



The Transformer

August 2012

717-866-4910

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

Got a problem? Life is full of problems. What problem are you facing right now? Consider following King David's way. In 1 Chronicles 14:8 we read, *When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David, and David heard of it and went out against them.*

Sometimes we have to approach a problem head-on, and not wait until it finds us. That is King David's way...

Do you have a problem staring you in the face right now? Is there a conversation you know you need to have with someone, but you're afraid of the response of the other person or the resistance you will encounter? Do you need to challenge a friend or family member because of something they said or did? Do you need to admit your marriage is in trouble? Are you struggling with some difficult business decisions? Are you willing... to address the problem proactively?

Ignoring the problem... won't help. God knows, I've tried that approach. Hoping the problem goes away... won't help. I've tried this one too, to no avail. Running away from the problem... won't help. I'm not a good runner anyway.

Eventually, most problems have a way of resurfacing again and again and again until we deal with them☹. What if, we followed King David's approach? What if, we addressed our problems head on, attacking them before they attack us?☺ (**NOTE:** *We need to attack the problem not the person. The problem is, we often attack the person and we make the problem even worse...*)

What problem do you need to face today? May God's grace guide us and strengthen us to address our problems the King David's way...

Peace,

Pastor Miller



All children, ages 3 through 5th grade, are invited to attend Children's Church following the children's sermon during the 9:00 worship service. This time of Christian education is held in the Children's Church rooms located through the

fellowship hall and to the right. Children's Church is a food free area in order to provide a safe environment for those children who have food allergies.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The Anniversary Committee has extra copies of the new church directory. The cost is \$5 a copy. Please see Brian Beamesderfer, or contact the Church Office.

A Musical Celebration of Friedens 200 years, 2012 Concert Series. Our next concert is Saturday, August 4—Featuring the Washington Band directed by Michael Yeagley. The concert will start at 6:30 P.M. at the Friedens Lutheran Church Pavilion. Please bring your lawn chairs and blankets.



Heartfelt Thanks

To the Women of the ELCA at Friedens Church, I thank you and bless your hands for knitting a prayer shawl in my name. As I use it, I do feel the Lord's presence and His healing touch. Each of you have been a special blessing to me and my family. I give God the glory and thanks for His gracious care. May God be with you.

Veronica Morgan



MISSION WORK- Have you ever wanted to go on the mission trip but you can not travel? Well we have a mission right here in town. We will be helping out at the **Bahney House, every third Saturday of the morning of the month. We will post the project of the morning and a sign up sheet in the hall near the Mission board. Please consider this part of our church family being the hands and feet of Christ going over the fence in our community. Please see Jon Koller or Jan Dubois for more details.**



Nursery

For your convenience, a staffed nursery room is available during the 9:00 worship service. The nursery is located through the fellowship hall and to the right. The nursery is a food free area in order to provide a safe environment for those children who have food allergies.



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

AUGUST 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 7 PM—Washington Band of Annville Concert—Pavilion
5 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	6	7	8 9 AM— Women Sew	9 6 PM—Youth Informational Meeting	10	11
12 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	13	14 7 PM—Property Committee	15 Deadline for newsletter articles	16 6:45 PM—Church Council	17	18
19 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	20	21	22 9 AM— Women Sew	23 7 PM—Anniversary Committee	24	25
26 9 AM—Contemporary Service 10:30 AM—Traditional Service	27 7 PM—Visitation Team	28	29	30	31	

DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

We had the privilege of boating with some great friends over the weekend and I thought this was so appropriate for my life when I came across this list of signals to heed ...

- Love God more than you fear hell.
- Once a week , let a child take you for a walk
- Make major decisions in a cemetery
- When no one is watching, live as if someone is.
- Succeed at home first.
- Don't spend tomorrow's money today.
- Pray twice as much as you fret.
- Listen twice as much as you speak.
- Only harbor a grudge when God does.
- Never outgrow your love of sunsets.
- Treat people like angels; you will meet some and help make some.
- "Tis wiser to err on the side of generosity than on the side of scrutiny.
- God had forgiven you; you'd be wise to do the same.
- When you can't trace God's hand, trust His heart.
- Toot your own horn and the notes will be flat.
- Don't feel guilty for God's goodness.
- The book of life is lived in chapters, so know your page number.
- Never let the important be the victim of the trivial

Live your liturgy

To sum it up:

Approach life like a voyage on a schooner. Enjoy the view. Explore the vessel Make friends with the captain. Fish a little. And then get off when you get home.

