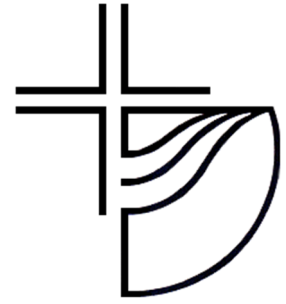


Montezuma Today

October 2018



Apple Butter and Heritage Festival October 13th & 20th

October is Heritage Festival month at Montezuma. We will once again make apple butter the Saturday before the festival, on October 13th. We will be making one additional kettle of apple butter the day of the festival on the 20th.

This annual event is a way for the church to celebrate the season together, but even more we “open our doors” to the community and host our neighbors and visitors for a day of great food and time together.

The festival will be held on the grounds of Montezuma Hall. A breakfast buffet will be served at 7am and will be followed by a bake sale, BBQ chicken, kettle donuts and potato chips, apple dumplings, apple butter boiling, a lunch of fried country ham, navy beans and homemade veggie soup, and some great blue grass and gospel bands. Arts, crafts and antiques will be available for sale throughout the day. The festival will conclude around 3 p.m.

It takes a lot to make this event successful each year and we are grateful for those that will be able to lend a helping hand in one way or another. Keep your eyes open for sign-up sheets in the church entryway to sign up to help, or to donate needed items.

Proceeds from the festival this year will go the Montezuma Church of the Brethren Building Improvement Fund. The Festival is a tremendous opportunity for the congregation to work together and to reach out to our community. Many hands are needed to make the festival a success!

Love Feast – October 7th

The fall Love Feast will be held here at Montezuma on Sunday, October 7th at 6:00pm.

The Love Feast is open to all and includes a brief feet or hand washing service, a light meal, and communion. We hope that you will join us for this service which is based on Jesus' last supper with the disciples. Child care will be provided.

If you have not been to a Love Feast, or if it's been a while since you've participated, why not join us? None of us are worthy to attend these tables with Christ, but all of us are welcome.

Church Events: October

- 1: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 2: Golden Lunch Bunch – 11:30am
- 3: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 7: Love Feast – 6pm
- 8: Montezuma Support Group – 11:30am
- 8: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 9: Church Board Meeting – 7pm
- 10: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 11: Salvation Army Meal
- 12: Youth & MYF making apple cider at the Driver's
- 13: Apple Butter making at the Hall
- 20: Heritage Festival
- 15: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 17: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 21: Baptism at the Craun's
- 22: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 23: Dorcas Circle – 1pm
- 24: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 29: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 31: Choir Practice – 7pm

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WORSHIP – October 2018

Sunday mornings – 9:10 a.m. Gathering Time,
9:30 a.m. Worship Hour, 10:40 a.m. Classes

7: The Heart Turned in on Itself

James 3:13-18

As we work through the letter of James, he develops not only a call to goodness; he describes the source of our “disorder and wickedness.” Envy and selfishness may be part of life, but the church cannot be indifferent to them or we reflect them.

*Music by the adult choir
International S.S. Lesson: Noah's Steadfast Faith*

14: Resist

Pastor David

James 4:1-12

James says, “Resist the devil.” He’s talking about our cravings; our wanting things we do not have; coveting, disputes, unfaithfulness. James is relentless: friendship with the world equals being an enemy of God. Therefore resist. Resist cravings and coveting and unfaithfulness. Be a friend of God. That’s the secret of joy.

International S.S. Lesson: God is Always Working

21: A Patient Ferment

Pastor David

James 4:13-5:12

Words for “patience” are used three times in 5:7-11. The verses 4:13-16 remind us not to take things into our own hands but to trust God. Through this book James calls us away from our own desires and selfish ambitions. We cannot make others be what we want – nor even ourselves. Our patience is not indifference. We do care. We do share. We are hospitable. But we are not in charge of God’s plan.

*Music by the adult choir & bell choir
International S.S. Lesson: Abraham and Sarah
Birth God's People*

28: Communal Acts of Faith

Pastor Gabe

James 5:13-20

We have reached the end of the letter of James. In this text we are reminded that our salvation is not just something we stumble upon, but it is something we focus on and work at every day. Here, James reminds us that communal acts of faith are vitally important!

