



The New Vision

Vol. 41, No. 5

www.office@mountvillecob.org

May 2023

Inside This Issue

Regular Features

- 2 - Bits 'n Pieces
- 2 - March Tithes & Offerings
- 6 - Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 6 - Members & Friends
- 7 - May Calendar
- 8 - May Severs

Around the Church

- 3 - Love Notes continued
- 3 - May Sermon Themes
- 3 - Adult Sunday School
- 3 - Busy Building!!!
- 4 - National Day of Prayer
- 4 - Celebrate Pentecost!
- 4 - Making Arrangements
- 5 - You are Invited: Dinner & A Show
- 8 - International Dinner

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 :

Love Notes from Pastor Angela

So those who welcomed his message were baptized...They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ~ Acts 2:41-42

In 1525, a group of people set out to live the practices of the early believers described in Acts. Based on their communal understanding of Scripture, they rejected the ordinance of infant baptism, stating they found no example of this practice in the Bible.

Being re-baptized as adults led to persecution, as it was against the law. It also led to a new name: *Anabaptists* – which literally means “baptized anew.”

In addition to being known for their practice of adult baptism, members of Anabaptist faith traditions also emphasize discipleship, peacemaking, and recognizing the presence of Christ in the gathered community of faith. And, they prioritize the teachings of Jesus in Scripture. Today, the largest sects of Anabaptists are Mennonites and Brethren.

In celebration of 500 years of the Anabaptist faith tradition, we are joining with 499 other primarily Brethren and Mennonite congregations from around the world to create the Anabaptist Community Bible, which will be published by MennoMedia in 2025. This unique Bible (featuring the Common English Bible translation) will contain margin notes created by Anabaptist Biblical Scholars, Anabaptist Historians, and congregations - like us! - and will offer a fresh engagement with Scripture, renewed faith in Jesus, stronger faith communities, and a more vibrant witness in the world. We'll even be included in the acknowledgements as contributors!

Our congregation has been assigned the following passages to study together: Daniel 5:17-31, Daniel 6:1-28, 1 John 1, 1 John 2, Psalm 136:1-12.



Continued on page 3.

Love Notes from Pastor Angela continued from page 1

We will gather Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in room 102 or by Zoom on the following dates: April 24, May 1, May 8, and May 22. Each participant will be given a study guide, which you will use in the week leading up to our gathering. During our gathering time, we will share together the insights or questions that arose in our personal devotional time. These thoughts will be compiled into "notes" that will be provided to the Bible editorial team.

It's not too late to join in! Reserve your space today on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes. I'm eager to hear how the Spirit inspires your understanding of these texts – and to share them with the world.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Angela

May Sermon Themes

May 7:	Galatians 2:7-10	Guest speaker Jeff Boshart, GFI
May 14:	Ephesians 5:1-2, 1 John 4:7-12	- Living God's Love
May 21:	Acts 4:5-22	Guest Speaker Gina Bautista
May 28:	Acts 2:1-21	Pentecost

ADULT Sunday School

Seekers began its final series for this year on April 16. It features the Adam Hamilton series, Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why." There are eight sessions: Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and Methodism." We hope to see you with us as we finish this year's adult faith formation.

Busy Building !!!

We are a busy congregation. That means that our building is busy, too. It also means that **we all need to follow our room reservation procedures** to be sure the space we need is available at the time we want.

It's easy. Here's what to do:

1. Contact Jackie in the church office to see if the space is available when you need it. (If your first choice isn't available, search for alternatives with Jackie.)
2. If it is, make arrangements with Jackie to put the Room Reservation form in your church mailbox, or to pick it up at the office.
3. Complete and return the form to the church office.
4. Jackie will make the entry in the church calendar and confirm your reservation. (It's not confirmed until you hear from Jackie.)

