

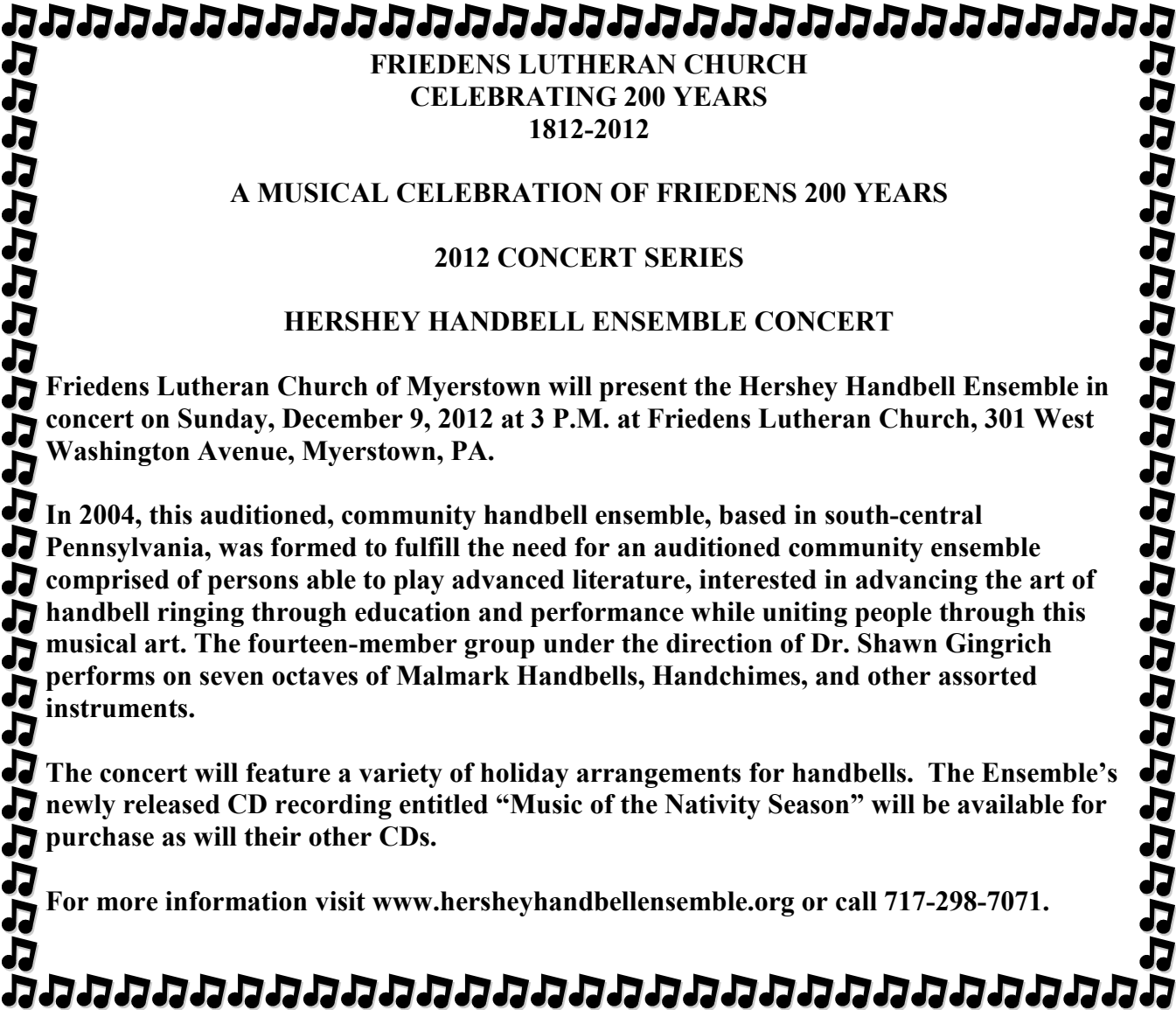


The Transformer

December 2012

717-866-4910

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



**FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
1812-2012**

**A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF FRIEDENS 200 YEARS
2012 CONCERT SERIES
HERSHEY HANDBELL ENSEMBLE CONCERT**

Friedens Lutheran Church of Myerstown will present the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert on Sunday, December 9, 2012 at 3 P.M. at Friedens Lutheran Church, 301 West Washington Avenue, Myerstown, PA.

