



## Myerstown Church of the Brethren

5  
Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.

6  
In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

Deuteronomy 31:8

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*Myerstown Church of the Brethren*

**September 2016**

**Ministry through Faith, Vision, and Action**

### TRANSITIONS

This is the time of transition.

Some will be putting children on the school bus for the first time as they go off to kindergarten. Many of us can still vividly remember when we did that. For the first time our children will leave the security of home to go into the world. This is not usually so traumatic – the early years in school are not really so scary. However, we must prepare our children with a firm foundation in the Lord. As soon as our children begin to have understanding we should begin to teach the Word so they can put their trust in the Lord as they face new experiences in the world.

Some of you will be sending your children to middle school or high school. This presents even more challenges especially in high school. There will be teachers who know nothing about your faith and will challenge youth to abandon faith altogether. The pressures toward immorality and drugs will be very strong. Our youth need to be prepared to face these challenges. At this stage in life, however, other than the seven hours or so in school they still live the security of home and family.

Some, however, will be leaving home, to go to college or work, or even into marriage. This will be a huge step in transition.

College will present some really great challenges to faith even sometimes in Christian colleges. The secular world view is radically different from the Christian world view. The challenges to immorality will be even greater. And our young people need to be prepared. It will be too late to start now. If you haven’t been training your children in truth and righteousness until now you can only pray that they will survive. Of course under all circumstances our prayers are necessary.

The work place also presents many challenges. Our young people will be surrounded by evil influences. There are many places where a strong Christian influence will be evident.

Then in marriage, if your children are well grounded in faith as well as the one they will marry then the transition will be much easier. When two people are bound together in Christ we can expect the possibility of success.

Of course the most wonderful transition occurs when one accepts the grace of Jesus and transitions from the dead (in sin) to new life (born again) in Christ Jesus. Does that exempt us from any problems in life? No! But we face difficulties with new hope in the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in every born again follower of Jesus. The key word for success is “follow.” When we follow Jesus life will indeed be so much better. And best of all – when this life is over it is not the end but the beginning of life eternal with Jesus.

Is your family prepared for a successful transition in life?

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## **Attendance & Offering**

Attendance average for May 1 – May 31, 2016

Sunday School – 56  
Worship Service – 151

Attendance average for June 1 – June 30, 2016

Sunday School – 41  
Worship Service – 139

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

Betty Jane Berger, Bud Brubaker,  
Mary Ann Gible, Bill Yoh, Sr.,

### **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.

### **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. If you have questions, see a member of the Missions and Fellowship Commission.

### **Love Feast**

Sunday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. is Love Feast and Communion.

### **Disaster Relief Auction**

Mark your calendar now for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction to be held Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There are many activities during this 2-day period. Come and eat or just come for the fellowship.

### **Choir Practices to Resume**

Senior Choir will resume practice Wednesday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. We are also looking for some new faces.

Bell Choir will resume practice on Wednesday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

### **Bazaar News**

Our annual bazaar is Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Mark your calendar now to keep the date open! Tables will be available to rent for \$10 for your crafts, etc. If you have items for the "White Elephant" tables, they can be stored in the Sharing Cupboard area until the bazaar. More details later. See Anna Mae Snyder, Dottie Nagle or Jean Bomberger with questions

**Chime Choir** starts September 18th. We are looking for new members (1st grade and up) and hope you will join us. Rehearsals are at 8:30 on Sunday mornings. We play during the church service 4 times a year. Please see Jennifer Zimmerman if your child is interested or you need more information. 717-503-8960 or [jzimmerman615@yahoo.com](mailto:jzimmerman615@yahoo.com)

## September Wedding Anniversaries

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tim & Deb Frederick
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jason & Carey Krall
7 <sup>th</sup>	Glenn & Laurie Rambler Seth & Sara Gantz
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jay & Brenda Lentz
11 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Marcie Yoh
12 <sup>th</sup>	Dave & Nancy Hibshman Frank & Doreen DiScuillo
14 <sup>th</sup>	Nick & Kristi Achey
17 <sup>th</sup>	LaMar & Joanne Fahnestock Dale & JoAnn Houtz
18 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Kathy Dubble Dennis & Carol Dieffenbach Brian & Kerri Penrose
19 <sup>th</sup>	Bob & Sheila Messersmith Bob & Kathryn Gible
21 <sup>st</sup>	George & Dottie Nagle
26 <sup>th</sup>	Brad & Sarah Liskey
27 <sup>th</sup>	Brian & Kahly Smith
29 <sup>th</sup>	Donald & Maggie Reichard

**Linda Byler books in CHURCH LIBRARY**  
A romance novel by an Amish writer, based on true experiences! ... Now that Lizzie is running around, will she scare off the Amish boys with her hi-jinks manners? ... She is the author of Running Around (and Such), the first novel in the "Lizzie Searches for Love" series.