Thanks for your help. This will assure that our congregation and our building stay happy and busy. - Forrest Collier, Leadership Team Chair





National Day of Prayer

*For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. ~~
Matthew 18:20*

Just as we did in March for *World Day of Prayer*, we will gather on **Thursday, May 4 at 10:00 a.m.** in room 102 for the *National Day of Prayer*. The National Day of Prayer shares a history with our Thanksgiving holiday. While under British rule, the New England colonies practiced two days each year of prayer: the day in late fall called for prayer and thanksgiving, while the day in spring called for prayer and fasting. In 1863, President Lincoln established the fall day of prayer as the official Thanksgiving holiday. In 1952, under President Truman, the spring day of prayer became the National Day of Prayer. All are welcome to join in this time of prayer, even if you aren't comfortable praying aloud. Your presence is prayerful. Please send your prayer concerns to Pastor Angela by Tuesday, May 2 so that she can prepare the prayer list for Thursday.

Celebrate Pentecost!

Pentecost is a day of celebration! We celebrate the birth of the Christian Church, and God's promise kept through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The description of this event is found in Acts 2. In verse 6, "the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard [the disciples] speaking in the native language of each."



On Pentecost **Sunday, May 28**, we will share a joint service with our brothers and sisters from Un Nuevo Renacer Church of the Brethren. They will lead us in one praise hymn, and they will join our choir to sing an anthem and provide percussion. Epi Cosme will serve as worship leader, and we will pray - together - in one accord but with multiple voices. This is a service you won't want to miss - come and celebrate the Spirit's movement through our larger community of faith!

Making Arrangements

In October of last year, I spent some time getting my affairs in order as a gift to my children. I hope not to need these documents (will, medical directive, power of attorney, etc.) for many years, but it gave me peace of mind to make things easier for my family to navigate when the time comes. I even selected some of my favorite hymns and scriptures, and provided suggestions for a memorial service, because there are many details to attend to during a time that is often emotionally fragile. If you would like some help planning, please make an appointment for us to talk together. I am honored to reflect and assist, and can keep your service wishes in a secure file in my office to make things simple. Let me know how I can serve you.

- - Pastor Angela





You Are Invited

DINNER AND A SHOW

Sunday, June 4, 2023
Immediately following church

We will provide the dinner!
You are asked to provide the show!

Everyone is invited to showcase your special talent for
our entertainment.

All ages are encouraged to perform, young and old,
single, duo, group, whatever.

You might sing, dance, recite poetry, play an instrument,
juggle, perform magic, or surprise us with your special talent.

It has been a long time since we have had a talent
show and many of you remember some great
acts of the past. Let's see if we can create more
great acts with a new cast of characters.

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the narthex
bulletin board early in May.

Let's make this a fun all-church family event.

MAY SERVERS

Worship Leaders

7 - Angela Finet
14 -
21 -
28 -

Ushers

Dave Fuchs
Barry Lauver
Joel Musser
Daryl Strine

Greeters

7 - Bill & Phyllis Kepner
14 - Daryl & Karen Strine
21 - Rick & Linda Weber
28 - Wendy Allshouse, Holly Mele

Children's Worship

7 - Joyce Kerns, Tess Wolford
14 - Nanette Bushong, Beth Hess
21 - Betsy Thomas, Becky Fuchs
28 - Kitty & Forrest Collier

Nursery

7 - Joan Boshnaugle
14 - Betsy Thomas
21 - Joyce Kerns
28 - Regina Schulz

Save the Date: April 29 @ 5:00 p.m.

The congregational Fellowship Committee recently met to plan several social events for our church family. The first event will be an **INTERNATIONAL DINNER** on Saturday, April 29 at 5:00 p.m. More details will be forthcoming.



Also, mark your calendars for upcoming fun activities:
June 4, November 4, and December 10. More details to follow.



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

Monday, April 24: Small Group Bible Study begins, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29: International Dinner, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 30: All Church Photo, after Church

May 4: National Day of Prayer, 10:00 a.m.

June 4: Dinner & A Show, after Church

Deadline for the June 2023 New Vision articles is Sunday, May 14, 2023.



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

**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**