

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever."

-Psalm 111: 10

Address

51 West Stoever Ave.

Myerstown, PA 17067

Office Phone

717-866-5517

Pastor's Study

717-866-2217

Web Page

myerstowncob.org

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Myerstown Church of the Brethren

December 2014

Ministry through Faith, Vision, and Action

From Pastor Dean's Desk



Ancient of Days

A verse taken from Ecclesiastes 3: 15 reads: "That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by." The term ancient of days refers to our God who literally 'was before days were'.

As I get older I realize that time flies by quickly. Our lives seem to be measured from the time of birth to the time that we die. When we visit a cemetery I am in awe of dates that people lived and died. What really matters is what happens in lives between those dates. For some life is long and for some it is, tragically to short. The impact that we make on others is what will be remembered through eternity.

Many of us keep calendars that must be kept up to date. However, our many to do lists and the events that seem so important, eventually, become erasures or items checked off as completed.

When we look at God we see Him as the ancient of days. He was before us, He is with us in the present, and He will, as we that are believers, be with us from everlasting to everlasting.

When we think of this Christmas season may we celebrate the knowledge of God becoming man to be with us in our daily walk. We cannot earn salvation but accepting His gift of grace we can have hope, peace, and joy that only can come from knowing Him. May we share the "good news" of Christmas!

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for October 1 - October 31, 2014

Sunday School – 75 Worship Service – 205

Beginning Checkbook Bala Income Expenses Voided Check	ance – General Fund		\$94,355.38 \$19,109.27 \$13,789.16 \$ 0.00
Ending Checkbook Balanc	е		\$96,675.49
Beginning Checkbook Bala Income Expenses Ending Checkbook Balance		0.00%	\$14,168.86 \$ 4,386.87 \$ 5,859.65 \$13,146.08
Music Fund CD	3/18/13		\$ 15,567.95

Attention all Quilters

On Tuesday mornings we are quilting and knotting in the ladies aid room at 8:00 a.m. All are welcome to come and help.

Please remember these people in your prayers

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

Pizza Hut

We are still continuing to have Pizza Hut Day the 2nd 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: Phares Eshleman, Clara Miller, Mary Lineweaver, Nancy Moyer, June Swisher, Helen Wenger, Arlene Crouse, Joanne Ealy, Orpha Doutrich

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.

Gift Cards

The gift card order is always the first Sunday of the month. Look for your order form in the newsletter or on they 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 the card as a gift, you can use them yourself.

Coupon Exchange

We are starting a coupon exchange to help benefit the church community. Those who get the news paper and do not clip coupons are encouraged to bring their unwanted inserts and put them in the box in the lobby. We will also accept clipped coupons that you will not use. We will clip the coupons and they will be available for anyone to take on a first come first serve basis. Let's help each other save some money! Please see Lisa Liskey with any questions.

Sunday School Teachers

The Christian Education Commission is looking for Sunday School teachers for the 5th and 6th grade class and the Youth class. If you feel called to serve the Lord in this way, please contact any commission member.

Cookie Party

On December 11th, at 6:00 p.m. we will be having a Cookie Batter Party in the church kitchen Bring your favorite cookie batter and we will be baking them at church and exchanging cookies when finished. If you have any questions, call Susie Dundore at 933-8337.

2015 Church Directory Changes

If you have any changes, additions, or deletions for the 2015 Church Directory, there is a copy of the current directory and a notebook on one of the tables in the Gathering Place. Look for the sign that says "2015 Church Directory Changes" that is hanging on the front of the table. Please write all changes in the notebook. Changes must be made by Dec. 14th.

Drawing Contest

There is a drawing contest for the cover, the insert and the back page of the 2015 Church Directory. This is open to all ages. Place your drawing in the Missions and Fellowship mailbox by Dec. 31st.

There is a need for new or gently used adult hats, scarves and gloves/mittens for the Susan Dowhower House. We will have a tree in the Gathering Place where you can hang them and will be collecting them from Dec. 1st through Dec. 24th......Missions and Fellowship Commission

Save the Date

We will be doing pictures for the new pictorial directory on Aug. 6th, 7th & 8th and Sept. 17th, 18th & 19th.

Candle Lighting/Memorial Service

We will be having our annual Candle Lighting Service on Sunday, January 4th for loved ones that passed away during the year 2014. 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.

LVBH Auxiliary Dues

Dues is by donation or lifetime membership is \$100. We will be collecting until January 11, 2015. See Lois Romberger for payment or any questions

Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00 pm is our Christmas Eve Service.

