

The Transformer

September 2010

717-866-4910

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

The other day I was driving along in the van with our children. Out of the blue our four-year-old daughter, Thea, said proudly, “Dad, God is with us everywhere we go!”

I responded, “Really?!?! That’s cool!!!”

She agreed and said, “Yeah that is cool!”

Simon, our seven-year-old, jumped into the conversation and said, “Dad, you already knew that!”

I said, “Yeah, I did! But it’s so good to be reminded about that from time to time.”

God is with us everywhere we go. What a comforting thought. A smile comes to my face every time I recall my children who remind me of God’s omnipresence.

I was thinking of God’s omnipresence in my life while riding my bike one Saturday afternoon a few days after that “car-talk” about God with my children. Just a few miles into my bike ride I saw a young family walking down the street and the Spirit nudged me saying, “Do you see that child in the stroller, I was with you before you could even walk or ride a bike.” I rode along with a smile on my face at such a comforting thought.

A few more miles into my bike ride and I saw kids playing on a playground. The Spirit nudged me again and said, “Do you see those kids playing, I have been with you growing you into the person you are today.” The smile on my face grew even bigger at such a comforting thought.

I rode a few more miles and I saw an older man shuffling his way into the house with his daughter helping him every step of the way. The Spirit nudged me a third time and said, “Do you see that old man, I will be with you when you are old and grey needing someone to help you walk.” The smile on my face grew even bigger at such a comforting thought.

God is indeed with us everywhere we go. What a comforting thought!

The next time you see me smiling, you’ll know the reason why. God is indeed with us everywhere we go. What a comforting thought!

Prayer... *Lord may we be reminded daily that you are with us every where we go – no matter where our life’s journey takes us – no matter what challenges are before us. What a comforting thought to know that you are indeed with us. Amen.*

Peace,

Pastor Miller





CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation students & parents of youth in grade 9. There is an informational meeting outlining our plans for the 2010-2011 confirmation classes; planned for Tuesday, September 21 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall We look forward to connecting with all of you. If you are unable to attend for any reason please contact the church office at 866-4910

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

On September 5, 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.

SENIOR FEST

Please mark you calendars for Senior Fest scheduled for Thursday, October 21 at 12 noon.

Entertainment will be provided by the Music and Drama Division of the Woman's Club of Myerstown.

200TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HELP WANTED...

comb your attics, empty those boxes, move those dust bunnies! No, we don't need you to help clean the church, we need you to sweep your home and look for old photos and memorabilia from years past at Friedens. Members of the anniversary committee could use any memento or old photo you can find. Uncover those hidden church memories and call Brian Beamesderfer at 866-2975 or 866-2022. No, he won't help you clean the attic, but he can come and pick up items you find!

ADULT CHOIR UPDATE


Jay Althouse has resigned as our adult choir director and is moving out of the area for a teaching position in the York area. We will be reviewing this ministry as we make plans for this fall. Please keep Jay and the choir in your prayers during this time of transition.

FRIENDS OF SPANG CREST Fall Chicken Barbeque on Sept. 10, 2:30-6 p.m. at Spang Crest. Cost is \$6.00. Tickets are available from Barbara Grumbine or Janet Kehrli.

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS		July 2010		% of Budget
Current Budget	Goal	\$28,728.00	Goal to Date	85%
\$344,737.00	Rec'd	\$21,046.00	Rec'd to Date	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	49.00	Rec'd to Date	716.00
Hunger	Rec'd	330.00	Rec'd to Date	2,125.00



SEPTEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 9 am—Holy Communion 10:30 am—Holy Communion	6 OFFICE CLOSED 	7 7pm—Leadership Team Meeting	8 6:30-7:30 pm—First Communion Classes	9	10	11
12 9 am—Service of the Word 10:30 am—Holy Communion	13	14 6:30pm—Finance Committee 7pm—Property Committee	15 9am—Women Sew 6:30-7:30 pm—First Communion Classes	16 6:45pm—Church Council	17	18
19 9 am—Holy Communion 10:30 am—Holy Communion	20 7pm—Women of ELCA	21 7pm—Confirmation Informational Meeting—Fellowship Hall	22 6:30-7:30 pm—First Communion Classes	23	24	25
26 9 am—Service of the Word 10:30 am—Holy Communion	27	28	29 9am—Women Sew 6:30-7:30 pm—First Communion Classes	30 7pm—Anniversary Committee		



DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

A big thanks to all those who led LIFE Ggroups for our summer 2010 semester and to those folks who participated in a group. It is wonderful to hear how your lives are being changed through this experience not only those in the groups, but the people whom we are reaching out to serve. Promotions for our fall semester begin in September and signups begin Sept 12th, 2010 in the fellowship hall from 10:00 am - 10:30 am. Our fall semester will be sermon based (study will pertain to the Sunday sermon prior to your meeting) all groups will be studying the same thing allowing us all to dig deeper into God's word.

Christ's Peace
Valerie



HANDBELL CHOIR

Friedens' handbell ensemble Heavenly Metal is looking for more members! Even if you are not musically inclined, consider trying a rehearsal or two. If you can tell your left hand from your right, and can count to four, you can probably ring handbells! We meet Tuesday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. Feel free to email director Eileen for more information at ebeaz84@yahoo.com, or stop by rehearsal to check us out!

Eileen Beazley



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our Children's Ministry at Frieden's is taking on a new direction.. Over the next several weeks we hope you will see some of the changes that we have been working on. While that occurs, we are also currently expanding the curriculum and creating new paths for spiritual growth for **our** children. We want to utilize the many gifts and talents of our congregation and see what passions you may have to lend to our Children's Ministry. We have been very fortunate to have the input already provided by, Jill Kreider, Missy Krause, Heather Lenge, Nicki Adams, Val Hauck, Amber Miller, and Kerry Keller. We want to hear from everyone who feels 'moved' to share in the faith formation process of young, developing hearts and minds. We find this to be an area where we truly get back more than we give! So please take note of the changes we are implementing and know that we are open to any and all suggestions. We are focused on nursery, pre-K and school aged children up to 5th grade. If you would like to become involved in this ministry opportunity or would like more information regarding our Children's ministry you may contact Lynn Appleby at 933-5358, cell phone 304-9580 or email appleby@comcast.net.

Thanks and God Bless!
The Children's Ministry Team



SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

It is truly amazing how the Coffee Hour has grown. It is also great to see people gathering together, and sharing their lives with love and caring for each other, members getting to know each other better.

We are so grateful the way our members have responded to helping serve, and getting involved. Thanks to all.

If you would like to be part of our fellowship, call Shirley Kline at 866-9490 or www.skline75@verizon.net or Violet Schaeffer at 866-4196.

WOMEN OF ELCA

Friedens Women of ELCA will begin their 2010-2011 Bible study on Monday, September 20 at 7 p.m. in the parlor.

The theme this year is The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity. It is a challenging study starting with the first session on using the Book of Faith Initiative as a Bible study theme and this will be continued in each of the following sessions.

We will be discussing such topics as: Life in Community, which is the Body of Christ; Stewardship; Spiritual Gifts; Worship; Race and Culture; Loving Relationships; Barriers to Resurrection; and Witnessing and Evangelism.

It promises to be a very unusual study. We welcome any woman who chooses to come to our group.

CHURCH PICNIC UPDATE

The Leadership Team planning for this year's picnic has decided to cancel the church picnic. There seems to be a waning interest in support for this even. Enjoy that afternoon with your family & friends.

The Picnic Committee



To my friends in Friedens Lutheran Church,
Thank you very much for your birthday greetings and best wishes for the new year! May many of the good wishes come true!

All the best to you!
God bless you!
Irma Kuchinsky

Dear Friedens Family:

The family of Ralph R. Kline wish to acknowledge with heartfelt appreciation your kind expression of sympathy. Also, thank you for the many visits during his stay at Spang Crest. A special thank you to Pastor Miller for his visits and for the beautiful memorial service led by Pastor Miller and Pastor Kehrl. Thank you to Joel Zinn who administered communion at home and Spang Crest.

