



The New Vision

Vol. 42, No. 3

www.office@mountvillecob.org

March 2024

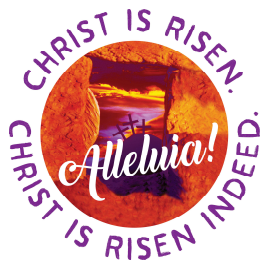
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Sunday Worship Service is in house or live stream Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MountvilleCOB>

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

“When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down together at the table. Jesus said, ‘I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins’.”
~~ Luke 22:14-15

Very eager.

What is the one thing you've been *really* looking forward to? *Keenly* anticipating? Was it a vacation? A special event with family? What if someone told you they were *very eager* to spend time with you? What if that person was Jesus – God with us - Love Incarnate? How precious would you feel?

Scripture tells us that Jesus, knowing that his hour had come, shared an intimate Last Supper with his closest companions. The Brethren ritual of Love Feast invites us to do the same.

Step away from the troubles and concerns of the world and celebrate together the gift of God's love.

We participate in Love Feast twice a year – World Communion Sunday in October and Maundy Thursday, which this year is **March 28 at 7 pm**. For me, the Maundy Thursday Love Feast is the most meaningful tradition of our denomination – and just as it was Jesus' gift to his followers, I believe it is our gift to one another and to a broken, hurting world.

This is our opportunity to demonstrate the love Christ calls us to in the service of washing one another's feet (or hands). It's an opportunity to deepen our bonds of friendship through sharing the fellowship meal. And, it's an opportunity to remember the love Christ lavished on each one of us through the celebration of communion.

Friends, I have been *very eager* to share this Love Feast with you. Won't you join me?

Peace and grace,
Pastor Angela



Bits 'n Pieces

Thank you all for the cards, calls and other acts of acknowledgement of my recent 85th birthday. All were greatly appreciated. – Harry

My heartfelt thanks to all Dear Ones here at MCOB. After a nasty fall on concrete, you showed me compassion through loving telephone calls and cards, gifts of food that were both sweet and nutritious, and the warmth of visits and hugs. You are certainly the children of a loving God. Dave and I are so grateful for finding a home among you. – Beth

Thank you all for the Christmas card bag. They bring much joy especially since we cannot attend church service regularly. - Ruth and Don

I want to thank the MCOB for the beautiful bag of Christmas cards prepared by Marian Bollinger. We also were grateful for the number of new members who sent cards even though we had not met you. That is unusual. I want to thank you for your kindness in many ways. Vernon is a former professor and Angela, my dear wife, was a loving devoted wife. I am also a pastor emeritus. We want to close with hymn number 421, *Blest be the tie that binds*. Our hearts in christen love, the fellowship of kindred minds, is like to that above amen. - Vernon

Hello, beloved church family! I want to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls and get well cards and wishes that I have received during the past month and a half. My sciatica is much better and the cause of the falls has been revealed: partially torn tendons that attach from the thigh to the left hip. I praise God for giving the doctors the insight to continue searching for the reason I was having so much pain in my left hip. I praise God for medication and physical therapy which is reducing my pain. Mostly, I praise God for the love and concern you have shown me during these difficult weeks. I cherish you all. - Jeanne

Thanks to our loving and caring church family for the Christmas cards and Becky and Dave Fuchs for their visit. We didn't open the cards until after the new year for I wanted to show Ray the pictures of those he did not remember or had never met. Soon after we finished he passed out and was taken to the hospital and is now in skilled care at BV. The cards we received with all your love and encouragement and get well wishes are greatly appreciated. Please continue to remember us in prayer. - Mary

We want to thank you for all the cards, prayers, and visits. It means a lot to us. The surgery on my knee was a success. Lew has an infection in his good ear. He is not allowed to wear his hearing for months. We must write to him to communicate with him. We really miss being with all of you. Maybe some day, the Lord willing. Peace to all of you, Lew & Fay



BHA was in need of cleaning supplies for the mothers that they serve. On Monday, February 12, we delivered 14 laundry detergent, 22 dish detergent, 25 body wash, 40 rolls of paper towels, and 73 rolls of toilet tissue. Thanks for your contributions!

