

Pastor Pete Kontra

L.I.F.E.

One of the things in this world that can be the most difficult to enjoy is exactly what God has given to us as a beautiful gift—LIFE. Many of us know what I mean when I talk about all the distractions, fears, responsibilities, and clutter which get in the way of our living life to the fullest. We know those exist, so I want to offer a way through all of that, the most excellent way, the way of true LIFE. Here is a simple way to remind ourselves of why we are here in this world. It reads:

L.--Living a new abundant life.

I.--Intended mission, given by Christ.

F.--Full authority from the Holy Spirit for the mission.

E.--Executing God's will.

- L.** It all starts by **LIVING**. In John 10:10 Jesus says, *"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* God has offered to us, through His Son Jesus Christ, new life. And as an added bonus He says He gives us **ABUNDANT** life, life to the fullest, to the max, the most we can ever receive. Believe God's promise. Stop living bankrupt in joy and love and start living abundantly in Christ. This is no empty promise, but one that God has made to us in utmost love for His children.
- I.** We live abundantly in Christ, which means we live for Christ, which is to live for others, making disciples of all people. That is our **Intended Mission**, given by Christ in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19), and we fulfill it by pouring out our abundant living upon all people around us.
- F.** How can we live abundantly and fulfill the Great Commission when we are merely humans? In Matthew 28:18, Jesus says, *"ALL AUTHORITY in heaven and on earth has been given to me."* *"Therefore"*, He says, *"go..."* Jesus makes it clear that God has given Him all power, all authority, all He needs to do all things. That includes you and me. As we live abundantly in Jesus Christ, part of our living includes receiving this power and love from Christ, so that we do not attempt to fulfill our mission all alone, but do it through the **Full Authority** given to us through the Holy Spirit. In Christ we really can do all things.
- E.** Finally, the day-to-day abundant living, fulfilling our intended mission, and experiencing the full authority of the Holy Spirit is all done through **Executing God's Will** for our lives. We must at all times be in prayer, communicating with God, finding out what He wants us to do in each situation. We must read the Scriptures, study them, and listen to what they are telling us for our lives. We must be a part of a faith community, to build each other up and keep each other on track. Listen to what God's will is for your life, then execute it to your best ability.

LIFE. It is a wonderful thing. That is, only when we give ourselves over to the One Who created it. May it be so for you by the grace of God. -Pastor Pete

From Pastor Doug

God Is Moving—Continue to Grow!!

He must become greater; I must become less.” –John the Baptist

God is moving and doing great things through his body here at Hempfield!! Celebration Sunday blessed those in attendance as many instrumentalists, vocalists, and musicians shared their gifts and talents to share the story of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. God continues to move through those on our ministry teams, small group studies, sewing circles, and Sunday schools. Many are *being* the hands and feet of Christ as they help at EPACC, TNT, outreach into the community, and participate in the work here at the church to keep us moving forward. Youth are blessed by your prayers and support so that they may also be a blessing in our mission trip to Roblealto in July. God is moving. The body of Christ is being strengthened. The community is being blessed.

My encouragement is that we keep striving to be the body of Christ. John the Baptist carried a following of people as he baptized them for the repentance of sins. When asked what Jesus was doing in John 3, he recognized that his work paled in comparison to what Jesus came to accomplish. “He must become greater, I must become less..,” is a lesson we all can learn. Christ must become greater in my life, my family, my work, my ministry, my everyday life – and my priorities, my preoccupations and worries, my goals and drive must become less. All need to come under the Lordship of Christ. I do not cease from work, but how can Christ be revealed to my coworkers, my attitude shaped, and my actions reflect my Savior? I can still have goals, but do they align with Christ’s priorities and teachings? If not, how must they change? When I disagree with someone, how can I approach them in the Holy Spirit to discuss, confront, or correct them? All must fall under the Lordship of Christ. From his teachings, in his Spirit, in truth, gentleness and love.

God is moving. We live in a culture which will challenge your faith, your belief, and Jesus’ teachings. Be encouraged!! Read the Word, pray, and know that He walks with you. And the very Spirit that searches the depths of God is with you!! (1 Corinthians 2:10)

Mission Possible

Pastor Kent Rice

This Time, It's Personal!

Why do so many movie ads say something like that? Because if something has become “personal” to someone, it implies that someone has reached the point at which he or she will do almost anything necessary to achieve the desired result. The person *really* cares what happens now! In movies, that result usually is payback, destruction and revenge. And the ad tells you that it's personal in hope that you might become interested.

