



# The Transformer

July 2014

717-866-4910

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

I just wanted to take a moment to thank – well, to be honest, I'm not sure who to thank for the Mission Trip. Jon and Jim, I thank you for your leadership. You made sure we knew where we were going, when we were supposed to be there and when it was time to stop. But more than that, you made sure we had water and Gatorade to keep us well hydrated in the heat and humidity. You made sure we had the right tools to do the work we were supposed to do. But, more than just making sure we had the right tools you spent time to show us how to use the tools properly to get the work done. You were very patient with me and other warm bodies willing to try most anything.

I want to thank Kyle, Jonny and Collin for your youth and energy; it was a blast working with you. You didn't sit back and let someone else do the work; you were leading the way to accomplish our tasks. You also had the energy to go fishing, play basketball and soccer. I have to admit it was fun beating Jonny in Ping Pong; thanks for that. You are the future of God's church and I'd say the future is in good hands.

And my thanks to the other worker bees – Chad, Ron, Chris, and Roland; it was fun being with you all. Each of you had your own special gifts that you brought for the good of the project. But it wasn't only about the work, which was important; the most important element of the whole week was the fellowship. It was fun being with all of you and getting to know you outside of our normal church activities.

And thank you for letting me violate that fellowship so I could watch the World Cup when we got back. It's the World Cup – what can I say.

Thanks for all of it.

Ken

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**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 appreciated by coffee drinkers everywhere!



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.



**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**

**May 2014**


				% of Budget	
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,848.00	Goal to Date	\$134,240.00	90%
\$322,179.00	Rec'd	\$23,858.00	Rec'd to Date	121,095.00	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	49.00	Rec'd to Date	301.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	275.00	Rec'd to Date	1,230.00	





# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"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."




## Food Collection

On Sunday, July 6, 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.




### Altar Flowers

The following Sundays are available for you to sponsor Altar Flowers: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in February; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in June; and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in July. If interested in sponsoring altar flowers please call Sylvia Pohronezny at 933-8300.





### TO OUR SHUT-INS

July 8  
Mrs. Irma Kuchinsky  
31L StoneRidge Poplar Run  
Myerstown, PA 17067



**THANK YOU** everyone for helping to raise money for the Alex's lemonade stand foundation! We raised ~ \$1694.27...from online, donation cans, and the 2 days of having the lemonade stand! Amazing! Thank you everyone for participating (making posters, hanging posters, putting out donation cans, parents for helping your kids get the posters and donation cans out, asking businesses permission to put out signs, for getting signs printed, real estate signs to put our signs in, bringing coolers and lemonade supplies, canopies and tables). Way to go kids! Thanks for everything! Fighting for a cure for all childhood cancers one cup at a time!

# JULY 2014

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



MCKENNA ACHENBACH graduated from ELCO High School She plans to attend Alvernia College for Marketing.

MITCHELL APONICK graduated from ELCO High School. He is undecided about his plans.

AARON BEAMESDERFER graduated from ELCO High School. He plans to attend HAAC and then transfer to East Stroudsburg University for Sports Management

ALYSSA FEITZINGER graduated from ELCO High School. She plans to attend Temple University for Journalism.

LAUREN FOX graduated from ELCO High School. She will be attending Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences in their medical imaging program.

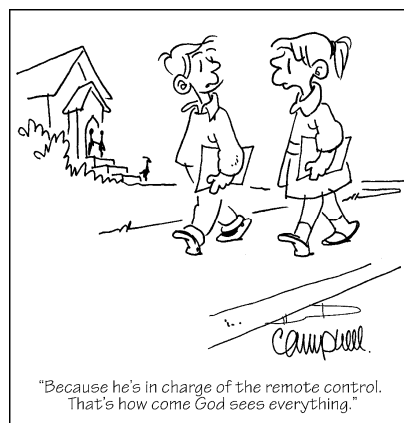
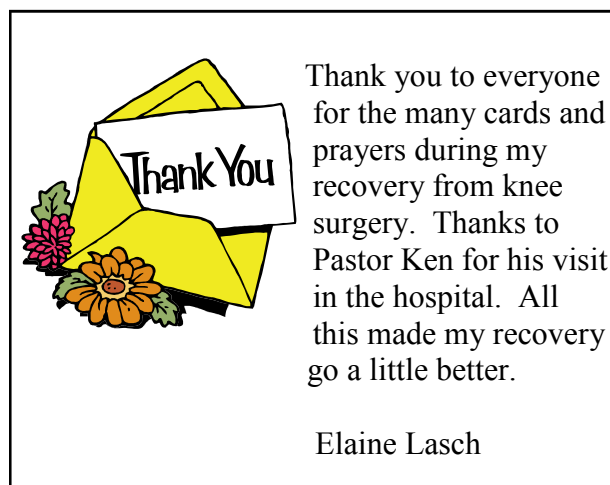
KAYLA KNEASEL graduated from Cedar Crest High School. She will be attending Penn State University—University Park, and majoring in Communications with a minor in Economics.

