



The New Vision

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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.

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

Paul and Silas journeyed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, then came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As was Paul's custom, he entered the synagogue and for three Sabbaths interacted with them on the basis of the scriptures. Through his interpretation of the scriptures, he demonstrated that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. He declared, "This Jesus whom I proclaim to you is the Christ." Some were convinced and joined Paul and Silas, including a larger number of Greek God-worshippers and quite a few prominent women.

But the Jews became jealous and brought along some thugs who were hanging out in the marketplace. They formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They attacked Jason's house, intending to bring Paul and Silas before the people. When they didn't find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city officials. They were shouting, "These people who have been disturbing the peace throughout the empire have also come here. What is more, Jason has welcomed them into his home. Every one of them does what is contrary to Caesar's decrees by naming someone else as king: Jesus." This provoked the crowd and the city officials even more. After Jason and the others posted bail, they released them. ~ Acts 17:1-9

I am writing this Love Note prior to my arrival in Thessaloniki, and sincerely hope that, by the time you read this, I won't have caused a riot or called you for bail money!

Shortly after Paul left Thessalonica, he sent a letter back to the church that he had planted there. This letter was likely written and sent from Corinth in approximately 49-51 AD, making it the oldest book in the New Testament.

It's important to remember, as we read from the Epistles (like this one), that we are reading someone else's mail! Therefore it is helpful to know more about the author and the original recipients in order to understand more fully the message contained within – and how that message informs our faith journeys today!

I'm looking forward to sharing what I learn while touring the ruins of Thessalonica and the archeological museum nearby as we explore 1st Thessalonians together during the month of July. And I pray that, as we worship together, "you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work..." (1 Thess. 1:9-10)

All my love,
Pastor Angela

Bits 'n Pieces

Congratulations to our high school graduates, Indiana Ebersole and Riley Buohl. And welcome to our new sister in Christ, Shannon Woolman. May God guide your steps on this next part of your life's journey!

Thank you for the graduation gift. Your generosity means more than it's possible to say and is truly appreciated. – Riley Buohl

“Only people as wonderful as you could do something so special.” (graduate gift and recognition)
Thank you! Love, Indiana Ebersole

Our family would like to say thank you to this caring congregation for all the sympathy cards after Ruth's passing. Also for visits, prayers and words of comfort. Thank you again and may God bless all of you. - Don, Dell, Cindy and Beth

Danielle Peters, Director of The Columbia Food Bank, is very grateful this month, and always, for our support of \$250.



Band Concert on the Lawn

On Sunday, July 20, from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., we will host a lawn concert featuring the Twin Rose Community Band (with a familiar face playing flute in the front row!) Bring your family, friends, and lawn chairs for a family-fun outing. Musical selections span several generations and genres, and there is sure to be something that will get your toes tapping! There will be a freewill offering to support the band's expenses. In case of inclement weather, the concert will move indoors - so put this on your calendar, in pen, today! This could become a new annual event!

Summer Office Hours Begin

Beginning June 16, Jackie will be in the office Tuesdays - Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Please contact Joe Buohl, Cathy Funderwhite or Karen Strine, with prayer needs on Mondays.

Glimpses from the Past

Alexander Mack

Alexander was born July 27, 1679 in the village of Schriesheim, Germany, the eighth of eleven children born to Johann Phillip Mack and Christina Fillbrun Mack. Alexander's father owned a large mill which contained a room for grinding grain, a stable for horses, and the family living quarters. Behind the mill was a large garden and vineyards of grapes. The boys worked at the mill, but when they were not working, they attended school in the balcony of the church. Alexander liked to study and discuss new ideas and hoped one day to go to the university and leave the mill work to his older brothers.

During the years before he was twenty, Alexander experienced only four years of peace. Wars with the French and German people caused the Macks to flee to the hills for their safety. He was not committed to being a miller, but he and an older brother were to care for the family business. Their father expected them to operate the mill. Alexander was "to marry a good wife and have some sons!" He did find a woman, Anna Margaret Kling, who shared his doubts and dreams and they were married.

A new idea called Pietism was spreading throughout Germany. Pietists wanted to follow the teachings of Jesus and live their faith every day. Church priests disliked them and said "Pietists should not be teaching from the Bible!" For the first time, words of the New Testament spoke to Alexander and Anna and they rarely attended the village church.