### Did you know?

Displaced school children in Nigeria need books.

Paperback non-fiction for children purchased at Barnes & Noble book store. Information on our website & bulletin board.

Kidnapped Chipok girls held captive for prisoner exchange.

Prayers for girls release after two years.

Olympian Clayton Murphy, 21, who took bronze in the men's 800 meter race in Rio, grew up in Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren in Southern Ohio District. It was the first US Olympic medal in the men's 800 since 1992. "Murphy's 1:42.93 made him the third-fastest American ever, and buried his previous personal best (1:44.30)," reported USA Today.

### Calling all women

Please join us September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for a time to brainstorm activities for the women of the church. We would like to have 1 activity per month. If you have any questions please see Leslie Fuhrman, Susie Dundore, or Jess Singer.

Saturday, October 8  
Brooklyn Light of the Gospel musicians prepare us for  
CONFERENCE WORSHIP before singing at 1:15 pm.

\*Dr. Jeff Carter, president of Bethany Seminary, will provide the message at the worship service at 1:30.

This gathering of our Atlantic Northeast District churches is not just for delegates. All members are invited to come, to be challenged and to be refreshed through learning about the exciting ministries of our district and its related agencies. Conference is a time for fellowship, information and inspiration. As in previous years, we will continue the theme of worshipful work with inspirational singing and prayers for our pastors, district ministries and agencies.

So, fix your eyes on whatever roads will point you to Elizabethtown College and Leffler Chapel on Saturday, October 8. Come and join together with brothers and sisters in Christ as we celebrate what is happening in the ANE; come to worship; and come with your eyes fixed on Jesus.

Our delegates: Pastor Jack, Jackie & Joyce



## **Commissions and Church Board Meeting**

**Date: August 16, 2016**

**Meeting was called to order @ 8:05 p.m.  
Present were: Treasurer – Christa Bender  
Present were: Secretary – Mark Landis, Sr.  
Present were: Pastor Jack Harpold  
Secretary's Report of June 21, 2016**

**by Chairperson – Robert Noll**

**Prayer by: Robert Noll**

**Approved at Council Meeting**

## **Treasurer's Report – No Report**

### **Commission Reports & Members Present**

**Ministry & Evangelism Commission:** Co-Chairperson – David Dubble  
Nicole Hauck

We need to fill the pulpit on September 25<sup>th</sup> as Pastor Jack will be on vacation.  
November 13<sup>th</sup>, "Answers in Genesis" will do the morning worship. There will be no evening program.  
Nicole will set up worship leaders for September, October and November.  
We discussed options to enhance the Sunday service.  
Search Committee will meet with Craig Smith on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

Janet opened with devotions and prayer.  
We reviewed the commission's yearly budget.  
Discussed the Prayer Walk to take place on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Discussed Rally Day/FunDay Sunday with a carry-in meal on September 11<sup>th</sup>. We will set up tables on Saturday.  
We talked about participating in packing of Christmas boxes for Samaritan's Purse and we are waiting to see which date is available. It will be an 8 hour shift and packing is held in Maryland near Baltimore.  
Discussed timeline for collecting artwork for 2017 church directory.  
Reviewed the Welcome Packet and will send it to Toni to print.  
Go Beyond Community clean-up day has been rescheduled for Labor Day, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.

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

We discussed plans for Rally Day on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. We will combine Promotion Sunday with Rally Day. Bibles will be ordered to be presented on that day. We discussed having a "Bless the Backpacks" for our children and to give teacher recognition.  
We have contacted some teachers and will be contacting them all concerning returning in September.  
Vacation Bible School was a success again this year with a record attendance of 76 children  
Our commission is asking direction from church board concerning if we should ask for waiver of liability for attendees in the result of accidents. Also does board feel the new addition to the Camp Swatara policy concerning the "Good as Gold Certifications" is sufficient. It states "to be eligible to receive a certificate, the recipient must be a regular attendee or participate in the life of the church."  
We discussed contacting those that serve in positions by appointments.  
We discussed our budget for 2017.

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

The air conditioning unit that serves the Kid Zone downstairs has quit working. This is the original unit and not worth repairing. When funds are available, we will upgrade the system.  
We received a letter from the Red Cross for an updated list of contacts from the church for emergency shelter.

