



The New Vision

Vol. 44, No. 7

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July 2026

Inside This Issue

Regular Features

- 2 - Bits 'n Pieces
- 5 - July Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 5 - Members & Friends
- 6 - July Servers
- 6 - Tithes & Offerings
- 7 - July Calendar

Around the Church

- 2 - Movie Night Returns!
- 2 - Special Congregational Forum Results
- 3 - Lay Visitors Will "Bring Church" to Members Unable to Attend in Person
- 3 - Band Concert on the Lawn
- 4 - PeaceFest
- 4 - New in the Library
- 6 - July Sermon Topics



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

I, Paul, am a devoted slave of Jesus Christ on assignment, authorized as an apostle to proclaim God's words and acts. I write this letter to all the believers in Rome, God's friends.

~~ Romans 1:1, The Message

There is a cartoon making its way around the Internet that says, "If Paul were alive today, we'd be getting a letter!" I'm not sure if the purpose of the cartoon is to rebuke or to encourage, as Paul's letters often contained both!

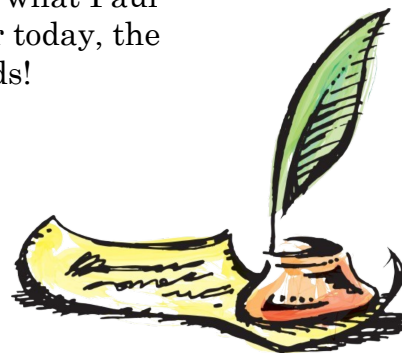
Paul's letter to the house churches in Rome is one such example. It's his longest letter (that we know of), which is interesting because it's addressed to a congregation he didn't plant, to people he hadn't met – although he announced in the letter that he had plans to travel there after going to Jerusalem.

The problems the Roman churches were facing should sound familiar. They were trying to remain faithful under threat from an oppressive government, with an emperor who called himself God. They were comprised of Jewish-Christians and Gentile-Christians, each with their own perspectives and traditions and opinions of how things should be done. As always, unity was an issue.

What truths might this letter contain for us today? For six weeks, we will follow the Revised Common Lectionary and drop into the middle of Romans to hear what Paul had to say to those ancient churches – and what Paul might say to us if he sent us a letter today, the believers in Mountville, God's friends!

In anticipation,

Pastor Angela



Bits 'n Pieces



Thank you for all the prayers and concerns for me last week. I returned from LGH Monday afternoon almost at 100%. More tests showed I've improved since I'm home and will know how much more improvement on the next test. I'm feeling great and ready to go. God Is Good! - Don

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,486 which helped provide 4,007 meals and 364 showers. We are deeply grateful for your generosity, and we pray the Lord returns to you the same kindness, provision and care you have helped place into the lives of others.

- Patty Eastep, Executive Director, Anchor Lancaster

Thank you for your continued support to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry by your recent generous contributions of \$1,000 and \$380. Many thanks, Diane L. Gerlach, Vice President Hempfield Food Pantry

"Thank you for your donation of \$405 and 191.2 lbs. of food supplies. We feel the love with every donation! - Danielle J. Peters, The Columbia Food Bank.



Movie Night Returns!

Over the course of the summer, we will enjoy watching movies together. But this time, there is a twist! Instead of simply discussing the movies, you'll hear a sermon on what you've seen! Each of the movies we will watch have a theological theme running through them. Our first movie is *Sully*. Join us Thursday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m. on the lower level (room TBD). More information on future movie nights will be available soon!

Special Congregational Forum Results

At the special Congregational Forum on June 14, the congregation voted to approve the plans to renovate the Sanctuary and begin raising funds to pay for it. Our architect, Scott Shonk, and our contractor, Nathan Fry from Funck Construction, both presented plans and answered questions. Our new Sanctuary will be fully ADA compliant and have enhanced lighting and sound capability to improve both the live stream and live worship experience. In addition, the baptistry will be redone with a heated fiberglass pool. A capital campaign will be organized to fund the project, which is projected to cost no more than \$375,000.



Lay Visitors Will “Bring Church” to Members Unable to Attend in Person

Whether by accident or for another reason, any one of us could find ourselves separated from church for an extended period.

Our church family typically includes a changing list of twenty or so beloveds unable to attend in person due to illness, accident, or disability. Being able to watch Sunday worship on Youtube provides a means of participation, but there is no substitute for warm person-to-person communication. We all want to keep in touch with our friends and know what’s happening with church’s ministry in the community and beyond. And we all need friends who listen and are simply present.

Visitation is one of Pastor Angela’s many roles, but along with her other responsibilities, scheduling quality time for all who need support is impossible, especially in light of the “spur-of-the-moment” ministry she provides members facing crises. So, given that we as Brethren are ALL ministers how should our church respond?

The Pastoral Relations Committee, along with support of Leadership Team, has recruited a group of willing volunteers to form a new Lay Visitation Team. Each volunteer will attend one of two (2) July training sessions led by Pastor Angela. Then beginning in August, our lay visitors individually or in teams will visit members unable to attend.

