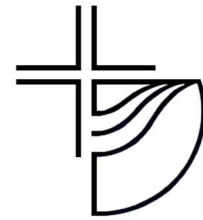


Montezuma Today



September 2023

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

- Romans 15:4

School is back in session, vacations are coming to an end, and the new routine for fall is being established. This is an excellent time for both young and old to make Sunday School and Bible Study attendance a part of our regular routine. From the beginning of time, the importance of studying God's word has been made clear to us. In Deuteronomy 11:18-21, the early Israelites were instructed to "put these words of mine in your heart and soul . . . teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise." In Joshua 1:8 we read, "This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it." Psalm 119:105 says "Your word is a lamp to my feet and light to my path." Studying God's word teaches us, corrects us, and trains us in righteousness that we may be equipped to do the work of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17) We can never know all that there is to know about God, and we are never too old to learn. We have classes for all ages and stages! Come, and let us study God's word together that we may bring glory to God.

In Christ's service,
Terri

Sunday School For All!

This fall we will be having two Sunday School classes for children – one for PreK/K and one for grades 1-5. New classes will start on Sunday, September 10. We will be continuing with our Jr. High/Youth class and our four adult Sunday School classes. There is a class for everyone! Please plan to join one and get to know others in the congregation better and learn and grow in God's Word.

Young Adult Sunday School Class

This fall, the Nurture Commission is offering a new Sunday School class for those who have graduated from high school through the mid-20s. Gordon Driver will be teaching the class. There will be a kick-off meeting at the Driver's residence (7819 War Branch Road, Rockingham) on September 23rd at 6:00 pm. A simple meal will be provided. All those in the 18-24 year old range, and their families, are invited to attend and be part of exploring the direction of this class. Bring your appetites and your ideas!

September Outreach Offering: Open Doors

Open Doors is a homeless shelter serving Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. They work to provide shelter, compassionate support, and access to services for people who are homeless.

Fall Bible Study

The Deacons are sponsoring a Fall Bible study based on the book *Life of Peter* from the Brethren Press Covenant Bible Study series. Pastor Terri will lead a class on Thursday mornings at 10:00am beginning on September 28th and continuing through November 15th. Ed Johnson and Sandy Kinsey will lead an evening study at the church on Tuesdays from 6:30pm to 8:00pm beginning September 26th.

Youth Yard Sale

The youth are hosting a yard sale on September 30th from 7am to 2pm at the Montezuma Hall to raise funds for NYC. They are looking for donations from you and your family of items that have accumulated around your house. Donations can be brought to the old Senior High room upstairs in the Sunday School Hall. Donations can be dropped off at Hall during the week of September 24th-30th from 8:30am - 8:30pm. There will also be a bake goods sale. There will be a sign-up sheet in the entryway. Donations for the yard sale and baked goods will need to be dropped off by Friday September 29th at noon. If you have any questions, contact Dustin or Tessa Atkins.

Deacon Calling

Each September Montezuma Deacons arrange for the calling of new Deacons. This year the calling service will take place on Sunday, September 24th. During this service deacons are called without nomination via open paper ballots. A sample ballot will be available to the congregation on Sunday, September 17th for review. The office of deacon dates from the New Testament period and is one of the most important offices in the church. Deacons provide care and support to all participants in the congregation; offer spiritual guidance to the church; they practice ministries of hospitality; and they oversee baptisms and Love Feast and communion.

Heritage Festival and Apple Butter

Montezuma's Fall Heritage Festival will be on Saturday, October 21st. A full festival with breakfast, doughnuts, country ham and white beans, BBQ chicken, and bake sale is planned. Vendors selling their goods will be on site and we look forward to live music, too. We will boil apple butter the weekend of October 14th. Volunteers are needed in all these areas and sign-up sheets will be available soon. We look forward to continuing with this beloved event. Keep on the lookout for updates and information.

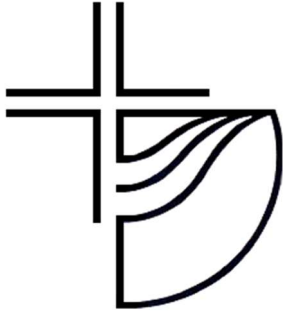
Bellfest

Montezuma's Handbell Choir is hosting their semi-annual Bellfest on Saturday, November 18th. Handbell choirs from other churches will gather that day to rehearse, and then present a concert in our sanctuary at 7:00pm.