We are very thankful for your kindness and generosity this month of \$200 and 108.7 lbs. of much needed food supplies. - Danielle J. Peters, Directory, The Columbia Food Bank

Our Lenten Adult Sunday School continues in March with the study of the “I Am” statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John. Video support by Matt Rawls will help us understand who Jesus is and how we should respond. Join us downstairs in room 102 on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. as we grow our faith together.

ADULT
Sunday School



Family Bowling Outing for All Ages!

The Education Ministry Team would like to invite you to our 2nd Annual Bowling Outing on Saturday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Leisure Lanes. All ages are welcome! Please sign up on the sheet across from the church mail boxes so we can reserve enough lanes. We hope to see you there! See Rebekah Priest with questions.

Greetings to our Sisters in the Atlantic Northeast District

We are excited to announce our **Women’s Spring Fellowship** Event to be held on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at the Lititz COB in the Family Life Center. Time of the Event is 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration opens at 8:45 a.m.

Our speaker this year is Donna Parcell, a member of the Indian Creek COB. The theme is “Joy” and the Scripture verse is John 15:11. Cost is \$20 per person including lunch. Childcare will be provided for children ages 3-8. Alpha and Omega Praise Band provides the special music and the offering goes to “Give A Girl A Chance.”

Registration is open. You may register online at www.ane-cob.org under the Calendar/Events tab at the top of the page. If you have any questions regarding registration, please

March Sermon Topics

March 3	Matthew 10:1-15	A Purposeful Heart - New Member Sunday
March 10	Luke 15:11-24	A Gracious Heart
March 17	Matthew 26:1-13	A Loving Heart
March 24	Matthew 21:1-11	An Obedient Heart - Palm Sunday
March 31	Matthew 28:1-15	A Joyful Heart - Easter



A Short Explanation of Our Outreach Budget Recipients

Page 4 of a series of 4.

On Earth Peace – OEP is a recognized agency of the Church of the Brethren, an “Historic Peace Church.” On Earth Peace develops and walks with leaders, schools, and communities who work for justice and peace. They help individuals, churches, and other community groups who are ready to learn and use active nonviolence to respond to conflicts, injustice, violence, militarism and war. The funds we give go to their General Fund.

Alpha and Omega Community Center – The purpose of the Community Center is to provide education and services to assist the Latino community of Lancaster to become more productive members of the community. The money we send is used toward Program expenses.

SVMC Satellite Campus – Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center provides certificate level ministry training for those for whom an MDiv is not a good option. They also host several graduate degree courses offered through Bethany Theological Seminary. SVMC is located at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, PA. Our money goes to the General Fund.

Global Food Initiative – GFI is the primary way the Church of the Brethren assists hungry people in developing food security. Since 1983 GFI has raised over 8 million dollars for community development projects in numerous countries around the globe. We started out in our congregation with the “Two Cent” offering on the first Sunday of every month. The Outreach Team decided to make GFI a budget item this year since food insecurity has skyrocketed. We took the formula of \$.02 per meal for one person x 3 meals a day = \$06. \$.06 x 365 days a year = \$21.90 for one person. Based on 167 members (at this point in time) = \$3,657.30. We rounded that amount up to \$3,700 as our budget amount. This money will go to Elgin earmarked for Global Food Initiative.

Thank you for your faithful, and generous giving to Mountville Church of the Brethren Outreach! I hope you find this report helpful. Dianna L. Zimmerman, Outreach Chairperson

**Thank you, church, for faithfully answering the call
to share with our neighbors.**

We asked and Mountville Church of the Brethren answered! Thank you so much for your generous donations to our supply closet! Did you know that food stamps cannot be used to purchase cleaning supplies, paper products, or hygiene items? That's why donations like these are especially important for our families. While our participants are working to increase their employment and income opportunities, we want to make sure that they are able to save their money for security deposits, childcare, etc. so we provide a closet full of items they can access during their time at Brethren Housing Association.



