

## Myerstown Church of the Brethren

June 2021

Ministry through  
Faith, Vision, and Action



### Myerstown Church of the Brethren

#### **Scriptural Message**

*Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV):*

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

#### **A New Normal**

Welcome to summer 2021! It is looking more and more like this summer might be a little more "normal" as vaccination rates increase and some of the restrictions like occupancy limits and the requirement for wearing masks (for those who have been vaccinated) begin to be relaxed. We've made some small steps here at the church as masks are now optional and the center section of the sanctuary has been fully reopened.

While we look forward to a return to normalcy, many are saying what the future holds is not so much a return to what was before February 2020, but instead a "new normal." For Myerstown Church of the Brethren, I think this "new normal" is going to be one filled with hope and promise and several things happening this month of June point us toward that "new normal" in the life of the church.

First of all, we will welcome a new member through the ordinance of Christian baptism on June 13. It is always a highlight in the life of the church when a new believer enters the baptismal waters. I also have been asked by another one of our younger attenders about baptism and we will look forward to another to enter the waters this fall. These new believers are the future of the church. God has plans for Myerstown CoB, plans which give us hope as we look to the future. It is my hope and prayer that these baptisms will be first of many to come.

Another sign of a "new normal" in the life of the church is the proposed job description for a part-time Children and Youth Coordinator which will be brought to the June Church Council meeting. For me, it has been a sign of hope to have 4-8 children join me for a Children's Message each Sunday morning. These children are the future of the church. One way you can commit to them is to provide for a dynamic children and youth program here at Myerstown CoB.

Since we returned to in-person worship a faithful group of volunteers has led children's Sunday School and Children's Church, but the reality is that the pool of volunteers is limited. While the volunteers have done an amazing job, for the children's and youth programs to grow and thrive, a leader giving undivided attention to the programs is needed. These young children in the congregation are the promise of a youth program in the future. In fact, there are some youth who are not attending regularly who could also be part of a renewed youth program at the church.

Moving ahead with the hiring of a part-time coordinator sends the message to the children, their parents and the community that the

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church is committed to providing a dynamic program which will lead these children and youth to faith in Christ.

Through Jeremiah, God told the exiled Israelites, "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

God is at work here at Myerstown Church of the Brethren! The "new normal" God has in store for this church is beginning to unfold. The question is, are we willing to join in what God is doing?

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul prays, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21 NRSV)

I think God has an exciting "new normal" in store for this church.

Dennis

## Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for April 1, 2021 – April 30, 2021

Sunday School – 22

### Home Care

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers those living in nursing homes/assisted living homes: ***Dennis & Faye Brubaker, Orpha Doutrich, Joanne Ealy, Ruth Firestine, Mary Ann Gibble, Wilbur & Gloria Keppley, and Iris Liskey.***

### Gift Cards

The gift card order is always processed 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.

**MCoB email list** - join by sending your name and email address to [info@myerstowncob.org](mailto:info@myerstowncob.org)

**Children's Day** is June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Meeting** Monday June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

### June Wedding Anniversaries

12<sup>th</sup> Robert & Evelina Krall  
14<sup>th</sup> Ralph & Miriam Ackerman  
16<sup>th</sup> Brett & Lori Lentz  
28<sup>th</sup> Chris & Jen Hostetter  
29<sup>th</sup> Dick & Verna Forney

**Attention** It's that time of year when you probably are cleaning out good but unused or unwanted items. The annual *Holiday Bazaar* is *November 20<sup>th</sup>* (mark your calendar), but we are already accepting items for the "White Elephant" table. The items can be stored in the Sharing Cupboard area.

**Flag Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>**



**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

*June 20<sup>th</sup>*

## Dad Quotes to Share

**Dads are the best, so share your feelings about him with the world.**

"A dad is more than just the sum of his parts. He is the very soul of the family."

"Fathers are patient, kind, and loving. You are all of these and more to me!"

"A dad is the anchor upon which his children stand."

"Fathers are men who dared to place the world's hopes and dreams in their children."

"The value of a loving father has no price."

"When a father speaks, may his children hear the love in his voice above all else."

"Dads share wisdom with their children in the hopes they spread it throughout the world."

"A dad is half of you, so he knows you better than you might even know yourself. Rely on his wisdom in life."

"Even the best dads make mistakes. But there is no mistaking their love for their children."

"A father's love is eternal and without end."

"The best parts of your father are the best parts of you. Never forget where you came from."

"Thank heaven for the special relationship between fathers and daughters. It is blessed from above."

"Only the best dads let their children fly. Only the most loved children will soar. Thank you for giving me wings."

"If I grow up to be half the person you are, Dad, then I will consider my life a success."

