

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 2018

Volume 37, Issue 9

Lee Ann Kurash, editor

Pastor's Thoughts...

The Congregational Assessment Report is now in hand and being reviewed by the committee formed to undertake this vital task. To everyone who chose to take part in the process, I want to express my thanks and appreciation. I am certain it was a time consuming and thought provoking process. I am also grateful for the information this is providing to me as I continue in the work of serving as Interim Pastor. I want to suggest that as we prepare to discuss the conclusions of the report and more importantly, how to implement the recommendations, that we keep the following scripture firmly in mind. Psalm 133 reads as follow, "How good it is when God's people live together in unity." And, the prophet Isaiah's thoughts begin, "Come, let us reason together." The thoughts are encouragement inspired by our creator to gather in a spirit of cooperation and seeking consensus in all matters before us. It is an invitation to thorough and lively discuss, debate and resolution for building up the fellowship, as well deciding on how to establish priorities and to resolve any and all disagreements. The underlying principle is that we are stronger together, than we could ever be alone.

This is also an admonition to awareness of the reality that no one among has all of the answers and that in most circumstances our thoughts and ideas may well be incomplete, or even incorrect. In this way a community striving for unity and taking the time to reason together have the ability to avoid many unfortunate and often regrettable actions.

The key is a community in unity and of course participation or service. Unity is not simply the going along with the crowd in order to avoid controversy; and reasoning is not listening only until an opportunity presents itself to inform others of just how wrong we believe they are regarding some issue or another.

First and foremost is maturing to understand that all matters are best considered by serious attention and study, prayer for insight and wisdom, and a willingness to listen carefully for God's still small voice and to one another. If we allow God's Holy Spirit to lead us, the process will result in consensus. And, consensus is the key for congregational unity. It does not mean that everyone will view the outcome with complete celebration, but it does assure that in all future discussions others will become increasingly willing to give careful ear to what others think, feel and have to say. Practicing the seeking of consensus insures that we come to view all members as equals and as disciples working together for the ministry of the Gospel.

I hope in the coming months to encourage greater willingness to participate fully in the life and service of Myerstown United Church of Christ. In this way we can begin to model for the larger community a more peaceful and thoughtful manner for living in community. The practice of the early church, as outlined in the book of Acts is the model. May we be in prayerful study, meditation and practice of how the early church strove for unity.

Sincerely,

Rev. Rick Luciatli





Proposed By-Law Amendment

Below is a copy of an amendment to the Myerstown United Church of Christ Constitution and By-Laws. This amendment would transfer the duties of the Cemetery Committee to the Church Property Committee. The amendment was approved by the Council at the September meeting. The amendment will be presented to and voted on by the congregation at the annual meeting in November. Church members will be receiving additional notice of this amendment prior to the annual meeting.

Proposed amendment to Myerstown United Church of Christ Constitution and By-Laws:

Duties of the Cemetery Board transferred to the Church Property Committee:

- 1) Delete Article VIII – Sections 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 regarding Cemetery Board
- 2) Amend Article IV – Section 4.2c to read as follows

Church Property: This committee oversees the maintenance, repair, preventive maintenance and safety of all church properties. The Church Property Committee is responsible for all minor and major repairs and construction projects for church facilities.

The Church Property Committee will act as the Cemetery Board and oversee the Mt. Hope Cemetery and Old Union Cemetery.

Responsibilities of the committee acting as the Cemetery Board include but are not limited to:

- a. Developing an annual budget.
- b. Maintaining an accurate listing of burial plots
- c. Executing and delivering deeds for plots;
- d. Establishing burial fees and fees for the sale of plots
- e. Arranging for the care and maintenance of cemetery property
- f. Approving the payment of all bills for cemetery expenses and forwarding approved bills to the Church Treasurer for payment.

Monies for the Church Improvement Fund, Mt. Hope Cemetery and Old Union Cemetery will be held in separate accounts. Cemetery Funds are only to be used for care and maintenance of Mt. Hope Cemetery and Old Union Cemetery. Funding for any repairs/improvements regarding the cemeteries will be at the discretion of the Church Property Committee to discern if a property or cemetery expense.



Annual Congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, November 11, 2018.

Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

October

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship Service



October 7 - 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Communion by Intinction

Scriptures: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 St. Mark 10:2-16

Sunday School 10:15 am

Rev. Rick Luciotti - 'Embracing Love'

October 16 - 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday School begins at 10:15 am

Scriptures: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 St. Mark 10:17-31

Rev. Rick Luciotti - 'What Must I Do'

October 23 - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday School at 10:15 am

Scriptures: Hebrews 5:1-10 St. Mark 10:35-45

Rev. Rick Luciotti - 'What is Great Service'

October 30 - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday School at 10:15 am

Scriptures: Hebrews 7:23-28 St. Mark 10:46-52

Rev. Rick Luciotti - 'Take Heart'



Pastor Rick's Office Hours

Office hours are subject to change.

October 2 - 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm

October 4 - 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

October 9 - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

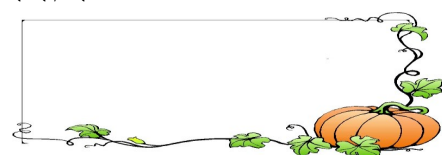
October 11 - 1:00 pm 5:00 pm

October 15 - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

October 23 - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

October 30 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

If you need to reach Pastor Rick, you may call him at 717/679-0001.





STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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 Lee Ann Kurash (cell) 717/304-1738
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 emilyfrantz@me.com
 Mark Herr (cell) 717/572-7734
 minstrel52@hotmail.com
 Lindy Bennetch (home) 717/933-8506

BOY SCOUT TROOP 20 CORNER



The Boy Scouts of Myerstown Troop 20 had another productive month in September. The troop's monthly campout was held at the Troop Cabin due to the pending hurricane forecast. The boys who attended the September campout visited the Pennsylvania State Police Museum in Hershey. Colin Y. was the boy cook for the weekend.



Lebanon County Christian Ministries



LCCM donation request for October is cream of chicken soup and canned beef gravy. Please place donations in the box provided in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your continuing support of this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Williams at 717/866-9482.

Don't forget about all of the services that LCCM has to offer to all residents of Lebanon County. LCCM has gone through some pretty big changes and the Emergency Shelter/ Day Resource Center component is the newest addition to our list of programs. We now provide Food, Clothing, and the Fresh Start program under one roof. The overnight emergency shelter will continue to be housed at our partner churches from 8:30pm until 7:30am. The FRESH Start Resource Center is operating within LCCM during the remaining daytime hours. All of these services can be found at their 250 South 7th Street, Lebanon location. If you have a need, please call LCCM at 717/272-4400.

LCCM's Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction

This year's dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 15, and will again be held at the Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church in Jonestown (600 Shepherd St., Jonestown). This annual event includes a Themed Basket Silent Auction, special music by the Brothers in Grace Gospel Quartet, and a delicious buffet-style meal, catered by Country Home Catering. The church is sponsoring a basket this year. Please contact Carolyn Williams at 717/866-9482, for more information and to purchase tickets.

Additionally, the troop participated in their fall Adopt-a-Highway cleanup on Elco Drive. On Sunday, September 9th, Troop 417 of Schaefferstown hosted Sammy B's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The ceremony was held at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm in front of family, friends, and members of Troop 417 and Troop 20. Also, Erik H. had his board of review for Eagle Scout on September 10th at the troop cabin. His Court of Honor will be scheduled at a later date. As well, the troop supported the Cub Scout Pack 460 recruiting event at Friedens Lutheran Church on September 18th.

Troop 20 meets in the MUCC basement on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00pm from November through April. The troop meets at their land on Halfway Drive from May through October. If anyone is interested in joining Boy Scout Troop 20 (grades 6-12), they may come uninvited to any Wednesday night meeting or contact the scoutmaster Scott Hentz at (717)866-6498 or hentzs@comcast.net. If anyone is interested in joining Cub Pack 460 (grades K-5), they may contact Bobbie Yoder at (717)-933-5844. You can also visit our troop website at www.myerstownboyscouts.org.



An Update from Julius Muthengi

Date: September 6, 2018

Dear friends at Myerstown United Church of Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God has been close at hand, your shield and defender in the times of storm! Agnes and I are thankful to our God for his goodness and faithfulness.

Indeed, it has taken his grace to take us this far. We thank him too for friends like you who not only pray for us, but who are also committed to supporting us financially as we advance God's kingdom in Africa and the world. Please know that all we can do is to pray that God will bless you in a measure which he alone can do. . . Thank you so much for your gift of \$220 which you sent to us through our friend Jack.

Please let us know your decision regarding funds for maintenance of the well. Once again we pray that God will meet your every need.

