

God's Pledge to You for 2013

Pastor Pete Kontra

"God thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans He took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in Him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth."

Ephesians 1:9-10 (The Message)

A new year is upon us! I pray that you are blessed in 2013, in that you encounter God's grace and love in Christ in new and transforming ways, and because of that you live it out in all you do!

Think about it:

You know all you need to know already for 2013 to be a success:

- You don't know what's to come, but in Christ you already know what you have—forgiveness, wisdom, power, all the fruit of the Spirit.
- You don't know where you'll be at the end of 2013, but in Christ you already know where you are with God—redeemed and reconciled and in His care.
- You don't know all the things you'll do, but in Christ you already know what you are—a child of God made alive in Christ to live for His glory.

I hope you take that with you all throughout this year and always. And as we step into 2013 together as Hempfield Church of the Brethren, we are going to begin praying and exploring together what God wants us to do with all this He has given to us.

"Powerfully Sharing Christ with the World!"

That is the final word in our vision statement. We have the great power of Christ to share Christ with every corner of the world around us. Join with us as we embrace the awesome call God has placed upon us and see what He will do in 2013!

God bless you!

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Grains of Rice

Pastor Kent Rice

I'm Lookiting!

"As Thou wilt, what Thou wilt, when thou Wilt." – Thomas à Kempis

There was a Peanuts cartoon strip back in the day in which Lucy was engaged in various playground activities and she kept calling out, "Lookit, Charlie Brown—lookit!" He was doing his best to ignore her but finally exploded and screamed, **"I'M LOOKITING!"**

It seems that we act like Lucy sometimes where God is concerned. During those times in which we perceive that we're being "good," we say, "Lookit, lookit!" Maybe it's during Sunday morning or while we're helping someone during the week—we want God the Parent to acknowledge what we're doing and approve.

Then there are the times during which we'd prefer *no one* was "lookiting." And it's not just while we're sinning, it's just...when we're being ourselves. It's when our human nature has assumed control, like the dominant personality that comes to the surface from within someone who suffers from dissociative identity disorder.

Like the priests of Baal, we seem under the impression that God is paying attention sometimes and at other times is off roaming the cosmos. Elijah had a few things to say about that!

Our God is *always* lookiting. He loves when we present ourselves before him on Sunday morning, but how do you think He feels when we put up the "No Vacancy" sign the rest of the week? All God asks is that we open ourselves and connect with him. Jeremiah 29:13 says, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." If you exercised one day a week and took six days off, well...the results would be marginal at best. In creation, God did the exact opposite of that for us. Now all He wants is to take joy in His children.

God will ask a lot of us this year. It's nothing more than we can handle unless we try to do it all by ourselves. In Him we find all the power we will need...and more.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. – John 1:14

Messages in January

January 6



Powerfully—Acts 1:6-8

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

Christ's power is a different kind of power than the world. It is saving, infinite, life-giving, transforming. Jesus said all authority in heaven and on earth is given to Him, and now He sends us out in His power to build His kingdom. Too much? Crazy? Impossible? Jesus said, "With man it is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

January 13



Powerfully Sharing—Philemon 1:4-6

Pastor Kent Rice Preaching

Paul prays that his friend be active in sharing his faith so that he will have a "full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ." Like fresh fruit that we put in our refrigerator's "crisper" drawer, the fruit of God's goodness and love through Christ must soon be taken out and shared or it will...not be so crisp after a while. So let's open the drawer and see what's in there!

January 20

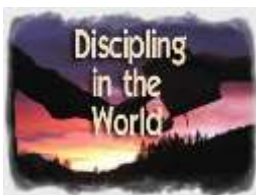


Powerfully Sharing Christ—Acts 3:1-10

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

You can have all power. You can be the most sharing person in the world. But WHAT are you sharing? It's not about money, status, recognition, or as Paul says, any amazing things you do—even moving mountains. It must be done in love, which is Christ. It is all about powerfully sharing Christ. That is all we have to share. He will do the rest.

January 27



Discipling in the World—John 17:6-19

Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching

The final concept in our introduction to our 2013 preaching theme is *Powerfully Sharing Christ... with the World*. In this powerful prayer, Jesus prays for his disciples and what they will face as they share the Good News with and in the world. We discover some powerful insights in this prayer – that Jesus' disciples are not of the world and the world has hated them because of Him because the world is the place where Satan has power and where sin, which alienates people from God, reigns. But Jesus Christ has defeated Satan, sin and death through his crucifixion and resurrection, and God is using the followers of Jesus Christ to take this Good News into all the world. And those followers are you and me.

