

Risk & Trust

Pastor Pete Kontra

The hang-glider rides the tramway to the top of Sandia Peak overlooking Albuquerque. At the tip of the peak, he stretches the gossamer fabric over a lightweight metal frame and leaps off the mountain into the clear air.

Twenty-five thousand people shoot the rapids of the Colorado River each summer. Rising and falling with the swirling current, they enjoy the thrill of beating the odds and taming the river.

In another kind of risk, many enjoy playing the commodities markets. Betting on the future price of certain goods, they seek to profit in the face of the unknowable future.

There is so much we risk everyday in life, and yet there is something far more exciting and fulfilling than anything in this world that we have all around us.

How many of us identify the call of the Lord Jesus Christ with a willingness to take risks for the sake of His church and kingdom? All of us have been given by God a quantity of the "stuff of life." That stuff is our time, talent, and resources. God has given us the same 24 hours per day. God has given everyone a talent, a capacity. God has entrusted us with resources. The "Parable of the Talents" does not have so much to do with how many talents one is given, but with what I'm willing to do for the sake of the Lord and His work.

Too often the motto of the church is: "*Come weal or woe, The only status we know is quo.*"

The present challenge before the church calls for a willingness to give God all we have. We will be called upon to give time, talent, and resources. To many today, time is more precious than money.

Whether we can cook, teach, pull weeds, make home visits or exercise the gift of prayer, we can all use the talent that God has given us.

Yes, God is stretching us and calling us to step out of our comfort zones, but that is what He does with His church. He has always led His people into new worlds and new people for His glory and the salvation of all.

Yes, it means that you and I must pray and ask God what it is that He wants us to do with all that He has given us. Trust Him completely.

God does not expect us to go beyond the gifts He's given us. Some have a five-talent capacity, some a two-talent capacity, and others a one-talent capacity. If God has given us pebbles, God does not expect us to build a pyramid, but God does expect us to build. If God has given us burlap thread, God does not expect us to weave golden garments, but God expects us to weave something.

When we are willing to give something for God, we have the assurance that we are simply putting our lives in His hands, under His control, where we are always assured of our future, no matter what. Simply read about the early disciples and early church to assure yourself of that. They risked and gave all they had—yes even their lives—and here we are today.

May we continue on in Christ! God bless you. -Pastor Pete

Peace, Reconciliation & the Brethren

Pastor Doug Hinton

*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And **he died for all**, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again... All this is from God, **who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation**: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **We are therefore Christ's ambassadors**...*
2 Corinthians 5:15-16, 18-20

Brethren are known as a pacifist body. We are known both by Christians and non-believers alike to carry the message of peace. Our voice needs to be different if it is to be heard at all. As Christians in a Brethren tradition, we can PLAA: **Pray, Listen, Assess, and Act**.

Pray. Jesus encourages followers to pray for our enemies (Matt. 5.44), to pray in secret and be direct (Matt 6.6-7), and that his house was a house of prayer for all nations (Mark 11.17). Pray for those around you: your co-workers and family, your friends and neighbors, your fellow church members and the churches in the area. Pray that he may give you His eyes to see those around you and His spirit to listen for opportunities to bring about His kingdom.

Listen. To the teachings of Christ, to your co-workers and family, to your friends and yourself. What do those around you care about? What is important to them? What is God trying to teach you right now – and have you even asked Him? Are you caring for yourself: what is your body telling you? Are you getting enough sleep, exercise, rest? What keeps you from listening to others? What keeps you from listening to yourself? What distractions and 'busy activities' can be removed to help you become a better listener?

Assess. Assess the tension, the tiredness, the busy-ness of life. Assess your relationships with those around you. Assess how you can begin to speak or live differently after praying and listening so that your voice-or rather the Spirit of the One within you-can be heard. What needs to change in your life? How are you making an impact already for the Kingdom of God? What is an area you would like to grow in or explore to better understand yourself or others? What is the first step to gain that understanding? Who do you need to contact or surround yourself with?

