

STATISTICS for December 8, 2024

Received for: General Fund ..... \$ 3,661.70

DESIGNATED FUND

Kathy VanderHeijden Social Justice Fund ..... 40.00

Memorial Fund..... 100.00

Mountville Elementary Gifts ..... 20.00

Worship: 90 Sunday School: 26

SERMON NOTES

# Mountville Church of the Brethren



## Expecting Emmanuel

**December 15, 2024**

Worship 10:15 a.m.

60 Clay St., Mountville, PA 17554

717-285-5122

[www.mountvillecob.org](http://www.mountvillecob.org)

email: [office@MountvilleCOB.org](mailto:office@MountvilleCOB.org)

**Purpose Statement**

In joyful community, we follow Jesus to embody God's love with all our neighbors.

# MOUNTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



*Fostering growth in faith,  
growth in community, and growth in service.*

December 15, 2024 10:15 a.m.

**Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound booth.  
Large print bulletins and hymnals are available in the narthex.**

**\*Congregation stands in body or spirit.**

## GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE *Breath of Heaven* arr. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>^</sup>

Beloveds, we gather in love for God and love for each other.

**We gather to experience God's love for us.**

God's love is revealed in the stories we hear,  
**in the songs we sing, in the prayers we offer,**  
in the Spirit we feel moving within us and among us.

God's love is revealed most deeply through Jesus,  
**whose coming we anticipate and celebrate, who was sent by God so  
that we might have life.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

\*HYMN *Hail to the Lord's anointed* 185

\*INVOCATION<sup>^^</sup>

## RECEIVE

SCRIPTURE READING Ruth 1:1-18 OT 241

SPECIAL MUSIC *Noel* arr. Daigle

*Children ages 4-6th grade are invited to worship downstairs.*

A PRAYER OF SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

## RESPOND

HYMN *Oh, how shall I receive thee* 182

INVITATION TO GIVE<sup>^^^</sup>

OFFERTORY *Mary did you know* arr. Avila

\*DOXOLOGY Overhead

\*PRAYER OF BLESSING<sup>^</sup>

## PROCLAIM

MESSAGE *Ruth: A Journey of Love* Rev. Angela Finet

\*HYMN *Love came down at Christmas* 208

## SEND

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Once in Royal David's City* Gauntlett

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<sup>^</sup>Harader, Joanna. *Expecting Emmanuel*. (Herald Press: Harrisonburg, VA, 2022).  
Pgs. 149, 153

<sup>^^</sup> Duck, Ruth C. *Flames of the Spirit*. (WIPF and STOCK Publishers, Eugene,  
Oregon, 1985). Pg. 15, Adapted.

<sup>^^^</sup>Ristine, Karen Clark. *Abingdon Worship Annual 2021*. (Abingdon Press:  
Nashville, TN, 2020). Pg. 245. Adapted.

**Please Remember to Sign the Attendance Pads.**

## THIS WEEK

Today: 12:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Rm. 101  
12:30 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary  
Mon: 6:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary  
Tues: 7:00 p.m. – Scripture Chat, Rm. 102 and via Zoom  
7:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Rm. 101 & Fellowship Hall  
Wed: 1:00 p.m. - Stitch ‘n Sew ‘n Share, Rm. 106  
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir  
7:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer Youth, Rm. 100/Fellowship Hall  
Thurs: 2:45 p.m. – Power Packs  
7:00 p.m. – Blue Christmas Service, Concordia Lutheran Church  
Fri: 7:00 p.m. - Un Nuevo Renacer, Sanctuary & Kitchen set-up  
Sat: 12:00 p.m. – Un Nuevo Renacer, Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

## Next Sunday, December 15, 2024

### 9:00-9:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages.

- Adult Sunday School, Rm. 102. The topic for December is Adam Hamilton’s *Prepare The Way For the Lord*.
- Birth through pre-K meet in the nursery, room 122.
- Elementary class for grades K-6 meet in room 123.

### Children’s Worship

Children will begin worship in the sanctuary with their families. Those ages 4 - 6th grade are invited to join the Children's Worship Leaders at the back of the sanctuary at the designated time for their own special worship.

### 10:15 a.m. We gather to worship God. Advent: Candle of Power

Next Sunday Pastor Angela shares *Bathsheba: Considering Power* from 1 Kings 1:11-18, 29-31. Patrick Snyder is the worship leader and the Chancel Choir sings.

