

**Beachy Amish-Mennonite Ministers' Business Meeting Minutes**  
**April 3-5, 2012**

**Beachy A.M. Churches of Plain City, OH, held at United Bethel Mennonite Church**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012**

**2:50-3:05pm: Moderator/ Introduction of the Newly Ordained—Roger Hostetler**

Eighteen newly ordained brethren introduced themselves. A prayer was offered by Perry Troyer for the newly ordained.

Name	Office	Church	Location	Date
Merle Beiler	Bishop	Cold Spring M.	Abbeville, SC	April 2011
Jason Miller	Bishop	Antrim M.	Cambridge, OH	May 1, 2011
Dan Byler	Bishop	Lighthouse of Faith F.	Huntsville, AR	Jan. 22, 2012
Lavern Miller	Bishop	Rosewood F.	Middlebury, IN	Feb. 26, 2012
Ivan Miller	Deacon	Still Waters M.	Georgetown, OH	Mar. 13, 2011
Arlen Lapp	Deacon	Cayo C.F.	Esperanza Village, BZ	June 5, 2011
Lawayne Weaver	Deacon	Calvary M.F.	Blackville, SC	Oct. 16, 2011
Winston Miller	Deacon	Slanesville Com. M.	Slanesville, WV	Nov. 2011
Phil Stoltzfus	Deacon	Emmanuel M.	Amanda, OH	Mar. 4, 2012
Linnford Bender	Minister	Shady Grove C.F.	Mifflinburg, PA	June 5, 2011
Dwight Miller	Minister	Center A.M.	Hutchinson, KS	Aug. 2010
Brian Bontrager	Minister	Faith Mennonite F.	Lott, TX	Oct. 10, 2010
Wesley Yoder	Minister	Pleasant View	Arthur, IL	Nov. 2010
Brad Nisly	Minister	Cedar Crest A.M.	Hutchinson, KS	Sept. 2011
John Nissley	Minister	Pine Grove M.	Catlett, VA	Oct. 9, 2011
Tim Weaver	Minister	Faith Mission F.	Free Union, VA	Oct. 30, 2011
Dave Miller	Minister	Still Waters M.	Georgetown, OH	Mar. 11, 2012
Galen Miller	Commissioned	Believer's F.	Hudson, ON	Mar. 2010

**3:05-3:46PM: Missions Interest Committee—Rodger Byers**

General fund donations have been down considerably (-43% from last year). Hillcrest has not been able to contribute to MIC this past year because of construction. Mel Glick has served for 16 years and is ineligible for re-election. He has been replaced by Steve Swartzentruber.

*Dunmore East Christian Fellowship, Rodger Byers:*

In the absence of Ken Miller, MIC is looking for someone to fill a long term position. Dan Yoder wants to turn responsibility over to someone else in the future. Thanks for contributions.

*Hillcrest Home, Ken Nisly:*

Hillcrest is undergoing construction as an attempt to transform the institutional atmosphere into a more residential/home ambiance. The project is looking towards ground

breaking this summer with quite a bit of new building. Stories were recounted testifying to time taken to care for residents and minister to staff. Staff needs were given. Visitors are welcome.

*Northwest Ontario, Darrel Nisly:*

The new bookstore building has been purchased in Sioux Lookout on Front St. Staff contributions were noted, in this project and boys' and girls' clubs. Last year, MIC reported two stations would be disaffiliating with Beachys. The first goal is to get charity status for them; this may take two or more years. The process has been initiated. Stories shared of outreach.

*Faith Mission Home, Paul Beiler:*

FMH's model of child training is a risk because of societal perceptions; this line is walked carefully. In the past, liability insurance was not pursued, but a year ago, it was recommended. However, no company would cover FMH because of their disciplinary procedures. The document distributed describes the past liability policy, whereby the Beachy churches would support FMH in the event of a liability lawsuit, up to \$100,000. The FMH board recommends reconsidering the wording and amount raised. The board will be sending a packet with historical information and a liability plan draft. Leaders should reply back whether their church can support the proposal. In the past, an exemption was granted to FMH for payroll taxes, but in 2010, an accountant felt they could not get an exemption. After filing, the IRS said 2009 taxes are owed as well. How far back would the IRS ask for taxes? FMH appealed to their congressman. Recently, the IRS deleted the filing requirements. FMH has been a charitable organization under AMA, but to protect AMA, FMH is seeking its own charitable status.