In 2004, this auditioned, community handbell ensemble, based in south-central Pennsylvania, was formed to fulfill the need for an auditioned community ensemble comprised of persons able to play advanced literature, interested in advancing the art of handbell ringing through education and performance while uniting people through this musical art. The fourteen-member group under the direction of Dr. Shawn Gingrich performs on seven octaves of Malmark Handbells, Handchimes, and other assorted instruments.

The concert will feature a variety of holiday arrangements for handbells. The Ensemble's newly released CD recording entitled "Music of the Nativity Season" will be available for purchase as will their other CDs.

For more information visit www.hersheyhandbellensemble.org or call 717-298-7071.



DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

Most of us are probably familiar with Norman Rockwell's famous Thanksgiving painting of a family at home around the dining room table with "mom" putting the platter of turkey on the table with a beaming "dad" standing behind her. Many of us probably don't know that this painting is titled "Freedom from Want." Few, we believe, realize that this "Freedom" painting --which was one of Rockwell's Four Freedom paintings created during WW II -- traces its inspiration to an address that President Franklin Delano Roosevelt made to Congress on January 6, 1941. This painting really got me to thinking about the freedom we also have in Christ. "Jesus was therefore saying to those Jews who had believed Him, 'If you abide in my word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free,'" (John 8:31,32).
May you and your family find all the freedoms that Christ offers daily.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Christ's Peace, Valerie

SHUT-IN BIRTHDAYS

December 19
Mr. Raymond Spangler
402 S. Cherry St.
Myerstown, PA 17067

December 22
Mr. Herbert Marks
ECC StoneRidge Towne Centre
S. Railroad Street
Myerstown, PA 17067



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



Thank you from the Millers

WOW! Thank you for the super covered-dish luncheon you shared with us on our last Sunday at Friedens. It was a warm and generous ending to our 8 years together as pastor and congregation. From the wonderful basket of gifts filled with beautiful reminders of Lebanon County to the cards and kind words you all shared with us, we will cherish the memories we have of Myerstown. My prayers will remain with you during this time of transition. You, the people of Friedens, will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Peace,

Pastor Miller



The Anniversary Committee would like to say thank you to the congregation for your support in celebrating our 200 years as a congregation. From the six concerts, the movie night, and the banquet it was a success thanks to you the members of Friedens. We have one more concert coming up on December 9 at 3 P.M. with the Hershey Handbell Ensemble. The committee also has plans for a mid-winter picture show night. Stay tuned, we will have a date announced in the January edition.

The Anniversary Committee

SUPPLY PASTORS FOR DECEMBER

December 9
The Rev. Russell A. Rockwell

December 16
The Rev. Robert Wegehoft

December 23
The Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach

December 24
The Rev. J. Robert Kehrli

December 30
The Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach



Food Collection

On Sunday, December 2, 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. In honor of our 200th Anniversary our goal each month is 200 lbs. of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. We collected 97 pounds of food in November.

Offering Envelopes



The envelopes for 2013 are prepared and are on tables in Stauffer Hall. Kindly pick them up. In case your name has been missed, please contact the church office.



Instrumental prelude starting at 7 P.M.



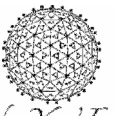
Traditional Service at 7:30 P.M.
Holy Communion

Year-End Finances



THE FINANCIAL BOOKS of Friedens will close Dec. 31, 2012. Persons who want their contributions to be credited to 2012 must have their offering in to the Financial Secretary on or before December 31.

DECEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	3	4	5 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band 7 PM—Cemetery Board 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	6 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Choir	7	8
9 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	10	11 7 PM—Property Committee	12 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	13 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Choir	14 Deadline for newsletter articles	15
16 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	17 7 PM—Women of ELCA	18	19 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	20 6:45 PM—Church Council 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Choir	21 First day of  -WINTER-	22
23 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	24 7:30 PM— Traditional Worship Communion	25  Christmas Day	26 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	27 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Choir	28	29
30 9 AM— Contemporary Service 10:30 AM— Traditional Service	31  New Year's Eve					



Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Special Council Meeting for Interim Pastor
November 5, 2012

Vice President Jeff Gumpert called to meeting to order at 6:56 PM.

Present: Jody Appleby, Frank Armstrong, Chris Heft, Jeff Gumpert (Vice President), Joanne Maurer (Secretary), and Dense Noll.

Opening Prayer by Andy Evenson (Synod Dean of Lebanon County). Presenting Bishop Bob Hoffman (Lebanon County Conference).

