



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NRSV) – “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.”

Genesis 8:22 (NIV) – “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

Daniel 2:21-22 (NIV) - He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.

Acts 1:7-8 (NIV) - He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Hebrews 13:8 (Niv) – “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

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Myerstown Church of the Brethren

September 2022

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action

“For everything there is a season...”

King Solomon tells us in Ecclesiastes 3:1, “For everything there is a season....” It is September and we are in that time of year when we begin to see the seasons change. Warm temperatures will give way to cooler, green leaves to yellows, reds and oranges, and baseball, tennis and golf giving way to football. September means change, not just in nature, but also in our activities and interests. We know this going into September because we’ve been conditioned to expect the seasons will change. As God promised to Noah, “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” We know this truth and fully expect to experience cooler weather, leaves to clean up, pumpkin rolls to bake, and our interests and activities to change.

Yet, as we enter into September 2022 there are some changes coming of which we are unsure. Who is this candidate for the next pastor at Myerstown Church of the Brethren, and what will he bring to this church? Who is going to be our next Governor and Senator? Who will win the Super Bowl? We don’t know everything this new season will bring, so we are left to leave things in God’s hands. As Daniel prayed, God “changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.” Even not knowing, we are not to sit around just wondering what God is up to. Even though there are aspects of the future over which we have little to no control, as the church of Jesus Christ, we are given some work to do that is not bound by times and seasons. When Jesus’ disciples asked him if it was the time he would “restore the kingdom to Israel,” he told them, “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

We don’t know all God has in store for us or for this world as the seasons change, but we do know, no matter the season, that we have been recipients of a most wonderful gift, the power of the Holy Spirit in us, and we are given the task of being Jesus’ witnesses in our families, our communities and in the world.

As we enter into a new season of the year and into a new season in the life of Myerstown Church of the Brethren, there are some uncertainties, but also there is much of which we can be certain and will carry us through times of uncertainty.

We can be certain that, "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." And we can be certain that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." God is in control of the future and Jesus Christ is Lord of yesterday, today and tomorrow, therefore we need not fear.

"For everything there is a season..." tells us that there are things of which we must let go, there are new things which we can anticipate and engage, and there are things which are unchangeable which will enable us to face the future with courage and hope.

Have a wonderful fall!

Dennis

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for July 1, 2022 – July 31, 2022

Sunday School – 14
Worship Service – 62
Online – 23

Home Care

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers those living in nursing homes/assisted living homes: **Faye Brubaker, 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.

MCoB Email List

If you would like to join the church email list, please send your email address to info@myerstown.org

Church Board

The church board is seeking your input. Forms for your comments or requests for the church board are located in the Gathering Place. Please drop your completed forms in the box in the Gathering Place.

Choirs to Resume

Bell Choir will resume Wednesday, September 7th at 6:15 p.m.

Senior Choir will resume Wednesday, September 7th at 7:30 p.m.

Praise Team will resume Monday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates to Reserve

September 24 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm – Pastoral candidate meet & greet in the Fellowship Hall

September 25 at 10:00 am – Pastoral candidate trial sermon followed by a special congregational meeting to vote to accept or reject the candidate followed by a second vote to accept or reject the proposed financial package for the pastor.

Camp Swatara

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.? We also need items for the Children's auction. 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 donations, just call us to make arrangements. Date of the auction is September 3, 2022 in the East Lodge at camp. 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.

COBY'S Bike & Hike

Sunday, September 11th is COBY'S Bike & Hike at Lititz Church of the Brethren, 300 West Orange St., Lititz. For more details or to register or donate online, visit cobys.org/bike-and-hike. If you have any questions, contact Steve Nichols at steven@cobys.org

Holiday Bazaar

It's that time of year when you are probably cleaning out food but unused or unwanted items. The annual bazaar is November 19th, but we are already accepting donations for the "white elephant" tables. The items can be stored in the Sharing Cupboard area.

Love Feast and Communion

Fall Love Feast and Communion will be held Sunday, October 2nd following the worship service. If anyone would be willing to babysit during the Communion service, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see any of the deacons with questions.

