



## Myerstown Church of the Brethren

“But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life”

Romans 6:17-18, 22

“So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, ‘If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free”

John 8:31-32

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**Office Phone**                    **717-866-5517**

**Pastor’s Study**                    **717-866-2217**

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*Myerstown Church of the Brethren*

### July - August 2016 Ministry through Faith, Vision, and Action

#### The Cost of Freedom

July 4<sup>th</sup> is the celebration of Independence Day. Around July 4, 1776 a group of leaders in the colonies signed the Declaration of Independence. They declared their independence from the authoritarian and abusive rule of England.

What followed was a protracted war when thousands of men lost their lives on the battlefields of America. When it was over the new nation of the United States of America had gained independence from the tyranny of England. But what a cost it extracted.

It didn’t take long to realize that independence continues to extract its toll. There was the French and Indian War, the War of 1812, the war with Mexico to gain the independence of Texas, which of course became a dependent of America.

Then came the Civil War (can any war be civil?). The goal for the Southern States was independence, which of course did not happen, though it preserved the unity of the country, but at great cost in lives and destruction.

Later came World War I (the war to end all wars) followed by World War II, the Korean “Conflict”, Vietnam, Iraq, and on and on. When will it stop? It won’t, until Jesus establishes His Kingdom of Righteousness.

There is a freedom which was also gained at a great price, the life of Jesus Christ the Son of God. Through the death of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary we gain freedom from the ultimate consequence of sin. The Bible tells us “For our sake He (God) made Him (Jesus) to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21). Also, “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

The death of Jesus sets us free for eternity. We are promised the heavenly kingdom forever, without end. The day will come because of Jesus when there will never again be any conflict.

## Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for April 1 – April 30, 2016

Sunday School – 56  
Worship Service – 151

Beginning Checkbook Balance – General Fund		\$52,722.26
Income		\$32,619.38
Expenses		\$24,163.96
Voided Check		\$ <u>0.00</u>
Ending Checkbook Balance		\$61,177.68
Beginning Checkbook Balance – Building Fund		\$17,506.26
Income		\$ 6,500.59
Expenses		\$ <u>5,859.65</u>
Ending Checkbook Balance	0.00%	\$18,147.20
Music Fund CD	8/31/15	\$12,269.55

### **Please remember these people in your prayers**

Betty Jane Berger, Bud Brubaker,  
Mary Ann Gibble, Bill Yoh, Sr.,  
Mark Ziegler

### **Pizza Hut**

We are still continuing to have Pizza Hut Day the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Look for the paper in your newsletter or on the bulletin board.

### **Home Care**

Let's remember in thought and prayer those living in nursing homes/assisted living homes: Clara Miller, Mary Lineweaver, Nancy Moyer, June Swisher, Arlene Crouse, Joanne Ealy, Orpha Doutrich, Iris Liskey

### **LVBH Volunteers**

The LVBH is in need of volunteers in the following areas...people who are willing to visit with our residents, read to the residents, offer wheelchair rides, or just sit and talk with the residents. They also need people who would like to fill water mugs in the Alpha and Leffler units. If you are able to give just one hour or more of your time each week, call Mary Lee Harpel at 838-5406, ext. 3186.

### **Attention**

It's that time of year when you probably are cleaning out good but unused or unwanted items. The annual Bazaar is November 19th (mark your calendar), but we are already accepting items for the "White Elephant" table. The items are stored in the Sharing Cupboard area until November. See or call Anna Mae Snyder, Dottie Nagle or Jean Bomberger.

### **Gift Cards**

The gift card order is always the first Sunday of the month. Look for your order form in the newsletter or on the bulletin board. The list of businesses is always changing. If there is a business that you would like to know about, call the church office at 866-5517 to see if those cards would be available. How many cards do you think you can use in a month's time? You don't have to give these cards as gifts, you can use them yourself.

### **Camp Swatara**

Papers for camp (health form, allergy papers, and what to pack) will be in the Gathering place on the table with the rest of camp information. Contact Mike and Crystal Liskey for your good as gold certificate.

