

MARVEL: Mission, Action, Reaction, ReVELation

Mark 4:35-41

Pastor Pete Kontra

"Let us go across to the other side."

This is the first account in Mark after Jesus officially appoints His twelve disciples that they are told to go into the mission field with Jesus, and where they go is about as intense as you could possibly get.

Each and every day I am made aware that **God's work in our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ is a MARVEL: it involves Mission, it involves Action, there is then our Reaction to all that is happening, and finally we are given ReVELation.**

First, Jesus is clear about the disciples' **MISSION**: *"Let us go across to the other side."*

What is on the other side? For Jesus and His disciples it was the Gerasenes, the Gentiles, an unclean land for a Jew. Specifically and directly, Jesus and His disciples were confronted by the demoniac who lived in the tombs. Jesus made it clear to the disciples in a hurry that many of whom they would minister to were those people who were considered to be outcasts, the sick, the sinners, those who were on "the other side". God has called us to go across to the other side. What is on the other side for us? No matter who it is, people need to know they are loved.

This takes **ACTION**: *"And leaving the crowd behind, they took Jesus with them in the boat, just as He was."*

Jesus called them to go and they went. They got into their boat and pushed away from shore, leaving the crowd behind. Our first response to God's mission He has set before us must be to go. God calls us to action. And as we sail to the other side we must remember a very important component of the trip: Jesus. *"The disciples took Jesus with them in the boat."* We must be sure to take Him with us. This is His mission, passed on to us to fulfill within our community. Jesus must be the leader. Because, the unexpected occurred: *"A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped."* As we sail on together with Jesus Christ, storms will arise—conflicts, setbacks, challenges, you name it. When we are in the boat with Jesus, moving across the waters, the boat is going to rock! That is a simple fact of life, and it is a very clear fact of ministry.

Which leads to the third step in God's work: **REACTION**. *"But Jesus was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him up and said to Him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?'"* How do we react when the storms arise? Turn the ship around and head back for home?—"This transition stuff, this change is too much, it's too hard. We need to get back to how we used to do things." Do we lose faith in God's leading?—"Lord, You are leading us into waters that are too deep for us—we can't do all this!" Do we try to take control of the boat ourselves to keep it from sinking?—"Alright, you know what? I don't like the way this feels—this boat is rocking a little too much for my comfort level. Give me that steering wheel, I know where calmer waters are." Do we hunker down in the bottom of the boat in fear?—"Wow, this is scary stuff we are doing! I'm just going to lay low in all of this and let everyone else deal with it until things calm down a bit."

OR, do we completely trust and believe in God's power to sustain, lead, and direct us to the other side? And when we do put our faith in Him completely, He will reveal Himself to us in ways we could never have imagined. He will give to us **REVELATION**. Jesus calmed the storm. *"And the disciples were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?'"* The steps we take to reach the other side, wherever that may be along our journey with Jesus, are faith-building steps. God is good, and will continue to reveal Himself to us in new ways.

One last thought: The other side was not the final destination, but an important moment in the disciples' growth. We know that the story continued after they arrived on the other side.

May it be so for us in Jesus Christ. God bless you. -Pete

Grains of Rice

Pastor Kent Rice

Conflict

“Conflict is people caring about things differently.” – Geoff Davis

Sometimes I receive good advice that I never actually use or even try to use, like, “When soldering, make sure to...” or advice on how to perfectly fold a fitted sheet. I hope to never have to attempt to solder again, and I have decided that it is impossible for me to fold a fitted sheet, so any advice on the matter is useless.

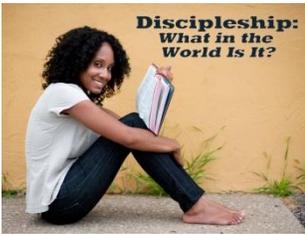
Not so with something Pastor Geoff told me. “Conflict is people caring about things differently.” I think I use that every day. When situations arise and folks are bothered by someone else’s response, I think, “They just care differently about that issue.” Often it’s not a question of right or wrong, it’s a question of the things that are extremely important to one person and not important to another. Some people gifted with evangelism, for example, will not focus as much on the feelings of the people around them because they are intently focused on the unsaved. That doesn’t mean they don’t love everybody. And some people who are gifted in caring for others will take care of people who know Christ and not stop to share the Gospel with someone who doesn’t. That doesn’t mean they’re not concerned with people’s eternal destination.

I’m as guilty as anyone—making people feel unheard or unimportant because I don’t care as much about something as they do. In church, work, or relationships at home there is almost always conflict of some sort. Next time you’re in the midst of conflict, think of Geoff’s observation and I’ll bet you do a better job not taking whatever it is personally. Ultimately it’s a good thing that we care differently about things! But that also means that we can’t have things the way we want them all the time.

