

The New Vision

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www.office@mountvillecob.org

February 2023

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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

February 22 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It falls 40 days (excluding Sundays) before Easter Sunday. Lent is a time of intentional spiritual discipline. For some people, that means giving up something, turning Lent into a kind of “holy diet”. For others, it’s a time of adding something, like a daily prayer ritual.

In anticipation of our Lenten journey together, we will share a special service on Sunday, February 19 with the theme “Emptied”. Be encouraged to empty yourself in order to receive God’s grace anew. As part of worship that Sunday, we will offer a time of anointing.

Then, we will spend time preparing ourselves for the joy of Easter by studying the Gospel of John – specifically chapters 13 – 21. I will be planning my sermons around Warren Wiersbe’s book, *Be Transformed*.

This book was not written as a Lenten devotional, however the introduction lists four “habits” to keep you dependent on Jesus, no matter what comes your way. In my mind, “habit” is another word for “discipline”. It’s a way of being.

The four habits we’ll be focusing on are: Trusting Jesus, Loving one another, Relying on the work of the Holy Spirit, and Prayer.

The first twelve chapters of the Gospel of John recount Jesus’ public ministry. But chapters 13-21 are private conversations between Jesus and the disciples closest to him. They are his teachings on the transforming power of joy for those who chose to follow him and carry on his message. You know, us 😊

I pray that you will be a part of our Lenten journey here, and that you will be transformed in the process.

In grace and peace,
Pastor Angela

LENT

Bits 'n Pieces continued

Thank you for your continued support to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry evidenced by your recent generous financial contribution of \$170. - Diane L. Gerlach, Vice President

Thank you so much for all the love and support you've given to Church World Service Lancaster and the Saboyer family this past year. We are so blessed to be a part of such a welcoming community. - Andrew Mashas, CWS

Thank you for your kind donation of Emergency Clean-up Buckets to Church World Service. Here at home or overseas, when tragedy strikes your donations ensure that help is never far behind. - Rick Santos, President and CEO

It was very nice being with you January 1. Thanks to all those who arranged and led the service, and for inviting me to share both a mission update and sermon. I always come away from my visit with you feeling uplifted. Thank you as well for the honorarium—gifts like this help

keep our little ship afloat. Blessings and peace in the year ahead, keep up your great work.

- David Radcliff



Crafting and Community

Everyone is welcome for a time of fellowship and fun on Saturday, February 11 from 9:30 - 11:30 am. Pastor Angela and Sara Wagner will provide supplies and inspiration for creating your own greeting cards. All ages and levels of experience are encouraged to participate. Please reserve your space on the signup sheet on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes so that we can prepare enough materials. You are also welcome to bring your own projects and supplies.

Narthex Display Cases

Thank you to all who shared Nativity sets for display during Advent. We will continue to provide new displays and opportunities to share your treasures and gifts throughout the year. Genesis tells us we are made in God's image, and I Cor. 3:9 says we are God's co-workers (or co-creators). Creativity is a gift and reflection of God. For a brief time, Pastor Angela will display a variety of handmade books - each with a unique binding. Take a look - and ask questions. Enjoy new creations!

Mountville COB December 2022 Tithes & Offerings

For General Fund	\$ 21,914.00
Designated	\$ 44,778.00

Thank you for your faithful gifts!



ADULT Sunday School

Seekers Class

Seekers class is in the midst of the 7-week series *Animate: Bible*. This is an adult faith formation series that explores seven big conversations about the Bible led by the perspectives from Christian thought leaders on the topics of: Canon, History, Testaments, Gospels, Genre, interpretation and Grace. We hope these weeks will further reinvigorate and deepen our understanding of the Bible through reflection, discussion, illustration and, perhaps, personal journaling. We hope to see you with us at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in room 102 or via Zoom.

Brethren Beliefs Class

February 25, 2023

Would you like to know more about the Church of the Brethren globally, and Mountville Church of the Brethren specifically? Since 1708, Brethren have had a unique way of engaging with God and neighbor, and a rich history of service to each other, and to the world! Join Pastor Angela for conversation around these topics as well as the history and structure of the Mountville congregation on Saturday, February 25 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 in the fellowship hall. This is a no pressure opportunity to expand your knowledge. Please RSVP to Angela so she can prepare enough materials.

Congregational Forum

will be held on February 26
after a meal in the Fellowship Hall.
Please plan on staying to hear
about the work of the church.