*International S.S. Lesson: Isaac and Rebekah
Continue the Legacy*

Peace of my mind

My Uncle Lowell Miller died in September at 101 years of age. He was the last surviving sibling of my father.

I’ve thought a lot about this time even before it arrived. My father died seven years ago so I’ve had some time to think. Time to think about that generation of Millers who grew up along Linville Creek near Edom. They were a remarkable set of people. As a child I never had to worry about them. They – my parents, my uncles and aunts – were always there. Dependable, steadfast, trustworthy. The image I have in my heart is that they stood between us kids and the world. Protecting us, absorbing the blows that are part of life. However anxious they may have been; however fearful or uncertain, it didn’t stop them from putting us first and protecting us.

They were a pretty stern bunch of people. Their parents – David R. and Sarah Frances (Fannie) – were plain Brethren and I think stern would have been a word for them. In an environment like that the expression of feelings on a voluntary basis was not common. I did not feel like I could tell them anything, and I didn’t. I kept many thoughts and feelings to myself. At the same time, I never doubted that they would stand by me in a time of need. That they would be there for me and would love me and protect me. They were just that kind of people.

Amidst a very insecure world, these men and women communicated stability and reliability. However anxious I might have been about myself, or my siblings, or school, I knew that I could count on them. They were part of a fabric that surrounded my family; that made it stronger because it wasn’t just a nuclear family. It was a big family. My mother’s siblings and their spouses were part of that, too. We could count on them.

Our world – my world – has changed a great deal. Sure, I’m the adult now and I see things differently. While the family connections are not the same, I still need a community of people to trust. Even when we make mistakes, and when we don’t want to share every thought or idea, we still need that reliable community or people who stand with us, at times standing between us and the world. The Holy Spirit creates and maintains the church to be that kind of community.

Peace to you, and to our world – Pastor David

Global Food Initiative

The Global Food Initiative (GSI) is the primary way that the Church of the Brethren assists hungry people to develop food security. Since 1983, 8 million dollars has been raised for community projects in numerous countries around the globe, but also in the United States.

The GSI seeks to invest in small scale economic development, work to improve diet and health, champion soil conservation, and promote awareness and advocacy in issues dealing with hunger.

How can you help? October's special offering is for GSI, and your prayers are also sought.

The biblical command is to lift the burden of the oppressed, and it is also a way to honor God.

"Kindness shown to the poor is an act of worship." Proverbs 4:3

Fish Fry

The Golden Lunch Bunch will be meeting at the church (not the Hall due to Election Day) on Tuesday, November 6th at 11:30am for a trout fish fry. Everyone is invited. Please bring a dish to share.

Mary Lou Glick Volunteers to Fill in as Office Administer

Mary Lou Glick will serve the congregation as interim Office Administrator during Linnette Coaker's maternity leave beginning in December and continuing through February. We are very grateful to Mary Lou for volunteering to serve Christ and the church in this way.

Montezuma Today is a monthly publication of Montezuma Church of the Brethren. Articles and information for publication are appreciated by the 20th of each month.

Email: montezuma.cob@gmail.com

Mail: 4937 Ottobine Road, Dayton, VA 22821

Crop Walk at Bridgewater College

On Thursday, October 26th from 5-7pm, members of local churches are invited to the Bridgewater College CROP Meal where they can purchase and enjoy meals surrendered by Bridgewater College students in the college's Kline Campus Center Dining Hall, with all proceeds going to Church World Service's hunger education and relief programs in 80 counties around the world.

On Sunday, October 29th at 2pm, the Bridgewater/ Dayton Area CROP Walk will bring help and hope to God's hungry children across the street and around the world. Prior to that day, members of area churches and Bridgewater College students will ask others to sponsor them for every kilometer of the 6K (3.7 mile) route they will walk. On that day, they will gather at the Bridgewater Community Center to enjoy good fellowship, good exercise, and the good feeling of knowing they are making a life-saving difference. Donation envelopes for walkers are available in the church office.

