

# Hempfield Church of the Brethren



December 20, 2009  
10:15 AM



- † **Welcome to HCOB!** If there is anything that we can do to make your visit here more comfortable or you have any questions please feel free to approach any member of our church family or the greeters at the welcome table in the lobby.
- † **Large print hymnals and bulletins** are available on the narthex table. Please return the hymnals to the narthex table following the service.
- † **Difficulty hearing the service?** Small earpieces are available to allow you to control the volume. Stop by the sound booth before the service to try one out!
- † **We have a special gift to give you** after the service. If somehow we miss you, please tell one of the ushers, and we will make sure you receive a gift.
- † **Sunday School** for all ages is held at 9:00 AM. We offer a variety of small group classes for adults and age-appropriate classes for every child. **Nursery care** for children ages 0-3 years is provided today by Gerry Shuman & Doris Wright in the nursery room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- † **We offer two Sunday AM worship services: a traditional service at 8:00** and a “blended” service at **10:15** with a mix of contemporary and traditional elements.
- † **Child Care during the 10:15 service** includes **nursery care** (ages 0-3 years) during the entire service and **children’s church** (ages 3 years-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) during the portion of the service which includes the pastor’s message. Nursery care is provided today in the nursery room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Children’s Church is being taught by Tammy Harnish.
- † **Please sign the guest register** when it passes by you (your name, address & phone number, please) so that we can let you know how much we appreciate your visit with us today.

## ☆Contact Us☆

1186 Stevens Street, Manheim, PA 17545  
(1 mile west of East Petersburg)

Telephone: 898-0181      Fax: 898-0403  
E-mail: [office@hempfieldcob.org](mailto:office@hempfieldcob.org)  
Website: [www.hempfieldcob.org](http://www.hempfieldcob.org)



☆This Week: December 20-27☆

<b>MONDAY</b>	7:00 P.M.	Jr. High Cell Group
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M.	Ladies' Prayer Breakfast Sanctuary Choir
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Church Office Closed	
	6:30 P.M.	"Family" Christmas Eve Service
	9:00 P.M.	"Traditional" Christmas Eve Service
<b>FRIDAY</b>	CHRISTMAS DAY Church Office Closed	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 A.M.	Traditional Service
	9:00 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:15 A.M.	Blended Worship Service Pastor Kent Rice preaching "Escape Into Egypt" Matthew 2:13-18

☆Future Dates to Keep in Mind☆

- December 31 & January 1**—Church Office Closed
- January 3**—2-Cent-A-Meal Offering
- January 20**—Herald Deadline
- February 14**—Remembrance Sunday

**IT'S TIME TO WORK ON THE 2010 HCOB DIRECTORY!** If you have any changes or additions you would like to be included in the 2010 directory, please get them to Amy Smith in the church office by Monday, December 28. You can submit changes by e-mail to [office@hempsfieldcob.org](mailto:office@hempsfieldcob.org), leave a note in Amy's box in the outer office, or call the office at 898-0181.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** on December 24th & 25th as well as December 31st and January 1st. As a result, the **BULLETIN DEADLINES** for December 27th and January 3rd will be moved up to Tuesday, December 22nd and Tuesday, December 29th respectively. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**STARTING IN JANUARY, ALL RECORDING** of our worship services will be done on CDs. Cassettes will no longer be available. You may want to ask someone to put a CD player on your Christmas list if you don't have one.

--Your Audio Team

**STEWARD OF THE MONTH SIGNUP SHEET** for 2010 is on the bulletin board in the outer office. If you would be willing to take a turn opening and closing the church on Sunday for one month, please sign up for this important ministry.

**SERVICE CANCELLATION POLICY:** In the event of inclement weather, service cancellation information will be available after 6:00 AM on our church website at [www.hempsfieldcob.org](http://www.hempsfieldcob.org). You can also listen for information on the radio stations WJTL FM 90.3 and WDAC FM 94.5. In addition, efforts will be made to personally advise early service worship participants and Sunday School teachers.

**THINK OF BRETHERN VILLAGE WHEN THINKING OF CHRISTMAS.** Shop at the Village Gift Shop for toys, jewelry, scarves, cards and many other home and personal accessories. Reasonable prices. Mon-Fri 9:30-4 and Sat 9:30-12:00.

