

THIS WEEK

Mon: 11:30 a.m. – Behavioral Healthcare, Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary
Tues: 6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Fellowship Hall, Rms. 100, 101
No Scripture Chat
Wed: 1:00 p.m. – Stitch ‘n Sew ‘n Share, Rm. 106
7:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir
7:00 – Un Nuevo Renacer, Rm. 102
Thurs: 6:00 p.m. – UNR, Rms. 101, 102
Sat: 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Join us Saturday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. for Christmas Eve worship. This family-friendly service features the Live Advent Wreath, inspiring music, a reading of the Christmas story from Luke 2, and candlelighting. Pre-service music begins at 6:45 p.m. Bring your friends and family and celebrate God with us – Immanuel.

Next Sunday, December 25, 2022

10:15 a.m. We gather to worship God. Christmas Day

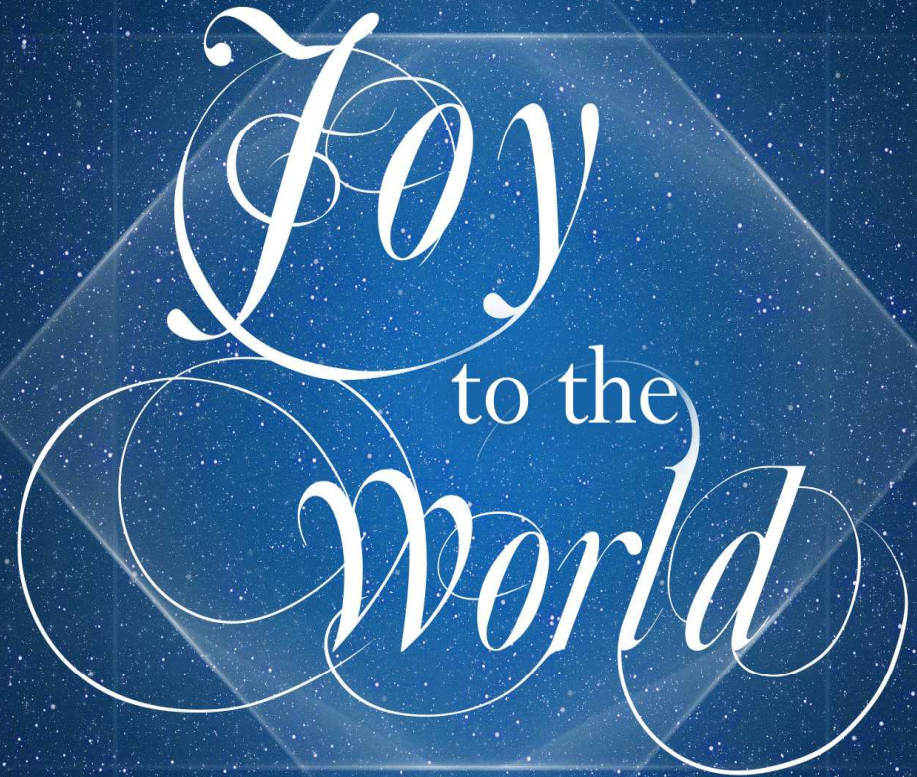
Next Sunday, Pastor Angela shares *The Beautiful Feet* from Isaiah 52:7-10 and John 1:1-14.. Worship leader is Harold Ulmer and the Chancel Choir will sing.

Children's Programs

There will be no Sunday School or Children's Worship on Christmas and New Year's Day. We look forward to worshipping as a family during this special time or year.

**Mountville Church of the Brethren
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Joy
to the
World

MOUNTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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

December 18, 2022 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.**

GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIANO SOLO *Silent Night*

PRELUDE *Good Christian Friends Rejoice* - arr. Dupre

*CALL TO WORSHIP[^]

Christmas is a time of anticipation.

We can hardly wait.

Christmas is a time of giving.

We are ready to receive.

Christmas is a time of hope and promise.

We are looking for it!

Could it be? Is it here? Let us come and see;

Let us open ourselves to the wonder of it all!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH^{^^}

RESPONSIVE INVOCATION^{^^}

In this season of waiting . . .

Let truth and grace rule our hearts this day.

Let truth and grace rule our church this day.

Let truth and grace rule the world this day...

in the name of Peace.

Amen.

*HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

212

RECEIVE

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:13-16 OT 636
Matthew 1:18-25 NT 1

CHORAL ANTHEMS *Angels from the Realms of Glory* Schrader
Go, Go, to Bethlehem Lantz

Children ages 4-6th grade are invited to worship downstairs.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

RECOMMIT

INVITATION TO GIVE^{^^^}

OFFERTORY *On that Holy Night* Paxton

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom* 119

*PRAYER OF BLESSING^{^^^}

HYMN *Oh, How Joyfully* 209

REJOICE

SERMON JAM Rev. Angela Finet

CHOIR & CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *Christmas Gloria* Larson

GO

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Christians Be Joyful* arr. Ritter

[^]Brown, Joanne Carlson. *Ministry Matters* website.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4442/worship-elements-december-22-2019>. Published Nov. 7, 2019. Used with permission.

^{^^}McFee, Dr. Marcia. *The Worship Design Studio*. www.worshipdesignstudio.com. ©2019. Used with permission. Adapted.

^{^^^}Huey, Kathryn Matthews. *Worship Ways: Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. Volume 7, No. 3 ©2008. 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.

STATISTICS for December 11, 2022

Received for General Fund\$ 5,088.25

DESIGNATED FUND

Global Food Initiative.....\$ 20.00
 Food Bank.....20.00
 Mountville Elementary Gifts20.00
 Misc.: Card Ministry.....20.00
 Brethren Housing Assoc.200.00
 2023 Pledge.....12,000.00

Worship: 107 Sunday School: 21

2023 FLOWER CHART

The 2023 flower chart has been posted on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Please sign your name and write V for vases or A for arrangement on the date you want to place flowers in the worship center. Remember to fill out a pink order form and turn it in with payment to the church office or put in the offering plate. Cost for one arrangement is \$35; the cost for 2 vases is \$40. Please call the church office with questions.

