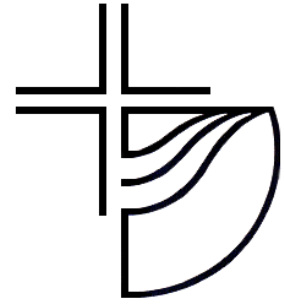


Montezuma Today

March 2019



Ordination Service for Gabriel Dodd

A service of ordination to the Christian ministry for Gabriel Dodd will be hosted by the Montezuma Church of the Brethren, Sunday, March 10, at 3:00 p.m. Shenandoah District Minister John Jantzi will officiate during the covenant of ordination portion of the service. A reception will follow the service in the church's fellowship room. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in this service.

The ordination service recognizes that certain individuals are called by God and acknowledged by the faith community – both by the District and by a specific congregation – to serve Christ and the church as set apart ministers. Pastor Gabriel Dodd has functioned as a licensed minister in the Shenandoah District to this point. Ordination is a more permanent recognition of his call.

Gabe Dodd has served as Pastor for Youth and Young Families at Montezuma since September 15, 2015. He is married to Pamela Dodd; they are the parents of son, Elias, and foster-daughter, Brittany. He graduated from Eastern Mennonite Seminary in May of 2018.

Ash Wednesday Meal & Service

The Ash Wednesday soup and sandwich supper is March 6 at 5:30pm. This light meal will be followed by a worship service at 6:30. If you would like to contribute a pot of soup or a plate of sandwiches, please see Pastors David or Gabe. We hope you will join us!

Annual Church Birthday Celebration & Carry-In Lunch

Our Annual Church Birthday & Carry-In Lunch will be held on March 24th, following Sunday School, in the Fellowship Hall. Drinks, paper products and silverware will be provided.

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex for persons to provide decorations for each month's birthday table. Decorations may be placed on the tables Wednesday, March 20, through Saturday, March 23.

We will celebrate with lots of good food and fellowship! For more information, contact Karen Fleishman (828-2044) or anyone on the Nurture Commission.

Church Events: March

- 4: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 5: Golden Lunch Bunch – 11:30am
- 5: Nurture & Stewards Commission Meetings – 7pm
- 6: Ash Wednesday Meal – 5:30pm and Service – 6:30pm
- 6: Witness Commission Mtg – 7pm
- 6: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 10: John Clayton's 100th Birthday Reception – 10:30am
- 10: Gabe Dodd's Ordination Service – 3:00pm
- 10: Sunday Night Live at Dayton COB – 6pm
- 11: Montezuma Support Group – 11:30am
- 11: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 12: Executive Committee Meeting – 7pm
- 13: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 14: Salvation Army Meal
- 15: MYF – 6:15pm
- 18: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 20: Choir Practice – 7pm
- 24: Church Birthday Celebration
- 25: Mosaic – 6pm
- 25: Bell Choir Practice – 7pm
- 27: Choir Practice – 7pm

What's Inside:

- 2** Worship Topics
Peace of my mind
- 3** News
- 4** Mosaic
Youth Events
- 5-6** Nominating Committee
- 7** Stewardship
Financial Report
- 8** Birthdays & Anniversaries

WORSHIP – March 2019

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

3: Transfiguration Sunday: *Pastor David* **Transfiguration**

Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 9:28-36

Transfiguration Sunday is the last Sunday before Lent. The order of our worship has been so arranged by the church historically that just before we begin the journey to Easter, we are given a vision of who Christ is. This vision gives us confidence to start the journey.

International S.S. Lesson: Called To Humility and Hospitality

10: First Sunday of Lent [Time change] *Pastor David* **Temptation**

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16; Luke 4:1-13

Everyone deals with temptation. It's not just a one-time test – it's lifelong. We notice in this story that Jesus is not tempted once but three times. The number three is not merely literal. It means total temptation. Everything is at stake. A famous story from Russian literature shows us how Jesus's resistance in the wilderness changes our faith.

