

**Myerstown Church of the Brethren
Council Minutes
Monday, March 5, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.**

Devotions by: Ron Brubaker

Article 1. Approval of Council Minutes from:
Monday, October 30, 2017 (Pg. 1 - 14)

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 2. Treasurer's Report

- a. Budget – January to December 2017 (A1 – A3)
- b. Building Fund, January to December 2017 (A4)
- c. Budget – January 2018 (A5 – A6)
- d. Building – January 2018 (A7)
- e. Annual Financial Review (A8)
- f. Approval of Treasurer's Report & Financial Review

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 3. Church Board Reports (B1 – B8)

a. Ministry & Evangelism – David Dubble

We will check to see if Dawn and Randy Marks are available to schedule for a future program.

Women's Fellowship was granted permission to arrange for a program by "Piercing Word"

Commission members discussed the Board Retreat which will be held at Camp Swatara on March 17.

Steve Krick and David Dubble were elected as co-chairpersons.

Evelyn Dick will have a program during the Sunday School hour on May 20. Grace Ziegler will offer housing.

Steve Krick will be the speaker for the Easter Sunrise Service on April 1.

We are planning a praise and worship night for Saturday, October 6.

We discussed a fall program of music provided by musicians from surrounding churches. The tentative date is Saturday, September 15.

Bill Litman is to fill the pulpit on July 8th while Pastor Marty will be attending Annual Conference.

We discussed the 2017 Spiritual Renewal services and what can be done to improve it. We will plan for another Spiritual Renewal series for October 7-10, 2018. James Meyer, a minister from _White Oak Church of the Brethren, _has been confirmed as the speaker.

b. Missions & Fellowship – Susie Dundore

We welcomed the holiday season, decorating the church for Christmas (Dec.2) 2 pm with a Pizza Party afterwards. On a snowy Christmas Eve (Dec 24) with a “Live Nativity” and the “Christmas Story”. 6-6:30 pm with Hot Chocolate, Cookies. 7 pm A Musical Christmas Service with the youth playing instruments. A tree was in the Gathering Place for hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for the Susan Dowhower House could have a wonderful Christmas.

To start off the New Year, helped the youth with a “ Community Lunch” on New Year’s day. Church Directories were finished. A “Souper Bowl” Collection for the Sharing Cupboard. Jan.7 - Feb.4.

We need a COBYS Representative. Janet Dubble is the representative for “Londonderry Village” in Palmyra. We will be collecting jewelry, purses, sunglasses, watches for there “Yard Sale” June 1st and 2nd. They have a program “Sweet Saturday” volunteers serve sweet treat to the residents on a Saturday.

Easter season is here (April 1) . Our annual Easter breakfast. Tickets start March 4 - 25. \$2.00 each. Money will go towards the “Londonderry Village” wishlist. There will be a food sign-up sheet.

Working on updates for the “Welcome Packet”.

A mission work day at “ Mennonite Central Committee “ warehouse is postponed . Due to May 12th is the Mother & Daughter Breakfast. Planning on other date.

A “ Brethren Disaster” trip is being planned April 15-21, 2018.

We are planning exciting events in the future. Keep in tune to “Mission & Fellowship” events.

c. Christian Education – Leslie Fuhrman

Since the last Church Council meeting we finalized the annual Children’s Christmas program, and held it on Sunday December 17th during Sunday school. Devotionals were given to all the students as a small Christmas gift.

Bible school is being planned for the week of June 24, 2018. Leslie Fuhrman and Jess Singer are the directors and will be seeking help from church staff as well as planning a kick-off Sunday and asking for donations of items that are needed.

The Easter Egg hunt is planned for March 24th. We are going to have a craft for the kids to do and light refreshments being offered. Hot dogs and snacks will be provided for lunch.

Our commission would like to thank all the teachers that are currently teaching the Sunday school classes. We are also looking for anyone that is willing to help substitute on a Sunday morning in the event that a teacher can’t be present. If you are willing please see a member of the Christian Ed committee.

d. Trustee & Property – George Nagle

Kevin Wenrich is the new outside janitor.
Kauffman's Chicken BBQ will be Wednesday, May 23rd this year.
We received a high gas bill and we contacted UGI and they checked the meter and replaced it. The meter was off 6.8% and we received as credit of \$679.00.
Repaired circulator for heating system.
Thank you to everyone involved in cleaning snow from the sidewalks during the snowfalls.

e. Finance & Stewardship – Andy Heisey

Our commission works directly with the treasurer, counts offerings each Sunday and meet monthly at commission and board meetings.

