

**Myerstown Church of the Brethren
Council Minutes
Monday, October 29, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.**

Devotions by: David Stauffer

David challenged each one of us to be kind; to show kindness to each other.
There were 26 in attendance.

**Article 1. Approval of Council Minutes from:
Monday, October 29, 2018 (Pg. 1-12)**

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 2. Treasurer's Report

- a. Budget – January to December 2018 (A1 – A4)
- b. Building Fund, January to December 2018 (A5)
- c. Budget – January 2019 (A6 – A7)
- d. Building – January 2019 (A8)
- e. Annual Financial Review (A9)
- f. Approval of Treasurer's Report & Financial Review

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 3. Church Board Reports (B1 – B12)

- a. Ministry & Evangelism – David Dubble

The "Piercing Word" program was well received and will be considered for a future event.

Much time was devoted to planning the Night of Gospel Music being held on March 9, 2019. Special thanks to Grace Ziegler for the time she devoted to contacting participants for the program.

The idea of having a membership meal and to have attending members invite a friend or family to attend was is under consideration. A program would follow the meal.

Commission appointments for 2019 were completed.

It was decided that the Children's story will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month starting in January 2019.

Chris Smith, pastor of the Mt. Zion Church of the Brethren, has agreed to do our Spiritual Renewal services to be held on October 6th through October 9th, 2019. This will also include Love Feast to be held on October 6, 2019.

A congregational survey instrument was created and distributed to the membership. Approximately 50 surveys were returned. Commission members and a ANE District representative have reviewed the surveys and will be meeting with Pastor Marty to discuss input from the surveys and to develop a plan for moving our church forward. An especially strong response from the surveys indicated the desire and need for Spiritual Revitalization.

The Christmas Eve program was a very successful event. Thank you to all who participated and attended.

Linda Zimmerman has volunteered to be our church delegate for annual conference this year.

The Music Committee has suggested that on the second Sunday of the month members of the church who play instruments play some selections during the service. This is being considered.

Pastor Marty has asked for permission to have a prayer concern box placed in the Gathering Place or sanctuary for people to use. We are looking into this.

b. Missions & Fellowship – Susie Dundore

We celebrated Christmas with a decorated tree in the Gathering Place with hats, scarves, gloves for the families of our Sharing Cupboard till December 23. Keep them warm over winter . We had a great response.

Church was decorated for Christmas. December 24th we had a live Nativity, Christmas Eve Service, 6pm.-8pm. With refreshments in between.

We reviewed the Church Directory and the directories are finished and in the mailboxes.

We received a resignation from Megan Thomas from our commission.

We had our own Souper Bowl, collecting soup and non- perishable foods for the Sharing Cupboard. February 3rd through 24th.

Light refreshments are needed for Music Night , March 9th. Sign up sheet in the Gathering Place.

March 30th a group is going to the Mennonite Central Committee Workplace in Ephrata to recycle books to earn money to help in disaster and other countries. Ages 7 years old to adult from 9-12 pm. We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:15 am to carpool.

We are planning an Easter Sunrise Breakfast April 21,7:30 am.

September 22-28 is a Brethren Disaster Relief trip, for more info see Earl Liskey.

c. Christian Education – Leslie Fuhrman

Our commission planned the children's Christmas program. The student performed the program the second Sunday in December.

We gave out to Lula Bibles to babies that were born in December.

Leslie and Jess went to a Bible School meeting and purchased the kit Roar for the summer VBS program.

We are in the process of planning the Easter egg hunt for children of the church the Saturday before Easter.

d. Trustee & Property – George Nagle

We replaced the dusk to dawn light at the Sharing Cupboard with an LED light.

The floor in the Gathering Place was cleaned and waxed, Bob Noll got machines from Eagle Rental to do the job.

Cleaned snow from sidewalks numerous times.

Ken Gross was added to our commission for a 3 year term.

We are still in need of another person.

Replaced washers in sink in kitchen.

