

Hempfield Church of the Brethren



December 21, 2014
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.
- † **Nursery and child-appropriate worship and activities** are available during the 10:15 worship service.
- † **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.
- † **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.

Get to know us more at
www.hempfieldcob.org

Hempfield COB Vision

Firmly rooted and living deeply in the character of Christ to become a healthier church that powerfully shares Christ with the world.



☆ This Week: December 21-28 ☆

MONDAY	6:30 P.M.	Sr. High Cell Group
WEDNESDAY	6:00 A.M.	Ladies Prayer Breakfast
	6:30 P.M.	Family Christmas Eve Service
	9:00 P.M.	Traditional Christmas Eve Service
WED. – FRI.	Church Office Closed	
SUNDAY	8:00 A.M.	Traditional Service
	9:00 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:15 A.M.	Blended Service
		Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching “When Jesus Runs Into Our Standards” Philemon

☆ Future Dates to Keep in Mind ☆

January 1-2—Church Office Closed

January 2—WORDD Worship

January 11—Ministry Team Commissioning

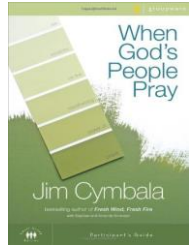
January 18—Service of Remembrance

HCOB Prayer Calendar for Today

- † **Staff:** Pete & Shelley Kontra
- † **Team:** Deacons and Deaconesses
- † **Ministries and Specials:** Nursery & Vacation Bible School
- † **Congregation Quality:** Godly Contentedness (1 Timothy 6:6-8)

The Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study

will be using the 6 session DVD Bible Study by Jim Cymbala, *When God's People Pray*. In this small group Bible study, best-selling author and pastor Jim Cymbala helps you understand, personalize and apply the transforming power of prayer in your life. Go through this study and learn how to pray with newfound confidence! When used together, the Participant Guide and companion DVD provide you with a practical tool that can transform your faith. Prayer can change lives and circumstances like nothing else can.



The Bible Study meets at Ruth Johnson's home in East Petersburg. We meet from 9:00AM to 11:00AM. For January we will meet on the 15th. Starting in February we will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month ending in April. Contact Ruth Johnson (569-2430) or Jamie Bushong (664-4395) by December 21st if you are able to join us and would like to have a participant's guide.



Advent & Christmas@ HCOB



Christmas Love Offering-- This year's Christmas Love Offering will be split between two causes: #1—The Nigerian Church of the Brethren which is suffering intense persecution right now and #2—Friendship Community which needs help to do badly needed repairs on their residential homes where they care for individuals with developmental disabilities. Please use the special envelopes available on the narthex table and put your gift in the offering plate any time during the month of December.

HCOB Christmas Eve Services

6:30 PM—“Family-Friendly” Service

Children of all ages are welcome to attend as we set aside the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season and reflect upon the timeless joy and hope of our Savior's birth.

9:00 PM—“Traditional” Service

Join us as we draw close to God through a beautiful night of choir anthems, candle-lighting, hymns, special music, the quiet remembrance of Holy Communion and a meaningful message from Pastor Pete.





THE DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER 28TH BULLETIN has been moved up to TOMORROW, Monday, December 22 due to the Christmas Holiday. Please send any announcements or service information for the December 28th bulletin to the church office by TOMORROW. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24-26 FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

2015 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available. Please pick yours up from Gladys Ulmer in the narthex after church.

SR. HIGH CELL GROUP CHRISTMAS COOKIE GATHERING--This Monday, 12/22, at the Hinton's house at 1660 Stevens Street, East Petersburg. Bake some cookies, invite a friend, and join us for this time of eating and sharing. High school and college age youth are all welcome!

*Service of Remembrance 2015
January 18—10:15 AM*

On Sunday morning, January 18, we will be holding **one service at 10:15 AM** to remember our loved ones who have died in 2014. We will **not be having our normal 8:00 AM service** on that day.

If you would like to remember a loved one who has died in the past year, please pick up the Name & Photo Submission Form from the narthex table and complete it. Names and pictures will be displayed on the projection screen during the service. If you do not wish to submit a picture, your loved one's name will be displayed on the screen when his or her name is read. **All forms and pictures must be submitted to the church office by Sunday, January 4th.** We also invite you or a member of your family to come forward during the service to light a candle in memory of your loved one. If no one from your family can be present or you would prefer not to come forward, someone else will light the candle for you. You will also receive the candle and a white carnation as a gift from the church at the end of the service. Thank you in advance for your help as we prepare for this special service.

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.hempfieldcob.org. If you do not have internet access, 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 children's Sunday School class teachers if possible.