Music by the Chancel Choir

International S.S. Lesson: A Costly Call

17: Second Sunday of Lent *Pastor David* **Trust**

Psalms 27; Luke 13:31-35

Psalms 119 is the longest psalm: 176 verses (we are only reading eight of those). It is a love song to God's Torah, the law. In our section, the psalmist says, "I will meditate on your commandments." What is that meditation? And how does it guide us in answering God?

Music by the Bell Choir

International S.S. Lesson: Calling the Lost

24: Third Sunday of Lent: *Pastor David* **Try Again**

Psalms 63:1-8; Luke 13:1-9

The fig tree has for a long time been the symbol of Israel. It lives for a long time and it bears fruit. Who threatens to cut it down? Is that God? Or is God the gardener, very aware that the tree isn't up to par, but not giving up on it yet?

Music by the Chancel Choir

International S.S. Lesson: Calling to Salvation

31: Fourth Sunday of Lent: *Pastor Gabe* **Transformation**

Psalms 32; Luke 15:1-2, 11b-32

The familiar story of the father and two sons helps us know what it means to grow in the family of God. Transformation happens because God first has faith in us, and because we learn to put our faith in God.

Music by the Chancel Choir

International S.S. Lesson: Called to Discipleship

Peace of my Mind

Sisters and brothers, as we turn ourselves to Lent and preparation for Holy Week and Easter, I want to add a few things that I think are very important. First, in the count our blessing department:

Special Thanks to Mary Lou Glick!

The Montezuma congregation, along with Pastors David Miller and Gabe Dodd, extend heart-felt thanks to Mary Lou Glick for her work as interim office administrator. Mary Lou served during Linnette Coaker's maternity leave, December through February, and she worked very hard during one of the busiest and most challenging periods of the year. In addition to weekly office responsibilities including answering the phone, handling the mail, the bulletin and Sunday morning PowerPoint, she was responsible for publishing two newsletters and getting the 2019 Church Directory printed and mailed. Plus – she had to work with two pastors every day! A very special thanks to Mary Lou. She volunteered her time and talent and was extraordinarily conscientious as she did it. Please express your gratitude to her.

Second, in the "What a wonderful time we had" department:

How about that Tenderloin Feast!

This year's Tenderloin Feast was the best yet. Every feast is wonderful in its own way and I'm sure the first one is near and dear to everyone's heart, but this year things just clicked! We had our largest crowds yet; we had plenty of help; we had a good community spirit; and no car was left behind in the mud! The final count has not been tabulated yet, but it looks like we made close to \$6,000. Tom Miller did a great job cooking and leading the effort. So many others helped him by doing their regular jobs. WAY TO GO CHURCH!

It's good to begin this season with these happy notes. May God bless us as we journey with Jesus along his way. This Lenten season I invite all of us to read the Gospel of Luke together. See page 4 of this newsletter for a brief article on that.

Peace to you – and to our world. Pastor David

Special Offering for March

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask for or imagine... Eph. 3:20-21

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering ministers to people in every kind of situation. The theme this year is, "More than we can imagine." Our gifts during Sunday morning offerings may seem impersonal, until we allow ourselves to trust that these gifts are making a difference in the world: to feed the hungry, minister to victims of violence, provide clean water to the thirsty, help small farmers bring a crop to harvest, meet the needs of natural disaster survivors, and much more. It's more than we can imagine.

Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing – which supports Church of the Brethren ministries close to home and around the world – is a down payment on the work of a Spirit-guided church. Through your gifts to this special offering what we imagine, and what God imagines, becomes a reality for more and more people.

Brethren Woods Camp Sign-Up

It is camp sign-up time again! To get the best selection of camp times and the best discount, register by March 31st. Brethren Woods has an online registration platform at www.brethrenwoods.org. Just click "Summer Camp" and "Register Online" and follow the instructions. Printable forms are also available online and must be signed by Pastor David or Jenifer Hiner, Camp Representative, to get the discount.

