

Pastor Pete Kontra *The Good Old Days*

Do you ever think about the “good old days”? Is there such a thing?

Ecclesiastes 7:10 says... *“Do not say, ‘Why were the former days better than these?’ For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.”*

Ah, the wonderful magic of nostalgia. I know I am not that old—only 46! But I certainly get caught up in thinking about events or days gone by and think how great they were. And there were some great things about them, that’s why we remember former days fondly.

But my Dad said it well recently. We were walking through a museum, looking at all the old farming equipment and household tools. He looked at me and said, “You know, so many times people say those were the ‘good old days. Everything was simpler and all that.’” He said, “Yes, in some ways things were simpler, and there were good things for sure. But they were not *all* good. We worked hard. It wasn’t so Normal Rockwell as we like to make it.”

How limited our vision can be. So much that we look backwards instead of forward.

One of my favorite stories of God’s people is of their journey from freedom from slavery in Egypt to the promised land. Things got challenging, and so they started looking backward, desiring to be slaves again instead of seeing the true freedom they had. Clearly, we as humans do not always do well with transition, even when we know it is to a better place. We want to go back to what we knew, even though it enslaved us. We doubt God’s ability to lead us.

Even Stephen Hawking, genius scientist, said that if time travel were possible we could only travel into the future. Even physically, going backwards is not possible.

What does that say for our younger, upcoming generations? No current time is ever perfect. And so it’s looking expectantly at what God is up to now and where we are going.

I mean, who did Jesus ever leave the same? Peter? Any of the disciples? Mary Magdalene? The Samaritan woman at the well? The Centurion at the foot of the cross? Saul?

Transformation. Why would His church be any different?

What are examples of change vs. transformation within the church?

- Controlled by structure/constitution of church vs. how God is leading us in the present moment.
- Whether we ask if this action is “brethren” or just something good that needs to be done.
- What “church” means in relation to the building, worship, how people connect.
- Technology has transformed how we communicate and think about community.
- *“For God so loved the world”*—transforms what we think about who can be saved and how that happens.

Did the early Brethren set up “traditions”? Or were they simply following Christ?

The foundation of the church has always been, is, and always will be, Jesus Christ.

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.” Ephesians 2:20

God bless you! -Pastor Pete

From Pastor Doug

Celebrate! Rejoice! But don't get comfortable...

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. -2 Corinthians 13:11

God is moving through and doing some awesome things here at Hempfield! Through smaller groups, relationships are being established and built up....our Young Adults, Young Families, Sunday Schools, youth group, small groups, women's Bible studies, Sewing Circle, TNT – there are many ways and groups for people to join and get connected! Our Spirit-filled, Spirit-led worship services bring us into God's throne room as people of all ages share their gifts to edify the body of Christ. Through instrumentalists and singers, those who share part of their story or read Scripture, bring the message, run the soundboard, open the church, or facilitate worship leaders, many people join together to move forward with an united purpose. Whether joining together to do road clean up, spread mulch, participate in Friends Together or VBS, travelling to Detroit in August or Costa Rica in July, people of all ages are joining together to bless our neighbors and reach others. As we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ, whether seen or unseen, God is doing many great things! And we praise Him for all He's doing through His faithful followers!

The danger in all this is that we become comfortable or accept new norms and stop striving to sharpen one another, encourage one another, and continue to reach out to those people around us who may or may not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We live in a world that lives off of division, fear, arrogance, and self-righteousness. We must be on our guard that we do not fall into these traps and allow division or complacency into the body. As we ponder the many great things God is doing and assess where comfort or complacency may be creeping in, think on these questions:

- Who have I encouraged in the last day, week, or month in the body of Christ? How?
- How have I blessed those around me, whether a follower of Christ or not, in the same time frame?
- Who have I shared my testimony, my walk with of faith with in the last month? How did they respond? *Or*, what holds me back?
- Is there a ministry, or ministry team at church that I could use my gifts to edify the body? How would I need to adjust my schedule? Would I have to give something up in order to strengthen the body?