Our God is *very* personal. “How personal is He?” *So* personal that He came to us in the flesh, provided beverages at a wedding when they were running out, was moved to tears when his friends were grieving their brother Lazarus, and let himself be slowly killed in a death he could have easily prevented. God made it personal and wants us to do the same.

We get into trouble when we think too broadly, too demographically: When we forget that numbers consist of people; when we forget that sins are committed by sinners just like us; and when we make the conscious decision not to care about someone.

Is your relationship with Jesus Christ *personal* to you? Is it the *most* personal thing in your life? That's what God desires for all of us.

It would be unthinkable for me to sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you – 1 Sam 12:23.

HCOB Adult Sunday School

SUMMER COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will be studying, “Why Trust the Bible?” In a culture where there is a growing skepticism concerning the authority of the Bible, we will examine evidences as to why the Bible can be trusted as a reliable record of God's message to our world.

June 5	“Don't Believe Everything You Read”	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
June 12	“Lost in Translation?”	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
June 19	“Copies of Copies of Copies of Copies?”	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
June 26	“Are These Really the Books You're Looking For?”	Teacher: Doug Hinton

Messages in June

June 5



Reconciliation Before Offering —Matthew 5:23-24

Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching

How seriously do we take Jesus' commands? How far are we willing to go to make things right with someone we offended? What is more important to God: our offering or right relationship with one another? What will this take? We live in a world that wants to *be* right but not always *live* right. As followers of Christ, how can we be different?

June 12



Love Is Not Self-Seeking—1 Corinthians 13:5; Matthew 14:13-21

Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching

Bible dictionaries define “self-seeking” as “to try to get or reach something we desire; to try to find; seek information; desire; try to obtain; attempt to find.” All of this comes out of our wanting to satisfy our own desires and thinking solely of ourselves. But self-focus is the opposite of love. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians is largely written to address the many ways they were self-seeking. No one was more selfless than Jesus, who demonstrates how we should live through Matthew’s story of the feeding of the 5,000.

June 19

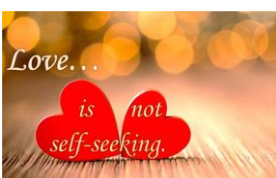


What Are You Seeking?—John 3:22-30

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

What are you seeking in life? We often, and in many ways, try to find our joy and fulfillment by looking inward to ourselves. That leads to worry and anxiety over protecting what we have. True joy comes in the truth John the Baptist professes: Christ must become greater; I must become less.

June 26



The “Me” Effect—Ephesians 4:17-24

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

An August 2015 Barna poll found this: “People can believe whatever they want, as long as those beliefs don’t affect society”—79 percent agreed; 61 percent of Christians agreed. Who is your authority for your life? Do you believe that what you believe affects society? Paul says with the truth that is in Jesus... we are to be made new in the attitude of our minds. Yes, we will change the world—the question is how and for whom.

June Ministry Schedules

June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

NURSERY

Carol Koser
Marg Zurin, Diane Garber, Jen Lugar
Sue Brubaker, Sallie Hoppert, Kensey Rice
Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Abby Wright



June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

Dick Caldwell
Rich & Jamie Bushong
Dave Schott
Matt Markey

SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

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



June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

One of the pastors
Dennis Hughes
Randy Ziegler
Joel Kettering

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Ben Johnson
Doug Howard
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson

June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

DEACON GREETERS

Paula Connelly
Wes Bowers
Pete Moore
Joel Kettering

JNH GREETERS

Curtis & Jean May
Jim & Sue Musser
Butch Nachbar
Roger & Gladys Ulmer



OFFERING TABULATORS

Dave Dum, Rick Schaidle

Praying Attention

I came across this piece in the May –June 2016 publication of the Upper Room so this may look familiar to some, however I think it's worth repeating.

The Title of the Daily Devotion is "Why Pray"?

"Prayer is one way we have of serving God. It is not our means of getting God to do our will on earth but a means of getting God's will done on earth. As we pray, God helps us find solutions to the numerous puzzling and painful situations of our lives. God's wisdom surely exceeds ours. When we do not know what the will of God is, prayer will help us discern it. James 4:2 says "You do not have, because you do not ask". This verse reminds us that we must ask in order to receive. If the blind man of Jericho had not called out to Jesus, he would have remained blind (See Luke 18:35-43). Just as we do not know who will respond to the message of Jesus until we share it, we may never see the results of a prayer that was not prayed. We pray to acknowledge our faith in God and to find the power to be God's people in the world."

Written by Francisco de Castro Maria (Luanda, Angola)

HCOB Kids News



June is here! Very hard to believe. With June comes so many fun things. The HCOB Kids gang are ready for summer vacation!!!!
AND VBS!!!

