



The New Vision

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*Be merciful,
JUST AS YOUR FATHER
is merciful.*
LUKE 6:36

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.

Coming Attractions

May 1 - Youth Sunday. Our youth are helping to plan and will lead worship. Through scripture jam, drama, music and words, they will help us explore the importance of putting our faith into action. Puppets will be in worship and we will collect the Two Cent Offering.

May 15 - Pentecost. Help us celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit given to followers of Jesus. Becky Fuchs will preach *Keeping the Fire Going* based on Acts 2:1-21. Our Chancel Choir will sing and we will have bread and cup communion.

Following worship, we will enjoy a covered dish luncheon. Becky and Dave Fuchs will share pictures and stories about their trip to Haiti in November.

May 22 - Don Fitzkee, Chair of the Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren and Director of Development for COBYS will preach.

June 5 - Graduate Recognition & Teacher Appreciation
We will honor our graduates from college, graduate school and technical schools in our worship. We will also express appreciation to all those who have been serving as teachers and caregivers in our Education and Children's Worship programs. We will also consecrate all the youth and advisors who are attending work camp later in June.

Adult Sunday School Continues with "The Wired Word"

The Wired Word, a scripture based Sunday School lesson dealing with current events, will continue throughout the month of May.

Discussion leaders will include Forrest Collier, Larry Booz and Dave Fuchs. Come and see how Christians respond to what is happening in our world and to share your views on the subject!

Pastor's Ponderings

One of the things I ponder, but don't talk about enough is our individual calls to ministry. At baptism or when we join this church and renew our baptismal vows, each of us is initiated into ministry in the Church of the Brethren. The Apostle Paul calls each of us to use the spiritual gifts we have been given for the good of the body, in other words for the benefit of the ministries of our congregation. Paul tells us that there are a variety of gifts, but each gift is essential for the health of the body—our congregation. Our ministry is not fully what God desires or needs it to be unless everyone is using their unique gifts in some sort ministry.

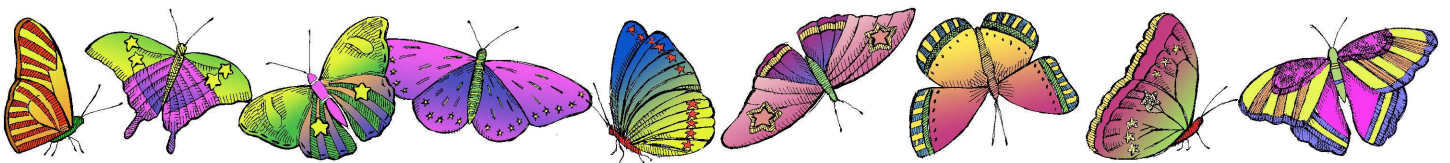
So each one of us is asked to find the ministry that best uses our gifts and go to work! Regardless of your life experience, your history of church involvement, your age or ability, there are opportunities for each of you to be involved in ministry.

Here are some possibilities for you to consider:

- **Ministry of Prayer.** Prayer support means so much to folks who are ill or going through a rough time. If you are able to pray for folks, we could be part of our prayer chain. Prayer concerns are communicated by phone or email. If you feel called to this ministry, call the church office or speak to me.
- **Children's Ministry.** Children learn to know the stories of the Bible, learn about Jesus, and learn how to worship in Sunday School and in Children's worship. If you feel called to help our children grow in faith, we need adults to be helpers in children's ministry. No experience necessary; you can be trained to do the simple things helpers need to do. We will ask all volunteers to get the legal clearances the state requires for people working with children, but we'll help you with that!

- **Compassion and Friendship.** If you have a loving heart and enjoy people, we have members who can't get out much and who would enjoy an occasional visit or a phone conversation once a week. This is definitely a ministry that benefits the giver as well as the recipient.
- **Music.** We have a great choir and they are always eager for new singers. If you have the gift of music and are willing to set aside an hour a week, speak to John Hess. Our worship is enhanced by this vital ministry.
- **Encouragement and Support.** We have a greeting card ministry that reaches out to friends and members who are celebrating or going through a rough time. You will be given names and addresses of folks who might appreciate a card. All you need to do is choose a card, sign it and drop it in the mail. Please speak to me or Marian Bollinger if you have interest in this ministry.
- **Service.** Occasionally we have folks who need a ride to the doctor or may need a meal prepared for them. If you have interest in reaching out in this way, let me or one of the deacons know.

