



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

*30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
And the young men shall utterly fall,*

*31 But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:30-31

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“And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” (Ephesians 1:22-23)

As we begin a new year, I want to pose this question to you: How can we grow as a church?

Two things need to happen: Inner growth and outer growth. Inner growth includes our personal relationship with the Lord, or our own personal spiritual growth. Outer growth includes sharing our faith in Jesus Christ to people outside of the church. Both of these growths are important, if we want to grow as a church.

Starting in January, I will begin a series of sermons on “our inner growth as believers in the church.” We will look at the basic beliefs of the Christian Faith: “Knowing God,” “Believing in Prayer,” “Do You Worry,?” and “Faith That Believes.”

The church board is planning a retreat to see where we need to go as a church in 2018. It is very important to set goals as a way to see where we are, and where we need to go.

But I want us to begin by looking at our own individual faith. What is your personal relationship with Jesus Christ like right now? Are you satisfied with where you are at? Or are you willing to grow?

When I look back in my own life, I can see how much I have grown, but I also believe I have a long way to go! For example, when the apostle Paul says, **“He has put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head of the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”** that tells me that every believer has a lot of potential to grow. But it will take an effort on your part and my part.

I look forward to 2018 and to see where the Lord will lead us as a church. I wish all of you a very Blessed New Year! Pastor Marty

Upcoming Sermons

January 7: “Knowing God In Your Life” Deuteronomy 4:29, Philippians 3”8-11

January 14: “Believing In Prayer” James 1:5-8

January 21: “Do You Worry?” Philippians 4:4-7

January 28: “Faith That Believes” Hebrews 11:1-3, 39-40

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for November 1 – November 30, 2017

Sunday School - 64

Worship Service – 136

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.

Install the New Church APP on your smart phone to:

- view and listen to recorded services
- see important documents like the weekly bulletin, monthly newsletters, board and commission reports, sermon notes, and more
- get information about upcoming events
- get notifications for upcoming events
- receive notification of cancellations and rescheduled events

The APP is FREE to use. Go to <http://myerstowncob.org/church-app/> to get the download link and installation instructions.

See David or Janet Dubble if you have any questions.

Candle Lighting/Memorial Service

We will be having our annual Candle Lighting Service on Sunday, January 7th for loved ones that passed away during the year 2017. Please notify Toni in the church office at 866-5517 if you desire to light a candle during this service. A family member(s) is encouraged to light the candle.

Offering envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2018 are in your mailbox. If you did not receive a set of envelopes and would like to have some, please contact Toni in the church office or Ralph and Mim Ackerman.

Secret Sister

Women's Fellowship is doing the "Secret Sister" program. If you would like to be a secret sister to someone during the year 2018, please get a packet in the Gathering Place. Fill out the paper and return to Jen Fetzer or Leslie Fuhrman. We will be picking names on Jan. 7th.

Pumpkin Rolls

There are pumpkin rolls still available for sale. If you would like to purchase any for yourself or a gift, please contact Dottie Nagle or Toni in the church office.

Prayer List

The Deacon body proposes to wipe clean and restart the prayer list as listed in the bulletin each Sunday as of January 1, 2018. We will keep the present list as is until December 31, 2017. We are asking that the members of the congregation contact Toni or Pastor Marty with names that should remain or be added to this list.

Pew Communion

We will be having on January 14th during the worship hour.

January Wedding Anniversaries

- 1st David & Janet Dubble
- 15th Elmer & Barbara Weidman

Due to circumstances beyond my control, I now must with a heavy heart say good-bye to my church family and move out of state. I have attended many churches, but never have I felt such acceptance and love. I truly loved every song in the Praise Team and Senior Choir. I will miss you all very very much! My cell is 918-344-0387....I text from this number daily!

My grandmother had a plaque hung by her front door that said:

“Seasons will come
and times will change
only the things done for the Lord
will alter this life remains.”

Michael Hughes

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 Music Meeting 7:00 pm	3 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	4 Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Women's Fellowship Mtg. 7:00 pm	5	6
7 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Memorial Candle Lighting	8 Praise Team 7:00 pm	9 PIZZA HUT DAY	10 Londonderry Village Service 7:00 pm	11 Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm	12	13
14 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Bread and Cup Communion	15 Praise Team 7:00 pm	16 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 8:00 pm	17 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	18 Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm	19 Women's Fellowship Movie Night 6:00 pm	20
21 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	22 Praise Team 7:00 pm	23	24 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	25 Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	26	27
28 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	29 Praise Team 7:00 pm	30	31 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm			