Our 2018-2019 College Students

Blue Ridge Community College: Cameron Brown, Chris Payne, Ethan Ross

Bridgewater College: Amy Vandevander

Eastern Mennonite University: Laurie Anne Serrell, Tina Serrell

James Madison University: Amy Brown & Molly Shickel

Regent University: Dustin Atkins

University of Virginia: Lydia Erbaugh

Salvation Army

Our church is serving the Salvation Army meal on Thursday, October 11th. The following people are signed up to help prepare and serve this meal:

- Brenda Wine
- Pansy Auville
- Stephanie Diehl
- Mary Frances Heishman

Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Events: October 2018

See the church's website for more details about these events: www.montezumacob.org

Jr. High Youth Trip to Jump in Charlottesville and Love Feast

Sunday, October 7th, 11:30pm – 7pm

Jr. & Sr. High Apple Cider Making

Friday, October 12th, 6-8:30pm

Heritage Festival

Saturday, October 20th, 7am-3pm

Jr. High Sunday

Jr. High Sunday is on November 4th. This year's theme is "Abundant Life in Jesus" based on John 10:10.

District Conference Nov 2-3, Gabe Dodd preaching

The 2018 Shenandoah District Conference is Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3, at the Antioch Church of the Brethren in Woodstock, VA. Continuing the theme of On Christ the Solid Rock we Stand, the conference will emphasize worship again this year. Worship Friday evening begins at 7 o'clock, and is followed by an ice cream social, Saturday morning opens with worship. Among the preachers Saturday morning will be Montezuma's own Gabe Dodd.

Business Saturday afternoon includes approving leadership for 2019 - among those are Marty Barlow as moderator-elect of the district - and business related to the district constitution and a policy concerning congregations who may want to withdraw from the denomination (first reading).

Montezuma delegates are: Marty Barlow, Gabe Dodd, David Miller, David Richard, and Linda Waggy.

Youth Auction

It is that time again! We are gearing up for the annual Youth Auction, which will take place on November 9th. You are invited to think of creative ways you can use your gifts and interests to donate items to the auction. This is always a fun event with food and items to bid on. Please let pastor Gabe know if you have items to donate!

Witness Offerings & Friend-to-Friend

The end of 2018 is quickly approaching and as the witness commission received the monthly special offerings, there was good ideas and some so-so news.

This is a reminder that monetary donations can be made to any of the special offerings.

Just put your donation in a marked envelope and drop it in the offering during any Sunday. The collections have or will be sent to the named group.

Wednesday, December 12th from 3:30pm to 5:30pm is our Friend-to-Friend project. During Friend-to-Friend folks from Montezuma meet with families referred to us by the Community Services Board. After a time of conversation and putting faces and hearts together, we share a gift card for Sharp Shopper and share fruit and cookies.

This can be a time to put the relationship to Christ front and center.

Also in December, we will collect items for the Bridgewater Food Pantry. Sunday, December 9th is set aside to receive actual food items for the pantry. Note, please check expiration dates. July 2019 should be the earliest date on any donated food.

We all witness daily for Christ, let's make it a high quality through our donations and in our many ways of face to face relationships.

Brethren World Assembly examines ‘Crosscurrents’

The Sixth Brethren World Assembly took place Aug. 9-12 at

Winona Lake (Ind.) Grace Brethren Church. It was sponsored by the Brethren Encyclopedia Foundation with the theme “Brethren Intersections: History, Identity, Crosscurrents.”

The event, held every five years, gathers Brethren from various denominations tracing back to the original 1708 group in Germany. Roughly 150 Brethren came together to hear a range of speakers share their unique perspectives on the Brethren movement but also to break bread together, take bus tours, worship according to three very different Brethren traditions, and, of course, eat home-made ice cream three nights in a row.

Participants came from the Brethren Church, Church of the Brethren, Dunkard Brethren, Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International, Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Old

German Baptist Brethren, and Old German Baptist Brethren (New Conference).

Brethren Church scholar Dale R. Stoffer, described the slow change among Brethren to view cooperation with other Christians “not as a badge of shame but as a badge of honor.”

