

## Discipleship: What Does It Mean?

Pastor Pete Kontra

Greetings Hempfield!

What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? How do you share that with someone?

Tom Connelly, Linda Steele, Wes Bowers, and I, as well as the other Leadership of Hempfield, have spent time together praying and discerning what this is all about, and are excited to share what God has laid upon our hearts. We can sometimes make all this so complicated as we try and understand our faith and how we are supposed to live it out.

But as you look closely at Jesus and His disciples, it really becomes clear what we are called to do and be as we follow Him. As we live as fully devoted followers of Jesus, we must:

- Learn His Way—know what Jesus taught and wants us to do.
- Live His Way—put it into action.
- Grow His Way—God made it clear that we are to continually grow in our love and knowledge of Him.
- Go His Way—Jesus called us to go into all the world and make more disciples.

We are preaching on this throughout the fall. Deb Bendit has created a beautiful quilt depicting this vision. Our Leadership at Hempfield is focused on this and how we can be living into it as the church. And we invite you to do the same.

So the discipleship vision statement is printed on the next page. I invite you to study the scriptures and pray about how God is leading you as a disciple of Jesus. Blessings!  
-Pastor Pete

### In This Issue...

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| † Page 2—Discipleship Vision          | † Page 7—HCOB Family News       |
| † Page 3—Grains of Rice               | † Page 7—Our Church Teams       |
| † Page 4—Messages in September        | † Page 8—Christmas Shoeboxes    |
| † Page 5—September Ministry Schedules | † Page 9—Youth News             |
| † Page 6—Adult Sunday School          | † Page 9—HCOB Calendar          |
| † Page 6—Praying Attention            | † Back Cover—‘Toon of the Month |

# Discipleship



Go His way.

Grow His way;

Live His way;

Fully devoted followers of Christ who: Learn His way;

## **Learn His way.**

*Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching." -John 14:23*

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. -2 Peter 3:18*

- Study God's Word.
- Walk with a Mentor.
- Be an active part of the Body.

## **Live His way.**

*So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. -Colossians 1:10-12*

- Servanthood.
- Stewardship.

## **Grow His way.**

*But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. -Ephesians 4:15-16*

- Prayer.
- Worship.
- Commitment to Community/Relationships.

## **Go His way.**

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." -Matthew 28:18-20*

- Share Christ with the world.
- Teach others His ways.
- Be a witness to Christ's love.

# Grains of Rice

Pastor Kent Rice

---

## The Master of the Harvest

*Do you think the work of harvesting will not begin until the summer ends four months from now? Look around you! Vast fields of human souls are ripening all around us, and are ready now for reaping. The reapers will be paid good wages and will be gathering eternal souls into the granaries of heaven! What joys await the sower and the reaper, both together! – John 4:34-36 The Living Bible Paraphrase*

Last Friday night I went to a worship service next to the Millersville University campus called “The Gathering.” They meet the third Friday of each month and it is a church plant that reaches out to college students. I will admit to having some second thoughts when I saw the order of service—two and a half hours! But I was there to support the rap artist who will be sharing at Outbreak and so I opened my heart and participated fully in singing (the ones I knew, which were hardly any) LOTS of prayer time and open scripture reading. What a cool drink of water that service was! So great to ease into a bath of prayer and scripture and enjoy being around young people who are so in love with Jesus.

During private prayer time a phrase came to mind: “*The harvest is mine.*” I had been praying about the festival and was sure it was related to that...but as is often the case when God communicates with me, I wasn’t sure I was understanding what I was *supposed* to understand. So I searched the scriptures and could not find this phrasing in any translation. I asked God for help and in the course of the next few days I decided that it meant exactly what it meant. GOD does the harvesting and if anything of Kingdom importance happens at Outbreak, it’s Him, not me. Apparently I needed to be reminded of that.

In related news, I also started reading **The Cross and the Switchblade** again. While reading it a couple of days ago, I wept as I thought of the young people in our community who don’t know Jesus Christ and I begged for the opportunity to help them. And several pages later there appeared the scene in which David Wilkerson is drawn to a wheat field behind his comfortable country church and he thinks of the scripture from the fourth chapter of John. Wilkerson recalls,

*In my mind’s eye I saw each of the blades of wheat as a youngster on the streets of the city (New York), hungry for a new beginning. Pg 125*

Wilkerson went to them and God filled the granaries.

