



# The Transformer

May 2013

717-866-4910

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

Dear Friends,

I just realized that I have now spent more time in Interim ministry than I have as a solo pastor. I have served in seven churches as an Interim: 4 in Pennsylvania, 3 in Maryland, 6 Presbyterian and now 1 Lutheran. I have served in all sizes of churches with a variety of programs. As a PK (preacher's kid), my life has always been centered around a church. I went to college in Louisiana on a Methodist scholarship completing the Centenary School of Church Careers. God's church, in so many different forms and venues, has always been a major part of my life.

I have witnessed great pain caused by the church; I have experienced some of my greatest moments of joy in the church. And I can't help but wonder why it is that this one organization can be the source of so much angst and so much passion.

I came across this excerpt in one of my devotional books. It was written by Carlos Carletto in his book *The God Who Comes*. This is the church I know and love dearly.

**How baffling you are, oh Church, and yet how I love you!**

**How you have made me suffer and yet how much I owe you!**

**I should like to see you destroyed, and yet I need your presence.**

**You have given me so much scandal and yet you have made me understand sanctity.**

**I have seen nothing in the world more devoted to obscurity, more compromised, more false, and I have touched nothing more pure, more generous, more beautiful. How often I have wanted to shut the doors of my soul in your face, and how often I have prayed to die in the safety of your arms.**

**No, I cannot free myself from you, because I am you, although not completely.**

**And where else should I go?**

May we all continue to pray for this beloved church of God's creation.

Joyfully,  
Ken

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**DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP**

As many of you may be aware Andy Feitzinger, a member of our congregation and an active member in our community was recently diagnosed with a very rare form of Cancer called Renal Cell Carcinoma, and he is currently seeking out very costly treatments in Mexico. Our youth LIFE group, wanted to find a way to support Andy and his family.

After some discussion it was decided to host a spaghetti Dinner here at Friedens on Sat, May 18<sup>th</sup>. The tickets will be a FREE will offering, we are asking people to consider making a donation the evening of our dinner. We believe God will bless this out reach event in many ways.

Tickets are available now, you can get one from participating youth or the church office, Kerry Keller or Val Hauck.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Thank you to all who served as LIFE group leaders this semester and to the folks involved in our groups.

**When you thought I wasn't looking –Anonymous**

When you thought I wasn't looking,

I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator,  
and I wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat,  
and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me,  
and I knew that little things are special things.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer,  
and I believed there is a God I could always talk to.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me goodnight,  
and I felt loved.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes,  
and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared  
and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked...

and wanted to say thanks for all the things

I saw when you thought I wasn't looking.

**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!**



**H2O Project Update**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the El Salvador Life Group's service project, **H2O Project**, raising money for water wells in El Salvador.

Our congregation raised \$2,000 in one week, March 17-24!



**SPANG CREST CHICKEN BBQ** – 945

Duke St., Lebanon on Friday, May 3 from 2:30-5:30 P.M. Includes: ½ chicken, baked potato, and applesauce.

Tickets are \$6.50 and are available from Barbara Grumbine or Janet Kehrl. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Spang Crest Manor. Thanks for your support.



**STUDENT LOAN APPLICATIONS** – College students and students attending other qualified institutions may pick up loan applications at the church office. Applications must be returned by **JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>**.



**CEMETERY CLEANUP DAY**

Work Nights will be held Tuesday evenings in May. The first work night is Tuesday, May 7 at 6 P.M. at the cemetery. Bring a shovel and rake.



**Food Collection**

On Sunday, May 5, food will be collected for the Lebanon County Food Bank. All gifts are welcomed. There is a need for instant mashed potatoes, canned potatoes, cold cereal, 18 oz. jams & jellies, 5 oz. canned chicken, 12 oz. canned chicken, 12 oz. Spam, 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.



Like us on **Facebook**



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

# MAY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	2  7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	3	4
5 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service 10:30 AM—Youth	6	7 6 PM—Cemetery Work Night	8 9 AM—Women Sew 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	9  7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	10	11
12 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	13	14 6 PM—Cemetery Work Night 7 PM—Property Committee	15 Deadline for newsletter articles	16 6:45 PM—Church Council 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	17	18
19 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	20 7PM—Women of ELCA	21 6 PM—Cemetery Work Night	22 9 AM—Women Sew	23 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	24	25
26 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	27 	28	29	30 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	31	





**TENTATIVE PLANS** are underway for this summer's mission trip. Destination: The Jersey Shore. Mission: Rebuild areas devastated by Storm Sandy. Needed: Skilled and unskilled workers, age 16 and older. Date: Week of June 9th. RSVP: Interested individuals should contact any former mission member (Roy Schaeffer, John Smith, Frank Armstrong, Dean Moyer, Len Schott, Chris Riegel, Jon Koller, Jan DuBois)

**MISSION DESCRIPTION:** restore Camp Crossroads in northwestern New Jersey. This campground was damaged by WINDS, not flooding, in Storm Sandy. See [www.crossroadsretreat.com](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com) for Camp Crossroads' general website. Deadline for mission reservation: **MAY 5th.**



**A FREEWILL OFFERING SPAGHETTI SUPPER** will be held at Friedens to benefit Andy Feitzinger. Andy has a very rare form of cancer called renal carcinoma and is receiving costly treatment in Mexico. Andy has been an active member of Friedens and the community for many years. This will be a FREE will offering, we are asking people to consider making a donation the evening of our dinner. We believe God will bless this out reach event in many ways.

The Spaghetti Supper will be held Saturday, May 18. Take out – 4-5 P.M. (Must have own container); eat in – 4:30-6 P.M. Menu is spaghetti, salad, bread and desserts.

If you are not able to attend the Spaghetti Supper, donations can be made to the Lebanon Federal Credit Union, 300 Schneider Dr., Lebanon, PA 17046; attention Jovita Templin. Checks should be made payable to Andy Feitzinger Cancer Fund.



**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 someone 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.

**OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**February 2013**

				% of Budget	
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,802.00	Goal to Date	\$53,604.00	81%
\$321,625.00	Rec'd	\$21,929.00	Rec'd to Date	43,233.00	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	24.00	Rec'd to Date	480.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	235.00	Rec'd to Date	455.00	

