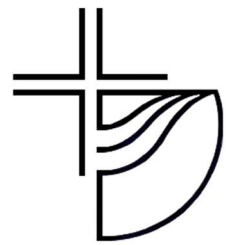


Montezuma Today

March 2025

www.montezumacob.org
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**For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.**
- Psalm 103:14

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5th this year) and continues for 40 days and 40 nights, not including Sundays. Lent is a season of contemplation and reflection; a time to acknowledge our sinfulness and our need of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is also a time to accept the love and forgiveness given through Christ. Lent provides an opportunity to focus on our relationship with Jesus and to consider how that relationship does—or should—impact every aspect of our lives. It is a time to prepare our hearts for the joy and promise of the Resurrection.

On Ash Wednesday, we will gather at 5:30 pm at the Montezuma Hall for a simple dinner of soup and bread—a reminder that we are a community of faith dependent on God for our daily provision. At 6:15 pm, we will gather in the sanctuary for a contemplative service of confession and forgiveness. As part of the service, we will be given the opportunity to be anointed with the ashes of repentance and the oil of forgiveness, to strengthen our faith as we enter our Lenten journey together. The service will conclude in time for choir practice at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

In Christ's service,
Terri

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.

Hygiene Kit Donations

The Jr. High class is collecting items for Church World Service (CWS) hygiene kits. We invite the congregation to participate by donating washcloths, nail clippers, toothbrushes, bath-sized bars of soap, travel-size toothpaste, wide tooth combs (6" minimum), or you can donate \$2 for sending a kit. There will be a box on the bench between the two entrance doors on March 2 and 9 to leave your items. Thank you for your support.

WRE Concert: March 15

You are invited to attend WRE's 2025 Choral Presentation, "Light of the Lord," on Saturday, March 15 at 4:00 pm at the Spotswood High School Gymnasium. This is a mountaintop experience in which WRE students from 15 elementary schools are brought together to sing and praise the Lord.

Easter Lilies

Order envelopes for Easter lilies are available in the entryway. Flowers are \$10.50 each and can be purchased in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one. The last day to order lilies is Sunday, March 23rd. Lilies can be taken home after morning worship on Easter.

Community Easter Celebration

Montezuma's Witness Commission is hosting a community Easter Celebration on Saturday, April 12, at 10:00 am at the Montezuma Hall. The children will hear the Easter story, followed by an Easter egg hunt. Light refreshments will be served for the children and their parents. Please invite your friends, families, and neighbors to attend.

Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast

We will have a Sunrise Easter Service at 6:15am on April 20th, followed by a breakfast from 7:00am to 8:30am at Montezuma Hall hosted by our youth. Donations will support the youth trip to the 2026 NYC. More information will be shared as plans are finalized.

Disaster Auction: May 16-17

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 the church office for more information about this. Find out how YOU can be involved!

Graduate Recognition

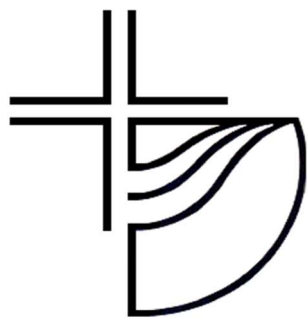
Montezuma will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, June 1st during worship. If you or someone you know has graduated high school, college, or trade school within the last year, please let the Nurture Commission know so we can include all graduates. Members of that commission are Diana Havener (chair), Ramona Evans, Danelle Ross, Dwynn Stovall, and Dustin Atkins.

Vacation Bible School: July 28-31

Montezuma is partnering with Dayton Church of the Brethren to host VBS on July 28-31 at Dayton Church of the Brethren. Please contact Linnette Smith or Emily Fleishman if you are willing to help with VBS.

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



March Birthdays:

1	Donna Brunk	14	Susan Kinhead	26	David Mason
	Orva Showalter		David Glick		Vince Rhodes
	Amanda Trent	16	Josh Kinhead	27	Brent Burkholder
2	Andrew Skelton		Carol Lena Miller		Chloe Eye
3	Claire Williams	18	Carol Martin		Fred Shank
4	Alexander Shank	20	Avery Andrews	28	Alanah Brashears
5	Julia Rohrer		Eleanor Payne		Paula Brown
	Jared Smith		Tanner Shifflett		Scott Yelverton
	Iva Barlow		Jeff Wine	29	Anne Marie Depoy
6	Noah Sites	21	Pansy Auville		
8	Sue Miller	22	Charles Airey		
	Owen Strawderman		John Coaker		
11	Paige Eavers		Judy Hill		
	Daniel Fleishman	23	Vincent Cash	2	Gordon & Wanda Driver
12	Lori Good	24	Sadie Wilhelm	9	Bobby & Elaine Shank
13	Lindsey Richard			28	David & Wilamena Harback

March Anniversaries:

Our Stewardship for February 2025

Attendance			
	Worship	Sunday School	Regular Offering
Feb. 2	144	71	\$9,507.56
Feb. 9	156	73	\$6,481.80
Feb. 16	135	54	\$4,619.00
Feb. 23	148	64	\$4,522.00
Feb. average per Sun.	146	66	\$6,282.59
Last 12 mos. average per Sun.	132	61	\$6,017.07
Special Giving for February 2025			
2 Cents Meal Offering	\$110.71	Hurricane Relief	\$200.00
Backpack Program	\$100.00	In Memory of Edna Shickel	\$1,280.00
Chili Meal for NYC	\$1,310.00	Salvation Army Meals	\$25.00
Easter Lilies	\$21.00	Tenderloin Meal	\$6,860.00
Gideons	\$1,700.00		