January Ministry Schedules

January 6
January 13
January 20
January 27

NURSERY—SS

Bob & Mary Ellen McEvoy
Sue Hostetter
Julie Myer
Jody Kettering

NURSERY—WORSHIP

Donna Schaidle, Betty Lull, Laura Myer, Morgan Rice
Marg Zurin, Emmy & Dave Schott, Jaynelle Troxell
Sherry, Katie & Lauren Miller, Kensey Rice
Betty Cox, Lydia & Sarah Fisher, Hilary Hoffman



January 6
January 13
January 20
January 27

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

Dick Caldwell
Matt Markey
No 8:00 Service
Rich & Jamie Bushong

SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

Blaine Garber & Jaynelle Troxell
Rich Bushong & Jaynelle Troxell
Rich & Jamie Bushong
Matt Markey & Rich Bushong

January 6
January 13
January 20
January 27

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Kent Rice
Pete Cope
No 8:00 Service
Randy Ziegler

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



January 6
January 13
January 20
January 27

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

TBA
TBA
Sanctuary Choir
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Doug Howard
Alex Troxell
Derek Witmer
Dave Bendit

January 6
January 13
January 20
January 27

DEACON GREETERS

Doris Wright
Janet Moore
Dave Fisher
Lois Killian

JNH GREETERS

Jim & Sue Musser
Delbert & Mary Ann Kautz
Peggy Martin
Richard & Carolyn Gingrich

OFFERING TABULATORS

Jim Stauffer, Dwayne Hostetter, Sue Hostetter

SUNDAY SCHOOL SEC.

Sylvia Heffley

HCOB Adult Sunday School

† **THE CHRISTIAN PATHFINDERS** class meets in the room across from the nursery, just outside the side door to the sanctuary. We study the International lesson. We have three or four regular teachers who each teach about one Sunday a month. We have several socials a year with the majority of our class participating. Our offerings are used for special needs within our congregation or community. The contact person is Ruth Johnson.

January 6	Proclaiming Christ	Teacher: Denny Bushong
January 13	Jesus' Humility and Exaltation	Teacher: Butch Nachbar
January 20	Gaining in Jesus Christ	Teacher: Jim Kettering
January 27	Stand Firm	Teacher: Bob Heffley

† **THE HOME BUILDERS** class meets in the library. We study the International Lesson each quarter. Millie Hoffman is the contact person.

January 6	Proclaiming Christ	Teacher: James Kettering
January 13	Jesus' Humility and Exaltation	Teacher: Dennis Bushong
January 20	Gaining in Jesus Christ	Teacher: Todd Basom
January 27	Stand Firm	Teacher: Ray Hutchison

† **THE SEEKERS** class is currently meeting upstairs. We are studying in the New Testament book of Galatians and are looking at some of issues of legalism in the young church to which Paul was writing. We are seeing that not much has changed over the years and that we continue to struggle with following the words of the Lord Jesus Christ. We meet upstairs in the educational wing. Rich Bushong is the contact person.

January 6	Galatians 4:19-31	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
January 13	Galatians 5:1-12	Teacher: Rich Bushong
January 20	Galatians 5:13-26	Teacher: Ray O'Boyle
January 27	Galatians 6:1-10	Teacher: Todd Basom

† **CONVERSATIONS**— Conversations Class will be examining the scriptures of each of the January sermons as we begin learning about “Powerfully Sharing Christ with the World.” Each week, we’ll be looking at the specific biblical text selected by each pastor and see what it has to say to us. Conversations meets in Chapel Hall and is facilitated by Geoff Davis.

Youth News

Winter Retreat 2013
Feb 15-18
Montrose Bible Conference, Montrose, PA
“The Path of Life”

You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. - Psalm 16:11

אֹרַח ('ôrach)



way, path

- a. path, road
- b. the path, way, passing of life (fig.)
- c. way of living (fig.)
- d. traveller, wayfarer

HCOB Family News

VERY SUCCESSFUL COOKIE SALE at Brethren Village on December 7. A special thank you to all our record-setting cookie bakers and shoppers who made this possible. \$1,707.00 was raised to help the Auxiliary with its projects!

MINISTRY TEAM & DEACONS COMMISSIONING— If you are a member of the church ministry teams (including deacons) for 2013, please make sure you are present at the 10:15 AM service on January 6th. We want to pray for you and your ministry as we commission our church leadership for the upcoming year.

Service of Remembrance 2013

January 20—10:15 AM



On Sunday morning, January 20, we will be holding **one service at 10:15 AM** during which we remember and honor our loved ones who have died in 2012. We will **not be having our normal 8:00 AM service** on that day.