### FRIDAYS ARE PASTOR ANGELA’S SABBATH

Friday’s prayer concerns should be directed to Cathy Funderwhite and Karen Strine. If you want to leave a non-urgent message for Pastor Angela on Fridays or any day after 9:00 p.m., please send an email rather than a text. She keeps her phone on 24/7 for emergencies.

## In God’s Service Today

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Pastor Rev. Angela Finet  
Music Director John Hess  
Organist Gloria Hess  
Pianist Sarah Repkoe  
Worship Leader Cathy Funderwhite  
Advent Wreath Lighters Joyce Kerns, Carey and Alexa Taylor  
Ushers Cindy Heisey, Beth Hess, Bob Keller, Holly Mele  
Special Music Jaimie Jensen  
Children’s Ministry Rebekah Priest, Connie Renn  
Nursery Regina Schulz  
Greeters Bob & Heidi Keller, Carl & Louise Harnish  
Prayer Chain Cathy Funderwhite, Karen Strine  
Security Carl Harnish  
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The flowers in the worship center are given to  
the glory and honor of God.

### WELCOME JAIMIE JENSEN

Jaimie is thrilled to be back in her hometown sharing the gift of music where it all began. She holds a bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and Musical Theatre and Vocal Performance from James Madison University in Virginia. Jaimie is most proud about being a mother to her 4 beautiful daughters, Grace, Emma, Charlotte and Elise. She is a proud member of Actors Equity and some of her professional credits are playing Belle in Beauty and the Beast aboard the Disney Cruise Ship and Tokyo Disney Sea in Tokyo, Japan.

### SCRIPTURE CHAT

We will gather by Zoom and in room 102 each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for Scripture Chat. This week’s scripture is I Kings 1:11-18, 29-31. The link will be sent each Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome. All you need to bring is a Bible.

## Prayer Ministry Update

*The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.* (James 5:16b)

Please add the following people to your prayer list:

- Continue to pray for Jeanne, Linda, Rick, Ray, Harold, George John, Wendy, the Fitze family, Nick and Alex, Army, and troops as they serve in Africa..
- Please pray for Joe Buohl as he continues his ministry training.
- Pray for all who are grieving violence. Christ have mercy.
- Please pray for peace to prevail in Israel, Gaza, Syria, Ukraine, Nigeria, Niger, Haiti, Sudan, Venezuela, and around the world.
- District Prayers: Today we are praying for Lampeter COB. Ambler COB is praying for us.

### CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

This year our tradition of giving away our Christmas Eve offering to one local and one global charity will continue. CCEPI, the Center for Caring, Empowerment, and Peace Initiatives, has been helping Nigerians who have suffered at the hands of terrorists to recover from the trauma and become self-sufficient through educational programs. YMCA of the Roses will manage the new Homeless Shelter at the Otterbein Methodist Church in Lancaster, which opens Christmas Eve. You can find more information about these worthwhile causes on the bulletin boards near the restrooms. Thank you for thinking of our neighbors near and far as we celebrate the birth of Christ, who taught us to care for those less fortunate than ourselves.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Columbia Area Food Bank receives our December Food Cart items. These can be placed in the cart in the lower entrance by the elevator. Please remember no perishables, glass, or outdated items. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering with “food bank” on the envelope.

### SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE SPECIAL MOMENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

Dec. 19: 7:00 p.m.: Blue Christmas Svc., Concordia Lutheran Church  
Dec. 24: 7:00 p.m.: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

### SEEKERS CLASS

This Advent we will study a series by Adam Hamilton entitled "Prepare The Way For the Lord." Hamilton focuses on the message of John the Baptist from the Gospels, and how it helps us relate to our personal preparation for the birth of Christ. Join us downstairs in room 101 at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings for some thought-provoking discussion.

### CHRISTMAS CARD BAGS

Christmas Card Bags for the shut-ins that are part of our church family are on the table outside the kitchen. We are still in need of people to deliver a bag or two. The sign-up sheet for bag delivery is on the table. TODAY is the DEADLINE for bringing in cards. Please remember to take the bag/s you have signed up to deliver. If you have questions, please ask Jeanne Dickel.

### LONGEST NIGHT/BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Join Pastor Angela and other pastors from the Mountville Ministerium at Concordia Lutheran Church on Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. for a special service. While Christmas is a time of joy for many, for others there is a sense of loss as we approach the holidays. . This service recognizes that, for many of us, joy and grief co-exist at this time of year, and provides space to acknowledge all of those emotions. All are welcome, but especially those who are grieving loss - a death, a job loss, relationship loss, or health loss, etc. Come allow God's love, and the love of the wider faith community, to enfold you.