

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

February 2022

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a (The Message)

Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always "me first," doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end. Love never dies.

Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

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The month of January has been cold and a bit snowy. I'm sure, like me, many of you are looking forward to spring. Well, January is behind us and February is here so we can hope for longer and warmer days. For me, February brings back memories of days back in elementary school when we exchanged Valentine's Day cards, when we made paper stove-top hats recalling the one worn by President Abraham Lincoln, and making three-point hats and paper hatchets recalling the story of George Washington cutting down a cherry tree.

The stories of those two presidents seem to have been lost as President's Day now recognizes all presidents, but Valentine's Day is still popular and recognized with cards, flowers and thoughts of love. I thought it might be interesting to learn a little about the Christian saint after whom Valentine's Day is named. I found the following information in an article about St. Valentine on Wikipedia.

"Saint Valentine was a priest of Rome or the former Bishop of Terni, an important town of Umbria, in central Italy. While under house arrest of Judge Asterius, and discussing his faith with him, Valentinus (the Latin version of his name) was discussing the validity of Jesus. The judge put Valentinus to the test and brought to him the judge's adopted blind daughter. If Valentinus succeeded in restoring the girl's sight, Asterius would do whatever he asked. Valentinus, praying to God, laid his hands on her eyes and the child's vision was restored.

Immediately humbled, the judge asked Valentinus what he should do. Valentinus replied that all of the idols around the judge's house should be broken, and that the judge should fast for three days and then undergo the Christian sacrament of baptism. The judge obeyed and, as a result of his fasting and prayer, freed all the Christian inmates under his authority. The judge, his family, and his forty-four-member household of adult family members and servants were baptized.

Valentinus was later arrested again for continuing to evangelize and was sent to the emperor Claudius Gothicus (Claudius II) himself. Claudius took a liking to him until Valentinus tried to convince Claudius to embrace Christianity, whereupon Claudius refused and condemned Valentinus to death, commanding that Valentinus either renounce his faith or he would be beaten with clubs and beheaded. Valentinus refused and Claudius' command was executed outside the Flaminian Gate February 14, 269.

Saint Valentine is said to have ministered to the faithful Christians undergoing persecution in the Roman Empire. One account says that before his execution, Saint Valentine wrote a note to Asterius's

daughter signed "from your Valentine", which is said to have "inspired today's romantic missives."

"There are many other legends behind Saint Valentine. One is that Valentine defied the order of the emperor Claudius and secretly performed Christian weddings for couples, allowing the husbands involved to escape conscription into the pagan army. This legend claims that soldiers were sparse at this time so this was a big inconvenience to the emperor. The account mentions that in order 'to remind these men of their vows and God's love, Saint Valentine is said to have cut hearts from parchment', giving them to these persecuted Christians, a possible origin of the widespread use of hearts on St. Valentine's Day.

Saint Valentine of Rome was martyred on February 14 in AD 269. The Feast of Saint Valentine, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, was established by Pope Gelasius I in AD 496 to be celebrated on February 14 in honor of the Christian martyr." (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Valentine)

Although Saint Valentine's Day has become focused on romantic love, it seems that the real St. Valentine knew God's love, a love that led him to seek to bring others to a knowledge of Christ and God's love revealed in Christ. He lived that kind of love. His faithfulness and his example of Christian love should inspire us as we remember him on February 14.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Dennis

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for December 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Sunday School – 20
Worship Service – 88

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 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

February Wedding Anniversaries

- 21st John & Nancy Layser
- 22nd John & Linda Zimmerman
- 25th William & Sharon Kline
- 29th Richard & Brenda Weierbach

Offering envelopes are in your mailboxes. You do not need to be a church member to use envelopes. If you would like some please see Ralph or Mim Ackerman or JoAnn in the office.

Old Directory If you would like to bring in your old directory, we can reuse the spines on them. There will be a box in the Gathering Place for you to put the directory. Thank you!

Council Meeting is March 7th at 7:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ladies Aid 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	7 Praise Team 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	8	9 Ladies Aid 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	10 Sharing Cupboard 10 am-1 pm	11 Sharing Cupboard 3-6 pm	12
13 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	14 Praise Team 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	15 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	16 Ladies Aid 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	17	18	19
20 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	21 Praise Team 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	22	23 Ladies Aid 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	24 Sharing Cupboard 10 am-1 pm Spiritual Nurture Meeting 7pm	25 Sharing Cupboard 3-6 pm	26
27 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	28 Praise Team 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm					

FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Darryl Daubert Clark Heisey Jessica Singer Brett Wenger	2 Clark Heisey Brett Lentz	3	4	5
6 Donald Hickernell Charlette Singer Derek Thomas	7	8 Brett Lentz Marcie Yoh	9	10 Eric Hartranft Eric Layser	11 Lynnea Weaver Corey Wenger	12 Evelina Krall
13	14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY 	15	16	17 Barry Spangler	18 Verna Forney Gavin Speraw	19 Wyatt Stehr Jose Torres
20 Dean Ebersole, Jr. Mary Hartranft	21 Lori Hassinger	22	23 Cameron Fuhrman Earl Liskey Sheila Meyers	24	25	26 Paul Buccholz
27 Jean Barnhart Peter Potena	28 Dean Ebersole Dick Forney					

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: January 18, 2022

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:40 pm

by Chairperson: Dave Dubble

Present were: Secretary-Mark Landis, Jr.

Prayer by: Tammy & Mark Landis

Present were: Pastor Dennis Garrison

Secretary's Report of December 21, 2021

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Treasurer's Report of December 31, 2021

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

Ministry & Evangelism Commission:

Dave Dubble, Linda Zimmerman, Pastor Dennis

Dave Dubble, Pastor Dennis and Linda Zimmerman were in attendance and Dave opened with prayer.

