

Beachy Amish Ministers Meeting Business Sessions
April 5-6, 2006

Wednesday, April 5, 2:30 to 4:30 PM

Moderator: Roman B. Mullet

2:40 Introduction of the newly ordained

The following 16 newly ordained brethren introduced themselves, giving their office, date, and place of ordination:

1. Laverne Yoder, ordained to office of Bishop at Ebenezer Mennonite, Malta, OH, on December 18, 2005.
2. Conrad Miller, ordained to office of Minister at Arlington Amish Mennonite, Arlingotn, KS, on February 20, 2005
3. Dave Beiler, ordained to office of Minister at Shekinah Christian Fellowship, Middleburg, PA, on January 18, 2006
4. Julian Nisly, ordained to office of Minister at Center Amish Mennonite, Hutchinson, KS, on March 27, 2005
5. Wendell Miller, ordained to office of Deacon at Rosewood Fellowship, Shpshewana, IN, on October 2, 2005.
6. Joe Miller, ordained to office of Deacon at Bethel Fellowship, Berlin, OH, on November 6, 2005.
7. Marlin Miller, ordained to office of Deacon at Living Word Fellowship, Fredericksburg, OH, on February 19, 2006.
8. David Martin Commissioned to serve at Loveville Christian Fellowship.
9. Jonas Lapp, ordained to office of Minister at Bethel Christian Fellowship, Gordonville, PA, on Nov 20, 2004.
10. Matthew Peachy, ordained to office of Deacon at Valley View Amish Mennonite, Belleville, PA, on May 6, 2005.
11. Maynard Nisly, ordained to office of Bishop at Christian Mission Fellowship, Berne, IN.
12. Jonathon Martin, Faith Mission Fellowship, Free Union, VA, commissioned for service under AMA as missionary pastor at Kusumu Kenya
13. Steve Miller, ordained to office of Bishop at Woodlawn Amish Mennonite, Goshen, IN, on October 30, 2005.
14. John Nolt, ordained to office of Bishop at Zion Amish Mennonite, Thomas, OK.
15. Raymond King, ordained to office of Bishop at Cornerstone Mennonite, Burgettstown, PA on Sept 2005
16. Devon Miller, ordained to office of Deacon at Mt. Olive Fellowship, Berlin, OH. Perry Troyer, Plain City, OH, offered special prayer for these brethren and their respective callings. May God bless them with a fruitful ministry.

2:53 AMA Presentation – Earl Peachy

1. Board member election

The present board members of AMA are Ivan Beachy, Daniel Bontrager, Vernon Miller, Earl Peachy, and Alvin Stoltzfus. Daniel Bontrager's term is expiring in 2006. Slate of candidates are Daniel Bontrager (Rosewood Fellowship, Shpshewana, IN), who is eligible for re-election, Paul Beachy (Grace Mennonite Fellowship, Bastrop, TX), and Philip Beachy (Messiah Fellowship, Millersburg, OH). Daniel Bontrager re-elected to a four year term.

2. Secretaries Report by Ivan Beachy

Love offering was over 124,000, which was distributed among 126 AMA field staff, at approximately \$85 @ share, which is approximately \$3000 @ married couple and \$900 @ single youth serving a full year. The AMA auditors financial report is not yet completed at the time of this meeting, but will be made available for later distribution. If you want to receive an audited statement, contact Ivan Beachy at the information listed in the ministers directory. The monthly cash flow statement is available for pickup at the AMA display table. An overview of the 2005 finances includes Jan 1st starting balance \$335, 762, plus contributions of 1,400,000, plus designated funds in

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amount of \$362,000, plus channeled funds in amount of \$153,000, for a total revenue of over \$2,000,000, leaving a Dec 31st ending balance of 355,000. It is requested that layette bundles for Paraguay now be delivered in travelers' luggages instead regular freight shipment. If you are traveling to Paraguay and have room available in your luggage, please contact Ivan Beachy.