**FOOD BANK NEEDS FOR DECEMBER:** Canned meat, Peaches, Pears, Canned Pasta, Dry Pasta, Corn, Soup, new and used plastic & paper grocery bags and egg cartons. Please put items in the coatroom.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS** for the altar table in the coming year please sign up for a Sunday on the chart in the outer office.

## INTERESTED IN MENTORING A MOTHER FOR BRIDGE OF HOPE?

Sue Groff from Bridge of Hope has asked if our church could get a group together to mentor a mother. If you think you would like to know more about this ministry, plan on joining the Social Service Team on January 19, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the library. Sue Groff will explain more about this ministry and answer any questions we may have. There is no commitment at this time. We are trying to find out if we have enough people interested in this program.



## HCOB Christmas Eve Services

*I bring you good news of great joy that shall be for all the people! Luke 2:10*

**6:30 "Family-Friendly" Service:** Share in the joy of the coming of our Lord in this simple service which focuses on children of all ages. Highlights include the JAM children's choir, lighting the Christ candle,

children's storytime and singing the traditional hymns that have warmed our hearts for years. And if someone hands you a piece of straw when you come in, don't worry--you'll find out what it's for later! Please note that Holy Communion will be offered at the 9:00 service *only* this year. We encourage you to share with your younger family and friends the reasons why baptized members find communion so meaningful and how eager you will be to receive it with them someday! *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

**9:00 Traditional Service:** Feel the beauty of the night that changed history forever in this music-filled worship service. Choir anthems, candle-lighting, hymns, special music and the quiet remembrance of holy communion will bring you closer to the God who so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son. Pastor John will share a brief message to help us prepare our hearts for this Holy Night. *"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*

## Healthy Hints from our Congregational Health Team

**Liquid potpourri can harm your pet.** Filling your house with the smell of pine or peppermint may seem inviting, but if you're partial to heating your scented oil in a simmer pot, know that it can cause serious harm to your cat. These oils are toxic to cats, and even a few licks can result in severe chemical burns in the mouth, fever, difficulty breathing, and tremors (shakes). Dogs aren't quite as sensitive, but it's still wise to scent your home with a non-toxic candle kept safely out of your pet's reach.

## Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?

*"There is a gap between prayer in theory and prayer in practice."*

--Philip Yancey

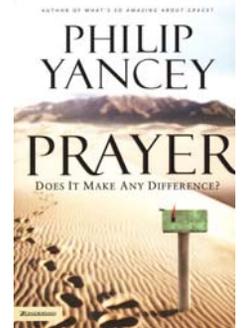


One of the first things we learn to do as Christians is pray. We pray for a relationship with God; for forgiveness of our sins; for protection from evil; for our friends, family, and others; for those who don't know God; for world leaders; for thanksgiving and praise; for direction, wisdom, and knowledge; for God's provision. But we have a problem. It's not totally real for many of us. We don't engage in regular, intentional prayer. We don't fully understand what we're doing. Yet prayer is the single, greatest factor in establishing and maintaining a close personal relationship with God and more fully realizing God's promises to us.

Prayer prepares us for the events of life and keeps us going during difficult times. It changes us individually and transforms us collectively into the Body of Christ fulfilling God's plan. It helps us better understand what keeps us from experiencing God's blessings and his promised new way of living.

**During 2010 our focus at Hempfield COB is "Lord, Teach Us to Pray."** In an effort to have each member of our congregation better understand it and realize its full benefits, prayer will be the focus of our sermons series, our worship experience, and many educational activities.

**During January and February, we will be examining Philip Yancey's book, "Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?"** in a six-week workshop, using a study guide and DVD that accompany the book. Galen Brumbaugh will hold sessions **Tuesday mornings from 10:30-12:00 noon starting on January 5<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor Kent will conduct sessions **Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 starting on January 7<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor John will conduct sessions on **Saturday mornings from 8:30-10:00 starting on January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor Geoff and other small group leaders will use their small group sessions to facilitate this study. The Pastors are asking each of you to make this six-week commitment on behalf of your improved spiritual well-being and the great work that God has in mind for Hempfield. More specific information will follow.