Birthday Wishes for John Clayton

John Clayton will celebrate his 100th birthday on Tuesday, March 5th, 2019. Since that is not a Sunday, the Clayton family wishes to celebrate with the church family on Sunday, March 10th, with a cookie reception immediately following the church service, to be held in the entryway. Please join us in our celebration of this special man!

- Neva Clayton

If you would like to send him some birthday wishes, his address is:

John Clayton
Wenger House
1340 Woodland Park Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Easter Flowers

Tulips and lilies will be offered to be used for Easter Sunday. They will cost \$8 a plant.

Envelopes will be provided with bulletins on March 17th and 24th. You may dedicate your flower in memoriam or other concerns.

You may take your plant home after morning worship on Easter Sunday. Thank you for your support.

- Worship Center Committee

WRE Students Choral Presentation

The Weekday Religious Education Students present their 2019 Choral Presentation, *Come, Let us Walk in the Light of the LORD*, on Saturday, March 16th, at 4:00pm, at Eastern Mennonite University Commons, 1307 Park Road, Harrisonburg.

Fifth Sunday Features Jeremy Daubert & Meal

Montezuma's Fifth Sunday program is March 31st. As usual, youth and adult Sunday School classes are suspended in order to hold an all-church program in the sanctuary from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. The program this time is provided by Jeremy Daubert, the Dairy extension agent for Rockingham County. Jeremy and his family are very active at Montezuma, and he will give a presentation and take questions about how he sees his vocation as part of his Christian faith. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Following the program, Church youth welcome everyone to stay for a meal in the fellowship room. Donations are accepted for the meal.

Vacation Bible School – June 17-20

Summer isn't far away and with summer comes Vacation Bible School! This year's theme is **Roar! Life is Wild – God is Good**. Like last year, Montezuma will cooperate with the Beaver Creek and Dayton congregations. This summer the Dayton congregation will host VBS. The dates are Monday through Thursday, June 17-20. Supper is served at 5:30 p.m. and activities conclude at 8 p.m. We plan programs for ages 4 years through rising 5th graders. We also plan Junior High Youth service projects for each evening; these involve traveling off campus to minister in the community. Look for more information in the coming months. Questions? See Linnette Coaker, Becky Daubert, or Wendy Rhodes. Registration will begin in May.

Mosaic

I want to take some space in the newsletter to answer some questions about the new Mosaic worship gathering that began in January. Mosaic is an additional worship opportunity that is available to people of all ages, and was created to help the church meet the needs of young adult members. This idea came about after I realized that out of 30+ members and participants between the age of 18-30, only a handful were active in the church. I set out to find out why this was the case, so I invited young adults to a lunch at Applebee's on October 28th, 2018. This was not a secret meeting, but was announced during worship. At this meeting, young adults got to know each other, had fellowship, shared food, discussed church, and prayed for one another. At this meeting the young adults shared with me their appreciation for traditional worship, and a desire to have a more energetic worship gathering that would also foster community. Therefore, we started thinking of a way to meet the desire our young people have to connect with God, while still participating with the larger church during traditional Sunday morning worship. So far, this new worship opportunity has been fueled by the individual efforts of several members of the church, pastor Gabe, and use of Montezuma Hall. At our first worship gathering, 23 people gathered to eat together and worship God from our church and Clover Hill UMC. During announcements, people were welcomed and encouraged to stay plugged in and active with their own churches. We are not trying to start our own church, and we are not trying to pull people out of Sunday morning worship. In fact, a couple of people that are connected to MCOB came to Mosaic who do not normally come to Sunday morning worship! Anybody is welcome to join us and see what it's about. The next Mosaic is Monday, March 25, at Montezuma Hall.

