

The Transformer

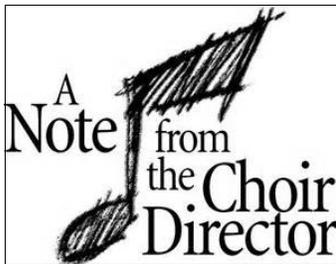
September 2014

717-866-4910

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



The Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble rehearsals will start on Thursday, September 4 at 7-8 pm.



Adult Choir rehearsals will start on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:30 pm.



September 1
Mrs. Darlene Wise
30 Scenic Drive
Myerstown, PA 17067



NOTICE—Finance Committee will be working on the budget for 2015, so if you have any requests for the budget please see that the Finance Committee receives them by **September 25.** Committee members are: Jonathan Zinn, Keith DuBois, Kerry Keller, Jerry Landuyt and Richard Stoner.



Fall is in the air and that means its time for a good cup of coffee. After a relaxing summer we hope you are ready to join in with the social time between church services. Again we are asking for help to serve the coffee, drinks and goodies. You are welcome to bring a snack to share, but coffee and snacks are provided, we just need help to prepare and serve. Find a friend and serve together. Coffee hour will start on Sunday, September 7th, a sign-up sheet is in the social hall and we hope you will be able to help continue our social time together. If you have any questions please contact Annette Beamesderfer, Carmella Deck or Susie Harper.



Food Collection

On Sunday, September 7, food will be collected for the Lebanon County Food Bank. All gifts are welcomed. There is a need for Juice, instant mashed potatoes, 5 oz. canned chicken, canned chili, canned pasta, canned fruit, canned vegetables, soups, canned luncheon meat, 18 oz & 32 oz. jelly, complete pancake mix, hamburger helper, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toiletries.



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.

Searching for a New Pastor



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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



PSALM 100:2, ESV



The church office hours are
9 A.M.—1 P.M.
Monday to Friday.

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

July 2014

% of
Budget

Current Budget \$322,179.00	Goal Rec'd	\$26,848.00 \$19,872.00	Goal to Date Rec'd to Date	\$187,936.00 167,691.00
Spang Crest	Rec'd	75.00	Rec'd to Date	429.00
Hunger	Rec'd	270.00	Rec'd to Date	1,770.00

SEPTEMBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	4 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	5	6
7 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	8 7 PM—Visitation Team	9 7 PM—Property Committee	10 9AM—Women Sew 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	11  7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	12	13
14 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	15 	16	17 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	18 7 PM—Church Council 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	19	20
21 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	22	23 	24 9AM—Women Sew 6:45 PM—Praise & Worship Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	25 6:30 pm -Finance Committee 7 PM—Heavenly Metal Handbell Ensemble	26	27
28 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	29	30				

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
August 21, 2014

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

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

1. Opening Prayer: Frank Armstrong opened the meeting with prayer and scripture, Isaiah 32:8. Discussion followed.

2. Minutes/Reports/Communications:

a. Janice DuBois made a motion to accept the July 17, 2014 Church Council Minutes. Chris Heft seconded. Motion carried.

b. Jon Koller made a motion to accept the July 2014 Financial Secretary's Report. Jim Kneasel seconded. Motion carried.

c. Frank Armstrong made a motion to accept the July 2014 Treasurer's Report. Jon Koller seconded. Motion carried.

d. A copy of Pastor Osborne's Pastor's Report for July 2014 was included in the agenda packet. Janice DuBois made a motion to approve the July 2014 Pastor's Report. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.

e. Thank you letter from Elco United Girls Soccer for recent use of chairs and tables for their annual event to help support the Elco United Girls 2015 Italy Tour.

f. Thank you note from ELCA World Hunger for our recent gift.

3. Elaine Lasch reported on Finance Committee meeting of August 14, 2014.

Recent gifts (bequeaths) received by Friedens total: \$124,113.53

Anticipated gifts (bequeaths) to be received by Friedens total: \$75,000+

The Finance Committee recommends:

- Friedens tithe 10 percent of our gifts (bequeaths) to others.
- Since we did not participate in the Seeding The Future campaign by Lutheran Camping Corporation we give them \$10,000 toward this campaign
- When other anticipated gifts (bequeaths) are received we give another \$10,000 to needs that will be determined
- \$50,000 of the gifts (bequeaths) received total be invested with Northeast Advisors in our unrestricted fund.