As you ponder these questions, I encourage you and echo the words of Paul: *Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.*

Your brother and fellow worker in Christ, Pastor Doug

HCOB Kids News

Karen Rice



As I write this article for the Herald, it is actually June and I am surrounded by decorations for this year's VBS. Lots of colors, shapes, sizes...even some smells. For the most part, these things are all very pleasing to me. Okay, some of the smells are a little less pleasing, but they are a means to an end. The end will be an amazing week with kids who will be SUPER excited and who will feel loved. This love will come, not only from the wonderful folks volunteering, but mostly from our amazing God! This might be the only time that we get to show some of these children God's love. What a blessing for them AND for us!!!

Please continue to pray for our children this summer. Pray for their families as well. Summer is a wonderful chance for them to make memories and grow closer as families! Also, a great time to pray for their impending school year.

Mission Possible

Pastor Kent Rice

Don't Be Afraid To Fail

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. – 2 Tim 1:7

Sometimes great things fail to happen because they never start. Why? Often we fail to start things, join things, or even try things because we are afraid that we will “fail.” So let’s assume we’re right—we try something and it goes over like a lead balloon. So what?

Authors, inventors and people in all walks of life are constantly told that their work isn’t good enough. But that’s not even accurate—what they are *actually* told is that a person(s) didn’t like it or appreciate it or believe in it. That doesn’t mean *everyone* agrees.

But what if everyone *did* tell you that your work wasn’t good enough? That *you* aren’t good enough? So what? Should we give people the power to demoralize us?

Winston Churchill once said, “Success is the ability to go from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm.” When things don’t work out, the only thing keeping you down is *you*. Don’t let others’ opinions of you mean more than *God’s* opinion of you. He thinks you are amazing—he puts your pictures on his big old refrigerator and beams with pride.

Six billion “No’s” count less than one God’s “Yes.” Find your approval and identity in Jesus Christ!

HCOB Adult Sunday School

SUMMER COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will continue the study, “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. Beginning with the last Sundays of July we will follow the International Sunday School Lessons which is based on a study of the Book of Romans.

July 3	But Can I Trust you?	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
July 10	So Did It Happen?	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
July 17	Take It on the Word of a Resurrected Man	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
July 24	Romans 5:1-11 – Unwavering Hope	Teacher: TBA
July 31	Romans 6:14, 12-14, 17-23 – Death to Life	Teacher: TBA

Messages in July

July 3



What Is Fair? —Matthew 20:1-16

Pastor Kent Rice Preaching

Pastor Geoff reminds us that "anger is an emotional response to a perception that something is unfair." Is it unfair that the ones who worked all day made the same money as the ones who worked for an hour? Do we do the same thing with blessings? What do we really "deserve?"

July 10



I'll Show You!—1 Peter 3:8-22

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

As followers of Christ we are called to do good, but there are times it seems as if it doesn't make a difference. In fact, in doing good others may even get angry with us. What do we do? 1 Peter reminds us that in all times we must seek peace and pursue it, don't fear what others fear, and be prepared to give a testimony. Are you eager to do good? Is Christ set apart as Lord of your heart? What do we show others with our lives?

July 17



Love Is Not Easily Angered—1 Corinthians 13:5; Matthew 5:21-26

Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching

There are many people – maybe (probably) even you – who experience the emotion of “anger” about events and situations in our world today. When we are angry, we disagree with what has happened and can't believe how unfair it is. Our standards, values, and beliefs have been violated and we just can't accept that. But Paul writes that love – God's love for us – is not easily angered. How can we possibly understand this in the context of everything that's happening that seems so out-of-control? Maybe we can learn something from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Maybe we can learn how to deal with any situation differently.

July 24



Keep the Son Shining—Ephesians 4:17-32

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

Times will come when we get angry, so what do we do? Paul says, deal with it right away. The old self would have stewed and let it fester—the new self in Christ brings healing and truth. Keep the Son shining in your life.