- Pastor Gabe

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

Youth Events: March 2019

- March 10:** Sunday Night Live at Dayton COB
6:00 – 8:00pm
- March 17:** Jr. High trip to see *Seussical the Musical* at Pence Middle School
- March 24:** Jr. High Pool Party at Westover Pool
after the Birthday Banquet
- March 31:** 5th Sunday Meal

Youth Service Project

Through SNL, church youth groups are putting together 200 hygiene kits for Harrisonburg area outreach services: Valley Mission, First Step, Mercy House, and Gemeinschaft. There are signup sheets in the entrance of the church, and the whole congregation is encouraged to contribute. Youth will be collecting these items, and assembling kits on Sunday, March 10th.

Daily Readings For Lent 2019

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, and the congregation is called to engage in daily readings from the Gospel of Luke and selected Psalms for the forty days and six Sundays of that season. This year's theme is from Psalm 51: *Create in me a clean heart*. Special folders with daily readings are available at the church beginning Sunday, March 3. Let's read scripture together.

Staff Notes:

Pastor Gabe will be at Roundtable March 1-3.

Linnette Coaker will be returning to the church office on March 5th.

Pastor David will be on vacation March 25-31.

Montezuma Church of the Brethren *Hearing God's Call, Naming Our Gifts*

Below is a list of activities and responsibilities at Montezuma. As you know, we need everybody. It is a long list – and there's more! There are many ways for any of us to serve. Some of you are already very active. Some are engaged with certain tasks. And some have gifts that are not being cultivated. Look of this list and imagine ways that you might use your gifts here at Montezuma.

The Apostle Paul says that "each one" of us has been given a spiritual gift (1 Corinthians 12). More than talents, spiritual gifts are the Spirit's way of making the Body of Christ fit together, serve and minister together, live together as Jesus's own community. Without all of our gifts, the Body is diminished. Prayerfully read this list of opportunities. We are not asking for you to respond with this form. Rather, we want you to see the work that is being done and still needs to be done. Simply live with this information for now.

In the months ahead, the congregation's Nominating Committee will continue to ask all of us to *Hear God's call and name our gifts!* Several of our sisters and brothers have already agreed to give their own testimonies. We hope you will listen to them and continue to pray through this list.

- Serve on a committee and/or task force where proposals are developed for the church
- Serve on the Church Board where the direction and well-being of the church is nurtured
- Serve as deacon where spiritual leadership is provided and the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the church body are tended

- Property Care / Maintenance
- Helping with building maintenance or repair with guidance of Stewardship commission
- Accounting / Finances / help with financial issues
- Office / Administrative help/ computer help
- Decorating and beautification of building and grounds

- Work with Children
- Youth Ministries
- Serve as a mentor to youth
- Teaching Sunday School ____adults, ____ Youth, or ____children
- Photography, videography
- Audio visual service (mostly during worship)
- Help with Library
- Usher
- Church Decorating
- Small group leadership (Bible study, lead and/or host)
- Music
- Help with children's choir
- Worship Planning / Leadership
- Serve as worship leader
- Creative Arts / Drama/music/ (Do you play an instrument? Would you be willing to share special music?)

- Hospitality; host gatherings, groups
- Visitation – Hospital/homebound members and family/friends of members
- Write notes to homebound or ill members
- Making phone calls to those who need connection-- those who are ill, going through a difficult time, etc.)

- Help mentor new members, Introduce new members to congregation
- Help deacons clean up after love feast
- Kitchen / Meal Preparation, general needs
- Help with meals for Salvation Army
- Help with Fall festival
- Help with Tenderloin feast
- Mission work
- Disaster Service Projects through the District
- Outdoor Ministries Representative from our church
- Attending to messages on the sign-board alongside the road at the Montezuma Hall
- Delegate to District Conference
- Delegate to Annual conference

- Evangelism
- Prayer Ministry—for the Church, for prayer concerns, for our country and our world
- Ministry to jail
- Brethren Woods Representative
- Help with Backpack program
- Provide supplies for BackPack program
- Help with Open Doors
 - Meals for Open Doors;
 - Evening volunteer or staying overnight with Open Doors

Are you available:

- for specific events, planned in advance
- At a moment's notice (within reason!)
- I can fill in with a little advanced notice.