Your friends in Christ,

Julius and Agnes



Happy Birthday



October

- 1 - Brittany Hartman
- 3 - Adam Bahney, Jayson Schlappich, Lee Smith, Eric Weihs
- 4 - Lois Werner
- 8 - Marianne Boltz, Betty Holdren
- 9 - Brad Kreider, Louise Seifert
- 10 - Monica Zeigler
- 12 - Nancy Hibshman, Wanda Miller, Holly Rosen, Terry Schott
- 13 - Amber Beamesderfer
- 15 - Jennifer Reppert
- 16 - Lindy Bennetch, Zachary Kulp, Bryson Runz
- 17 - Ronald Baum
- 19 - Hannah Bahney
- 23 - Kimberly J. Rittle
- 24 - Debra Arnold, David Gettle, Lynne Risser, Ken Salem
- 26 - Brianna Wentzel
- 28 - Mason Bennetch, Earnest Yeagley
- 31 - Michael Ebersole, Jr., Tina Williams

Columbus Day is Monday October 8

Columbus Day is a federal U.S. holiday that commemorates the voyage and landing of Italian explorer **Christopher Columbus** in the New World on October 12, 1492.

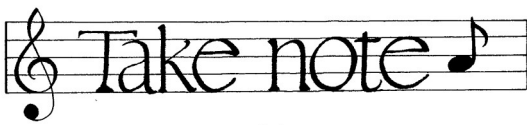
The anniversary of his landing in the New World was first formally celebrated in 1792, by the Columbian Order (Society of St. Tammany) in New York City.

Halloween is Wednesday, October 31

Worship Attendance

	9:00 am
9/2/18	75
9/9/18	no report
9/16/18	84
9/23/18	80





Council will meet Tuesday, October 2 at 6:30 pm in the Library.

Emily Frantz will be on vacation October 3 - 9.

Lindy will be on vacation September 30 - October 6.

Strong Bones fitness classes will meet the following days: October 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25 and 29 at 8:30 AM in the Social Hall. Please contact Shirley Krall for more information at 717-639-4969.

Upper Room Bible study will meet on Thursday, October 4, October 18 and 25 at 1:00 pm in the Library. If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Bicher at 717/866-6401.

Staff Meeting, Monday, October 15, in the Library, at noon.

New Horizon's fellowship's trip to the Dutch Apple Dinner Theater (510 Centerville Road, Lancaster) is on Saturday October 20 at 11:30 am. Title of the show is 'Sister Act' Meet at south end of K-Mart parking lot at 10:30 am to carpool.

Property Committee meeting TBA. Please watch the bulletin for the date of the next meeting.

Prayers and Concerns

Karen Wagner

Bradley Hunsicker, - grandson of Paulie and Margo McQuate

David Wuori



Community Meal

The meals will be served on Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13., Mar. 14, Apr. 11 and May 9. Note there will be no meals in Sept., Jan. and Feb.

The meals will be served from 4 PM to 6 PM. Note that this is a change in time. If you have never helped and would be willing to help prep, cook or serve in several ways, please see Mark Herr or Carolyn Williams. The Meal has been an ongoing community outreach of our church for about 8 years and we hope it can be continued. Please consider supporting this mission by volunteering your assistance.

Volunteering for our Youth at HersheyPark

Will you consider being a volunteer at HersheyPark this year to help earn money for our Youth Group? For each hour you work, the Youth Group gets \$6. For each shift you work (3 to 5 hours long), you get a 1-day pass, including free parking, to HersheyPark. Occasionally, 2 or 3 passes are offered for a shift. This is great to use for yourself or give to family members.



The areas where we need volunteers are Food and Beverage in HersheyPark and in the Giant Center, Games, Guest Experiences at the HersheyPark Zoo America bridge, Ushering at Giant Center and HersheyPark Stadium, Special Events (Treatville during HersheyPark in the Dark), Parking Attendant (collecting parking fees and identifying passes) as guests enter Hershey Entertainment Complex, and Retail (stocking and maintaining cleanliness of shops, selling items to guests, and operating a cash register).

If you are interested in being on the volunteer list, please call Candy Hibshman, Volunteer Coordinator, at 717/468-3563, and give her your email address and phone number. She will email you whenever she gets a request for volunteers. If you were on last year's list, please contact Candy if you'd like to remain on the list.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Friends and family members are welcome to volunteer also.