1. Discussion took place to find out the needs for an Interim, and explained the transition process.
2. Closed with Prayer, led by Bob Hoffman
3. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Joanne Maurer
 Council Secretary



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

And

PARENTS AND FAMILIES

As we head into the Christmas season the Children of Friedens Lutheran will be planning a Christmas program. This program will be held during Fellowship hour on Sunday December 23rd. We will invite the congregation to join us in celebrating the season with our production of 'A Super Christmas'. We will also provide treats to enjoy during the program.

We are sending home the play for you to read with your child in preparation for the program. We will begin choosing parts and practicing on December 2nd. We will practice every Sunday in December until December 23rd. We encourage you to help your child practice. Any child who does not want a speaking part will have other opportunities to participate. There will be plenty to do!

We welcome any assistance with practice, costumes, and props! See Missy Krause, Kristen Hummer or Lynn Appleby. We will also send via email a sign up sheet for treats.

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
November 15, 2012

Vice-President Jeff Gumpert called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

Present: Jody Appleby, Frank Armstrong, Chris Heft, Elaine Lasch (Treasurer), and Pastor Miller.

Excused: Bruce Kauffman (President), Joanne Maurer (Secretary), and Dense Noll.

Pastor Miller offered the opening Prayer and led the devotional reading from Mathew 6:25-26. Discussion followed.

1. Minutes/Reports/Communications:

- A. Jody Appleby made a motion to accept October Minutes. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
- B. Frank Armstrong made a motion to accept October Financial Secretary's Report. Seconded by Chris Heft. Motion carried.
- C. Jody Appleby made a motion to accept October Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Jeff Gumpert. Motion carried.

2. Communications:

- A. Letter from Lower Susquehanna Synod to eliminate the position of assistant to the bishop, Pastor Clifton Eshbach.
- B. Thank you from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for August food donation totaling 196 pounds.
- C. Thank you letter from Lebanon Rescue Mission in October, a gift of \$250.00.
- D. Thank you letter from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for September food donation 82 pounds.
- E. Thank you letter from On Fire Youth Ministry in October, a gift of \$500.00.
- F. Thank you letter from Friendship Community in October, a gift of \$500.00.
- G. Thank you letter from Keystone Hook & Ladder Co. in October, a gift of \$750.00.
- H. Thank you letter from Luthercare in October for a gift of \$850.00.

3. Pastor's Report:

- A. Pastor Miller submitted a letter of resignation from Bruce Kauffman (President). Jody Appleby made a motion to accept Bruce Kauffman's resignation. Chris Heft Seconded. Motion carried.
- B. Pastor Miller gave a copy of "Liturgy for Departure from a Congregation," to be followed on November 18, 2012.

4. Report of Audit Committee:

The Audit passed and the auditor praised the church's Financial members for a Splendid work. (See attachment).

5. Property Report: Discussion occurred.

6. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Armstrong
Joanne Maurer, Council Secretary

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

October 2012

					% of Budget
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,258.00	Goal to Date	\$ 262,577.00	97%
\$315,093.00	Rec'd	\$21,552.00	Rec'd to Date	255,429.00	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	44.00	Rec'd to Date	609.00	
Hunger	Rec'd	230.00	Rec'd to Date	2,695.00	



OUR HANDS, HIS WORK

Friedens is continuing to help at the Bahney House Project here in Myerstown. Project of the month/sign up sheet is posted on Mission Team bulletin board. Alumni and newcomers to Mission Team welcome. Experience is nice, but not necessary. Upcoming Saturday work morning is: December 15.

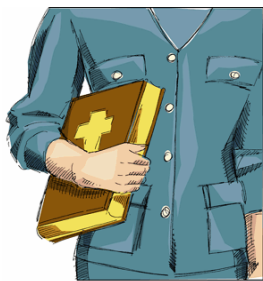
Questions? Thoughts? Connect with Jon Koller or Jan DuBois. We are blessed by God to be a blessing to others..

Christmas Cards



Social Ministry will deliver your unstamped Christmas cards to the following nursing and retirement homes: Linden Village, Manor Care, Spang Crest Manor, StoneRidge Poplar Run and StoneRidge Towne Centre.

There will be a box in Stauffer Hall beginning December 2. The last day to deposit cards will be **December 16.**



Interim Pastor

On Dec. 3, the Church Council will be interviewing a candidate for our Interim Pastor position. If the meeting goes as we hope, the candidate would be joining us in January. During the remaining Sundays in December, we will be having a Supply Pastor from the Synod leading us in worship.