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Jean Bomberger	3 Amanda Albright Allison Behney Martin Fidler III Victoria Sanchez	4	5 Betti Ann Varela Barbara Zimmerman	6 Carl Hower Donna Leshner
7 Alessandro Fulk Gail Reppert	8	9 Louisa Arnt Noel Gruber Jennifer Heisey Vicky Heisey Gloria Hower	10 Cindy Liskey	11 Wesley Eberly Travis Gerhart Wilbur Wagner	12 Miriam Ackerman	13 Fern Behney Chad Carroll Mark Landis, Sr.
14 Florence Ebersole	15 Brent Hays Kimberly Wenger	16 Austin Thomas Eli Wenrich	17	18 Brittany Darone Doreen DiScuillo	19 Bonnie Deurer Dezirae Dohner	20 Mike Koppenhaver Bonnie Ritte
21 Diane Dubble	22	23 Scott Wagner	24 Kristy Laubach Jason Wo9hlbruck	25 Katie Abrams Christina Burker Travis Hibshman	26	27 Lamar Fahnestock
28 Mark Reppert	29 Barbara Heffer Landon Leonard John Mauser Madison Rambler	30 Patricia Gibble Victoria Maurer	31 Neal Batdorf Lori DiFulvio Lori Leonard Margaret Wenger	Notes:		

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: December 19, 2017

Meeting was called to order @ 8:05 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 November 21, 2017

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Treasurer’s Report of November 30, 2017

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

Ministry & Evangelism Commission: Co-Chairpersons – David Dubble, Steve Krick

We discussed and refined upcoming programs.

Youth will be in charge of December 31, 2017 service.

We will be having a Men’s Bible study the same night as the Women’s Bible study. We will need babysitters.

Spiritual Revival will be October 7th – 10th. Jim Myer is confirmed to speak. He will preside over Love Feast.

We discussed having the 5th Sunday of the month evening designated as having a praise and worship service.

Bill Litman is confirmed as the speaker for July 8th.

Expanded Children’s story to be a part of weekly service.

Discussed holding a board retreat.

Missions & Fellowship Commission: Co-Chairperson – Janet Dubble, Susie Dundore
Leslie Fuhrman, Megan Thomas, Kim Horn

We provided snacks for board meeting.

We discussed refreshments for Christmas Eve.

Souper Bowl – We will be collecting food Jan. 7th through Feb 4th. A display will be set up on Jan. 3rd.

There is a sign-up sheet for people to make soup for the Community Lunch on Jan. 1st.

We are finalizing the directory.

We are planning on taking down the Christmas decorations on Sat. Jan. 6th at 1:00 p.m.

Christian Education Commission: Chairperson – Linda Zimmerman, Christine Blackwell
Lindsey Dimond, Melissa Wilson

Linda went through the directory with the current changes.
Christmas gifts are purchased and going to be given out on Sunday, December 24th.
We had the Children’s Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 17th during the Sunday School hour.

Trustee and Property Commission: – Dale Houtz, Scott Martin, Mark Landis, Jr.

We are planning to raise the sinks to wash pots and pans on the north wall of kitchen some time this winter.
Our committee wishes to thank Bob Noll for cleaning snow off the sidewalks here at the church this past weekend.
We discussed a request from weight watchers to use a room in the church for 2 hours a week for up to 50 people.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: Glenn Hassinger

Pastor Report

Sermons: 3 (choir cantata on December 17)

Home Visits: 3

Hospital Visits: 14

Anointings: 2 George "Whitey" Nagle, Mark Landis Sr.

Church Activities Attended: Church Board Meeting, Hanging of the Greens, Planning of the Christmas Eve Service, Deacons Meeting on December 14., Attended the Children's Christmas Program and Choir Cantata, Senior Choir Practices for Cantata.

One vacation day used for Thanksgiving break.

No sick days

Brethren Classes: I have concluded my classes on Brethren Biblical Beliefs. Classes included were on Love Feast and Communion, The Authority of the Bible, Anointing and Laying on of Hands, The Holy Spirit, Church Government, The Peace Witness, and Brethren and Creeds.

Begin A Men's Bible Study: Tuesday, January 2, 7p.m. Begin studying Book of Genesis. Rotate Old Testament book, then N.T. Book.

Upcoming Schedule

Sunday, January 14 2p.m. My brother's ordination service at Hatfield C.O.B. We will leave following the Sunday Morning service and return that evening.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Steve Krick and Glenn Hassinger have agreed to serve on Church Board for 2018. They were approved to continue serving on the Board thru a motion, 2nd and aye vote.

Interests & Concerns

Discussed ways to make the church safer and more secure while services or activities are happening here in the church.

Adjournment

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