### **Operation Christmas Child Service Project**

Each year our congregation participates in Operation Christmas Child in which we pack shoeboxes with gifts for children around the world. This year, we would like to expand that project to include a service activity that will involve going to the Baltimore processing center for a day in November or December to assist in the preparation of the boxes for overseas shipment. In order to be considering for this activity, we must submit a request before August 1st that would include the number of people that would be coming with our group. We are able to bring 50 people. There are jobs available for everyone, including both standing and sitting. If you think that you would like to be a part of this very rewarding project, please add your name to the signup sheet in The Gathering Place by Sunday, July 24th. If you have questions, see a member of the Missions and Fellowship Commission.

### **LVBH**

Chicken BBQ and Auction will be held Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23 at the Lebanon Valley Brethren Home as follows:

Friday, July 22: Food and Bake Sale 5 pm; Auction preview, 5 pm; New Holland Band 7 pm.

Saturday, July 23: Breakfast, 7 am; Live Auction, 9 am; Car and Tractor Show 9 am; Chicken BBQ, 11 am; New "Battle of the Bands" 11 am to 1:30 pm; Ice Cream Social and Band Trophy Award 1:30 pm.

Volunteers needed for the BBQ meal and for serving or clean-up at the BBQ. Please call Evelina Krall by Sunday, June 5th if you would be willing to help at 273-2460 or 926-5240. Volunteers also needed for baking snicker-doodles.

### **Christmas in July**

Once again we are having a Christmas in July party for the residents of the Susan Dowhower House. It will be on Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend. We could use people to help! We will read the Christmas story followed by singing Christmas songs and playing BINGO with the residents. They love playing BINGO!!!! Then we distribute gifts and have snacks for everybody. We all have a wonderful time! It feels good to give to the less fortunate in our community! They appreciate everything we do for them. Won't you come out and help? There will be a list of names and t-shirt sizes out in the Gathering Place in beginning on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Please pick a name or more than 1 and bring in a wrapped present for them valued at about \$5. All gifts should be placed in The Gathering Place by Sunday, July 24th. If you are not able to purchase a gift, but would still like to participate, you may give a donation to any member of the Missions and Fellowship Commission and we will purchase a gift on your behalf. If you have any questions or would like to join us, see any member of the Missions and Fellowship Commission.

## July Wedding Anniversaries

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corey & Alison Wenger
- 4<sup>th</sup> Larry & Robin Kisler  
Brian & Jennifer Chatfield
- 15<sup>th</sup> Bob & Toni Noll
- 16<sup>th</sup> Matt & Samantha Krick
- 17<sup>th</sup> Eric & Lindsay Layser
- 19<sup>th</sup> Richard & Carol Daubert
- 21<sup>st</sup> Wilbur & Gloria Keppley
- 25<sup>th</sup> Fred & Linda Strobel
- 26<sup>th</sup> Charlie & Kathy Krall
- 29<sup>th</sup> Mark & Jean Bomberger  
Larry & Nancy Miller

## August Wedding Anniversaries

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bill & Edna Yoh
- 5<sup>th</sup> Carl & Nancy Hartman  
Bill & JoAnn Rager  
Dave & Anne Smith
- 8<sup>th</sup> Lucas & Corinne Eberly
- 9<sup>th</sup> Travis & Erin Brubaker  
Eli & Ashley Shirk
- 10<sup>th</sup> Bruce & Beth Perry  
Ken & Deb Arnold
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jay & Michelle Dubble
- 14<sup>th</sup> Mike & Crystal Liskey  
Tim & Katie Macrina
- 17<sup>th</sup> Brian & Rachel Liskey
- 19<sup>th</sup> Paul & Kelly Shutter
- 26<sup>th</sup> Neal & Jackie Dohner
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jon & Becky Jenkins
- 30<sup>th</sup> Kevin & Heather Wenrich