3. Recruiters Report – Ray Stutzman

The need for personnel for the growing work continues, as well as replacement staff. Encouraged ministers to give suggestions for missions staff; do not worry that it "may not work out". Immediate needs were presented, as well as upcoming vacancies. There is a particular need for a midwife, RN or LPN in Paraguay. In Kenya, Merle Beachys are coming home on extended furlough, being replaced by Melvin Bontrager during this time. Dave Stoltzfus's and Randy Lapps are taking back to back furloughs. Earl Peachys will cover their leave of absence.

4. Overview of Field Report – Earl Peachy

AMA mission churches ordained six brethren in the past year, which were Elisha Otieno, John Awounda, John Omandi, Joseph Musikali in Kenya, Rogelio Guterrez in Belize, and Arthur Nisley to the office of Bishop in El Salvador. With regret, it was also reported that one ordained Kenyan brother (and his wife) have been excommunicated and he has been relieved of his ministry. AMA is available to give presentations to your congregations about the work of AMA, including weekend seminars on missions.

3:20 Vote for Bishop Committee member – conducted by Moderator

The current Bishop Committee is Elmer Schmucker, Glen Yoder, Joe Peachy, John U Lapp, and Tim Miller. Elmer Schmucker's term is expiring in 2006. By policy, a Bishop is ineligible for reelection to a second term. Ballots were taken to select a slate of three candidates to be voted upon at tomorrow's business session.

3:22 MIC Presentation - Melvin Glick

Expressed appreciation for funds and staff, short-term and long term. MIC Financial Report is available at MIC booth for distribution.

1. Belgium report Acceptance of Americans in western Europe has declined, and this has its effect upon the mission's acceptance Paul Yoder family and staff are an oasis in the desert.

2. Ireland report – Daniel Yoder representing Dunmore East Christian Fellowship. Greetings from Brother William McGrath, in good spiritual and physical health, now over 75 years old. Thank you for funds donated for support of William and Alice McGrath. Ed and Lois Yoder have joined the Ireland mission in Nov 2005. One of the mission goals from the start was to become self-supporting. Grateful to report that for the past 2 years the mission has become almost self supporting through building and selling wooden lawn furniture. A new shop was built in the fall of 2005. The church is growing slowly but surely. Gave an overview of various individuals who attend church from around Western Europe. A young French brother may attend Faith Builders next year. Eight to ten Choice Books racks are serviced. Requested prayer and gave invitation to visit.

3. Faith Mission Home – Reuben Yoder Faith Mission currently cares for 60+ children with special needs. Need several staff girls in May, 2006. After 24 years of service, Reuben Yoder is transitioning leadership to Paul Beiler, who has been training supervisor for several years. Reuben shared in this final report that he has attempted to direct Faith Mission over the years in good faith and conscience, providing an environment conducive to spiritual growth for staff, so they return to home congregations better prepared to contribute there. Apologized for failures during his time as director. Thanked people for support during trying times, in particular during the lawsuit brought against Faith Mission in the mid-80s.

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3. Northern Youth Programs report - Darryl Nisley Introduced a number of current workers who are attending this meeting. Expressed spiritual warfare encountered and Spiritual mentoring performed. Financial pressure has caused thorough evaluation of programs, but God has supplied sufficient funds. Shared numerous present and future staff needs. If you know of anyone who would qualify, please advise.

4. Hillcrest Home – Ken Nisley My God shall supply all your needs. Last year we put out a plea for youth for staff. Good response, patient census increased from a low of 72 to 88, with possibilities for 90. Pray for administrative team.

3:54 Calvary Bible School Presentation – Aaron Lapp, Jr.

1. Board member elections – Aaron Lapp, Jr. Current board members are Aaron Lapp, Jr, Tim Stoltzfus, Marvin Kauffman, Ken Miller, and Gary Raber. Tim Stoltzfus was appointed to replace Lowell Mast as Treasurer and local AR representative. Tim Stoltzfus was affirmed by raised hand vote for another 5 year term. He is the local AR representative. Gary Raber has asked to be relieved of board membership. The three candidates on the slate are Paul A Miller, JD Hostetler, and Robert Miller. Paul A Miller was elected to a two year term, to complete Gary Raber's term.

