

---

## Pastor Pete Kontra

We're already to May! And I know that can mean a lot of change for some of you: ending a school year, graduations, new jobs, moving. I know within the church we're seeing God at work in many new ways, calling us out to use our gifts for Him.

Transition—when we step into something new, something different. In Acts 1 Jesus ascends into heaven and sends His disciples on to a new mission. Jesus said, “You *will* receive power.” Jesus was taken up before their very eyes, and they returned to Jerusalem. Transition.

It's that huge word Jesus used that gives us trouble sometimes: “Will”. You will. That means it hasn't happened yet and we have to wait for it. What transition are you experiencing in your life? What about us as the church? For the disciples, it was time to go from their little world into The World. So how do we handle all this? How did the disciples?

They Accepted their situation, Believed in their mission, Centered themselves together in Christ, Devoted themselves to prayer.

### **Accept your situation.**

How huge that one really is for us. You may not like a situation you're in, or maybe you do, but we must learn to accept where we are if we are going to be able to move on at all. Jesus was leaving the disciples and told them they had to wait for the Holy Spirit. I imagine there was some different emotions going on within them in that moment. I doubt any of that was necessarily *easy* to accept, but they did.

### **Believe in your mission and that you will be empowered to do it.**

Believe that God has a purpose for your life, even when it may seem pretty far out. The disciples were going to go into all the world to change lives with the Gospel! That probably seemed like a pretty big mission, nowhere near where they were in that moment. But they believed in it. Believe in what God wants you to do for Him and that He will give you what you need to do it.

### **Center yourself in Christ within the church.**

The disciples met together daily. The church is where we can go, and must go, to receive what we need to do God's work, to build one another up, and to encourage one another.

### **Devote yourself to prayer.**

The disciples prayed together daily. In all that is happening in our lives we would do well to learn to be still. “*They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength,*” Isaiah 40:31 tells us.

Jesus is not the one who was, but the one who is and always will be. From a very small group of believers the Gospel would expand into all the world. God has great things in store for us every day, and so may we follow Him each step of this journey. Blessings! -Pastor Pete

# From Pastor Doug

## WHAT IF...

---

*So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. —Galatians 3:26-27*

What if you were “fearfully and wonderfully made” in the image of God? “In the image of God he created them; male and female, he created them.” What if, when you look in the mirror, you see a glimpse of the way God accepts you, made you? What if you didn’t have to look at the flaws alone? Didn’t have to face your fears, pains, and brokenness alone? What if you could see the value of your personhood in the greater part of His body, the greater part of humanity? Not in a prideful or arrogant manner, but in a sober, truthful, and grounded way as to understand your worth in His eyes as He walks with you. Not defined by human or cultural standards alone, but in the Almighty’s vision of His creation.

What if, instead of a lower left or upper right cheek, God thought of you as the ‘humorous’ bone, connected to the power of the shoulder and back, and allowing the hands of God’s body to do their work? Carrying the form of the biceps and tris, only able to accomplish all their work because of your incredibly witty and sharp humor. A vantage point and way of seeing things that no other carries; nor is supposed to. What if you could feel comfortable in your own skin? Seeing not only the faults and downfalls of yourself, but, more importantly, seeing your strengths, gifts, and talents that fill the lives of those around you. We can admire gifts of people around us...deep down, they may be doing the same--admiring the gifts you carry and share. What if our security is found in the way the Creator made us and not in the cultural and familial pressures put on us?

What if, forgiving those in the past, we can place that burden-carried so many years-at the Savior’s feet and begin to sort it out with Him? No longer allowing that pain, that sin, that burden to define who we are, but finding healing in the Savior’s work to forgive and reconcile. Looking at his suffering *with* us and not at our expense. Understanding he too suffered and knows what pain is. Knowing he came to heal, to seek those who would believe and follow, and in following continue in his plan to forgive, heal, and reconcile. What if, as the body of Christ heals, it can be a stronger force in this day and age? As one body part heals, it can strengthen the parts around it, helping to heal more of the body. What if I am defined by who I *am* rather than who I am *not*? What if...

## Mission Possible

Pastor Kent Rice

---

### *Timing Is Everything*

I shared recently how interesting it’s been to learn how many people over the years have envisioned a local “community center” and have even started down that road...only to run out of gas. Different people from different walks of life had a similar dream, a similar heart for the community but for whatever reason it didn’t happen. Why? Honestly I have no idea. But as we plan and gear up for operations at the East Petersburg Area Civic Center (EPACC), all I can think is that the time was right. God’s time. So many things have happened recently that seem to confirm that the boot is off the car and have God’s blessing to proceed. The idea has always been there, but the circumstances have not been. And so we prepare to step into the River Jordan, trust God and trusting that His people will respond to His call: That we love those around us and share the Gospel.

Back in the 40’s (I think), Scott Nissley’s dad build a racetrack on his farm so that local young people would have something to do instead of getting into trouble. It became a pretty big deal, but if you drove by the spot today you’d never know it was even there. It served a purpose for a season.