Christ's peace Valerie



AUGUST INSTALLMENT OF FRIEDENS PAST PASTORS:**Rev. Hobart Tyson****Eighth Pastor of Friedens Lutheran Church**

Rev. Hobart W. Tyson had his first service as a pastor on June 5, 1927. He was installed on September 18, 1927. On December 4, 1927, a new baptismal font was dedicated in memory of Rev. Youse. In February, 1928, the first Visitors and Homecoming Day was held. The children of the primary department of the Sunday School gave the funds for a new church building. On Easter Sunday, April 8, 1928, 385 persons communed. The renovated parish house was dedicated on April 29, Rev. Keim was the speaker.

During Rev. Tyson's pastorate, many improvements were made to the church and the church property. There were repairs to the steeple as well as the renovation of the interior of the sanctuary. This included a new Moller organ. The cost of these improvements was \$11,825.

By the year 1935, Rev. Tyson was able to report an increase of confirmed members with 589 reported, as well as the average at Sunday School as up to 300.

Some of the organizations formed during these years were Weekday Religious School on Wednesday afternoon and the Kindergarten Rhythm Band. This became popular with the whole community so that the two groups organized attendance varied between 80 and 100. A Mother's Class was organized for Sunday Bible School. The former Light Brigade became the Children of the Church. Amen's Chorus with 35 voices as well as a Junior Choir and a Sunshine Choir for tiny tots were active.

Besides all his church duties, Rev. Tyson was active in community affairs. He helped to establish the Myerstown Community Library. On January 1, 1944, he resigned as pastor of Friedens in order to accept a commission as Chaplain in the U. S. Army. Rev. Tyson served in the military from 1944-46. He was then pastor of Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oley, PA, until his death on January 3, 1950.

Rev. Eldred Stauffer**Ninth Pastor of Friedens Lutheran Church**

Pastor Eldred Stauffer came to Friedens as our 9th pastor June 21, 1944, just 15 days after D-Day. As Pastor Tyson continued to shepherd the congregation through the difficulties of the Depression and the first three years of WWII, so Pastor Stauffer had to carry on in those very trying times. A tireless and devoted worker for the Lord, Pastor Stauffer brought innovations into the church life including Vacation Bible School and radio broadcast. A Pastor with many skills, Pastor Stauffer always timed every part of the worship service for the radio so that the listeners would benefit from a complete worship hour. The community at large also benefited from his talents. One of his contributions was his part in organizing the Myerstown Pastoral Association and serving as its first president. Pastor's ministry at Friedens has been in one way or another for all of us who benefited from his guidance and devotion. His total ministry was a very active one, as evidenced by the following statistics:

(continued on next page)

He preached 3, 833 sermons, officiated at 720 baptisms, 301 weddings, 460 funerals, and confirmed 650 members.

A very great responsibility was assumed by him and the congregation when the decision was made to build a new church. The cornerstone was laid on 7/26/1959, and work began by the contractor Arthur Funk and Sons Inc., Lebanon. The fund raising, multiple decisions, and interminable meetings had to be pursued but not at the expense of smooth running of the church on a daily basis. Most importantly, the very purpose of the church was never neglected as regular worship services continued to be held and the member's needs met whether in their homes or hospitals.

For the church at large, he served in various capacities on the boards and committees of the Ministerium of PA, the Reading Pastoral Association, the Lebanon Pastoral Association, and the Board of Directors of Spang Crest.

Pastor Stauffer was married to Ruth L. Shomgard of Mahoney City, PA. Their union was blessed with two daughters Marie Hehr, Kathryn Jones.

Pastor Eldred K. Stauffer entered the church triumphant on November 3, 1987, Ruth Stauffer on May 19, 1996.

FRIEDENS 'S 2012 MISSION TRIP

This year's mission to Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, was another successful, rewarding experience. From June 10-15, the team completed insulation, dry wall, and electrical wiring on a duplex home within sight of the Bloomsburg Fair Grounds. The duplex had been gutted, down to the studs, by another team prior to our arrival. The work of Friedens' team will enable a mother and grown daughter to soon live side-by-side once again.

A unique feature of this mission was the meeting of the leader of the mission team that would follow our week's work. This leader, from Muncy, PA, was amazed at what Friedens' small team had accomplished, and accomplished with such fine workmanship. God surely has blessed us with skills to help others.

Friedens' team, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, was joined throughout the week by other individuals-Dave and Evan (Jon Koller's family), Pastor Rob and Simon, Joyce and Rich (Janice's family)-and for their contributions, the team is grateful. Thank you to Friedens' members for all the support-especially Clara's cookies-for this trip!

