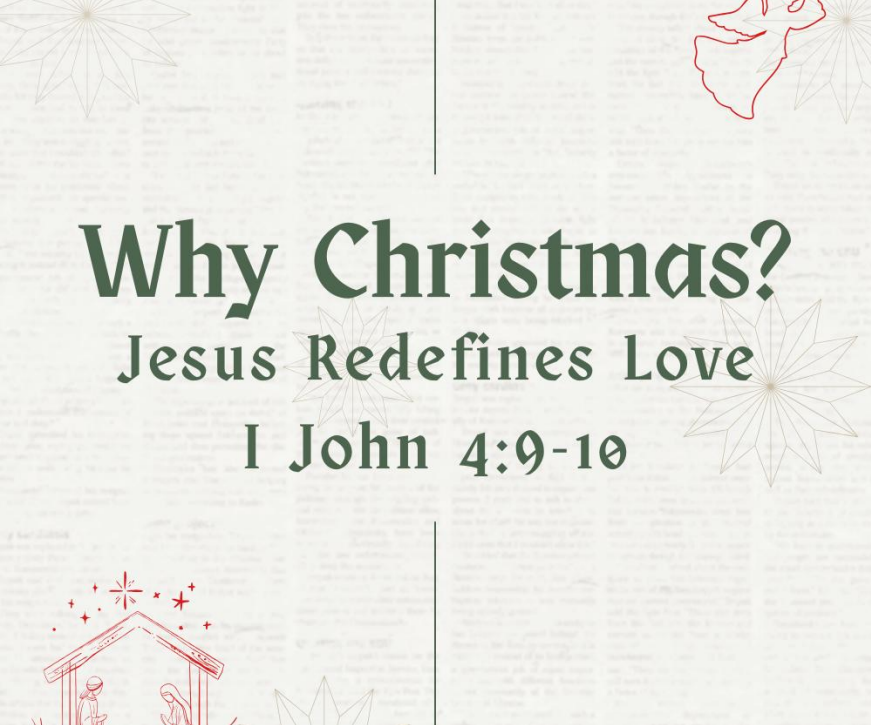


Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren

1392 Robert Fulton Highway
Quarryville, PA 17566
Phone: 717.786.2723
www.mgcb.org



Why Christmas? Jesus Redefines Love I John 4:9-10



Kevin Richardson
Senior Pastor

Janae McMichael
Director of Family Ministries

December 7, 2025

8:15 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

ORGAN PRELUDE

Willis

"The Glorious Song of Old"

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Announcements

Please pass the Friendship Pad

Lighting the Candle of Peace

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: It's time to get ready for the journey.

P: Where are we going?

L: We are heading for the Manger and then to the Cross.

P: What will we find?

L: Today we will find peace, along with hope.

P: We are ready. Let the journey begin.

*HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"

172

vs. 1, 3, 5, 6

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

"Jesus Redefines Love"

I John 4:9-10 NT p 231

*HYMN

"Come Let Us All Unite to Sing"

12

PASTORAL PRAYER

GIVING OF HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Prayer

Offertory

"Prayer"

Clark

*CLOSING HYMN

212

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*CLOSING PRAYER

*POSTLUDE

"Song of Joy"

Stairs

Please stand in body or in spirit

Jesus Redefines Love

I John 4:9-10

1. Jesus came to _____ that we are _____. v 9; John 3:16
2. Jesus' birth _____ us that we are _____. v. 10

Three Takeaways

1. _____ in the _____ this Advent season.
2. Allow the _____ of _____ to be _____ in your _____ this Christmas season.
3. Make every effort to _____ those the _____ the _____
_____ the _____ of Christmas.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Serving Our Congregation Today