We have a loving, friendly, caring congregation. I hear this time and time again and I see it myself. But I believe we have a lot more unleashed potential. Each one of us is called to find a ministry in which to be involved so that we can share even more of the love of Christ with our brothers and sisters. I encourage you to take some time and discern how you are called to offer your time and talents for the good of your brothers and sisters in our congregation and throughout our community and our world.



Bits 'n Pieces

Many thanks to everyone who contributed time, talents and their faithful spirits to a variety of worship experiences during Holy Week. -Becky

On behalf of Hands Across the Street, I would like to thank you for your generous gift of \$1,330 to benefit our outreach programs. Your contribution will benefit the work that we are doing to help people in Columbia.

With much appreciation, Rev. David Powers

About two years ago, over 200 girls were kidnapped from a school in Chibok. Many of the girls were members of Church of the Brethren in Nigeria. Every congregation in the US was given the name of one girl and asked to pray for her. The young woman we were asked to pray for is Margret Shettima. We recently received this picture of Margret. At this point we have no idea where she is, what she is being forced to do, or if she is even alive. But we ask you to continue to pray for this beautiful young woman and all the other girls who are still missing.



Magret Shrttima

Kitchen Upgrade, Sanctuary Painting Scheduled

Needed improvements to our church kitchen and sanctuary are in the works!



Our Stewardship Team, with the support of Leadership, are moving forward with plans to replace the island work area in our church kitchen with new cabinetry and laminate countertop. The new cabinets and countertop will provide additional spacious, accessible, closed storage space.

Plans to repaint our sanctuary walls and most of the woodwork are also moving ahead. The work is planned for this summer. Stewardship Committee, after having gone out to bid with three contractors, chose Joel's Painting. The Stewards also drafted a color selection committee comprised of Nancy Hess, Janet Schwert, Janice Booz, and Linda Bushong. After consulting with an interior design specialist, the committee chose soft neutral shades including "sautéed mushroom" and "toasted almond" to replace the blue colors in place for the past 34 years!

Total cost of the kitchen and sanctuary upgrades will range approximately \$17 to \$22K. Some funds will come from surplus set aside from last year and the remainder from Stewardship accounts.

Health Ministry Corner

Spring Allergies are Here!

Trees are starting to bloom and billions of pollen grains are released into the air. Tree pollens are the main cause of Spring allergies, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. (Grasses and weeds pollinate in late Spring through Summer and Fall.) 17.6 million people in the U.S. have Spring allergies, which is manifested by sneezing, runny nose, tearing eyes, sinus headaches, and itchy, scratchy throats. Pollen can also trigger asthma attacks when the airway becomes inflamed and airflow is obstructed.

Pollen initiates an allergic reaction in people with allergic antibodies, and this causes a release of a chemical called histamines by the body. These histamines cause inflammation and produce the allergy symp-

toms. Family history is a significant factor of allergies; a child who has a parent with allergies is more likely to have allergies also. There are some things you can do to help control your allergy symptoms:

- Limit your exposure to pollens by remaining indoors when the pollen count is elevated;
- Keep your windows closed, especially in the morning when pollen counts are often higher;
- Don't drive with your windows open, as this can make you more susceptible to the effects of pollen; use your car's air circulation and/or conditioner.

Talk to your healthcare provider to see if you should be using medications to help with your allergies.

Covered Dish Lunch and Haiti Program

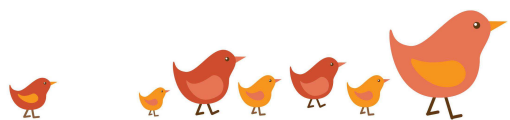
Immediately following worship on May 15 we will enjoy a covered dish meal in our Fellowship Hall. After the meal Becky and Dave Fuchs will share pictures and stories of their November trip to Haiti.