*Comeragh Wilderness Camp, Wes Sensenig:*

The story of Comeragh Wilderness Camp was told. In Ireland some families are falling apart, and the government doesn't know how to care for the youth. Dan Yoder asked Bald Eagle, could a camp be planted in Ireland? Camp activities were highlighted. Most forest land is owned by a government agency, and after significant resistance, the government reviewed proposal sent to the government in 2009. Land was purchased to access the forest (\$185,000); \$68,000 has been paid. The camp planted 17,000 trees. Staff started by volunteering with local youth projects, then brought these groups to the camp. Last summer, a camp was run for several weeks. These initial steps mean that a full-time camp may start by September, but there are needs for more staff, new buildings, short term volunteers, and finances. First year of camp will cost around \$289,000.

3:46-4:23pm: **Bishop Committee—David Yoder**

A few years ago, Hicksville asked for counsel from the bishop committee. The bishop committee asked Rosewood Fellowship to respond to this request. Agreement was made that if any minister leaves without the church's blessing, they do so without their charge; Samson Eicher left, and thus forfeits his charge. Willard Hochstetler and Edward Hochstetler have been relieved from administration, but continue to preach.

A local committee was formed among the Hutchinson, KS churches to oversee the local

CASP programs. CAM requires a five-man committee to oversee CASP projects. This project was taken up by the three-man Peace & Service Committee, with David L. Miller and David S. King serving as additional CASP members. The committees propose combining the functions of the Peace & Service Committee and the CASP work to form an elected, five-man Peace & Service/CASP Committee. A proposal was distributed detailing the proposed transition.

Because Raymond King, a bishop committee member, suffered a stroke last summer, the bishop committee asked John U. Lapp to complete his term, which expires this year.

The majority of the time was spent on the report. David Yoder read the 2012 Bishop Committee Report (*please refer to the report*) and commented on it. Last year, the ministerial body approved the bishop committee's proposal to develop a mission statement. As the committee looked at the logistics, they decided to make it a statement of faith. In further discussion, David emphasized his desire for leaders to address heart issues instead of digging too much into defining lines.

**4:23-4:25pm: Bishop Committee Election—Roger Hostetler**

Raymond King's term has expired. He stepped off earlier, and his term was completed by John U. Lapp. The following nominees were voted on by ballot:

- ✓ Tim Miller, Dinwiddie M., McKenney, VA
- Steve Miller, Woodlawn A.M., Goshen, IN
- Monroe Gingerich, Leon Salem M., Leon, IA

**4:25-4:32pm: Penn Valley Christian Retreat—Homer Zook**

The PVCR booth contains pictures of the renovations and a letter from the administrator and ministerial board. Invitation is extended to all to come. It is difficult to get people to attend some seminars, such as the recent one, "Passing on the Vision." The Beachys are often in the minority of attendees. Renovations are basically completed, but some additional areas still need to be addressed, and some debt remains. An administrator is needed by this fall.

Elmer Schrock's term on the ministerial committee has expired. The following nominees were voted on by ballot:

- Dave Beiler, Shekinah C.F., Lewisburg, PA
- John Glick, Mine Road A.M., Kinzers, PA
- ✓ Simon Schrock, Pilgrim C.F., Stuarts Draft, VA

**4:32-4:35pm: Youth Fellowship Meetings—Luke Stutzman**

Thanks to hosting churches, this past and upcoming year. The meetings this year will be July 27-29. The five upcoming locations are:

- |               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Northeast     | Pilgrim C.F., Stuarts Draft, VA    |
| Northwest     | Sharon Bethel A.M., Kalona, IA     |
| Southeast     | Light of Hope C.F., Wytheville, VA |
| Southwest     | Shady Lawn M., Mountain View, AR   |
| North central | Antrim M., Freeport, OH            |

Verlynn Yoder's term has expired. The following nominees were voted on by ballot:

- Ernie Gingerich, Trinity C.F., Arthur, IL
- ✓ Lamar Ropp, Sharon Bethel A.M., Kalona, IA

4:35-4:42pm: **Faith Builders Educational Programs—Steven Brubaker**

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first class, held at Eastern Mennonite University in 1987. The mission is to serve the church by investing in the infrastructure of our communities. Beachys are the largest supporters of FB, including 40% of the current 2-year student class, 38% of advisory and pastoral counsel, 44% of the board, and 46% of donors. Then followed a review of programs, including a new Conservative Anabaptist Ministry Convention.

4:42-4:44pm: **Ministers' Meeting Coordination—Roger Hostetler**

Paul A. Miller's term has expired. The following nominees were taken from the floor; ballots were cast on Thursday for a coordinator to serve a five-year term (ending 2017).

