

The New Vision

Vol. 40, No. 10

www.office@mountvillecob.org

October 2022

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All are invited to participate in our adult and Children's Sunday School Classes at 9:00 a.m. 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.

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

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

~~ John 13:34

One of the most distinctive practices in the Church of the Brethren is the Love Feast. This four-part service is celebrated twice a year; Maundy Thursday and World Communion Sunday. The four-parts include examination and preparation, footwashing, a simple meal, and bread and cup communion.

On the night before Jesus' arrest, he and his disciples gathered for the Passover meal. All four Gospels portray this scene with great reverence. In John 13, we read the poignant story of Jesus getting up from the table, wrapping a towel around himself, pouring water in a basin, and washing his disciples' feet. This moving story ends with the command above...love one another.

That command is how this uniquely Brethren practice got its name...Love Feast.

This service has evolved over the years to meet the needs of those gathered. For instance, those with mobility issues can wash one another's hands instead of stooping down to wash feet. But no matter the changes, the command remains the same...love one another.

All are invited to share in this special service. We will gather at **6:00 P.M. on Sunday, October 2** in the Fellowship Hall. This year, in preparation for gathering, be encouraged to read the 23rd Psalm. You may wonder how this beloved text fits with this cherished practice. Come and see.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Angela



Health Ministry Corner: Fall Allergies

The biggest trigger for Fall allergies is ragweed, which is a plant that grows wild especially on the East Coast. Ragweed releases pollen from August to November, and the pollen levels are highest in September according to American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

Allergists recommend some strategies to avoid your triggers, which include monitoring pollen and mold counts by checking the reports in newspapers and on radio and TV. In the Fall, during ragweed pollen season, levels are highest in the morning, so plan your day accordingly.

You should also keep windows and doors at home and in your car closed during allergy season. In addition, it is helpful to take a shower, wash your hair and change your clothes after being outdoors. And if you must do outdoor chores such as mowing the lawn or gardening, wear an N95 filter mask, which filters at least 95% of airborne particles, to help prevent exposure to more allergens.

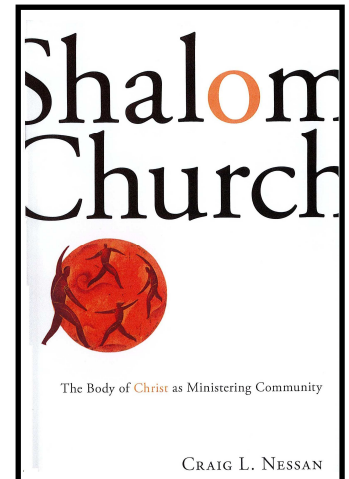
Most importantly, talk to your Healthcare Provider about taking appropriate medication for your allergies!

The Shalom Church

We've added another new book to the library in the lower narthex! As we continue our journey of following Jesus into the Neighborhood, our new books are reflecting what that journey could look like.

In *Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as a Ministering Community*, author Craig L. Nesson explains how church today is "Christ existing as community." He argues that there are four essentials that point to Christ's presence in the world: peacemaking, justice-making, care for creation, and engagement with the other. He offers Biblical support for these 4 pillars, and real-world implications for this way of being church.

This book is an excellent companion for the journey we are on - one that uncovers our core values and mission as a Christ-centered congregation - a church that follows Jesus into the Neighborhood. Check it out!



October Sermon Themes

- 2 - Luke 22:14-23, Love Feast
- 9 - Mark 1:9-13, Anointing
- 16 - Ephesians 1:2-23, Guest Preacher Randy Yoder: *You Are It!*
- 23 - James 2:18-26, Faith and Works
- 30 - Luke 6:20-31, All Saints Day

Brethren Beliefs

During the month of October, we are providing many opportunities to learn more about the Church of the Brethren and how our faith and mission is undergirded by Scripture and tradition.

Pastor Angela began this process in September with sermons on the Cost of Discipleship and Peace. She'll continue her sermon series on the topics of Love Feast, Anointing, and Faith and Works. Meanwhile, the Seekers Faith Formation class will offer discussions on Anointing, Biblical Authority, and Church and State.

As a congregation, we'll partake in a service of anointing during worship on **Sunday, October 9** (as you feel comfortable), and we'll share in **Love Feast on Sunday, October 2 at 6 pm**.

Finally, Pastor Angela will lead an interactive workshop on Brethren and Mountville CoB history, current church structure, and membership on **Saturday, October 22 from 9-12**. This is a no pressure opportunity! However, for those interested in placing membership, we plan to welcome new members on Sunday, November 6 during worship. Please see Pastor Angela for more details and to RSVP for the Saturday workshop so that she can prepare enough handouts.

Leadership Team Enlists Rev. Dr. Randy Yoder for Core Values Study

On Sunday, October 16, Randy Yoder, the consultant for MCOB's Core Values study, will preach and lead a sermon talk-back immediately after worship to introduce our year-long Core Values focus. Lunch will be served.

