

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

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Ministry through Faith, Vision, and Action

"Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (Acts 10:34-35)

These words were preached by Peter to Cornelius, who was the first Gentile convert recorded in the Bible. Peter's words were radical for his time; it was unthinkable that a non-Jew could possibly be accepted into the Kingdom of God!

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations. 2 For I have said, "Mercy shall be built up forever; Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens." 3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David:

4 'Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations." Selah 5 And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.

6 For who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord? 7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, And to be held in reverence by all those around Him.

Psalm 89:1-7

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Today, we kind of yawn at this, and say 'this is a nice story in the Bible!' But it has a message that the church needs to hear today.

It was this passage of scripture that helped to spark revival in our country, back in the 1700's. George Whitefield, who was an evangelistic leader during the Great Awakening, was overheard as he pretended to be at the gates of Heaven talking to Abraham. This is what he said:

"Father Abraham, whom have you there with You? Have you Catholics? No. Have You Protestants? No. Have You Anglicans? No. Have You Presbyterians? No. Have You Quakers and Anabaptists? No. Whom have You there? Are You alone? No. My brethren, you have the answer to all these questions in the words of my text: "He who feareth God and worketh righteousness, shall be accepted of Him." (Acts 10:35) GOD HELP US ALL TO FORGET HAVING NAMES AND TO BECOME CHRISTIANS IN DEED AND IN TRUTH."

George Whitefield was known to reach as many people as 100,000 during his sermons. But his messages were not deep, or profound. He simply preached the Gospel Message to a nation who needed it!

My prayer is that we would have a "Great Awakening" in the church today! My next series of sermons will be focused on Spiritual Renewal in the church today. My prayer is that we would all experience a Great Awakening in the church, so that we will be able to witness to others! Once we yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit, God will move in this church!

God Bless you all! Pastor Marty

September 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri 1	Sat 2
3 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	4 LABOR DAY	5 Music Meeting 7:00 pm	6 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am RALLY DAY	11 Pumpkin Roll Baking 8:00 am Pumpkin Roll Filling 5:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm	12 PIZZA HUT DAY	13 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	14 Sharing Cupboard 10-1	15 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	16
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	18 Pumpkin Roll Baking 8:00 am Pumpkin Roll Filling 5:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm	19 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 8:00 pm	Bell Choir 6:15 pm		22 Disaster Relief Auction	23 Disaster Relief Auction
24 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	25 Pumpkin Roll Baking 8:00 am Pumpkin Roll Filling 5:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm	26	27 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	28 Sharing Cupboard 10-1 Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	29 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	30

			September 2	017		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Sara Keller Nate Walmer	2 Kaylee Haring
3	4 Brian Smith Dean Wagner	5	6 Janet Dubble Nancy Liskey	7 Bob Messersmith	8	9 Dean Ebersole Alexandra Lackey Alexis Liskey Walter Sattazahn, Jr. Jeffrey Umbenhauer Kimberly Wagner
10 Greg Brown Chad Shelly Wiliam Wenrich	11 Mike Liskey Rachel Moyer	12	13 Kenneth Arnold Keith Fulk Laura Heinz Dennis Hurst Clara Miller	14 Ella Heisey Rebecca Jenkins Robin Kisler Mildred Strangarity Michael Stump Alicia Yoh	15 Hannah Liskey	16 Wyatt Herr David Sheetz
17 Aaron Varela	18 Kate Wall Joshua Ream Annie Smith	19 Sam Behney, Jr.	20 Samuel Krall Jane Spangler	21 Michael Deitz Michael Wolfe, Jr.	22 Monica Mishoe Anna Mae Snyder	23 Aggy DiScuillo Amelia Gross Aaron Krall Evan Krall John Jenkins Karen Moore Jean Soliday Eva Tobin
24	25 Rachael McClure Amy Sullivan	26 Wyatt Bomberger Patrice Long Bill Post Tristan Ruth	27 Edna Yoh	28 Linda Schaetzle	29 Cody Bashore Joseph Brubaker Amanda Houser Jonathan Jenkins Chelsea Reppert	30 Susan Dundore Brian Liskey

Have you ever felt that you needed to pray? Have you ever been so desperate that you cried out to God for help? Have you ever been so overwhelmed by the beauty of the world around you that you couldn't help but breathe out the words, "Thank you, God"? The pages of the Bible are filled with the spontaneous and sincere prayers of people just like you and me.

Some of these prayers have been prayed by well-known heroes of the faith – like Job, Jonah, King David, and Mary, the mother of Jesus. The Bible also contains the thoughtful prayers of people who are not so well known, like Jabez, Nehemiah, Simeon, and Hezekiah. But one prayer stands above the others as a pattern for all prayers – The Lord's Prayer – which Jesus gave His followers.

