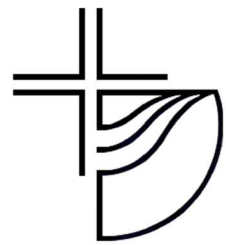


# Montezuma Today



March 2024

www.montezumacob.org  
www.facebook.com/MontezumaCOB

*You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right,  
for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and teacher,  
have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one  
another's feet. For I have set you an example,  
that you also should do as I have done to you.*

John 13:13-15

As we journey through the season of Lent, we look forward to the procession of the palms and celebration of our Risen Savior on Easter. However, it is vitally important that we remember—and experience-- the events between those Sabbaths.

On the evening that he was to be betrayed, Jesus gathered with his disciples to celebrate the Passover meal. During this time with his disciples, Jesus offered them bread and wine as symbols of his broken body and spilled blood. He also washed the feet of his disciples to set an example of the love and service that we are to offer to others. Our Love Feast is a time not only to remember Jesus' actions but to experience the presence of his Spirit. The Church of the Brethren has held firmly to this scripture-based tradition but, over the years, the number of members participating in Love Feast has dwindled. I encourage each of you to share the Love Feast with us on Maundy Thursday. Your soul will be touched by the Spirit.

The next day, Jesus was crucified for our sake. The cross on which Jesus died had been carried through town to Golgotha. The Bridgewater area churches come together on Good Friday to carry the cross through Bridgewater as a solemn remembrance of this darkest day. Come and walk with us as we remember the suffering of Jesus.

The light is brightest when we come in from the dark. Our celebration of the Resurrection will be all the more meaningful if we walk through the dark days with Jesus.

In Christ's service,  
Terri

## Graduate Recognition

Montezuma will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> during worship. If you or someone you know has graduated high school, college, or trade school within the last year, please let the Nurture Commission know so we can include all graduates. Members of that commission are Brad Smith (chair), Stephanie Diehl, Ramona Evans, Diana Havener, and Dustin Atkins.

## Disaster Auction: May 17-18

There are many ways that the church family can get involved with this event. Contact Marsha Shank 540-421-5243; Ralph Rohrer 540-908-8021 (barbeque chicken) and Becky Daubert 540-209-3865 (doughnuts). You are also invited to collect change for Coins For Disaster Ministries. Donations of Baked Goods and Theme Baskets (with a value of at least \$25) are needed. The Sow and Grow Program is available to anyone who would take the \$10 given to our church and turn it into a project that could bring in \$20, 50, \$200 etc. Contact Linnette for more information about this. Find out how YOU can be involved!

## Holy Week Services

There will be several opportunities for us to worship together during Holy Week:

### Palm/Passion Sunday (Mar. 24)

This year's Palm/Passion Sunday service will move from the traditional palm processional to celebrate Christ's entry into Jerusalem through a more somber time of remembering the suffering he endured for us.

### Love Feast Maundy Thursday (Mar. 28)

The observance of the ordinance of Love Feast is central to our identity as a denomination. Please gather in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm. We will move as a body of believers to the Fellowship Hall for the Love Feast.

### Good Friday (Mar. 29)

The ecumenical Cross Walk will begin at noon, at Bridgewater Presbyterian. Additional information will be provided through the weekly email once plans are finalized.

### Sonrise Easter Service (Mar. 31)

This early morning celebration of the Resurrection of Christ will be at the home of Ron and Donna Lou Shickel, 5664 Ottobine Road in Dayton. The service will begin promptly at 6:45 am so that we can enjoy the sunrise together at 7:01 am on Easter. There will be a shuttle service from the Montezuma parking lot at 6:30 am.

### Easter Breakfast

The MCoB Youth will once again serve breakfast at the Montezuma Hall from 7:30 am to 8:30 am on Easter. Donations for the youth National Youth Conference account will be accepted.

### Easter Worship

We will celebrate our Risen Savior at 9:30 am in the sanctuary, followed by Sunday School for all ages.