Disaster Relief Auction

September 23rd & 24th is the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction at the Lebanon Expo Grounds. The expenses of food are on the rise and we want to raise as much as we can for those who have experienced natural disasters. We are asking for donations to help defer these expenses & allow a greater portion of the income from food to go to the relief auction. We appreciate any monetary donation that you can give to this project. Please make checks payable to: Brethren Disaster Relief Auction with food in the memo line. Send checks to Evie Dehmey and she will add that to the food committee department. Evie Dehmey, 164 Vinegar Ferry Rd., Marietta, PA 17545. We also are looking for people to serve on our committee. We meet 3 times a year and then help with the food at the auction. If you have any interest in serving on our committee, please contact Lois Roop at 717-954-2278 or email clroop@verizon.net

Pumpkin Rolls

Women's Fellowship will be starting the baking of pumpkin rolls on September 19th. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Janet Dubble or Dottie Nagle. Look for the pumpkin roll order forms in your mailbox.

September Wedding Anniversaries

4 th	Jason & Carey Krall
9 th	Jay & Brenda Lentz
17 th	LaMar & Joanne Fahnestock
	Dale & JoAnn Houtz
19 th	Bob & Kathryn Gible
21 st	George & Dottie Nagle

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Woman's Fellowship Mtg 7pm	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am	5 LABOR DAY	6	7 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	8 Sharing Cupboard 10am-1pm	9 Sharing Cupboard 3pm-6pm	10
11 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Cobys Bike & Hike	12 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	13 Music Committee Mtg. 10:00 am	14 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	19 Praise Team 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	20 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	21 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	22 Sharing Cupboard 10am-1pm	23 Sharing Cupboard 3pm-6pm Diaster Relief Auction	24 Diaster Relief Auction Meet and Greet Pastoral Candidate 3:00 -pm – 5:00 pm
25 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Trial Sermon for Pastoral Candidate	26 Praise Team 6:00pm	27	28 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	29 Spiritual Nurture Mtg 7:00 pm	30	

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Dean Wagner	5 LABOR DAY	6 Janet Dubble Nancy Liskey	7	8	9 Walter Sattazahn, Jr.	10 William Wenrich Isabella Reppert
11	12	13	14 Ella Heisey	15	16 David Sheetz	17
18	19	20 Jane Spangler	21	22	23 Aggy DiScuillo Amelia Gross Aaron Krall Evan Krall	24
25 Rachel McClure	26	27 Edna Yoh	28	29 Chelsea Reppert	30 Susan Dundore	

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: August 16, 2022

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:30 pm

by Chairperson: David Dubble

Present were: Secretary - Mark Landis, Jr.

Prayer by: Sharon Seldomridge

Present were: Pastor Dennis Garrison

Secretary's Report of July 19, 2022

Approved as presented by Aye Vote

Treasurer's Report of July 31, 2022

Approved as presented by aye vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

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

Worship leaders are in place for the remainder of August. August 21 – Kim Horn and August 28 – Evelina Krall.

Worship leaders for September are: September – not filled, September 11 – Cindy Sattazahn, September 18 – Kim Wenger and September 25 – Mark Landis, Jr.

The Music Program is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 pm. Those participating are: MCoB Bell Choir, Yeater Sisters, Rev. Paul Brubaker, Britta Armstrong, Doria Ralan, Evelina Krall, Lisa & Sheree and a mixed quartet.

Things are in place for Renewal Services on October 2, 3, 4, with Tim Courtright serving as speaker.

Missions & Fellowship Commission: Chairperson –
Kim Horn, Janet Dubble, Sharon Seldomridge

Devotions by Janet

Baseball tickets for Reading Fightin Phils are being sold.....33 out of 50 tickets are sold. Game is Friday, August 26th.

Saturday, Sept. 24th – Meet the pastoral candidate from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. We will make a list for light refreshments and ask church members to contribute the items.

Sunday, Aug. 28th is Rally Day. There will be a meal after church. Set up is Saturday, Aug. 27th at 9:00 am.

We discussed having a meal on the Sunday the new pastor starts. Discussed options for the menu. Date to be announced.

We discussed a reception for Dennis & Cathy to be followed after Dennis' last sermon to be held in the fellowship hall.

Londonderry Village Nut Sale is Oct. 9th through 22nd with pick up on Nov. 19th.

Londonderry Village Fall Harvest & Christmas Bazaar will be held on Oct. 22nd from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. They are asking for donations such as baked goods, crafts, etc. We will put an announcement in the bulletin for donations. We will also hang the announcement on the bulletin board near the water cooler.

