

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

November 2021

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NLT)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)

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myerstowncob@myerstowncob.org

Ok, be honest with me now: how many of you can truthfully say you are always joyful, you never stop praying, and you give God thanks in all of your life's circumstances? Speaking for myself, I have to confess I can't answer "yes" to any parts of that question.

After all, life happens and we just don't always feel joyful. It seems hypocritical of us to "put on a happy face" when we're really hurting inside. And we can't spend all of our time on our knees in prayer. After all, we have responsibilities and things we have to do just to make it through each day. There are things that happen in our lives when we would rather be asking God to explain to us "why" rather than to give thanks. It just goes against our natural inclinations to be joyful and thankful and praying all the time. But then, a good bit of what the Bible says goes against our natural inclinations.

Sometimes simplifying texts like these two from 1 Thessalonians and Philippians helps us to both understand and remember them better. So, I offer this simplified version which I think includes both power and poetry: "Anxious in nothing, prayerful in everything, thankful in all things...then peace." When these three attitudes guide our lives, then the "peace of God" can settle quietly over our hearts and minds.

We are entering that time of year when the "peace of God" is something we hear much about, but often wonder how we're possibly going to experience it with all the activity and to-do lists of the season. Paul's words in these two Scriptures provide for us an antidote to all the craziness.

First, anxious in nothing. Frances Willard, the great temperance leader, once remarked that "anxiety is atheistical!" To be constantly anxious suggests that we don't quite trust.

What makes us anxious is that we no longer feel we have control over the situations we are facing. No matter how many extra precautions we try to take or how well we think we have done everything in our power to avoid the pain of the unexpected, deep down we still know that there is a lot about life which is out of our control. Kids grow up, illnesses come without warning, companies merge and lay off workers, investments can lose a lot more quickly than they gain.

If we let our anxieties over the uncontrollable things in life rule us, we become incapable of becoming agents of God's grace in the world. How can we "rejoice" and witness to the "joy of the Lord" if we are anxiety-ridden ourselves? Be anxious in nothing because God is God today, tomorrow and always.

Second, prayerful in everything. When confronted with an unexpected grace or an unforeseen groan, is your first response to turn towards God in prayer? Paul recognizes that a good percentage of our prayers are "petitions" or "requests." Sometimes, when we are feeling spiritually strong and centered, our souls do turn toward God in deeper prayer seeking His holy presence. Other times, we approach God on our knees when our spirits are dried up and dragging. We come admitting our own inadequacies and recognizing that God is the sole source of all wholeness.

God desires our prayers, petitions and requests. God wants to be vitally present in our lives. Being prayerful in all circumstances acknowledges our dependence on God and recognizes His presence with us at all times.

Third, thankful in all things. Notice, Paul didn't say thankful for all things, but rather, thankful in all things. Even when difficult things come our way, we can thank God for His presence with us as we walk through that dark valley and in anticipation of the good, He may have in store for us at the end of the walk. That is the reason we can be thankful in all things. Our thankfulness is not a matter of putting on that happy face. It is based in the confidence that whatever comes our way, our life is built on a foundation of power through faith in the resurrected Christ.

Then peace. It is "in Christ" Paul insists that we will finally experience this miraculous gift of the "peace of God." As long as we are in Christ, the peace of God will guard our hearts and guide our minds; we'll pull the pieces of our lives together and we will experience that "peace which passes understanding!"

Remember: Anxious in nothing, prayerful in everything, thankful in all things...then peace.

Have a happy and joyful Thanksgiving!
Dennis

Attendance & Offering

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

Sunday School – 19
Worship Service – 76

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, Mary Ann Gibble, 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

November Wedding Anniversaries

6th Jason & Leslie Fuhrman
Mark & Tammy Landis
9th Bud & Mary Lou Wagner
11th Landis & Anna Kupp
Bill & Nancy Wenrich
21st Gregory & Kim Horn
23rd John & Joan Mauser

2022 Directory - Any changes in the Church Directory for 2022, notify JoAnn or a Mission & Fellowship commission member.

Council meeting is on November 1st at 7:00pm.

Apple Dumpling baking will take place on Thursday November 18th, starting at 8:00 am. All willing helpers are needed. Thank you.

Gospel Concert – We will be having a Gospel concert on November 14th at 3:00 pm. Six groups will be presenting the program. A free will offering will be taken. Come and bring a friend & enjoy an afternoon together.

Operation Christmas Child – This year, we will again provide the option to pack a virtual shoebox. Please plan to participate as we build our shoeboxes online. Pick up forms in the Gathering Place and return with a check for \$25 made out to MCoB. You can also make your own shoebox if you wish. Deadline for submission of shoeboxes is Sunday, November 14, 2021. Any questions please see a member of the Missions & Fellowship Commission or JoAnn Houtz.

Christmas Poinsettias

It is time to order your Christmas Poinsettia. The plants will be in 6 inch pots and have 5-6 blooms and the cost is \$7.00. Deadline to order and pay is **November 21st** Sign the sheet in the Gathering Place.