The one thing I *do* know is that EPACC is most certainly not about *me*. Smarter, more organized and more discerning people have worked faithfully at this vision in the past and then let it go. So if EPACC becomes a force for change in the community, we’ll praise God. If it doesn’t, we’ll praise God. Because no matter *what* we do, God is still God and worthy of our praise, service, and commitment.

We will work hard during this season and see what happens. Maybe in 50 years someone will drive by and never realize that a thriving Civic Center used to be there. If that happens, I pray the 102 year-old founder—if he’s alive, that is—*still* understands that it was never about him in the first place. Let’s get to work!

# Messages in May

---

May 3



## Youth Sunday

Come and enjoy a special service prepared and carried out by the youth of our church.

May 10



## New Wineskins for the New Wine—*Matthew 9:14-17*

### *Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching*

God supplies the new wine—creates a new vision, moves in a new direction, gives new life. We supply the new wineskin—willingness to follow and be changed.

May 17



## Music Festival Sunday

### *No 8:00 Service—10:15 Service Only*

This celebratory service will lead us to worship God through singing songs of praise and listening to music from various musical groups including our Sanctuary Choir. Join us to celebrate God's goodness!

May 24



## The Secret Ingredients—*Acts 2:1-13, Acts 4:23-31*

### *Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching*

In John's gospel, Jesus tells his disciples, "The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." The Spirit gives life. On Pentecost, the believers are filled with the Spirit, just as Jesus promised. If we're followers of Jesus, we are filled with his Spirit – the "Helper" who he said would come and be with us forever. But who, exactly, is the Spirit and how do we create the space in our lives to allow him to grow and empower us in our faith?

May 31



## Make the Most of Your Time—*Colossians 4:5-6*

### *Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching*

How do you approach each day? Are you attuned to where God is leading you in each moment? There's a lot to do for Christ, for which He always gives new opportunities. Be watchful and thankful in it all, treating every person as if it's your last time with them.

# May Ministry Schedules

May 3  
May 10  
May 17  
May 24  
May 31

## NURSERY—SS

TBA  
Carolyn Gingrich  
Doris Wright  
Sue Musser  
TBA

## NURSERY—WORSHIP

Donna Schaidle, Betty Lull, Laura Myer  
Marg Zurin, Diane Garber, Jen Baker  
Sue Brubaker, Sally Hoppert, Kensey Rice  
Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Libby Rannels  
Donna Schaidle, Betty Lull, Laura Myer



May 3  
May 10  
May 17  
May 24  
May 31

## SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

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

## SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

Blaine Garber & Rich Bushong  
Matt Markey & Rich Bushong  
Mitchell Barnes & Rich Bushong  
Matt Markey & Rich Bushong  
Dave Dum & Rich Bushong



May 3  
May 10  
May 17  
May 24  
May 31

## WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Pastor TBA  
Dennis Hughes  
No 8:00 Service  
Ray O'Boyle  
Tom Fritz

## WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA  
TBA  
TBA  
TBA  
TBA

## SPECIAL MUSIC



May 3  
May 10  
May 17  
May 24  
May 31

## CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

Youth  
Ladies Choir  
Sanctuary Choir & other groups  
TBA  
TBA

## VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Dave Bendit  
Dave Bendit  
Doug Howard  
Ben Johnson  
Dave Bendit

May 3  
May 10  
May 17  
May 24  
May 31

## DEACON GREETERS

Ruth Johnson  
Paula Connelly  
Penny Kettering  
Pete Moore  
Millie Hoffman

## JNH GREETERS

Jean & Jerry Barger  
Carl & Lisa Polonchak  
Faye Rohrer  
Jeff & Bev Moyer  
Jim & Sue Musser



## OFFERING TABULATORS

Glenn Brubaker, Marcia Root

# HCOB Adult Sunday School

---

† **THE CHRISTIAN HOMEBUILDERS** 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 people are Ruth Johnson and Millie Hoffman.

May 3	Work Together for the Truth	Teacher: Denny Bushong
May 10	Gifts of the Spirit	Teacher: Butch Nachbar
May 17	One Body: Many Members	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
May 24	Gift of Languages	Teacher: Del Kautz
May 31	The Greatest Is Love	Teacher: Tom Fritz

† **THE SEEKERS**—The Seekers Class will be studying the same passage of Scripture that the pastor will be preaching on that morning. Please join us for teaching and discussion that will help us to delve deeper into the themes that God has put on the hearts of our pastoral leaders. Rich Bushong is the contact person.