Team members: Frank Armstrong, Ron Haag, Jon and Jonny Koller, Chris Riegel, Roy Schaeffer, John Smith, and Janice DuBois. *Hi-ho, Hi-ho, it's off to work we go...*



Make your plans now for our 200th anniversary weekend on November 3rd and 4th. On Saturday, November 3, starting at 3:30 P.M. we will have Dawn and Randy Marks providing the Friedens Family with a special Anniversary Concert. At 5 P.M. we will have dinner with the following menu: Roast Beef or Filled Chicken, vegetables including filling, broccoli Normandy, and cole slaw; rolls; coffee and Wenger drinks. The price is \$10 for members 13 years and older; \$9 for children 8 to 13 years; \$8 for children 3 to 8 years old and children under 3 for free. That evening we will have a multi-media presentation of our 200 years as a congregation. Tickets will be available at the church office starting August 5th.

To tell the truth

To prepare for a sermon on honesty, a pastor asked church members to read Joshua 25. The next week, he asked, "How many of you read it?" Half the hands in the church went up.

"Great," the pastor said. "You're the ones I want to talk to ... because Joshua has only 24 chapters."

—From The Tale of the Tardy Oxcart, Charles Swindoll

OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

June 2012

				% of Budget
Current Budget	Goal	\$26,258.00	Goal to Date	98%
\$315,093.00	Rec'd	\$23,791.00	Rec'd to Date	
Spang Crest	Rec'd	89.00	Rec'd to Date	421.00
Hunger	Rec'd	265.00	Rec'd to Date	1,510.00



**Yard Work
Volunteers**

FRIEDENS GARDEN GROUP

Objective: To maintain and beautify landscaping of the church.

Duties: Edge, mulch and weed existing landscaping.
Trim and maintain shrubbery.

Option: Plant, water and deadhead annuals.

Time required: No monthly meeting.
Work “as needed” when called by facilitator.

All work to be coordinated through Property Committee.
Sign up on sheet on bulletin board in the hallway.

Facilitator: Joel Zinn, 866-4420.



**Food
Collection**

On Sunday, August 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. In honor of our 200th Anniversary our goal each month is 200 lbs. of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. We collected 255 pounds of food in June.



Coffee Fellowship

What a wonderful time of fellowship we share after worship in fellowship hall. A time to mingle and catch up with members and a great opportunity to welcome our visitors.

We are looking for volunteers to host the coffee social. There is not a lot of work involved, the coffee is provided, you just need to prepare the coffee and provide a snack to share. Won't you please consider hosting the fellowship. A sign-up sheet is on the table in fellowship hall. If you have any questions you can talk to Annette Beamesderfer, Carmela Deck or Susie Harper.

