

**Myerstown Church of the Brethren  
Council Minutes  
Monday March 2, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Devotions by David Stauffer with 31 in attendance.**

He read Matthew 8, A storm involving Jesus and his disciples. We all face storms of crises, challenges, and suffering. Jesus can calm our storms of life.

**Article 1. Approval of Council Minutes from:  
Monday, October 28, 2019 (Pg. 1-14)**

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

**Article 2. Treasurer's Report**

- a. Budget – January to December 2019 (A1 – A2)
- b. Building Fund, January to December 2019 (A3)
- c. Budget – January 2020 (A4)
- d. Building January 2020 (A5)
- e. Annual Financial Review
- f. Approval of Treasurer's Report & Financial Review

Approved by motion, second, and aye vote as presented  
Discussion was brought up on the Building Fund being eliminated; However, after more discussion it was decided to have the church board review this in further detail.

**Article 3. Church Board Reports (B1 – B14)**

**a. Ministry & Evangelism**

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and "Then Sings My Soul" programs were held and were well attended.

Brian Berkey, past District Conference Moderator, filled the pulpit on December 29, 2019 while Pastor Marty was on vacation.

Thank you to Cindy Liskey for overseeing the Christmas Eve Service.

Thank you to the Bell Choir participating in the Community Christmas Program held at Frieden's Lutheran Church.

The Commission completed their 2020 appointments.

Lowell and Kathy Smith and a pastor from India presented on Sunday, December 15. We plan to have them return, possibly for an evening program.

A suggestion was made that we should look into getting a sign along 501 to promote programs at our church. This is being researched.

A suggestion was made that our church become more involved with community mission projects. Following a discussion, approval was given to donate \$50.00 four times a year to the Lebanon Rescue Mission.

We suggest reinstating the salaries to the Bell Choir Director and the Chancel Choir Director as a line item in the budget. (2 separate items)

We have booked Chris Ivey, a Christian juggler, to come to our church for an evening of fun and fellowship. The show will be combined with an ice cream social.

March 29<sup>th</sup> Pastor James Rhen will fill the pulpit in Pastor Marty's absence.

We are in need of sponsors to help cover the costs for the March 15<sup>th</sup> program presented by Piercing Word, *Passion: The Musical*.

### ***Upcoming Programs***

1. March 15, 2020 – 7pm Piercing Word “Passion: The Musical”
2. April 12 – Easter Sunrise Service
3. May 23 – 6pm – Chris Ivey, a Christian juggler with an ice cream social
4. October 4-7 – Spiritual Renewal Services – Pastor Jim Bauer
5. November 8 – Ministers Quartet

Thank you to the following for serving as Worship Leaders in October, November, December, January, and February.

Susie Dundore, Kim Wenger, Tim Fetzer, Kim Horn, bob Noll, Mark Landis, Jr., Linda Zimmerman, Grace Ziegler, and Don Hickernell.

### **b. Missions & Fellowship**

Operation Christmas Child boxes were collected during the month of November. A total of 48 boxes were packed by church families. The boxes were placed on the altar and our church members prayed for the boxes as they began their journey. The boxes were delivered to the Myerstown Baptist Church on November 24.

The Missions and Fellowship Commission provided snacks and drinks at the December Board meeting to show appreciation to all Board members for their dedication to the church by their service on the Board.

A Reverse Advent Calendar food drive was conducted during the month of December. A total of 572 items were collected and donated to the Sharing Cupboard.

A giving tree was set up in The Gathering Place and members were asked to donate gloves, hats, and socks and pin them on the tree. The following items were collected: 6 scarves, 21 hats, 38 pairs of socks. These items were donated to the ELCO School District and On Fire Youth Ministries.

The Missions and Fellowship Commission served snacks and hot chocolate following the Live Nativity on Christmas Eve. Thank you to everyone that provided cookies and other snacks for this activity.