Love Feast: October 1

Fall Love Feast is scheduled for Sunday, October 1 after church. More details will be announced soon.

Terri Luzynski, Pastor PastorTerri@montezumacob.org
 Linnette Coaker, Office Admin. montezuma.cob@gmail.com



September Birthdays:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Katie Grant | 15 Debbie Smiley |
| 2 Donna Chandler | Uriah Smiley |
| Charles Cline Jr. | 16 Isaac Shank |
| Cathy Fisher | 17 Melody Cash |
| 3 Jimmy Dove | Kathy Ringgold |
| Wanda Hollen | 18 Helen Shank |
| Tom Womble | Jessica Shipe |
| Dean Wood | 19 Liam Hunter |
| 4 Allee Coffman | 21 Ben Barlow |
| Carson Patterson | Danelle Ross |
| Carolyn Wenger | Brenda Wine |
| Ralph Rohrer | 22 Sammy Cox |
| Arlie McNett | Laurie Anne Serrell |
| 6 Patty Black | Cheryl Simmers |
| Donnie Simmons | 23 Wendell Chandler |
| Sebastian Fuentes-Serrell | 24 Jordan Sites |
| 7 Betty Click | 25 Jennifer Shreiber |
| Steve Keplinger | Tasha Hoover |
| David Shickel | 26 Molly Shickel |
| Naomi Skelton | 27 Devon Kuster |
| 9 Charlie Monger | 28 Lillian Howdysshell |
| 13 Carolyn Cline | Libby Kiser |
| Marsha Shank | 29 Janice Rhodes |
| 14 Susan Kuykendall | 30 Susan Floyd |
| Wanda Flora | Donnie Jackson |

September Anniversaries:

- | |
|-----------------------------|
| 1 Vincent & Melody Cash |
| 3 Scott & Diana McNett |
| 4 Robert & Andrea Black |
| Nelson & Frances Shenk |
| 6 Jeremy & Becky Daubert |
| 8 Steve & Connie Stiles |
| 10 Ron & Donna Lou Shickel |
| 11 Gordon & Gail Miller |
| 13 Mike & Beth Bazzle |
| 16 Ken & Cindy McNett |
| 17 Donnie & Lynn McNett |
| 19 Robert & Patty Black |
| Dennis & Leslie Huffman |
| Kirk & Chris Kuster |
| 20 David & Lisa Shickel |
| 25 David & Susan Kuykendall |
| 26 Fred & Helen Shank |
| 27 Josh & Crystal Richard |
| 28 Weldon & Lori Good |

Our Stewardship for July/August 2023

	Attendance		Regular Offering
	Worship	S.S.	
July 2	118	58	\$9,002.00
July 9	104	53	\$3,067.00
July 16	134	54	\$5,212.00
July 23	--	--	--
July 30	103	58	\$5,107.25
July Avg	115	56	\$4,477.65
Last 12 mos. average	118	49	\$5,501.41

	Attendance		Regular Offering
	Worship	S.S.	
Aug 6	107	55	\$8,033.00
Aug 13	84	33	\$3,670.00
Aug 20	123	51	\$9,400.00
Aug 27	193	--	\$10,077.03
Aug avg	127	46	\$7,795.01
Last 12 mos. average	120	49	\$5,778.76

Special Giving for July 2023

2¢ Meal Offering	\$106.40
Elementary SS Hygiene Kits	\$200
In Memory of Danny Hollen	\$100
Messenger Subscriptions	\$72.50
Playground Improvements	\$100
Weekday Religious Education	\$1,105
Window Fund	\$40

Special Giving for August 2023

Elementary SS Hygiene Kits	\$20
In Memory of Faye McNett	\$25
Memorial Meals	\$500
Playground Improvements	\$150
Stone Haven	\$495
Window Fund	\$9,849.99
Win. Fund in memory of Faye McNett	\$275
Win. Fund in Memory of Meredith Sine	\$500