Please bring a hot or cold covered dish to share for the meal. All hot dishes should be thoroughly cooked. Our kitchen crew can warm foods, but is not able to cook a variety of foods at a variety of temperatures for a variety of times. We are able to plug in crock pots if you want to bring your food in a crock pot.

Continuing Our Vision Update

Our church received COVT contributions totaling \$44,985 from Mountville members and friends for the period of January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2016. As of April 1st, our debt stood at approximately \$375,000. This number represents \$36,000 in principal reduction for the first quarter of 2016.

Continued generous giving allows Mountville Church not only to meet all its regular obligations, but also to make great progress toward debt reduction. Watch that red line descend toward total freedom from debt on our COVT chart. It's on the wall above the water fountain in the upper narthex.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Mountville COB March	2016 Offerings
For General Fund	\$ 21,023.25
Continuing Our Vision	\$ 18,377.00
Designated	\$ 2,859.24

Dolls for Healing By Charlie Worrall

Boko Haram. Boko Haram. Boko Haram.

Even the sound of the African terrorist group's name alone causes our "tears to fall over that wounded place" of Nigeria. Since it emerged in 2003, Boko Haram's militant followers have spread its violent insurgency by killing people; destroying villages, buildings and churches; and targeting anyone thought un-Islamic. That generally has meant terrorizing Africa's large segment of Christians in Nigeria among whom are our sisters and brothers in the EYN, the Nigerian Church of the Brethren.

The severest legacy of Boko Haram's destruction, however, is invisible to the eye. Emotional and spiritual abuse bores into the very depths of trauma victims' souls, leaving feelings of constant danger, being overwhelmed, having frightening emotions, the haunting by horrific memories. Trust, connectedness, orientation, normalcy are disentangled from the heart. They lodge painfully where the victims would rather not go.

Our Stitch 'n Sew 'n Share group of sewers and knitters has found a compassionate, loving way to touch the Nigerian women and children directly affected by the horror of Boko Haram's violence. They are contributing to the victims' trauma therapy which combines art and play materials stitched together in the form of hand-sewn dolls. The dolls are then used as comfort items in the trauma-healing training workshops of Children's Disaster Services (CDS). CDS representatives are traveling to Nigeria later this spring. The dolls are dark skinned with bright dresses or shirts and with scarf caps. These are items that can be made locally in the future.

Across oceans and cultures, the convergence of peoples to support one another is testament to the fact that ours is a God whose love directs our souls and inspires our actions.

Thank you Stitch 'n Sew 'n Share for the healing you enable, and the witness to faith you show us all through your outreach.



Camp Swatara Happenings!

Camp Swatara is looking for **paid and volunteer staff** to serve this spring and summer as assistant cooks, housekeeping assistants, nurses, and counselors. Contact camp at 717-933-8510 or info@campswatara.org to get more information.

We're "**heading West**" at Camp Swatara as the renovations begin on the West Retreat this summer and fall. For more information about a final "sleepover" in the West Retreat on Friday, May 27th and helping with demolition in early summer, contact the camp office at 717-933-8510 or info@campswatara.org.

Give Camp Swatara a hand "up the mountain" at the **Mountainside Work Weekend** scheduled for May 13-14th. Contact Jason Haldeman, Program Coordinator at 717-933-8510 or jhaldeman@campswatara.org for more information or to sign-up.



Mark your calendar for the **27th Annual Golf Fore Camp Tournament** on July 13th at the Blue Mountain Golf Course. More information and registration forms will be available soon!

May Birthday Blessings & Anniversary Wishes

Birthday Blessings to:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Dell Boshnaugle
Carey Taylor | 15 Steven O'Day
17 Ruth Boshnaugle |
| 4 Kevin Wolford | 20 Foster Eckenrod |
| 5 Gretchen Brock | 21 Caitlin Berrier |
| 6 Michael Graham
Jeff Harmes | 22 Amanda Ritchie
Beverly Ritzman |
| 7 Tess Wolford | 24 Michael Wagner |
| 8 Margo Smith | 28 Mary Jane Winters
Mark Yoh |
| 12 Brenda Yoh | 29 Janice Booz
Clyde Burkholder |
| 13 Art Thomas
Betsy Thomas | 30 Carolyn Berrier |
| 14 Bryce Eberly
Walt VanderHeijden | 31 Sara Wagner |

Happy Anniversary to:

- | |
|---|
| 3 Wayne & Shirley Smith |
| 4 Brett & Sherri Barto |
| 6 Glenn & Ruthie Bushong
Harry & Dorothy Light |
| 11 Jack & Cindy Abel |
| 15 Walt & Kathy VanderHeijden |
| 24 John & Chris Musser |
| 25 Mike & Pey McAllister |
| 28 Lloyd & Bertha Finkbiner |
| 29 Steven & Nancy Hess |
| 30 Jim & Kathy Long |



Happy Anniversary!