The 2020 Church Directory was updated, printed, bound, and distributed. Thank you to JoAnn Houtz for all of her hard work to get this completed.

The mortgage has been paid in full. Glen Hassinger has written a letter regarding the history of the church building and additions. A mortgage burning celebration and meal will be planned in the near future.

An Easter breakfast will be held on April 12 following the sunrise service. The Commission will consider a change in the format for “signing up” for attending the breakfast. In past years, tickets were sold for a small fee. The change would be that there will no longer be a fee to attend the breakfast, but rather a free-will offering will be taken. Proceeds will be donated to Vacation Bible School. A signup sheet will be placed in The Gathering Place and members will be asked to sign up with the number of family members that will attend. This is so the Commission has an idea of the number of attendees in order to set up the Fellowship Hall and be sure there is enough food. A separate signup sheet will be placed in The Gathering Place to ask for donations for breakfast casseroles, and other food items.

### **c. Christian Education**

We are planning to do the Easter Egg Hunt on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. It is open to the public, and we will have snacks afterwards. We ask the congregation to help provide snacks and candy for this event.

VBS this year is Rocky Railroad, and it will be held on July 19-23 at 6:00 pm-8:30 pm. Rachel Moyer and Christine Blackwell are the co-coordinators.

Every fourth Sunday will be “children in the pew” instead of having children’s church. There will be baskets with Children Worship Bulletins and crayons in the Gathering Place for those Sundays.

There will be two children going to Camp Swatara at the end of March for a weekend camp.

We promoted Sunday School classes and made an announcement about what classes were available during that time.

Rachel Moyer and Melissa Wilson attended a youth retreat held by the district in Ephrata on February 28. The insights sessions were on child safety, curriculum, discipleship, and how to grow a youth ministry.

### **d. Trustee & Property**

We put 3 LED dusk to dawn lights up at gym, tunnel and front parking lot.

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

We fixed a water leak in the lady’s restroom in the Gathering Place and a leak at the ladies’ restroom commode at the gym.

Replaced washers in spigots in janitor closet.

Replaced brake on plow tractor.

We had 2 large maple trees cut down at rear of church. Three family members of the church paid the bill.

We met with the people from the Christian School. They are ready to proceed with a lease, which we are working on a 2<sup>nd</sup> revision for the lease at this time.

Motion to change 5B of policy #58. Approved by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> & Aye vote.

Motion to change B. 2b. of policy #59. Approved by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> & Aye vote.

#### **e. Finance & Stewardship**

Our commission works directly with the Treasurer, counts offering each Sunday and meets monthly at commission and board meetings.

We continue to do E-tithing through Fulton Bank. There is no service fee charged to members. If interested contact any commission member or Mim & Ralph Auckerman.

We would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions toward paying off the building mortgage. The mortgage has been paid off as of December 2019.

Highlights from the mortgage:

Original date: 5/15/08  
Amount borrowed: \$900,000.00  
Monthly Payments: \$7,588.48  
Interest rate: 5.9%  
Final payment date: 5/15/24

#### **f. Approval of Church Board Reports**

Approved by motion, second & aye vote

**Article 4.** Approval to modify budget for Senior Choir and Bell Choir Directors, at an amount of \$2,400 dollars per year each.

Approved by motion, second, and aye vote.

#### **Article 5. Election of Alternates for District Conference**

No alternates were chosen.

The delegates are: Pastor Marty, Janet Dubble, Walter and Cindy Sattazahn.

#### **Article 6. Spiritual Nurture Board Report**

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 our February 27, 2020 meeting was \$913.70.

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

The Annual Memorial Candle Lighting Service was held Sunday, January 5, 2020.

Pew Communion was held Sunday, January 12, 2020

Our Spring Love Feast and Communion service will be held Sunday, April 5, 2020.

We revised the membership list. There are now around 178 active members.

## **Article 7. Pastor's Report**

(for the period between October 28, 2019 – March 2, 2020)

Sermons: 16 (three extra sermons at Londonderry Village, October 30 & February 19, and one Christmas Eve Sermon).