Mountville COB Receives Legacy Award

Below are Marian's remarks from February 14 as Mountville COB received the Legacy Award from Belinda Addae, a representative of Church World Service (CWS).

Thank you so much Belinda, for being here today on behalf of Church World Service and for the plaque. We will be sure to find a prominent place to display it here in our church.

I wanted to say a few words about how we began doing kits in 2010. That was the year Norman retired, and we moved back to PA after having been active members and doing kits for more than 20 years at Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren in Mid Atlantic District. Shortly after we returned to Mountville Church of the Brethren, our dear sister Ella Eckerd, who is no longer with us, came up to me after church one Sunday and said that she'd heard that I coordinated the kits at our church in Maryland. She went on to say that folks here would really like to do kits, but "We just have no one to get us started." I checked around and learned that she was right. There was an interest in doing kits so we got started almost immediately and have been doing 300 hygiene kits and 300 school kits most every year since 2010 and then more recently we added 25 or 30 clean up buckets per year also.

I tell folks I meet that I'm a member of the Mountville Church of the Brethren. It's a small church that does BIG things! And there are two main reasons why we are able to do big things. First of all our members are very generous and they respond to needs quickly. If a need is made known, folks meet the need almost immediately and most of the time exceed the needs. But secondly, and I think more importantly, is that at Mountville Church of the Brethren we work together. We don't spend time bickering about things that really don't matter. We set out to do a job, and we use the strengths of each person to get the job done in the most efficient way.

There are so many aspects to preparing kits. Because we don't have unlimited resources... no church does..., we need someone to buy supplies in bulk and using our tax exemption in order to get the most for the limited resources that we have. We need folks to count supplies, organize the shelves in the outreach room, push carts of supplies to the fellowship hall for the assembly and we always invite the whole congregation to remain after worship to assemble the kits. We have folks that sew our beautiful school kits, and someone is needed to load the kits and drive them to New Windsor. Everyone here is needed and important. If you have done any of these tasks, please come and join me so that we can get a group picture.



Again, thank you Belinda, and thank you church for your outpouring of support over these many years of working together for our neighbor's good.

Thank you

MARCH SERVERS

Worship Leaders

3 - Bill Kepner
10 - Cindy Dale
17 - Larry Booz
24 - Phyllis Kepner
31 - Joel Musser

Ushers

Cindy Heisey
Beth Hess
Holly Mele
Lois Silver

Greeters

3 - Matt & Eva Priest: Upper Narthex
- Daryl & Karen Strine: Lower Narthex
10 - Rick & Linda Weber
17 - Glenn & Nanette Bushong
24 - Mark Yoh, Charlie Worrall

Children's Worship

3 - Joyce Kerns, Connie Renn
10 - Joyce Kerns, Beth Hess
17 - Nanette Bushong, Gina Baustita
24 - Margie Musser, Sue Beiler
31 - Family Worship ?

Nursery

3 - Joan Boshnaugle
10 - Regina Schulz
17 - Kitty Collier
24 - Betsy Thomas
31 - Regina Schulz

Mountville COB January 2024 Tithes & Offerings



For General Fund	\$ 35,873.00
Designated	\$ 8,688.73
Christmas Eve	\$ 30.00

Thank you for your faithful gifts!

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 Jerry Bushong or Barry Lauver. 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. If worship is cancelled, watch for an email about an online alternative at a later time.



LOOKING AHEAD

March 5 & 19: Children's Worship Orientation, 9:30 am

March 23: Family Bowling Outing for all Ages, 10:00 am

March 24: Palm Sunday

March 28: 7:00 p.m. - Love Feast, 7:00 pm

March 31 - Easter Sunday

April 27: All Church Meal and Event

*Deadline for the April 2024 New Vision articles is **Sunday, March 10, 2024.***



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

**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**