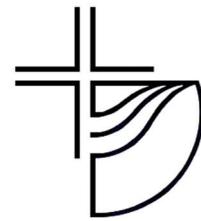


# Montezuma Today



July/August 2025

*“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.”*

Romans 15:7

We welcome with love our newest members:

**Robert and Karen (Rodeffer) Airey** are well known to most of Montezuma. Karen grew up in Mt. Crawford and Robert has lived in Ottobine his whole life, attending the Sangerville Church of the Brethren in his early years. Robert and Karen were members of Montezuma for many years before transferring her membership to Briery Branch Church of the Brethren for a time. Robert has been a mechanic for 52 years, while also working on his parent's farm. Karen worked at Ethan Allen in her early years and has trained horses for most of her life. Robert and Karen have two grown children and four grandchildren.

**Esther Brill** was born near Moorefield, West Virginia and still considers herself a West Virginia girl. She met her husband Russell at Shepherd College. They had 3 children and lived the majority of their marriage in New York, before retiring to Winchester, VA. Her husband, daughter Deborah and son John have passed away. She has 4 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. She now lives in Dayton next door to her daughter and son-in-law Jeanee and Ken May, members of the Montezuma Handbell Choir. She is very appreciative of the welcome she has received from the Montezuma Church of the Brethren family.

**Brock Dennett** is the Son of Eric and Amy Dennett. He graduated from Broadway High School in 2023 and now works for Riddleberger Brothers Inc. in Mt. Crawford. He enjoys spending time with friends and doing outdoor activities, such as hunting and fishing.

**Corinne Rhodes** is the daughter of Vince and Wendy Rhodes. She attends Wilbur Pence Middle School where she participates in track, Ruriteens, and FFA. Corinne lives on a farm and her summers are busy taking care of her 4-H animals and swimming on the Ashby swim team. In her down time she enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

## Messenger Renewal

To renew your Messenger subscription please send in your portion of the Messenger payment of \$7.25 (half the subscription rate of \$14.50) made payable to Montezuma COB.

## FaithX Work Camp

The Montezuma Youth will be attending a work camp in Boston, Massachusetts from July 20<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to their sharing in worship on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

## July Outreach Offering: Weekday Religious Education

Weekday Religious Education provides religious education to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Rockingham County Elementary Schools. Each week, students explore a story from the Bible, are prayed with, and encouraged during the lesson time. Every student who participates in WRE also receives a new hard cover Bible.

## August Outreach Offering: Stone Haven

Stone Haven’s vision is to offer a safe space in Central Virginia for survivors of sexual exploitation to come and do the hard work of healing. They hope to have property in the Rockingham County area with a home and plenty of space to breathe: a place for women to live in community and learn from one other.

## Vacation Bible School

Montezuma and Dayton Churches of the Brethren invite all children ages 3 through (completed) 5th grade to attend Vacation Bible School at Dayton Church of the Brethren, Monday-Thursday, July 28-31 from 5:30pm-8:15pm each evening. There will also be service project opportunities for our youth. Supper will be provided for children, youth, and their families. Registration is available online at [montezumacob.org/vbs](http://montezumacob.org/vbs). If you would like to help with VBS, please see Emily Fleishman or Linnette Smith.

## Message from the Board

To follow up from Gordon Driver’s announcement to you during worship, our Church Board on February 14, 2023 discussed the use of an American flag on caskets during funeral services in our church. This has not been allowed in the past at Montezuma and, as a result, some members have chosen to have their memorial services elsewhere. There is nothing in our church’s constitution addressing this issue, nor is there any Shenandoah District position on this matter. It is not our practice to display the American flag in our sanctuary as we worship God, not our country or our country's flag. However, having a flag on the casket of a veteran is not an act of worship, but an acknowledgement that the person served our country. Therefore, the Board determined that placing an American flag on the casket at a funeral service held in our church for a member who was a veteran will be permitted. Our current board wants to be as transparent and communicative as possible to you and will continue to keep you informed as issues arise and decisions made.