Home visits: 82

Hospital visits: 13

Attempted visits: 11

Funerals: 1, Michael Snyder, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Funeral visitation, January 20<sup>th</sup>, and family visitation to plan service, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Anointings: 1

Bible studies taught: 8 (on my own) 4 (helped to teach in fall)

Teaching Cross Generational S.S. Class on Salvation: 2, taught Homebuilders class on December 22.

Church Commission meetings attended: All Church Board and Council Meetings, Deacons meeting (3), Music Committee meeting (2), one interview meeting with JoAnn Houtz as a new secretary on December 4, All Ministry and Evangelism Committee Meetings.

Vacation days used: 6

Sick days used: 0

### **Church Activities Attended for The Period**

Senior Choir Practices

Praise Team Practices

Prayer Group on Sunday Morning

Participated in the Thanksgiving Cantata on November 17

Participated in the Community Thanksgiving Service, Poplar Run on Nov. 24

Attended Pot Pie Supper, November 2.

Introduced and had welcome for "Then Sings My Soul" service, here.

Helped with putting-up Advent decorations on November 30.

Church Christmas Caroling, drove bus, December 8.

Participated in Live Nativity scene, Christmas Eve.

Led Christmas Eve service.

Rang bells for the Salvation Army, Smith Candies, December 14.

Attended 2 meetings with Galen Hackman, mentor.

Attended one Lebanon Area Brethren ministers group.

Led Worship Service at Londonderry Village on October 30 & February 19.

### **Upcoming Schedule**

Vacation Sunday Scheduled: March 29. (one day only) (gone that Sunday)

April 17-19 (gone Sunday, April 19)

### **Upcoming Sermons**

March 8: Second Sunday in Lent "How Are We Justified by God?" Genesis 12:1-4, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17.

March 15: Third Sunday in Lent "Are You Thirsty?" Exodus 17:1-7, John 4:13-14

March 22: Fourth Sunday in Lent "Are You A Light in the Lord?" Eph. 5:8-14

March 29: Fifth Sunday in Lent (Guest speaker)

April 5: Palm Sunday "Who Is This?" Matthew 21:1-11

April 12: Easter Sunday "God Shows No Partiality" Acts 10:34-43

April 19: Guest Speaker

## **Article 8. Reception of other reports**

### **Women's Fellowship**

Since the October 28, 2019 meeting the following have been paid from the account:

Donation to Coby's for gift cards at Christmas  
Advent devotionals  
Consignor's from October clothing consignment sale  
Donation to Atlantic Northeast District  
Donation to Camp Swatara  
Bazaar supplies  
Cash withdrawn for money boxes for Bazaar  
Postal for Operation Christmas child boxes  
Merchandiser ad for consignment sale  
The Upper Room for Jan/Feb & Mar/Apr  
Ladies Christmas Breakfast at Cedar Grill  
YWAM donation for Missionary project  
Donation to MCOB Building Fund  
Lent Devotionals  
Deposits to the account:  
    Pumpkin roll sales  
    Bazaar sales

Balance on October 28, 2019 was \$17,976.68

Balance on March 2, 2020 is: \$12,733.81

Profit from October Consignment Sale: \$1,052.86

Profit from pumpkin rolls: \$8,319.69

Profit from Bazaar: \$5,263.45

At January meeting officers were decided:

    President – Leslie Fuhrman  
    Vice President – Jessica Singer  
    Treasurer – Dottie Nagle  
    Secretary – Rachel Moyer

Upcoming activities:

    May 3 – Golden Age Dinner

    May 9 – Ladies luncheon; Grace Ziegler is chair of committee

heading up this.

Next meeting is Thursday, May 7, at 7pm.