May 3	Colossians 1:15-23 “What Is It Jesus Did?”	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
May 10	Matthew 9:14-17 “New Wineskins for the New Wine”	Teacher: Pete Cope
May 17	TBA	Teacher: Ray O’Boyle
May 24	Acts 2:1-13, Acts 4:23-31 “The Secret Ingredients”	Teacher: TBD
May 31	Colossians 4:5-6 “Make the Most of Your Time”	Teacher: Dennis Bushong

† **CONVERSATIONS**— In the Great Commission, Jesus told his disciples to go everywhere and baptize, preach, and teach everything he commanded. But what exactly were Jesus’ commands and why are they important for us to know? Conversations Class will continue to examine Jesus’ commands through the book, “What Jesus Demands from the World” by John Piper, in weekly examination of Jesus’ words and what they mean in our lives and our mission. We meet in our classroom on the second floor. All are welcome to come. Geoff Davis is the teacher.

## Praying Attention

---



“I have seen that those whose prayers are most saturated with Scripture are generally most fervent and most effective in prayer”. --John Piper

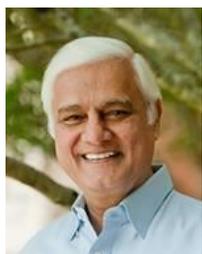
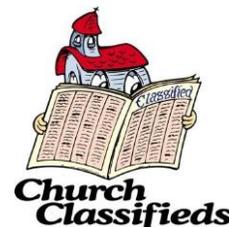
# HCOB Family News



**BIG THANK YOU** to the candy makers and those who donated money for purchasing it to resell at the Brethren Village Auxiliary Candy Sale. \$220.00 was raised from the monetary donations and the sale itself amounted to \$1,157.00.

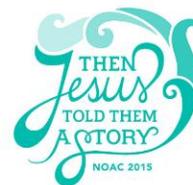
-Gerrie Hurst & Lois Killian

**EXCITING NEW IDEA**—A classified section in the Herald. This section would be used for various personal items and services. In addition, the section could be used for community activities and church related needs. A sample page is on the Narthex table. This idea cannot happen without people to help get it off the ground and keep it in operation. This could be your chance to contribute to our church family. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Carl Haas. Phone - 361-8559, Email - imcarlhaas@hotmail.com



**MAY 7 PRAYER EXPERIENCE** The first Thursday of each month is our regularly scheduled Prayer Experience. For our May Prayer Experience our Hempfield COB Prayer Team is recommending that you attend the Lancaster County National Day of Prayer Event at the Junction Center. The Junction Center is located on 1875 Junction Road, Manheim, less than 2 miles from HCOB. Keynote Prayer Speaker will be Dr. Ravi Zacharias. The event is May 7 from 6-8pm. Food is available 4-7:30 pm, bring chairs or blankets, event held rain or shine. Handicap parking at the Junction Center, all other Parking is at 705 Greystone Road (Roots Country Market). For car pool will meet at HCOB at 5:15pm. If questions contact Rich Bushong or Pastor Pete.

**THE COB NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE (NOAC)** will be held on September 7-11 at Lake Junaluska, NC. The theme is “Then Jesus Told Them a Story.” There will be many speakers and activities during this inspiring conference. There is more information available on the bulletin board in the outer office and on the NOAC website: [www.brethren.org/noac](http://www.brethren.org/noac).



## THE MESSENGER:



- **Copies of *The Messenger*** are available on the narthex table for you to borrow and return. This denominational publication contains valuable information about what is happening among the Church of the Brethren worldwide.
- **New subscriptions:** If you would like your own copy, now is the time to subscribe. In an effort to **keep** church expenses within our budget, we are asking that all Messenger subscribers pay for their own subscription. However to get the lowest possible price (\$14.50 per year), we will send in all the requests together. If you are interested in a personal subscription, please let Donna Reed (569-1404) know ASAP. The deadline is May 10.
- **Renewal:** Those who already have a subscription, Donna will be contacting you for your renewal.

# HCOB Youth News

---

## Upcoming Events

- May 3: Youth Sunday
- May 31: Graduate Sunday
- June 23-28: Creation 2015
- August 2-8: National Mission Trip: Greeley, CO with BDM

I am seeking to set up a mentoring ministry where our youth, grades 6-12, can meet w/an adult to speak about faith and life, struggles and concerns, victories and praises by next fall. If this would interest you as an adult, please contact Pastor Doug and we can see what God may have in store!

# HCOB Kids News

---

## Kid's Church

Greetings from upstairs! We are thoroughly excited about it being warm outside. The playground and pavilion are wonderful!

We continue to stay together until the end of summer. After that, we will be split back up into our age groups. Thank you, again, to all the adults who are helping us out!

## VBS

Mark your calendars for VBS! *Journey Off the Map!* We are transforming the church during the week of July 12-16th and hopefully transforming lives as well! We need everyone's help! (Don't forget to get your clearances!)

## Movie Night

June will be our next Family Movie Night! We begin at 6:30 and run until 8:30pm. Planning on watching the second *Monsters Inc.* movie. Just bring yourself, a snack to share and a comfy thing to watch on. It is great fun!!!

As always, please feel welcome to visit us upstairs anytime!

# 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**

**MAY**