STEWARD OF THE MONTH SIGNUP SHEET for 2015 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.

FOOD BANK NEEDS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER—canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned cranberry sauce, canned yams or sweet potatoes, jars of gravy, boxed stuffing, instant mashed potatoes flakes, canned pumpkin, boxed macaroni & cheese, boxed jello. Please continue to donate both paper and plastic grocery bags. **Please note egg cartons are no longer needed.**

SAFE CHURCH PROGRAM—Hempfield COB is now part of Samaritan Counseling's Safe Church Program for 2015! Our Safe Church Team will be attending seminars throughout this coming year so that our church is current on new changes in Child Protection laws that will be implemented on January 1, 2015. Parts of the new law that we will be learning about and implementing in our new Child Protection Policy include mandated reporting of suspected child abuse by volunteers, and screening and obtaining specific background checks every 36 months for our volunteers. Our Team will keep the congregation posted in the next months as we all learn how to better protect our precious children! Team members include Pastors Pete Kontra and Doug Hinton, Karen Rice, Galen Brumbaugh, Deb Bendit, Sue Brubaker, Ray and Jayne Hutchison, and Donna Reed. Please pray for Hempfield's Safe Church Team members!

HCOB Youth News

- ★ **Monday, Dec. 22, 6:30 PM**—Sr. High Cell Group Cookie Exchange, @ the Hinton's home
- ★ **Thursdays, 6:30 PM**—TNT Youth Ministries in gym
- ★ **Jan 16-18**—Sr. High District Retreat @ Camp Swatara

☆Today's Worship Service☆

GATHERING PRELUDES

Carols of the Season

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP PRELUDE

Mary Had a Boy Child (Hairston)

Donna Reed on marimba

LIGHTING THE 4TH ADVENT CANDLE

Ephesians 1:3-10

Zurin Family

*PRAISE SONGS

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Joy to the World/Unspeakable Joy

Praise Band

CHILDREN'S STORY

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory Thought

Offertory—Ave Maria (Shubert)

Donna Reed on marimba

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Christ is Born

MORNING PRAYER

Please include the following people in your prayers:

Sylvia Heffley, Leon Koser, June Lantz, Carl Lehman, Deb & Doug Nauman,
Robin O'Boyle & Family, Bill Sayers, Jason Smith, Alex Troxell, Abby Wright,
Jean Zurin

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

MESSAGE

His First Birthday Party

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 210

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Handel

Pianist—June Lykens Lantz; Preacher—Pastor Pete Kontra

Sound Techs—Mitchell Barnes & Rich Bushong

Video Tech—Dave Bendit; Sanctuary Choir Director—Laura Meiser

Praise Band Director—Shelley Kontra; Worship Leader—Del Kautz

THANK YOU TO THE DEACONS for the lovely fruit basket and to our loving congregation for all the encouraging cards. What a blessing! -- Corinne Nissley, Gerry Zellers, Maggie Carper, Bill & Dorothy Walters, Dudley & Deanna Myers, Gerry Shuman, Jeanette Martin, Torie Hostetter, Ralph Moyer, Hiram Royer, Frank & June Lantz, Pauline Hess

THANK YOU TO ALL THE CONGREGATION for their generosity in providing Boxes of Blessings for 4 needy families from our community. We received \$570 in gift cards plus food donations and the ladies sewing group provided comforters for each family as well.

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

☆ Contact the Church Office ☆

Amy Smith - *Administrator*

Phone: 898-0181; E-mail: office@hempfieldcob.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

☆ Contact Church Staff ☆

Our staff members are here to help when you need them. Please feel free to contact them if you have a need.

Pete Kontra – *Senior Pastor*

Cell: 224-1917; E-mail: pete@hempfieldcob.org
Scheduled Day Off: Friday

Kent Rice – *Pastor of Outreach & Mission*

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

Doug Hinton – *Pastor of Youth & Discipleship*

Cell: 717-951-5290; E-mail: doug@hempfieldcob.org

Geoff Davis – *Associate Pastor*

Home: 569-6284; E-mail: gdavis6320@comcast.net

Karen Rice – *Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Cell: 413-1137; E-mail: karen@hempfieldcob.org

Laura Meiser – *Music Director*

Cell: 689-0465; E-mail: laura@hempfieldcob.org

☆ Bulletin Deadline ☆

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

☆ HCOB Family Facts ☆

Attendance for December 14, 2014

Traditional Service: 46

Blended Service: 235

Giving for December 14, 2014

General Offering: \$12,683

Building Fund Year-To-Date: \$2,150

Amount needed weekly to meet budget = \$10,201

2-Cent-A-Meal Offering = \$1,214.61