Remembrance

SERVICE OF If you would like to remember a loved one who has died in the past year, please complete the Name & Photo Submission Form that is available on the next page of this newsletter. 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 6th.**

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.

Remembrance Sunday
January 20, 2013
Name & Photo Submission Form

*Please complete the information below to submit a name for the Remembrance Sunday and return this form to the church office by **Sunday, January 6th**. Thank you for participating in our Service of Remembrance and helping us prepare a very special service.*

Your name: _____ **Your phone number:** _____

Name of person you want to remember: _____
(Please print name as you want it to appear on the screen)

Your relationship to this person: (i.e. mother/friend etc.) _____

Will you be present at the service to receive the carnation and the candle?

- Yes
- No, but someone else will pick up the carnation and candle in my place
- No, the church may do as they wish with the carnation and candle

Who wishes to light the candle during the service?

- You
- Another relation (please write in relation's name) _____
- I would like a church representative to light the candle

Would you like to submit a photo of your loved one? (The photo will be displayed during the service.)

- Yes *(please observe the requirements below and complete the remainder of the form)*
- No *(please ignore the remainder of the form)*

Requirements for photos:

- The individual's face should be clearly away from other objects
- The individual's face should be at least one inch in diameter
- Printed pictures: The photo should be good quality (an actual photo printed on photo paper-**not** printed on a home computer), well-lit, color photo (not black and white)
- Digital pictures: at least 2000 x 1500 pixels

Printed Photo

- Please enclose photo in an envelope with your name and the name of the person you wish to be remembered written on it.
- Do you want the office to return your photo? Yes No
(If "yes" please include a self-addressed envelope)

Digital Photo

- The photo is attached on a CD or other digital media
- I will e-mail the photo to office@hempfieldcob.org

*If you have questions, please contact Amy Smith at the church office at 898-0181 or office@hempfieldcob.org.
May the peace of God fill your heart as you remember the life of your loved one.*

Praying Attention



Prayer 2013 – Don't face the Cliff without it

As I'm writing this, our country is facing the fiscal cliff as we brace ourselves for what the future holds while being held in the grip of the unknown. In a book I'm reading, there's a story about a missionary who took a small plane bound for a remote jungle village. The plane was designed to hold four people and very limited luggage, but the pilot didn't seem to understand that fact and crammed the luggage compartment until it began to intrude upon the passenger space. In the back seat, built for two, he put three big men and a woman sat in the front with him so there were 5 passengers (too many passengers, way too much luggage). To top it all off, the runway sat in a bowl-like valley, with mountains on all sides of it.

As the Cessna started down the strip, it seemed the pilot couldn't get it off the ground. As they raced toward the mountain, the pilot broke out in a cold sweat. Under his breath the missionary prayed. "God if this plane doesn't go up you don't go up either" which meant he knew God was with him, so he could relax. As it turned out, without even a foot to spare, the plane became airborne, then banked around sharply to avoid the mountain. They were safe – for the moment at least.

It had been raining at the crude village airstrip when they arrived and the runway was very muddy. Nevertheless the pilot decided to attempt a landing. Instead of moving straight ahead after the tires had hit the runway, the plane drifted to the left and they were moving down the muddy runway sideways. The pilot was powerless to gain control of the aircraft or to apply the brakes to slow its forward motion. It soon became apparent that they needed a miracle, for the runway ended at the edge of a two-hundred foot cliff. The miracle came just in time with only a small piece of real estate between them and eternity.

This is our God, able to intervene as we careen toward a cliff of any kind, be it physical, emotional, financial, etc. We may not feel secure in the decisions our government makes in regards to the fiscal cliff, but we can always, always know this....**NOTHING** is impossible with our God when we ask Him for a safe landing.
1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray continually

Letter from J.C. Wine

Dear Loved Ones at Hempfield Church of the Brethren,

Your cards and prayers this past year have meant so much to me, especially during the time of my sister Ruby's death. I appreciated the delicious food box sent by the deacon board and will share it with family at Christmas. However, I ate the S. Clyde Weavers cheese all by myself—and I thought of you all "back home." I do miss everyone there and wish I could be of service as you plan your ministry for today and in the future. I wish I could be there to worship with you and to hear the new pastor. I enjoy the worship services of the North Manchester Church of the Brethren very much.

Blessings on you,
J.C. Wine

HCOB Calendar

Keep up with what's happening at Hempfield COB by checking out our online calendar.

Please go to

<http://www.hempfieldcob.org/whatsup.html>

for a full calendar of events

**Toon of
The Month**



**Toon of
The Month**

Hempfield Church of the Brethren
P.O. Box 246
East Petersburg, PA 17520

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

JANUARY