“We should not be fearful to cooperate with the Other,” Stoffer said, “but we dare not lose our unique sense of identity, a sense of our own otherness. The gifts of what Brethren may bring is a treasure that can only be given if we remain true to our own unique identity as Brethren.”

Archivist William Kostlevy of the Brethren Historical Library and Archives suggested that the Nigerian Brethren have had as profound an effect on American Brethren as the first Brethren missionaries had in Nigeria. Meanwhile, Bridgewater (Va.) College history professor Stephen Longenecker of the Church of the Brethren tracked the slow acceptance of the revival movement in America among the Brethren.

Frank Ramirez



Other Church of the Brethren speakers included Jeff Bach, director of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown (Pa.) College; Karen Garrett, managing editor of Brethren Life & Thought and coordinator of assessment for Bethany Theological Seminary; Bethany professors Scott Holland and Denise Kettering-Lane; Carl Bowman, director of survey research at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia; and Josh Brockway, director of spiritual formation for the Church of the Brethren.—Frank Ramirez

Glenn Riegel



Districts begin conversations to discern the church’s vision

The process launched at the 2018 Annual Conference to help the denomination discern God’s call and develop a compelling vision to guide the church into the future is moving into a new phase this fall. Shaped by the conversations that took place at Annual Conference, the Compelling Vision Process Team designed a two-hour event to engage members in deeper conversation around

God’s call for the church.

These conversation events have already taken place in several districts, with others coming up or in the process of being scheduled. Districts will be publicizing all events as plans are finalized.

The process team is inviting and encouraging everyone to participate in an event. More details are available at www.brethren.org/ac/compelling-vision.html.

Bethany Theological Seminary unveils new branding

A new logo, website, and graphic themes represent the culmination of work by members of the Bethany Theological Seminary community (Richmond, Ind.) to give the seminary a re-envisioned public presence. The new elements are appearing on printed and digital communication, marketing materials, and a completely redesigned website that features streamlined navigation, a focus on recruitment, and a series of new photos and video.

To guide the rebranding, Bethany contracted with 5 Degrees Branding, who began the process with interviews and surveys of employees, students, alumni, and Church of the Brethren leaders.

“A change in an institution’s outward appearance should spark interest in what is happening within its mission and program,” Bethany president Jeff Carter said. “Consistent with our historic values, Bethany’s new logo depicts the power of scripture read in community, with colors that represent growth and wisdom. Our new tagline—‘so that the world flourishes’—speaks to the hope of our mission while leaving room for individuals to live into the ways God is calling them to serve.”—**Jenny Williams**



So that the world flourishes



Global Food Initiative grants sow seeds

The Global Food Initiative (GFI) of the Church of the Brethren has made numerous recent grants, supporting community garden projects in Illinois and Maryland, an agriculture conference in Haiti, an educational initiative of Ekklesiyar Yan’uwa a Nigeria (EYN—the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria), and continuing hurricane recovery efforts for farmers in Puerto Rico. The five grants made since June 1 total more than \$36,000 in aid.

The largest, and most recent of the grants—issued Aug. 6—will support Puerto Rican farmers who are still struggling to recover from Hurricane Maria, which devastated the island in September 2017. A sum of \$28,491 will enable long-term projects related to produce, livestock, and a hydroponic shelter.

Emergency Disaster Fund grants

The Church of the Brethren Emergency Disaster Fund made several recent allocations supporting efforts on the Texas border and refugee work in the Middle East.

Two grants, the first for \$5,000 and the second for \$24,600, are funding Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) work as they respond to the crisis on the US-Mexico border. A CDS team was initially deployed to the area in late July, serving more than 75 children on its first day and 790 in its first two weeks. In addition to that initial work, the funds will support four-person teams this fall as they meet continuing needs and two trainers who will work to create a sustainable presence there.

A third grant, for \$40,000, is providing psycho-social support for Syrian refugee children through the Lebanese Society for Education and Social Development (LSESD), responding to victims of the ongoing Syrian civil war. LSESD began in 2011 and has become an important partner in the Syrian refugee response.

