

The New Vision

Vol. 42, No. 10

www.office@mountvillecob.org

October 2024

Inside This Issue

Regular Features

- 2 Bits 'n Pieces
- 5 October Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 5 Members & Friends
- 6 October Servers
- 6 Tithes & Offerings
- 6 October Sermon Topics
- 7 October Calendar

Around the Church

- 2 Pastor Angela's Schedule
- 2 COBYS Bike & Hike!
- 3- Adult Sunday School
- 3 Something New in Children's Worship
- 3 Invitation to Love Feast
- 3 Congregational Forum
- 4 District Conference Activities
- 4 Pre-order your Anabaptist Study Bible at a Discount

Sunday Worship Service is in house and live streamed Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m. https://www.youtube.com/user/

MountvilleCOB

Nursery care is available for younger children and Children's Worship for age 4 through 6th grade.

Sunday School begins at 9:00 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 was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. ~~ Matthew 25:36, ESV

When Jesus spoke these words, he was not speaking to the "pastors" of the church. He wasn't calling out the deacons. He was talking to *everyone* who chose to follow him, saying, "visit and care for one another."

In my years of ministry, many people have expressed the desire to visit, but also the fear of not knowing the "right things" to say. Others have shared discomfort over being asked to pray for another.

If this describes you, first let me reassure you that you are not alone. And then let me encourage you to take action to address these fears, allowing the Spirit to grow and nurture these gifts within you. Visiting can be one of the most enjoyable and rewarding ways to serve Christ and your neighbor!

On **Saturday, October 19 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**, join me in the fellowship hall for conversation, information, and the opportunity to practice active listening skills. I will provide handouts of helpful open-ended questions and effective, affirming responses; tips for how to initiate visits with people you don't know well; and stories of how just being *present* brings relief, hope, and joy.

Attending this gathering doesn't mean you have to be on a visitation schedule or rotation, so come enjoy this opportunity to learn and grow in your faith in action. Please let me know if you plan to attend so that I can prepare the correct number of materials. I'm looking forward to this time together.

Joyfully, Pastor Angela



Bits 'n Pieces

Janice and Larry Booz wish to thank everyone for the outpouring of the many wonderful cards, and phone calls, that we received after the passing of Vernon Stinebaugh. We feel very touched by the love and concern from the congregation. What a blessing to share this kind of relationship with church members!

Thank you to everyone who donated diapers and baby supplies to welcome baby Nooran. When we delivered your generous gifts, there was a big smile on everyone's face in the Saborya family and they wanted us to convey their thanks to you for remembering them.

Thank you for the cards, visits, and prayers during my back surgery. Having a great church family is wonderful. Thank you again. – Rick

To all members who worked relentlessly to make the Back to School Blessings, Pizza Party & Ice Cream Sundae Event a great success. Your generosity truly made a difference in the lives of those we serve and allowed us to bring glory to God. – Mark

On Sunday evening, August 25, I talked to Edna, Sebring, FL (my sister-in-law, Dorothy's sister) how her 90th birthday celebration went. She asked me to convey her thanks to everyone from the Mountville Church that sent her a card. She really appreciated it. - Harry

Becky and I want to express our thanks for the many cards and other expressions of sympathy we received after the passing of my sister last month. We are so happy to be part of such a caring congregation.

Pat and Family would like to thank her Church Family for the many prayers, cards, and visits during her recent surgery and recovery. She hopes to see you in Church in the near future.

The Hempfield Area Food Pantry thanks us for our continued support evidenced by our recent generous financial contribution of \$215.

Pastor Angela's Schedule

Pastor Angela will be out of the office and away from ministerial duties from September 27 - October 2, 2024. Please contact Jerry Bushong with pastoral needs or Cathy Funderwhite and Karen Strine for prayer needs.

COBYS Bike & Hike!

Sunday September 8, 2024 this group walked to raise money for COBYS. Pastor Angela did the Tasty Tour walk. Ask her about her experience. She got to taste many items at restaurants around Lititz. The rest did the traditional walk around Lititz. All finished the walk with a Fox's ice cream celebration.

The preliminary numbers of what was raised was \$102,000. More monies generally come in afterwards. Our group thanks to your generous support raised \$4740.00. This is the most money our

group has ever raised and we cannot thank you enough. We are truly Blessed to be part of a caring congregation.



During the month of October, the Adult Faith Formation class will continue to study Amy-Jill Levine's series entitled "Signs and Wonders." A.J. takes a new look at the miracle stories found in the Gospels. We will see how past witnesses would have understood the events, as well as how we ourselves

can draw meaning from Jesus' words and actions. Join us in Room 102 or by Zoom at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays!

Something NEW & EXCITING is happening in Children's Worship!

Beginning this Fall, there will be a new children's choir called Sing and Celebrate. Once a month, during children's worship downstairs, children ages 4-12 will sing and celebrate God's love. If you love music/singing and are interested in helping with our new children's choir, please contact Rebekah, Gina, or Joyce for more information.

