

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

July 2021

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action

God's Adventurous Future



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

Isaiah 43:19 (NET) - Look, I am about to do something new. Now it begins to happen! Do you not recognize it? Yes, I will make a road in the wilderness and paths in the wastelands.

Revelation 21:3-5 (MSG) - "Look! Look! God has moved into the neighborhood, making his home with men and women! They're his people, he's their God. He'll wipe every tear from their eyes. Death is gone for good—tears gone, crying gone, pain gone—all the first order of things gone." The Enthroned continued, "Look! I'm making everything new. Write it all down—each word dependable and accurate."

Zephaniah 3:17 (ESV) - The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NRSV) - "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"...

The Church of the Brethren 2021 Annual Conference begins on June 30 and continues through Sunday morning, July 4. This year's conference is virtual and open to all. I (Pastor Dennis) am Myerstown CoB's delegate this year. Although some aspects of the conference require registration and the payment of a fee, the worship services will be available to all online through the Annual Conference website. (www.brethren.org/ac) The daily schedule is also available at this website.

This year's conference theme is "God's Adventurous Future." Moderator, Paul Munday, explains: "As the theme implies, our future is not uneventful; it is marked by 'rigorous peaks, rushing currents, and deep valleys.' Thus, there is challenge in the journey that, in all honesty, can be unsettling, even anxiety-producing. Such angst marks, in particular, our pilgrimage as the church. Frankly, we live in one of the most complex, jarring eras in modern ecclesiastical history. Numerous issues not only rumble among us, they tear at us, threatening the very fabric of our denominational being. As we acknowledge such reality, it's hard to be optimistic. But it's wise to be expectant—even hope-full—for God moves among us, calling us beyond our bewilderment and discord."

Non-delegates can register for the conference and participate in the business sessions, insight and networking sessions, as well as several concerts including one by Fernando Ortega. You can register as a non-delegate by following the non-delegate registration link on the Annual Conference website at: www.brethren.org/ac2021/registration. Click on the Non-Delegate Registration button, then click on the Register a Non-Delegate button and follow the prompts. Registration will continue throughout the conference.

The cost for adult non-delegates for the full conference is \$99 and there is the option of a daily fee of \$33. There is a special rate for post-high school through age 21. Current high school and younger are free but must register in order to participate in the full conference.

This year's main order of business is consideration of the Compelling Vision Statement prepared at the request of Conference three years ago. You can read this statement and

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supporting information at this website: www.brethren.org/ac/compellingvision/

Additional items coming to the conference include two ballots to fill denominational positions, one for 2020 (conference was cancelled last year) and the 2021 ballot, as well as the usual reports.

Business sessions will include a Bible study led by Michael J. Gorman, a United Methodist layperson who holds the Raymond E. Brown Chair in Biblical Studies and Theology at St. Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore, Maryland. Gorman will be the Bible study leader for each morning of the Conference, studying passages from Revelation. He will lead an insight session on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, July 1-3, on "Reading the Bible Missionally." On Saturday, July 3, he will speak at a Peace Seminar on the theme "Nonviolence in the Writings of Paul."

A session which I highly recommend for our Myerstown CoB leadership is the Plenary Session on Friday morning, July 2 from 10:40-12:10 presented by Tod Bolsinger, vice president for Vocation and Formation and Assistant Professor of Practical Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. The session is titled "Doing Church" in Uncharted Territory. The session will focus on "a critical need for laity and clergy alike...to learn a different way of 'doing church.' Strategies for adaptative change and other practical ways of 'doing church differently' will be offered. The challenge of our days will be acknowledged and 'owned'; however, the emphasis will be on hope and the prospect of renewed vitality for congregational life." He will also lead several insight sessions during conference.

Annual Conference has always been a great experience for me and many other Brethren. It is often described as the "big family meeting." Although it will be different this year, the opportunity is present for many more Brethren to join the family gathering. I hope you will take advantage of that opportunity.

Dennis

Attendance & Offering

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

Sunday School – 20
Worship Service – 70

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 Gible, 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

July Wedding Anniversaries

15th Bob & Toni Noll
26th Charlie & Kathy Krall
29th Mark & Jean Bomberger

Pew Communion is July 11th.

Keep Annual Conference in your prayers
July 1st – July 4th.



Children and Youth Coordinator position -

On June 7, 2021, the church council approved the part-time position of Children and Youth Coordinator. This paid position would work from 10 to 15 hours a week on developing and expanding the programs for the children and the youth of the church. If you are interested in more information or wish to apply for the position please see anyone on the Ministry and Evangelism Commission (Grace Ziegler, Linda Zimmerman, David Dubble, or Pastor Dennis).

Londonderry Village Chicken BBQ & Auction will be held on July 23-24, 2021.

The BBQ chicken dinners must be pre-sold; there will be no day-of-event sales. Dinners will be available for dine-in or takeout. Each dinner includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, drink, and cookie. The cost is a suggested donation of \$10. There is an order form in The Gathering Place. Orders will be taken through Sunday, June 20. Payment must be given to Janet Dubble (checks made payable to Londonderry Village). Janet will receive all tickets to distribute before the event. Each person will be responsible for picking up their dinners at Londonderry Village.