So two weeks and a day until this consuming, never-before-attempted festival begins, I am more convinced than ever that while God seems to enjoy using us, God and God alone does the real work of bringing people to Himself.

I hope everyone can come to Outbreak, because I believe God has big plans for the day. Oh, that He will harvest souls on that day and in the days to come! The harvest is truly His—it’s His field, His seed, His wheat, His sun and His rain. It’s been wonderful to help get the combine ready. Thank you, Hempfield Church of the Brethren, for believing that God still desperately wants to bring people to Himself through His son Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Continue to pray for revival.

The harvest awaits!

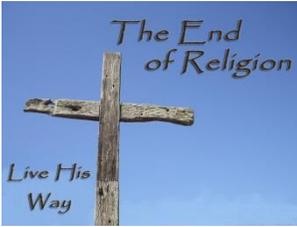
# Messages in September

September 1

## The End of Religion

*Colossians 1:1-14—Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching*

Jesus was pretty clear about what we as His disciples are to be about. He did not have much patience with the church being an institution, making it a place of structure and personal gain rather than the House of God where we serve one another in love. Our “religion”—our buildings, our traditions, our policies and procedures—will not survive forever. What will survive is our faith in Jesus Christ and how we live that out in service to one another and for God’s glory.



September 8

## It’s All About the Image—Genesis 1:26-31

*Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching*

God made us in His image—to live creatively, to foster life and growth in all we touch. Dominion/Stewardship—bringing all of creation (including human beings) to its full potential is our call in all we do.

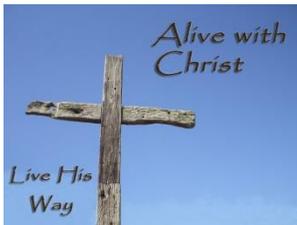


September 15

## Alive With Christ—Colossians 2:6-15

*Pastor Kent Rice Preaching*

Imagine a law book so heavy that you need to lift it with your legs so that you don't hurt your back. Now imagine that book being replaced by a post-it that says, "You're Alive!" We read in Colossians 2:13-14 that we are forgiven and that Christ "canceled the written code, with its regulations" and nailed it to the Cross. Let's discover this morning how we can fully live thanks to what Christ did for us!

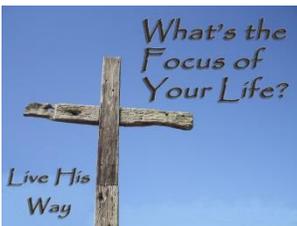


September 22

## What’s the Focus of Your Life?—Romans 8:5-11

*Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching*

As Christians, we find ourselves in a dilemma – living in the world that tells us to look out for ourselves, but living for God through his Son, Jesus Christ. Paul writes to the Romans, “Those who think they can do it on their own end up obsessed with measuring their own moral muscle but never get around to exercising it in real life. Those who trust God’s action in them, find that God’s Spirit is in them... If God has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him...” (The Message). Is the focus of our living as disciples of Jesus Christ on ourselves and our own abilities or is it focused on living the life that God has outlined for us?

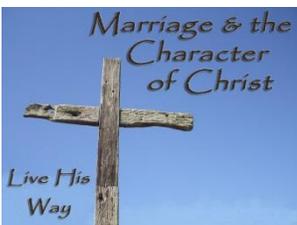


September 29

## Marriage & the Character of Christ—Ephesians 5:22-33

*Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching*

Marriage can be a difficult topic to approach with any number of people. As we wrestle with Ephesians 5:22-33, we will look at what Paul may have been writing to the church in Ephesus and how these same principles apply today. Approaching this passage in a spirit of humility, we may see how our relationship with Christ may be reflected in our relationships with our spouses.