We started reviewing the budget for 2023.

Women's Fellowship approved the purchase of a new desk for the new pastor. Women's Fellowship will provide the funds.

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

For Rally Day we are handing out a Bible to Abby Hostetter.
We will also have Pastor Dennis doing the "Blessings of the Backpacks".
We are still looking for more teachers and substitute teachers for Sunday School & Children's Church.
Children's Church teaching schedule will be coming out for September through December.
Children's Church will be changed to 3years old through 4th grade starting Promotion Sunday.

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

I did some patching at Kitchen door area. There was a hole along the concrete and the macadam was patched to make it easier to roll the dumpster and pushing carts to the kitchen.
There was water on the floor at the rear mens room. The commode was leaking at the tank to bowl seal and was loose on the floor. Wentling's replaced the seals.
The light in the mens room was replaced with a 4' LED.
The school is getting rubber mulch put around the swings at the back of the church.
The walk-in freezer thermostat was replaced. The temperature was up to 20 degrees when I checked it last week. I called Triangle Refrigeration. Temperature should be 0 degrees or below.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: – Chairperson – Bob Noll
Tim Fetzer

Our Commission will have a policy to present to Board at the September meeting for the Building Fund monies. It is that time of the year that we need to consider the Church budget for 2023. Worksheets will be handed out and should be returned by Sept. 30th. The budget will need to be approved at October meeting to be presented to Council.

The last few months we have been trending a negative difference in year to date budget vs. actual giving. With summer coming to an end, it is hopeful that we can reverse this trend.

Pastor's Report

July 19, 2022 – August 16, 2022

The last month has been rather quiet here at the church with no hospitalizations or immediate health needs (at least none of which I am aware). Thank you for being a healthy congregation! Although, as soon as I say that, things will change! I am aware of elective surgeries coming for at least two of our members.

It is looking like I will still be your Interim Pastor into October or maybe a little longer so I have planned sermons through most of October. I am also trying to get touch with Tim Courtright to do some planning for the Spiritual Enrichment series and Love Feast on October 2, 3 & 4.

Cathy and I will be traveling to Florida from September 25 to October 2. Because Cathy was suffering from Shingles over the time of our anniversary, this will be our anniversary trip. We'll be staying with good friends, Bob and Libby Kettering, in St. Augustine. Since we will be on a plane heading home on Sunday morning, October 2, I have asked and Glenn Hassinger has agreed to lead the Love Feast service following worship. Tim Courtright will be doing the meditations. Pray for Glenn as he is currently dealing with a kidney stone. Keep the Search Committee and the pastoral candidate in your thoughts and prayers as they work on final items prior to presenting the candidate to the church.

It continues to be a privilege to serve as your Interim Pastor.

God bless,
Dennis

Pastoral Record for the past month:

4 Sermons prepared

4 Sunday morning worship services planned

Hospital and immediate health needs very quiet this summer!

Phone calls to shut-ins and those with health needs

Numerous emails and texts

Sermons tentatively planned through October

Board and Commission meetings

Newsletter article

Annual Conference wrap-up during Sunday School August 14

Upcoming Sermons (Transitions Series):

August 21 – No Fear

1 Samuel 17:1-7, 32-37, 48-49

2 Corinthians 6:1-10

August 28 – Like the Light of Morning (Rally Day / Promotion Sunday)

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Psalms 146, Amos 5:21-24, Micah 6:6-8

September 4 – Listen, Understand, Act

Acts 15:1-31

Psalms 67

September 11 – Like A Servant

Ezekiel 34:1-21

Mark 10:35-45

1 Peter 5:1-7

September 18 – Links in a Chain

Numbers 27:12-23

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

The Search Committee has interviewed candidates for our Pastor position. The committee was unanimous in their selection and issued a call to one of them. The call has been accepted by the candidate.

Sept. 25th has been selected as the date for the trial sermon followed by a special council meeting for two votes: the first is the vote to accept the candidate and the second is to vote on the compensation package.

Tentatively, on Sept. 24th, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, a "Meet and Greet" with the candidate will be held in the fellowship hall. Refreshments will be available.

The Search Committee is committed to do everything possible to make the transition from our interim pastor to a permanent pastor as smooth and positive as possible.

Interests & Concerns

None

Adjournment

At 8:00 pm with prayer by Pastor Dennis.