Messenger: Kevin Richardson
Worship Leader: 8:15 Diane Herr
Advent Readers: 8:15 Scott & Vickie Kreider
Children's Story: 10:30 Katherine Tshudy
Organist: 8:15 Carolyn Wenger
Pianist: 8:15 Joanne Hershey
Sound Tech: Ed Heidinger II
Stream Tech: 8:15 Travis Heidinger
10:30 Lane Dillow
Welcomers: 8:15 Ed & Mary Etta Reinhart
9:30 Jeremy & Ann Shelley
10:30 Dennis & Glenda Findley
Greeters: 8:15 Alan & Pam Platt
10:30 Jim & Deb Krantz
Nursery: 9:30 Rhonda Heidinger & Amy Housekeeper
10:30 Maura Housekeeper, Melissa Houghton & Andi Holzauer
Ushers: 8:15 Earle Hershey, Merv Keener,
Scott Mull, Ray Wimer
10:30 Brad & Bobbie Davis
Greg & Linda Bledsoe

Kevin Richardson, Senior Pastor: KevinR@mgcb.org
Janae McMichael, Director of Family Ministries: JanaeM@mgcb.org

10:30 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

*WORSHIP, WELCOME & OFFERING

"The First Noel"
"Christmas Offering"
"Behold"

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Announcements

Please pass the Friendship Pad

Morning Prayer

KID'S SERMON

MESSAGE

"Jesus Redefines Love"
I John 4:9-10 NT p 231

*CLOSING SONG

"He Has Come for Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)"

God rest ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Chorus

He has come for us this Jesus He's the hope for all mankind
He has come for us Messiah Born to give us life

From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name
O tidings of comfort and joy comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Chorus

All the angels sing Hallelujah Jesus Christ is born
All the children sing Hallelujah He is Christ the Lord

Chorus

Jason Ingram | Meredith Andrews © 2009 Spirit Nashville Three; Curb Songs; So Essential Tunes; Spirit Nashville Three Crescendo Royalty Funding LP, Curb Music Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved.
www.ccli.com CCLI License # 281969

*CLOSING PRAYER

Acolytes: Nora, Maren & Josie Bollinger, Lorraine Heidinger

Praise Team: Cameryn Deibler, Ellie Dillow, Phil Hershey, Jake Holzhauer,
Lori Holzhauer, Hannah & Kennedy Kreider, Caitlyn Mauger,
Kinsey Rhodes, Jeremy Stoltzfus, Katherine Tshudy

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

If you are in the **Journey to Nativity** and are to be in costume, please be sure to try it on **before** December 9. Costumes are in the old Young Adult Sunday school classroom. Check off whether it fits or needs altered on the sheet. **Angels:** pick the outfit that fits you best and attach your name to the costume.

Small Group Cornhole League starts this Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center. All are welcome to join us. We will play for fun. Contact Dave Wimer or Phil Hershey for more information.

MESSAGES FOR THE BODY

Thank You Pastor Kevin for your visit when I was in the hospital. It was a Joy. Thank You Pastor Rita for your uplifting phone calls. Thanks to the congregation for prayers, cards, and phone calls. Your caring was felt and appreciated. ~ Isabelle Scheffel

COMING EVENTS

Attention Grace Marriage participants! Our November and December Grace Marriage Date Nights are combining, to one evening on December 19th from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



Advent Schedule
Why Christmas? Sermon Series

December 13 ~ Journey to the Nativity @ 5:30 - 7:30 pm

December 14 ~ Third Sunday of Advent
"Jesus Redeems the Lost" ~ Scripture: Luke 19:10
Pastor Kevin Richardson

December 17 ~ Roots Meal @ 5:45 pm with Caroling @ 6:30 pm

December 21 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent
"Jesus Restores Our Broken Fellowship"
Scripture: Colossians 1:19-23
Pastor Kevin Richardson
Candlelight Communion @ 7 pm

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm
with candle lighting



Scan to listen, or search on Spotify and Apple Podcast!

FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATES

See what's been going on and what's ahead in Roots Family Ministry!

