

The Vineyard

A publication to encourage and motivate participation in the family of God and an aid in ministry for the members of Myerstown United Church of Christ.



October 2019

Volume 38, Issue 9

September Council Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order by President Kory Leppo, followed by the approval of the minutes and the financial report. Committee reports were presented by Christian Education, Personnel, Property, Elders/Care Team, Worship Support Team, By-laws, Membership and Search. Items of note: Church Secretary Beverly Asroff has regrettably resigned. Her last day will be September 27th. Interviews will take place for a new candidate. Many updates are taking place in and around the church and office buildings. A Prayer Team is being formed. Suzie Wartluft resigned as prayer list coordinator. We thank her for her service. The church office will coordinate the list. Procedures are being reviewed by Elders and an updated set of procedures will be written. There will be suggested by-laws changes presented next meeting to be sent to the congregation prior to the November Annual Meeting. Membership group will be communicating with members who sent contributions to remain active at Myerstown UCC. The Nominating Committee will send names to the next Council meeting to be voted on for 2020 open positions.



Old Business focused on the need for reorganization of our staff and volunteer financial positions. Kory Leppo will contact Larry Rabold to get some professional input and bring recommendations to the next meeting.

New Business included hiring of Jim Yoder as a bridge pastor. This was unanimously sent to the congregation for their discussion and consensus. Council is working on a plan to recognize a long-time volunteer who has resigned this year.

Closing prayer was offered by Sally Kulp and the meeting was adjourned by President Leppo.



Community Meala “Happening” for our members and the wider Myerstown Community...an update for October

If you have helped with one of our congregation’s local ministries called the “Thursday Community Meal” you are invited and wanted to help again this year (over 30 members of our church helped last year)***If you come to our meals to enjoy*** one evening without cooking and sitting with friends and strangers to share a meal together....mark your calendars for **Thursday evening, October 10 from 4-6 p.m.*****And, if you invite friends, neighbors, lonely folks*** you meet along the way...it’s time to put out your invitation. Even though the meals are free for all, there is a free will donation basket for those who want to help us financially.

Fall is here and the weather is getting colder (hopefully!). Regardless of the weather outside...it will be comfortable and the smells will be tantalizing as we once again hold our Thursday (2nd Thursday of the month) Community Meals in our Social Hall. . This year, we will be hosting the meal three times in the (October/November/December) and three times in the spring (March/April/May). This is a ministry for everyone! Some in our church family think that is for non members. However, it is an opportunity to 1.) eliminate the need to cook one evening, 2.) meet couples, individuals, and families from our town that may be strangers to us, 3.) meet friends and eat together, 4.) reach out to others with the love of Christ as we eat together.

If you are interested and have not helped in the past, speak with Mark Herr or Carolyn Williams, or Candy Hibshman (or any one who has helped with this in the past). Our tentative menu for the fall and spring is as listed here.

October 10

Vegetable Soup
Hamburger Bar-B-Cue
Potato Chips and Pickles
Dessert/Coffee and Tea

November 14

Spaghetti Pie
Salad/Dressing
Italian Bread
Dessert

December 12

Roast Turkey
Mashed Potato Filling
Rolls
Green Beans
Dessert...Christmas Cookies

March 12, 2020

Ham
Noodles with Browned Butter
Broccoli Salad
Dessert/Coffee and Tea

April 16 (3rd Thursday due to Holy Week)

Baked Chicken
Filling
Cranberry Salad
Dessert

May 14

Swiss Steak/Potatoes
Green Beans
Corn Bread
Dessert/Coffee

Meals are held in our church Social Hall from 4 pm to 6 pm, on the second Thursday of the month (except for April due to Holy Week being the Second Thursday).

Sunday Schedule for Worship and Small Groups

Fall 2019

As we have moved back to a fall schedule of worship and learning opportunities, we have “tweaked” with the times after a thoughtful discussion of what we believe is best for our congregation at the current time.