Prayer Pals to Start in January

Children will be paired with an adult partner. Adults are asked to pray for their prayer partner throughout the year. Please consider joining to support our children as they grow in their faith life. Watch the bulletin for more information.

December Wedding Anniversaries

1 st	Robert & Sherry Sullivan
13 th	Dennis & Faye Brubaker Derek & Stephanie Ebling
15 th	Marvin & Carolyn Hoover
22 nd	Bruce & Sheila Meyers
23 rd	Carl & Margaret Wenger
24 th	Mike & Gail Wolf
28 th	Andy & Heather Miller Tom & Dolly Hoffman
29 th	James & Linda Krall

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Meeting was called to order @ 8:04 p.m. Present were: Treasurer – Robert Dubble

Present were: Secretary-Robert Noll

Secretary's Report of October 21, 2014

Treasurer's Report of November 13, 2014

Date: November 18, 2014

by Chairperson - Robert Biddle

Prayer by: Edwin Liskey

Approved by Council Meeting on November 3, 2014

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

<u>Ministry & Evangelism Commission:</u> Chairperson – Kenneth Wagner, Lori Martin, Kathy Dubble, Allison Kline, Steve Krick

We welcomed Steve Krick to the commission for a 3-year term.

Lori Martin will serve for 1 more year.

Ken Wagner will continue to be chairperson for 1 more year.

Allison Kline will be secretary.

Ed Liskey will be our representative for Elizabethtown College.

Grace Ziegler will be the representative for Bethany Seminary.

Our commission is recommending that the Brethren Hour funding be processed through Myerstown Church of the Brethren. We recommend that the church treasurer and the chairperson of Ministry & Evangelism will co-sign the checks. There is no additional funding needed by our church.

There was a motion and second to approve the recommendation that the funding for the Brethren Hour be processed by our church, as well as a new checking account be opened and be set up with cosignatures.

Motion approved by an aye vote

<u>Missions & Fellowship Commission:</u> Co-Chairpersons – Sherrie Liskey and JoAnn Houtz
Janet Dubble, Crystal Liskey, Phyllis Hickernell, Susie Dundore

Snacks are provided in appreciation for the dedication and hard work by everyone serving on a commission.

We discussed collecting adult hats, gloves and scarves for residents of the Susan Dowhower House. We can possibly put up an artificial tree in the Gathering Place onto which the items can be hung. JoAnn will talk to Susie Auman about the availability of a tree. We can collect items during the month of December.

We discussed planning a covered dish (crockpot) meal and BINGO party at Susan Dowhower House in early 2015.

Regarding the updates to the Church Directory, we will add the date of December 14th as the last day to add or change things. This will be changed in the bulletin.

We will talk to the Sunday School teachers of Grades 1 through Youth to ask if they could plan an activity for children to create artwork for the directory. We will also talk to the Youth Advisors about this.

The dates for the photography for the Pictorial Directory have been set for August 6th, 7th and 8th and September 17th, 18th and 19th of 2015. A save-the-date announcement will be put in the bulletin. The dates will also be put on the calendar in the 2015 church directory.

<u>Christian Education Commission:</u> Chairperson – Edwin Liskey, Jen Murray, Grace Ziegler Linda Zimmerman, Judy Umbemhauer

Ed led us in devotions.

Curriculum has been ordered, received and distributed.

Librarian appointments were received.....Anissa Mogel and Sandy Biddle volunteered.

Christmas program was reviewed and gifts for the children were selected.

Children's Christmas program will be held December 14th.

Linda Zimmerman has been appointed as Camp Swatara representative.

Anissa Mogel and Jen Zimmerman volunteered as Bible School co-directors for 2015.

Prayer Pals sheets are being made up and that program will start up again in January.

Judy Umbenhauer and Linda Zimmerman will be co-chairpersons for our commission.

Trustee and Property Commission: Chairperson - George Nagle, Donald Hickernell **Duey Peiffer**

We installed an LED light in the new fellowship hall.

We installed a knox box for the key for the church for access by the fire company.

Charles Krall is a new person on our commission.

We received a letter of resignation from John Zimmerman.

There was a motion and second to accept the resignation of John Zimmerman from the Property & Trustee Commission.