## WRE Concert: March 16

The Weekday Religious Educations Students 2024 Choral Presentation of "The Lord's Plans" will be held on Saturday, March 16 at 6:30pm at JMU's Atlantic Union Bank Center (1700 East Campus Drive, parking in the Ballard Parking Deck).

## March Outreach: One Great Hour of Sharing

Gifts given through One Great Hour of Sharing empower ministries like the Church of the Brethren's Brethren Volunteer Service, Discipleship Ministries, Office of Global Mission, Brethren Disaster Ministries, the Global Food Initiative, and many others.

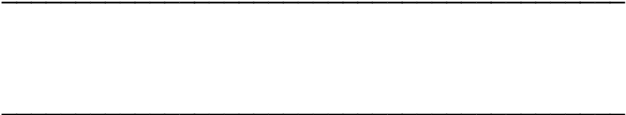
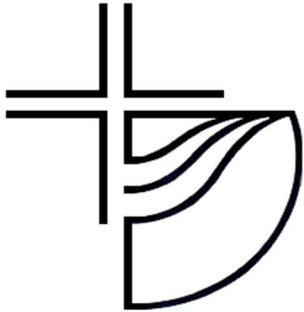
## Vacation Bible School: June 17-20

Montezuma is partnering with Dayton Church of the Brethren to host VBS on June 17-20 at Montezuma. The theme this year is *Camp Firelight*. Campers will explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Bible figures trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God's name. Please contact Linnette Coaker or Wendy Rhodes if you are willing to help with VBS.

Montezuma Church of the Brethren  
 4937 Ottobine Rd. Dayton, VA 22821  
 540-879-2246  
[www.montezumacob.org](http://www.montezumacob.org)

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 US POSTAGE PAID  
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 HARRISONBURG  
 VA 22801

Terri Luzynski, Pastor [PastorTerri@montezumacob.org](mailto:PastorTerri@montezumacob.org)  
 Linnette Coaker, Office Admin. [montezuma.cob@gmail.com](mailto:montezuma.cob@gmail.com)



**March Birthdays:**

- |                    |                   |                     |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Donna Brunk      | 14 Susan Kinkead  | 27 Brent Burkholder |
| Orva Showalter     | 16 Josh Kinkead   | Shirley Dameron     |
| Amanda Trent       | Carol Lena Miller | Chloe Eye           |
| 2 Andrew Skelton   | 18 Carol Martin   | Fred Shank          |
| 3 Claire Williams  | 20 Avery Andrews  | 28 Alanah Brashears |
| 4 Alexander Shank  | Eleanor Payne     | Paula Brown         |
| 5 Julia Rohrer     | Tanner Shifflett  | Scott Yelverton     |
| Jared Smith        | Jeff Wine         | 29 Anne Marie Depoy |
| Iva Barlow         | 21 Pansy Auville  |                     |
| 6 Noah Sites       | 22 Charles Airey  |                     |
| 8 Sue Miller       | John Coaker       |                     |
| Owen Strawderman   | Judy Hill         |                     |
| 11 Paige Eavers    | 23 Vincent Cash   |                     |
| 12 Lori Good       | 24 Sadie Wilhelm  |                     |
| 13 Lindsey Richard | 26 David Mason    |                     |
|                    | Vince Rhodes      |                     |

**March Anniversaries:**

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

**Our Stewardship for February 2024**

<b>Attendance</b>			
	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>Regular Offering</b>
Feb. 4	136	79	\$12,791.00
Feb. 11	126	65	\$4,263.00
Feb. 18	145	76	\$5,005.00
Feb. 25	127	52	\$4,425.50
Feb. average per Sun.	134	68	\$6,621.13
Last 12 mos. average per Sun.	123	55	\$5,963.19

<b>Special Giving for February 2024</b>			
2¢ Meal Offering	\$93.86	In Memory of Rick Kiser	\$600
Apple Butter	\$96	In Memory of Rick Kiser-playground	\$50
Backpack Program	\$400	Memorial Meals	\$100
Easter Flowers	\$347.50	Tenderloin Meal (before expenses)	\$4,624
Gideons International	\$1,485	Youth Cookbooks	\$50