July 31



Speaking, Listening and Anger—James 1:19-27, Romans 2:17-24

Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching

The writer of James says, 'Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.' Why would he warn people about speaking when angry and encourage them to listen? Do we model Christ to those around us? Do we want to teach, preach, correct and hold them to a standard that we ourselves fall short? Let's dig in, listen to the Word, and see how we can walk in step with Christ as we listen to James.

July Ministry Schedules

July 3
July 10
July 17
July 24
July 31

NURSERY

Carol Koser
Marg Zurin, Diane Garber, Karen Rice
Sue Brubaker, Sallie Hoppert, Kensey Rice
Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Carolyn Gingrich



July 3
July 10
July 17
July 24
July 31

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

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



July 3
July 10
July 17
July 24
July 31

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

One of the Pastors
Pete Cope
Dennis Hughes
Randy Ziegler
Tom Fritz

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



July 3
July 10
July 17
July 24
July 31

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Doug Howard
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson

July 3
July 10
July 17
July 24
July 31

DEACON GREETERS

Gladys Metzler
Tom Connelly
Lois Killian
Betty Cox
Ruth Johnson

JNH GREETERS

Jeff & Bev Moyer
Butch Nachbar
Richard & Carolyn Gingrich
Carl & Lisa Polonchak
Bruce, Bonnie & Abby Wright



OFFERING TABULATORS

Jim Stauffer, Dwayne Hostetter, Sue Hostetter

Outreach @ HCOB



This month we are featuring the Alpha and Omega Community Center, another HCOB Outreach partner. This organization has been serving the Hispanic community in Lancaster since 1991. The purpose of the Community Center is to provide education and services to assist the Latino community of Lancaster County become more productive members of the community. Currently Rev. Joel Pena serves as the Center's Director.

The Center takes a holistic approach to helping people be the best that they can be. The Center's services include: counseling, English classes, a food bank, a music academy, computer classes and a weekly radio program in Spanish. This work truly demonstrates what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community.

Whether it's professional counseling services or English and computer classes, the Center provides a valuable bridge to help people build self-esteem and eliminate "fear" – the fear of speaking up, the fear of using technology, or the fear of not knowing how to function in a new environment.



The Food bank distributes food twice a month in the Family Life Center basement. The program is designed to assist those who are going through the financial struggles. How important it is to remember that we have neighbors who are struggling just to feed their families.

In talking to Pastor Pena, he strongly voiced his gratitude for the many ways that HCOB has supported the Center. First and foremost, we have supported them through our prayers. We have also had two of our members, Dennis Hughes and Dennis Heisey, serve on their BOD for over 15 years combined, lending their guidance and expertise to help the Center continue to grow.

Many at HCOB have helped with fundraising, including championing special events and sponsoring their annual banquet; the church has made annual financial contributions; and a number of our members have made individual contributions. For those who like hands on project, they have volunteered at the food bank.

Dennis Hughes shared that "the best thing about the A&O Center is it's compassion for people in trouble. They have the heart to help with all matters of Christian development with love. They reach out to the Spanish speaking community and are willing to help people transition into the American culture!!! I was so blessed to be able to serve with such loving people."

JULY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 COB Annual Conference Creation Festival	2 COB Annual Conference Creation Festival 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
3 COB Annual Conference Creation Festival 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	4 Church Office Closed	5	6 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Young Adult Fellowship & Study	7 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	8 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	9 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
10 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	11 Youth Trip to Costa Rica	12 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 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	13 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice	14 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 4:00 PM QE Brass Rehearsal	15 Youth Trip to Costa Rica	16 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
17 Youth Trip to Costa Rica 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	18 5:00 PM Setup WORDD Social	19 6:00 PM WORDD Summer Celebration	20 HERALD DEADLINE 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Young Adult Fellowship & Study	21	22	23 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
24 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	25	26 7:00 PM Leadership Team	27 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM QE Brass Rehearsal	28	29	30 4:00 PM Metzler Family Reunion 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
31 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						

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

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

**Toon of
The Month**



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The Month**



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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