For those of you who took the time to read this, thanks! For those who didn’t, I understand that you cared differently about reading it and that’s ok! Whatever else you’re doing, be blessed and remember that:
In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. – Romans 8:28

Messages in August

August 4



Discipleship: What in This World Is It?

Colossians 1:1-12—Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

What do you know? How do you live? What are you growing into? Where are you going? Jesus gives us the clear vision for us all: Follow in His Way and you will find out.

August 11



We Learn Because We Love—*John 14:23-26*

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

We are to teach what Jesus commanded, but how can we teach if we do not know? And how are we to know unless we learn? And how can we learn unless someone is willing to teach? We learn Jesus' teaching because we love Jesus. Because we love Jesus we teach others His Way.

August 18



Better Left Unsaid—*Ephesians 4:29*

Pastor Kent Rice Preaching

Be careful what you wish for! Today's scripture is straightforward and easy to understand...but, for some reason, difficult to do.

August 25



What Do *You* Believe?—*John 14:1-14*

Pastor Geoff Davis

The disciples spent three years following and learning directly from Jesus. They heard; watched; were confused, amazed, and overwhelmed by what he said and did as he prepared them to go into all the world and make disciples. In this account from John, we see Jesus trying to comfort them by encouraging them to do one thing – *believe* in him. That single act of believing will enable them to “do the works I have been doing and they will do even greater things than these...” What, exactly, is it that *you* believe about Jesus Christ?

August Ministry Schedules

August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

NURSERY—SS

Steph Moyer
Bob & Mary Ellen McEvoy
Butch Nachbar
Sarah Fisher

NURSERY—WORSHIP

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



August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

Dick Caldwell
Rich & Jamie Bushong
Dave Schott
Matt Markey

SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

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



August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Kent Rice
Dennis Hughes
Ray O'Boyle
Tom Fritz

SPECIAL MUSIC



August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

Sarah Barger
TBA
TBA
Diane Garber

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Derek Witmer
Doug Howard
Dave Bendit
Alex Troxell

August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

DEACON GREETERS

Doris Wright
Janet Moore
Dave Fisher
Lois Killian

JNH GREETERS

Jeff & Bev Moyer
Curtis & Jean May
Roger & Gladys Ulmer
Jerry & Jean Barger

OFFERING TABULATORS

Glenn Brubaker, Marcia Root & alternate

SUNDAY SCHOOL SEC.

Bev Moyer

Adult Summer Sunday School

For the summer, our Adult Sunday School classes will be combining to study the International Sunday School Lessons. The focus will be on the worshiping practices of the ancient Israelites prior to and after their Babylonian captivity.

The location of the class will be in the Choir Room opposite the Library from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

August's Theme: Worship in Jerusalem during the time of Nehemiah

- † August 4—Feast of Tabernacles
 - Scripture: Nehemiah 8:2,3,13-18
 - Teacher: Rich Bushong

- † August 11—Community of Confession
 - Scripture: Nehemiah 9:2, 6-7, 9-10, 30-36
 - Teacher: Kent Rice

- † August 18—Dedication of the Wall
 - Scripture: Nehemiah 12:27-38, 43
 - Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh

- † August 25—Sabbath Reforms
 - Scripture: Nehemiah 13:10-12, 15-22
 - Teacher: Doug Hinton

- † September 1—God Creates
 - Scripture: Psalm 104:5-9, 24-30
 - Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh

Praying Attention



“For Jesus dying on the tree,
His blood for you, his blood for me.
To be with Him forever free,
I thank you, Lord.”
HCL

HCOB Family News



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! THE CHURCH PICNIC IS SUNDAY SEPT. 8TH. Summer is ending and a new school year will soon begin! As we return from summer travels and vacations, we will all be settling back into more normal routines and schedules. On Sunday, **September 8th**, we will gather for the Church picnic immediately after our 10:15 a.m. service. It is an opportunity for the church family to rally together with enthusiasm as we re-center and re-commit as God's people in worship and service for our Lord! **Please dress casually**, but in no way be casual about our incredible love for God, our committed love for each other as family, and our outreach love for others whom we invite to join us as a family. **Details will follow for the picnic in the weekly bulletin and September's Herald. See you then!**

Connections!

Coming again this fall!

Beginning September 18th, 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Join us at 5:30 for a delicious meal and fellowship

Activities for all ages will start at 6:00

Keep an eye out for list of all that will be offered

Don't miss out on the fun!