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.

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.

The Debt reduction ended with contributions of \$93,529. Bringing the remaining amount owed down to \$84,453. After the modification was made the payments went from \$5,860 to \$1,645 a month.

On February 18, 2019 a yearly review of the financial transactions was conducted with no errors to report.

f. Approval of Church Board Reports

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

Article 4. Approval of Board motion on Conflict Resolution & Church Revitalization

This program was presented by Janet Dubble.

Approval to move forward with this program was given by motion, 2nd and aye vote.

Article 5. Election of Alternates for District Conference

No alternate delegates were chosen.

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 our church congregation.

The Love Offering balance as of February 28, 2019 was \$2,387.79.

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

We will continue to call for new Deacons.

The Memorial Candle lighting service was held on Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Pew Communion was held on Sunday, January 13, 2019.

Our Spring Love Feast and Communion service will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Our statement savings account has been changed to a checking account.

Article 7. Pastor's Report – Pastor Marty

Sermons: 16 (2 extra sermons at Londenderry Village, Oct. 31, Feb. 15)

Home Visits: 62

Hospital Visits: 14

Attempted Visits: 25

Funerals: 2 Mary Lineweaver, Larry Miller

Annointings: 4

S.S. Classes: Substitute teacher for Homebuilders Class, assist with youth on occasions.

Church Commission Meetings Attended: All Church Board Meetings, Ministry & Evangelism commission meetings, Spiritual nurture (2), Music Committee (2)

Vacation Days Used: 6 for this period

Sick Days Used: 0

Church Activities Attended

- Help to teach Bible Studies on Revelation.
- Attended all Senior Choir Practices.
- Attended Pastor's Support Breakfast.
- Attended 2 District "Like-Minded Minister's Meeting" at Middle Creek, and West Green Tree Churches, Feb. 28
- Camp Representatives Dinner, Camp Swatara on Feb. 10
- Attended one "Compelling Vision" District Meeting at Palmyra C.O.B.
- Participated in the Community Thanksgiving Service at Poplar Run on Nov. 18
- Led worship at Londenderry Village on October 31 and February 13.
- Drove Bus for Community Christmas Caroling on December 2.
- Went Christmas caroling for Myerstown C.O.B. on December 15.
- Help with putting-up Christmas Decorations in the church on December 1.
- Attended the Pot Pie Dinner on November 10
- Annual Bazaar

Upcoming Sermons:

March 10: First Sunday of Lent, "Jesus Is Tested, What About Us?" (Baptism, Walter Satazahn)

March 17: "Jesus Laments" Luke 13:31-35

March 24: "Are You Thirsty?" Isaiah 55:1-9

March 31: "A New Creation" II Corinthians 5:16-21

Article 8. Reception of other reports

Women's Fellowship – Leslie Fuhrman

We held 2 meetings since November.

We have held the bazaar in November.

We made and sold 1200 pumpkin rolls. The last ones were sold at the bazaar.

We had a Christmas breakfast at Cedar Grill. Around 35 people were in attendance. Those that were there also revealed their secret sister.

We also had a cookie exchange with about 8 people in attendance.

We are prepping for our spring children's consignment sale in 2 weeks.

We are always looking for people to come out to meetings and also activities that are planned.

Since the last council meeting on October 29, 2018 the following have been paid from account:

- Consignor's from the Spring Children's and Teen Consignment Sale
- Clothing racks for the consignment sale
- November bazaar items
- Advent devotionals
- Women's Fellowship Christmas breakfast
- Upper Room
- Executive Image Solutions- new copier
- Donation to general fund and mortgage debt reduction
- Grumbine's flowers: Mary Lineweaver and Baby Dimond
- Lent Devotionals

Deposits to the account:

- Spring children and Teen Consignment sale
- Pumpkin roll sale
- T-shirt money
- Bazaar sales
- Deposits for registration fees for consignment sale

Balance on Oct. 29, 2018 was \$18,099.06

Balance on Feb. 28, 2019 was \$16, 470.33

Ladies Aid

None

Youth – Lindsey Dimond

Since the last meeting in November the youth have had several activities. In November we went to Lazer Factory and had pizza and sodas and played unlimited games of lazer tag. The kids had an awesome time and lots of laughs occurred.