# September Ministry Schedules

September 1  
September 8  
September 15  
September 22  
September 29

## NURSERY—SS

Linda Carper  
Bob & Mary Ellen McEvoy  
Keith & Karma Witmer  
Keith & Karma Witmer  
Keith & Karma Witmer

## NURSERY—WORSHIP

Donna Schaidle, Betty Lull, Laura Myer, Morgan Rice  
Ivy & Brooke Davis, Emmy & Dave Schott  
Sherry, Katie & Lauren Miller, Libby Myers  
Betty Cox, Lydia & Sarah Fisher, Hilary Hoffman  
Marg Zurin, Kelly Moore, Libby Myers, Libby Rannels



September 1  
September 8  
September 15  
September 22  
September 29

## SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

Dick Caldwell  
Rich & Jamie Bushong  
Dave Schott  
Matt Markey  
Rich & Jamie Bushong

## SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

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



September 1  
September 8  
September 15  
September 22  
September 29

## WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Kent Rice  
Dennis Hughes  
Randy Ziegler  
Pete Cope  
Ray O'Boyle

## WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA  
TBA  
Jason Hoffman  
TBA  
Denny Bushong

## SPECIAL MUSIC



September 1  
September 8  
September 15  
September 22  
September 29

## CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

Frank Lantz  
TBA  
Sanctuary Choir  
TBA  
Sanctuary Choir

## VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Dave Bendit  
Doug Howard  
Nate Polonchak  
Alex Troxell  
Dave Bendit

September 1  
September 8  
September 15  
September 22  
September 29

## DEACON GREETERS

Nancy Haas  
Millie Hoffman  
Ruth Johnson  
Wes Bowers  
Carl Haas

## JNH GREETERS

Richard & Carolyn Gingrich  
Carl & Ellie Lehman  
Bob & MaryLou Haldeman  
Nicolas & Joanna Huacani  
Jim & Sue Musser

## OFFERING TABULATORS

Dave Dum, alternate, Rick Schaidle

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SEC.

Sylvia Heffley

# HCOB Adult Sunday School

---

† **THE CHRISTIAN PATHFINDERS & THE HOME BUILDERS** classes will meet in the library. 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.

September 8	God's Image Male & Female	Teacher: Denny Bushong
September 15	Knowledge of Good & Evil	Teacher: Denny Bushong
September 22	Everlasting Covenant	Teacher: TBA
September 29	God Scatters the Nation	Teacher: Tom Fritz

† **THE SEEKERS**--Beginning Sept 8 the Seekers Class will begin study in the book of Philippians. Paul's primary purpose in writing this letter was to thank the Philippians for the gift they had sent him. Paul also writes in this book to encourage the Philippians to stand firm in the face of persecution and rejoice regardless of the circumstances. Rich Bushong is the contact person.

† **CONVERSATIONS**— Conversations Class will be exploring the Discipleship Team's vision for HCOB: *Learn His Way – Live His Way – Grow His Way – and Go His Way*. During September, we'll be examining some of the basic commands that Jesus gave to his disciples – commands that apply to us all – and how we could put these into action, grow in our love and knowledge of God, and go into all the world and make disciples. Geoff Davis is the facilitator.

## Praying Attention

---



### Five reasons we need to pray:

1. Prayer empties the heart of its cares.
2. Prayer acknowledges the answer is beyond our ability.
3. Divine direction is given through prayer – decisions made without prayer can lead to storms and destruction.
4. Prayer strengthens our intimacy with God.
5. Prayer changes us.

# HCOB Family News



**CHURCH PICNIC!!!! SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>.** NO SIGN UP IS NEEDED for the picnic! Just mark your calendar, and bring a pew-full of friends to experience the joy and grace of our Lord as we live it out as family here in this place! Dress casually since following 10:15 worship we will have our church picnic with barbecued chicken and all the trimmings! We will provide chicken, chips, drinks, plates, utensils and cups. **We are asking church families whose last names start with A-O to bring salad, fresh fruit or relish to serve 10 to 12 people. We are asking families with last names from P-Z to bring dessert to serve 10 to 12 people.** (No serving utensils are needed we will provide them.) Please drop off your food during early church or Sunday school so we are ready to serve after the 10:15 service. We will serve the food from the Fellowship Hall and provide

seating inside and outside, weather permitting. If you plan to sit outside, you may bring chairs and blankets in case all the seating outside is taken.

## 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!**



**THE ADULT CHOIR SEASON IS READY TO BEGIN!** We are pleased to announce that Jen Hinton and Kristin Stauffer will be sharing the responsibilities of interim choir director starting in September until December or until a permanent director can be found, whatever comes first. Planning has already begun for the season and you may pick up a schedule on the Narthex table or in the choir room. Rehearsals begin September 11 and will be every other Wednesday 7-9pm. See you there!

