discipleship. Valerie's last day of employment with Friedens will be Friday, June 7, 2013. Chris Heft made a motion to accept this resignation with regret and thanks. Denise Noll seconded. Motion carried.
17. Next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 6:45 pm.
18. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Sharon Riegel
Council Secretary



Like us on
Facebook



The church office is open
from 9 AM— 1 PM
Monday-Friday.

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Special Church Council Meeting
June 9, 2013

President Jeff Gumpert called the special meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Present:

Jody Appleby (Vice President), Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert (President), Chris Heft, Elaine Lasch (Treasurer), Joanne Maurer, Denise Noll and Sharon Riegel (Secretary).


Excused:

Ken Osborne (Pastor)


Chris Heft made a motion to proceed with replacing furnace by borrowing on line of credit until other financing available. Joanne Maurer seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Sharon Riegel
Council Secretary



A huge thank you to all who attended and helped with Landon's Lemonade Stand! A grand total of \$1577.00 was donated to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation to help find a cure for all childhood cancers.



During the Summer months, as we give the Adult Choir a much needed rest, we are pleased to have musicians from our church and guest musicians from the community share their talents with us at the 10:30 a.m. service. We are pleased to have the following musicians join us this year. Anyone wishing to provide special music this Summer is encouraged to contact Jim Bieber as there are still dates available.

June 30 – Katelyn Umberger, flute
July 7 – Sarah Herb, cello and Sarah Wagner, violin
July 14 – Dawn and Mike Yeagley, French Horn and Piano
July 21 – Emily Shertzer, oboe
July 28 – Mary Ellen Hefflefinger, vocalist
August 4 – Sarah Broadwell, piano
August 11 – open
August 18 – Alex Loy, Saxophone
August 25 – open



This 2013 Mission Trip is being dedicated to the memory of John Bartolomei, former team member who was always committed to helping others and amusing team members with stories! We love you John.

Thank you to the congregation for support of Friedens' missions through the years!

06/20/13 – Pastoral Search - Update from Council

Previous Pastor

Pastor Rob Miller's last Sunday with us was November 18, 2012.

Interim Pastor

Pastor Ken Osborne's first Sunday with us was on February 3, 2013.

Pastoral Search Team (Call Committee)

This team was approved at a congregational meeting on May 19, 2013.

Tad Achenbach

John Flesher

Chris Heft

Sister Janice Ruch

John R. Smith

McKenna Achenbach

Ministry Site Profile

The team of: Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert, Roger Kauffman, Violet Schaeffer, Len Schott and Judy Zinn are working to compile this profile. Council & Call Committee will also review/have input into this profile.

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
June 20, 2013

Jody Appleby (Vice President) called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.


Present: Jody Appleby (Vice President), Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert (President), Elaine Lasch (Treasurer), Joanne Maurer, Denise Noll, Ken Osborne (Interim Pastor) and Sharon Riegel (Secretary).
Excused: Chris Heft.

1. Sharon Riegel opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Devotion/Scripture: Romans 12: 6 - 8. Discussion followed.
3. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
 - a. Frank Armstrong made a motion to accept the May 16, 2013 Church Council Minutes. Denise Noll seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Denise Noll made a motion to accept the May 19, 2013 Congregational Meeting Minutes. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Joanne Maurer made the motion to accept the May Financial Secretary's Report. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Denise Noll made a motion to accept May Treasurer's Report. Joanne Maurer seconded. Motion carried.
 - e. Denise Noll made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report for May 2013. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried. Pastor Osborne shared that Mason Barry, son of Josh & Susan Barry, will be baptized at the 9:00 am service on July 28, 2013.
 - f. Thank you card from Mackenzie Smith for the recent use of the church for a yard sale.
4. An update was shared on the Furnace Replacement. A \$22,000 deposit was sent to the vendor. The furnace was ordered. Expected installation is July or August.
5. An update was shared on the Video Recording and Projection Equipment Upgrade. Joanne Maurer made a motion to accept the bid dated June 12, 2013 from Sound Advantage for \$45,500 and for additional costs not covered by bid (electrical work & computer) up to \$50,000. Denise Noll seconded. Motion carried. Denise Noll made a motion that a congregational meeting be held on Sunday, July 14, 2013 at 10 am between services to approve the project and financing. Jody Appleby seconded. Motion carried.
6. Council discussed the continued need to find a person or persons to serve as Chairman of Cemetery Board. We may need to consider making this a paid position. Pastor Osborne reported he has connected with Roger Kauffman & shared his thoughts with the group.
7. Jeff Gumpert gave a report on the June 18, 2013, Finance Committee meeting.
8. Joanne Maurer gave a report of the June 11, 2013 Property Committee meeting. Council discussed their continued concern of handicap accessibility in our restrooms and also smoke detectors in our building.

9. Jeff Gumpert gave an update on the Ministry Site Profile Team. Frank Armstrong, Jeff Gumpert, Roger Kauffman, Violet Schaeffer, Len Schott and Judy Zinn will continue to work on compiling this profile. Call Committee will also review this profile. An update on the call process will be placed on the Council Bulletin Board and in the Transformer.
10. Pastor Osborne shared a team will be meeting to discuss plans for honoring Pastor Kehrlı who has been ordained 50 years and Sister Janice Ruch who is celebrating 20 years.
11. Pastor Osborne will schedule a New Members Class in the near future. If you know of any person or families who would like to join Friedens, please ask them to connect directly with Pastor.
12. Valerie Hauck requested to purchase the church laptop she used as Director of Discipleship. The laptop is a Dell Vostro 1520 which the church purchased in 2009. The laptop is due for replacement in 2014 and its current value is \$150. Council agreed to allow Valerie to purchase the laptop for its current value of \$150 with the agreement that all church related data is saved on a flash drive for future church use. Council discussed the Director of Discipleship position. A few candidates have expressed an interest in this position. Council will need to compose a position description. Councilpersons interested in assisting with this task should connect with Pastor Osborne.
13. Council discussed the need to find persons willing to serve on Council with terms beginning in 2014.
14. Pastor Osborne will be off July 1-7, 2013 and August 5-11, 2013. Pastor Kehrlı will lead worship on July 7 and August 11. Pastor Osborne will check with Pastor Kehrlı & Sister Janice Ruch if they are willing/available to provide pastoral care coverage while he is off.
15. Denise Noll made a motion to authorize an increase in line of credit at Fulton Bank from \$25,000 to \$100,000 and authorize President Jeff Gumpert and Vice President Jody Appleby to go to Fulton Bank to authorize Elaine Lasch, Treasurer, to withdraw funds as needed from such account. Joanne Maurer seconded. Motion carried.
16. The auditing of the 2012 books needs to be completed. Len Schott, Judy Zinn and Jocelyn Whitmoyer will be contacted to check on their willingness to do this again this year.
17. Next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2013 at 6:45 pm.
18. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Sharon Riegel, Council Secretary

Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 14 at 10 am between services to approve the project (furnace & video recording & projection upgrade) and the financing. Please plan to attend.

 Thank you!
Congregational Council would like to extend a gracious thank you to Edith Grumbine. Edith has for many years quietly planted & cared for flowers at the entrance to Friedens Memorial Park along Ramona Road. Thank you Edith.