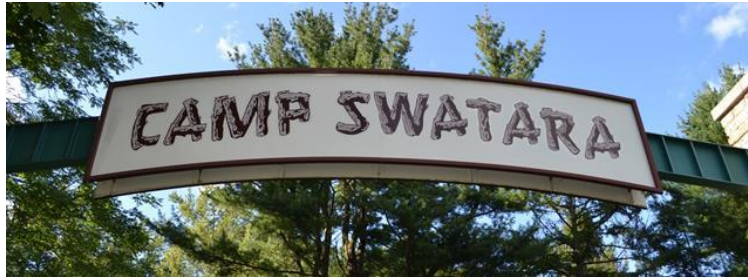
Due to the crazy summer schedules, the older classes in Kids' Church, 1st through 5th, will be combined. Mrs. Rice will be leading the classes most Sundays. Teachers and Assistants will be helping out. Look for some fun skits and puppet shows written by Pastor Kent! The preschool/Kindergarten class will continue as usual.

VBS begins June 20th to the 23rd!!!! Still plenty of spots for people to help out and always plenty of room for kids and their friends! Don't forget to sign-up either with the registration forms on the VBS table, or on-line through our church website. Start asking friends to come along with you! Get ready for some undersea adventures!!!!

Enjoy a safe and wonderful summer! Share special memories with your families AND remember to include Christ in your summer activities!

VBS scripture: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way. Psalm 139:23-24

Outreach @ HCOB



This is the time of year when Camp Swatara starts to come alive. This beautiful oasis, founded in 1943 by the Church of the Brethren, sits at the foot of Blue Mountain in northwestern Berks County. The Camp is an outdoor ministry facility that provides opportunities for people of all ages to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Nature, the visible sign of God's love for all, provides a perfect setting to deepen, renew or begin a walk with Christ.

Hempfield COB supports Camp Swatara in several different ways. We provide financial support, our youth volunteer as counselors, Jason Haldeman actively participates as the full-time Program Coordinator for a number of the camp's programs, and our members participate in Camp fundraisers.

Camp kicked off in April with volunteers coming to open up the hiking trails by checking blazes, clearing branches and identifying any other needs. April was also the opening of the Family Camping Center for the 2016 season. Camp Swatara offers a great weekend getaway for families to grow closer by spending time away from video games and having fun together in nature.

The Camp offers an amazing array of specialty camps for kids in grades 2 through 12. To name just a few - for kids with an interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and math there is a camp for you; for creative kids there is a Creative Arts camp; for kids who love music, there is a music camp. Then there is a Girl Power week to help build self-esteem for girls in grades 3-5. Kids that are into extreme adventures can go to Adirondack camp and enjoy hiking, mountain biking, canoeing, and white water rafting.



There is much more that could be shared but the best thing about all of these camps is that the underlying theme is to help campers draw closer to God. The challenge course is a great way to physically test what it feels like to put your trust in God.

If you or your children have not experienced Camp Swatara, go to the website – www.campswatara.org – and check out all the opportunities that families, groups, children and youth can share and enjoy this summer.

JUNE 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Young Adult Fellowship & Study	2 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	3	4 8:00 AM Annual Conference Briefing 1:00 PM EMM Christian/Muslim Relations Team Seminar 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
5 Graduation Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Youth Grab 'N Go Lunch Fundraiser 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	6 7:00 PM Education Team	7	8 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice	9	10 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	11 2:00 PM Rannel's birthday party 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
12 2-Cent-A-Meal Offering 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Young Families Lunch 1:30 PM Keeney Rental 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	13 9:00 AM Friends Together Week	14 9:00 AM Friends Together Week 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 12:00 PM Silver Singles 6:30 PM Fellowship & Hospitality Team 7:00 PM Stewards of Property 7:00 PM Worship Team	15 HERALD DEADLINE 9:00 AM Friends Together Week 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Young Adult Fellowship & Study	16 9:00 AM Friends Together Week	17 9:00 AM Friends Together Week	18 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
19 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	20 6:30 PM Vacation Bible School	21 6:30 PM Vacation Bible School	22 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Vacation Bible School	23 6:30 PM Vacation Bible School	24	25 10:00 AM Witmer Family Bridal Shower 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
26 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Youth Grab 'N Go Lunch Fundraiser 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	27	28 Creation Festival 7:00 PM Leadership Team	29 COB Annual Conference Creation Festival 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice	30 COB Annual Conference Creation Festival 4:00 PM QE Brass Rehearsal		

For more details about upcoming events and up-to-date calendar information, please visit

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

**Toon of
The Month**



**Toon of
The Month**



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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