February Sermon Themes



Feb. 5	John 11:1-44	The Raising of Lazarus
Feb. 12	1 Thes. 4:13 - 5:11	Guest speaker Joe Bouhl
Feb. 19	Isaiah 58, Emptied	(service of anointing)
Feb. 26	John 13:18-35	Love Above All

FEBRUARY SERVERS

Worship Leaders

5 - Holly Mele
12 - Angela Finet
19 - Kathy Long
26 - Cathy Funderwhite

Ushers

Norman Bollinger
Jerry Bushong
Barry Lauver
Harry Light

Greeters

5 - Walt VanderHeijden, Holly Mele
12 - Charlie Worrall, Sarah Repkoe
19 - Glenn & Nanette Bushong
26 - Molly Mitchell, Lynn Landis

Children's Worship

5 - Margie Musser, Catherine Repkoe
12 - Joyce Kerns, Tess Wolford
19 - Kitty Collier, Forrest Collier
26 - Betsy Thomas, Sue Beiler

Nursery

5 -
12 -
19 -
26 -

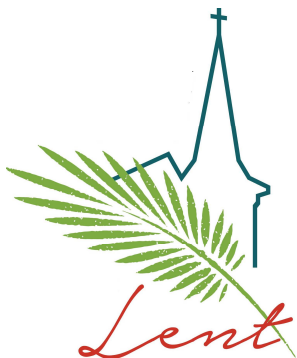
Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

In the event that bad weather requires us to cancel church activities or worship services, these are the ways you will be notified:

1. Mountville Church of the Brethren website
2. Facebook notice
3. Church email
4. A phone call IF and only if you have requested a personal call.

If you would like a call if worship is cancelled and have not yet contacted our church office, please do so today.

Cancellation notices will be posted no later than 8:00 a.m. If you are unable to access any of these methods, please call Pastor Angela Finet or Jerry Bushong. The decision is made after carefully considering the weather forecast and the condition of the roads in Mountville and our parking lot. It is our hope that all persons will give priority to their health and safety when making a decision about traveling to church activities and worship services when the weather and road conditions are not optimal. Every attempt will be made to provide an online alternative.



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



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

A Few Reminders for 2023!

Deadlines

- *New Vision* articles are due in the church office the 2nd Sunday of the month. Articles received after the deadline will be put in the following month's newsletter.
- *Bulletin announcements* are due in the church office Wednesdays by 2:00 p.m. Announcements received after 2:00 p.m. will be included in the following week's bulletin. It would very much be appreciated if bulletin and newsletter announcements would be emailed or written.

Church Key Fobs

In 2012 key fobs were distributed to church members/friends who desired to enter the church building other than during office hours. If you have never had a key fob and would like one, stop by, or give the church office a call and Jackie will see that you receive an activated fob. If you had a fob and no longer need it, please drop it off in the church office or mailbox # 174. The cost for a replacement fob is \$5. Please contact the church office with any questions. Thank you.

Room Reservations

If you would like to reserve the sanctuary, fellowship hall, kitchen or a class room for an event or a meeting, please call the church office to see if your date and room are available. Jackie will then give you a *Building Use Form* to fill out and return to the church office. Thank you for helping to keep the church calendar accurate.

Church Table and Chair Loan Policy


Church members are allowed to borrow a maximum of 4 tables and chairs as needed. They are to be returned a.s.a.p. or within 4 days after pick-up. We ask that the tables be cleaned before returning and notify Jackie if there is any damage. Please call the church office to check on availability and to reserve the tables / chairs you need.

Flowers for the Worship Center

If you would like to place flowers in the worship center in memory or in honor of someone, please see the flower chart located in the hallway by the kitchen. There you may sign up for your special date and write what you would like put in the bulletin and if you would like an arrangement: \$35 or 2 vases: \$40. Orders are placed monthly with Schaefer's Flowers about 1 week prior to the upcoming month. Fill out a pink form by the flower chart and return with payment to the church office or offering plate. You may call Schaefer's directly to place a special request. You may also choose a different florist. Please contact the church office if you plan to use a different florist so you won't be billed twice. Thank you.

Placing Items in the Refrigerator / Freezer

When placing items in the refrigerator or freezer please put your name and date on a label and attach it to each item of food and/or drink. Labels are located on both the freezer and refrigerator doors. This will help keep your items from being taken accidentally and will help us know who to contact if there are any questions about the food.



LOOKING AHEAD

Feb. 11: Card Workshop: Fellowship Hall, 9:30 a.m.
 Feb. 25: Brethren Beliefs Class: Fellowship Hall, 9:00 a.m.
 Feb. 26: All Church Meal & Congregational Forum
 March 4: World Day of Prayer, 9:00 a.m.
 March 18: Women's Retreat, Ephrata COB
 April 6: Love Feast, 7:00 p.m.

40 DAYS OF LENT

*Deadline for the March 2023 New Vision articles is **Sunday, February 12, 2023.***



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

**Address Service Requested
 Dated Material Enclosed**