## Our Church Teams

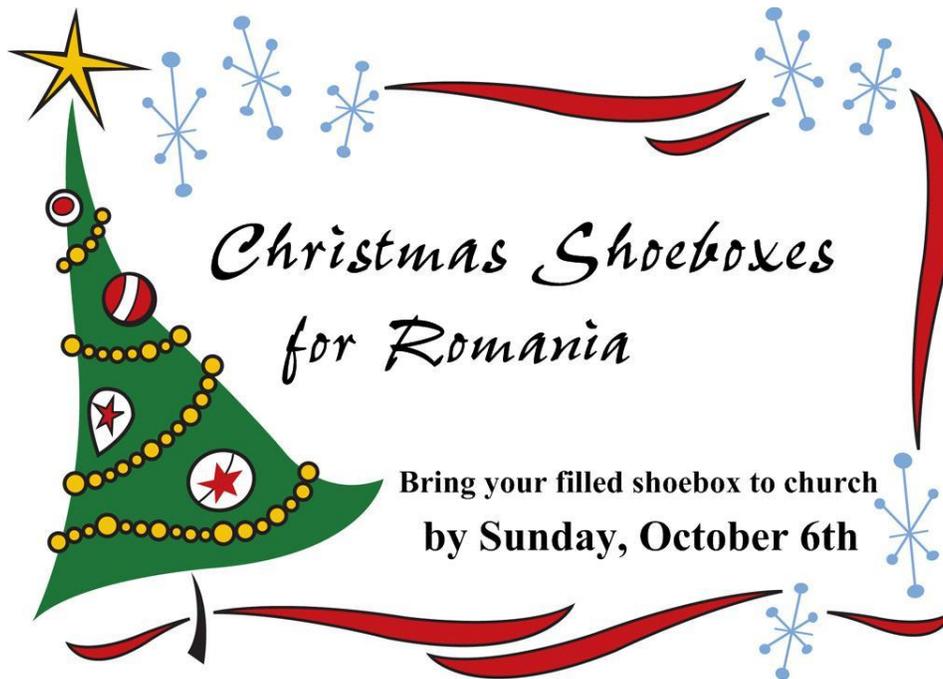
*This month we are highlighting the work of the Social Services Team*

- We are doing the Christmas Shoeboxes to be shipped to an orphanage in Romania.
- The Disaster Relief Auction will be held on September 27 and 28 at the Lebanon Valley Expo, 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, Pa.
- We will not be doing the Alternative gift Fair in mid-November. There is a larger one at the Farm and Home Center or you can contact the organizations on your own.
- Thank you all for caring and supporting our ministries.

The Social Service Team

# Christmas Shoeboxes

---



## *Suggested Items*

- ♥ **Clothing:** hats, gloves, scarves, socks, t-shirts, flannel wear
- ♥ **Hygiene Items:** toothbrush (in package), toothpaste, soap, comb, washcloth
- ♥ **Toys:** Small cars, dolls, stuffed animals, puzzles, games, yo-yos, drawing supplies
- ♥ **School Supplies:** pencils, erasers, sharpeners, tablets, calculators
- ♥ **Other:** watches, picture books, candy, stickers
- ♥ **Personal Touch:** personal or family picture with a little note

## *Instructions*

- ♥ Fill regular size shoebox with up to 3.5 lbs of suggested items
- ♥ Wrap with love and gift paper
- ♥ Mark for boy or girl and age range on outside of box
- ♥ Include **\$6/box for shipping—please place on the outside**
- ♥ Bring to church by Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and we'll take care of the rest!

*In cooperation with the ministry of “My Brother’s Keeper”*

# Youth News

---



*Please remember to pray for the new crop of college students.  
Addresses will be made available soon!*

- ✚ Lydia Fisher – Muhlenberg
- ✚ Jaynelle Troxell – Kutztown
- ✚ Molly Snavely – Millersville
- ✚ Kelly Moore – Mount Aloysius
- ✚ Lauren Miller—Kutztown
- ✚ Derek Witmer – Hofstra

*Welcome to our incoming sixth graders!*

- ✚ Jake Rannels
- ✚ Jaime Fisher
- ✚ Ellamay Cassidy



## 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**



© 2012 Dennis Fletcher. More at LeadershipJournal.net/Caroons

**"How am I supposed to transform the youth group into spiritually mature believers when you cut my soda and sugary snack budget in half?"**

**Toon of  
The Month**

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

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

