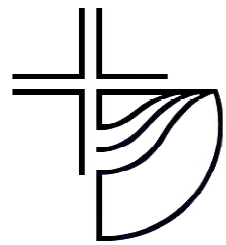


# Montezuma Today



November 2020

[www.montezumacob.org](http://www.montezumacob.org)  
[www.facebook.com/MontezumaCOB](https://www.facebook.com/MontezumaCOB)

## November 1 – Pastor Dodd’s last Sunday; Youth worship Leaders

Montezuma is bidding farewell and best wishes to Pastor Gabriel Dodd, his wife Pam and son Elias, during Sunday worship, November 1, at the ballpark. This outdoor service may be chilly, but it is the best way for us to gather in numbers and extend appreciation to the Dodd's for their ministry with us for over five years. Please join us for this service – and don't forget to bring your best wishes card for the Dodd's. As part of this service, Montezuma youth will participate in leading worship. The theme is Timeless Discipleship and the texts are Romans 15:13-17 & Deut. 10:12.

## Congregational Business Meeting - Nov. 1

The fall business meeting will take place immediately following worship, November 1. This will be a brief meeting to vote on church leadership and appointments, the 2021 budget, and a motion to approve Sister Kathleen Michael for ordination. This is an important time in the life of the congregation. We need to make important decisions leading into the new year. Information packets with reports, financials and a ballot have been available in October and will be available November 1. You must be present to vote.

## Outreach Offering in November: CWS Blanket Fund

November is Church World Service Blanket month. Even amid pandemic, people still need blankets all over the world. Natural disasters and displacement due to war and unrest drive much of this need, as does poverty. People need blankets. A high quality CWS blanket is \$10. It's not fancy but it gets the job done. Please give to support this outreach. Our numbers have dipped in the last years. CWS came one year to recognize Montezuma because we gave generously to this mission. Let's get back on the high side of this outreach.

## 2020 Youth Auction Cancelled

Like the Heritage Festival, Open Doors, the church picnic, the Birthday Banquet, Annual Conference, youth work camps, summer camps and Vacation Bible School, the annual November Youth Auction is being pushed back to next year. We are sorry. The youth program at Montezuma continues as we provide our young people with opportunities to grow in faith and experience.

## Shenandoah District Worship Nov. 8 – An invitation from Marty Barlow

Greetings Montezuma! On November 8 the Shenandoah District invites you to share in a worship service prepared especially for these times. For you, the service can be seen online by tuning in to Montezuma worship just as you would any Sunday at 9:30 a.m. If you want to come to the sanctuary to watch it, you may.

Some background. I have served as Moderator of the Shenandoah District for the past year. Due to Covid-19, congregations have struggled with constantly changing circumstances, whether and where to meet, and how to make those meetings comfortable and worshipful. It's been a hard time for pastors and church leaders! When we decided it was not feasible to hold district conference in person, we wanted to communicate to district churches and pastors that we recognized their weariness and that we were supportive.

We decided to plan an all-district worship service for November 8 based on the theme we had chosen for 2020: "I am making all things new," from Revelation 21:5a. In this service we tell the stories of five congregations from across the district who are living out that theme during difficult times.

Exceptional music and a powerful sermon round out this hour-long service. Two pieces from the Montezuma Bell choir are featured; Leah Hileman from the Luray Church and Beth Jarrett from First Church Harrisonburg, sing songs they wrote specifically for this service! John Jantzi, our district executive minister, preaches on "The land between the rivers!" I hope that you will tune in with others to worship and celebrate God's powerful presence and promise in our midst.

## Backpack program starts anew

As in previous years, Montezuma is helping with the backpack food program at Ottobine Elementary School. Because of the pandemic, our numbers are low to start this year. We are providing weekend food support for seven children. As Rockingham County Schools return to partial school attendance November 16, we anticipate that these numbers will increase. An outreach offering to support the backpack program is held in January each year. Special thanks to Patty Black for managing and shopping for this program at Montezuma and to Melvin and Edith Burger who prepare the food bags each week.

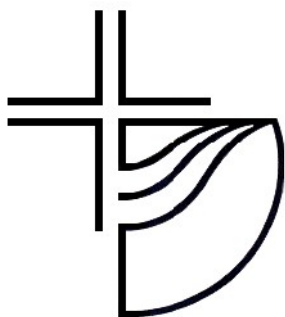
## Advent

The first Sunday of Advent is November 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

David R. Miller, Pastor [drmiller.cob@gmail.com](mailto:drmiller.cob@gmail.com)  
 Gabriel Dodd, Pastor for Youth and Young Families  
[dodd.gabriel@gmail.com](mailto:dodd.gabriel@gmail.com)  
 Linnette Coaker, Office Admin. [montezuma.cob@gmail.com](mailto:montezuma.cob@gmail.com)




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**November Birthdays:**

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|--|---|
| 1 Angela Andrews<br>Katie Jackson<br>Garrett Cash<br>Arleigh Mason | 14 Jill Brashears<br>Shari Payne<br>Jackson Healy                         |
| 2 Cortland Andrews<br>Scott Showalter                              | 15 William Grady<br>Corey Shull   |
| 4 Larry Carpenter<br>Calvin Lokey<br>Ezra Barnhart                 | 16 Delmas Harper<br>17 Mike Bazzle  |
| 6 Jeff Harper  | 19 Cody Airey<br>Edith Burger<br>David Harback<br>Denise Harper           |
| 9 Gloria Horne<br>Sam Rohrer<br>Doug Tumer<br>Titus Smiley         | 21 Barbara Keller<br>22 Jordan Smiley<br>24 Yolanda Waggy<br>Katelyn Will |
| 10 April Payne<br>Drew Richard                                     | 25 Lisa Moran<br>26 Mason Shull<br>Hayley Daubert                         |
| 11 Chris Click<br>Katie Richard                                    |   |
| 13 Jennifer Prawdzik   |   |

- |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| 27 Austin Shifflett<br>Rick Kiser |
| 28 Sarah Craun                    |
| 30 Jared Ross                     |

**November Anniversaries:**

- |  |
|--|
| 4 William & Louise Grady                     |
| 9 Roy & Juanita Swartz                       |
| 10 Delmas & Denise Harper                    |
| 11 Gene & Joyce Sheffer                      |
| 14 David & Shelby Click                      |
| 18 Thomas & Jill Brashears                   |
| 19 Russ & Kathy Veal                         |
| 21 David & Carol Lena Miller                 |
| 25 Ken & Sue Miller                          |
| 26 Scott & Heidi Mason<br>Ray & Marsha Shank |

**Our Stewardship for October 2020**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Regular Offering</b>
Oct 4	103	\$4,710.00
Oct 11	54	\$5,010.00
Oct 18	101	\$5,387.00
Oct 25	38	\$2,267.36
Oct average per Sunday		\$4,343.59
Last 12 mos. average per Sunday		\$5,612.26

**Special Giving for October 2020**

Heritage Festival	\$7,313.25	Sadie Rose Foundation	\$175
Janet Whetzel Memorial	\$25	Youth Cookbooks	\$30

**Staff schedule**

- Pastor David Miller will take a week of vacation November 23-29.
- The church offices will be closed for Thanksgiving holiday November 26-27.