



**Myerstown Church of the Brethren**

***Scriptural Message***

32 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. 34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. 35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— 36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Mark 13:32-37

**Address**                    **51 West Stoever Ave.  
Myerstown, PA 17067**

**Office Phone**                **717-866-5517**

**Web Page**                    **myerstowncob.org**

**Church Email:**  
**myerstowncob@myerstowncob.org**

**Read Mark 13:32-37**

Starting on December 1, we will begin the season of Advent, which includes the four Sundays before Christmas Day. 'Advent' comes from the Latin word "coming," and it is observed in the church as a time of preparation and reflection in anticipation of the Birth of Jesus Christ.

I believe it is important to ask the question, 'why does the church observe the four weeks of Advent?' Why do we take the time to prepare for the coming of the Birth of Jesus Christ? The answer is to think about the One who we are honoring.

Jesus Christ was a Man who was conceived by the Holy Spirit. He was born from the Virgin Mary. He walked the earth and preached and healed people for three years. He suffered and died on the Cross. He was raised from the dead on the third day. He was taken up into heaven, and He is seated at the right hand of the Father. And He is coming again to judge the living and the dead.

We celebrate the season of Advent because there is no one like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! He is worth our waiting! He is worth our preparation!

Beginning on Sunday, December 1, we will light a candle on the Advent Wreath in the front of the sanctuary. There will be four candles for each of the Sundays of Advent. Purple Candles are often used for the first, second, and fourth Sundays in Advent, and a pink candle is used for the third Sunday in Advent. The white candle in the center of the wreath is the Christ Candle which will be lit during the Christmas Eve service. It is the tallest of all the candles.

The first candle is known as the candle of hope. The prophet Isaiah says that there is hope for the Messiah's arrival. The second candle is the candle of faith. This represents Bethlehem's candle, where the prophet Micah foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. The third candle is the candle of joy, which is the Shepherds candle, where the Shepherds had great joy when they saw the angels who gave them the good news of the birth of Jesus. And the fourth candle is the candle of peace, where the angels announced that Jesus will bring peace.

We hope to see all of you in church, in this season of Advent as we celebrate the arrival and birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Pastor Marty

## **Attendance & Offering**

Attendance average for October 1, 2019 – October 31, 2019

Sunday School – 25

Worship Service - 95

### **Home Care**

Lets remember in thought and prayer those living in nursing homes/assisted living homes: Orpha Doutrich, Joanne Ealy, Jeannette Hartman, and Iris Liskey.

### **Pizza Hut**

We continue to have Pizza Hut Day the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Look for your 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 do you think you can use in a month? You don't have to buy a card to give away, you can use them yourself. You can buy your groceries or gas for your vehicles.

### **Christmas Breakfast**

Women's Fellowship Christmas Breakfast will be December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at Cedar Grill Restaurant. This year we are doing something a bit different. Everyone will be ordering from the menu and paying themselves. Bring a \$1.00 gift for our gift exchange. For more information contact Jess Singer.

### **2020 Directory**

If you have any corrections or additions for the 2020 directory, please notify Toni in the church office of a member of the Missions and Fellowship Commission.

### **Christmas Eve Service**

The Christmas Eve Service will be Tuesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### **Candle Lighting/Memorial Service**

We will be having our annual Candle Lighting Service on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, for loved ones that passed away during the year 2019. 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.

### **Christmas Caroling**

Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> we are planning to go Christmas caroling. There will be a lunch following church in the youth zone. If enough sign-up, we would like to get a bus so we are all together. For the lunch, the main meal of hot dogs and stromboli will be provided and we are asking everyone to bring a side dish or a dessert. Sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Place.

### **Christmas Shopping**

Have you started Christmas shopping? Did you know that you can purchase gift cards from the church and then use them to buy your Christmas gifts? You can also pay your Kohl's charge by using a Kohl's gift card. Giant Food Store cards make a great gift, or you can purchase them and use it yourself for your groceries. Like to go out for dinner, why not look over the gift card list and decide where you might want to eat this month? The possibilities are endless and by purchasing gift cards, you are helping the church.

### **December Wedding Anniversaries**

13<sup>th</sup> Dennis & Faye Brubaker  
23<sup>rd</sup> Carl & Margaret Wenger



**Commissions and Church Board Meeting**

**Date: November 19, 2019**

**Meeting was called to order @ 7:45 p.m.**

**by Chairperson – Janet Dubble**

**Present were: Secretary – Mark Landis, Jr.**

**Prayer by: Pastor Marty**

**Present were: Pastor Marty Moyer**

**Secretary’s Report of October 15, 2019**

**Approved as presented at October 28, 2019  
Council Meeting**

**Treasurer’s Report of October 31, 2019**

**Approved as presented by Aye Vote**

**Commission Reports & Members Present**

**Ministry & Evangelism Commission:** Chairperson – David Dubble,  
Grace Ziegler, Robert Noll, Pastor Marty

David opened with prayer.