### Our Stewardship for June 2025

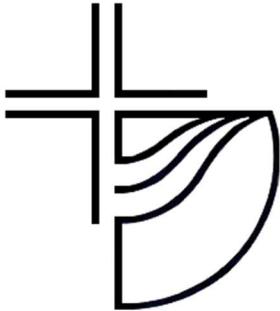
Attendance			
	Worship	Sunday School	Regular Offering
June 1	155	54	\$8,657.03
June 8	134	48	\$3,073.25
June 15	120	52	\$21,567.00
June 22	108	55	\$3,495.00
June 29	133	64	\$4,880.00
June average per Sun.	130	55	\$8,364.46
Last 12 mos. average per Sun.	126	54	\$6,207.46

### Special Giving for June 2025

Brethren Woods	\$1,305	Youth Cookbooks/NYC	\$10
Brethren Disaster Ministries	\$275	Backpack Program	\$50
Playground Improvements	\$1,160		

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

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



**July Birthdays:**

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Dawn Kiser      | 19 Sallie Hunter     |
| Ed Johnson        | Chad Brooks          |
| Cindy McNett      | 20 Scarlett Reel     |
| Samuel McNett     | 22 David Lilly       |
| 6 Jenifer Hiner   | 23 Nancy Shickel     |
| 7 Cathy Harper    | 25 Sally Jane Conner |
| 8 Susan Butzler   | 26 Cameron Brown     |
| 9 Dusty Moyer     | Ron Bowman           |
| 11 Amanda Huffman | 30 Jennifer Kiser    |
| Donnie McNett     | Corinne Rhodes       |
| 12 David Richard  | Ashlyn Smiley        |
| 13 Chris Payne    | 31 Corinne Crumley   |
| Julie Smith       | Emily Gray           |
| 14 Amy Brown      | Luke Gray            |
| Aaron Will        | Gloria Heishman      |
| Ron Wyrick        | Barbara Moyer        |
| 15 Philip Tumer   | Marshall Smiley      |
| 17 Andy Ringgold  |                      |
| 18 Kathy Coceano  |                      |
| Kody Payne        |                      |

**August Birthdays:**

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Christopher Lilly | 17 Laura Healy      |
| Mara Pequinet       | Jason Payne         |
| 2 David Kuykendall  | Derek Smiley        |
| 3 Bobby Guyer       | Gene Wampler        |
| Tina Serrell        | 18 Heather Barnhart |
| Blake Brashears     | Jaxson DePoy        |
| 4 William Monger    | Kohen Trent         |
| 5 Lane Bazzle       | 19 Fonda Auville    |
| 7 Roger Moyer       | Jonathan Ross       |
| 8 Lynn Mohler       | Susan Shull         |
| Kathy Riley         | Robbie Symons       |
| Dick Ryan           | Tom Luzynski        |
| 9 Wanda Driver      | 20 Eddie Black      |
| 10 Carrie Gray      | Christopher Kiser   |
| Bobbi Jo Ross       | 22 Joyce Rhodes     |
| 12 D.J. Moats       | 23 Lyza Will        |
| Zach Sease          | 24 Heidi Mason      |
| 13 Dennis Evans     | Elaine Shank        |
| 15 Allison Prawdzik | Olivia Fleishman    |
| Logan Wilhelm       | 25 Ken McNett       |
| Silas Wenger        | Joyce Sheffer       |
| 16 Roma Holloway    | Abe Evans           |
| Lindsay Monger      | 26 Chad Shipe       |
|                     | 27 Sandy Kinsey     |

**July Anniversaries:**

- |                             |
|-----------------------------|
| 1 David & Dawn Mason        |
| Gary & Missy Vandevander    |
| 2 David & Sheila Skelton    |
| 7 Adam & Autumn Pequignet   |
| Jordan & Katya Sites        |
| 8 Brad & Yvonne Miller      |
| 9 Bobby & Sarah Williams    |
| Derek & Maria Smiley        |
| 10 Fred & Susan Kinhead     |
| Bob & Kathleen Michael      |
| Drew & Susan Shull          |
| 14 Gary & Eleanor Payne     |
| 15 Andrew & Lorissa Skelton |
| 16 Marshall & Krista Smiley |
| 17 Elvert & Lois Black      |
| 21 Ethan & Morgan Dakin     |
| 23 Vince & Wendy Rhodes     |

- |                   |
|-------------------|
| 28 Carrie Miller  |
| Joyce Rhodes      |
| Donna Lou Shickel |
| 29 Susan Wrenn    |
| 30 Joyce Perry    |
| 31 Jimmy Mason    |
| Sharon Weaver     |
| Jacqueline Wenger |

**August Anniversaries:**

- |                          |
|--------------------------|
| 1 Ken & Joy Monger       |
| Ron & Frankie Bowman     |
| 3 Ernie & Diana Havener  |
| 5 Craig & Shari Payne    |
| 6 Mike & Stephanie Diehl |
| 7 Eric & Annie Wilhelm   |
| 10 Calvin & Judy Lokey   |
| 12 Eddie & Nellie Black  |
| 13 Tom & Barbara Ross    |
| Dustin & Tessa Atkins    |
| 15 Robby & Londia Dean   |
| Bill & Gloria Heishman   |
| 25 Ben & Tammy Hall      |