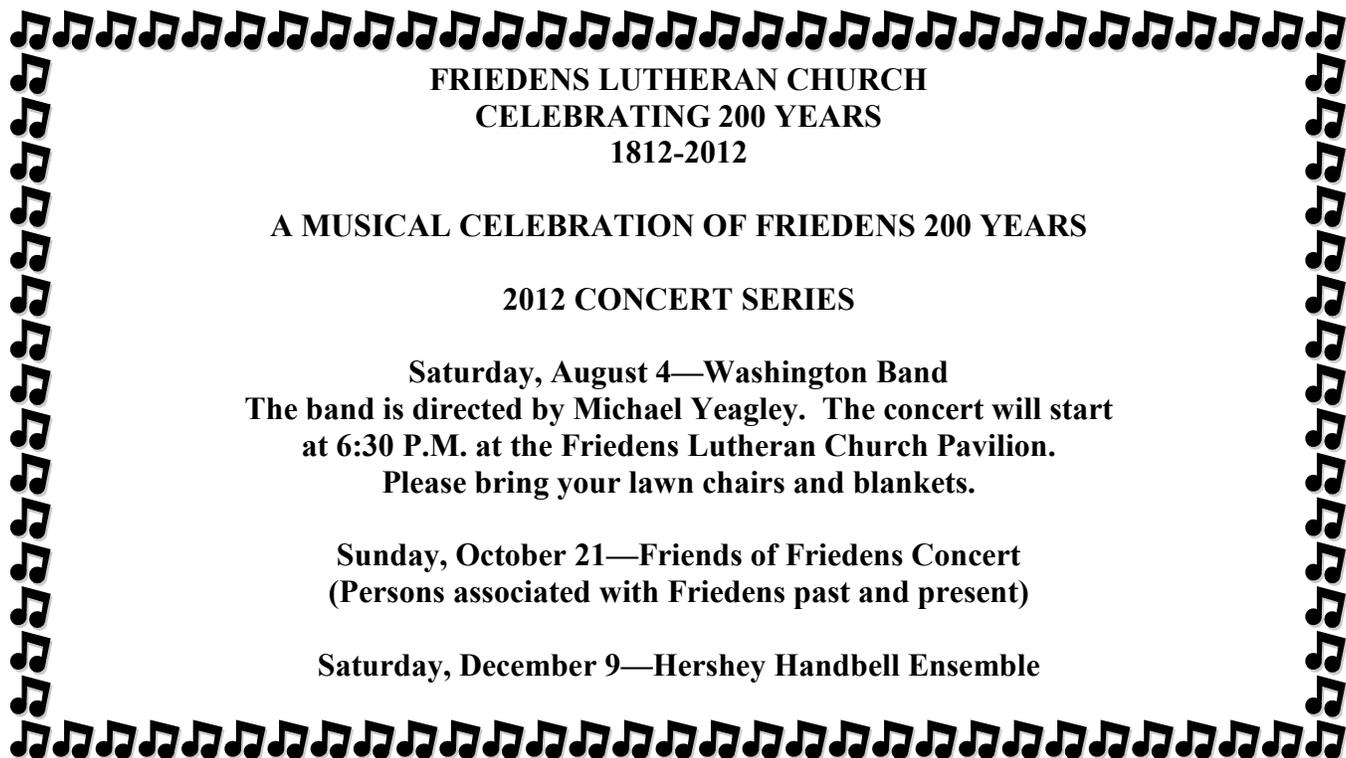
**FROM THE ANNIVERSARY
COMMITTEE**



Hymn Sing
Hymn Sing
Sunday, September 9, 2012
6:30 pm in the sanctuary
Join us for an evening of hymn-singing & special music
Have a favorite hymn you would like us to sing? Place your hymn request in the box located in the fellowship hall by Sunday, September 2, 2012.

Following the hymn sing, please join us in the fellowship hall for light refreshments & fellowship

Please plan to join us, and bring a friend!
“Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.” Psalm 100:2



SHUT-IN BIRTHDAYS

August 9

Elizabeth Hamilton
Stone Ridge Poplar Run
450 E. Lincoln Avenue
Myerstown, PA 17067

August 10

Mrs. Martha Klein
StoneRidge Poplar Run
Myerstown, PA 17067

August 30

Mr. Paul Albert
Spang Crest
900 Tuck Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

Dollars and sense

In Fearless, author Max Lucado likens trusting in money instead of God to trying to make a purchase with play money. Pretend bills from Monopoly or other board games might look real to children, but even kids soon learn those don't do any good at the cash register.

Sure, money is essential to meet our basic daily needs, and conventional wisdom urges us to save for retirement. But that's a far cry from seeking security in accumulating things we don't really need and spending more energy growing our financial accounts than our relationship with God.

Paul's words to Timothy still ring true in our modern-day economy: "As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not ... to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment"

(1 Timothy 6:17, NRSV).

OUR MISSION TO BLOOMSBURG

We gathered at church about 3 P.M. on June tenth to drive to Bloomsburg, PA. Since the distance to travel was far less than other mission trips we could leave in the afternoon and arrive an hour and a half later at our destination.

On our drive we passed through Centralia, PA where a coal fire underground caused the evacuation of the entire town. It certainly emphasized the fact that a mission of help doesn't have to travel a great distance to find a catastrophe and people in need.

Once in Bloomsburg we settled in our host church. We were greeted by the minister and several women of the church. They graciously offered us food and drink and escorted us through the building—showing us where to set up our beds and where the facilities were.

We contacted the Agape Organization who were leading and organizing the disaster relief in the area. They are a wonderful group dedicated to bringing hope, assistance, and sustenance to the less fortunate in the area.

They—Agape—directed us to a house which was flooded throughout the first floor. We were to insulate, rewire, and erect wall board. Previous mission teams had gutted the first floor. It seemed simple and straight-forward and would be easy for us to accomplish.

Simple, straight forward, and easy it wasn't! When things appear easy they invariably become anything but. Luckily for us we had the experience and expertise of our leader Jon Koller and our electrician Ron Haag. Those guys are exceptional. I wired one outlet with Ron's direction—thinking I was pretty good. Then realizing Ron probably wired five or six outlets to my one. Later I was fastening wall board near a switch box and having difficulty getting the board to lie flat on the wall. Jon came over—assessed the situation—unscrewed the wall board and found a romex cable I neglected to pull up into the switch box. Sometimes I think I didn't come to a disaster area—I am the disaster area.

