



# 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](mailto:Office@Mountvillecob.org)

## Love Notes from Pastor Angela

This year, April begins right in the middle of Holy Week. You will find more information about Love Feast (April 2) and two services on Easter Sunday (April 5) elsewhere in this newsletter, and I encourage you to mark your calendars and plan to attend each of these meaningful worship gatherings.

On Easter Sunday, we will shout Alleluia and sing *Songs of Loudest Praise*. We will bear witness to rebirth, and claim our inheritance as Resurrection People! But, then what??? What do we do with the rest of the month?

On Sunday, April 12, we will begin a new worship series called *Emerge*, featuring imagery of butterflies, which are a long-standing symbol of resurrection. We will begin with the caterpillar and chrysalis — the beginning of the journey of transformation — and affirm that darkness can be good for birthing new things. Each week, we'll consider what we can learn spiritually from the process of the butterfly forming, cracking its chrysalis, pushing outward, hanging to let wings dry, letting go, and finally daring to fly (on Pentecost)!

Along the way, various stories of faith will help us see how God's people have always been dealing with transformation and issues of fear, trust, and letting go. We're all human, after all, and transformation is inevitable. I hope this series will point toward the assurance that we are never alone in this journey.

Love,

*Pastor Angela*



# Bits 'n Pieces

Sam and Carol want to express their deep appreciation for the many prayers and cards they received during Sam's medical ordeal. Sam is finally home and slowly regaining strength and energy. Thank you for your care and concern.

Thank you for all the cards messages and prayers during John's hospitalization. They were most welcome and encouraging. - John and Louise

Pray for comfort for the family of Mark & Brenda on the death of Brenda on March 10, 2026.

Thank you for your continued support to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry by your generous contribution of \$169 in January.— Diane L. Gerlach, Vice President/Pantry Coordinator

Thank you for so much for your faithful prayers and generous financial support through 2025 in the amount of \$500. We were able to provide 243 laptops to refugees and newly arrived immigrant families; serve nutritious food to an average of 600 people per month; offer English classes and music lessons to more than 50 students from various countries; reach thousands of listeners each month through our radio program Hablemos en Claro; and provide profession counseling to individuals and families seeking emotional healing and hope. May God bless you richly, Rev. Joel Pena, Executive Director of Alpha & Omega Community Center

## New in the Library

MCoB has been working with four other COB congregations to plan and sponsor a family event called *PeaceFest* on Saturday, September 19. You will hear much more about that soon, and you will definitely want to save the date.

The keynote speaker for this event is author and peace activist **Shane Claiborne**. Some of you may be unfamiliar with his name and his work, so in preparation for this fabulous event, we have purchased three of his books for our library:

*Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence;*  
*Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person;* and  
*The Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical.*

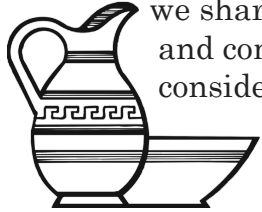
These books, and many others, are available for check out in the lower narthex. Simply write your name on the card in the back of the book, and leave it in the basket so that we can keep track of who has each book.

**Note:** If you have borrowed books in the past 6 months and have finished them but not returned them, please consider bringing them back for others to enjoy. Thanks!



## Maundy Thursday Love Feast

Many of you stayed after worship last October and experienced the elements of Love Feast for the first time! Now, come and experience this Last Supper reflection and reenactment on Maundy Thursday - the night of Holy Week that Jesus shared a meal with his loved ones and washed their feet.



We will gather in the fellowship hall on Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m. and watch the sunset as we share in a time of confession and assurance, foot (or hand) washing, a simple meal, and communion. This year, in keeping with our Lenten Theme, *Prone to Wander*, we will consider several of these elements from a woman's point of view. And, as we have throughout Lent, we will consider several questions as we yearn for the celebration of Easter.

## Easter Sunrise Service

Everyone is welcome to attend an *Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service* on Sunday, April 5 at 7:00 a.m. at the Mountville Park Pavilion (located next to the church). Worship with your Mountville neighbors under the leadership of the Pastors from six Mountville congregations: Mountville Mennonite Church, Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ, Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, St. Anne's Retirement Community, and us.