Camp Swatara needs your help with the Annual Family Camp Auction! We want to make this auction the best yet! We are looking for individuals, SS classes, family groups, etc., who would be willing to donate something. Theme gift baskets are always a winner! Do you have a talent for painting, pottery, sewing, woodworking, etc.? Birdhouses and bird feeders are popular! We need items for the Children's Auction, too! Do you have a service you could share? Think outside the box! Remember 100% of donations from the auction benefit Family Camp at Camp Swatara. There are no administration costs, it is organized and run by volunteers. We will be glad to pick up your donation, just give us a call to make arrangements. Date of the auction is Saturday, September 4, 2021 in the East Lodge at Camp Swatara. Children's auction starts at 9:30 am with the main auction immediately following. Any questions, call Sandy Hughes at 717-679-1995 or Ryan Arndt at 717-926-1939.

Please be sure to get your ideas going for donations to Camp Swatara's Annual Family Camp Auction. Call Sandy Hughes at 717-679-1995 or Ryan Arndt at 717-926-1939 with questions or to arrange pick up of your donation.

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: June 15, 2021

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:35 pm

by Chairperson: David Dubble

Present were: Secretary-Mark Landis, Jr.

Prayer by: Susie Dundore

Present were: Pastor Dennis Garrison

Secretary's Report of May 18, 2021

**Approved as presented by June 7, 2021
Council Meeting**

Treasurer's Report of May 31, 2021

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

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

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

Grace reported she has worship leaders for the rest of June and there are still openings for July and August for anyone willing.

We have Pastor Jim Rhen as speaker for August 15 and Pastor Ron Brubaker for August 22nd in the absence of Pastor Dennis.

We have asked Pastor David Stauffer to be the speaker for our renewal services October 3-5 and he will preside over our Love Feast Sunday evening.

We discussed plans for a gospel concert on November 7, Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm and we're working on getting groups to participate.

We discussed the possibility of having a Saturday morning Men's breakfast involving men from the community and neighboring Churches. We would like input from other Board members if it is something we should proceed with.

Now that Church Council has approved that we proceed with search for part-time Children and Youth Coordinator, we discussed this matter at some length.

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

1. On Fire food booth at Lebanon Area Fair – July 31, split two shifts 4:30pm-11:00pm. Quite a few people have already volunteered to work in stand.
2. Londonderry Village auction – we're donating several baskets & quilts to be auctioned on July 24th. We received enough money donations to cover the cost of the baskets.
3. Discussed if there's a need for welcome packets. Will continue to discuss this.
4. Haven't heard anything if there's going to be a "National Night Out" this year. It's usually held in August (1st Tuesday). Can't find any information at this time.

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

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

We are checking on the names of the children who will receive Bibles.
Children's Day was a success & a thank you card was sent out along with a donation.
Susie Dundore will be the Children's Choir Director.
We are discussing the options for Sunday School teachers.

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

1. Bachman Roofing is repairing ramp roof in about 2 weeks.
2. We put 2 new LED lights in quilting room.
3. Our commission is seeking approval from the board to move the library, in a year from now. This was approved by motion, 2nd, and aye vote.
Our commission will now approach the library committee to discuss this move, and seek their council and guidance as to how to best make this happen.

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

The Commission has increased the budget line items for Christian Education & Property based on the 6/7/21 Council Meeting.

We are still currently ahead on the budgeted to actual dollars however, the weekly offerings have been less. We again would like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.

Pastor's Report

May 18, 2021 – June 15, 2021

In the life of the church the past month has been a good one as we continue to see Sunday morning worship attendance stabilizing with COVID restrictions gradually being lifted. June 13 was a special Sunday not just because it was my birthday (thanks for remembering!), but most importantly because we welcomed Ella Heisey as a new member through baptism. Your continued support of the church through your attendance, giving and involvement in the church's ministries is greatly appreciated. Looking forward, the Council approved the Children and Youth Coordinator position so now we must begin the process of securing someone to fill the position. This is not a position requiring ordination so it is open to anyone who can fulfill the requirements for the position. This past Sunday I asked in my sermon if God is calling you. Maybe th

is someone in the congregation or known by someone in the congregation who God is calling to serve in this capacity.

Annual Conference begins on Wednesday evening, June 30. This year's conference is virtual and open to all. Although some aspects of the conference require registration and the payment of a fee, the worship services will be available to all online through the Annual Conference website. (www.brethren.org/ac) You can register as a non-delegate and pay the registration fee (options for the whole conference or a daily fee) by following the non-delegate registration link found on the Annual Conference website at: www.brethren.org/ac2021/registration.