- ✓ Mark Webb, Oak Grove M., Aroda, VA
- Marion Miller, Antrim M., Freeport, OH
- Thomas Mast, Maple Lawn A.M., Nappanee, IN
- Laban Kauffman, Zion C.F., Middlefield, OH

4:44-4:59pm: **Book Promotion—Simon Schrock & Elmer Glick**

Simon Schrock reviewed books offered by Choice Books and Victory Music, and Elmer Glick, by Christian Light Publications. Victory Music is making the meeting messages available.

4:59pm: **Announcements—Roger Hostetler**

Announcements. Stand for prayer.

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2012**

2:50- 2:55pm: **Moderator—Dale Miller**

Lawyer fees for the Ken Miller case is around \$45,000. There are two ways to share: through PayPal on [www.MillerCase.org](http://www.MillerCase.org) or through the deacon at Pilgrim C.F., Duane Weaver. Ivan Beachy offered a prayer for Ken and Linda Miller.

2:55-3:24pm: **Amish Mennonite Aid—Earl Peachey**

Philip Beachy's term has expired. The following nominees were voted on by ballot:

- ✓ Philip Beachy, Messiah A.M., Millersburg, OH
- Jake Bender, Light of Hope C.F., Wytheville, VA
- Merle Beachy, Faith Mission F., Free Union, VA

The financial report is not available here, but you can contact Ivan Beachy for one. In 2010, CAM donated \$1M for medicines for the El Salvador clinic, adding to the budget and gifts. A financial breakdown is not yet available. Contributions include \$142,000, totaling \$79.23 per share. Balance on hand covers approximately one month of operations,

so finances are needed. AMA anticipates issuing an audited financial statement by 2013.

*Staff Report—Ray Stutzman*

Mountain View has no slot at this meeting, but they have a booth displaying staff needs. Prayer and staff needs (especially for nurses) listed for in Belize, Paraguay, and Kenya.

*Delegation to Paraguay—Philip Beachy*

Earl & Edna Peachey and Philip & Sue Ann went to Paraguay for delegation. The camp locations are remote. La Belleza is looking for a new administrator. La Esperanza has focused on births, but more medical facilities are available in the area; perhaps there is another area where such services are needed. Philip spent a little time in El Salvador and then went to Belize. In 2011, Justin Goff was ordained at Zion (Double Head); this has been revitalizing. Consolidation has been discussed for the Pine Ridge churches (Double Head, Scotland, Isabella). They already have some joint services, including the recent ordination for one new minister among the three churches). Transportation infrastructure allows more travel among villages. The school at Scotland has closed. The Cayo mission is growing with a large school.

*First Time Impressions in Kenya—Paul Beachy*

The Kenyans have a strong desire for God's Word. Some even walk two hours to church services. Lamp & Light had 12,000 active students last year. Kenya has eleven missionary ministerial leaders and twenty-two native ministers, bishops, and commissioned leaders. The natives take their leadership seriously. Many new churches *could* be started. Presently there are around 800 members and 200 in instruction class. Instruction classes have up to 30 students at a time.

*International Population—Earl Peachey*

The native ministers, commissioned ministers, number of churches, potential outreach possibilities, and membership in each of the AMA countries were reported. AMA is open to nominees for a slate for a new board member.

**3:24-3:45pm: Calvary Bible School—Paul A. Miller**

Marvin Kauffman's term has expired. The following nominees were voted on by ballot:

- ✓ Marvin Kauffman, Leon Salem M., Leon, IA
- Thomas Mast, Maple Lawn A.M., Nappanee IN
- Aaron Yoder, Clay Street A.M., IN

Last year the ministers approved the CBS board to appoint laymen for the board. Melvin Stoltzfus was asked to be a member. Appointment approved by a floor vote (raise of hands); no dissenting votes cast.

*Financial Report—Stan Nisly*

The 2012 expenditures are just under \$200,000, leaving a balance of \$1,460. Improvements include the cabin's renovation and multimedia equipment in classrooms. The most significant cost increase was in food prices, likely because of inflation and increased local food purchases. Previously, some discounted food was acquired.

Donations for food are welcome. Facilities are available in summer months; donations help keep the facility going. Six events and five reunions are scheduled already.

*Principal's Report—Floyd Stoltzfus*

Thanks for support and sending youth. Reviews were given of courses, the Saturday evangelism teams, and the extended fasting & praying in third term. Enrollment figures include: 105 enrolled first term, 104 second, and 56 third; older students tend to enroll for third term; more students, teachers, and staff populated the campus on second term than ever before; and sixty-nine congregations were represented. Roger Byers will take over as principal mid-way through third term 2013.