PJ PARTY FOR MOMS AND DAUGHTERS

- ♥ Who: Moms and their daughters (entering fourth and up to ?)
- ♥ Where: Here at HCOB
- ♥ When: Friday, August 9th - 6pm to 9pm
- ♥ What to bring: a favorite munchie
- ♥ What to wear: Your Pajamas!

It will be a chance to laugh together and get to know each other.

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

- ★ Who: Anyone!
- ★ What: Hanging out with church family to watch a movie and eat munchies!
- ★ Where: HCOB John Naas Hall (a.k.a. the gym)
- ★ When: August 24th (Saturday) 6pm to 8:30pm
- ★ What to bring: Bring a favorite snack to share and something to get comfy on while watching a movie. Drinks and paper products will be provided.

No need to sign up! Movie will begin at 6:30pm



YOU ARE INVITED! PASTORS PETE AND KENT WILL BE LEADING A MEMBERSHIP CLASS on Sunday, August 25 at 11:30 immediately following worship. A light lunch will be provided. Anyone who is considering taking the step into membership is welcome to attend. Don't be scared! This is simply conversation about our faith and who we are as Hempfield Church of the Brethren and what it means to be a part of Christ's Body here. Please contact the church office or Pastors Pete or Kent if you are interested or have questions. Or just show up!

HCOB Kids News



Summer is rapidly flying past! I hope yours has been full of fun memories and grand adventures!

We had a wonderful time at VBS and we are already looking ahead to next year. We had over 100 children attend and almost 50 helpers! What a wonderful church family we are blessed to have here at Hempfield.

Join us on August 24th for Family Movie Night! Start arriving at 6pm and the movie will begin at about 6:30. Bring a favorite munchie to share. We will provide drinks and paper products. Don't forget to bring something comfy to watch the movie on. We will be in John Naas Hall. All are invited!

We will jump into our fall schedule for Kids Church on September 8th. We have some new teachers and helpers joining us. We will also be splitting the older kids class. One class will include First grade through Third grade and the other class will be Fourth grade through Fifth grade.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and get ready for a wonderful fall!!!

Our Church Teams

This month we are highlighting the work of the Evangelism Team

The Evangelism team is helping sponsor the "Outbreak" project that began as a vision for Pastor Kent.

"Outbreak" is a Festival outreach to the East Petersburg community which will be akin to a mini "Creation" Festival. The Festival will be held on Sept. 7, 2013. The Festival will not be limited to age, however there is great concern for the youth in our community. We especially want to share the love of Christ for them.

Many people have come forward to speak, provide music, artwork, games, worshipful dance and food. There will be a prayer tent(s) where individuals can be prayed for and led to Christ. We will also be providing Bibles to those who would like one.

Kent has gotten "Outbreak" t-shirts to sell and made up fliers to hand out.

You can be a great support by:

- Continually praying for the event (even come to one of the prayer events at the park) and Pastor Kent.
- Spreading the word to friends and neighbors
- Handing out fliers
- Purchasing and wearing an "Outbreak" tee shirt
- Volunteering at the event
- Coming to the event and being a part of the great things God is doing in our community.

The Evangelism team is really excited about this outreach! Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Lois Dewar - Chair

HCOB Calendar

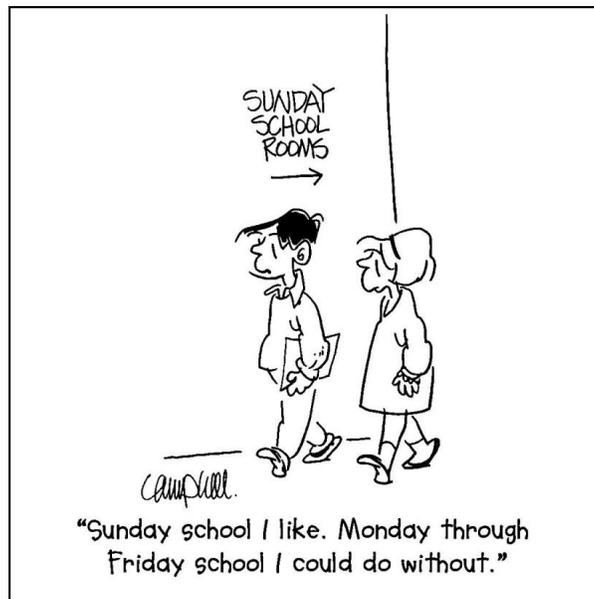
Keep up with what's happening at Hempfield COB by checking out our online calendar.

Please go to

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

for a full calendar of events

**Toon of
The Month**



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The Month**

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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