Our Stewardship for February 2019

Attendance

		Worship	Sunday School	For Budget
February	3	147	79	\$7,152.00
	10	174	78	\$5,818.99
	17	154	68	\$3,340.00
	24	153	69	\$3,369.75
February average per Sunday				\$4,920.19
Last 12 mos. average per Sunday				\$5,338.33

Special Giving for February

Backpack Program	\$100	Salvation Army Meals	\$230
Community Foundation Fund	\$5,000	Stocks (Designated Fund 2480)	\$4,062.60
Deacon's Mercy Fund	\$950	Tenderloin Feast	\$5,423.50
Ivan Howdysshell Memorial	\$55	Youth Cook Books	\$10

Serving in March

NURSERY

- 3 Sara Atkins & Dawn Kiser
- 10 Sarah & Bobby Williams
- 17 Stephanie Diehl & Kenzy Hiner
- 24 Becky & Hayley Daubert
- 31 Pam Dodd & Brittany Hammer

WORSHIP CENTER

- 3 Ann Monger
- 10 Ann Monger
- 17 Dawn Kiser
- 24 Lisa Shickel
- 31 Jill Sease

SOUND SYSTEM / PROJECTION

- 3 Randy Glick / Ethan Dakin
- 10 Ben Hiner / Ethan Dakin
- 17 Bobby Williams / Hayley Daubert
- 24 Jim Rusmiser / Dustin Atkins
- 31 Ron Shickel / Dustin Atkins

VALET PARKING

- 3 Brad Smith
- 10 Ralph Rohrer
- 17 Donnie Jackson
- 24 Jeff Wine
- 31 Melvin Burger

USHERS

Roger Moyer, Bob Black, Ben Hall, Jim Rusmiser

Salvation Army

Our church is serving the Salvation Army meal on Thursday, March 14th. The following people have signed up to help: Tom & Ann Miller, Bonnie Guyer, Sam Rohrer, Barbara Ross, and Helen Shickel.

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays:

- | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Donna Brunk | 14 | Susan Kinkead | 27 | Brent Burkholder |
| | Marian Layman | 16 | Josh Kinkead | | Shirley Dameron |
| | Orva Showalter | | Carol Lena Miller | | Chloe Eye |
| | Amanda Trent | 17 | Adrian Lambert | | Fred Shank |
| 2 | Andrew Skelton | 18 | Carol Martin | 28 | Alanah Brashears |
| 3 | Claire Williams | 20 | Avery Andrews | | Paula Brown |
| 4 | Gretel Layne | | Eleanor Payne | | Scott Yelverton |
| | Alexander Shank | | Tanner Shifflett | 29 | Anne Marie Depoy |
| 5 | Julia Rohrer | | Jeff Wine | | |
| | Jared Smith | 21 | Pansy Auville | | |
| | John Clayton | 22 | Charles Airey | | |
| 7 | Steve Glick | | John Coaker | | |
| 8 | Sue Miller | | Judy Hill | | |
| | Owen Strawderman | 23 | Vincent Cash | | |
| 11 | Paige Eavers | 24 | Sadie Wilhelm | | |
| 12 | Lori Good | 26 | David Mason | | |
| 13 | Shevonne Fulton | | Vince Rhodes | | |
| | Lindsey Richard | | | | |

March Anniversaries:

- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 2 | Gordon & Wanda Driver |
| 9 | Bobby & Elaine Shank |
| 28 | David & Wilamena Harback |

Montezuma Church of the Brethren
4937 Ottobine Rd. Dayton, VA 22821
540-879-2246

www.montezumacob.org

David R. Miller, Pastor drmiller.cob@gmail.com
Gabriel Dodd, Pastor for Youth and Young Families
dodd.gabriel@gmail.com

Linnette Coaker, Office Admin. montezuma.cob@gmail.com

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 33
HARRISONBURG
VA 22801

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