*Building Report—Paul A. Miller*

Norman Kauffman is chairman of the new building committee. The main building is undersized at this point. Renovations are needed for the future. In 2013 or 2014, the board anticipates having a project to renovate this building. Funds are welcome (marked for this need). The Young Men's Discipleship Training Course conducted by Ernest Eby has been canceled for 2012. The board anticipates resuming this in 2013, to be held in western Pennsylvania.

**3:45-3:49pm: Master's International Ministries—Nathan Yoder**

Thanks extended for support, financial, gifts, and staff. Two years ago, MIM sought to move the central office from Kiev to Gorodetske. The move is complete, including a house, shop, and multi-purpose building (offices, apartments, etc.). The first Bible school occurred in Oct.-Nov., with teaching from Delbert Schlabach, David Raber, Lee Stoltzfus, local speakers, and others. A two day workers retreat, a one-day family fellowship, and a three-day youth Bible school—patterned after the area-wide youth fellowship meetings—were also held. The Bible school will be repeated this fall. Forty students were in Bible school, over half being Ukrainian nationals.

**3:49-3:59pm: Calvary Publications—Nathan Yoder**

Calvary Publications offers its monthly periodical, two tracts, and three books. Donations are welcome, as offerings are down; postage rates have increased costs. Amish-Mennonite Historical Association has asked for oversight; Calvary Publications has affirmed. Calvary Publications assists the Conservative Anabaptist School Board Program.

Elmer Glick's term expired; he was re-elected (uncontested) through a vote by hand raise.

*Conservative Anabaptist Schoolboard Program—Elmer Glick*

The program was held at Maranatha School in Holmes County. Contributions covered all expenses, plus some remaining for start-up funds next year.

**3:59-4:05pm: Amish-Mennonite Historical Association—Enos Stutzman**

Last year, the ministers authorized the formation of an ad hoc committee to organize the Amish-Mennonite Historical Association. The ad hoc board appointed Enos Stutzman, Stephen Russell, Steven Troyer, Leon Zook, and Cory Anderson. AMHA is still under formation; by-laws are being finalized and will be available later. The archives location is

a problem, since Beachys have no central office. AMHA is considering several possibilities, including a temporary portable structure, which Christian Aid Ministries in Berlin, OH is willing to provide space for. AMHA seeks to establish a permanent location that is fireproof, as well as close to an archivist. Calvary Publications is serving in an advisory position. Funding will be addressed in the near future.

Because Beachys are loosely knit, and because the group is an “association,” not a society, AMHA will be inviting other Amish-Mennonite groups to participate, as AMHA is merely collecting materials and not engaged in religious issues. This group is to stay in conservative Amish-Mennonite circles. Some groups have had connections with the Beachys and thus have relevant materials. AMHA will need to reach out to them, though they may not want to participate in an on-going effort.

Each congregation is to choose a representative, who would collect materials and submit them to the archives. These representatives would be the voting body from which board members are elected. The archive accepts sensitive materials, which are sealed until a certain date. The donor has the say-so as to when they are released. What can you do now? Pray, appoint a representative in your congregation. Cory Anderson has been collecting materials in the past and will receive your contributions at this point. Materials include almost anything that relates to our group of people, including personal writings, books, periodicals, etc.

4:05-4:08pm: **Ministers’ Meeting Coordinator Election—Dale Miller**  
Election results announced (see previous day). A verse of song followed.

4:08-4:16pm: **CAM Billboard—Johnny Miller**  
A prayer was offered for Ernest Hochstetler’s health. Billboards produce calls from many kinds of people. Billboards are in all 50 states; there is room for many more. The story was shared of “Ashley.” You can sign up for newsletters, the (phone) prayer chain, and a CD with stories.

4:16-4:26pm: **Institute for Global Opportunities—Marvin Kauffman**  
The vision is ministering to young people, including many Beachys, to give them a vision for being a disciple and fulfilling the Great Commission. An overview of programs was presented.

4:26-4:37pm: **Conservative Anabaptist Service Program—Elmer Miller**  
*Bishop Committee—David Yoder*  
Approval for the structural change presented Wednesday was voted on my ballot and passed. Two announcements for the bishop committee: a bishop’s meeting is planned for this fall, place and time to be announced. For the ministers’ meetings, if you are overlooked in receiving an invitation, you are welcome to call, or just come.

*CASP—Elmer Miller*  
A handout was distributed Wednesday, describing CASP’s history. The new title is Peace & Service/CASP Committee. Contributions are appreciated; funding is adequate, as well

as for the start next year. While past projects have been in Hutchinson, KS, other locations are also welcome. If you have questions, contact the board.

