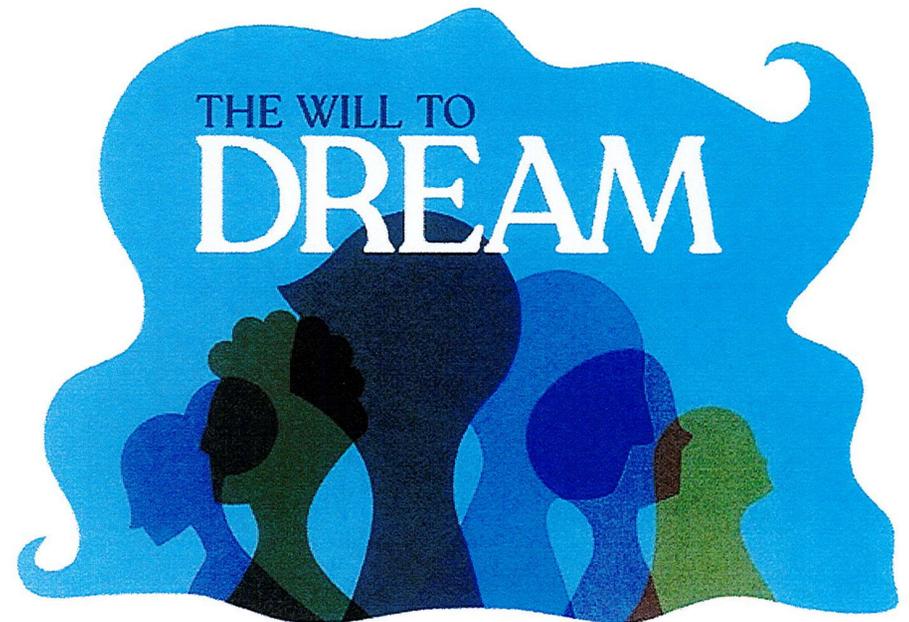


Mountville Church of the Brethren



December 21, 2025

Worship 10:15 a.m.

60 Clay St., Mountville, PA 17554
717-285-5122

www.mountvillecob.org
email: office@MountvilleCOB.org

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.

MOUNTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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

December 21, 2025 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.**

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

What Child is This

arr. Wills

CALLING US TO IMAGINE

*CALL TO WORSHIP^

We gather together in this place:

prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,

we who dare to imagine a world renewed;

we who dare to dream God's dream.

We speak out with Zechariah.

God's name be blessed forever!

For God has remembered us in mercy,

and remained faithful to us in love.

Because of God's tender compassion,

the dawn from on high will rise over us.

Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.

We have come to wonder and praise.

*INVOCATION^

*HYMN

Love came down at Christmas

208

ADVENT WREATH: KINDLING THE LIGHT

**Today, we light the candle of love because love
makes the impossible possible.**

INSPIRING OUR DREAMS

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:57-80

NT 57

THE PROPHET'S STORY

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

ADVENT PRAYER OF LOVE

THE PROPHET'S STORY

CHORAL ANTHEMS

The Virgin Mary had a baby Boy arr. Moore

Calypso Lullaby Raney

Christmas Day in the Morning arr. Shackley

Congregation sings words on screen.

LIVING OUT OUR VISION

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY

Joseph Dearest Joseph Mine

arr. Smith

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom

Overhead

To the tune of # 172 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*PRAYER OF BLESSING^

MESSAGE

Merciful Love

Rev. Angela Finet

SHARING OUR JOY WITH THE WORLD

*HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling

592

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

arr. Kerr

^Illustrated Ministry. Used with permission. Copyright 2025.

Please remember to sign the attendance pads.

THIS WEEK

Today: 10:15 a.m. – Worship, Sanctuary
 Mon: 9:00 a.m. – Behavioral Healthcare, Kitchen/Fellowship Hall
 Tues: 7:00 p.m. – Scripture Chat, Rm. 102 and Zoom
 Wed: 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Candlelight Service
 No Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
 Thurs: Christmas Day: Office Closed

Next Sunday, December 28, 2025

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

- Adult Sunday School studies meets in Room 102 featuring Andy Langford's Advent series "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" with Dave Fuchs.
- Birth through pre-K meets in the nursery, room 122.
- Elementary class for grades K-6 meets in room 123.
- Jr. High class meets in room 100.

10:15 a.m. We gather to worship God.

Next Sunday guest preacher Joe Buohl shares “See something, say something” from Luke 2:22-40, Psalm 148. Cathy Funderwhite is the worship leader and Jeanne Dickel provides special music.

Nursery is available in room 122.

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.

JACKIE’S OFFICE SCHEDULE

Jackie will not be in the Church Office Monday, Dec. 22.