Invitation to Love Feast

Everyone is invited to attend one of the most distinctive practices in the Church of the Brethren, Love Feast, on **World Communion Sunday, October 6 at 6:00 p.m.** This four-part service includes a time of examination and preparation, a service of foot (or hand) washing, a simple meal, and bread and cup communion.

On the night before Jesus' arrest, he and his disciples gathered for the Passover meal. All four Gospels portray this scene with great reverence. In John 13, we read the poignant story of Jesus getting up from the table, wrapping a towel around himself, pouring water in a basin, and washing his disciples' feet. This moving story ends with the command above...love one another. That command is how this uniquely Brethren practice got its name...Love Feast.

This service has evolved over the years to meet the needs of those gathered. For instance, those with mobility issues can wash one another's hands instead of stooping down to wash feet.



Congregational Forum

will be held on Sunday, October 27
after a Fellowship Meal.
The potluck meal will be held after worship.
Please plan on attending.
More details later.

District Conference Activities

District Conference is not simply a meeting to hear reports and do the work of the Atlantic Northeast District, although that does happen at the business session on Saturday, October 12 at Elizabethtown College. There are other opportunities for Bible study, worship, and fellowship with brothers and sisters from the other 66 churches in the district, which encompasses churches from the Susquehanna River to Brooklyn, NY and from Wilmington, DE to Cresskill, NJ.

On **Tuesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m.**, Pastor Jeff Keller (Lebanon CoB) will lead a Bible Study via Zoom on the Conference Theme, which is *Christ's Ambassadors Pursuing the Path of Reconciliation* based on the text found in 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. All are welcome, and a link will be provided via email a few days before the event.

On **Friday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m.**, we will be hosting the District Conference worship service, based on the same theme and Scripture. Pastor Angela has been invited to deliver the message, and our choir will sing two numbers. Additionally, pianist Alex Ramirez (whom you may remember from his time with us in June) will play the piano, and the praise team from Harrisburg First CoB will lead us in a time of music and praise. It will be a joy to offer hospitality to our siblings in Christ from around the district, and to worship together in unity and love. Everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there!

Pre-order your Anabaptist Study Bible at a Discount

The Bible has sustained Anabaptist faith for 500 years and continues to convict, encourage, and transform us as Anabaptists. The *Anabaptist Community Bible* invites you to read Scripture with fresh eyes and to discover how key Anabaptist themes are woven throughout the stories of the Bible and your own life.

Expertly designed using the Common English Bible translation, the *Anabaptist Community Bible* will connect you more deeply to the biblical story, the Anabaptist story, and your own story. More than 7,200 marginal notes alongside the biblical text feature commentary from Anabaptist scholars, historical notes from the tradition, and the insights of nearly 600 Bible study groups, *including one from here at MCoB!* This pairing of notes and introductions alongside the biblical text commemorates the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism by modeling a community-based approach to reading Scripture and calling readers to follow Jesus in word and deed.

Experience a renewed engagement with Scripture as you encounter the text in conversation with a larger community of believers, expecting God's Word to transform your life. Accessible to Christians from all faith traditions who want to read Scripture through a Jesus-centered lens.

Pre-order pricing is available through October 15, 2024.

Order yours today from Brethren Press by calling 800-441-3712 or using this link: https://www.brethrenpress.com/category_s/56.htm.



OCTOBER SERVERS

| Worship Leaders | Ushers | Children's Worship |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 6 - Gina Bautista | Cindy Heisey | 6 - Kathy Long, Beth Hess |
| 13 - Phyllis Kepner | Dave Fuchs | 13 - Rebekeh Priest, Connie Renn |
| 20 - Holly Mele | Bob Keller | 20 - Gina Bautista, Joy Meley |
| 27 - Tim Wrightson | John Musser | 27 - Joyce Kerns, Tess Wolford |

Greeters

- 6 Harold & Janice Ulmer: Upper Narthex- Barry & Lori Lauver: Lower Narthex
- 13 Tom & Gail Druck
- 20- Daryl & Karen Strine; Upper Narthex
 - Tim & Gail Wrightson: Lower Narthex
- 27 Carl Harnish, Sara Wagner

Nursery

- 6 Joan Boshnaugle
- 13 Betsy Thomas
- 20 Joan Boshnaugle
- 27 Becky Fuchs

Mountville COB August 2024 Tithes & Offerings



For General Fund \$ 19,986.00 Designated \$ 12,422.00

Thank you for your faithful gifts!

October Sermon Topics:

| Oct. 6 | Forbearance & Grace | Mark 5:43-48 |
|---------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Oct. 13 | Exposedand Confident | Hebrews 4:12-16 |
| Oct. 20 | What do you want? | Mark 10:35-45 |
| Oct. 27 | What do you want? Part II | Mark 10:46-52 |



LOOKING AHEAD

Oct. 6: Love Feast, 6 pm



Deadline for the November 2024 New Vision articles is Sunday, October 13, 2024.