2023 CHURCH DIRECTORY INFO NEEDED

Please take a moment to look over your 2022 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.

Sermon Reflection Questions

- *How can I take a deep breath and, like Joseph, say “yes” to what may be an unexpected gift in the midst of a difficult situation?
- *How can I choose peace instead of joining the chaos I encounter?
- *How am I contributing to chaos instead of the reign of truth and grace?

In God’s Service Today

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Pastor	Rev. Angela Finet
Music Director	John Hess
Organist	Gloria Hess
Worship Leader	Phyllis Kepner
Anthem	Chancel Choir
Special Music	Organ: Gloria Hess; Percussion: Brandon Miller; Piano: Sarah Repkoe; Trombone: Jim Zeigler; Trumpets: Drew Brouse, John Hess, Libby Weder; Tuba: Bruce Smith
Advent Wreath	Wendy Allshouse, Catherine Repkoe, Stella Schulz, Dave Serfass, Lois Silver, Zack Snyder, Terry Few
Acolyte	Children’s Worship
Piano Solo	Fiona Schulz
Sermon Jam	Joel Musser, McKenna Wolford
Ushers	Beth Hess, Steve Hess, Bob Keller, Holly Mele
Children’s Ministry	Margie Musser, Sue Beiler
Nursery	Connie Renn
Greeters	Bob & Heidi Keller, Joel & Dawn Musser
Prayer Chain	Cathy Funderwhite, Karen Strine
Security	Carl Harnish

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Holly Mele gives the flowers in the worship center to the glory and honor of God and in celebration of Alex and McKenna’s 19th birthdays.

SPECIAL SERVICE OF SENDING ON CHRISTMAS DAY

We will gather for worship on Christmas Day at 10:15 a.m. The theme is *The Beautiful Feet*, so bring your fuzzy socks or slippers to wear during worship. We'll sing carols, including some favorites not found in the hymnal! And, we'll offer a special prayer of blessing and sending for Nancy and Steve Hess. Nancy has been called to serve as a pastor at the Palmyra Church of the Brethren - and we want to express our gratitude for their years of ministry with us, and bless her feet that bring the good news of Christ's peace!

Prayer Ministry Update

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

Please add the following people to your prayer list:

- Pray for Nick Cyr and family.
- Join in prayer for our congregation as we discern together God's will for our ministry as this unique body of Christ. For the next year, we will be looking at our Core Values, and how they undergird our mission and ministry. Please pray that all we do is for the glory of God and our neighbors' good.
- Pray for those in need of healing from COVID and other illnesses. Continue to pray for safety for medical practitioners.
- Pray for all who are grieving violence. Christ have mercy.
- Please pray for Joe Buohl as he discerns his call to ministry.
- Pray for those experiencing housing insecurity.
- Please pray for peace to prevail in Ukraine, Nigeria, Haiti, and around the world.
- District Prayers: Today we are praying for Hanoverdale COB. Wyomissing COB is praying for us.

SCRIPTURE CHAT

There will be no Scripture Chat this week. However, you are encouraged to read the following texts for Sunday: Isaiah 52:7-10 and John 1:1-14.

ONLINE GIVING AND PEW CARDS

Part of faithful worship is responding to God's goodness and generosity. Through collecting an offering, you have the opportunity to physically express your commitment to the work of Christ's church by placing your gifts in the plate. If you are making your offering online or through some other means, you are still invited to physically participate in this symbol of commitment. Simply place one of the pew cards in the plate as a reminder of your faithful stewardship and love for Christ and neighbor.

Please Remember to Sign the Attendance Pads.

LOOKING AHEAD

Save the date for these special moments in the life of the church.

December 24, 7:00 p.m.: Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

December 25, 10:15 a.m.: Christmas Day Worship

January 8, 10:15 a.m.: Service of Communion

January 15, 10:15 a.m.: Pulpit Swap with Lititz COB

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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

CHRISTMAS CARD BAGS for the shut ins that are part of our church family are on the table outside the kitchen. You may bring in a card for each person on the list or just a few, whatever you feel led to do. Our shut ins really enjoy hearing from us each year. **DEADLINE** for bringing in cards is **today**. Remember to take and deliver your bag or bags of cards if you have signed up to do so. If you have questions, please ask Marian Bollinger

WORSHIP FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Would you like a new way to view worship? Are you looking for a fun team to serve with? Do you like to push buttons? The A/V team is the place for you! We are looking for someone to help at the sound booth 1 to 2 Sundays a month. You will receive training from patient people - grateful to share their experience with you. Do Not Be Afraid! Contact Dell Boshnaugle for more information. Did we mention...fun?!?!

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 and global neighbors.

2023 Worship Theme

MAKING MEANING OF MIRACLES

The Gospels are full of miracle stories! But, why? Do these stories help us understand who Jesus is? Or do they raise more questions than answers? Do miracles still happen today? How do miracles impact your daily life?

Join us for worship in each week to explore these and other questions as we dive into the following miracle stories:

January 8: Jesus Cures a Blind Man - Mark 8:22-26

January 15: Feeding the Five Thousand - Luke 9:10-17
(Pulpit Swap with Lititz CoB – Rev. Jim Grossnickle-Batterton)

January 22: Jesus Heals a Paralytic - Mark 2:1-12

January 29: A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed
- Matthew 9:18-26

February 5: Jesus Raises Lazarus - John 11:1-44

You won't want to miss it!