Janice DuBois seconded. Motion carried.

4. Jim Kneasel reported on the Property Committee meeting of August 12, 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 to work on a "Safe Church Policy" for Friedens. Keith DuBois provided Council with a rough draft of a policy titled "Child & Youth Abuse Prevention Program for Friedens Lutheran Church". Mr. DuBois reported the team met on 3 occasions and consisted of himself, Lynn Appleby, Jim Biever & Kerry Keller. Council will review the rough draft policy and discussion will continue at September meeting.
7. A report on the Capital Fund Appeal was reviewed. As of July 31, 2014: Campaign Goal: \$155,500, Commitments: \$144,279.
8. Council discussed the ongoing Cemetery concerns: chairman for cemetery and truck for cemetery.
9. David & Mary Kuck, ELCA Missionaries in Jamaica, will be retiring. At the June 26, 2014 meeting Council agreed to have Janice DuBois pursue connecting our church with missionaries in El Salvador. Council discussed more detailed info on sponsoring the training of a Salvadoran minister within their country. Janice DuBois made a motion to use \$6,000 in funds available for missions to train people of El Salvador. Jon Koller seconded. Motion carried.
10. The following areas of ministry will be starting up again this Fall at Friedens: Life Groups, Youth Group, Confirmation Class, Fellowship Time, Adult Choir and Handbell Choir.
11. Chris Heft, Chairman of Pastoral Search Team, provided Council with an update.
12. Council discussed a request from the Praise & Worship Leader. Jon Koller made a motion to reinstate the salary of the Praise & Worship Leader to \$10,688 per year, with 4 paid Sundays off per year. Chris Heft seconded. Motion carried.
13. Council discussed the request for a campaign for Salvadoran immigrants at Bethany Children's Home. Chris Heft made the motion to approve campaign for Salvadoran immigrants at Bethany Children's Home and to kick off the campaign with \$1,000 from the missions fund. Jim Kneasel seconded. Motion carried.
14. Next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 7 pm. A person to be determined will prepare opening prayer/devotional.
15. Frank Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. Jim Kneasel seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m. Meeting closed with prayer lead by Jody Appleby (President).

Respectfully Submitted, Sharon Riegel, Council Secretary

APPLAUSE

I, like others applaud an entertaining performance. Such moving experiences deserve an outward manifestation of approval. I really get annoyed, though, with screamers. Screaming has its place certainly at athletic and various sporting events. Otherwise screaming denotes a lack of self-control and is evidence of juvenile behavior.

As to when to applaud and when not to applaud depends on the circumstance and the place. We all can recall rising to our feet at many entertaining events and applauding. We also can recall moments in our lives that profoundly affected and moved us but would cause embarrassment if applauded because it would be unseemly and impolite. Circumstances, therefore, are a determining factor in when to applaud. Place or surroundings also create an atmosphere for applauding or not. If you are seated in a theater, a concert hall, or sports complex, or even an outdoor performance center you should feel comfortable in applauding the presentation if it was entertaining. In fact many performance centers are specifically designed to enhance the performance or performers and also to amplify the audience's approval or disapproval. Another determinant, therefore, as to applauding is place or surroundings.

Since circumstance and place are a determinant in whether to applaud or not perhaps we should investigate the practice of applauding during a worship service (circumstance) in a sanctuary (place).

If during the worship service perhaps the Gospel, perhaps the readings, perhaps the sermon moved or pleased you, does it require applause? The individuals who read the Gospel, recite the readings and give the sermon should not and do not perform these for applause. To the contrary, they perform these integral parts of the worship service for no personal glory or applause. They do so only to glorify the One we come to worship. So too the people who play the organ or piano, play the hand bells, or sing solo or in the choir do not require applause. If they do desire applause, they are performing in the wrong place for the wrong reason, unless the sanctuary is now considered theater.

Perhaps in the sanctuary—the most sacred part of a religious building, a place of refuge and peace, a place to come and worship free of distractions—the greatest applause should be the silence of contentment, the beauty of understanding and the joy of believing.

Respectfully,

F. A. Armstrong

P.S. No applause needed!



A Message from Global Missions

Nueva Esperanza is now a ghost town. The school is empty. The church is empty. Villagers have left their homes to move to other communities. Why? Because the gang violence in El Salvador has become so bad that it isn't safe to live in Nueva Esperanza.

Nueva Esperanza has been our sister parish in El Salvador since the 1990's. Friedens' financial support has enabled many children to attend school in the village. A brass cross that once adorned Friedens' altar now sits in the church in the village-an empty church.

The gang violence that haunts Nueva Esperanza, haunts the entire country of El Salvador. It is the same violence that has prompted thousands of children to migrate to the United States.

So, what is to become of our relationship with Pastor Lupe' and the displaced residents of Nueva Esperanza? In a SKYPE conversation with Lupe' on August 6th, I learned that many of the residents have relocated in a nearby village, Chocaquoya-a village that is safer due to homes being closer together. The members of Nueva Esperanza's parish have joined those of Chocaquoya's parish. To quote Lupe', "The church is not a building. It will survive, even if members must meet under a tree".

I will share all news of Pastor Lupe' and the villagers from Nueva Esperanza as I receive it. Until then, keep El Salvador in your prayers.

Jan DuBois
Global Missions

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services Mission:

Witnessing to God's love for all people, we stand with and advocate for migrants and refugees, transforming communities through ministries of service and justice.

During the summer of 2014 we have all been shocked and conflicted about the illegal immigration of children from Latin America. Regardless of where we each stand politically, we recognize, as Lutherans, the mission we are given.

Friedens has the opportunity to witness to God's love for all people by helping immigrant children being housed at Bethany Children's Home in Womelsdorf.

During September 2014, Friedens Global Missions will collect items from the list on the next page for the immigrant children. Friedens' council has given this collection campaign its blessing with \$1,000.00 from the Missions Fund to purchase items, and invites the congregation to join the effort.

The Immigrant Campaign will end on October 5, 2014. All donations may be placed on the stage in the Fellowship Hall.



**Thank You For
Lending a “Helping Hand” to Bethany Kids!**

THANK YOU! Bethany has started a new program to help young kids who have been abandoned or abducted from their families to provide them a safe place to live and grow. They are currently in need of the following items as many of the kids will only have the clothes they have on. Their ages are from 5 – 14 years of age. Your support in helping to provide them a brighter future is so appreciated!

Boys Sizes – Small, Medium

Socks
Boxer Shorts
Jeans (all sizes)
Sweatpants
T-Shirts – Solid Colors
Sneakers (all sizes)
Church attire and shoes (all sizes)

Coats
Sweaters
Pajamas

Girl and Misses—Sizes x-small, small and medium

Socks
Panties
Shorts
Shoes—all sizes
Pajamas
Church attire and shoes (all sizes)
Sweaters

Sports Bras
Jeans (all sizes)
T-shirts—solid colors
Sneakers—all sizes
Sweat pants
Coats

Kids Craft Projects and Kits
Markers, Crayons, Colored Pencils
Coloring Books
Soccer Balls
Toothbrushes and Toothpaste

Spanish Books
Pillows and Pillow Cases
Twin Blankets
Kid Friendly Soap, Shampoo and Conditioner
Hairbrushes & Combs

Blankets
Bath Towels
Fleece Throws

WE KINDLY ASK THAT ALL ITEMS ARE NEW. WE CANNOT ACCEPT USED ITEMS.



YOUTH PARENTS MEETING is Scheduled for Sunday Sept 7 following the 9 AM service in the parlor. The first part of the meeting we will chat about this years Youth Ministry. All parent with youth in 5 grade and above are welcome. The second part of the Meeting we will discuss this years confirmation class. This is open to all parents with youth in 9th grade and above who have not been confirmed.

Youth Group traveling to UPRISE on Saturday, Sept. 20 - leaving church at 8:45 am & returning approx. 11:30 pm - permission slips were sent out via email - connect with Kim or Kerry with questions, etc - adults also welcome! come join us! It will be a blast! What is UPRISE 2014 this is powerful christen rock concert filled with speakers (Uncle Si and Jep From Duck dynasty) and bands of all kinds. Cost is \$18.00 per youth plus what they would need for food. <http://uprisefest.com/>