**Commissions and Church Board Meeting**

**Date: June 21, 2016**

**Meeting was called to order @ 8:05 p.m.**

**by Chairperson – Robert Noll**

**Present were: Secretary-Mark Landis, Sr.**

**Prayer by: Judy Umbenhauer**

**Secretary's Report of April 19, 2016**

**Approved at Council Meeting**

**Treasurer's Report of May 31, 2016**

**Approved as presented by Aye Vote**

**Commission Reports & Members Present**

**Ministry & Evangelism Commission:** Co-Chairpersons – Steve Krick, David Dubble  
Allison Kline, Grace Ziegler, Nicole Hauck

We discussed the worship leader list. Nicole Hauck will notify the 8 participants with a bi-monthly schedule.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> speaker, Kris McFadden, asked to be excused from the service due to a schedule conflict. Steve Krick has asked Shannon Horst to speak. This is Conference Sunday.

Our commission will be contacting members who received the highest votes for the Pastoral Search Committee. When we have our list of seven, we will have a special council meeting to get the congregation's approval.

David Dubble will contact Craig Smith, District Executive, to keep him up-to-date on our progress.

There was a motion and second to give Ministry & Evangelism Commission permission to ask for a special council meeting to approve the Search Committee.

This was approved by aye vote.

**Missions & Fellowship Commission:** Co-Chairpersons – Janet Dubble, Susie Dundore  
Leslie Fuhrman, Kristi Keath

Susie opened with devotions and prayer.

Christa came and spoke and asked questions about budget issues.

Christmas in July will be July 26<sup>th</sup> at Susan Dowhower House. A sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Place to purchase gifts for the residents.

Talked about setting up a group to help pack boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Reviewed and discussed adding social media items to the Welcome Packet so it can be finalized.

Talked about VBS and how we can help out that week.

**Christian Education Commission:** Co-Chairperson – Judy Umbenhauer  
Lisa Maurer, Lindsey Dimond

We will be recognizing our regular volunteers – teachers, children's church helpers, advisors, nursery attendants, etc. with a special treat over the summer.

We will be contacting Sunday School teachers to see if they will continue on as teachers.

We discussed possible speakers and themes for Rally Day and how to promote/advertise the day.

We had an update on Vacation Bible School and the Youth.

**Trustee and Property Commission:** Chairperson – George Nagle, Scott Martin  
Dale Houtz

We discussed painting light post and gas pipes.

**Finance and Stewardship Commission:** Chairperson - Mark Bomberger

May 31, 2016

Year to Date Budgeted to General Fund	\$114,950
Year to Date Actual to General Fund	<u>78,473</u>
Difference	-\$ 36,477

Year to Date Budgeted to Building Fund	\$ 29,465
Year to Date Actual to Building Fund	<u>25,633</u>
Difference	-\$ 3,832

Mortgage Balance	\$334,436
Sharing Cupboard Savings Account	\$ 9,509
Building Fund Balance	\$ 14,079
Music Fund CD Balance	\$ 12,269

We reviewed Treasurer's Report.

Direct payment authorization forms are available in church office or from Ralph & Mim Ackerman.

### **Pastor Report**

None

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Interests & Concerns**

Where do we see ourselves going? What are our goals to revive our church? What can we do to increase our membership? There was a lot of discussion on these questions in a positive manner. Steve Krick led the Church Board in prayer for our congregation.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by aye vote at 8:55 p.m.

## July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Annual Conference	2 Annual Conference
3 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	4	5 Quilting 9:00 am	6 Bible Study 6:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  VBS	11 VBS	12 Quilting 9:00 am Pizza Hut Day  VBS	13 VBS	14 Sharing Cupboard 10-1  VBS	15 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	16
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Youth Group 6:00 – 7:30 pm	18	19 Quilting 9:00 am	20 Bible Study 6:30 pm	21	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	25	26 Quilting 9:00 am	27 Bible Study 6:30 pm	28 Sharing Cupboard 10-1  Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	29 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	30
31 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Youth Group 6:00 – 7:30 pm	<b>Notes:-</b>					

