



The New Vision

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www.office@mountvillecob.org

August 2022

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Sunday Worship Service is in house or live stream Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MountvilleCOB>

Nursery is available for younger children.
Summer Children's Worship gathers in room 124 between 10:00-10:15 a.m.

Our Staff:

Angela Finet – Pastor
John Hess – Director of Music
Gloria Hess – Organist
Jackie Sands – Office Administrator
Mary Rudy – 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 or email : Office@Mountvillecob.org

Love Notes from Pastor Angela

Recently, I read the book *Real Good Church*, by Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette. While she noted at the outset that much has been written in the last several decades on why people aren't going to church, she wanted to offer 9 reasons why going to church is life-giving. This is a great list to think about, or to share with others you'd like to invite. I'd love to hear any other reasons you might add.

9. Coming to church doesn't mean you have no doubts about God or faith or religion. It means you have a place you can share with people who have their own doubts.

8. Bad stuff is going to happen in your life. It just is. A church community cannot be everything to everyone in times of crisis, but when the bottom falls out of your world, it's great to have a community to lift you back up.

7. Bad stuff is going to happen in your life, part two. The time to build a relationship with God is not when life turns ugly, and you've run out of all other options. Attending worship regularly helps build a relationship with God and others that will give you a solid foundation when the winds blow and the storms come.

6. Any church worth its salt has really good food on a regular basis. [My comment – Thankful we can get back to this – YUM!]

5. Churches offer opportunities to serve. Many people would like to help those in need, but they don't know how to get involved. Churches offer you ways to plug in to help those who need it most.

4. You've got a gift. Probably two or ten of them. Becoming involved in the ministry of a church will help you discover and use gifts you never even knew you had.

Continued on page 3.

Spotlight on New Members!

- by Nancy Hess



Spotlight on New Members...Continued!

Carl and Louise Harnish started attending MCOB several years ago after sensing the need for a new church home. The parents of two local daughters and a son in Tennessee, the Harnishes are Lancaster County natives. Carl grew up in Willow Street and Marticville; Louise grew up on the Lititz Pike. They now live in West Hempfield Township on the former farm of Don and Ruth Boshnaugle. Carl retired from serving as a PA State Police Trooper after 32 years. He enjoys reading, walking on his treadmill, traveling, nature and birds. Louise served for more than 30 years as a practical nurse for St. Joseph's Hospital. Louise also enjoys birdwatching and reading, as well as gardening and painting. The Harnishes really appreciated MCOB's support when Louise was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer four years ago. She praises God that she is now cancer-free. Welcome, Carl and Louise!

Blessing of the Students & Pizza Party August 21

Our annual blessing of our students, teachers, school employees, and volunteers will be given in worship on August 21. Join us for a pizza lunch immediately after worship in our fellowship hall. Please invite the students and persons involved in the school environment you know to join us for a blessing and for some food and fellowship.



Sacred Music Worship on September 11

Join us for worship on September 11 at 10:15 when Anna Alexander, gifted vocalist and pianist, will provide a morning of sacred music for our service. Sponsored by the Richard Ott Memorial Fund. Bring a friend!

Atlantic Northeast District Women's Camp

The Atlantic Northeast District Women's Camp will be held this year at Camp Swatara on Friday afternoon, August 19 through Saturday, August 20, 2022. Our theme this year is "An Invitation to the Feast" and our Speaker is Jeanne Davies, Executive Director of the Anabaptist Disabilities Network. The Women's Cabinet is planning a meaningful and enjoyable time together! We hope to see you there! More information will be coming soon! Please see Cathy Funderwhite with any questions.



Health Ministry Corner:

Heat Related Illness



The hot weather can cause some health concerns that many people do not think about. It is important to be aware of the symptoms and what to do to prevent serious issues! The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers the following information.

The first sign of a heat related illness is heat cramps, which is muscle pain or spasms in the legs, arms, or abdomen. This should be treated by drinking increased fluids.

If this is not treated it can progress to heat exhaustion, which would cause symptoms such as headache, dizziness, thirst, heavy sweating, and even fainting. A person who is experiencing heat exhaustion needs to be cooled immediately. The person should be moved to a cooler area and any extra clothes removed; cold, wet cloths or towels should be applied and a healthcare professional should be contacted. The person should be monitored until they are cool.