We reviewed a job review to be done annually for the Pastor and secretary. Dave asked us to look them over and come to the next board meeting with suggestion.

Worship leaders have been set in place – Bob Noll for January 23 – Kim Horn for January 30 – Mark Landis Jr., for February 6 – Susie Dundore for February 13 – Kartina Wagner for February 20 – and a volunteer is needed for February 27.

We discussed returning to regular Love Feast and decided to let the decision up to the Deacons.

Missions & Fellowship Commission:

Chairperson – Susie Dundore

Kim Horn, Tammy Landis, Sharon Seldomridge, Janet Dubble

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

Reviewing the 2022 directory and making changes.

Discussed Rally Day – used to be in September. Could we switch to August, same day as promotion Sunday & bless the backpacks day?

Sock Tree – collected 90 pairs of socks, 7 pairs gloves & 2 hats.

We're going to work at the mailboxes. We'll ask JoAnn to print labels & then we'll reorganize the mailboxes.

We're continuing looking into information to sponsor an Afghan family.

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

In attendance: Christine Blackwell, Cindy & Walter Sattazahn

Christine talked to Myerstown Vitality Partnership to let us know when they are having their Easter Egg Hunt, so that we can try to have it the same day. When we hear from them we will set a date for the Easter Egg Hunt. We will be asking the congregation for candy donations.

Vacation Bible School. We need a leader and so far we are not finding anyone. We are thinking about possibly coordinating with another church for Bible School and would like people's opinions.

Thinking about, having small groups get together for Right Now Media get togethers at our church or at people's homes. We would like to see if there is any interest in the congregation.

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

1. Whitey, Dale, Mark, and Bob Gible replaced tiles and touch up paint in the ramp. Thanks for their help.
2. We had trouble with the heat & air unit in kitchen. Triangle made a temporary fix. Hope it lasts till warmer weather arrives. Unit is 32 years old. Needs replaced later this year.
3. REACH School would like to make some changes in the boys restroom. They would move wash bowl and add another urinal. They would change some plumbing. They got a price from Earl Musser of \$3,350.00. Privacy panels will cost more in addition to this; for a total cost of approximately \$5,000.00.
 - a. They are seeking permission to do this.
 - b. They are wondering if we would help with any expenses on this. Our commission is requesting permission to put \$2,000.00 towards the cost of this project.

Approval to give \$2,000.00 towards this bathroom project was given by a motion, 2nd, and aye vote.

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

The following members were present: Bob Noll, Tim Fetzer, and Glenn Hassinger.

We received a copy of the fully executed Brethren Plan Document. A copy is on file.

We will be doing a financial review of the Church General Fund Account & report at the February Board Meeting.

We ended the year with the actual giving greater than what was budgeted.

We would like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.

A motion to make our outreach payments in full this month was made. This was approved by a motion, 2nd, and aye vote.

Pastor's Report

December 21, 2021 – January 18, 2022

It was slow in coming, but it looks like winter has finally arrived in Lebanon County as we have experienced several snow storms and cancellation of Sunday morning worship.

This past month included the Christmas and New Year's holidays which meant decorating the church and the Christmas Eve service. Thanks to all who helped make our 2021 Christmas season memorable.

The past month has also included the passing of a number of members and extended family of church members. Jose and Nancy Torres passed within days of each other. The church will remember Jose for his donation of the replica of the Ark of the Covenant which is in the rear of the sanctuary. Just a few months ago, Nancy added the written Scriptures and explanations of the Ark to the display. We also held the annual Memorial Service where we remembered nineteen church members or extended family of church members.

Looking ahead, in the coming weeks my sermons will focus on the book of Hebrews. If you haven't read Hebrews recently, I encourage you to do so.

Keep the work of the Search Committee in your prayers as they begin their work on behalf of the congregation. Pray for the committee, but also pray that God is working in the heart of the one to be called as Myerstown CoB's new pastor. I continue to be blessed in my time as your Interim Pastor.

God bless,
Dennis

Pastoral Record for the past month:

- 2 Sermons prepared and 4 Sunday morning worship services planned
- Christmas Eve Service
- Memorial Service
- Several hospital and nursing home visits
- Phone calls to shut-ins and those with health needs
- Participated in Jose Torres' funeral and will participate in Nancy's
- Numerous emails and texts

Sermons tentatively planned through June
Executive, Ministry & Evangelism Commission, Board meetings
Praise Team
Bible Study – began a study of Daniel
Newsletter article

Upcoming Sermons:

Series: The Book of Hebrews

January 23 - At the Starting Line (Pew Communion) Hebrews 1:1-14; Psalm 147:1-11

January 30 - Staying on Course Hebrews 2:1-18; Isaiah 55:6-11

February 6 - The Will to Win Hebrews 3:1-19; Psalm 95

February 13 – A Reason to Run Hebrews 4:1-13; Matthew 11:16-30

February 20 - Pulpit Supply – Craig Luckenbill preaching

February 27 – Run Boldly Hebrews 4:14-5:10; Psalm 62

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

We are having a special council meeting this Sunday, January 23, 2022. Our moderator David Stauffer cannot be here. Bob Noll has been voted on to moderate this council meeting. This was approved by a motion, 2nd, and aye vote.

Interests & Concerns

None

Adjournment

At 8:10 pm with prayer by Pastor Dennis.

Family Order Form

Created: 1/25/2022 11:16:25 AM

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

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

Total Due All Columns:

\$

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Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$	Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$	Wawa \$25.00	1%		\$
Regal \$25.00	8%		\$	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%		\$				
Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$				
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$				

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