The Lord's Prayer is "the sum and abridgement of all other prayers. All other prayers are contained in this prayer" (Hugh Latimer, who was killed for his faith in 1555). Whatever we need, whether for the body or soul, is addressed in this prayer.

Perhaps the Lord's Prayer is so familiar to you that you repeat the words without actually praying them. Or perhaps this is a brand-new prayer for you. Either way, will you take a moment to look at this simple prayer with me?

Our Father in heaven,

Jesus instructs us to direct our prayers to "Our Father in heaven," not to angels or saints,. Our prayers are to be directed toward God, and Jesus tells us to call Him "Father." Are you a child of God? Have you asked Jesus to be Lord of your life?

Hallowed by Your name.

Hallowed means to be revered, honored, and glorified. In this we praise our heavenly Father for who He is and what He has done. God created the world to reveal His glory, and this is the chief thing His children should seek - "that in all things God may be glorified" (1 Peter 4:11). Have you praised your heavenly Father for all that He is and does?

Your kingdom come,

This is a request for God to establish His kingdom, His rule and authority, on earth. God will then banish Satan from the earth and will "wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). Imagine a time without evil and suffering! Do you long for the things of this world or for God's kingdom?

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Our truest happiness comes from our complete submission to God's will. Here we pray that people on earth might submit to God's will as perfectly, readily, and unceasingly as the angels in heaven. Is there an area of your life that you need to submit to God?

Give us this day our daily bread,

Here we are taught to acknowledge our complete dependence on God for our day-to-day needs. We ask for "bread" as the simplest of our wants, and in that word we include all that our bodies require. God will give to us whatever we truly need. What a great Father we have! Is there something you need today?

And forgive us our debts,

Next is a petition for God to forgive our sins. We must confess that we are sinners and need God's daily gifts of pardon and forgiveness. We are instructed to keep up a continual confession at the throne of grace, a continual habit of seeking God's mercy. Is there something you need to ask God's forgiveness for?

As we forgive our debtors.

We should not, however, expect our prayers for forgiveness to be heard if we pray with malice and spite in our hearts toward others. We must not expect to be forgiven if we cannot forgive. Is there someone you need to forgive?

And do not lead us into temptation,

Here we acknowledge our desperate weakness when facing temptation and God's great strength. Ask God to strengthen you to keep you from sin.

But deliver us from the evil one.

Jesus teaches us to ask God to deliver us from the evil in the world, from the evil within our hearts, and from the evil one – the devil. As long as we are on this earth, we constantly see, hear and feel the presence of evil, and we need to ask God to protect us,. Do you need to be delivered from the grip of evil?

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

This prayer rightfully ends with a hymn of praise. Here we affirm our belief that God, our Father, is the ultimate ruler, and that He alone holds all power and deserves to receive all glory. Can you say "AMEN" to these beautiful words?

The Lord's Prayer is meant to be prayed by God's children. The privilege of being God's own son or daughter does not belong to everyone – it is only for those who put their trust in Jesus Christ. "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). "For you are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ" (Galatians 3:26).

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for July 1 – July 31, 2017

Worship Service - 135

Home Care

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

LVBH Volunteers

The LVBH is always in need of volunteers. Did you that that every other month some lady's from the church go to the home to play BINGO with the residents? Contact Anna Mae Snyder if you would like to help.

Pizza Hut

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

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. How many cards to you think you can use in a month? You don't have to buy a card to give away, you can use them yourself.

Attention

It's that time of year when you probably are cleaning out good but unused or unwanted items. The annual Bazaar is November 18th (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 Dottie Nagle or Jean Bomberger.

Four Diamonds 5K and Fun Walk

Registration for Team Ashley for the 2017 Conquer Run/Walk is now open. The cancer run/walk will be held on Saturday, September 23rd beginning at 7:30 am at HersheyPark Stadium. If you would like to join Team Ashley or make an on-line donation, you can feel free to do so using the following link: https://fourdiamonds.donordrive.com/ind ex.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&te amID=7051

Registration is open until September 18th. However, if you register prior to August 1st the fees are discounted and you will receive an event packet including a t-shirt. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation to Team Ashley, please see either Jason or Chrissy Zimmerman. Thank you.

Chime Choir

Chime Choir starts September 17th. We are looking for new members (kindergarten and up) and hope you will join us. Parents/grandparents are welcome to assist younger players (and encouraged for children K-2). You do not need to be able to read music. 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

Love Feast

Sunday, Oct. 1st at 6:30 p.m. is Love Feast and Communion.