When the body is unable to cool down the condition progresses to heat stroke, which is a medical emergency and 911 should be called! Symptoms of heat stroke include increased body temperature, hot, dry skin, confusion, slurred speech, and loss of consciousness which can lead to death. The person must be cooled quickly by moving them to a cooler area and applying cold water or cold wet cloths to the head, neck and armpits. Stay with the person until 911 arrives.

Preventing heat related illnesses is the key! Stay hydrated and move to a cooler area when you feel too hot.

Love Notes from Pastor Angela cont. from page 1

3. Not all churches are after your money. Good churches want you to have a healthy relationship with money. Sure, churches need to pay the electric bill and the staff, but money and the church is more about YOU than it is about the church. It's about your own relationship with money. World events have proven that it's much better to put faith in God than in a bank account. Church can help you with that.

2. Taking a break from our hectic lives to come to church is accepting the gift of Sabbath. We don't take Sabbath and come to worship because we have time and have finished up everything that needs to be done. We take Sabbath because it is time to stop, and we are designed to stop, rest and reflect.

1. Jesus is really cool. Even though those of us already in church sometimes do a lousy job of following him, come to church to get to know Jesus. The more you get to know him, the more you'll understand why people call his way The Way.

Food for thought, Pastor Angela

Baskette, Molly Phinney. *Real Good Church*. (The Pilgrim Press: Cleveland, OH, 2014). Adapted.



August Sermon Themes

We are "Taking a Look at Luke"

August 7	Luke 12:32-40	
August 14	Romans 14:1-6, 13	Guest speaker Joe Buohl
August 21	Luke 13:10-17	
August 28	Luke 14:1, 7-14	

Inside Outreach

Hot Dog! What A Success!

Children and their families will enjoy many hot dog lunches this summer, thanks to all of you. Our outreach challenge was a huge success with 75 lbs. of hot dogs collected and \$250 cash donation for the Columbia Food Bank. When we delivered our donation to Danielle, she told us how grateful they were as their numbers of families have grown greatly since school has been out for the summer. Again, thank you to everyone, for another successful Hot Dog Challenge!

– Janet Schwert

Thank You for Your Gift for Girls!

MCOB helped the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference witness to its host city of Omaha, NE with a gift of \$495. The denomination's gifts went to support education and enrichment to young girls through Girls, Inc. of Omaha. Thank you for your generosity!

Brethren Disaster Relief Auction Needs Donations

The Annual Brethren Disaster Relief Auction is being held September 23 & 24, 2022 at the Lebanon Expo Grounds. Since the expenses of food are on the rise, they want to raise as much as they can for those who have experienced natural disasters. The Food Committee is asking for monetary donations to help defer their expenses and allow a greater portion of the income from the food sales to go to the Relief Auction. Please make checks payable to Mountville COB with *Brethren Disaster Relief Auction: Food* in the memo line. Please see Ruthie Bushong with questions. Thank you.

Camp Swatara needs your help with the Annual Family Camp Auction!

We want to make this auction the best yet! We are looking for individuals, SS classes, family groups, etc., who would be willing to donate something. Theme gift baskets are always a winner! Do you have a talent for painting, pottery, sewing, woodworking, etc.? Birdhouses and bird feeders are popular! We need items for the Children's Auction, too! Do you have a service you could share? Think outside the box! Remember 100% of donations from the auction benefit Family Camp at Camp Swatara. There are no administration costs, it is organized and run by volunteers. We will be glad to pick up your donation, just give us a call to make arrangements. Date of the auction is Saturday, September 3, 2022 in the East Lodge at Camp Swatara. Children's auction starts at 9:30 am with the main auction immediately following. Any questions, call Sandy Hughes at 717-679-1995 or Ryan Arndt at 717-926-1939.



Heartwarming Welcome to our Afghan Family

On June 14 our congregation welcomed a refugee family of five to Lancaster.

Dad, Mom, and 3 young sons, ages 5, 3, and 1 moved into a house secured by Church World Service. For the safety of the family, their names and photos will not be made public.

The family fled their home in Kabul 10 months before arriving in Lancaster. They spent most of that time in a refugee center in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE, in the Persian Gulf. Mom and Dad have PhD's in the Persian language and served as professors prior to their departure. Dari is their native tongue but the parents understand some very basic English.

CWS - Church World Service of Lancaster, was born in 1946 after World War II ended bringing together a number of denominations to form an agency to do in partnership with churches what none of them could do as well alone. That is, simply put, to care for disadvantaged, immigrants. Now, more than 70 years later, the mission focuses on providing comprehensive, core services to displaced people, refugees uprooted from their homes and communities by persecution and armed conflict. CWS' Immigration and Refugee Program has become an ecumenical family empowering local churches to show friendly reception and care so displaced persons get the assistance and treatment they need to attain self-sufficiency.

