



The New Vision

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www.office@mountvillecob.org

November 2023

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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

I recently ran across an article online that caught my eye:

3 Tips for a More Biblical Thanksgiving. Of course, I had to read it – it's timely, and it has a list (which, if you know me, you know I find irresistible). The author, J. Johns, offered the following three suggestions for making our lives more about gratitude.

1. Make your prayers of thanksgiving innocent. In other words, simply give thanks to God without seeking something in return.
2. Take time to reflect on the past with gratitude. The author notes that we live in a society obsessed with the future. This obsession sometimes leads to dissatisfaction with the things we have, leaving us wanting more. Looking back provides an opportunity to thank God for the many blessings that have already come our way - focusing on what we have, rather than what we want. I would add that an obsession with the future can also make us worried or afraid. It is good to spend time reflecting on God's faithfulness, and giving thanks!
3. Lastly, the author suggests we should make our prayers inclusive. What he means by that is we should be thankful for absolutely everything – the big things and the little things. The good experiences, and the difficult experiences and people who have shaped our lives.

Some people participate in a "thankfulness calendar" during the month of November. They keep a journal or take to social media to note something they are thankful for each day of the month. I like this idea.

Continued on page 2.

Bits 'n Pieces

A beloved thank you from myself and my family to our Mountville family for the prayer support, card support, and individual & pastoral support, which has been very strong. We are grateful for the cards, visits, etc. My family and I can't thank you enough. Jay and family

My encounter with concrete, face first, was a nasty surprise. I am healing. The good surprise is the number of kind people who wrote beautiful cards or contacted me in some other way to express concern and well wishes as I heal from the tumble I took in Myrtle Beach. I am healing well thanks to your prayers and time. Janice

Harold and Janice wish to thank everyone who has kept and continues to keep them in prayers during Harold's recent hospitalization and home recovery. Thanks, also, for all who participated in the card shower, and those who called, texted, emailed, mailed and visited. The love expressed by the MCOB community is greatly appreciated. And remember, "God loves you and so do we."

Love Notes from Pastor Angela Continued from page 1

But, if you want to try something different this month, why not commit to memorizing a passage from Scripture. Take a moment each morning, or each evening, to say a text out loud. Each day, remove another word from the written Scripture you have, and see if you can still say it – filling in the word that is missing. (Kind of like the song "B.I.N.G.O.)

Want a Scripture suggestion? Why not learn Philippians 4:6-7:

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. God's peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."

Happy Thanksgiving!
Pastor Angela

November Sermon Topics

- Nov. 5 - Forming Connections - Galatians 4:4-9
- Nov. 12 - Modeling Generosity - 2 Cor. 9:6-15 - Stewardship Sunday
- Nov. 19 - Pursuing Justice - Luke 18:1-8
- Nov. 26 - Embodying Service - Deut. 15:7-11



Picture Yourself in Our New Church Directory



Our new church directory is coming soon and it will feature pictures and other great features, but we need your help!

You will be able to look up information such as names, addresses, phone numbers, etc. in several different ways. We'll have paper copies for everyone who wants one. And if you have a computer you will be able to see the information online. Finally, if you have an iPhone or other type of smart phone or tablet, you will be able to view the new directory with an app. Because the new directory will be Internet-based, we will be able to update changes whenever they happen.

Starting October 1st, Jackie Sands will be entering information and collecting pictures. The pictures are where we need your help. PLEASE PROVIDE A FAMILY PHOTO in one of these three ways:

- * Email the church office (office@mountvillecob.org) and send the picture as an attachment. Be sure to include the last name and first initial of everyone in the photo.
- * Give Jackie, our church secretary, an actual photo. She will scan it and return it to you.
- * Let Jackie know you'd like Harold Ulmer to take your photo.

More details will follow at a later time, we would like to begin collecting photos now so that we can build the directory.

Congregational Forum will be held on Sunday, November 5 following lunch. The Forum meal will be homemade Beef Pot Pie provided by the church. Please bring a salad, a dessert or a side to share at the meal. Please plan on staying for the Forum to hear about budget items for next year and updates on current church projects.