THIS WEEK'S FAMILY THEME:
ADVENT WEEK 2 - PEACE

THIS WEEK'S ISAIAH 26:3-4,
ROOT TEXT: ISAIAH 48:22, JOHN 14:27

DISCIPLE EVERY GENERATION:

**LISTEN TO THIS WEEK'S ADVENT EPISODE ON "THE DIG" PODCAST AND
COMPLETE THE "ADVENT IN ACTION" CHALLENGE!**

LIL' ROOTS



2YO-5TH

Wednesday Roots Nights

- December 17th - Family-In-Service Night: Caroling
 - Lil' Roots Christmas Party starts at 5:45pm in the Kid's Wing! Dinner is provided! Roots Kids will be dismissed to the FLC at 6:30pm for Caroling

Grow Groups

- K-1: December 14th
- 2-3: December 21st

YOUTH ROOTS



6TH-12TH

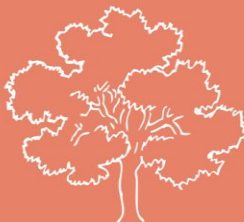
Wednesday Roots Nights - Kingdom Character (guys) + More Than Pearls (girls)

- December 17th - Family-In-Service Night: Caroling
 - Youth Roots Christmas Party is hitting the road!
 - Meet at the church at 5:45pm to load up in the Holzhauer RV! Youth Roots will make some caroling stops on their way to view the Christmas lights at Herr's Chips.

Winter Retreat RSVP's DUE 12/17!

- Jr. High Black Rock Retreat - \$50
- Sr. High Ski Retreat - price dependent on rental needs

OAKS



OLDER ADULTS

OAKS Christmas Luncheon

- Monday, December 8th, 12-2pm, Gathering Area
 - A soup and salad lunch will be catered by Women's Ministry. The meal is \$10/person.
 - Two Christmas Service Projects will be completed during this event. See the sign-up sheet to help supply materials.

OAKS Winter Movie Showing

- Monday, January 12th, 1-3pm, Sanctuary
 - Ice Cream Social to follow
- Movie Announcement and Sign-ups coming soon!

KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE AND WHY IT MATTERS.

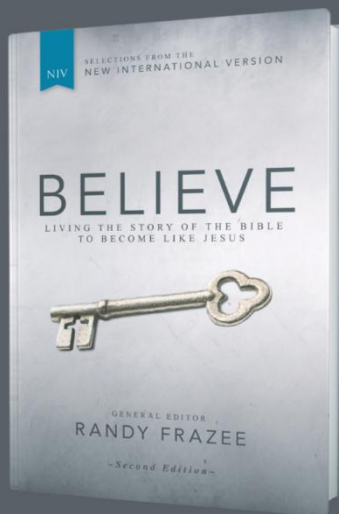
BELIEVE teaches the big ideas of systematic theology without the four years in seminary! These ideas have been around a long time, and a surprising number of people really want to learn them, but the notion of digging them out of the Bible and trying to understand them can be daunting.

BELIEVE boils it all down to the top 30 ideas in the Bible, using only text from the Bible to teach the 10 key beliefs, 10 key practices and 10 key virtues of the Christian faith.



Each weeks sermon will be focused on one of the 30 ideas. You won't want to miss a week of church in 2026!

COMING JANUARY 4th, 2026



Sermon Notes

TODAY IS:

SERMON TITLE:

Notes:

Key verses:

Worship Songs:

Prayers:

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO

Our Nursery is available and staffed with caring adults for children ages 0-4 during the service.

Announcements for the bulletin are due **by 12 Noon on Wednesdays**. They may be e-mailed to church@mgcb.org. *Announcements may be edited for length.*

Items for projection and sound on Sunday's are needed by 12 Noon Wednesday. This will ensure enough time for copyright analysis if needed.

To place flowers in the church on Sunday for anniversaries, birthdays, or other celebrations, please contact the church office.

All building use requests/event scheduling should be done through the church office between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm, or email church@mgcb.org.

Looking for **Youth Roots events**? Text your first and last name and "youth events" to 844.564.6146.