### **Ladies Aide**

Since our last council meeting, we have been very busy on various projects. Four ladies have been working on a quilt. Some ladies are learning more on how to quilt. Others have been working on comforters. They recently just finished a comforter and are now working on another one. We had a table at the bazaar and made about \$125. We would like to thank everyone that donated items for our table. For the winter months, we have been meeting on Thursday's at 9am. Starting in April, we will go back to some nights at 6:30pm. A couple of our ladies are crocheting rugs for the Agape House. We are also looking for other places to donate projects. If anyone has an idea for us to donate to, please let us know.

### **Youth**

None

## **Fellowship Hall Committee**

### New Fellowship Hall Committee Report – Earl Liskey

October 1, 2019	
Opening Balance	\$2,456.43
Assets	
0 Banquet	
0 Wedding Receptions	
0 Funeral Meals	
Sporting Events	
Rentals	
1 Fundraiser	
Total Assets	\$3,549.00
Sub Totals	\$6,005.43
Pot Pie fundraiser Nov 4, 2019 check to Budget	\$1,181.00
Expenses:	
Food	\$ 441.71
Paper Products	\$ 62.88
Misc.	0
Total Expenses	\$ 504.59
December 31, 2019	
Closing Balance	\$4,319.84

## **Sharing Cupboard**

During the months of November through February, we averaged 23 families a week, being open 4 days a month, except for November we were closed for Thanksgiving Day. We had 26 new families during this time period.

We had an excellent outpouring of support the last few months. These donations included a \$4,400.00 donation from the Mt. Aetna Bible Church, plus other monetary donations from local churches, organizations and ELCO Schools. We had donations of groceries from local churches, banks, ELCO Schools, church members and church commissions.

We had 173 turkeys donated for Thanksgiving and Christmas from local organizations and individuals.

We are very grateful for all the donations and a huge thank you to all the volunteers for your time.

Thursday – 11/14/2019  
Families – 37  
Adults – 70  
Children – 30  
Items – 783  
8 new families

Friday 11/15/2019  
Families - 33  
Adults - 73  
Children - 35  
Items - 854  
5 new families

Thursday – 11/29/2019  
Families – 21  
Adults – 42  
Children – 15  
Items – 492  
3 new families

Friday – 12/27/2019  
Families – 22  
Adults – 41  
Children – 16  
Items – 541

Thursday – 1/24/2020  
Families - 22  
Adults – 42  
Children – 15  
Items – 556

Friday – 12/12/2019  
Families – 38  
Adults – 72  
Children – 35  
Items – 898  
1 new family

Thursday – 01/09/2020  
Families – 21  
Adults – 45  
Children – 25  
Items – 551  
1 new family

Friday – 02/13/2020  
Families – 23  
Adults – 38  
Children – 27  
Items – 554  
2 new family

Thursday – 12/13/2019  
Families - 11  
Adults – 40  
Children -19  
Items – 472

Friday – 01/10/2020  
Families – 20  
Adults - 41  
Children -17  
Items - 509  
1 new family

Thursday – 02/14/2020  
Families – 21  
Adults – 36  
Children - 16  
Items – 493

Friday – 12/26/2019  
Families – 12  
Adults – 23  
Children – 13  
Items – 287  
1 new family

Thursday – 01/23/2020  
Families – 20  
Adults – 35  
Children – 20  
Items – 495

Friday – 02/27/2020  
Families – 25  
Adults – 47  
Children - 23  
Items – 581

Friday – 02/28/2020  
Families – 23  
Adults – 42  
Children – 23  
Items – 542  
1 new family

### **Other**

None

### **Article 9. Interests and Concerns**

Dave Dubble put a plug in for the Piercing Word Program.

### **Article 10. Adjournment**

At 8:10 pm with Prayer by Pastor Marty.