Disaster Relief Auction

Mark your calendar now for the 40th Anniversary of the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction to be held Sept. 22nd and 23rd. There are many activities during this 2-day period. Come and eat or just come for the fellowship.

Choir Practices to Resume

Senior Choir and Bell Choir will both be resuming on September 6th. Bell Choir will start at 6:15 p.m. and Senior Choir will start at 7:30 p.m.

Sausage Pot-Pie Supper

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, Nov. 11th. The Fellowship Hall committee is planning a sausage pot-pie supper followed by a Karl Hausmann piano program. Details to follow.

Fun Day Sunday

As part of the Rally Day activities on Sunday, September 10th, the Missions and Fellowship Commission will coordinate a carry-in meal following the worship service. In order to assist with the planning of this event, we are asking that you sign up in The Gathering Place by September 3rd if you are planning to attend. Please indicate if you plan to bring a hot or cold entrée OR a dessert. Come and join us for fun and fellowship.

Caitlin's Smiles

Help Caitlin's Smiles raise 30,000 cans of PLAY-DOH! - Myerstown Church of the Brethren members can put smiles on children in the hospital by donating PLAY-DOH to Caitlin's Smiles. Caitlin's Smiles is dedicated to sharing smiles and laughter with children facing chronic or life threatening illnesses. Founded in 2004 in memory of Caitlin Hornung, the non-profit organization distributes arts and crafts kits to hospitals, giving kids an outlet for creativity and the means to heightened feelings of self-worth. Children are provided with "Bag of Smiles" packages through the Creative Arts Care Program. These packages promote activities such as drawing, creative writing and sculpting. Hospital staff distributes the packages while the children are in the hospital. Please consider adding one or more cans of PLAY-DOH to the table in The Gathering Place during the month of September to beat our goal of 100 cans. http://www.caitlins-smiles.org/

Pumpkin Rolls

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!! - Attention all Pumpkin Rollers! Beginning September 11th and continuing thru October, we will be making the awesome pumpkin rolls! We are looking for all willing helpers for this giant project. Baking time starts at 8:00 a.m. and finishes up around 11:30 or so....Filling begins at 5:30 p.m. and usually finishes around 7:30. Our goal is to make 1800. Please come out and help us with this project. Order forms are in your mailboxes. Thank you so much for all the help provided. If you are willing to help, please contact Dottie Nagle or Janet Dubble.

Women's Bible Study

Rachel Moyer will be starting a Women's Bible Study on Sept. 14th at 6:30 p.m. Please sign the sheet in the Gathering Place if you are interested. Books will be ordered for this study.

September Wedding Anniversaries

- 4th Jason & Carey Krall
- 9th Jay & Brenda Lentz
- 11th Bill & Marcie Yoh
- 17th LaMar & Joane Fahnestock Dale & JoAnn Houtz
- 19th Bob & Kathryn Gibble
- 21st George & Dottie Nagle

How does reading your books help readers understand such life-struggles, or, at least, how to cope with these trials?

I pray that my books are a help on various levels. For one thing, due to the characterdriven nature of my novels, my "story people," in many ways, are searching for universal truths, just as readers are. My hope and prayer is that the books I write will offer a faith-based solution to the problems of the human condition. Each of us must deal with the problem of pain and suffering, trials and tests on some level through the span of our lives. My stories offer the hope of the Gospel, that there IS a compassionate, personal God who sees our dilemma, and He cares and understands and no evil force can separate us from that kind of God-love. It is a true gift, unconditional and available to anyone whose heart is open to divine truth.

Beverly Lewis novel series available in your library.

Also Karen Kingsbury books.

Beverly Marie Jones (Lewis) was born in the heart of Amish country—Lancaster, Pennsylvania. At the tender age of nine, she began writing short stories and poetry. Prior to that, she made up lyrics to the "little fingers" piano pieces she learned, at the age of five.





Commissions and Church Board Meeting	Date: August 15, 2017
Meeting was called to order @ 8:02 p.m.	by Chairperson – Robert Noll
Present were: Secretary – Mark Landis, Jr.	Prayer by: Pastor Marty
Present were: Pastor Marty Moyer	
Secretary's Report of July 18, 2017	Approved as presented by Aye Vote
Treasurer's Report of July 31, 2017	Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

<u>Ministry & Evangelism Commission</u>: Co-Chairpersons – David Dubble, Steve Krick, Grace Ziegler

We discussed Spiritual Renewal Service on Nov. 5th through 8th. We will ask Jim Myer or Bill Litman. Grace will make contact.

We will be contacting suggested individuals to fill the vacant positions on the commission.

We will be contacting the greeters and ushers with the opportunity of a Hospitality Workshop.