The goal of the Core Values study is to engage the congregation in looking at who we say we are, how we live that out, and how this fits with our calling to be Christ's church. A change in pastoral leadership and the welcome addition of many new faces is an excellent time to look once more at our identity and our calling.

In addition to Randy Yoder and Pastor Angela, the Leadership Team has called the following members to serve as our Core Values Team: Larry Booz, Forrest Collier, Dave Fuchs, Lois Silver, and Walt VanderHeijden. A prayer team will soon be assembled to undergird this initiative. Full congregational input will also be an important component of the process.

Randy Yoder has been in ministry with the Church of the Brethren for 55 years, serving as a pastor, leadership educator and consultant, the longtime Middle PA District Executive, in various interim District Executive positions, as well as with Brethren Benefit Trust. Randy holds an MDiv from Bethany Theological Seminary and a DMin in Organizational Development and Redevelopment from McCormick Seminary. Randy, and his wife Peg, recently deceased, have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. He lives in Huntingdon, PA.

May this Core Values study provide a rich time of reflection, engagement, and envisioning as we seek the mind of Christ to guide our worship and mission.

Update on our Afghan family

Thank you for your tremendous prayer and financial support for our family from Afghanistan. In their first three months in Lancaster, much has been accomplished.

- Our faithful Welcome Team has helped the family secure the medical and dental attention that they have needed with numerous appointments.
- Church World Service has also supported them with guidance for the asylum process which will begin in earnest after learning how Congress will address the Afghan Adjustment Act, an Act proposed to help provide a path for permanent legal status for the Afghan families whom the United States has invited to resettle here.
- The five year old is having a good start to Kindergarten.
- Mom earned her driving permit and driving lessons have begun; she did not learn how to drive in Afghanistan.
- The Team has helped remedy the off-street parking challenge and plumbing issues.
- English as a Second Language lessons continue for Dad at his place of employment and for Mom through online lessons and help from a Team member. The Kindergarten receives ESL lessons in school.
- Team members stop by the family's home and share from the bounty of their gardens regularly.
- Winter wardrobes are being collected.

A significant disappointment in recent weeks has been a reduction in hours at Dad's job due to a temporary slow-down in manufacturing volume. We pray that this is short-lived.

Training Mom to drive will be a significant commitment. If you would like to join a few of the Team members in this venture, please see Tom Musser to make sure that you have the clearances required by Church World Service to transport any member of our family.

Thanks, again, for undergirding this family with your support!

Save the Date!

The Atlantic Northeast District *Older Adult Committee* is hosting a Coffee House gathering on **October 27 from 2:00 – 3:30 pm** at the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. You're invited to gather at the Water Hole for unique Biblical storytelling by Liz Bidgood Enders. Coffee, tea, and cookies will be provided. No registration is required.



Mountville COB August 2022 Tithes & Offerings

For General Fund	\$ 28,387.00
Designated	\$ 3,500.00

Thank you for your faithful gifts!

OCTOBER SERVERS

Worship Leaders

2 - Kathy Long
9 - Michael Graham
16 - Angela Finet
23 - Joel Musser
30 - Steve Hess

Ushers

Cindy Heisey
Bob Keller
John Musser
Tom Musser

Greeters

2 - Harold & Janice Ulmer
9 - Beth Hess, Jeralyn Rettew
16 - Forrest Collier, Walt VanderHeijden
23 - Lynn Landis, Molly Mitchell
30 - Barry & Lori Lauver

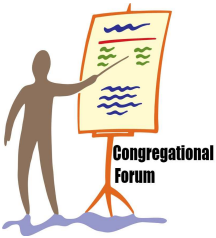
Children's Worship

2 - Joyce Kerns
9 - Kitty Collier, Connie Renn
16 - Betsy Thomas, Sue Beiler
23 - Margie Musser, Tess Wolford
30 - Kitty Collier, Catherine Repkoe

Nursery

2 -
9 -
16 -
23 -
30 -

Congregational Forum: October 30, 2022



The Congregational Forum meeting will take place on October 30. We will enjoy a fellowship meal immediately following the worship service. Once lunch is finished the meeting will start. Please plan on attending to learn about the work of the church.

Mental Health Resources

Crisis Text Line:	Text 'PA' to 741741
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:	1-800-273-8255
Preventing Suicide in PA:	preventsuicidepa.org
Coping with COVID-19 Stress:	bit.ly/covid-coping
PA's Support Helpline:	855-284-2494
Disaster Distress Helpline:	800-985-5990
Veterans in crisis:	veteranscrisisline.net
COVID-19 resources:	mhanational.org/covid19



LOOKING AHEAD

October 2: Love Feast, 6 p.m.

October 7: District Conference, Elizabethtown PA

October 22: Brethren Beliefs Class, 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

October 30: Congregational Forum, 11:30 a.m.

*Deadline for the November 2022 New Vision articles is **Sunday, October 9, 2022.***



**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**