But even with me, the job went well and our work was praised by Agape. They didn't think our team—so few in numbers—would complete all that we did. All that we did was aided by two day volunteers who hung wall board like a pro—Pastor Miller and Simon.

Once again your mission team from Friedens did you proud. Like Caesar— they came—they saw—they conquered. As for me alas, all I can say is I tried—I tried—I tried!

Frank A. Armstrong

Summer Worship Series - August 2012

One thing that makes a great story even better is the potential to find ourselves in it. It becomes our story. That's certainly true of God's story! We continue our summer worship series as we consider some of the best known and least known stories found in the pages of the Bible. In them, we'll discover the truth about God and the truth about ourselves. Because these stories shape our lives and fire our imaginations, each week we'll be challenged to not only hear them, but live them! See you in worship and invite a friend to join you!

August 5, 2012 Providing Food in a Faith Crisis Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

It's amazing how quickly the people of Israel forget the saving work that God did for them: freeing them from slavery in Egypt. But, once again, God provides exactly what they need. What do we need God to provide for us?

August 12, 2012 Leading Lessons by Deborah Judges 4:1-5:31

Just like last week's text, this story says that God tells Deborah to take 10,000 men to Mount Tabor. There God will defeat the king's army and the Israelites will be free. This would be the most difficult of times to be a leader, but Deborah's leadership brings about 40 years of peace. How can we be more effective leaders in our church and community?

August 19, 2012 Swallowing Jonah Jonah 1-4

When we hear Jonah's name, we often think of a big fish. But there's so much more to the story. What happens when we know what God wants us to do, and we don't do it? Did those sailors in the boat really think they could appease an angry God by throwing Jonah overboard? How are we faithful to what God wants us to do?

August 26, 2012 Promising Naomi Ruth 1:1-22

Naomi lives with her two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, at a time of a severe famine. Believing life would be better with the rest of Naomi's family, they set out for that place, but Orpah turns back. Ruth demonstrates her love for Naomi by saying, "your people will be my people." When we make a promise, how do we keep it?

Friedens (Peace) Lutheran Church, Myerstown, PA
Church Council Meeting
July 19, 2012

President Bruce Kauffman called the meeting to order at 6:49pm.

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

Excused: Elaine Lasch (Treasurer).

Bruce Kauffman offered the opening Prayer and led the devotional reading from Luke 24: 13-35. Discussion followed based on two questions... What do you hear God saying to you "personally" in this Text? What do you hear God saying to you "as a church" in this text? This led to everyone sharing Communion individually with one another just as the Eleven did with the two returning from the road to Emmaus in the devotional reading. All were powerfully moved.

1. Minutes/Reports/Communications:
 - a. Denise Noll motioned to accept May Minutes. Jeff Gumpert seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Chris Heft motioned to accept May Financial Secretary's report. Jody Appleby seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Jody Appleby motioned to accept May Treasurer's report. Dense Noll seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Jeff Gumpert motioned to accept June Financial Secretary's report. Frank Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.
 - e. Jeff Gumpert motioned to accept June Treasurer's report. Chris Heft seconded. Motion carried.
2. Reports:
 - a. A written report was received from Property and Highlights of Finance were also shared with Council.
 Pastor's report:
 - a. Invited to preach/lead worship at Teen Challenge on Sunday evening, July 29.
 - b. Gift to the church- new computer.
 - c. August 19, 60-70 members from the Fireplace (Bahney House Project) will join us for 9:00am worship.
 - d. Pastor's Continuing Ed, August 9 & 10, at LCBC Leadership Summit 2012.
 - e. Camping Corp. will be coming in August to give a presentation for funding on, "Seeding The Future" to council.
3. Communications:
 - a. Thank you from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for April food donations totaling 432 pounds.
 - b. Thank you letter from Luthercare in May for a gift to Spang Crest for \$24.00.
 - c. Thank you from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for May food donation totaling 200 pounds.
 - d. Thank you letter from Luthercare in June for a gift to Spang Crest for \$105.00.
4. Congregational Council Vice President:
 - a. Jody Appleby motioned to elect Jeff Gumpert to serve as Vice President for Council. Chris Heft seconded the motion. Motion carried.
5. Building Use:

Discussion occurred and will be left as an agenda item for the August Council Meeting.
6. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by
 Joanne Maurer
 Council Secretary