"A hero is someone who gives without thought of himself. Thankfully, I had a father who never hesitated to give all of himself. You are my inspiration."

"Dad, you are the bravest person I have ever met. You have shown me how to be strong in heart, mind, and soul, and stay true to myself."

"Even when faith in myself faltered, my father's faith in me never wavered. It is only through your blessings, Dad, that I have become the person I am today."

"Dads are the true super heroes. They will leap over any obstacle to protect their child from danger."

"What my dad has taught me cannot be learned in school. Dads are life's most influential teachers."

"The guiding light of my father has proven to be the brightest star in the sky."

"Fathers lead their children down the path to adulthood in the hopes they leap beyond the boundaries and forge new ones."

"The greatest storms in a child's heart are calmed by the loving waves in the sea of a father's love."

"A great father is no great man unless his child respects him."

"Find a father who loves his child and you will have found the spark of life."

# JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 William Leahy	2	3	4 Wyatt Daubert	5
6	7	8	9 Lori Ceresini Casey Daubert Mary Ann Gibble Charlie Krall	10	11 William Kline	12 Christine Blackwell Weston Fouch
13 Dennis Garrison Trina Miller	14 <b>FLAG DAY</b>	15	16	17	18	19
20 <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>	21	22	23	24 Abby Zimmerman	25	26 Robert Gibble Barbara Wenger
27	28	29	30			

# JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am <b>CHILDREN'S DAY</b>	7 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	8	9 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	10 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm	11 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	12
13 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	14	15 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Comm. Mtg 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	16 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	17	18	19
20 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>	21	22	23 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	24 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	25 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	26
27 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	28	29	30 Bell Choir 6:30 pm  <b>Annual Conference</b>			

**Commissions and Church Board Meeting**

**Date: May 18, 2021**

**Meeting was called to order: @ 7:30 pm**

**by Chairperson: David Dubble**

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

**Prayer by: David Dubble**

**Present were: Pastor Dennis**

**Secretary's Report of April 20, 2021**

**Approved as presented by Aye Vote**

**Treasurer's Report of April 30, 2021**

**Approved as presented by Aye Vote**

**Commission Reports & Members Present**

**Ministry & Evangelism Commission:** Chairperson – Grace Ziegler  
David Dubble, Linda Zimmerman, Pastor Dennis

Dave Dubble opened our meeting with prayer. In attendance were Pastor Dennis, Grace Ziegler, Dave Dubble and Linda Zimmerman.

Worship leaders are scheduled for the balance of May and 3 Sundays in June. June 27 is still open.

Our plans for renewal services are coming together. Our speaker will be David Stauffer.

We contacted Chris Dubble from Richland Church of the Brethren to be guest speaker on May 30 and July 4 in the absence of Pastor Dennis.

We discussed plans for a gospel concert in the fall. We are thinking of having it Sunday afternoon November 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.

Pastor Dennis is planning vacation in August and will need coverage for August 15 & 22.

**Missions & Fellowship Commission:** Chairperson – Susie Dundore  
Kim Horn, Tammy Landis, Sharon Seldomridge, Janet Dubble

Present were: Susie Dundore, Tammy Landis, Janet Dubble, Sharon Seldomridge, Kim Horn

1. Good Neighbor Awards – Four ELCO Middle School students are awarded with a \$20 gift card from JOY book store.
2. Londonderry Village Activities – July 23 & 24 – Chicken BBQ & Auction – Auction items are donations – BBQ chicken order forms – Must be preordered (for dine in or take out)  
Chicken order forms will be placed in The Gathering Place – must be received, with payment by Sunday June 20. Chicken BBQ tickets will be received for distribution before the event. Individuals who purchase dinners are responsible to pick-up their own orders.  
Discussed getting donations for the Auction, possibly a basket or two. Will ask Ladies Aid if they have a quilt to donate.
3. Blessings of Hope – We will hold off until fall due to people's busy schedule.

4. Lebanon Area Fair on July 24-31. Unsure if ON FIRE is having a stand, and if so, do we want to volunteer. Janet will call John Kline to check if they're still having the stand.

**Christian Education Commission:** - Chairperson – Christine Blackwell  
Cindy Sattazahn, Walter Sattazahn, Pastor Dennis, Brenda Lentz

In attendance: Christine Blackwell, Cindy Sattazahn, Walter Sattazahn, Brenda Lentz

Children's Day is June 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have a violinist, a guest speaker, Ralph Bechtel and the Bell Choir will play. We discussed extra funding for Right Now Media. We would like to ask council to increase our budget for Right Now Media for \$600 for the remaining of the year.

We discussed expanding Sunday School classes, we decided to start new classes in the fall if we get enough teachers.