Dress warmly, bring your coffee or tea, and join others in celebration of the rising of the sun... and the Rising of the Son!

## ADULT Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will conclude Matt Rawle's *The Final Days* on Easter Sunday by examining the Gospel of John's description of the passion of Jesus. We will then go back and finish the sessions from A.J. Levine's study of the Gospel of John that we missed due to snow. Join us downstairs in room 101 on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. to participate in this Bible Study.

## April Sermon Topics

April 5 Songs of Loudest Praise - Luke 24:1-12 - Easter

### 6 Week Sermon Theme begins: EMERGE

April 12 Tombs and Cocoons: Trusting the Dark Luke - 1:26-38 and John 20:1-18

April 19 Coming Out: Leaving Comfortable Places - Hebrews 11:1-3

April 26 Open: Into the Light - Luke 24:28-49



# **the JAZZ MINISTERS BIG BAND & COMBO**

**Sunday, April 26 at 2:30 p.m.** The Jazz Ministers Big Band will present a concert in the sanctuary of the Mountville Church of the Brethren. The band is made up of 18 musicians (5 saxes, 4 trumpets, 4 trombones, piano, bass, drums, & vocalist ) who find a common spiritual mission in sharing the gift of music through the Christian worship or concert experience. JMBB members are all active performers in a variety of musical idioms and many hold degrees in music.

Two members of our choir, Jim Zeigler and John Hess, play in the group.

The JMBB draws on a variety of musical selections that are frequently based upon standard Christian hymns and Gospel favorites.

A freewill offering will be taken.



## **A Taste of Italy**

The Congregational Fellowship Committee has planned our Spring Event, "A Taste of Italy"

for Saturday, April 18 at 5:00 p.m.

It promises to be an evening of good food, fun and fellowship!

Mark your calendars now!

Details to follow!



## **Congregational Forum**

The congregation met for its semi-annual Forum on February 22. The highlight was a wonderful Ministry Fair which enabled us to see what our Ministry Teams do and get an idea of how we can participate. We also saw a preview of the preliminary designs for Sanctuary renovations, and the congregation had the opportunity to provide feedback. The Committee will continue to work with the architect and builder to develop a plan to be presented to the congregation at a special meeting in a few months.

Walt Vanderheijden was affirmed as the congregation's delegate to this year's Annual Conference. Finally, the congregation voted to spend the 2025 budgetary surplus by allocating \$5,377 to Outreach and \$10,756 to design expenses related to potential Sanctuary renovations.



# APRIL SERVERS

## Worship Leaders

5 - Joel Musser  
12 - Larry Booz  
19 - Walt VanderHeijden  
26 - Forrest Collier

## Ushers

Jerry Bushong  
Bob Keller  
Harry Light  
John Musser

## Children's Worship

5 - Family Worship  
12 - Rebekah Priest, Tess Wolford  
19 - Kathy Long, Connie Renn  
26 - Working Worship

## Greeters

5 - Connie Renn, Walt VanderHeijden  
12 - Dave & Beth Serfass: Upper Narthex  
- Shirley Smith, Charlie Worrall: Lower Narthex  
19 - Joel & Dawn Musser  
26 - Sara Wagner, Mark Yoh

## Nursery

5 - Joan Boshnaugle  
12 - Lori Lauver  
19 - Betsy Thomas  
26 - Regina Schulz

## Cross Purposes

When a limb from a tree is lost,  
I always think it is The Cross  
A living branch it would be yet,  
But to the world, our sin brought death.

However, that it died, is good:  
There'd be no Cross without downed wood  
For it was there, for us again,  
Our Lord removed both death and sin.

- Claudia Ritter

## Mountville COB February 2026 Tithes & Offerings



For General Fund	\$ 32,419.41
Designated	\$ 795.00

*Thank you for your faithful gifts!*

# LOOKING AHEAD

April 2 - Love Feast, 7:00 p.m.

April 5 - Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service,

April 18 - A Taste of Italy Dinner, 5:00 p.m.

April 25 - Parent's Night Out, 6:00 p.m.

April 26 - The Jazz Ministers Concert, 2:30 p.m.

May 7 - National Day of Prayer



*Deadline for the May 2026 New Vision articles is Sunday, April 12, 2026.*



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

**Address Service Requested  
Dated Material Enclosed**