CWS welcomes about 300 refugees a year to central PA. They partner with local congregations for 3 months to assist with the myriad of needs and protections of refugees on their arrival. Immigrant self-sufficiency is the goal of the partnership. We, MCOB, have chosen to be one of CWS' "partners" this year in the Lancaster area helping an Afghanistan refugee family. CWS takes the lead on helping the family meet US government paperwork requirements and scheduling medical checkups for which MCOB volunteers will take them. Our assistance, however, will continue well beyond the 3 months CWS is involved. The family's needs such as learning conversational English, finding employment, enrolling kids in schools, finding area transportation, and identifying additional issues that immigrants care about will take more time. So expect additional requests for volunteers with contacts, skills or just time to help. We will keep you posted.

Our MCOB support program had a very quick start. More than 34 households from our congregation jumped into action when we received short notice that the family's apartment (found by CWS) was available to set up the day before they were scheduled to arrive. The generosity of apartment supply donations, cleaning, moving, and set up help were overwhelming! Thank you!!

Resettlement coordinator, Tom Musser, and a Welcome Team of more than a dozen congregation members have been busy helping the family shop for groceries, find local parks, learn about Lancaster and the surrounding area, go to medical appointments, and attend to all of the requirements of working towards self-sufficiency in a new culture. The Welcome Team invited the family to a picnic the first week so that we could learn to know each other better and help them practice their English. It was a delight to hear the laughter of the little boys ring out as they played.

Our Afghan family has repeatedly expressed their appreciation for MCOB's life-saving hospitality to them. Emotional support at this stage of their journey is critical. They are friendly and eager to make the most of the opportunity that's been given to them.

Please continue to remember them in prayer as they navigate all that is new and grieve what has been lost.

See page 7 for "Refugee Fund Growing"

AUGUST SERVERS

Worship Leaders

7 - Walt VanderHeijden
shouse

14 - Angela Finet

21 - Forrest Collier

28 - Linda Bushong
VanderHeijden

Ushers

Norman Bollinger

Jerry Bushong

Bob Keller

Barry Lauver

Greeters

7 - Steve Hess, Wendy All-

14 - Glenn & Ruthie Bushong

21 - Don & Sara Wagner

28 - Mark Yoh, Walt

Children's Worship

7 - Kitty Collier, Connie Renn

14 - Kitty Collier, Carolyn Berrier

21 - Nanette Bushong, Catherine Repkoe

28 - Joyce Kerns, Forrest Collier

Nursery

7 - Joan Boshnaugle

14 - Betsy Thomas

21 - Carey Taylor

28 - Regina Schulz



Refugee Fund Growing!

Several months ago, the Leadership Team pulled together surplus funds aided by the Kathy VanderHeijden Memorial Fund for Social Justice to serve as a base for our support of our family. In just a few weeks, the refugee resettlement fund grew by \$21,595! Thank you for your many donations and monetary gifts of compassion for our family from Afghanistan. They arrived with a few suitcases, bags, a stroller, and a pack & play. This amazing support has been crucial as our congregation's Welcome Team stocked the rental property secured by Church World Service. These funds will continue to be critical as we work to secure jobs with livable wages for adults with limited English, supplement the short-term benefits supplied by the government, and find reliable transportation large enough to accommodate three car seats. Your ongoing prayers and support are appreciated for "the strangers" who have quickly become our very grateful *friends*.



Mental Health Resources

Crisis Text Line:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

Preventing Suicide in PA:

Coping with COVID-19 Stress:

PA's Support Helpline:

Disaster Distress Helpline:

Veterans in crisis:

COVID-19 resources:

Text 'PA' to 741741

1-800-273-8255

preventsuicidepa.org

bit.ly/covid-coping

855-284-2494

800-985-5990

veteranscrisisline.net

mhanational.org/covid19

LOOKING AHEAD

August 7: Assemble School Kits after church.

August 21: Blessing of the Students, Pizza Party

September 11: Sacred Music Worship with Anna Alexander, 10:15 a.m.

Adult and Children's Sunday School resumes at 9:00 a.m.

October 2: Love Feast, 6 p.m.

October 7: District Conference, Elizabethtown PA

October 15: Wave of Light Service, 6:45 p.m.



*Deadline for the September 2022 New Vision articles is **Sunday, August 14, 2022.***



Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed