



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

Ephesians 6:10-20

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. 19 Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Address: 51 West Stoeveer Ave.
PO Box 61
Myerstown, PA 17067
Office Phone: 717-866-5517

Web Page:
myerstowncob.org
Church Email:

myerstowncob@myerstowncob.org

Myerstown Church of the Brethren

December 2022

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action

Greetings from Pastor Chris

Can't believe it's already been a little over a month since I have started here. My heart is full of appreciation, and love for all of you and for the great day of celebrating my ordination and installation. It was such an encouragement to me, as I look forward to serving you as your pastor. This past month has been very encouraging, and also challenging.

As pastor here at Myerstown I have really enjoyed so far being able to meet and visit with many of you in the congregation. This past month I've had the opportunity to visit and do communion with several people from the congregation. I have been preparing and preaching through the book of James this past month. As we are in the Advent season, I will be preaching about what is advent to us, and why do we observe it.

As I look to the future and the newness wears off, I look to you as a congregation to uphold me in your prayers. My family is no different than yours and I am no different than you. I struggle with similar issues and problems, and I ask you to pray for me and to keep me strong in the faith. Strong enough to always be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 6:10-20 comes to mind. Verses 10-13 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against **flesh and blood**, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this Dark World and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Our battles are not against flesh and blood, but against this Dark World, and Satan. Satan will try to put things in between us as a church family, but we need to remember to pray for one another. Paul said inverses 19-20 "pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mysteries of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should." We all have a calling to be an ambassador, of the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Attendance & Offering

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

Sunday School – 21
Worship Service – 85
Online – 16

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 Gible, Gloria Keppley and Iris Liskey.**

2023 Church Directory

Please give Toni any new or updated information for the 2023 Church Directory before the end of November.

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



Bulletin Prayer List

Please be aware that as of December 31, 2022, the prayer list in the weekly Sunday bulletin will be wiped clean. If you would like your person to remain on the list, please let Toni in the church office know and your person will remain on the list.

Children's Program

Children's Christmas Program will be on December 11th.

Christmas Eve Service

The Christmas Eve Service will be Saturday, December 24th at 7:00 pm.



Candle Lighting/Memorial Service

We will be having our annual Candle Lighting Service on Sunday, January 8th, for loved ones that passed away during the year 2022. Please notify Toni in the church office at 717-866-5517 if you desire to light a candle during this service. A family member(s) is encouraged to light the candle.



Weather Delay

We are entering into the time of year, when weather may cause delays or cancellations here at MCoB. If you would like to be notified by texts, emails, or voice messages, sign up on the sheet in The Gathering Place and indicate how you would like to receive this information.

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: November 15, 2022

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:30 pm

by Chairperson: David Dubble

Present were: Secretary - Mark Landis, Jr.

Prayer by: Jay Lentz

Present were: Pastor Chris Dubble

Secretary's Report of October 18, 2022

**Approved as presented at Nov. 7, 2022
Council Meeting**

Treasurer's Report of October 31, 2022

Approved as presented by aye vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

Ministry & Evangelism Commission: Chairperson – Grace Ziegler, Mark Landis, Sr., Earl Liskey
David Dubble, Linda Zimmerman, Pastor Chris

Grace opened with a devotional and prayer.

Worship leaders are in place for the rest of November and two Sunday's in December. Volunteers are still needed.

We discussed about having a Men's Prayer Breakfast and looked at the possibility for spring.

We talked about having a Saturday afternoon program featuring Chris Ivey, a Christian juggler and opening it up to the community as a family fun time sometime in February.

Earl mentioned that Sunday, December 18th will be the Christmas Cantata and the Children's Christmas program will be December 11th.

We discussed having a program in April and Grace will contact Heather Moehlman Karnes about planning the event holding it on a Sunday afternoon.

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

We discussed refreshments for next month board meeting.

Church decorating will be Nov. 26th at 9:00 am. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Place.

We will set up a "sock tree" on Nov. 26th when decorating. Socks will go to ELCO school.

Correction for church council minutes – 10 pumpkin rolls, not 100 pumpkin rolls were given to Londonderry Village for their bazaar.

We discussed a Welcome Packet. Our present packet hasn't been revised for a long time.

We will start reviewing the directory for 2023 next month.

Christian Education Commission: - Chairperson – Christine Blackwell
Brenda Lentz

Christine gave an update on the Christmas Program "The Fumbly, Bumbly Angel" for Sunday, Dec. 11th. The congregation will be asked to sing along with all the songs.
We are purchasing Bibles for Emma and Linnie Dubble.
Presently we are looking to fill our vacancy on the commission.
Also Vacation Bible School coordinator is needed. We are looking for volunteers.
Children's Day presenter was discussed.
We discussed whether to have Children's Church on Christmas Day.

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

I went to run a generator in furnace room. It would start but wasn't running right. I called Powerton Gen and they are coming Wednesday morning.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: – Chairperson – Bob Noll
Tim Fetzner, Jay Lentz

The 2023 approved budget was given to Bold Accounting for next years reporting.

Pastor's Report

Since last board meeting, I have been busy trying to orient myself with the church. It has been a great experience getting to know everyone so far, and I am excited to continue learning. I can't believe that it is almost a month since I have been here as your pastor. I have been preparing sermons and preaching, so far through the book of James 1, and James 2:1-13. With Toni's assistance I have been planning the worship service. I have also been in contact with each of the worship leaders so far, to discuss what announcements should be spoken, and help them come up with a call to worship. October I attended deacon meeting. I have been talking with the ladies here on Wednesday morning with the lady's aid, it has been great to get to know all of them. Wednesday evenings I have been attending bell choir and senior choir. (Not participating but watching). Every other Thursday and Friday I've been trying to stop down in the sharing cupboard, to meet with the people from the community. On Monday morning I assisted with planning of the Christmas Eve service. I have been in communication with the guest speaker for Sunday November 20th, and I plan on getting in contact with Pete from the district about the installation and ordination service on Sunday November 20th.

Home communion and visitation

Harvey Berger

Faye Brubaker

Eleanor Brubaker

Joanne Ealy

Ruth Heller

Landis and Anna Mae Kupp

Hospital visits

Dixie Gasper, anointing service

Eleanor Brubaker

Glenn and Lois Hassinger

I have been in contact with Amelia Gross on a weekly basis, to be checking in on her and how her cancer treatments are going. I have also been in contact with several other people in the congregation, and family members throughout the month.

I'll be looking for volunteers of four to five people to help with a vision committee.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

We discussed a weather alert system. We will work on setting up the system and getting the procedures set up.

Interests & Concerns

None

Adjournment

At 8:15 pm with prayer by Pastor Chris

DECEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Jackie Dohner
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Linda Zimmerman
11	12	13 Jason Fuhrman	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Glenn Hassinger	21 Decatur McClure	22	23 Owen Dimond	24 Iris Liskey
25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS 	26	27	28	29	30	31

DECEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:00 Worship Service 10:00	5	6	7 Ladies Aide 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	8 Sharing Cupboard 10-1 Spiritual Nurture Mtg. 7:00 pm	9 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	10
11 Sunday School 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Children's Christmas Program	12	13	14 Ladies Aide 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:00 Christmas Cantata 10:00	19	20 Executive Mtg. 6:30pm Commission Mtg. 7:00pm Board Mtg. 7:30pm	21 Ladies Aide 9:00 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	22 Sharing Cupboard 10-1	23 Sharing Cupboard 3-6	24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm
25 Sunday School 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 	26	27	28	29	30	31