Motion approved by an aye vote

The Church Board would like to thank John for his time serving on the Trustee Commission.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: Mark Bomberger, Ryan Liskey, Glenn Hassinger Andrew Heisey, Tom & Dolly Hoffman

As of October 31, 2014

Year to Date Budgeted to General Fund	\$230,697		
Year to Date Actual to General Fund	196,405		
Difference	-\$ 34,201		
Year to Date Budgeted to Building Fund	\$ 58,596		
Year to Date Actual to Building Fund	55,005		
Difference	-\$ 3,591		

Mortgage Balance	\$4	118,993
Sharing Cupboard Savings Account	\$	10,005
Building Fund Balance	\$	9,686
Music Fund CD Balance	\$	15,567

We reviewed treasurer's report.

We welcomed new commission members.

Pastor Lengel's Report

Greetings to the Myerstown Church of the Brethren! During this time I had one anointing, officiated at one funeral, visited in hospitals, nursing homes, and homes, attended the Brethren Ministers' support meeting, preached on Sunday mornings, led Bible study on a Wednesday night, attended a local ministerial meeting where we planned the Community Thanksgiving service, and attended board and council meeting. I am looking forward to continually work with the congregation to minister the Gospel of Christ. We are studying presently the Book of John in Bible study and during worship we are studying Angels.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

There was a motion and second to approve the following members to Church Board with the various commissions and terms.

Ministry & Evangelism Commission

Lori Martin – 1 year term Steve Krick – 3 year term

Trustee & Property Commission

Charles Krall – 3 year term

Finance & Stewardship Commission

Tom & Dolly Hoffman – 1 year term Andrew Heisey – 2 year term

Motion approved by aye vote

There was a motion and second that Edwin Liskey by Vice-Chairman of Church Board for 2015.

Motion approved by an aye vote.

Interests & Concerns

The Board members present thanked the Mission & Fellowship Commission for the refreshments served after the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:25

A Call to Support our Brothers and Sisters in Nigeria

The ongoing disturbing news from Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) continues to sadden all of our hearts. Rev. Dr. Musa Mambula, who is well known as a writer, educator and current National Spiritual Advisor for EYN, has been visiting a number of congregations in our district to share about the persecution of Christians by Boko Haram terrorists in Northern Nigeria. As a result, many persons here in the ANE District are discussing and talking about what we can do to offer help for the seemingly overwhelming needs of our church family so many miles away.

Two district-led informational gatherings are being planned to raise awareness of and support for the response of the Church of the Brethren in the US to this crisis.

Meetings are scheduled for:

Sunday evening	Sunday evening
January 4, 2015	January 11, 2015
7 PM	Further details to Follow
Hempfield CoB	Indian Creek CoB
1186 Stevens Street	821 Main Street
Manheim PA	Harleysville PA

A central focus of the meetings will be a presentation on the US church's planned response, which will be given by Roy Winter of Brethren Disaster Ministries at Hempfield and by MMB chair-elect Don Fitzkee at Indian Creek. Both events will include first-hand accounts of the situation in Nigeria from Musa Mambula, a time of prayer, and an offering for the Nigeria Crisis Fund.

At their October meeting, the Mission and Ministry Board (MMB) heard a report from Jay Wittmeyer of Global Mission and Service and Roy Winter of Brethren Disaster Ministries on the denomination's plan to expand our response to this situation, using funds from a newly created Nigeria Crisis Fund. The Board allocated up to \$1.5 million to this fund and is seeking to raise a total of \$2.8 million for the first year of a multi-year response.

In her *Newsline* report on MMB actions Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford explained, "The denomination will continue to honor the intentions of the gifts received to the EYN Compassion Fund, but donors are encouraged to support the next phase of the relief effort by directing their gifts to a new Nigeria Crisis Fund within the Emergency Disaster Fund."

Please mark these dates on your church calendars and be sure to encourage attendance by all who would like to be better informed about denominational efforts and by all who would like to be a part of offering support to our brothers and sisters in Nigeria.

December 2014

	1	T	T	T		_
Saturday	9	13	20	27		
Friday	D.	12	19	26		
Thursday	4	11	18	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS		FreePrintable.net
Wednesday	E.	10	17	24	31 New Year's Eve	lars.com • www
Tuesday	2 Quilting & Knotting 8:00 am	9 Quilting & Knotting 8:00 am	16 Quilting & Knotting 8:00 am	23 Quilting & Knotting 8:00 am	30 Quilting & Knotting 8:00 am	www.Printable2014Calendars.com • www.FreePrintable.net
Monday	1 Junior Choir 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm	8 Small Group 6:00 pm Junior Choir 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm	15 Junior Choir 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm	22 Small Group 6:00 pm Junior Choir 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm	29	www.
Sunday		7 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	14 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	21 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	28 Hand Chimes 8:30 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	