SYDNIE PARKER graduated from ELCO High School. She plans to attend Millersville University for Early Childhood Elementary Education.

EVAN REPPERT graduated from Cedar Crest High School. He is planning to attend Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts to major in political science and economics.

DALTON SCHARFF graduated from Tulpehocken High School as the salutatorian of his class. He will be attending University of Pittsburgh for computer science.

KRYSTEENA KOLLER graduated from Lebanon Valley College. She has an internship at Disney World.





## MISSION UPDATE

**Lutheran world relief** periodically reports locations where our items from October 2013's Ingathering have been sent.

### Dec. 2013

Quilts (24), personal care kits (42), and fabric kits (7) were sent to Philippines (typhoon on Nov. 8, 2013)

### May 2014

Quilts, personal care kits, and fabric kits to Tanzania (Mar. 2014)

### June 2014

Quilts to Georgia (the country) in Imereti and Shida Kartli regions, as well as in Tbilisi (Apr. 2014)

### **2014 Mission Trip**

To Middlesex County, New Jersey

June 15-21

Friedens will have 10 members of its mission team working on Storm Sandy restoration this year. Last year, members worked in the woods in northwest New Jersey. This year, the team hopes to smell the salt air of the Jersey shore!

Thank you to the members of the team: Jon Koller, Jim Kneasel, Kyle Kneasel, Chris Riegel, Ron Haag, Chad Beiler, Roland Miller (Kochenderfer), Colin Pyzzer, and Ken Osborne.

### **Missionaries David and Mary Kuck Retirement**

On July 1, 2014, David and Mary Kuck will complete their mission work in Jamaica after 23 years of service. You may write them a note of appreciation at **121 Moulton St., West Newbury, MA 01985** Or email [dmkuck2003@yahoo.com](mailto:dmkuck2003@yahoo.com).

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA  
Church Council Meeting  
June 26, 2014

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

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

1. Opening Prayer: Jody Appleby opened the meeting with prayer. Scripture: Psalm 103: 8-13. Discussion followed.
2. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
  - a. Janice DuBois made a motion to accept the May 15, 2014 Church Council Minutes. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
  - b. Frank Armstrong made a motion to accept the May 2014 Financial Secretary's Report. Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.
  - c. Jon Koller made a motion to accept the May 2014 Treasurer's Report. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
  - d. Ken Osborne shared his Pastor's Report for May 2014. Sharon Riegel made a motion to approve the May 2014 Pastor's Report. Jon Koller seconded. Motion carried. Highlights of Pastor's Report include:
    - Confirmation Class will begin in the Fall
    - Pastor Osborne joined the Mission Team in New Jersey
  - e. Thank you letter from Penn State Cooperative Extension for the recent use of the building by Penn State Strong Women.
  - f. Friedens will receive (25) complimentary copies of *The Lutheran* in June, September, December and March from the ELCA, Chicago, Illinois. The copies will be placed in the area outside the Parlor. Anyone is welcome to pick up a copy.
  - g. Thank you from LutherCare for recent donation of \$50 to support Spang Crest.
  - h. Thank you from Lower Susquehanna Synod for \$30,000 donation to 2013 Mission Support Plan.
  - i. Tim Eck, Director of Music, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, PA requested to borrow our large portable screen on June 22, July 27 & August 24. Council discussed & agreed to approve this request.
3. Finance Committee did not meet in June. Future meetings will be scheduled "as needed". The Council Rep at Finance Committee future meetings will be rotated.

4. Sharon Riegel reported on the Property Committee meeting of June 10, 2014.
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 has contacted 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 report on the Capital Fund Appeal was reviewed. As of May 31, 2014: Campaign Goal: \$155,500, Commitments: \$143,899.
8. At the February 9, 2014 Annual Congregational Meeting no names were submitted for the Nominating Committee for Council. Pastor Osborne is working on this.
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 is working on this.
11. Jon Koller provided the group with a report on the recent Mission Trip to New Jersey.
12. Elaine Lasch, Treasurer, provided the group with an update on Heating Fuel. Elaine will connect with the Property Committee.
13. Janice DuBois reported David & Mary Kuck, ELCA Missionaries in Jamaica, will be retiring. Council agreed to have Janice pursue connecting our church with missionaries in El Salvador.
14. Next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 17, 2014 at 7 pm. Janice DuBois will prepare opening prayer/devotional.
15. Jon Koller made the motion to adjourn. Frank Armstrong seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Meeting closed with prayer lead by Pastor Osborne.