Alexander encountered some farmers called Mennonites. They had refused to become soldiers and were imprisoned for not baptizing their children. He thought they were peaceful and honest people and admired their beliefs. Alexander wrote down his ideas and shared them with others who began to follow him. To keep his family from harm, Alexander moved his family to Schwarzenau where they found a loving group of neighbors. The families in Schwarzenau were still concerned about baptism. Baptizing adults was a crime punishable by death although Alexander could not find a verse in the Bible about baptism of infants.

Early on an August morning in 1708, after much prayer and reflection, eight persons followed their hearts' desires by being baptized in the Eder River. The men cast lots to see who would baptize Alexander. After he was baptized, he baptized and prayed for each of the others. Word of the baptisms spread to the other villages and Alexander was now recognized as leader of the group. Everyone could receive the gift of Jesus and show His love to others.

Over the years, Alexander sold his personal fortune to assist church members, but now the forests did not provide enough wood for their stoves. By 1720, the New Baptists in Schwarzenau made the decision to leave the area, but could not afford the trip to America so they went to Holland. It was here that Alexander's wife and six-year-old daughter died. These events were almost unbearable, but he continued to serve his flock.

Continued on page 4.

Glimpses from the Past

Alexander Mack

Continued from page 3.

In 1719, a group of German Baptists left Germany and settled in Germantown, a village near Philadelphia. In 1723, they officially formed the Germantown church with Peter Becker as their leader. He baptized six new converts in the Wissahickon Creek on Christmas Day. After learning that the church in America was growing and the land was fruitful while the group in Holland was facing hard times and near starvation, Alexander decided to travel to America. In 1729, Alexander and his three sons began their trip to America. Once the immigrants arrived in America, Peter Becker helped them sign legal papers since they did not speak English. They also had to agree to honor the King of England, who ruled the land, but they were not required to take an oath (which would have been required in the German Reformed Church). In 1730, Peter gave leadership of the Germantown church over to Alexander. Until his death in 1735, Alexander spent most of his time ministering to members of his congregation, visiting the sick and showing genuine concern for his people just as he had done in Germany and Holland.

For additional reading in our church library, see Alexander Mack - A Man Who Rippled the Waters, Brethren History, Brethren Trail Blazers, Counting the Cost, From These Roots, History of the Church of the Brethren Eastern Pennsylvania and The Brethren Encyclopedia Volume 2

Watch this space next month for a new *Glimpse from the Past* found in our church archives!

- Submitted by Janice Ulmer



Alexander Mack – 1679 – 1735
Church of the Brethren Founder

JULY SERVERS

Worship Leaders

6 - Forrest Collier
 13 - Jeanne Dickel
 20 - Patrick Snyder
 27 - John Musser

Ushers

Wendy Allshouse
 Bob Keller
 Barry Lauver
 Daryl Strine

Children's Worship

6 - Family Worship
 13 - Joyc Kerns, Tess Wolford
 20 - Rebekah Priest, Connie Renn
 27 - Kathy Long, Sue Beiler

Greeters

6 - Holly Mele, Shirley Smith
 13 - Carl I & Louise Harnish, Upper Narthex
 - Don & Sara Wagner, Lower Narthex
 20 - Harold & Janice Ulmer
 27 - Anne Schanz, Shirley Smith

Nursery

6 - Joan Boshnaugle
 13 - Regina Schulz
 20 - Lori Lauver
 27 - Betsy Thomas

Mountville COB May 2025 Tithes & Offerings

For General Fund	\$	19,695.01
Designated	\$	1,696.00



Thank you for your faithful gifts!

Bus Transportation to Disaster Relief Sale

Please contact Janet Schwert by **JULY 1** if you are interested in going to the Disaster Relief Auction with MCOB via bus. The number of folks going will determine the cost of the bus ticket per person.

The bus departs MCOB at 8:00 a.m. and leaves Lebanon at 2:30 p.m.



July Sermon Topics

6	Galatians 5:6b	Faith Working Through LOVE - Rev. Jan King
13	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The Beginning
20	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	The Middle
27	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	The End

LOOKING AHEAD



July 12: 9 a.m.: Mens & Womens
Breakfasts @ Centerville Diner

July 20: 6 p.m.: Twin Rose Community
Band Concert on the Lawn.

NOAC Early Registration ends July 22.

COB Annual Conference, July 2 - 6, Greensboro, NC

August 17: Blessing of the Students & Pizza Party

*Deadline for the August 2025 New Vision articles is **Sunday, July 13, 2025.***



MOUNTVILLE CHURCH of the BRETHREN
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Telephone: 285-5122

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

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