Discussed ideas to strengthen church's spiritual life through a renewal. The commission and the pastor is calling the church to a spiritual renewal. Pastor Marty is working on a series of sermons on this topic. Nicole Hauck has resigned effective immediately. Resignation was accepted with an aye vote.

<u>Missions & Fellowship Commission:</u> Co-Chairpersons – Janet Dubble, Susie Dundore Leslie Fuhrman, Kim Horn

Devotions by Susie.

Prayer Walk on Saturday Aug. 26th at 10:00 a.m. So far 2 people have signed up.

Rally Day is Sept. 10th and we will be having a carry-in meal, which will be put in the bulletin. Sign up sheet will be in the Gathering Place. We will set up on Saturday morning.

We will check for available dates for packing kits for Operation Christmas Child. We will also be checking about bus from God's Missionary Church.

Leslie will be in charge of Operation Christmas Child and she will be asking Megan Thomas if she would be willing to help.

We will be collecting Play-Doh in September for Caitlin Smiles.

There will be an announcement in the bulletin about any changes for the 2018 directory. Mid October deadline for information changes. Deadline for printing is December 31st.

Susie is going to start updating church history. She has talked to several members and will work on the history in the next months.

There was a discussion about developing a policy for Myerstown Church of the Brethren Facebook page and church app.

Christian Education Commission: Chairperson – Linda Zimmerman,

Christine Blackwell, Lindsey Dimond, Jess Singer

Rachel Moyer attended our meeting.

Rachel opened in prayer.

Rachel shared with our commission the books that she picked to use to start for women's bible group. Group will meet Thursday's at 6:30 p.m. Looking at starting the second Thursday in September. We are going to look if there is funds to buy the books or part of the books depending on how many are signed up.

Looking at getting shirts made that say Myerstown Church of the Brethren with the rest of the vacation bible school money so that as a church we can wear at bible school next year, or other events like National Night Out, etc.

National Youth Conference: Registration is \$500 for registration fee. As of now it looks like there is 2 youth interested and 3 adult chaperones. Ask for board to allow us to use \$2,000 next year that we have budgeted this year for NYC to use at the start of the year on top of what is budgeted for next year to help with the cost to send the youth and chaperones next year. We discussed other ways to get there like a bus or a train instead of flying that would be cheaper but figured out that flying would be the best option as per time for chaperones to not have to take off.

Linda will contact JOY to order the 5 youth bibles that are needed for rally day.

Linda has the new attendance sheets printed out for the upcoming year and a note to put with the folders to remember to take attendance, so that the secretary can collect them on Monday to put into the bulletin the following week.

Looking for Sunday school teachers: Youth Sunday school class- Melissa has expressed interest in teaching the class. Nursery will be stand by with Lindsey or Jess if a visitor comes and nursery is needed.

Rachel brought up about possibly doing a "trunk or treat" around Halloween or even a "Fall Fest". Going to look into it for next month's meeting. Rachel said she would help oversee it.

There was a motion to take budgeted monies from this year's budget amount for National Youth Conference, to set up an account for National Youth Conference for next year.

This was approved with an aye vote

<u>Trustee and Property Commission</u>: Chairperson – George Nagle Mark Landis, Jr., Dale Houtz, Scott Martin

H&M Window replaced glass above kitchen window on west side of building.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: Chairperson - Andrew Heisey, Mark Bomberger

Pastor Report

(for the period between July 19-Aug. 15, 2017)

Sermons: 3

Funerals: Alma Geist, July 31

Funeral Visitation: Alma Geist Family, on July 29

Home Visits: 19

Attempted Visits: 15

Work Visits: 2

Taught Home-Builders S.S. Class: August 13

Church Activities Attended: Visited "Youth With A Mission" on August 9, Attended Sunday School Classes: Homebuilders. I attended, and gave a report at Church Board Meeting on August 15. Met with executive board on August 15. Attended Spiritual Nurture meeting on July 20. Helped with "On Fire Ministries" at the Lebanon County fair on July 22. Attended "National Night Out" on July 31.

Took Vacation Time: August 4-7.

Brethren Biblical Beliefs and History Class: seven people have signed-up so far, and others expressed interest. Trying to set a day; either Sunday Morning or Tuesday night. Let me know if you are interested. Looking at beginning the week of September 10

Upcoming Sermons

August 20 "The Joy of Receiving Each Other" August 27: "The Joy of Jesus" Hebrews 12:1-2

Unfinished Business

New church App is up and running and in the early stages. We are looking for folks to use it and get to Dave Dubble with comments and suggestions.

New Business

None

Interests & Concerns

None

<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion to adjourn by aye vote at 8:40 p.m.