Title: Use of Church Facilities by Non-Church Members

Date of Adoption: May 19, 2009

Date of Revision: September 15, 2015 - February 18, 2020 - March 2, 2020

1. There is no medical/personal coverage for non-member activities. A certificate of liability insurance in the amount of one million dollars must be received with deposit. You must name Myerstown Church of the Brethren as the additional insured.
2. Weddings require extra Custodial duties; therefore, there is a required charge of \$40.00 for weddings.
3. Use of sound system in sanctuary requires our Sound Technician at a charge of \$40.00. If wedding rehearsals require additional assistance from our Sound Technician; the additional required charge is \$20.00. (Please check the appropriate box on the Agreement Form).
4. Outside catering services are not permitted. All meals are to be prepared by the Myerstown Church of the Brethren Kitchen Committee. Banquet contracts and meal prices may be obtained from the Church Secretary.
5. There is a charge for light duty use of the kitchen by non-members.
  - a. For use of the New Fellowship Hall a donation of \$100.00 is requested.
  - b. LIGHT DUTY USE OF THE KITCHEN INCLUDES USE OF THE REFRIGERATOR, MICROWAVE, SINKS, AND ELECTRIC OUTLETS ONLY. USE OF THE OVEN, DISHWASHER, STOVE, BRAISING PAN, FLOOR COOKER, AND MIXERS, COFFEE POTS, SILVERWARE, UTENSILS AND ALL DISHES IS PROHIBITED.**
6. For a full refund, cancellations must occur 30 days before the function is to take place.
  - \*Cancellations that occur after the allotted time will not be refunded.
  - \*Cancellations maybe made by either party in writing.
7. No reservations will be taken less than 30 days prior to the function.
  - \*Except for funeral reservations, or possible emergency situations.
8. Final reservations for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall cannot be made until the signed contract(s) and a \$50.00 deposit for each facility is received.
9. Charges for use of the church facilities are listed on Basic Rental Fees Page.

**Violations of any of the above rules and regulations will automatically terminate the use of the Church Facility(s).**

Title: **Basic Rental Fees**

Date of Adoption: May 19, 2009

Date of Revision: September 1, 2013 – September 15, 2015 – March 2, 2020

\* Additional fees may apply depending upon the type function that will take place in the facility.

The Pastor, Church Secretary, Fellowship Hall Committee Representative, Trustee and Property Chairperson, and Board Chairperson will meet and discuss the scenario.

**A. Sanctuary** – This includes use of Sunday school rooms adjacent to the sanctuary and library.

1. Sanctuary Use - \$175.00
2. Custodial Fee – \$ 40.00 \*required\*  
(Additional charges may apply after inspection)
3. Sound Technician – \$ 40.00  
\* Weddings – Additional \$20.00 for wedding rehearsal.
4. Piano Use – Included  
\* This does not include a pianist, but the church pianist is available for weddings.  
(Charge for the pianist/organist is \$50.00).
5. Pastor - \$50.00

**NOTE:** All items must be removed within 2 hours of completion of service in Sanctuary.

**B. New Fellowship Hall (Gym)**

1. Without use of kitchen - \$40.00 per hour.
2. With use of kitchen - \$40.00 per hour, plus a \$100.00 utility use charge.
  - a. This is considered Light Use of the kitchen.
  - b. **LIGHT USE OF THE KITCHEN INCLUDES USE OF THE REFRIGERATOR, MICROWAVE, SINKS AND ELECTRIC OUTLETS ONLY. USE OF THE OVEN, DISHWASHER, STOVE, BRAISING PAN, FLOOR COOKER, MIXERS, COFFEE POTS, SILVERWARE, UTENSILS AND ALL DISHES IS PROHIBITED.**
3. Sound System - \$25.00 (Additional \$25.00 charge if technician is required)
4. Custodial Fee – \$ 40.00 if facility has not been dry mopped and foyer vacuumed.  
(Additional charges may apply after inspection)
5. Stage Use - \$40.00 for up to 6 sections, \$5.00 for each additional section
6. Piano Use - \$20.00  
\* This does not include a pianist, but the church pianist is available for weddings.  
(Charge for the pianist is \$50.00)