



# The New Vision

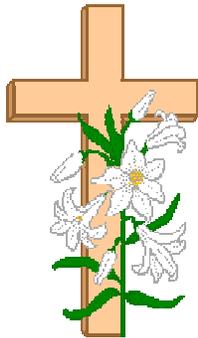
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All are invited to participate in our Adult and Children's Sunday School Classes at 9:00 a.m. and Coffee Hour at 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service begins at 10:15 a.m. Nursery is available for younger children.

#### Our Staff:

- Becky Fuchs – Pastor
- John Hess – Director of Music
- Gloria Hess – Organist
- Amy Boshnaugle – Puppet Ministry
- Jackie Sands – Secretary
- George Schwert – Custodian

Mountville Church of the Brethren is located at the corner of College, Hoover, & Clay Streets in Mountville, PA. If you have further questions regarding the Mountville Church, please feel free to call the church office at 717-285-5122 or 717-285-7424.

## THESE FORTY DAYS

During the 40 days of Lent we are called to draw closer to God. We invite you take advantage of these Lenten worship opportunities that may guide you to a closer walk with God and more faithful discipleship of Jesus Christ.

Feb. 28 Becky Fuchs will preach the last of the sermon series "Those Binding Family Ties." The sermon will be *Winning at Pick-Up Sticks* based on Ruth 4. Our Chancel Choir will sing.

March 6 On this third Sunday in Lent Becky Fuchs will preach *The Value of Manure* based on Luke 13:1-9. Hands 4 Him Puppets will be in worship and our children will collect the Two Cent Offering. Our Chancel Choir will sing.

March 13 Nancy Hess will preach *Costly Love* based on John 12:1-8. Beverly Butts will provide special music.

March 20 Palm Sunday worship begins our observance of Holy Week. Worship will begin with our traditional palm procession led by our Chancel Choir and our children. We will then transition to the telling of Passion story from the gospel of Luke through a series of scripture lessons, readings, hymns and choral anthems.

March 24 Maundy Thursday Love Feast will begin at 7:00 p.m. Join us as we follow Jesus' command to wash one another's feet and share the bread and cup in remembrance of him. Children who have not been baptized are encouraged to attend and observe feet-washing and communion. Child care is available for those who do not wish to attend the service. **Please sign up on the bulletin board across** from the mailboxes if you need childcare so we can make the proper arrangements.



# Pastor's Ponderings

There's something about a blizzard!! The beauty of it, the power of it, the quietness it brings to the earth. Although most of the snow that fell on the weekend of January 23-24 has melted, that storm will live in our memories and the record books for a long time.

As I watched the snow fall and fall and then fall a lot more, I was fascinated by the variety of shapes the snow and wind created on our patio and in our backyard. It seemed as if a sculptor had worked with the snow, molding it into unique and pillowy soft shapes. Hills and valleys made of snow appeared on our patio. A gentle slope descended from the top of one door to the porch below, creating a perfect ski slope for an imaginary skier. A small basin was carved at the base of our picnic table. It was artistry of the most magnificent kind!

As I watched the wind sculpt the snow into beautiful and varied shapes, I thought about the ways God attempts to sculpt us. God tries to mold us into more loving disciples and more obedient followers of Jesus so we can do the work of ministry God calls and

needs us to do and so we can know the peace that comes only from God. Each little snowflake that fell had no choice but to yield itself to the more powerful wind. But we human beings have the strength to resist the gentle winds of God's spirit that want to shape us and form us. The result is that we are not yet formed into the people God needs us to be.

During Lent we are called to grow closer to God by letting go of all the things that interfere with the sculpting work of the Holy Spirit. It takes a certain amount of courage to let go of the habits, the things, the attitudes, and perhaps some of the people who stand in the way of our closer relationship with God. So it's important to remember that our God is strong, trustworthy and faithful. God assures us that when we yield and allow the Spirit to sculpt us, we will find ourselves transformed. We will know a deeper peace than we have known before. We will be sculpted into people who bear the image of our Creator and who are better equipped to help sculpt the whole world into a place where love, peace, and justice abound.

## Health Ministry Corner: *Do You Know Your "Heart Age"?*

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, your Heart Age is the age of your heart and blood vessels as a result of your risk factors for heart attack and stroke. Ideally, your Heart Age should be the same or younger than your actual age. Some things that put you at risk for heart disease, such as family history and increasing age, cannot be changed. But there are many changes that can make your heart younger!