20 Charles Donley, Jr.

Jason Fuhrman Noah Brubaker

13

12 Kevin Haring

Robert Hess Emily Reppert **Brian Chatfield**

-inda Zimmerman

Pamela Wagner

10

9 Sherrie Liskey

Jay Dubble Nancy Moyer

Dawn Swisher

Betty Leicht

Glenn Hassinger

Lindsay Layser Sara Schwalm

Alex Achey

18 Ashly Landis

Rachel Hibshman

Ralph Gerhart

9

Jasmine Chatfield

Kara Mease

Paul Shutter Cole Martin

Paige Thomas

Ethan Liskey

Megan Thomas

27

26 Scottb Maurer Scott Reazer

25

24 Iris Liskey

Dave Hibshman

22

Miles Kreiser

Cole Achey

Carl Kline

Heather Kline Julia Wenger

Notes:

Nathan Boltz Benjamin DiScuillo

Walter Herr Kathryn Miller

Lois Romberger Sara Wagner

Crystal Keller

29

Vincent Vannicola 28 Shandra Light

isa Koppenhaver

Daniel Dubble

Delbert Gassert

Ed Liskey Emily Varela

Michael Forney

Jackie Dohner

2 Ralph Ackerman

Alyssa Murray Suzanne Stehr

Jeannette Hartman

Martha Hikes

Dustin Daubert

Sat

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Thu

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Wed

Tue

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Sun

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This Calendar

Family Order Form

Myerstown Church of the Brethren/PA

The following is a list of gift cards that can be purchased as a fundraising project for the building fund. All orders must be placed by the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your purchase.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$100.00	4%		\$
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$25.00	7%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$
Amazon.com \$100.00	3%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	3%		\$
American Eagle Outfitters \$25.00	10%		\$
American Girl \$25.00	9%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$
AT&T 125 Minute Prepaid Card \$9.50	20%		\$
Babies"R"Us \$20.00	3%		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	14%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	9%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	9%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$100.00	9%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	9%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	13%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	13%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$
Best Buy® \$100.00	3%		\$
Best Buy® \$25.00	3%		\$
Bob Evans \$10.00	10%		\$
Bon-Ton \$25.00	8%		\$
Boscov's \$25.00	8%		\$
Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$
Boston Store \$25.00	8%		\$
Bruster's Ice Cream \$10.00	8%		\$
Buca di Beppo \$25.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings \$10.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings \$25.00	8%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total	_
Build-A-Bear Workshop \$25.00	8%		\$	
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$	
Cabela's \$100.00	11%		\$	
Cabela's \$25.00	11%		\$	
Carrabba's Italian Grill \$25.00	8%		\$	
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	
Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$	
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	
Christmas Tree Shops \$25.00	7%		\$	
Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$	
Clarion Hotels \$100.00	4%		\$	
Clarion Hotels \$50.00	4%		\$	1
Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	8%		\$	1
Comfort Inn \$100.00	4%		\$	1
Comfort Inn \$50.00	4%		\$	1
Cracker Barrel \$10.00	9%		\$	1
CVS/pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$	1
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%	700	\$	1
Darden® Restaurants \$25.00	9%		\$	1
Dell Computer \$100.00	4%		\$	1
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	1
Disney \$100.00	2%		\$	
Disney \$25.00	2%		\$	1
Domino's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$	1
Dressbarn \$25.00	8%		\$	
Dunham's Sports \$25.00	8%		s	
Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$	
Eat'n Park \$10.00	10%		\$	
Eat'n Park \$25.00	10%		\$	
Eddie Bauer \$25.00	10%		\$	
Express \$25.00	10%		\$	
Foot Locker \$25.00	9%		\$	
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$	

Product	%	QTY	Total
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$
Giant Food Stores \$25.00	4%		\$
Giant Food Stores \$50.00	4%		\$
Giant Foods \$100.00	4%		\$
Groupon.com \$25.00	7%		\$
Gymboree \$25.00	13%		\$
Hard Rock Cafe \$25.00	10%		\$
Hardee's \$10.00	5%		\$
Icing \$10.00	9%		\$
IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$
iTunes® \$25.00	5%		\$
jcpenney \$100.00	5%		\$
jcpenney \$25.00	5%		\$
KFC \$5.00	8%		\$
Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$
Kmart \$50.00	4%		\$
Kohl's \$100.00	4%		\$
Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
L.L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$
L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
Lands' End \$100.00	16%		\$
Lands' End \$25.00	16%		\$
LongHorn Steakhouse ® \$25.00	9%		\$
Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$
Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$
Macaroni Grill \$25.00	11%		\$
Marshalls \$25.00	7%		\$
Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Nike \$25.00	12%		\$
Nutrisystem \$50.00	12%		\$
Office Depot \$25.00	4%		\$
Office Max \$25.00	5%		\$
Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$
Olive Garden ® \$25.00	9%		\$