Respectfully Submitted  
Sharon Riegel, Council Secretary

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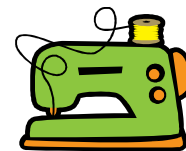




The Board of Trustees of the Myerstown Community Library sent thanks to the Friedens Sewing Ladies for “their generous contribution of a “quilt” for the library’s twelfth annual silent auction. The fund-raiser held on April 26, 2014, raised a little over \$10,000. The Trustees appreciated the sewers cooperation and hope to count on continued support in the future.

The group has finished 47 quilts for this year. The Women also had lunch at an area Tea Room last month.

The Sewing Ladies invite anyone interested in quilting, knotting, and preparing the quilts to join the group. It meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9 a.m. The group accepts contributions of surplus fabric, used sheets and blankets.



Here is the list of persons who will be offering special musical selections during the Summer of 2014:

- July 6 – Mike Yeagley and family, Richard Stoner, trombone
- July 13 – Sarah Topping, cello and Noel Bieber, vocal selection
- July 20 – Justin Huie, vocal selection
- July 27 – Emily Shertzer, oboe
- August 3- Sarah Broadwell, piano
- August 10 – Alexander Loy, saxophone
- August 17 – Gloria Tice, piano
- August 24 – Jessica Weidman, vocal selection



It is with joy and pride that we acknowledge the election of Dr. David Lose, a congregational son of Friedens, as president of the Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary. David is the son of Pastor Jack and Susan Lose, our pastor from 1980 to 1994. Prior to his election David was Luther Seminary’s Marbury E. Anderson Chair of Biblical Preaching and the director of the Center for Biblical Preaching.

We pray for the Holy Spirit’s direction as David assumes his position at the end of summer.

## REPETITION

Repeat something long enough, loud enough and often enough and eventually you will persuade your audience as to its validity. This method of persuasion is employed quite effectively especially where large groups are courted to follow a certain leader, a certain policy, or a certain philosophy.

There is evidence of this in politics. When a candidate aspiring to an elective office creates a campaign his or her political advisor will manufacture messages appealing to the likes or dislikes of a certain demographic segment. To insure the message is received it is repeated long enough, loud enough and often enough.

Besides rhetoric this method is also used in music. Many great composers divided their compositions into a number of movements and interspersed a constant melodic phrase repeatedly into each movement. This is the segment of the musical performance most remembered and brought back to mind long after the music ceases. It seems all that is required is to repeat it long enough, loud enough and often enough.

Along with speech and music this method of persuasion is used by anyone repeatedly striking some object to produce a rhythmic beat. The Roman legions employed this method to achieve conformity of step for their soldiers and also instill fear in the hearts of their enemy. In actuality the cadence of a beat can and does persuade great numbers of people to move and perform, consciously or unconsciously, as one unit. Testifying to the effectiveness of repeating something long enough, loud enough and often enough.

Pertaining to a philosophy, this method is crucial. Large numbers of people do not have the will or the time to study a certain philosophy and accept its “truths” as their own. Therefore, a success of this train of thought depends on a persuasive technique. Surprisingly guess what works? -Repetition- Repeat the selective philosophical “truths” long enough, loud enough and often enough and large groups of “sheep” will follow. Whether for good, the many religious philosophies or evil (the Nazi and other totalitarian philosophies) this method of persuasion proved ubiquitously successful.

Where does this article lead us? When something, whether political, musical, or philosophical is repeated long enough, loud enough and often enough... take pause and evaluate. Are you following because of moral conviction or superficial pleasure? Does it please you only as long as the rhetoric, the music and the beat last? If so, step back and look deeper to find those eternal truths that support your beliefs, enhance your hope and light your soul. Don't permit the rhetoric of the “hip,” the music of the “beat generation,” and the philosophy of the “here and now” to delude you into a false sense of redemption. Find those eternal truths despite the noise and protestations of today. Then surely goodness and grace will transform you into a worthy example for others to emulate long after the rhetoric, the music and the beat stops.



Respectfully,

F. A. Armstrong