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

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

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

MAY SERVERS


Ushers
 Jeff Harmes
 Geoff Hess
 Joel Musser
 Daryl Strine

Worship Leaders
 1 - Youth
 8 - Michael Graham
 15 - Holly Mele
 22 - Joel Musser
 29 - Dottie Light

Acolytes
 1 - Amanda Ritchie
 8 - McKenna Wolford
 15 - Alex Wolford
 22 - Catherine Repkoe
 29 - Alexa Taylor

Children's Ministry

1 – Joyce Kerns, Lois Silver, Joan Boshnaugle, Love Simegn
 8 – Kitty Collier, Holly Mele, Carol Ritchie, Amanda Ritchie
 15 – Margie Musser, Kitty Collier, Carey Taylor, Alexa Taylor
 22 – Sarah Repkoe, Louise Graham, Lisa Boshnaugle, A J Taylor
 29 – Nanette Bushong, Beth Hess, Amy Boshnaugle, Love Simegn



PUZZLE

A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem.
 His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture.
 What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

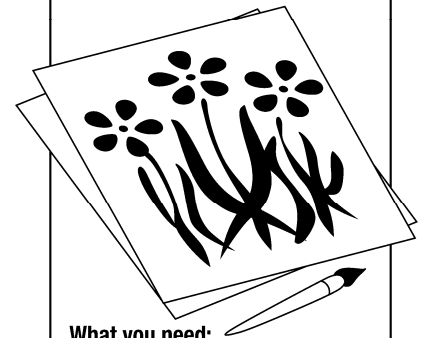
A E I O U Y

B__t M__r__ tr__s__r__d
 __p __ll th__s__ th__ngs
 __nd p__nd__r__d th__m
 __n h__r h__rt.
 L__k__ 2:19, NIV

Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV

SPRING

Make this beautiful craft to remind you of God's gift of new life at springtime.



What you need:

- White 11" x 17" paper
- Acrylic paint (various spring colors, including green)
- Paintbrush
- Empty two-liter plastic bottle
- Paper plates
- Paper towels

What you do:

1. With the paper placed vertically, paint stems and leaves with green paint.
2. Pour a different color of paint onto a paper plate. Then place the bottom of the bottle into the paint.
3. Using the bottle as a stamp, press it onto the paper to create a flower atop a green stem.
4. Repeat with different colors on different plates, cleaning the bottle each time, to create a beautiful spring bouquet.



LOOKING AHEAD

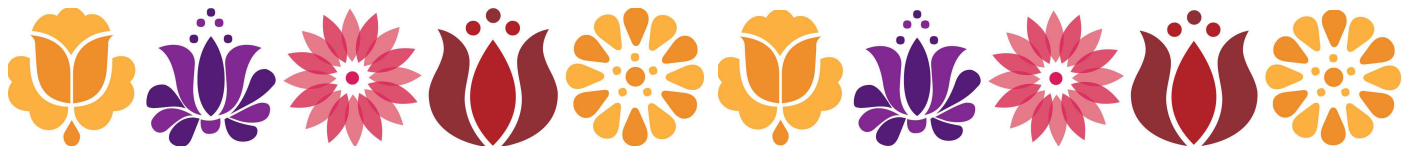
Junior High Workcamp, Brooklyn: June 15-19

Sr. High Workcamp, North Carolina: June 19-26

Annual Conference: June 29-July 3

Blessing of the Students & Pizza Party: August 28

Campfire Worship in Fellowship Hall: September 4



Deadline for the June 2016 New Vision articles is Sunday, May 8, 2016.



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

**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**