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Dennis

Pastoral Record for the past month:

3 Sermons prepared and planning 4 worship services
Visits to shut-ins, hospital and nursing centers
(Some have reopened for pastoral visits but policies vary)
Officiated with Glenn Hassinger at graveside service for Ferne Behney
Phone calls to members or families of members
Numerous emails and texts
Sermons tentatively planned through September
Executive, Ministry & Evangelism Commission, Board meetings
Deacon meeting
Newsletter article
Registered for Annual Conference as Myerstown's delegate

Summer Sermon Series – From the Mountains

June 20 Filling Our "God-shaped Hole", Genesis 3:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11, Romans 5:12-19
June 27 Reordering Reality, Micah 6:1-8, Matthew 4:12-5:2
July 4 (Annual Conference Sunday) Chris Dubble, Guest Preacher
July 11 God's Adventurous Future, Isaiah 43:14-21, 1 Corinthians 2:6-13
July 18 On Holy Ground, Matthew 9:2-9, 2 Corinthians 3:13-18, 4:3-6

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Interests & Concerns

None

Adjournment

8:10 pm with prayer by Pastor Dennis.

JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Brayden Miller	3
4 HAPPY 4TH OF JULY	5	6	7	8	9	10 Connor Daubert Joel Fahnestock Sharon Seldomridge
11	12 JoAnn Rager	13	14	15 Dorothy Brown	16 Barry Gibble Joyce Wagner	17
18	19	20	21 Elaine Landis Joan Mauser Lois Wealand	22	23 Barbara Weidman	24
25 Vaughn Daubert	26 Roy Wenger, Jr.	27 Raymond Brown	28	29	30	31

JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Annual Conference	2 Annual Conference	3 Annual Conference
4 Annual Conference Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am HAPPY 4 TH OF JULY	5	6	7	8 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm	9 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	10
11 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	19	20 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	21	22 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm	23 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	24
25 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	26	27	28	29 Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	30	31

Family Order Form

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Myerstown Church of the Brethren/PA

The following is a list of gift cards that can be purchased as a fundraising project for the building fund. All orders must be placed by the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your purchase.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$100.00	7%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$25.00	7%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$
Amazon.com \$100.00	2.25%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2.25%		\$
AMC Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$10.00	10%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$12.00	10%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$
American Girl \$100.00	9%		\$
American Girl \$25.00	9%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	8%		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	14%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$100.00	10%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$
Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$
Bob Evans Restaurants® \$10.00	10%		\$
Boscov's \$25.00	8%		\$
Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$
Buca di Beppo \$25.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$
Cabela's \$100.00	10%		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$
Carrabba's Italian Grill \$25.00	10%		\$
Carter's \$25.00	10%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$
Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$
Chuck E. Cheese's \$10.00	8%		\$
Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$
Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	11%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$10.00	8%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$
CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$
Darden Restaurants \$25.00	8%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$
Disney \$100.00	3%		\$
Disney \$25.00	3%		\$
Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$
Dunham's Sports \$25.00	8%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$
Eat'n Park \$10.00	9%		\$
Eat'n Park \$25.00	9%		\$
Express \$25.00	10%		\$
Famous Footwear \$25.00	8%		\$
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$
Giant Food Stores \$100.00	4%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Giant Food Stores \$25.00	4%		\$
Giant Food Stores \$50.00	4%		\$
Groupon.com \$25.00	7%		\$
Hardee's \$10.00	5%		\$
Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Icing \$10.00	9%		\$
IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$
J. Crew \$25.00	13%		\$
JCPenney \$100.00	5%		\$
JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$
Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$
Kmart \$50.00	4%		\$
Kohl's \$100.00	4%		\$
Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
Krispy Kreme® Doughnut Corporation \$10.00	8%		\$
L.L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$
L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
Lands' End \$100.00	15%		\$
Lands' End \$25.00	15%		\$
Long John Silver's \$10.00	8%		\$
Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$
Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$
Marshalls \$25.00	7%		\$
Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Nike \$25.00	12%		\$
Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$
Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$
OshKosh \$25.00	10%		\$
Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$
Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$
Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$

Make Checks Payable To: *Myerstown Church of the Brethren*

Total Due All Columns:

\$

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Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$
PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$
Pottery Barn \$25.00	8%		\$
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$
Rainforest Cafe \$25.00	9%		\$
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
Regal \$25.00	8%		\$
Regal Premiere e-Ticket \$10.50	10%		\$
Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$
Sam's Club \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Sears \$100.00	4%		\$
Sears \$25.00	4%		\$
Sears Auto Service Center \$100.00	4%		\$
Sears Auto Service Center \$25.00	4%		\$
Sheetz \$100.00	3%		\$
Sheetz \$25.00	3%		\$
Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
Staples \$100.00	5%		\$
Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Starbucks \$25.00	4.5%		\$
Stop & Shop (NOT TOPS) \$100.00	4%		\$
Stop & Shop (NOT TOPS) \$50.00	4%		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
Supercuts \$25.00	8%		\$
T.J. Maxx \$25.00	7%		\$
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Talbots \$25.00	13%		\$
Tanger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Target \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$50.00	2.5%		\$
TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
The Home Depot® \$100.00	4%		\$
The Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Under Armour \$25.00	11%		\$
Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Wawa \$25.00	1%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$

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\$