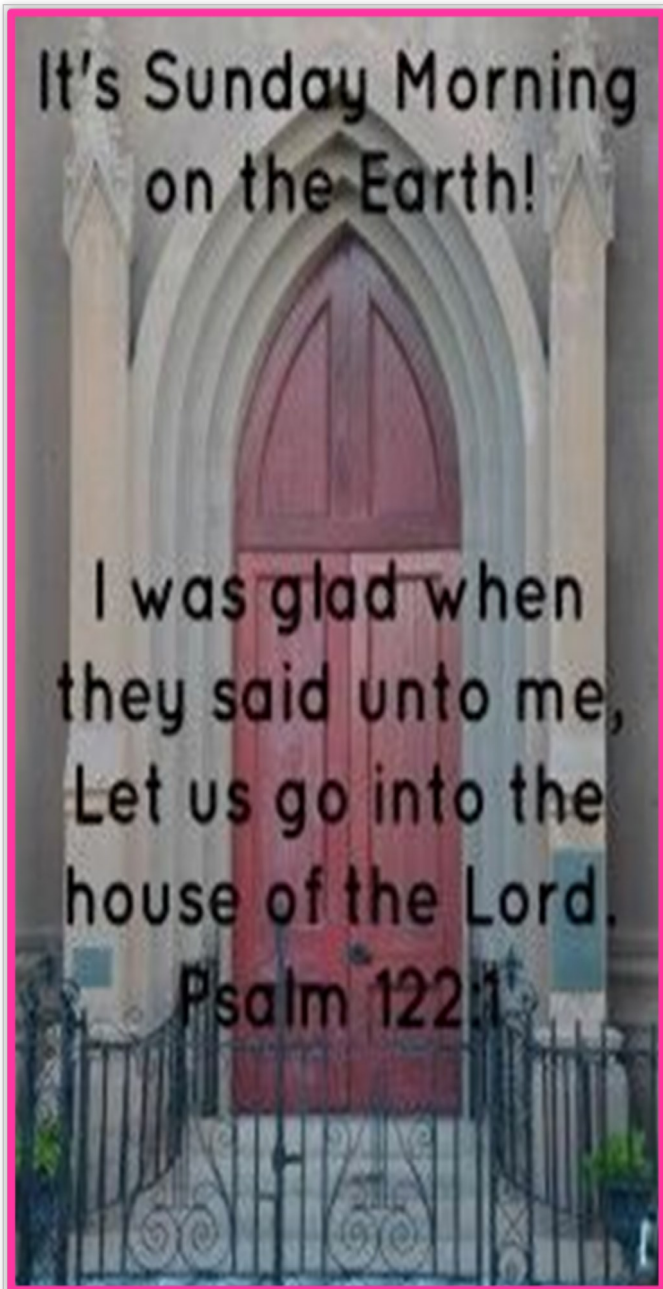
Times of Sunday activities are as follows:

8:00-8:30 Worship with a shortened format of 2 hymns, scripture reading, sermon, prayers and benediction for Sundays when communion is celebrated (which is the first Sunday of the month).

8:45-9:30 Small Group activities (formally we called it Sunday School) which include learning opportunities for children (in the Sunday School wing), youth...post confirmation through high school (held in the room where confirmation took place for the past few years), adults (in the “Green Room” near the rear elevator, and in the library), and other groups such as short term studies, Elders meeting, possibly prayer group in the Prayer Room/small Chapel (near the front of the church). This time is set aside for a variety of learning and fellowship opportunities).

10:00-11:00 Worship in the sanctuary with the full order of liturgy, hymns, scriptures, sermon, prayers, and once a month (first) communion.

11:00..... “Conversational” fellowship time in the Gathering area. This is held on those Sundays following worship when individuals, families, classes, etc. host a time of fellowship with food and drink that they set up for this time. The ideal would be to have something every Sunday and there is a sign-up sheet on the information table in the Gathering area.



BUILDING BRIDGES...

Here's a theological question to ponder. What is a bridge? If I'm going to be a bridge, what does that mean? I need to know and so do you.

Perhaps the most beneficial and succinct definition appeared on thesaurus.com: *Structure or something that make connection*. Synonyms included: *link, overpass, bond, and gangplank*. Gangplank! Really? Wikipedia.org was the most helpful.



*There are many different designs that each serve a particular purpose and apply to different situations. Designs of bridges vary depending on the function of the bridge, the nature of the **terrain** where the bridge is constructed and anchored, the material used to make it, and the funds available to build it. Now I was getting somewhere!*

According to the agreement, I am a Bridge Pastor. My role and duties have been defined based on the "Scope of Work" written in the church profile. I am here to help the congregation experience a pastor who is part-time. The expectations are clear. Boundaries must also be well established.

Am I the only *bridge* in the congregation? Most certainly not! Here are a few bridges that exist: choir director; Christian education committee; church council; church-school teachers; church secretary; church custodian; community meal organizers and helpers; counters; elders; organist; parish administrator; property committee; search committee; worship leaders; worship support team; and many more!