The most common reasons for a higher Heart Age are high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, obesity, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, and diabetes. The Framingham Heart Study showed that 1 in 2 men and 2 in 5 women in the United States have a Heart Age 5 years older than their actual age! Having a blood pressure reading of less than 120/80 lowers your Heart Age. You can have your blood pressure checked every month here at church by your Parish Nurses!

If you want to lower your Heart Age, choose a risk factor (or two!) that you are ready to change, and focus on improving that. Talk with your doctor to help you make heart-healthy choices for a lower Heart Age.



## THESE FORTY DAYS cont. from front cover

March 25 Community Good Friday service will begin at 3:00 p.m. in our fellowship hall. **Piercing Word**, a drama ministry that performs scripture will present a compelling dramatization of the Passion Story. Don't miss this unique worship opportunity. For more information about the Piercing Word ministry go to [www.piercingword.org](http://www.piercingword.org).

### March 27 EASTER SUNDAY

A community Sunrise Service will be held at 7:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday in the Mountville Community Park. Come and join the growing number of community members who want to be the first to proclaim, "He is risen indeed!" This 30 minute service features scripture readings, meditations, and brass choir. A Continental breakfast will be served at St. Paul's United Methodist church following the service.

At 10:15 we will gather in our sanctuary to celebrate and rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Becky Fuchs will preach. Our Chancel Choir will help us experience the joy of re-birth with the beautiful strains of music. A brass ensemble will add to the celebration.

## Dessert Auction Thanks - Youth Parents' Perspective

We both grew up in very large Brethren congregations. Our youth groups literally had dozens of kids in them. So, youth activities, retreats, work camps, and National Youth Conference meant a lot of money out of tight family budgets and the endless drudgery of fundraisers-of-the-month.

Thirty years later, we are parents of youth. Thanks to you, our experience with youth fundraising is very different. We were so touched by the overwhelming congregational support at the 4th Annual Youth Dessert Auction held on January 30. A spirit of love filled the event--from the deacons and youth advisors who organized the meal and auction to the sharing of food and table fellowship to the incredible 61 donated homemade goodies to the good-natured bidding and the generosity of those who donated to the youth program "just because". Some walked away empty-handed, but we hope none walked away empty-hearted!

This year's dessert auction raised over \$1,225. That came from a 90 year old making a delicious batch of Divinity, young parents making muffins and cookies, mentors taking the time to help youth in the kitchen, creative men experimenting with pie recipes and experienced homemakers who whip up their delights with their eyes closed...almost! That \$1,225 came from faithful hearts who believe in the possibility of our youth and want to help "train them up in the way they should go." Thank you! Nancy and Steve Hess, Youth Parents

## Adult Sunday School



During the month of March this class will continue their study of the Short Term Disciple Study "Invitation to Romans". Classes include video material and discussion. Teachers this month are Dave Fuchs, Larry Booz and Nancy Hess.



# Bits 'n Pieces

We extend our best wishes to Amy Boshnaugle and Joel Sensenig who became engaged to be married on January 29.

We extend our sympathy to Lyn Brubaker, daughter of Bill and Jean Carlin, following the death of Lyn's husband Joe on January 15. Lyn's home address is 55 Main Street, Landisville, PA for those who want to reach out via cards and notes. Please keep Lyn and the Brubaker and Carlin families in your prayers as they grieve this loss.

We have learned of the death of Anna Brandt. Anna was the widow of Luke Brandt who died on November 22, 2015. Luke served as pastor of the Mountville congregation from 1966-1972. A memorial service for Luke and Anna will be held at the Lancaster Church of the Brethren on Thursday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m. Visitation will be from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

The beautiful Christmas cards you sent really cheered me. I also appreciated the lovely prayer shawl from the Stitch, Sew, and Share group and the visits from Pastor Becky and Marian. Please continue to remember me in your prayers as I enter the hospital for a few days this coming week for radiation. Love, Sally Soto

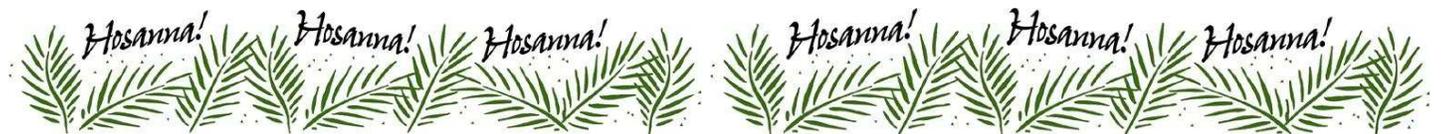
Thank you for the bag of beautiful Christmas cards and the snacks that were included. I really appreciated it! - Ethel Good