**4:37-4:46pm: Anabaptist Financial—Richie Lauer**

The purpose of Anabaptist Financial is to assist the Conservative Anabaptist brotherhood in channeling material resources and to provide stewards with Biblically-based financial counsel consistent with conservative Anabaptists beliefs. An overview of the programs was presented. Paul A. Miller is on the board; many other constituencies support Beachy programs like AMA.

**4:46-4:52pm: Amish-Mennonite Population Report—Cory Anderson**

A census of Amish-Mennonites in U.S. and Canada was conducted in January. The population has increased gradually over the past 50 years. Figures were reported for total Amish-Mennonite & Beachy (1) churches [201 & 100], (2) membership [13K & 7.5K], and (3) attendees [22.5K & 12.5K]. States with the largest population include OH, PA, IN, KY, MO, and TN. Holmes Co., Lancaster Co., and Northern Indiana are in the top three settlements, while Daviess Co. and Southern Ontario are fourth and fifth. While outreaches were greater than divisions in the 1990s, in recent years, divisions outnumber outreaches. More figures are available at the booth, including Population Reports, containing further discussion about the divisions.

A hard cover photo book of Amish-Mennonite churches will be released later this year. Congregations are requested to send a photograph of their membership to Cory by June 1 for inclusion in the book. Preorders will be sent directly to congregations.

**4:39-5:03pm: Book Promotion—Simon Schrock & Elmer Glick**

Books offered by Choice Books and Christian Light Publications were reviewed.

**5:03pm: Moderator—Dale Miller**

Gary Miller closed in prayer, asking a blessing on missions and other laborers.

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*Corrections and updates for next year's minutes may be submitted to Cory Anderson at 330-897-1426 28539 SR-751, Newcomerstown, OH, 43832 cory@beachyam.org*



Beachy Amish-Mennonite Organizations: Committee and Board Members, April 2012

**Amish-Mennonite Aid**

Earl Peachy	Chairman
Alvin Stoltzfus	Vice chairman
Ivan Beachy	Secretary-Treasurer
Paul Beachy	Member
Philip Beachy*	Member
Ray Stutzman	Personnel
Daniel Bontrager	Honorary member

**Amish-Mennonite Historical Association**

Enos Stutzman*	Chairman
Stephen Russell*	Vice Chairman
Steven Troyer*	Secretary
Leon Zook*	Treasurer
Cory Anderson	Member

**Beachy A.M. Bishop Committee**

David Yoder	Chairman
Ivan Beachy	Secretary
Tim Miller*	Member
Phil Miller	Member
Laban Kaffman	Member
<i>Outgoing: John U. Lapp (completing Raymond King's term this past year)</i>	

**Calvary Bible School**

Paul A. Miller	Chairman
Wendell Hochstetler	Vice chairman
Marvin Kauffman*	Academic dean
Norman Kauffman	Secretary
Stan Nisly	Treasurer
Mel Stoltzfus*	Member

**Calvary Publications**

Nathan Yoder	Chairman
Elmer Glick*	Vice-chairman
Enos Stutzman	Secretary
David L. Miller	Member
Ralph Miller	Member
Manferd McGrath	Member
Paul L. Miller	Editor
Mark Beachy	Treasurer-Circulation

**Ministers' Meeting Coordinator**

Mark Webb\*  
*Outgoing: Paul A. Miller*

**Missions Interest Committee**

Lorne Keupfer	Chairman
John D. Hostetler	Vice chairman
Marvin Weirich	Secretary-Treasurer
Rodger Byers	Board Member
Steve Swartzentruber*	Board Member
<i>Outgoing: Mel Glick</i>	

**Peace & Service/CASP Committee**

Tim Miller	Chairman
Merv Lapp	Member
Elmer Miller	Member
David S. King	Member
David L. Miller	Member

**Penn Valley Christian Retreat**

Alvin Beachy	Chairman
Paul R. Miller	Vice-chairman
Paul Beachy	Secretary-Treasurer
Andy Hostetler	Member
Mel Stoltzfus	Member
Loren Yoder	Member
Paul Sommers	Member
Simon Schrock	Ministerial Board
<i>(Stuarts Draft)*</i>	
David S. King	Ministerial Board
Homer Zook	Ministerial Board
Leon Overholt	Administrator
<i>Outgoing: Elmer Schrock</i>	

**Youth Fellowship Meetings**

Luke Stutzman	Chairman (NC)
Dan Byler	Secretary (SW)
Wayne Nisly	Member (SE)
Lamar Ropp*	Member (NW)
Jason Smoker	Member (NE)
<i>Outgoing: Verlynn Yoder</i>	

\*Newly elected or re-elected member