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and “Then Sings My Soul” programs were held and were well attended. Thanks to Pastor Marty for being our contact person for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Grace Ziegler for “Then Sings My Soul” program.

Brian Berkey will be the guest speaker on December 29, 2019. Brian is the District Conference Moderator. Pastor Marty will be on vacation.

Cindy Liskey will be overseeing the Christmas Eve Service.

Looking to hold Spiritual Renewal for 2020 on October 4<sup>th</sup> through Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We will be asking Don Fitzkee to be the speaker. We will confirm the date and speaker at a later date.

We discussed possible programs for a spring music program.

On Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, Lowell and Kathy Smith will be speaking and showing slides of their mission work in India.

This will take place during our Sunday School hour (9:00 – 10:00) in the sanctuary. Come and bring a friend!

**Missions & Fellowship Commission:** Chairperson –  
Kim Horn, Linda Zimmerman, Janet Dubble

We will be bringing snacks for the December board meeting.

We will get copies of the directory and give to each commission.

Operation Christmas Child boxes will be placed in the front of the church and we will give a brief presentation and pray over the boxes. They will be taken to Myerstown Baptist Church the week of November 25<sup>th</sup>.

A Reverse Advent will be placed in the bulletin and instructions will be given to the congregation on Sunday.

There will be a Live Nativity on Christmas Eve. There will be a sign-up sheet for cookie donations.

We will set up a hat/glove/sock tree in the Gathering Place for the months of December and January.

We are planning a “souper bowl” food collection in February.

**Christian Education Commission:** - Co-Chairperson – Leslie Fuhrman, Lindsey Dimond  
Christine Blackwell

We finalized the Children’s Christmas Program for December 8<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Marty will preach that Sunday.

The children will sing:

Silent Night

Away in a Manger

Joy to the World

Jingle Bells – with bells

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Rachel Moyer will be the Children’s Church coordinator.

**Trustee and Property Commission:** – Chairperson – George Nagle  
Mark Landis, Jr., Dale Houtz, Ken Gross

We are going to replace the dusk to dawn light outside the gym.

We are still in discussions with the fellows about leasing our facility for a new Christian based school

We fixed a water leak that occurred in the wall of the quilting room.

**Finance and Stewardship Commission:** Chairperson - Andrew Heisey,  
Glenn Hassinger, Tim Fetzer

## **Pastor Report**

Sermons: 2

Sermon at Londonderry Village with Choir: October 30

Home Visits: 16

Hospital Visits: 4

Church Commission Meetings Attended: Deacon's meeting on October 31, Music Committee meeting to plan Christmas Eve Service on November 5.

Vacation Days Used: 0

Sick Days Used: 0

### Church Activities Attended

-Londonderry Worship service on October 30

-Attended all Choir Practices

-Attended Praise Team Practices

-Attended one meeting with Galen Hackman, mentor on Nov. 8

-Leading prayer group on Sunday morning at 8 a.m.

-Helping to teach Bible Study on Monday evenings

-Attended one Lebanon Area Brethren ministers meeting

-Attended "Then Sings My Soul" (introduced them and prayer during performance)

-Attended Pot Pie Supper on November 2

-Participated in the Thanksgiving Cantata.

### Upcoming Schedule

-Thanksgiving Vacation: November 27 – 29. (here on Sun. Dec. 1)

### Upcoming Sermons

November 24: "Thanksgiving Sunday, "Thanks Be To God!" II Cor. 9:8-15 (Suzie Dundore, worship leader)

December 1: First Sunday of Advent, "The Day of the Lord" Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 24:36-44. (Tim Fetzer, worship leader)

December 8: Second Sunday of Advent, "The God of Hope!" Romans 15:4-13

December 15: Sermon T.B.A. (Kim Wenger, worship leader)

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Interests & Concerns**

Right Now Media has very good study guide materials that are available for us to use.

### **Adjournment**

Devotions and prayer by Grace Ziegler  
Motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> and aye vote to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

## December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>2</b> Bible Study 7:00 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am  Children's Program	<b>9</b> Bible Study 7:00 pm	<b>10</b> PIZZA HUT DAY	<b>11</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>12</b> Sharing Cupboard 10-1 Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	<b>13</b> Sharing Cupboard 3-6	<b>14</b> Women's Christmas Breakfast
<b>15</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>16</b> Bible Study 7:00 pm	<b>17</b> Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 8:00 pm	<b>18</b> Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>23</b> Bible Study 7:00 pm	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> MERRY CHRISTMAS	<b>26</b> Sharing Cupboard 10-1	<b>27</b> Sharing Cupboard 3-6	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	<b>30</b> Bible Study 7:00 pm	<b>31</b>				



## December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Jeanette Hartman	<b>2</b> Ralph Ackerman	<b>3</b> Jackie Dohner	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Linda Zimmerman	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Jason Fuhrman	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Glenn Hassinger	<b>21</b> Decatur McClure	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Owen Dimond Julia Wenger	<b>24</b> Iris Liskey	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		