2. Principal's report – Floyd Stoltzfus Thank you for the prayers, support, and gifts. In particular, the standby generator. Read report, showing rosters of Terms I, II, and III to demonstrate these students are eternal souls. This year there were 125 three week students, 64 six week students, 18 nine week students, and five 12 week students; 212 total students. Term II had 106 students, which is full capacity. Expressed appreciation for all night prayer chain during last week of Term III.

3. Financial report – Tim Stoltzfus A report may be picked up at the MIC table downstairs. CBS main building needs new siding; could use donations for this purpose. Announced that Ministers Week is scheduled from Dec 5-7, 2006, @ CBS campus. Purpose is to provide a time of learning and pastoral skill building, and relaxation and fellowship. Took hand raise count of anticipated attendance.

4:20 Misc announcements – Roman B Mullet

1. Mountain View Nursing Home, Aroda, VA Mountain View Nursing home has several upcoming staff openings. They need a mature single brother as dean of men; also a mature single sister as kitchen supervisor.

2. Penn Valley Christian Retreat PVCR has a report available at their display booth in preparation for their report at the Thursday business session.

4:22 Book Promotion – Simon Schrock (Choice Books) & Elmer Glick (CLP)

4:38 Final Announcements and adjournment. Prayer by Brother Elmer Miller

Thursday, April 6, 2:30 to 4:30 PM

Moderator: Philip Miller

2:43 Bishop Committee – Elmer Schmucker

1. Election

Roman B Mullet, Lonnie Beachy, Delmer Bontrager. Are the slate for election of a new member. Roman B Muller elected by ballot vote.

2. Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

Encouraged to pick up this book at the Choice Books display at this meeting.

3. Inter-constituency participation

Last year at the Ministers Meeting a paper by Paul Emerson was presented, expressing interest for inter-constituency communication among Anabaptist groups to address false doctrine being taught by those who move from one constituency to another, etc. .

Should the Beachy Amish Bishop Committee constituency participate in this?

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Additionally, do we need a contact person for the Beachy Amish constituency? Logically, this should be brother Mark Yoder, who is also the Ministers' Meetings coordinator. Approval of these issues by raised hand vote.

4. Two areas of concern shared which arose from discussion at a CBS Ministers Week. What can or should a congregation do when a bishop does not perform his responsibility, or overextends his responsibility? The bishop committee will be sending a questionnaire to each congregation seeking input for a future document. Secondly, a questionnaire will be sent seeking input on how to respond when there has been serious moral failure in the life of a minister. Encouraged timely response.

5. How to gracefully recognize when the time has come to step down from ministerial team participation. Encouraged open communication among the ministerial team, with an understanding that such a time will come, and work out proper timing and details.

2:57 Calvary Publications – Elmer Glick

Glen Yoder's five year term is expiring this year. The slate of candidates are Glen Yoder, who is eligible for reelection, Philip Beachy, Millersburg, OH, and Samson Eicher, Hicksville, OH. Glen Bontrager was reelected to a five year term. CM gave special recognition to the contributions of Ura Miller to CP over the past 30 years. CP thanks our congregations for continued support through church offerings. CM has been self supporting for the past five years. New offer made this year, to give a gift subscription at ½ price, \$3.75. to an unlimited number. Individual subscribers may also renew their personal subscriptions for the same amount. For a CP financial report, contact Mark Beachy. Regarding the tape ministry, it was reported last year that it is sputtering, now it is stalled, primarily due to lack of tapes submitted. The board has decided that the mechanics are still in place, so the ministry will continue for now.

3:11 School Board Committee presentation – Paul L Miller

In 2005 at the ministers meetings the need was presented to develop an annual school board meeting for Christian school board members. There is a need to establish a nominating committee to appoint board members to organize and lead this enterprise. The CP board offers to be that nominating committee, which was affirmed by a raised hand vote taken by Paul L. Miller. Would be open to receive an invitation from communities to host this event.