Act. As ambassadors of Christ--his voice and mouthpiece, his hands and feet to those around us--are we seeking to participate in his plan of reconciliation or going through the motions in life? Follow that passage in the Bible that may challenge you to live differently than our society. Follow that passage that challenges you to live differently than you're used to. Show love to that person at work who throws you under the bus. Reach out to that family member who hurt you so long ago. Reach out to a black neighbor to begin or deepen a relationship to more fully understand them. Take a meal to the neighbor who has a political sign in their yard that you may despise. **Act now!**

There's no greater time to seek out peace through the reconciliation that Christ begun than right now! Peace is costly: it calls us to die to ourselves, it calls us to listen and seek understanding, it calls us move and act! Peace is not passive but active and embracing. The cost is high, but the value that it carries far outweighs any cost associated. **Christ died for all...reconciled us to God through his blood...and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.** Let's follow Christ! Now, go outside and **PLAA!**

Mission Possible

Pastor Kent Rice

The Encouragement of Helping

"What do you need?"

Man, what a great thing to hear when you're in leadership. I can't begin to tell you what a lift it gives me when people come alongside projects and not only lend a hand but have happy hearts in doing it. Whether you're ministering to the secular OR the Christian community, HOW you do things is as important as WHAT you do. Why? Because there are many ways of feeding people, aren't there?

I, for one, would rather die of hunger while knowing Jesus than to eat a sandwich without Him. When you're serving, there are lots of opportunities to do both. You don't have to be "a great evangelist" but you DO have to be kind. Show someone Christ for a while before you tell them about Christ.

Make them curious! Make them wonder, "Why are they so full of joy?" Then when you tell them the reason for the hope you have (with gentleness and respect) your answer will have traction and authenticity.

You don't have to know all the answers--you just have to know for Whom you are working!

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect... --1 Peter 3:15

HCOB Kids News

Karen Rice



What a beautiful time of year! There is a nice crisp feeling and the colors are beginning to change. What an amazing God who gives us such beauty!!!

We are back into the swing of fall. The first through fifth grades are working on the children's version of e100. It is called Big Bible Challenge. We hope that this gives families a chance to be a little more a part of the lessons on Sunday. The website, www.BigBibleChallenge.com, gives you a chance to see what we are currently working on.

Thanks to all who signed up to be Prayer Buddies! Please let me know if you are having any trouble connecting with your Big or your Little Buddy.

Enjoy the beautiful sights and smells!

God bless!
Karen Rice

Messages in October

October 2



Because I Know — 2 Timothy 1:8-14

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

Paul says, even though to the world I am a complete failure, ready to be executed, I am not ashamed. Because he knows Jesus Christ, and trusts Him with it all. How do you face life? Working hard to avoid and escape trials? Or are you secure in the love of the One who's been here before the beginning of time?

October 9



Stephen—Acts 6:8-15

Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching

To live in the world, in this world, is to live in tension. Facing this upcoming election, I've witnessed an attitude of fear from followers of Christ: fear that we will lose 'rights,' fear that we will no longer be able to share our faith or pray in public, fear of what our children are learning in schools, fear, fear, fear. Is this what freedom in Christ is supposed to look like? If love always trusts, always protects, believes all things, bears all things, what do we have to fear? Let's take a look at Stephen in the book of Acts and see how his testimony may keep us grounded.

October 16



Hanging by a Thread—Luke 5:17-26

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

Love always protects, always trusts. What better image is there than a paralyzed man being dangled from a roof by his buddies? That's trust. That's protecting their friend. In life we can find ourselves on either side of this story—needing to serve and sometimes be served. Are you free in Christ to share in that vulnerability and thereby show His love?

October 23



Love Always Protects, Always Trusts

1 Corinthians 13:7a; John 16:31-17:26; John 12:37-43

Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching

In our continuing closer look at God's love, 1 Corinthians 13:7 introduces four specific attributes of love that are "always" put into action. This month, we're looking at the first two: Protects and Trusts. Given all that's going on in the world today, and how vulnerable and unsafe so many people feel, why should we believe that God will protect us? And if trust is a belief in another's promise, why should we believe God's promises? And how should we, as followers of Christ, exhibit a love that protects and trusts? "If brothers and sister in Christ would believe in one another, setting suspicion aside and extending unconditional love, what a difference it would make in the church!" (www.gotquestions.org)

October 30



I Trust You—Psalm 37

Pastor Kent Rice Preaching

Is there a phrase that means anything like that? What power, what freedom, what love when someone says, "I trust you." We love God. If love "always trusts" then ask yourself, "Do I always trust God?"

October Ministry Schedules

October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

NURSERY

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



October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

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



October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Tom Fritz
Randy Ziegler
Joel Kettering
Pete Cope
Dennis Hughes

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Dave Bendit
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson
Doug Hinton
Dave Bendit

October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

DEACON GREETERS

Janet Moore
Tom Connelly
Wes Bowers
Nancy Haas
Pete Moore

JNH GREETERS

Jerry & Jean Barger
Carl & Lisa Polonchak
Roger & Gladys Ulmer
Jeff & Bev Moyer
Earl & Betty Zimmerman



OFFERING TABULATORS

Jim Stauffer, Dwayne Hostetter, Sue Hostetter

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.