All Church Christmas Caroling

December 10, 2023
Meeting time: 4:30 p.m.



Dear members and especially new members,



Welcome! We are so glad that you chose to join our family of believers at Mountville Church of the Brethren. We try to show caring and compassion to members and friends of our church family. One of the ways we do that is through card ministry which I coordinate. I'm writing to explain the ministry and invite you to become part of it if you'd like.

Of course, you can send cards to anyone anytime, but if there is a milestone birthday, anniversary, illness or death, I try to remind folks to be in touch. Then it's all up to you. You can choose to respond or not to respond to the email request. It's completely voluntary. YOU decide if and when you'd like to respond. If you choose to respond, just sign your card and bring to church on Sunday morning. I prepare and label card bags and they are on the round table in the narthex. Just drop in your card and save yourself the postage.

The bag will only be in the narthex on Sunday morning from 9:00 -11:00 a.m. so if you know that you won't be there then, just take your card to church anytime prior to that and drop it in my mailbox, #11, and we'll be sure that it gets in the bag on Sunday morning. We are finding that our folks really appreciate this gesture of caring. The perks are that it saves you postage and the bags are delivered after church on Sunday and either dropped off and, if desired, we visit also. The receiver is very happy to see a face from church and to know that they are not forgotten.

Please know that I do not place names on the card ministry list unless you reach out to me and ask to be part of this group. Since your names will be new to many, this is a great way for you to reach out and in no time, your name will be recognized by ALL. I keep records and check them regularly, but it's possible that I may miss an important occasion or that I don't know about it, so I always appreciate your input, additions and corrections. ANYONE can be in touch with me and ask to have someone remembered with a card bag. Since I don't text, the best way to be in touch with me is by email or phone. My contact info is in the directory. Looking forward to hearing from many of you. . – Marian Bollinger

Seekers Class

On October 22, Seekers Adult Faith Formation will begin a four-part series featuring Christina Bucher. This series will be based on her recently released book with Bob Neff entitled, *Luke and Acts: Turning the World Upside Down!* (Brethren press, 2022). This four-week series will explore key themes in the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts. In these two New Testament books, both written by the author we know as "Luke," we learn how Jesus taught his followers to live (Gospel) and how people responded to Jesus' teaching (Acts). In following Jesus, they lived in ways that sometimes challenged the values and norms of the larger society. They healed and restored relationships. They shared possessions and expanded the boundaries of their groups to include those whom society marginalized. Through these countercultural practices, Jesus' followers "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6).

ADULT
Sunday School

October 22: Introducing Luke and Acts

October 29: Healing Stories in Luke and Acts

November 5: Stories of Inclusion in Luke and Acts

November 12: Parables and Stories of Sharing in Luke and Acts

NOVEMBER SERVERS

Worship Leaders

5 - Bill Kepner
12 - Cindy Dale
19 - Harold Ulmer
26 - Sarah Repkoe

Ushers

Jerry Bushong
Barry Lauver
Harry Light
Daryl Strine

Greeters

5 - Harold & Janice Ulmer
12 - Barry & Lori Lauver
19 - Beth Hess, Charlie Worrall
26 - Joel Musser, Mark Yoh

Children's Worship

5 - Joyce Kerns, Connie Renn
12 - Joyce Kerns, Gina Bautista
19 - Margie Musser, Sue Beiler
26 - Betsy Thomas

Nursery

5 - Joan Boshnaugle
12 - Betsy Thomas
19 - Carey Taylor
26 - Regina Schulz

Mountville COB September 2023 Tithes & Offerings

Thank
You

For General Fund	\$ 25,472.00
Designated	\$ 11,200.00

Thank you for your faithful gifts!



LOOKING AHEAD

November 5: Homemade Beef Pot Pie Meal & Congregational Forum
after Church

November 23: Thanksgiving Day

December 3: Christmas Concert & Carol Sing

December 10: All Church Christmas Caroling



*Deadline for the December 2023 New Vision articles is **Sunday, November 12, 2023.***



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

**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**