MCoB now has access to e-tithing through Fulton Bank since August 2016. The bank plan we joined allows up to twenty direct payments a month. There are seven families signed up.

Please see me if you need a direct payment form. No service fee is charged to members for this service. It is quick and easy to sign up.

On February 21, 2018 our yearly in house financial review of the church accounts was completed.

f. Approval of Church Board Reports

All Board Reports were approved by motion, second & aye vote.

Article 4. 2nd Reading and Vote to change various articles in the Constitution and By-Laws pertaining to the Treasurer position.

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 5. Election of Alternates for District Conference

This will be brought up again at June Council meeting.

Article 6. Spiritual Nurture Board Report – Ralph Ackerman

The Deacon Body meets on a monthly basis or as the need arises to discuss the needs of the Church congregation.

The Love Offering balance as of our February 22, 2018 meeting was \$478.54.

We continue to minister by visits, phone calls, cards, and through prayer.

*We would like to keep open the call for new Deacons. Please continue to thoughtfully pray for members to accept the call.

Prayer List and Prayer Phone Chain:

The new updated prayer list in the bulletin has been restarted as of January 1, 2018.

A phone prayer chain sign up sheet for persons interested in participating in praying for those in immediate need has been placed in the Gathering Place. We plan to set up this Prayer Chain at our next meeting in March.

The annual Memorial Candle Lighting service was held January 7, 2018.

Pew Communion was held Sunday, January 14, 2018.

Love Feast and Communion will be held Sunday, March 25, 2018.

William and Gloria Keppley have requested their names be removed from our membership list.

Allison and Carl Kline have transferred their membership to Midway.

Delbert Gassert has transferred his membership to Zion United Methodist Church.

The above was approved by motion, second and aye vote.

Article 10. Pastor's Report – Marty Moyer

October 30, 2017 - March 5, 2018

Sermons: 16

Home Visits: 35

Hospital Visits: 47

Attempted Visits: 13

Funerals: Assisted Glenn for Betty Leicht

Funeral Visitation: 1

Anointings: 5

Brethren Class Teachings: 3

Bible Studies Taught: 5 (Men's and Men's and Women's)

Church Activities and Commission Meetings

- Attended all Executive, Board, and Council Meetings
 - Attended all Spiritual Nurture Meetings
 - Attended all Music Meetings, and Christmas Eve Candlelight Planning meeting
 - Attended 3 Men's and Women's Bible Studies
 - Attended all Senior Choir Practices
 - Attended Youth Spaghetti Supper, Super Bowl Party, Youth Community Luncheon.
 - Attended and led Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Live Nativity Scene
 - Attended worship service at Londenderry Village when Myerstown led.
 - Attended Children's Christmas Program, Choir Cantata, Hanging of the Greens.
 - Participated in the Myerstown Community Thanksgiving Service.
 - Participated in the Myerstown Community Ministerium
 - Attended 3 Lebanon Brethren Area Minister's Meetings
- Vacation Days for the period: 3 Sick days: 0

Article 11. Reception of other reports

Women's Fellowship – Leslie Fuhrman

We have had 2 women's fellowship meetings since the last council meeting.

The Bazaar was held on November 18th. Next year the Bazaar will be held Nov. 17th.

We had a Christmas breakfast December 9th at Dutchway. There was approximately 25 people at the breakfast. Looking ahead to next year we are going to change our location due to Dutchway having something already booked that weekend.

In January we had a P.M.S. night. We enjoyed snacks that everyone brought and we watched The Shack.

We also had a String Party the end of January. We had 15 people come to the party and created different art pieces.

We plan on having a T-shirt sale with shirts that will just say Myerstown Church of the Brethren on them. The shirts can then be worn for activities at the church or when outreach activities will done.

We will have a spring consignment sale on April 21st from 8-2 in the gymnasium. Set-up will be the day before on the 20th.

The Golden Age Dinner will take place May 6th. Scott and Lori Martin will be cooking and the youth will be serving the meal.

Officers were voted on and will stay the same for the 2018 year.

Treasurer's Report:

Since the last council meeting on Monday, Oct. 30th, 2017 the following have been paid from the account:

Kapp Advertising- Consignment sale ad
Hornings Market- Subs for Bazaar
JDM Outlet- Plastic utensils for Bazaar
Dutchway- supplies for Bazaar
Advent Devotionals
Upper Room- Jan/Feb and March/April
Lent Devotionals

Deposits to the account:
Pumpkin Roll Money

We decided to sell the remaining pumpkin rolls at \$6.00 each, therefore we do not have the amount of the profit yet.