The Christian Ed Commission is considering starting a second Sunday School class following a quarterly type lesson course. If you are interested in this type of class or are willing to lead the class please talk to any commission member. Christine Blackwell, Cindy Sattazahn, Walter Sattazahn or Brenda Lentz.

Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 20th is quickly approaching. The hours are 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. for the bazaar. We appreciate all baked goods, candy, etc. Your items can be dropped off anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Friday the 19th. We have a lot of good cooks and bakers, so let's make this the best year ever! Contact Ruth Saul with any questions about baked goods. Please plan to come out and support this event. We will have pumpkin rolls and apple dumplings available, also egg sandwiches for breakfast and soup, hot dogs and barbeque for lunch. P.S. Don't forget to check out the "White Elephant" tables!



Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: October 19, 2021

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:40 pm

by Chairperson: Dave Dubble

Present were: Secretary-Mark Landis, Jr.

Devotions by: Christine Blackwell

Present were: Pastor Dennis Garrison

Prayer by: Cindy Sattazahn

Secretary's Report of September 21, 2021

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2021

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

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

Dave Dubble, Grace Ziegler, Pastor Dennis and Linda Zimmerman were in attendance.
Worship Leaders are in place for the remainder of October and November.

October 24 – Katrina Wagner
October 31 – Susie Dundore
November 7 – Evelina Krall
November 14 – Kevin Wenrich
November 21 – Linda Zimmerman
November 28 – Bob Noll

On Thursday, October 14 we had an afternoon meeting and went over our budget and agreed upon appointments for the next year.

We need to fill the pulpit on January 2nd as Pastor Dennis will be away.

We as a commission are considering names of members that we feel would be good to serve on a Search Committee. Our next step would be contact those individuals to get their feelings about serving. They would need to be approved by Church Council.

Plans are coming together for our Gospel Concert planned for November 14th at 3:00 pm.

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

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

1. Remind congregation of Operation Christmas Child project every week. We will collect until November 14th. Children, during children's church are packing 11 boxes. Women's Fellowship is paying for these boxes. They are also going to match the number of boxes that the congregation collects, up to 40 boxes.

2. Harvest Home – collect Thanksgiving themed food, October 24, 31, November 7. Announcement will be in bulletin on Sunday.
3. Sixth Street playground in Lebanon update. Fundraising & contributions were collected to build a new basketball court.
4. Myerstown Vitality partnership donated approximately \$750 to Sharing Cupboard from chili cook-off at Myerstown block party.
5. Pumpkin Roll making is complete. Made 1,495 pumpkin rolls. Have sold all but 200 at this time. Another successful year. Thank you!

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

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

We are doing research for children’s program for Christmas.
We are working on updating the children’s clearances.
After advertising for a 2nd Sunday School class, we didn’t get any responses.

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

1. Tightened railings in front stairwell
2. Put new commode in men’s room at gym.
3. Put new LED lighting in the lady’s room at gym.
4. New heat & air unit for front room south is on its way from supplier.
5. We received a letter stating that Jose Torres has decided to donate his ark of the covenant to our church here at Myerstown. He has painstakingly built this ark, which is currently displayed in the back of our sanctuary. We wish to thank him, as we will graciously accept his donation.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: – Chairperson - Bob Noll
Glenn Hassinger, Tim Fetzer, Jay Lentz

We have completed the proposed budget for 2022 with input from each Commission & Spiritual Nurture Board.
We would look for the proposed budget to be approved & will be presented to church council on November 1, 2022.
We again would like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.

Pastor's Report

Needless to say, this past month did not go as I expected it would. When COVID hit my family, most everything came to a stop. First my daughter-in-law, then my son, then the twins and then Cathy all had positive tests. Thankfully they all are well now and my daughter Erin and I had negative tests but still needed to quarantine because of exposure. Thanks for all of your prayers for us during that time.

Thankfully I wasn't scheduled to preach on October 3! Thanks to all who stepped up and helped with the Spiritual Enrichment services, especially to Dave Stauffer who provided the messages for the services. FYI, Dave had double knee replacement surgery the week following the services and is recovering well at home. Preaching on Sunday, October 10 was kind of a flashback as I provided the sermon on video. I also want to thank my good friend, Pastor Ron Ludwick, for officiating at Emily Varela and Brandon May's wedding on October 9 because I was still under quarantine. In this past month we have also experienced the loss of several of our long-time members.

Among other pastoral duties, I (along with Jay Lentz) took communion to several of our shut-ins. The Monday night Bible study began a study of 1 Peter on October 18 and will continue through November 22. We will break for the holidays and then pick up with a study of the Old Testament book of Daniel in the New Year.

Much is happening in the life of the church this fall. Thanks for your support of the ministries of the church through your presence, the use of your talents, and the contribution of your resources. God is good!