Personnel notes

Lisa Crouch has been hired by the Church of the Brethren as associate director, Children’s Disaster Services, for Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) based at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md. A graduate of Western Michigan University, she most recently worked at the Michigan Medicine Children’s Hospital as a child life specialist and was a CDS volunteer

during the 2017 hurricane responses. Crouch began her work Aug. 27.

Kendal Elmore announced his retirement as district executive minister of West Marva District effective Aug. 31, with compensation continuing through the end of the year. His ministry with the district began Aug. 1, 2010. In addition to his executive duties in West Marva, Elmore has been active with the

Council of District Executives, serving most recently as chair of the ministry issues committee.

Shaye Isaacs, executive assistant to the president at Bethany Theological Seminary, resigned effective Aug. 31. She has served Bethany in that capacity since August 2011, working with both current president Jeff Carter and former president Ruthann Knechel Johansen.

Our Stewardship for September 2018

		Attendance		
		Worship	Sunday School	For Budget
September	2	159	81	\$5,667.00
	9	161	77	\$5,743.15
	16	166	98	\$5,281.00
	23	143	78	\$4,450.00
	30	126	85	\$3,777.41
September average per Sunday		151	84	\$4,983.71
Last 12 mos. average per Sunday		164	80	\$5,131.12

Special Giving for September

Backpack Program	\$10	New Community Project	\$338.87
Heritage Festival Vendor Fees	\$50	Nigeria Crisis Fund	\$63
Lucille Cox Memorial	\$40	Open Doors	\$945

Serving in October

NURSERY

- 7 Pam Dodd & Brittany Hammer
- 14 Rhonda Mandeville & Roma Holloway
- 21 Sara Atkins & Dawn Kiser
- 28 Sarah & Bobby Williams

WORSHIP CENTER

- 7 Kathy Veal
- 14 Wanda Hollen
- 21 Jill Sease
- 28 Dawn Kiser

SOUND SYSTEM

- 7 John Layman
- 14 Ben Hiner
- 21 Bobby Williams
- 28 Chris Payne

VALET PARKING

- 7 Jeff Wine
- 14 Melvin Burger
- 21 Weldon Good
- 28 Wade Showalter

PROJECTION SYSTEM

- 7 Vince Rhodes
- 14 Vince Rhodes
- 21 Hayley Daubert
- 28 Hayley Daubert

USHERS

- Bob Black
- David Skelton
- Randy Glick

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Robert Harmon
Weston Mandeville
Ethan Ross | 12 Bobby Williams
13 Rodney Branum
Linnette Coaker |
| 2 John Butzler
Clint DePoy
Katelyn Hiner
Camden Skelton | 15 Chris Airey
Dustin Atkins |
| 4 Beth Farley | 16 Sherri Guyer
Jim Rusmisl |
| 5 Nathan Wine | 17 J.O. Good |
| 6 Aden Bazzle
Mary Frances Heishman
Russ Veal | 19 Charles Cline
Trajan Brown |
| 7 Dale Eavers
Crystal Richard
Johnnie Shickel | 20 Sara Atkins |
| 8 Ben Hiner | 21 Leah Harper |
| 9 Michael Embres
Adam Ross | 22 Betty Jo Glick
Sharon Layman
Kellie Nelson |
| 10 Kitra Coffman
Lisa Shickel | 23 Carolyn Rohrer |
| | 24 Ava Richard |
| | 25 Wade Showalter
Brad Smith |

- | |
|------------------------------------|
| 26 Cathy Jo Hinkle
Ricky Hinkle |
| 27 John Carpenter |
| 28 Melvin Burger
Julia Eye |
| 29 Josiah Moyer |
| 31 Jill Sease |

October Anniversaries:

- | |
|--|
| 1 Mike & Dorita Webster |
| 2 John & Susan Butzler |
| 3 Clint & Anne Marie Depoy |
| 9 Joe & Rose Miller |
| 10 Buck & Paula Brown |
| 17 John & Marilyn Miller
Brad & Julie Smith |
| 26 Wayne & Linda Waggy |
| 30 Dennis & Judy Hill |

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