

## ***Myersville-Wolfsville Area Historical Society***

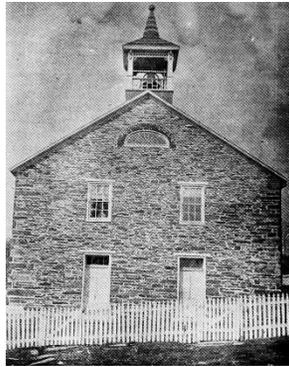
For immediate release: November 29, 2016

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### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFERS FREE TOUR OF HISTORIC COUNTRY CHURCHES**



Fourteen beautifully decorated country churches in the Myersville-Wolfsville area will be opening their doors to visitors on Saturday, December 17.

The self-drive "Country Churches Christmas Tour," sponsored by the Myersville-Wolfsville Area Historical Society, will run from 1 pm to 5 pm.

It is suggested that visitors begin their tour at the Myersville Town Hall, where annotated maps will be available, along with free refreshments, a slide show and historical displays. Docents will be available at each church to provide detailed history and answer questions.

If the snow emergency plan is in effect in Frederick County on December 17, the tour will be rescheduled for Sunday, December 18, from 1 pm to 5 pm.

For additional information, please call Fonda Gormer (301 293-2436) or Babs Savitt (301 508-7019).

The suggested tour route is as follows:

## **1. TOUR HEADQUARTERS**

Myersville Town Hall 301 Main St., Myersville.

Information, tour map, slide show, historical displays, refreshments, restrooms.

## **2. HARMONY COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Brick church built in 1879, with some renovations during the past 136 years. Basement still has dirt floor due to very large rock in the corner which cannot be removed. Bell tower with cast bell which is still rung manually every Sunday morning.

## **3. HARMONY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

Built in 1870, the original portion of the brick building incorporated some of the chestnut logs from the earlier Ann Maria Moser Church.

## **4. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Congregation celebrated its 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015. Stone church was built in 1830. Features wrap-around galleries on three sides of the sanctuary and numerous stained glass windows. It retains its two front doors.

## **5. GROSSNICKLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

Congregation established in 1760, meeting in homes and barns until wooden meeting house constructed at present site in 1847. Replaced with current brick church, dedicated in 1899. Educational unit added in 1965, with sanctuary renovations in 1969.

## **6. SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Founded in 1819. Original portion of building constructed in 1847 of natural stone covered with stucco. One of three churches on tour featuring "Christ Praying in Gethsemane" painting, by C. Guy Stambach, above the altar. Check out the Chrismon Tree with handmade ornaments!

## **7. ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Built in 1847 in the German tradition, the original native field stone building had two front entrances, one for men and one for women; these have been replaced with a single entry vestibule and projecting bell tower. Features many memorial stained glass windows.

## **8. GARFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Congregation formed 1900 as Mt. Carmel United Brethren in Christ Church. Became Garfield Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1946. Original wooden building replaced with modern brick structure in 1966; celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of current building. Features a soaring wood ceiling and stained glass back wall.

**9. MT. BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Founded as a Methodist Episcopal Church in 1836. Chestnut Church replaced by brick structure in 1903. Rebuilt after a fire in 1967, it retains two separate entries. Has sloped aisles to chancel area and stained glass windows.

**10. MT. MORIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Congregation organized in 1829. Current stone church with stunning stained glass windows was rebuilt in 1919 following a fire. The lower walls of the current church are the original walls of the previous structure.

**11. PLEASANT WALK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Congregation founded as Mt. Olive United Brethren in Christ. Stone church built in 1867; projecting bell tower added in 1902. Undecorated door and window openings reflect strict United Brethren philosophy.

**12. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Congregation formed in 1851 as a mission church of St. John's. The current structure was dedicated in 1874 after the original was destroyed by fire. The sanctuary features a Moller pipe organ and stained glass windows.

**13. MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Original portion of church built in 1892, after storm destroyed the 1852 church. Features include handsome stained glass windows and an organ built by the M. P. Moller Company.

**14. MYERSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

Congregation formed in 1913 by former members of the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren. Cornerstone obtained in Schwarzenau, Germany, the birthplace of the denomination. Stones for foundation from old paper mill on Monument Rd.