In November we also had a stand at the bazaar and sold sticky buns and bagels.

In December some of the youth went caroling with the praise team. We also had a Christmas party for the kids and did a gift exchange where all the youth brought a gift and did a fun exchange, and played games.

In February we went out for pizza for lunch and then spent two hours bowling. We realized how competitive the youth can be during activities. Future activities are being planned and they will be having a bake sale at the consignment sale and working the spaghetti supper.

Fellowship Hall Committee – Cindy Liskey for Earl Liskey

2018 4th Quarter

| | |
|---|-------------|
| October 2018 | |
| Opening Balance | \$ 4,284.70 |
| Assets: | |
| 0 Banquet | |
| 0 Wedding Reception | |
| 1 Funeral | |
| Sporting Events | |
| Rentals | |
| 1 Fundraiser | |
| Total Assets | \$ 2,286.00 |
| Sub Total | \$ 6,570.70 |
| Check to MCoB Youth (fundraiser) | \$ 700.00 |
| Check to Budget (fundraiser) | \$ 700.00 |
| Expenses: | |
| Food | \$ 325.96 |
| Paper Products | \$ 159.37 |
| Misc. (Insulation & Siding Refrigerator | \$ 172.59 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 657.92 |
| December 31, 2018 | |
| Closing Balance | \$ 4,512.78 |

Sharing Cupboard- Dottie Nagle

During the month of November through February we averaged 78 families a month, being open 4 days a month. We had 8 new families during this period.

We want to thank the congregation for the soup and other food items that were donated during the month of February.

We had quite a few donations during the month of December from individuals, community organizations, ELCO FFA and churches. We are grateful for all these donations.

Donations were so abundant we did not have to shop for groceries at Horning's in January.

Thanks again to all the volunteers for giving their time to serve the less fortunate in our ELCO community.

Thursday – 11/8/18
Families – 27
Adults – 63
Children – 36
Items – 875

Friday – 12/27/18
Families – 198
Adults – 36
Children – 18
Items – 425

Thursday – 1/25/19
Families - 23
Adults – 49
Children – 19
Items – 430

Friday – 11/9/18
Families – 21
Adults – 42
Children – 21
Items – 590

Thursday – 12/28/18
Families – 23
Adults – 44
Children – 18
Items – 536
2 new families

Friday – 2/14/19
Families – 16
Adults – 35
Children – 15
Items – 435
2 new families

Thursday – 11/23/18
Families - 19
Adults – 34
Children - 8
Items – 437
1 new family

Friday – 1/10/19
Families – 19
Adults - 42
Children -11
Items - 456

Thursday – 2/15/19
Families – 19
Adults – 46
Children - 15
Items – 454

Friday – 12/13/18
Families – 34
Adults – 73
Children – 33
Items – 943
2 new families

Thursday – 1/11/19
Families – 21
Adults – 45
Children – 22
Items – 480

Friday – 2/28/19
Families – 23
Adults – 40
Children - 15
Items – 518

Thursday – 12/14/18
Families – 22
Adults – 43
Children – 16
Items – 718
1 new family

Friday – 1/24/19
Families – 18
Adults – 39
Children – 8
Items – 430

Thursday – 3/1/19
Families - 10
Adults - 17
Children - 1
Items - 177

Article 9. Interests and Concerns

Ministry and Evangelism Commission is looking for a speaker for the Easter Sunrise Service.

Pastor Marty was approved as a delegate to Annual Conference by a motion, 2nd and aye vote.

Article 10. Adjournment

Closing prayer by David Stauffer @ 7:50 p.m.