OFFICE SCHEDULE

Pastor Angela and Jackie will be out of the office Thursday, December 25 through Thursday, January 2, 2026. Please contact Jerry Bushong with pastoral needs or Cathy Funderwhite and Karen Strine for prayer needs.

In God’s Service Today

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Ministers	ALL of Us
Pastor	Rev. Angela Finet
Music Director	John Hess
Organist / Pianist	Gloria Hess
Worship Leader	Patrick Snyder
Prophet’s Story	Phyllis Kepner, Joel Musser
Advent Candles	Anne, Oliver, Grace Cyr and Matt, Rebekah, Eva, Autumn Priest
Ushers	Beth Hess, Bob Keller, Barry Lauver, Holly Mele
Choral Anthem	Chancel Choir
Musicians:	Euphonium: Chuck Few; Percussion: Brandon Miller; Trombone: James Zeigler; Trumpets: John Hess, Bruce Wagner; Tuba: Bruce Smith
Children’s Ministry	Rebekah Priest, Tess Wolford
Nursery	Regina Schulz
Greeters	Bob & Heidi Keller, Barry & Lori Lauver
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 and in celebration of Janice and Harold Ulmer’s wedding anniversary and in memory of their parents, Paul & Janet Sherick and Rev. Harold and Frances Ulmer.

SCRIPTURE CHAT

We will gather by Zoom and in room 102 each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for Scripture Chat. This week’s scriptures are Luke 2:22-40, Psalm 148. The link will be sent each Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome. All you need is a Bible, or one can be provided to you.

Merry Christmas to all beloved church members, families and Pastor Angela. Wishing everyone a Happy Holiday, a Merry Christmas and a healthy new year! – Lynn Landis & Molly Mitchell

Prayer Ministry Update

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

From the Pastoral Relations Team: Loving God, guide Pastor Angela and our congregation as we transition from a season of thankfulness to this new season of loving, giving and sharing. Make us aware that gifts are more than items chosen. Help us to give love, share time, and be a positive presence in this holy season. Amen. - Pastoral Relations Team

Please include the following people in your prayers:

- Louise , Lew & Fay , John , the Fitze family, and Nick .
- Joe Buohl as he continues his ministry training.
- Please pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, Pakistan, India, Ukraine, Nigeria, Haiti, Sudan, Venezuela, and around the world.
- Pray for the people in Jamaica in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa.
- District Prayers: Today we are praying for Nuevo Amancer, Bethlehem. Ebenezer, Lampeter, is praying for us.

GLIMPSES FROM CHRISTMASSES PAST

Be sure to stop by the bulletin board opposite the kitchen to view all the Christmas pictures shared. The pictures will be on display all the Sundays in December and will be returned to the owners in January. Many thanks to those who shared pictures - it's quite an assortment.

2026 SUNDAY GREETERS

Have you thought about being a Greeter on Sundays at the Church? If you are interested in serving as an occasional greeter and would like to know more about this, please contact Sue Miller by email or phone which can be found in the Church Directory.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you used offering envelopes this year you should have a box for 2026 in your church mailbox. If you did not previously use envelopes but would now like to, please see Greg Smith.

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

Dec. 24: Christmas Candlelight Service, 7:00 p.m.

2026 WORSHIP CENTER FLOWER CHANGE

Beginning January 2026, there will be a change in flowers for worship. The Church will no longer be ordering flowers for the worship center. We welcome flowers in memory of loved ones or in honor of special occasions. You may contact a florist of your choice to make arrangements and your billing. If having delivered, they would need to be at the church by noon before Jackie leaves. You may also bring to church on Saturday. We will have a flower chart so we can add recognition for your flowers in the bulletin. Questions please see Sara Wagner.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Columbia 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.

CHRISTMAS CARD BAGS

Christmas Card Bags for our church family who worship remotely are on the table outside the kitchen. You may bring in a card for each person on the list or just a few. It is whatever you feel led to do. Those who cannot worship in person with us really enjoy hearing from us each year. The list of names for Christmas bags can be located on the table across from the kitchen. Also, if you could sign up to deliver a bag or two, it would be greatly appreciated. The sign-up sheet for bag delivery is on the table across from the kitchen. DEADLINE for bringing in cards is TODAY! If you have questions, please ask Jeanne Dickel at 717-314-6159. Please leave a message! I don't answer calls from phone numbers that I do not recognize.

DURING ADVENT (November 30 to December 24), we will not share spoken announcements at the beginning of worship. Please provide your announcements to the office by Wednesday morning of each week so that Jackie can include them in the bulletin and prepare an overhead slide for display during our gathering time.