~ July 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> Cliff Behney Jordan Mogel Jevin Reazer	<b>2</b> Rachael Liskey Brayden Miller Sherry Sullivan Molly Tobin
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Gracie Faehling Mark Heinz Joel Hoffer Shana Strobel	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Tania Fasnacht Mara Fulk Lester Hartranft Michael Motter Robert Sullivan Sidney Wagner	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Michael Wolf, Jr.
<b>10</b> Jeremy Arnold Connor Daubert Joel Fahnestock Ezra Hibshman Sharon Seldomridge	<b>11</b> Jeff Albright Janelle Merkey Lucas Dubble Haley Sherk	<b>12</b> Martin Hartranft JoAnn Rager	<b>13</b> Kenneth Fox	<b>14</b> Courtney Dubble	<b>15</b> Dorothy Brown Michelle Dohner	<b>16</b> Barry Gible Jena Koppenhaver Winston Lackey, Sr. Joyce Wagner
<b>17</b> Alexander Burke	<b>18</b> Algirdas Semeska Denise Stump Jen Zimmerman	<b>19</b> Chrissy Zimmerman	<b>20</b> Bill Dubble	<b>21</b> Elaine Landis Joan Mauser Lois Wealand	<b>22</b> Lisa Eckert Greta Koppenhaver Braeden Penrose Glenn Weik	<b>23</b> Adam Heisey, Jr. Candace Morgan James Trobel Barbara Weidman
<b>24</b> Nancy Miller	<b>25</b> Vaughn Daubert George Pagan	<b>26</b> Roy Wenger, Jr.	<b>27</b> Raymond Brown Brenda Mishoe	<b>28</b> Brandon Batz Chase Herr Brittany Miller Adam Wenger	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Kylie Brown Megan Brown Ryan Laubach
<b>31</b>	<b>Notes:</b>					



## August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Quilting 9:00 am	3	4	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	8	9 Quilting 9:00 am  Pizza Hut Day	10 Youth go to Dutch Springs	11 Sharing Cupboard 10-1	12 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	13
14 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Youth Group 6:00 – 7:30 pm	15	16 Quilting 9:00 am  Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 8:00 pm	17 Bible Study 6:30 pm	18	19	20
21 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	22	23 Quilting 9:00 am	24 Bible Study 6:30 pm	25 Sharing Cupboard 10-1  Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	26 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	27
28 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Youth Group 6:00 – 7:30 pm	29	30 Quilting 9:00 am	31 Bible Study 6:30 pm	Notes:		

~ August 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Christopher Hostetter Ricky Mauser II Kerri Penrose	<b>2</b> JoAnn Houtz Elmer Weidman	<b>3</b> Trent Dohner Lawrence Kisler	<b>4</b> Norah Gantz Jason Ruth	<b>5</b> Allison Kline	<b>6</b> Shirley Brandt Brandon Deitz Ashley Ebersole Ashley Shirk
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Ina Long Shane Strobel	<b>9</b> Sherrie Mauser	<b>10</b> Brian Murray Jessica Sherk Zachary Stump	<b>11</b> Travis Brubaker Lori Lentz Timothy Macrina Brandon Saunders	<b>12</b> David Ceresini Lori Herr Carson Reppert Megan Tobin	<b>13</b> Kristi Achey Kathleen Donley Eric Whitman
<b>14</b> Robert Beisel Travis Carroll	<b>15</b> Sandy Fox	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Derek Fulk Megan Hibshman Valerie Snyder	<b>18</b> Breena Krick	<b>19</b> Dave Faehling Fred Strobel, Jr.	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Stephen Hess Jason Krall Michael Morgan	<b>23</b> Sue Derr Cindy Sattazahn	<b>24</b> Warren Sullivan	<b>25</b> Steven Kline	<b>26</b> Mark Bomberger Geoffrey Heller Bradley Liskey	<b>27</b> Grace Burke Ken Liskey
<b>28</b> Ricky Mauser Jennifer Mease Alane Perry	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Brendan Bell Troy Dohner Brian Gruber	<b>31</b> Cynthia Behney Bret Brandt	<b>Notes:</b>		