

DO NOT BE AFRAID

Have Joy

MOUNTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



*Fostering growth in faith,
growth in community, and growth in service.*

December 12, 2021 10:15 a.m.

**Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound booth.
Large print bulletins and hymnals are available in the narthex.
*Congregation stands in body or spirit.**

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Clarinet Concerto, Movement II, Adagio* Mozart

*CALL TO WORSHIP^

In the times of darkness and fear, God is ever near to love and guide us.

Come, Loving God, fill our hearts

In the times of joy and dancing, God is ever near in celebration.

Come, Loving God, fill our hearts

At all times and in all places, God is always with us, sustaining, healing, loving.

Come, Loving God, fill our hearts with Joy.

*HYMN *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* (v. 1,3,5,6) 172

*INVOCATION^

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH back page

COMMUNICATING WITH GOD

SCRIPTURE *Philippians 4:4-9* 198

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

HYMN *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* 71

RESPONDING

INVITATION TO GIVE^^

OFFERTORY *What is this lovely fragrance* Kilhden

*DOXOLOGY 119A

*OFFERTORY PRAYER^^^

PROCLAIMING

SPECIAL MUSIC *Clarinet Concerto, Movement III, Allegro* Mozart

SERMON *Rejoice, the Lord is Near* Rev. Angela Finet

SENDING

*HYMN *Joy to the World* 318

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION OF SONG *You Shall Go Out with Joy* 427

*POSTLUDE *O Thou that Tellest* arr. Smith

^Townley, Nancy C. Ministry Matters Website. Published December 12, 2021. Used with permission. Adapted.

^^Beu, B.J. *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017*. (Abingdon Press: Nashville, TN. 2016). Pg. 261. Used with permission.

^^^Harader, Joanna. Spacious Faith Blog <https://spaciousfaith.com/2017/12/01/offertory-prayers-for-advent/> Published December 1, 2017. Used with permission.

Mission Statement

The Mountville Church of the Brethren invites all children, youth, and adults to connect with Jesus Christ through meaningful worship, engaging spiritual growth opportunities, caring fellowship, practical peace-making, and compassionate service to local and global neighbors.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CONGREGATIONAL INTRODUCTION *Kindle a Flame**

Musical notation for the first part of the congregational introduction. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: Kin - dle a flame to light - en the dark and

Musical notation for the second part of the congregational introduction. It continues with the same treble and bass clefs and key signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: take all fear a - way.

RESPONSIVE LITANY

When I look around, I see shadows of sadness, families in homeless shelters, people in prison, people who have become invisible and forgotten.

In the face of sadness, we light a candle of joy.

When I look around, I see shadows of grief and loss, people dreading the holidays because of empty chairs, people who don't want to spend another Christmas alone.

In the face of grief, in the face of loss, we light a candle of joy.

May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

Do not be afraid! God's joy is at hand!

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

CONGREGATIONAL REFRAIN

Congregation, please sing as directed.

**Kindle a Flame*: Hymnal Supplement, pg. 1034

In God's Service Today

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| | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Pastor | | Angela Finet |
| Music Director | | John Hess |
| Organist | | Gloria Hess |
| Worship Leader | | Michael Graham |
| Acolyte | | Nahom Bekele |
| Advent Wreath | | Marilyn & Vincent Geist |
| Special Music | Clarinet | Beverly Butts |
| | Piano | Sarah Repkoe |
| Ushers | Beth Hess, Steve Hess, Bob Keller, Holly Mele | |
| Children's Ministry | Margie Musser, Beth Hess | |
| Nursery | Betsy Thomas | |
| Greeters | Bob & Heidi Keller, Forrest Collier, Joel Musser | |
| Prayer Chain | Mary Finkbiner, 717-581-5767 | |
| | Linda Bushong, 717-898-3330 | |
| Security | John Musser | |

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The flowers in the worship center are given to the glory and honor of God by Jeralyn Rettew in memory of her mother, Edith Kauffman

The 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in your church mailbox. Any member or non-member that would like them and doesn't currently receive them, please contact Linda Weber.

Beverly Butts has been a member of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra (MSO) since 1983. She is also a member of the Bavarian Barons German Band and the March Masters Band. In addition to performing, teaching is also an important part of her career. She has been on the faculty of Dickinson College, Elizabethtown College and York College of Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a member of the music faculty at Lebanon Valley College where she teaches clarinet, woodwind methods, and conducts the clarinet choir.

For the safety of everyone as the COVID numbers continue to rise in Lancaster County, the Leadership Team asks that everyone wears a mask to participate in the receiving line following worship each Sunday morning. Thank you for your care of our beloved community.

Prayer Ministry Updates

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. (James 5:16b)

Please add the following people to your prayer list:

- Continue to keep George and Janet Schwert in your prayers.
- District Prayers: Today we are praying for the Atlantic Northeast District Office. Wilmington COB is praying for us.