Ladies Aid – Kitty Wenger

No report

Youth – Rachel Moyer

We have been very busy since our last Council meeting. In October and November, we went to a Lebanon Valley Youth event with David Boudia as the guest speaker, lead the games at Trunk or Treat, raked leaves around the church grounds, had a booth at the Bazaar, chicken pot pie fundraiser with the Fellowship Committee and bible studies. In December we had a potluck lunch with Christmas caroling, helped decorate the church, bible study with Christmas party and had a New Year's Eve lock in. In January, we had a community soup luncheon, bible studies, and Parent's Day Out fundraiser. In February, we had a Tastefully Simple and popcorn fundraiser, spaghetti supper fundraiser with the Fellowship Committee, Super Bowl party at Janet and Dave's house, game night in the youth zone with our mentors and volunteers and went to an Escape Room in Annville where we solved the case with 8 minutes 35 seconds left on the clock. Recently, we went to the Crowder concert in Reading. For March's activities, we will see the movie, I Can Only Imagine; youth meeting to practice April worship service, and stuff eggs for the Egg Hunt.

Roundtable at Bridgewater College is April 6-8 for 8th-12th grade and two of our youth are going. The ANE district service project is April 21 and we plan to participate. We will have an appreciation taco bar luncheon after worship on April 22 for the congregation. We are excited to lead the worship service on April 29. Our topic will be on what the bible says about fear.

We would like to thank the congregation for helping us in our fundraising. We have met our goal to fund National Youth Conference and our Jr High workcamp in Boston. Besides these trips in the summer, we are looking forward to helping at the Golden Age dinner and a spiritual retreat at the beach in Delaware. Thank you all for your support and if you would like to be a volunteer to help chaperone at our events, please see Melissa or Rachel.

Fellowship Hall Committee – Earl Liskey

Sharing Cupboard – Dorothy Nagle

We would like to thank everyone, including church members, other churches in our community, schools, local banks and businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals for the generous support of our Sharing Cupboard by donating food and monetary contributions over the last few months.

We averaged 84 families a month, that being open 4 days a month from November through February. That was a total of 9,314 items distributed.

Thank you again to all the volunteers and we are always looking for help to load and unload our orders from Horning's one day a month, which takes approximately 1 hour.

Thursday – 11/9/17
Families – 31
Adults – 64
Children – 37
Items – 888
(3 new families)

Thursday – 12/28/17
Families – 27
Adults – 61
Children – 29
Items – 781

Friday – 1/26/18
Families - 19
Adults – 36
Children – 17
Items – 484

Friday – 11/10/17
Families – 28
Adults – 63
Children – 38
Items – 795

Friday – 12/29/17
Families – 20
Adults – 38
Children – 14
Items – 544
(1 new family)

Thursday – 2/8/18
Families – 21
Adults – 47
Children – 22
Items – 547
(1 new family)

Thursday – 11/24/17
Families - 25
Adults – 25
Children - 314
Items – 652

Thursday – 1/11/18
Families – 16
Adults - 29
Children -13
Items - 361
(1 new family)

Friday – 2/9/18
Families – 20
Adults – 41
Children - 22
Items – 546

Thursday – 12/14/17
Families – 34
Adults – 80
Children – 38
Items – 951
(2 new families)

Friday – 1/12/18
Families – 20
Adults – 38
Children – 24
Items – 707
(1 new family)

Thursday – 2/22/18
Families – 21
Adults – 39
Children - 24
Items – 539
(1 new family)

Friday – 12/15/17
Families – 12
Adults – 25
Children – 18
Items – 370
(1 new family)

Thursday – 1/25/18
Families – 23
Adults – 47
Children – 25
Items – 604
(2 new families)

Friday – 2/23/18
Families - 18
Adults - 35
Children - 24
Items – 545

There was a motion and second to accept the above reports.

Motion approved by an aye vote.

Article 8. Interests and Concerns

There was a discussion on putting an article in the newspaper in place of the ad that we used to have on a weekly basis.

There was a motion and 2nd and aye vote to accept the resignation of Robert Noll as Church Board Chairman.

There was appreciation shown for the work of Dale Houtz and Whitey Nagle on the snow removal this winter.

Article 9. Adjournment at 8:00 p.m.

Pastor Marty closed in prayer.