**Finance and Stewardship Commission:** Chairperson - Mark Bomberger, Glenn Hassinger  
Andy Heisey

## **Pastor Report**

I prepared and delivered 7 Sermons and will be concluding the series from 1st Letter of John and begin a series from Romans.

Led Bible study 6 times. Taught Sunday school five times.

Attended 2 Board meetings

Attended Bible School 4 evenings.

Conducted several pre-marriage counseling with two couples

Ministry activities outside Myerstown COB, Myerstown Pastoral Association

Visitation includes 27 or more visits.

Among the visits were, Orpha Doutrich, Arlene Crouse, June Swisher, Bill and Edna Yoh (GSH), June Swisher (Cedar Haven), Bender Family (GSH), (Town Center) Ray Sattazan, Wendy Asper, Mark Ziegler, and Iris Liskey, (GSH) Edna Yoh, (Lancaster General) Mary Lou Wagner, (Manor Care) Mary Lineweaver, and David Wenger, Shirley Ritzman, Bill and Edna Yoh, Nancy Moyer, Harvey and Betty Jane Berger, and Anna Mae and Michael Snyder.

I enjoyed brief visits with folks at Myerstown COB Pizza Hut Evening.

I am planning to start a men's prayer breakfast in September. I would appreciate input on time, day of the week, how often, and where.

Average work week – 36 hours which included Annual Conference Week. I spent most of the week of July 24 recuperating from my injuries from my accident.



### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

We will continue with having a commission member be in the Gathering Place if anyone has questions or comments.

### **Interests & Concerns**

September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. is a Women's Fellowship meeting. See Leslie Fuhrman for information.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by aye vote at 8:48 p.m.

## September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Quilting 9:00 am Music Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm	<b>7</b> Bible Study 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>8</b> Sharing Cupboard 10-1	<b>9</b> Sharing Cupboard 3-6	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Fun Day Sunday/Rally Day	<b>12</b> Praise Team 7:00 pm	<b>13</b> Quilting 9:00 am Pizza Hut Day	<b>14</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>19</b> Praise Team 7:00 pm	<b>20</b> Quilting 9:00 am Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 8:00 pm	<b>21</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>22</b> Sharing Cupboard 10-1	<b>23</b> Sharing Cupboard 3-6  Disaster Relief Auction	<b>24</b> Disaster Relief Auction
<b>25</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>26</b> Praise Team 7:00 pm	<b>27</b> Quilting 9:00 am	<b>28</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>29</b> Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>Notes:</b>

~ September 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Sara Keller Nate Walmer	<b>2</b> Kaylee Haring	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Sandra Light Brian Smith Dean Wagner	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Craig Beamesderfer Eric Beamesderfer Janet Dubble Nancy Liskey	<b>7</b> Bob Messersmith	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Dean Ebersole Alexandra Lackey Alexis Liskey Walter Sattazahn, Jr. Jeffrey Umbenhauer Kimberly Wagner David Wenger	<b>10</b> David Books Greg Brown Chad Shelly William Wenrich
<b>11</b> Mike Liskey	<b>12</b> Jeremy Burke	<b>13</b> Kenneth Arnold Keith Fulk Laura Heinz Dennis Hurst Clara Miller	<b>14</b> Ella Heisey Rebecca Jenkins Robin Kisler Mildred Strangarity Michael Stump Alicia Yoh	<b>15</b> Hannah Liskey	<b>16</b> Wyatt Herr David Sheetz	<b>17</b> Nancy Hibshman Aaron Varela
<b>18</b> Kate Dieffenbach Joshua Ream Debra Schwalm Annie Smith	<b>19</b> Sam Behney, Jr.	<b>20</b> Samuel Krall Jane Spangler	<b>21</b> Michael Deitz Michael Wolfe, Jr.	<b>22</b> Monica Mishoe Anna Mae Snyder	<b>23</b> Aggy DiScuillo Amelia Gross Aaron Krall Evan Krall John Jenkins Karen Moore Jean Soliday Eva Tobin	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Rachel McClure Amy Sullivan	<b>26</b> Wyatt Bomberger Patrice Long Bill Post Tristan Ruth	<b>27</b> Edna Yoh	<b>28</b> Linda Schaetzle	<b>29</b> Joseph Brubaker Amanda Houser Jonathan Jenkins Chelsea Reppert	<b>30</b> Susan Dundore Brian Liskey	<b>Notes:</b>