*"More than anything else in life, I want to know God... I have come to see prayer as a privilege, not a duty... Prayer, and only prayer, restores my vision to one that more resembles God's... Prayer is the art of seeing reality from God's point-of-view." – Philip Yancey*

# Growing Projects



How can we begin to thank our four farmers, Jim Kettering, Jim Musser, Lowell Landis, and Dick Harnish for their participation in this

fabulous ministry! This year they have devoted approximately 13 acres of crops (corn and soybeans) to go toward this ministry. Because of their dedication and generosity, plus a few additional gifts, the Hempfield Church will send almost \$10,000 to the Foods Resource Bank to be directed to a Church of the Brethren ministry project in the Dominican Republic.

This ministry in the Dominican is a powerful life changing experience for Dominican and Haitian families who participate. See below for a more detailed explanation and report on this ministry. What a joy to be a part of this life transforming ministry!!

**Name:** Food Security for the Poor in Eastern and Southern Dominican Republic

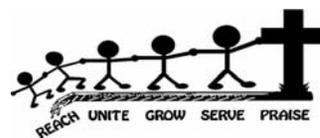
**Goal:** The goal of this project is to reduce malnutrition and increase family incomes of Haitian immigrants and Dominicans of Haitian descent to improve their overall quality of life. The project will work with 770 families in 32 poor rural communities, and will also provide basic follow-up for processes already started in 17 communities. The project aims to:

- Increase and diversify family food production by increasing access to productive land, improving cultivation techniques, and creating a seed bank.
- Increase family incomes with improved marketing of agricultural production and micro-enterprises.
- Improve the quality of education for children and adults by opening pre-schools and adult literacy programs.
- Increase respect for human, economic, civil, social and cultural rights of the participating communities by strengthening their local organizations.

*Continued on next page →*

**Project partners:** SSID is working closely with the Group of Interdenominational Pastors (GPI), an organization of Haitian pastors of various Christian denominations who reside in the DR, and the Church of the Brothers (Iglesia de los Hermanos), which works with poor communities including Haitian-Dominicans in several areas in the country. SSID also has relationships with local and national government agencies including those responsible for access to the lands in question.

**During the first three months of this project:** SSID, GPI and Church of the Brothers first worked to select the new families, present the project to the new communities and families, and to the local representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture. They also visited farmers on their land to provide support for new crops and land management. They conducted workshops and demonstrations to strengthen production techniques and local seed banks, and meetings to shore up local community organizing for collective problem solving. Families also implemented a system called “Convite” in which the community comes together to do the necessary work on a neighbor’s land when that person or family is sick or has some other problem. This practice strengthens solidarity, unity and cooperation. As planned, the project also provided initial training on human relationships and domestic violence.



## HCOB Youth Ministry

Senior High youth are encouraged to attend the **District Winter Retreat** Jan. 22-24 at Camp Swatara! This event is always fun and challenging and will be led by Dave Coryell from Christian Endeavor Mid-Atlantic. Talk to Pastor Kent, Ed Haldeman, or Clint Barger for details!

**Young Adult game night** will be held on Saturday, Jan. 9 at Chiques Church of the Brethren starting at 7:00pm. This is a great chance to meet and re-connect with peers while you play games, snack and enjoy their gym! Cost is \$2, see Pastor Kent with any questions.

☆Today's Worship Service☆  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

PRELUDE                    The Birthday of a King

WELCOME—GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

ANTHEM                    Good News of Great Joy                    Sanctuary Choir

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN                    There's a Song in the Air                    Insert

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE—The Candle of “Hope”

\*WORSHIP IN SONG                    Praise Band  
    Emmanuel                    On Screen  
    One Small Child                    On Screen  
    For Unto Us a Child Is Born                    On Screen

*Children 3 years old through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are invited to Children's Church.*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD  
    Offertory Thought and Prayer  
    Offertory—Unto Us a Child Is Born                    Nicolas Lebeque  
    *(Please sign the attendance book during the offertory)*

SPECIAL MUSIC                    Where Shepherds Lately Knelt                    Men's Quartet