The goal is that every member in need of visits is seen at least twice monthly. With the number of willing visitors already signed up, our goal is well within reach. But we would welcome additional volunteers!

So if you would enjoy "bringing church" to beloved members unable to attend in person, please contact one of our Pastoral Relations Team members (Larry or Janice Booz, Ginny Hart, or Lois Silver) to be added to the list for one of the two training sessions scheduled for:

- ☛ July 22nd from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Room
- ☛ July 23rd from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Youth Room

Our Lay Visitations will be a win-win for visitors and visitees alike and should provide rich blessings and a warm sense of the Holy Spirit for all concerned.



Band Concert on the Lawn

On Sunday, July 12, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., we will host our second annual 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!



PeaceFest: Forging Peace & Cultivating Justice Together

For several months, the MCOB Peace and Justice committee has been gathering with the Peace and Justice committees from the Elizabethtown, Lancaster, Lititz, and York First Churches of the Brethren to plan an event to promote peace, justice, and nonviolence within our communities.

Through this collaboration, we are pleased to invite you to PeaceFest - a family-friendly event designed to bring people together in hope, education, fellowship, and action around a shared vision of a more peaceful world. **This event will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2026 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Lititz Church of the Brethren.**

We will provide a full schedule of events as the date nears. The event includes presentations by ****Shane Claiborne****, prominent speaker, activist, best-selling author, and co-founder of RAWtools Philly, along with demonstrations of literally forging guns into garden tools, echoing the prophetic vision found in Isaiah 2:4, *"They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."*

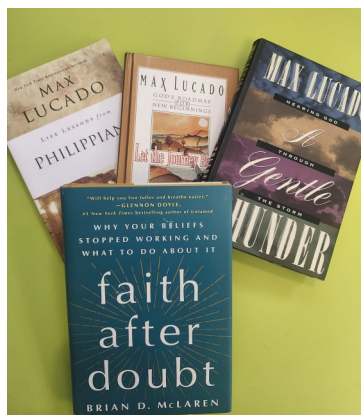
Additionally, there will be food trucks, music, face painting, the Tree House Playground, and a variety of hands-on activities and exhibits. The event is free, and participants are encouraged to bring donations for the Lititz Warwick Community Chest Food Bank. Come for an hour, or stay all day!

New in the Library

Now that the "lazy days of summer" have arrived, please make it a point to visit the library in the lower narthex. We continue to add new reading material frequently. (Plus, there are comfy chairs, and it's nice and cool!) Here are just a handful of the books we've recently added. For the young and the young at heart, we've added stories about the incredible bond between dogs and their people.

We've added more devotionals from the beloved Max Lucado. Check out the book by Brian McLaren if you have ever wrestled with doubt and faith. You WILL be encouraged. And we have books by Shane Claiborne, our keynote speaker at PeaceFest (taking place at the Lititz Church of the Brethren on Saturday, September 19).

There is truly something for everyone. Take some time this summer to relax in a comfy chair (here or at home) with a book that will inspire you, challenge you, entertain you...or all three!





JULY SERVERS

Worship Leaders

5 - Lois Silver
12 - Larry Booz
19 - Harold Ulmer
26 - Walt VanderHeijden

Ushers

Wendy Allshouse
Cindy Heisey
Bob Keller
Barry Lauver

Children's Worship

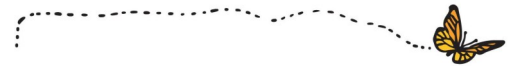
5 - Family Worship
12 - Joyce Kerns, Joy Meley
19 - Rebekah Priest, Connie Renn
26 - Kathy Long, Beth Hess

Greeters

5 - Larry & Janice Booz
12 - Wendy Allshouse, Cincy Heisey: Upper Narthex
- Bill & Phyllis Kepner: Lower Narthex
19 - Barry & Lori Lauver
26 - Joel & Dawn Musser

Nursery

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



July Sermon Topics

July 5	Romans 7:15-25a - Guest Speaker Warren Eshbach
July 12	Romans 8:1-11
July 19	Romans 8:12-25
July 26	Romans 8:26-39

Pastor's Schedule

Pastor Angela is out of the office as she attends Annual Conference in Fort Wayne, IN Saturday, June 27 - Sunday, July 5, 2026. Please contact Jerry Bushong with pastoral needs or Cathy Funderwhite & Karen Strine for prayer needs, as she will have limited access to email, etc.

Mountville COB May 2026 Tithes & Offerings



For General Fund	\$ 30,360.51
Designated	\$ 5,949.80

Thank you for your faithful gifts!

LOOKING AHEAD

July 11: Men's & Women's Breakfasts, Mountville Family Restaurant, 9:00 a.m.

July 12: Twin Rose Band Concert, MCOB Lawn, 7:00 p.m.

July 15: Chair Yoga, Rm. 100, 11:30 a.m.

July 30: Movie Night, Lower Level, 6:30 p.m.

August 16: Blessing of the Students & Pizza Party, 11:30 a.m.

Deadline for the August 2026 New Vision articles is Sunday, July 12, 2026.



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

**Address Service Requested
Dated Material Enclosed**