To receive e-communications contact the church office. If for some reason, you are **currently subscribed and not receiving them**, contact Ed at edh@mgcb.org.

Solanco Food Bank Needs: cans of tomato/chicken noodle/seafood chowder soups, Pop Tarts, cans of pineapple, SPAM and other canned meats, peanut butter, microwave popcorn, applesauce (jars), fruit cups, baby wipes, diapers (size 3-6), Pull-Up (all sizes). Items may be placed in the Mealbarrow in the Gathering Area.

Reverse Advent Calendar for Solanco Food Bank is available for those that would like to participate. Drop-off times are listed on the bottom.

Activities for the Week of December 7, 2025

Mon:	6:00 am	Renovare Bible Study – ZOOM
	12:00 pm	OAKS Christmas – Gathering Area
	6:00 pm	COM - Gathering Area
	6:30 pm	Journey to the Nativity – rm 14
Tues:	9:15 am	D-Group – rm 209
	10:00 am	Painting Group – kitchen
	6:00 pm	Pickleball – FLC
	7:00 pm	Care Group – rm 14
Wed:	1:45 pm	Bible Adventure
	6:30 pm	Adult Bible Study – rm 14
	6:30 pm	Community AA Meeting – rm 207
	6:30 pm	Praise Team - Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir – rm 14
Thurs:	9:00 am	Sisters in Christ Bible Study – rm 14
	6:30 pm	Cornhole League - FLC
Fri:	10:00 am	Mom’s Ministry
Sat:	5:00 pm	Journey to the Nativity

Next Sunday, December 14, 2025

2 A Meal Offering

Advent Offering

8:15 am Traditional Worship

“Why Christmas?” Sermon Series

“Jesus Redeems the Lost”

Scripture: Luke 19:10

Kevin Richardson

9:30 am Sunday School for ALL ages - Sanctuary

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

10:30 am Grow Groups grades K-1

November 30, 2025 – Financial Report

General Offering	\$10,558.00	In Person Attendance	172
Building Maintenance Fund	\$99.00	Sunday School	
Strategic Vision	\$50.00	Online Attendees	23
Strategic Vision Fund (Balance Due): \$39,000.00			

Next Sunday we will collect the Advent Offering. This offering supports the following: Church of the Brethren Core Ministries (30%), Alpha & Omega Church (10%), Brethren Village Good Samaritan Fund (10%), Brethren Housing Association (25%) and COBYS Family Services (25%). Prayerfully consider your gift to these organizations.

OUR MISSION

Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren exists to be a united people fully following Jesus' teaching through knowing, living, and sharing Christ's love.

OUR VISION

Since 1897, Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren has been serving the Lord Jesus Christ through the faithful proclamation of the Gospel, engaging worship, community service, and growing fully devoted followers of Christ. By living out our Brethren heritage and New Testament beliefs, we seek to reach the lost, serve the least, and transform the community for the glory of God.

CORE VALUES



Unconditional Love



Evangelism & Missions



Christ-Centered Worship



Every Generation Ministry



Community Engagement & Service



Intentional Spiritual Growth



Faithful Stewardship & Radical Generosity



Brethren Distinctives & Practice



Scan the QR code for more information on our Core Values.

ADDITIONAL STAFF

Rhonda Heidinger
Administrative Assistant
email: Rhonda@mgcb.org

Aliza Kraynak
Children's Outreach Administrator
email: Aliza@mgcb.org

Ed Heidinger II
Technology Coordinator
email: EdH@mgcb.org

Mary Etta Reinhart, Volunteer
Pastor of Connections
email: MaryEttaR@mgcb.org

Justine Kreider
Treasurer
email: Treasurer@mgcb.org

Rita Carter, Volunteer
Pastor of Visitation
email: RitaC@mgcb.org

Sharon Davis
Custodian
Building Rental Coordinator
email: SharonD@mgcb.org

Lori Holzhauer, Volunteer
Music Coordinator

Email: Church@mgcb.org