Pastoral Record for the past two months:

- 3 Sermons prepared and 4 Sunday morning worship services
- Planned worship services for Spiritual Enrichment
- 3 Home communions
- Phone calls to shut-ins and those with health needs
- Pre-marriage sessions with Emily Varela & Brandon Mays (wedding Oct. 9)
- Numerous emails and texts
- Sermons tentatively planned through December
- Executive, Ministry & Evangelism Commission, Board meetings
- Newsletter article

Upcoming Sermons:

Called Series

October 24 – Relocating (Where We Are Called) Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Titus 3:1-8, 1 Peter 2:11-12

November 7 – Reorienting (How We Are Called) Romans 12:1-2; Luke 5:1-11

November 14 – The Way of Wisdom James 3:13-18; Proverbs 1:20-21, 2:2-3

November 21 – (Thanksgiving Sunday) First Things Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Colossians 3:12-17

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Eight of our current church board members terms are expired at the end of this year. All 8 have agreed to serve another 3-year term, pending council approval November 1st. We sincerely thank these folks for agreeing to serve another 3 years.

Interests & Concerns

We have a strong, vibrant, cohesive church board. The love, dedication, and commitment of this group is not only felt; but appreciated.

There are currently 5 vacancies on the board. Anyone that has interest, we would encourage you to be a part of this church board. The more minds and bodies we have, the stronger our congregation will be.

Adjournment

8:15 pm with prayer by Pastor Dennis.

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Randy Wagner	2 Linda Strobel	3	4	5 Kathryn Gibble Greg Horn	6
7 Lloyd Wenger	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Lindsey Dimond Leslie Fuhrman	15 Gloria Brandt	16	17 Erin Umbenhauer	18	19 Sharon Kline	20 Phyllis Hickernell Nancy Younker-Torres
21	22	23	24 Tim Fetzer	25 Lois Hassinger HAPPY THANKSGIVING	26 John Hunsicker	27 Sherri Weaver
28 Robert Krall Mary Jane Smith	29	30 Carl Hartman				

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Praise Team 6:00pm Council Mtg 7:00pm	2	3 Londonderry Village Service 7:00pm	4 Woman's Fellowship Mtg 6:30pm	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am	8 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm	9	10 Bell Choir 6:15pm Senior Choir 7:30pm	11 Sharing Cupboard 10 – 1	12 Sharing Cupboard 3 – 6	13
14 Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am	15 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm	16 Executive Mtg. 6:30pm Commission Mtgs. 7:00pm Board Mtg. 7:30pm	17 Bell Choir 6:15pm Senior Choir 7:30pm	18 Apple Dumpling baking 8:00m - ?	19 Drop off baked goods from 9:30am – 8:00pm	20 HOLIDAY BAZAAR 8am – 1pm 
21 Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am	22 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm	23	24	25 HAPPY  THANK SGIVIN G	26 Sharing Cupboard 3 – 6	27
28 Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am	29 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm	30	31 Bell Choir 6:15pm Senior Choir 7:30pm			

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	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$	Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$50.00	4%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$100.00	7%		\$	Cabela's \$100.00	10%		\$	Groupon.com \$25.00	7%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$25.00	7%		\$	Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$	Hardee's \$10.00	5%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$	Carrabba's Italian Grill \$25.00	10%		\$	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Amazon.com \$100.00	2%		\$	Carter's \$25.00	10%		\$	Icing \$10.00	9%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2%		\$	Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$
AMC Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$	Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$	J. Crew \$25.00	13%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$10.00	10%		\$	Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	JCPenney \$100.00	5%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$12.00	10%		\$	Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Chuck E. Cheese's \$10.00	8%		\$	Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$
American Girl \$100.00	9%		\$	Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$	Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$
American Girl \$25.00	9%		\$	Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	11%		\$	Kmart \$50.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$10.00	8%		\$	Kohl's \$100.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	8%		\$	Darden Restaurants \$25.00	8%		\$	Lands' End \$100.00	15%		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	14%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	Lands' End \$25.00	15%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$	Disney \$100.00	3%		\$	Long John Silver's \$10.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$100.00	10%		\$	Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$	Dunham's Sports \$25.00	8%		\$	Marshalls \$25.00	7%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$	Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$	Eat'n Park \$10.00	9%		\$	Nike \$25.00	12%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	Eat'n Park \$25.00	9%		\$	Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$
Bob Evans Restaurants® \$10.00	10%		\$	Express \$25.00	10%		\$	Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$
Boscov's \$25.00	8%		\$	Famous Footwear \$25.00	8%		\$	OshKosh \$25.00	10%		\$
Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$	Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$
Buca di Beppo \$25.00	8%		\$	GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$	Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$100.00	4%		\$	Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$25.00	4%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
								Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$
								Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$

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

Total Due All Columns: \$

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Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
Rainforest Cafe \$25.00	9%		\$	Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$	Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Regal \$25.00	8%		\$	Wawa \$25.00	1%		\$
Regal Premiere e-Ticket \$10.50	10%		\$	Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$
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) \$50.00	4%		\$				
Subway Restaurants \$10.00	4.5%		\$				
Supercuts \$25.00	8%		\$				
T.J. Maxx \$25.00	7%		\$				
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$				
Talbots \$25.00	13%		\$				
Tanger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$				
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%		\$				

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Total Due All Columns:

\$