Good grief! I forgot the most important one – YOU!!! Without dedicated members of the congregation, Myerstown UCC would be in big trouble. All of us are working on connecting now to the future.

Here we are in the present. Looking back [*that's not how we usually do it*] is only going to be a block we can't pick up and put in the bridge. We are now and working toward the future. It takes every one of us to make the future happen. Under-breath clichés [*that won't work*] will only squash an idea. WE are now and working toward the future.

We need to work together at building bridges within the congregation, around the community, and in the global market. Have you heard the one about the blind man? He picked up his hammer and saw! We need to pick up our hammers and see as far into the future as we can and then build the bridge to get there – one foot at a time. God will give us focus.

Blessings, Pastor Jim



Tulpehocken Red Rose Car Show

Saturday, October 5, 2019, 9 AM—4 PM

**Antique & Classic Cars, Hotrods,
Trucks, Truck Tractors Farm Tractors
& Motorcycles**

\$10 (Pre-registered) or \$15 Day of Show

**Free Hot Sandwich, Drink & Ice Cream Cone
with Pre-registration**

**Location: Tulpehocken UCC
961 Tulpehocken Road, Richland**

Entertainment:

Gary Althouse, DJ – 9 AM - Noon

Ricky & The Rockets – Noon - 3 PM

Display by D. McNutt Art Studio, Wildlife Artist

Food Available:

**Soups, Sandwiches, Baked Goods, Drinks
Soft Ice Cream**

Rain or Shine!



Spectators Free!

More info/Registration Forms:

Doug Hoover, 1-484-256-5455

**Bob Schaeffer, 717-866-4905
robscha@comcast.net**

Veteran's Concert

The Keystone H & L Company is hosting the 2nd Veteran's Concert for the Eastern Lebanon County Area on Saturday November 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the



sanctuary of the Myerstown United Methodist Church. The Lebanon Community Concert Band will present the concert with world renowned pianist, Elena Sergeyevna Lebedeva Millar as a guest soloist. Tickets will be available at the door for \$10.00 each.

**MYERSTOWN UCC
FALL CHOIR SCHEDULE
October - November 2019**



Rehearsals are on the following
Wednesdays at
7:30 pm in the Music Room:
10/9, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6

Anthems will be rehearsed in the
Music Room at 9:40 am and sung in
10:00 worship on the following dates:
10/13, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10

*Please sign up on absentee chart on the
desk in the choir room if you know you are
unable to attend one of these
services/rehearsals.*

Emily Frantz
717-383-1147
emilyfrantz@me.com

" Music is the voice of the soul " - Jia Hwei

Did you know that the Lebanon County Choral Society is going to be performing a Christmas concert here at Myerstown UCC? On Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 pm, we'll be presenting our Christmas program, "Caroling, Caroling! featuring the Alfred Burt Carols." (Many thanks to Darryl Brown for arranging this.) We'd love to have some more parishioners sing with us this season.

The Lebanon County Choral Society rehearses Monday evenings at Hebron United Methodist Church in Lebanon. The Youth Chorus (grades 3-8) rehearses from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, and the Adult Chorus rehearses from 7:30 to 9:15 pm. Karen Umberger is the director of the Youth Chorus, and Sean Hackett directs the Adult Chorus. The Choral Society is always seeking new singers, and the first two weekly rehearsals (September 9 and 16) are "open," so there is no obligation. Just come and see what we're all about! For more information, visit the Lebanon County Choral Society website at www.lccsmusic.org or contact Sean Hackett at 717-838-1028.

Originally founded in 1889, the Lebanon County Choral Society has long been an important part of the musical arts culture of central Pennsylvania. LCCS has performed at New York's Lincoln Center with the Lebanon Valley College Alumni Chorale and the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra; the Washington National Cathedral; the Hershey Theater with the Hershey Symphony Orchestra; Longwood Gardens; the Hershey Museum; and the Lebanon County Historical Society. The ensemble has done major works by Bach, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Vaughn Williams, Vivaldi, and Rutter, to name a few. The group's musical style ranges from Renaissance madrigals to Christmas carols and from sacred anthems to the Broadway stage, singing in numerous languages from Latin to Zulu.

AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Myerstown Holiday Parade

Saturday after Thanksgiving
(Churches can participate
with a float
or something else)

Sunday before Thanksgiving
November 24th

Community Thanksgiving Service

Poplar Run Theater
on Main Street @ 7 pm

28th Country Fall Fest

St. Daniel's Lutheran Church
480 Big Spring Road, Robesonia
Saturday, October 12th

7 am—3 pm

rain or shine

Food, arts & crafts, flea market,
games for children, craft sales,
bakes goods, silent auction and
more.

Country breakfast served 7-10:30

Fall Children's and Teen Consignment Sale

Myerstown Church
of the Brethren
51 W. Stoever Avenue
Myerstown

October 19th 8 – 2pm

Pre-Sale October 18th
6:30—8:30 pm
\$5 admission

"Nine Lessons and Carols"

Friedens Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 15th @ 4 pm

Gloria Tice will lead the choir.
if you would like to participate,
rehearsals are December 12, 7-8:30 pm
and December 15, 1:30-3:30 pm

Contact Pastor Robert Wallace
with any questions.

717-866-4910

Worship Volunteer Schedule October 2019

Church Worship Instructions: When two worship leaders are listed they should decide between themselves who will read scripture, lead liturgy, or assist with communion. The first name listed on each usher team is responsible for all head usher duties such as ringing the bell, retrieving handicapped signs, lighting and extinguishing candles, locking doors, etc. If you can not serve on any assigned task, please try to find a substitute before calling the office.

October 6th—communion

Open—Cal Beamesderfer
8 am Greeter—Nancy Weaber / Worship Leader—Wanda Rabold
Communion Servers—Wanda Rabold, Jackie Shaak
10 am Greeter—Ed and Candy Hibshman
Worship Leader—Margo McQuate
Ushers—Travis, Angie, Gabb, Gavin Bicher, Kenny Patrick
Communion Servers—Travis and Angie Bicher, Jen and David Blystone
Sound—Paulie McQuate
Counting Team—Ted and Carol Batdorf, Darryl Brown, Marie Hibshman

October 13th

Open—Mark Herr
8 am Greeter—Marcia Bicher / Worship Leader—Doug Bohannon
10 am Greeter—Pat and Trudy Yeager
Worship Leader—Kristi Fields, Donald Brown
Ushers—Ed and Candy Hibshman, Terry and Suzie Schott, Kenny Patrick
Sound—Paulie McQuate
Counting Team—Marie Hibshman, Kathy Grose, Charles and Carolyn Williams

October 20th

Open—Marcia Bicher
8 am Greeter—Gene Haag / Worship Leader—William Arnold
10 am Greeter—Sara Zeller
Worship Leaders—Carolyn and Charles Williams
Ushers—Emily, Kara, and Abby Frantz, Marie Hibshman, Kenny Patrick
Sound—Robert Dash
Counting Team—Lois Werner, Sara Zeller, Sally Kulp

October 27th

Open—William and Betty Arnold
8 am Greeter—William and Betty Arnold / Worship Leader—Wanda Rabold
10 am Greeters—Dawn Hassler
Worship Leaders—Sally Kulp
Ushers—Kory and Ryan Leppo, Robert Dash, Kenny Patrick
Sound—Robert Dash
Counting Team—Ed and Candy Hibshman, Terry and Suzie Schott

November 3rd

Open—Cal Beamesderfer
8 am Greeter—Shirley Krall / Worship Leader—William Arnold
10 am Greeters—Ed and Candy Hibshman
Worship Leaders—Steve and Marianne Fritsch
Ushers—Youth, Kenny Patrick
Sound—Paulie McQuate
Counting Team—Carol and Ted Batdorf, Darryl Brown

Long-Term Prayer Concerns

Family Members

Rosalla Hollenbach — mother of Trudy Yeager; Joanne Frantz — mother-in-law of Emily Frantz; Ralph Woynarowski — son-in-law of Sara Zeller; Nancy Brown; Ellen Goodyear; Ruthann Snoke; Joyce Mitstifer; Larry Eisenhauer

Friends

David Mock — friend of Ed and Candy Hibshman; Family and Friends of Heidi Shyda; James Haines — friend of Ed and Candy Hibshman; Suzanne Fritsch — mother of Stephen Fritsch; Bill Gracely — father of Margo McQuate; Dennis Palm — former ScoutMaster of Troop 20; Linda Feaser — friend of Kathy Grose; Jewel Fessler — friend of Kathy Grose; Heather and Elvin Perez — friends of Marianne Fritsch

Please call the church office at 717-866-5252 with any and all prayer concerns.