MORNING PRAYER  
    *Please include the following people in your prayers:*  
    John Haldeman, Jo Beth Jarrett & Family, Jody Kettering, Cody Musser, Jim  
    Musser, Mary Jane Myer, Linda Ziegler

SCRIPTURE LESSON                    Luke 2:25-35

MESSAGE                    Simeon: A Song of Hope

\*HYMN                    O Little Town of Bethlehem                    191

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE                    Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying                    J.S. Bach  
    \**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

Organist/Pianist—Otis Kitchen  
Sound Techs—Mike & Donna Denlinger; Video Tech—Derek Witmer  
Sanctuary Choir Director & Praise Band Leader—Barry Carper  
Preacher—Pastor John Layman  
Men's Quartet—Barry Weidman, Barry Earhart, Don Dillman, Barry Carper

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INCREASED GIVING TOWARDS OUR 2009 BUDGETED OUTREACH MINISTRIES.** We are anticipating that because of your generosity we will be able to meet our commitments fully this year. Our **CHRISTMAS LOVE OFFERING** will go towards making up any shortfall still remaining in our budgeted outreach ministries, but we expect to be able to donate the majority of our Christmas offering to Water Street Ministries.

**THANK YOU TO THE DEACONS** for the lovely fruit basket and the friendly visit. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. —Bounce & Betty Bowers, John & Reba Kreider, Maggie Carper, Sally Boudier, Grace Brubaker, Scott & Corinne Nissley, Pearl Miller

**THE MUSSER FAMILY** would like to thank everyone for their continuing prayers, visits, cards and food during our ongoing issues in dealing with Cody's accident, Jim's surgery and our fire. Your physical labor in helping Dustin do the day-to-day chores on the farm was an outpouring of love. Only through God's grace and our extended church family have we been able to deal with the events of the last several weeks. He has certainly carried us through some challenging times. May God bless all of you in your continuing walk with Him. A special thank you to Pastor John for all his visits and prayers and traveling to Philadelphia in support of Sue and Cody during the surgeries.  
—Jim, Sue, Cody & Dustin Musser

# There's a Song in the Air

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CHRISTMAS SONG. 6 6 6 12 12

Josiah G. Holland, 1819-1881

Karl P. Harrington, b. 1861

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
2. There's a tu - mult of joy O'er the won - der - ful birth,  
3. In the light of that star Lie the a - ges im - peared;  
4. We re - joice in the light, And we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer, And a ba - by's low cry!  
For the Vir - gin's sweet Boy Is the Lord of the earth.  
And that song from a - far Has swept o - ver the world.  
That comes down through the night From the heav - en - ly throng.

And the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,  
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,  
Ev - ery hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing  
Ay! we shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring,

For the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!  
For the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!  
In the homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!  
And we greet in His cra - dle our Sav - ior and King! A - MEN.

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## ☆Contact Church Staff☆

*In the event of an emergency or a need for a pastor after office hours, please contact them at home or by cell phone.*

John Layman – Senior Pastor

Home: 892-4972; Cell: 468-9594; E-mail: john@hempfieldcob.org

Kent Rice – Associate for Special Ministries

Home: 560-3523; Cell: 723-6197 E-mail: kent@hempfieldcob.org

Geoff Davis – Associate Pastor

Home: 569-6284; E-mail: geoffdtuba@verizon.net

Jen Statler – Children's Ministry Coordinator

*Jen is working from her home and can be contacted there*

Home: 898-9762; E-mail: jen@hempfieldcob.org

## ☆Contact the Church Office☆

Amy Smith - Administrator

Phone: 898-0181; E-mail: office@hempfieldcob.org; Fax: 898-0403

Website: www.hempfieldcob.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 A.M. to 2:30P.M

*All bulletin announcements and information must be in to the church office by Wednesday noon.*

## ☆HCOB Family Facts☆

**Attendance for December 13, 2009**

Sunday School: 110 Traditional Service: 60 Blended Service: 189

**Giving for December 13, 2009**

General Offering: \$9,892

Building Fund Year-To-Date: \$8,117

Amount needed weekly to meet budget = \$9,383