3:16 Youth Fellowship Meetings – Delmer Bontrager

Elections for two new committee members, Slate to replace Floyd Stoltzfus for a 5 year term for the NE District are John Lee Stoltzfus, Simon Bender, and Henry Brenneman. Simon Bender elected to replace Floyd Stoltzfus. Slate to finish Gary Raber's term as representative for NC district are Eli Schrock, Tom Wagler, and Luke Stutzman. Luke Stutzman elected to replace Gary Raber. The 2006 Youth Fellowship Meetings are scheduled on July 21-23, as follows:

NE Dist - Shady Grove, Buffalo Valley, PA

NC Dist - Antrim OH

NW Dist - Kalona, IA

SW Dist - Mt View AR

SE Dist - Montezuma, GA

3:24 Peace and Service Committee – Marvin Beachy

Current members are David S. King, Marvin Beachy, and Raymond King. Terms limited to 3 three year consecutive terms, though one is eligible for reelection after one year off the committee. A slate of candidates to replace David E King is Daniel Bontrager and Elmer Miller, with Elmer Miller elected by ballot vote.

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David L Miller presented a report on Peace and service committee issues. Possibility of a draft being enacted has increased with the current decline of new military recruits in a time of rising need. Reported on meeting in Moline, IL, convened by Christian Aid Ministries to respond to numerous requests that CAM provide work projects for alternative service in case of a draft being reenacted. There is an Alternative Service Dept. brochure available. It is important to keep our youth abreast of the nonresistant principle. Another benefit of the present CAM initiative is to create an awareness of voluntary service units and opportunities. Raised hand vote of affirmation to continue this project. Roy Jimenez, representing MCC Great Lakes region brought greetings, and presented needs for humanitarian assistance around the world. We must work together to show the love of Jesus Christ to others in their time of need.

2:43 Penn Valley Retreat report – David King

Financial report available at the display booth. 26 seminars are offered in 2006, one more than 2005. Two new topics are When Health Fails June 16-18 and Answers in Creation. PVCRC is open to suggestions for other topics. There is an annual representative meeting in June, and representatives from each congregation are invited to attend. PVCRC is an arm of the Beachy Church, and solicits your input. Current building project is expansion of the chapel, and will be done as funds permit. Edwin and Susan Troyer from Virginia will be replacing Simon Helmutz as administrators. A board position to be filled this summer for which your congregation will receive a slate of candidates. Also gave brief report of Bald Eagle Boys Camp.

2:53 Australian Christian Brotherhood – Eli Kauffman and Jason Kauffman

Success of this mission cannot be measured by number of converts, but by seed that is sown. Initial contact in Australia was made by Wm. McGrath years ago in Tasmania. Thereafter the church in Montezuma, GA assumed responsibility for the continuance of this work. Highlight is an annual conference, Lee Fisher, John Schmucker, Eli Kauffman, Phil Hershberger and Ken Kauffman are board members. Major focus is an Anabaptist literature ministry. Need another family in this mission as well. Offered newsletter, contact them to be added to list.

4:04 Ministers Meeting Coordinator report – Mark Yoder

2007 meetings to be held in Kansas, hosted by the Nov CM will publish the dates Encouraged prompt return of registration forms and lodging information.

4:08 Native Missions Endeavors report – John Dean Hostetler

Presented a report of various activities, and explained how funds are channeled through CAM. A slate of Virgil Kanagy, Wayne Nisly, and Titus Wagler was presented to replace Pastoral Board Member David Raber. Titus Wagler was elected by ballot vote.

4:12 Book Promotion by Simon Schrock and Elmer Glick

4:35 Final Announcements. Dismissal prayer by Ivan Beachy

Respectfully submitted by 2006 Recording Secretaries

Paul A Miller – Millersburg, OH

Mark Miller – Sugarcreek, OH

Please contact Paul A Miller at 330-893-2670, or trailmillers@emypeople.net with additions and - or corrections.