Thanks!!!



Community Meal Menu

October 11 Spaghetti/meatballs/sauce
Tossed Salad w/sweet and sour dressing
Garlic Bread
White Cake/white icing

November 8 Ham, Green Beans and Potatoes
Cole Slaw
Roll/butter
Pumpkin Pie

December 13 Amish Roast w/gravy
Broccoli w/cheese sauce
Cranberry Sauce
Roll/butter
Christmas Cookies

**No meals in January or February, then meals are served again in March, April and May of 2019.

YOUTH NEWS

ONGOING:

Gift Cards - Earn money for your youth account by sending gift card order forms to your family and friends. The orders are due the first Sunday of each month. Cards are delivered the next Sunday (or by arrangement if you will not be in worship.) It's a GREAT way to make some money for our youth group. Order forms are on the Gathering Area Information table. Or we can mail one to you, if you are interested.



Sunday School - There is a high school class, held in the Parish House Youth Room, on the 2nd floor, there is a Pre-Confirmation class led by Ellen Goodyear, there is a Confirmation class led by Pastor Rick Luciotti, held in the 'Confirmation' classroom.



**Rehearsals are on the following dates
at 7:30 pm in the Music Room.**

Wednesday, October 17
Wednesday, October 24

**Anthem Rehearsals are in the Music Room
at 8:30 am the following Sundays:**

Sunday, October 21
Sunday, October 28

Please contact Emily Frantz with any questions
at 717/383-1147 - cell



BE IN THE KNOW...

Communication and Technology Updates

Newspaper Announcements: Please look for our weekly announcements in the Lebanon Daily News in Saturday's Religion Briefs section. If there is something specific that you would like to see added to our announcement (like an upcoming event for your group) please notify the church office.

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE! Please visit us at www.myerstowncuccchurch.org for the latest information and updates about our church. While it continues to be a work in progress, we have worked hard to get this important piece of our communication up and running. In the News Tab there is a place to sign-up for specific mailing from the church. Please take a moment to check it out. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Emily Frantz at emilyfrantz@me.com or 717-383-1147.

Social media:

Facebook @myerstownunitedchurchofchrist
Instagram @muccyouth
Twitter @myerstownucc

Photographers Needed: If you enjoy taking pictures and would be willing to take some pictures of our church and church family during worship, fellowship, and special events, please contact Emily Frantz. We are working to keep adding updated pictures onto our website. Thanks!

For any questions about the Communication or Technology updates, please see Emily Frantz.



October is Pastor Appreciation month
October 14 is Pastor Appreciation Day.

Celebrated annually on the second Sunday in October falls a nonofficial holiday called Pastor Appreciation Day. Sometimes called Clergy Appreciation Day, this holiday occurs during Pastor Appreciation Month and celebrates the contributions of priests, pastors, reverends and ministers in the U.S.

Pastor Appreciation Day began with the establishment of Clergy Appreciation Month. In Timothy 1 (5:17), Paul began the concept of clergy appreciation when he stated that the elders of the church are worthy of a double honor. He reiterated this idea in Thessalonians 1 (5: 12-13) when he stated that those who work hard among you should be held in the highest regard for their work. This idea became Clergy Appreciation Month in 1992, established by pastors and religious workers. Eventually, Pastor Appreciation Day would form out of this month.

Copied from Holidayscalendar.com website

October 2018
Worship Volunteer Schedule

October 7 Open – Cal Beamesderfer
Greeter – Shirley Krall
Communion by Intinction – Jen and David Blystone
Kory and Ryan Leppo
Lector – Sally Kulp
Liturgist – Stephen Fritsch
Ushers – Kristi, Katie and Andrew Fields
Kenny Patrick

October 14 Open -
Greeters – Ted and Carol Batdorff
Lector – Darryl Brown
Liturgist – Carolyn Williams
Ushers – Travis, Angie, Gabby and Gavin Bicher
Kenny Patrick

October 21 Open – Marcia Bicher
Greeter – Sue Harvey
Lector – Marie Hibshman
Liturgist – Wanda Rabold
Ushers – Glenn, Sheryl, Olivia, and Bryson Runz
Kenny Patrick

October 28 Open - Bill and Betty Arnold
Greeters – Ed and Candy Hibshman
Lector – Emily Frantz
Liturgist – Paulie McQuate
Ushers – Kory and Ryan Leppo
Robert Dash
Kenny Patrick