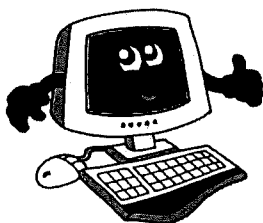
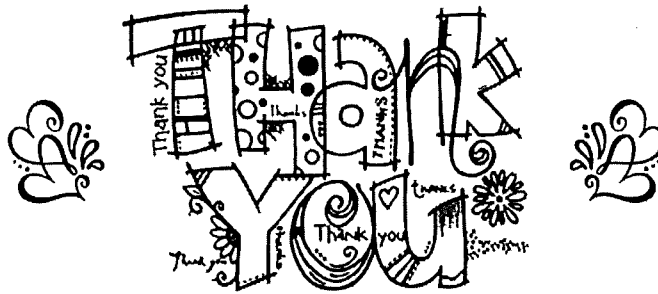


Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church  
2451 Saucon Valley Road  
Center Valley, PA 18034  
Office: 610/865-4144

With blessings to:



**Sunday services may continue to be  
viewed online by visiting  
[www.friedenscentervalley.com](http://www.friedenscentervalley.com)**



... to **the members of Friedens** who have been faithfully and diligently involved in the following events:

- The soup & bake sale and basket raffle  
(We had 16+ selections to offer!)
- The Easter candy project

Since Easter fell early this year, there were only 7 weeks to work to produce the candy. Great appreciation to all who sold, delivered (especially Don T. & Carl K.), molded, wrapped, and bagged all the eggs and heartfelt thanks to the volunteer who molded all the double coconut eggs making this annual project a huge success!

Approximately 6,450 eggs were made and not a one was left. Looking forward to next year's candy season.

... to **Alicia Baird, Pr. Lisa Borrell, Nancy Filler, Carolyn Tuomela Wallace, Kevin Filler, and Chris Geist** for their faithful service singing on our choir throughout the year.

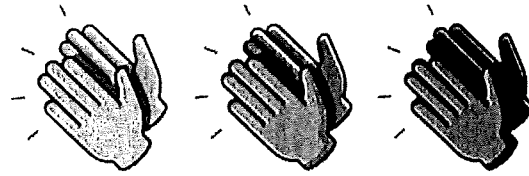
... to **the many congregation members** who offered expressions of sympathy and sent cards, prayers, and love to Karen Bugger and Janet Heckman upon the recent passing of their husbands, Bill and Harvey. ♥

One of the things I like to do when the weather gets nice (particularly after a dreary winter) is to take our pup, Emmy Lou, for walks all around our neighborhood and, literally, take time to smell the flowers! I love seeing the earth come to life again with all the colorful azaleas, rhododendrons, tulips, dogwood trees, and roses decorating people's yards. It doesn't cost any money, but it fills my soul with a deep sense of joy, no matter what happens to be going on in my life at the moment.

So often, we see these little blessings all around us, but we fail to appreciate them. So, too, we may be grateful for someone's friendship, but then are less than attentive to expressing that to them. We are strengthened by our daily meals, but neglect to give prayerful thanks for that gift. We often complain about having to do the dishes or the never-ending piles of laundry without fully realizing that we have more than enough to eat and wear.

I don't offer these observations as a scolding, but rather as a gentle reminder to pay attention to the little things, the simple gifts. They're all around us! ~ Pastor Lisa





## Clapping in church ... is it appropriate?

Well, yes and no. This is a rather tricky question to respond to as there is not a singular answer.

Applauding to acknowledge a particular ministry or service to the church is often welcomed and even encouraged. When a person is being recognized for distinguished service or welcomed as a newly confirmed member or has graduated/received a degree after years of school work, we clap to honor their achievement. Often, it acknowledges their dedication and time to reach and realize that goal.

However, when the choir sings or the musician plays a particularly moving anthem, it should not be seen as a performance (like one would view in a theater, for example). Rather, it is an offering to God — albeit a musical one — which is bourn from the hearts of those singing or playing. In that instance, it is more appropriate to thank the members after the service for their contribution to the worship which stirred your faith. †

Thank you for your kind understanding.



## ... In the mail

A “**thank you**” was **received** from Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley for our recent gift of \$2,000+ which was given following our roast beef dinner in April.

MoW provides homebound seniors and adults with disabilities nutritious home-delivered meals, grocery shopping, and other services. 1,494 clients are served each day and 327,800 meals were made in 2023!

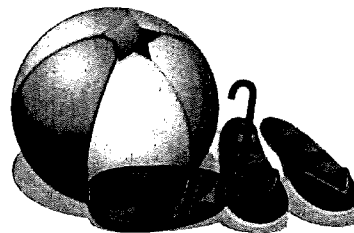
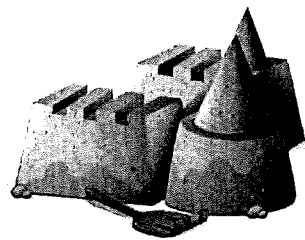
We are deeply appreciative of all the volunteers who made our roast beef dinner a tasty success. We support this important ministry so that no one goes hungry.



**Please keep in mind ...**

That even if you go away on vacation this summer, the church does not.

Please remember Friedens with your regular offerings.



# Summertime PRAYER



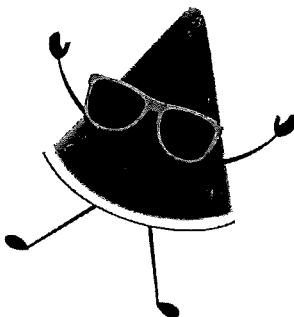
Blessed are You, O God,  
creator of the universe and giver  
of all good gifts.

We pray that You take us as we are;  
strengthen us when we are weak;  
and help us be responsible with the  
bounties of your blessings.

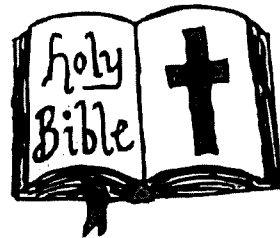
O God, let your loving kindness  
shine upon us and all whom we love.

AMEN.

Have a great  
summer!



# ~ Lector Schedule ~



June 2nd ~ Maureen Wagner

June 9th ~ Alex Stauffer

June 16th ~ Kay Sheerer

June 23rd ~ Lisa Kurtz

June 30th ~ Alicia Baird

July 7th ~ Diane Ernst

July 14th ~ Kevin Filler

July 21st ~ Maureen Wagner

July 28th ~ Kay Sheerer

If you cannot serve on the Sunday assigned, please contact another person to fill in for you. Thanks!

# COMMUNITY DAY



Please mark your calendars now for the Coopersburg Community Day which will be held on Saturday, September 21st at the Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park (100 Fairmount St. in Coopersburg) from 10am-5pm!

Admission, entertainment, and parking are free.

Once again, Friedens will have a booth and volunteers are needed to help on this day. If you are interested in helping, please see or speak with Nancy Filler (610-282-1386).



The Social Ministry Committee will be holding their next meeting on Wed., June 19th at 1:30pm. New members are needed! Please speak with Jean Wetzel (610-965-0682) for more info if interested. ☺