Starting September, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month, Cindy Liskey suggested having the children sing. We discussed moving Children's Church down stairs, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in June.

Approval to increase budget by \$600 for the Right Now Media was given by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and aye vote.

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

1. Window installation in kitchen has been completed
2. I contacted Bachman Roofing about roof leaks in the ramp roof. There is what they call kickout transition sections along brick wall, they will fabricate and install 162 LF of bronxe couer metal, replace failed expansion joint. They will seal the masonry wall, cost \$6,122.00.

Approval to give Bachman Roofing the go ahead to repair the ramp roof at a cost of \$6,122.00 was given by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and aye vote.

**Finance and Stewardship Commission:** – Chairperson - Bob Noll  
Jay Lentz

We again like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.



## **Pastor's Report**

**April 20, 2021 – May 18, 2021**

A lot has happened in the past month. COVID guidelines continue to change. While we are glad to see the promise of the return to some semblance of "normal," some of the recently announced changes regarding masks, distancing and the lifting of occupancy limits leave us a little confused. So, we will do our best as we seek to adopt changes that best serve our congregation as we move forward.

A committee met recently and put together a proposed job description for a part-time Children and Youth Coordinator. This will be considered at the May board meeting and, if approved, passed on to the June Council meeting.

I've been trying to get some visits in with those in the congregation who are shut-in. It seems there is always something that comes up which changes the best laid plans, but since I am not preaching the next two Sundays, I hope to get out to see some of these folks.

I've been meeting with Ella Heisey during Sunday School and look forward to her baptism on June 13. One other person has asked about baptism and we will plan on another baptismal service in the fall.

The Monday evening Bible study has been a loyal group. We will meet one more time before taking a break for the summer and we will renew our study of the book of James in September.

It has been fun being one of the "ringers" for the bell choir and we look forward to getting the Senior Choir and the Praise Team going again in the fall.

My summer sermon series has the theme "From the Mountains." All the messages are based on Scriptures which mention hills or mountains.

Have a wonderful summer!  
Dennis

### **Pastoral Record** for the past month (March 16 – April 20, 2021):

- 4 sermons and planning for 4 worship services
- 4 Bible study sessions (in person and online)
- Visits to Kupp's, Hartranft's, Wenger's
- Attended the graveside service for Carl Wenger
- 2 Anointing services (Lindsey Dimond & Carl Wenger)
- Phone calls to members or families of members
- Numerous emails and texts
- Sermons tentatively planned through August
- Executive, Ministry & Evangelism Commission, Board meetings
- Deacon meeting
- Newsletter article

### **Upcoming Sermons:**

- May 23 (Pentecost)** Spirit Power; John 15:26-16:15; Acts 2:1-21
- May 30 (Pulpit Supply)** Chris Dubble preaching

**June 6 (Children's Day)** Guest Speaker, Ralph Bechtel, Child Evangelism Fellowship,  
Lebanon

**Summer Sermon Series – From the Mountains**

June 13 (Baptism) Is God Calling You? Exodus 3:1-15; Matthew 16:24-28

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

- A. New Covid policy restrictions: Approval to implement these effective immediately; was given by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and aye vote.
  - 1. Masks are optional.
  - 2. In the center section of sanctuary: all pews will be available for seating.
  - 3. Hymnals & Bibles will be reinstalled.
  - 4. Offering plates will remain in the back of the sanctuary.
- B. Approval to move forward and present to Council the job description and possibility of seeking a part-time Children & Youth Coordinator. Job description was given by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and aye vote.

**Interests & Concerns**

None

**Adjournment**

With prayer by Pastor Dennis at 8:30 pm.

**Myerstown Church of the Brethren  
Council Agenda  
Monday, June 7, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Devotions by:**

- Article 1.** Approval of Council Minutes from:  
Monday, March 1, 2021
- Article 2.** Treasurer's Report  
a. Budget – January to April 2021 A1 – A3
- Article 3.** Church Board Reports B1 – B13  
a. Ministry & Evangelism  
b. Missions & Fellowship  
c. Christian Education  
d. Trustee & Property  
e. Finance & Stewardship  
f. Approval of Church Board Reports
- Article 4.** Christian Education – Right Now Media
- Article 5.** Ramp roof repair
- Article 6.** Potential part-time Children & Youth Coordinator
- Article 7.** Reach Christian School update
- Article 8.** Spiritual Nurture Board Report
- Article 9.** Pastor's Report
- Article 10.** Reception of other reports  
Women's Fellowship  
Ladies Aid  
Youth  
Fellowship Hall Committee  
Sharing Cupboard  
Other
- Article 11.** Interests and Concerns
- Article 12.** Adjournment