A BIT OF CHRISTMAS CHEER

The Deacon's Health Ministry Team invites you to help spread the love of Christ this Christmas by giving Christmas cards to members of our congregation who are going through a rough time or who are unable to attend church regularly (see below). Gift bags will be outside the Hospitality Room December 5 - 12. If you are able to deliver a bag between December 12 - 25, please indicate that by signing your name on the sheet by the gift bags. This small gesture of a card and a visit means so very much to those who receive them. Thank you for your participation! Alta Bantz, Dan Bare, Flora Jean Beam, Gretchen Brock, Marty Bushong, Lloyd Finkbiner, Ray & Mary Finkbiner, Jay & Jane Darlene Fitz, Gene & Linda Ott Gerber, John & Louise Graham, Lew & Fay Powell, Isabelle Rudisill, Vernon & Angela Stinebaugh, Gene & Barbara Swords, Margie Trimble, Mary Jane Winters, Mark & Brenda Yoh.

The COLUMBIA FOOD BANK receives our **December Food Cart and monetary donations**. Please remember no outdated, glass items or non-perishables, i.e. bread, rolls, etc. Thank you!

2022 CHURCH DIRECTORY INFO NEEDED

Please take a moment to look over your 2021 church directory to see if your information is correct. If it is not, please call or email the church office with your new information or anything you would like added, i.e. email address or cell phone number. Thank you.

TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN

If you don't have access to email and would enjoy receiving a phone call with prayer chain updates, please call Nancy Hess at 717-898-3959 and she will arrange a prayer chain calling partner for you.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING — Gifts for the Christ Child

Our Christmas Eve offering will be divided between local and global ministries.

Local: Surprise Gift to UNR Youth NYC Fund (25%)

National Youth Conference (July 2022) is an every four year “mountaintop” opportunity for Sr. High COB youth. Held in Ft. Collins, Colorado, the registration is \$550 per youth, plus transportation costs. Our sister congregation, Un Nuevo Renacer, has more than a dozen youth interested in NYC and a challenging fundraising goal.

Local: Healthy Steps Diaper Bank-Lancaster County (25%)

Healthy Steps is central PA’s only diaper bank. Diapers are not covered by safety net programs, so parents often face tough choices about keeping their young children clean and dry when budgets are tight.

Global: Haiti COB Medical Mission Latrines (50%)

The Brethren Medical Missions team, which provides medical clinics and supplies to Haitians, has launched a campaign to build latrines for the Brethren communities in order to guard health and drinking supplies. Each latrine is expected to cost \$600.

Gifts to the Christmas Eve offering may be brought to church on December 24, or mailed to the church office with “**Christmas Eve offering**” clearly marked. Thank you for honoring the Christ Child by sharing in His compassion!

FELLOWSHIP HALL WORSHIP OPTION

Our tech crew streams our worship service to the fellowship hall each week and will also do so for Christmas Eve. So, if you'd enjoy a little more space in worship, feel free to use the fellowship hall.

GREETERS NEEDED FOR 2022

Please contact Janet Schwert if you would like to continue being a greeter, if you would like begin greeting Sunday mornings, or if you would like to be removed from the greeter’s list. Your presence is most welcome on Sunday mornings!

STATISTICS for December 5, 2021

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|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Received for General Fund | \$ 6,151.25 |
| DESIGNATED FUNDS | |
| Global Food Initiative | 220.00 |
| Christmas Eve Offering | 1,000.00 |
| Room use | 716.00 |

Sunday School: 29 Worship: 92

THIS WEEK

- Today: 12:30 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall
- Mon: 6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary
- Tues: 6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. – Scripture Chat, Rm. 102
- Wed: 7:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer Men’s Group, Rm. 102
- Thurs: 6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Rms. 101, 102
6:30 p.m. – Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall
- Fri: 5:00 p.m. – Wedding, Sanctuary
- Sat: 12:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall Reserved

Next Sunday, December 19, 2021

9:00-9:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

- Birth through pre-K meet in the nursery, room 122.
- Elementary class for grades K-6 meet in room 123.
- Adults and Youth, please join us in the fellowship hall for the series **The Gift of the Nutcracker** by Matt Rawle. Walt VanderHeijden will teach *The Nutcracker – The Greatest Gift*. Seating will be according to the CDC Guidelines. Masks are recommended. We will continue to make the online option available through Zoom using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9102712038?pwd=UG5YUGo5TzJQVC83Z3dZYURueDNmdz09>

10:15 a.m. We gather to worship God. 4th Sunday of Advent
Pastor Angela will share "A Love Song" from Luke 1:39-55. Larry Booz will be the Worship Leader. Special music will be provided by various quartets and instruments.