Thank you for your prayers, and cards and for remembering me during my surgery.  
- Bertha Finkbiner

We appreciate the many ways you have multiplied our joy as we welcomed a new grandson Jackson William Pierce into the world and into our family on Tuesday, February 2. Thank you for your good wishes, cards, gifts, and your prayers. Jack is the son of our daughter Martha and her husband Todd and is the little brother of Emma. We feel blessed to have such a caring faith family to rejoice with us. Dave and Becky Fuchs

Thank you for your generous support of the Nigeria Crisis Response. With this gift, you are walking in solidarity with Nigerian people who have been left homeless, hungry, and in mourning by the escalating violence of the terror group, Boko Haram. You may visit the Nigeria blog site [www.brethren.org/nigeriablog](http://www.brethren.org/nigeriablog) for weekly stories, EYN devotions and reports from church leaders and volunteers in Nigeria. Finally please pray for peace in Nigeria. Your prayers serve as a lifeline of grace to comfort and strengthen our Nigerian sisters and brothers during this painful crisis. - Church of the Brethren Nigeria Crisis Response Team

Address Change: Amy Boshnaugle, 455 W. Route 897, Reinholds, PA 17569



# March Birthday Blessings & Anniversary Wishes

## Birthday Blessings to:

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Austin Mutzabaugh | 6 Cece O'Day      |
| William Wolford     | 8 Dan Bare        |
| 2 Mary Finkbiner    | 9 Ali Barclay     |
| 3 Janet Schwert     | 10 Andrew Weitzel |
| 4 Angela Stinebaugh | 14 Jim Musser     |
| 5 Michael Field     | 18 Jackie Hart    |
| Sarah Repkoe        | 20 Heidi Keller   |
| 6 Joel Musser       | 26 Carol Ritchie  |
| Laura Wagner        |                   |

## Happy Anniversary to:

- |                              |
|------------------------------|
| 9 Chuck & Terry Few          |
| 11 George & Janet Schwert    |
| 14 Dean & Carolyn Berrier    |
| 20 Lester & Dianna Zimmerman |



*Happy Anniversary!*

*Please contact the church office if your birthday or anniversary was missed. Thank you.*

<b>Mountville COB January</b>	<b>2016 Offerings</b>
For General Fund	\$ 21,218.00
Continuing Our Vision	\$ 19,349.70
Designated	\$ 3,687.54

The Health Ministry Team is providing this list of Members and Friends who are unable to attend church regularly.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Merlin & Flora Jean Beam<br>1400 Enterprise Dr.<br>Lynchburg, VA 24502<br>434-239-0889<br><i>Birthdays: Merlin 2/6<br/>Flora Jean 8/7<br/>Anniversary: 10/9</i> | Ethel Good<br>3604 Horizon Dr.<br>Lancaster, PA 17601<br>285-3920 <i>Birthday: 9/26</i><br><br>Olive Kline<br>203 Greenbriar Circle<br>Lancaster, PA 17603<br>397-5386<br><br>Betty Mowrer<br>c/o Vanessa Klaus<br>2251 Oswego Dr. Apt. 7<br>Columbia, PA 17512<br>681-2351 | Miriam Sampsel<br>2401 McKee II<br>551 Free Mason Dr.<br>Elizabethtown PA 17022<br>361-5601 <i>Birthday: 10/19</i><br><br>Gene & Barbara Swords<br>3001 Lititz Pike,<br>Lancaster, PA 17606<br>560-0345<br><i>Birthdays: Gene 10/25<br/>Barbara 1/31<br/>Anniversary: 8/26</i> |
| Ruth H. Bushong<br>3001 Lititz Pike<br>Lancaster, PA 17606<br>560-4929 <i>Birthday: 10/10</i>   |   |  |

★ *Please remember these persons in your prayers, cards, phone calls and visits. We suggest you contact the church office, 285-5122, with any additions or changes.*



# LOOKING AHEAD



"Guess Who's COMING  
TO DINNER?"

Sunday, April, 24, 2016

Watch for details!

*Deadline for the April 2016 New Vision articles is Sunday,  
March 13, 2016.*



*"Your young . . . shall see Visions -  
your old . . . shall dream Dreams."  
- Acts 2:17-21*

**Address Service Requested  
Dated Material Enclosed**