While saddened by our loss, we take comfort in knowing that Ralph Found the peace he was praying for.

We will always remember your kind expressions of solace in our time of need!
Thank you,
Ralph R. Kline Family



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

First Communion classes will be held in September on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning September 8 and running through September 29. If you are interested in having your child participate in this learning experience (usually grade 5) please call the church office, 866-4910.



Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
August 19, 2010

Council President, Bob Hauck, called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

Present: Jody Appleby, Greg Gardner (VP), Carol Hartlieb, Bob Hauck (Pres.), Dottie Kemble, Jill Kreider (Sec.), Elaine Lasch (Treas.), Joanne Maurer, and Pastor Miller.

Excused: Jeffrey Gumpert and Denise Noll.

Bob Hauck opened with scripture reading from Ephesians 4: 29-32 and a devotional called "A Lifestyle of Forgiveness." Discussion followed. He then offered the opening prayer.

1. Minutes: July 15, 2010 minutes reviewed. Greg Gardner motioned to accept minutes. Jody Appleby seconded. Motion carried.

2. Reports:

A. Treasurer report from July 2010 reviewed. Joanne Maurer motioned to accept report. Jill Kreider seconded. Motion carried.

B. Financial Secretary report from July 2010 reviewed. Carol Hartlieb motioned to accept report. Jody Appleby seconded. Motion carried.

3. Communications:

Jill Kreider communicated:

A. Thank you letter from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for May food bank donation of 86 pounds.

B. Thank you letter from Luthercare for July gift of \$130.00.

Bob Hauck communicated:

A. Ron and Sandy Swonger offered their time to paint the Library as a gift. Pastor Miller sent them a Thank You Letter on behalf of the congregation.

B. Thank you letter from Lower Susquehanna Synod for Friedens financial gifts that help to serve God's mission.

Pastor Miller communicated:

A. Would like to put together a Leadership Team.

B. Gave council two handouts to read and review for discussion.

4. Open Forum: Discussion occurred.

5. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by

Jill Kreider

Congregational Council Secretary



Worship Series for (Late) September and October 2010 *Thy Kingdom Come...*

The heart of the Gospel that Jesus proclaims is that the Kingdom of God is at hand. So much broader than the proclamation of personal salvation from eternal punishment, this good news both invites us and empowers us to live into the movement of God in this world: to reconcile, redeem, and restore all of creation. This is good news for today, and tomorrow, and eternity, and it invites us to participate in our own prayer, “Thy Kingdom Come ...”



SEPTEMBER 19 – *Kingdom Reality* LUKE 4:31-44

The Kingdom of God is now, near, at hand, within you ... but not yet fully ... and it is good news.

SEPTEMBER 26 – *Kingdom Community* EPHESIANS 4:1-7, 11-16

The Kingdom of God calls us from isolation and individualism to radical connectedness and community. Christian unity is not merely consensus of opinion, but a matter of being made one in Christ.

OCTOBER 3 – *Kingdom Agenda* 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

What is God up to in the Kingdom? Reconciliation, redemption and restoration.

OCTOBER 10 – *Kingdom Conflict* MATTHEW 10:16-25, 34-39

When we seek to live out God’s Kingdom agenda we will face conflict, both from within and without.

OCTOBER 17 – *Kingdom Power* MATTHEW 20:17-28

God’s Kingdom comes by God’s Spirit power working in and through us. Disciples are known, not by their love of power, but by the power of their love expressed in service to others.

OCTOBER 24 – *Kingdom Inclusion* COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

All people are invited into God’s Kingdom, and even those outside the church are at work in it. We can and should work together.

OCTOBER 31 – *Kingdom Reforming* ROMANS 3:19-28; LUKE 5:33-39

The Kingdom is dynamic, not static. The Kingdom community must be open to God’s new direction and the fresh wind of God’s Spirit. God is doing a *new* thing.

SEE YOU IN WORSHIP AND BRING A FRIEND.