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Make Checks Payable To:

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Total Due All Columns:

\$			
Ψ			

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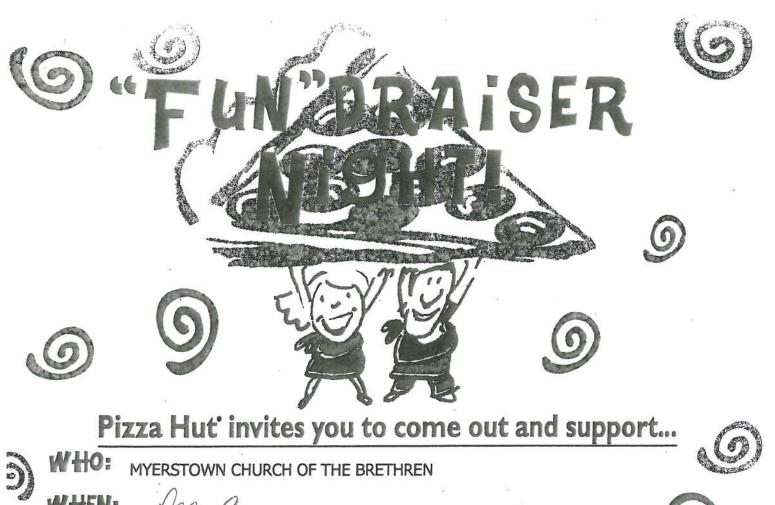
Myerstown Church of the Brethren/PA

The following is a list of gift cards that can be purchased as a fundraising project for the building fund. All orders must be placed by the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your purchase.

Name	Customer #	
Check #	Order Date	-

Product	%	QTY	Total	
Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	
Panera Bread \$10.00	9%		\$	
Panera Bread \$25.00	9%		\$	
Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$	
Payless Shoes \$20.00	13%		\$	
PetSmart \$25.00	4%		\$	
Pizza Hut (Not AK or HI) \$10.00	8%		\$	
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$	
Rainforest Cafe \$25.00	9%		\$	
Red Lobster ® \$25.00	9%		\$	
Red Robin \$25.00	9%		\$	
Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$	
Ruby Tuesday \$25.00	8%		\$	
Sam's Club \$100.00	2.5%		\$	
Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$	
Sears \$100.00	4%		\$	
Sears \$25.00	4%		\$	
Sears Auto Service Center \$100.00	4%		\$	
Sears Auto Service Center \$25.00	4%	8	\$	
Sheetz \$100.00	3%		\$	
Sheetz \$25.00	3%		\$	
Staples \$100.00	5%		\$	
Staples \$25.00	5%		\$	
Starbucks \$10.00	7%		\$	
Starbucks \$25.00	7%		\$	
SUBWAY® Restaurants	3%		\$	
Supercuts \$25.00	8%		\$	
.J. Maxx \$25.00	7%		\$	
aco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$	
anger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$	
arget \$100.00	2.5%		\$	
arget \$25.00	2.5%		\$	
arget \$50.00	2.5%		\$	

Product	%	QTY	Total
Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
The Home Depot \$100.00	4%		\$
The Home Depot \$25.00	4%		\$
Toys"R"Us \$20.00	3%		\$
Walgreens \$25.00	6%		\$
Valmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Nawa \$25.00	1.5%		\$
Vendy's \$10.00	4%		\$



Dec. 9

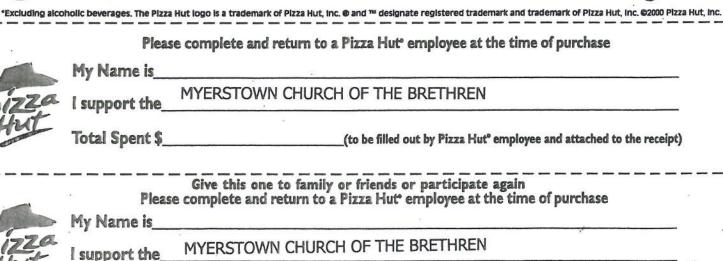
11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. (buffet 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

WHERE: Lebanon Pizza Hut

PHONE # 273-7000

Total Spent \$_

Pizza Hut® will donate 20% of your purchases* on the "Fun"draiser Night to your organization! Just give them the ticket below when you pay!



(to be filled out by Pizza Hut' employee and attached to the receipt)