October 2	Teacher: Denny Bushong
October 9	Teacher: TBA
October 16	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
October 23	Teacher: TBA
October 30	Teacher: Tom Fritz

† **THE OTHER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL BE STUDYING THE E100 CURRICULUM.** The readings for the upcoming week will be in the bulletin every week. Then they can be discussed in the various Sunday Schools and small groups. If you have any questions about the E100, please contact Pastor Doug.

Praying Attention



A prayer from Tommy Tenney's book, *Experiencing His Presence*:
Lord, let us leave Your presence more hungry than when we came in. May we always be grateful but desperate; thankful but still hungry. May our first and last prayer to You eternally be, "I'm hungry for You!"

HCOB Family News

2016 FALL CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING

The date for the Fall Congregational Gathering has been changed to Sunday November 13 following the worship service, rather than Thursday November 10 as indicated on the Church Calendar. The Gathering material, including the 2017 budget and 2017 Ministry Team slate, along with the Ministry Team and staff reports will be available Sunday October 30. Leadership will be available during the Sunday School hours on November 6 and 13 to answer any questions or concerns and voting will occur after the worship service on November 13. In addition, any amendments raised during the Sunday School hour discussions will be addressed at that time.

IF YOU BORROW ANYTHING from the JNH or kitchen please write your name and the items you are borrowing on the clipboard above the phone. Please sign them back in when you return the items. Thank you, The Hospitality Team

ANNUAL BRETHREN VILLAGE AUXILIARY SPONSORSHIP DRIVE- Suggested Sponsorship fees are \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 and other. Thank you for your response that will be greatly appreciated, as it helps with the many programs that the Auxiliary provides for the Village. Look for your representatives in the narthex October 9, 16, and 23.

-Gerrie Hurst and Lois Killian

MANY THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS who participated in the Bingo Game, Wheelchair Walks, and Birthday Party at the Brethren Village this year. These events really helped to enrich the lives of the residents. We are looking forward to our current Brethren Village Auxiliary Sponsorship Drive. - Gerrie Hurst and Lois Killian

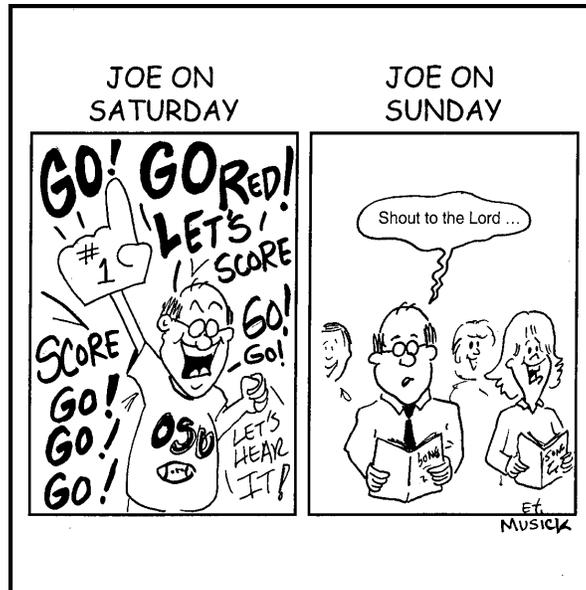
October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ 6:30 PM War Room Movie
2 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	3 7:00 PM Education Team	4 6:00 PM Young Adults & Families E100 Group 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	5 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E 100 Study	6 9:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 12:45 PM Pastor Doug in Class 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	7	8 ANE District Conference 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
9 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	10	11 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	12 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E 100 Study	13 12:45 PM Pastor Doug in Class	14 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	15 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
16 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	17	18 6:00 PM Young Adults & Families E100 Group 6:30 PM Outreach Team	19 HERALD DEADLINE 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Young Adult Fellowship & Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E 100 Study	20 9:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 12:45 PM Pastor Doug in Class	21	22 Pastor Doug in Class 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
23 Pastor Doug in Class 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	24 9:00 AM Mary Lou Ruth	25 7:00 PM Leadership Team	26 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E 100 Study	27 12:45 PM Pastor Doug in Class	28	29 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
30 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	31					

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

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