

STATISTICS for December 15, 2024

Received for: General Fund .....	\$ 9,376.62
Room Use.....	100.00
DESIGNATED FUND	
Memorial Fund.....	100.00
Global Food Initiative .....	100.00
Sunday Flowers.....	40.00
Seasonal Flowers.....	9.50
Food Bank.....	104.00
Mountville Elementary Gifts .....	40.00
Christmas Eve Offering .....	150.00

Worship: 87    Sunday School: 22

SERMON NOTES

# Mountville Church of the Brethren



## Expecting Emmanuel

**December 22, 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 22, 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

*In Thee is Gladness*

Manz

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>^</sup>

We gather in holy space to hear holy words:

**Do not be afraid.**

We gather in holy time to hear a holy promise:

**Mary's son will reign forever.**

We gather in this holy moment to sense the holy in our midst:

**Let the Holy Spirit come upon us. Let the power of the Most High overshadow us.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

\*HYMN

*O come, O come, Immanuel* (v. 1,2,3,6) 172

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

## RECEIVE

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 1:11-18, 29-31

OT 302

CHORAL ANTHEMS

*Sing We Now of Christmas  
Mary, Go Tell it*

Althouse  
arr. Hayes

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

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

### RESPOND

HYMN

*What child is this*

215

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

OFFERTORY

*Shepherd's Pipe*

Young

\*DOXOLOGY

Overhead

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

### PROCLAIM

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Calypso Gloria*

arr. McDonald

MESSAGE

*Bathsheba: Considering Power*

Rev. Angela Finet

\*HYMN

*To us a Child of hope is born*

189

### SEND

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

arr. Ritter

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

<sup>^^</sup>Linford, Kirsten. *Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*. (Abingdon Press: Nashville, TN, 2021). Pg. 294.

<sup>^^^</sup>Beu, B.J. *Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*. (Abingdon Press: Nashville, TN, 2021). Pg. 287. 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. – Christmas Eve Candle light Service  
No Scripture Chat  
Wed: – Christmas Day: Church Office Closed  
No Stitch ‘n Sew ‘n Share  
Thurs: 2:45 p.m. – Power Packs

## Next Sunday, December 29, 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.

Next Sunday we welcome Guest Speaker Joe Buohl who shares from Colossians 3:12-17. Walt VanderHeijden is the worship leader and special music is provided.

### 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.

### OFFICE SCHEDULE

Pastor Angela and Jackie will be out of the office Wednesday, December 25 thru Wednesday, January 1, 2025. Please contact Jerry Bushong with pastoral needs or Cathy Funderwhite and Karen Strine for prayer needs.

## In God’s Service Today

=====  
Pastor Rev. Angela Finet  
Music Director John Hess  
Organist Gloria Hess  
Guest Organist Leigh-Ann Powers  
Worship Leader Patrick Snyder  
Advent Wreath Lighters Cindy Dale, Kristen, Kylie & Ava Stemmer  
Ushers Cindy Heisey, Beth Hess, Bob Keller, Holly Mele  
Choral Anthem Chancel Choir  
Conductor: Bill Kepner; Soloist: Cindy Dale  
Euphonium: Chuck Few; Percussion: Brandon Miller;  
Trombone: Jim Zeigler; Trumpets: John Hess. Libby Weder,  
Evan Gregory; Tuba: Bruce Smith  
Children’s Ministry Joyce Kerns, Alexa Taylor  
Nursery Becky Fuchs  
Greeters Bob & Heidi Keller, Harold & Janice Ulmer  
Prayer Chain Cathy Funderwhite, Karen Strine  
Security Pete Musser  
=====

Janice and Harold Ulmer give the flowers in the worship center to the glory and honor of God and in celebration of their wedding anniversary and in memory of their parents, Paul and Janet Sherich and Rev. Harold and Frances Ulmer

### SCRIPTURE CHAT

We will not meet December 24 and December 31, 2024. Scripture Chat will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

SEVEN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES with children attending Mountville Elementary have been blessed this Christmas by our generous response to the school’s “Mitten Gift” project. Members of our congregation recently have fulfilled family wishes for toys, clothing, cleaning products, and household goods. Also, our contributions of cash to the Mountville Elementary designated fund were used to purchase new winter coats requested by School Counselor Madelyn Saunders for seven children at the school. What a joy for our church to act as "Jesus in the neighborhood" for local families in need.

## 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 Green Tree COB. Iglesia Berith, Oasis De Esperanza 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. 24: 7:00 p.m.: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

January 11: 9:30 a.m.: Men’s Breakfast & Fellowship, Centerville Diner

January 26, 10:15 a.m.: Communion during Worship

### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Join us Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 pm for Christmas Eve worship. All of Advent, we have been *Expecting Emmanuel* - and now we celebrate the birth of the baby - God with us. This family-friendly service includes the retelling of the Christmas story from Luke 2, inspiring music, and candlelighting. Preservice music begins at 6:45 pm. Everyone is welcome to celebrate the birth we've been *expecting*!

### 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.

### 2025 FLOWER CHART

The 2025 flower chart has been posted on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Please sign your name and write V for vases or A for arrangement on the date you want to place flowers in the worship center. Remember to fill out a pink order form and turn it in with payment to the church office or put in the offering plate. Cost for one arrangement is \$43; the cost for 2 vases is \$48. Please call the church office with questions.

### 2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2025 envelopes are in your mailbox. If you did not receive them and would like to, please contact Greg Smith.

We wish to thank those persons who placed Christmas poinsettias in the Sanctuary today in memory of or in honor of loved ones or just to add to the beauty of this Season. They are helping enhance our Christmas Celebration with beauty, lovely memories, and happy thoughts. Please see Sara Wagner to pick up your plant(s) after our Christmas Eve Service, or thereafter.

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Memory (M) or Honor (H) of:</u>
Wendy Allshouse	M: Jim Allshouse M: Bob & Jean Allen
Lucinda Brock	M: Gretchen Brock
Glenn & Ruthie Bushong	M: Bushong Parents M: Wyble Parents
Jerry & Linda Bushong:	M: Parents: Ed & Phyllis Hewlett M: Parents: Galen & Ruth Bushong
Forrest & Kitty Collier	M: Mary Weaver, Lizzie Collier
Don & Cindy Dale	M: Vesta DeLong, Don Kepner H: Dolly Kepner
Charles & Theresa Few	M: Our Parents
Harlan & Ginny Hart	M: Our Parents H: Our Children & Families
Bob & Heidi Keller	M: Ephraim & Daisy Shelly M: Amos & Harriet Keller
Lynn Landis & Molly Mitchell	M: Joseph Cass 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Mary Louise M: Joseph Cass 4 <sup>th</sup> , Dale Beam M: John Landis, Ted Mitchell
Your Loving Family	M: Pat and Chill Landis

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Memory (M) or Honor (H) of:</u>
The Harry Light Family	M: Dorothy "Dottie" Light
Holly Mele	M: Joe Mele
Ruth Moses	M: My daughter, Kathy.
Patrick, Wanda & Zach Snyder	M: Parents and Grandparents
Celeste Stalk-Ortenzio	M: Shirley Ortenzio, Eloise Stalk
Shannon Woolman	M: John and Thelma Pruette
Tim & Gail Wrightson	M: Elizabeth Pogue, Anne Gerow

