

One

John 17:20-26

Pastor Pete Kontra

Jesus prayed for us, that we would be one as He and His Father God are one. Paul says in Ephesians 4:6 that there is “one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

Our country, our world, and even our churches are divided. What does it mean to be one as Jesus and our Father God are one? Why is it important?

Jesus said it is the way the world will come to know His love and believe.

Our theme for 2017 is: ONE.

From the beginning it is God's will and design for us to know Him and His love, and each of us matter to fulfill God's plan. As we explore what all this means together, it is God's desire that we as His Body would be strengthened, that we would come to know Him more deeply, and truly focus on what is most important as followers of Christ.

What gifts have you been given? How do we work through our differences? How do we understand commitment? How do we live as one?

Please pray with us that God's love and His purpose for us in Christ continue to grow strong and clear. What awesome work does God have for us to accomplish in 2017?

Let's find out together! Blessings. -Pastor Pete

In This Issue...

- † Page 2—From Pastor Doug
- † Page 3—HCOB Kids
- † Page 3—Praying Attention
- † Page 4—Messages in January
- † Page 5—January Ministry Schedules
- † Page 6—Adult Sunday School Schedule
- † Page 6—HCOB Family News
- † Page 7—January Calendar
- † Back Cover—‘Toon of the Month

The Hands, Feet & Body of Christ

Pastor Doug Hinton

What a blessing to walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and be part of His body here at Hempfield COB. Over the last year, many members in our body have faced loss or tragedy, walking through dark valleys that challenge their faith or exhaust their resources. Greater than this still, are the members who reach out to those brothers and sisters in challenging times to come alongside them, pray with them, process with them, send them notes or flowers or meals, and let them know that they are not alone. **Galatians 6:2** says, “Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.” I have watched members in our body do this time and again. I realized in the last week or so, to “bear one another’s burdens” is not to take them fully on yourself, but rather, help another carry them to the cross. In other words, I cannot make another person’s choice, they need to decide for themselves what to do next or how to receive help. What I can do is walk with them, listen to them, pray with them, and share in their burden. And you can too. And you have. At one point in the last semester, I asked for prayer for strength and a fresh anointing of God’s presence. That’s the other side of this discussion. As members of one body, we must allow others to help us when we need it. No room for pride or isolation in the body of Christ, but allowing others to use their gifts as well. Let others share in our burden, knowing that in time, we may reciprocate the roles. In doing this, the law of Christ is fulfilled because we are all sealed with the same Spirit, and just as God speaks to us through His Word, He can speak to us through His servants both in word and presence (i.e. just being together). My encouragement today: continue to walk with one another. My caution: walk with one another, but also find time to rest, to seek the Word, pray to God, or simply, take a nap. I said it once, I’ll say it again: What a blessing to see the One and same Holy Spirit move through the body of Christ!

Youth: DC 2016

We had a great trip to Washington D.C. from November 18-20th. Travelling with Lititz COB and a District Cabinet Youth Member, Lovey, we participated in Project Giveback, handed out meals at St. Stephen’s Baptist Church, and travelled to Franklin Square to partner with Widow’s Pantry. In Franklin Square, we prayed with some who were homeless, addicts, or in hard times. We handed out Bibles and tracts, bagged lunches, and warm clothes to those people in need. It is always a humbling and sober reminder that no matter a person’s situation, we need to look him in



the eye and see that he is an image-bearer of God. We need to speak to that individual and help her recognize she was fearfully and wonderfully made, and God knows her situation. That Christ did not hold our sins against us when He died on the Cross, and we need to look past people’s choices so that they can receive the gift of forgiveness, the gift of the Spirit too. On Sunday, we worshipped with our brothers and sisters at St Stephen’s and remembered Larry Fittery who made this trip for years and passed in April. God is moving through His body in Christ! This weekend reminds us to see and participate with the larger body.

HCOB Kids News

Karen Rice



HCOB Kids - 2017!

Can you believe it?! 2017!!!

HCOB Kids welcomes the new year with excitement and joy! We would like to thank all the adults who have been helping out in so many ways during 2016. You are such a blessing!!!! (If you have not been able to help this past year, keep your eyes peeled for ways to help out in 2017! There will be plenty!!!)

Our Gingerbread Competition was SO much fun this past year. We hope that more of you can join us next year. It is really just plain fun! Lots of socializing and getting to know each other. We end things with Christmas carols and remembering the true meaning of our celebration...JESUS BIRTHDAY! Put it on your calendars now...December 3rd at 3pm. It's a blast!!!!

Hard to believe, but there are already plans being made for VBS 2017! **Monday, July 10th to Thursday, July 13th.** Be ready to attend, help out or both! It is going to be "out of this world!"

"Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies to silence the foe and the avenger." --Psalms 8:2

Praying Attention



"Prayer mixed with faith can defeat the enemy, change world events, find the lost, heal the sick, lift up the fallen, loose the hold from evil spirits and find guidance."

From the book "*Mary's Prayers and Martha's Recipes*" by Tommy Tenney

Messages in January

January 1



One—Ephesians 4:1-6

Pastor Doug Hinton Preaching

One body, one faith, one Father, one baptism, one Lord, one hope, one God. One. As we introduce our theme for the year, One, we will begin to ask questions and seek to explore why unity in the body of Christ can be such a powerful witness in today's culture. How can we be one body and disagree with one another? How can we be under one hope and yet, seem to hold different beliefs? Has this happened in the church before? What is needed for us to move forward? We'll look at this theme as it's found in the book of Ephesians and seek what it means to be one.

January 8



One—John 17:20-26

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

Jesus prayed for us, that we would be one as He and His Father God are one. Paul says in Ephesians 4:6 that there is "one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." Our country, our world, and even our churches are divided. What does it mean to be one as Jesus and our Father God are one? Why is it important? Jesus said it is the way the world will come to know His love and believe.

January 15



The Most Important One—Mark 12:28-34 & Deuteronomy 6:1-12

Pastor Pete Kontra Preaching

The Jewish leaders questioned Jesus' authority, looked for ways to arrest Him, tried to catch Him in His words, trap Him with tough theological questions. Why? Because even though there are many important things in this world to know and to do, they raised those up higher than God's command to love. What is most important in your life? May it be our One True God and the love He has shown.

January 22



One God—Exodus 20:1-21; Acts 17:16-34

Pastor Geoff Davis Preaching

God continually had to remind the Israelites that he was the only God and that there were no other gods they should follow. He created a covenant promise with them to show how much he loved them. He gave them standards of behavior that would help them remember who he was. Without this realization that "the Lord your God is one," God's people disobeyed, were oppressed, called out for help, and were continually saved by the one true God. Life was a mess when they didn't remember that there was one God. Are we really that different?

January 29



Let's Be Different Together—Revelation 7:8-10

Pastor Kent Rice Preaching

Remembrance Sunday—10:15 Service Only—No 8:00 Service

The multitudes in Heaven cried out in the great voice, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." They were from every nation but united through the blood of Christ. Their lives on earth were vastly different and diverse. Our voices, too, can cry out as one—even though we are very different. The ignorant church stresses conformity and the Christ-focused church stresses intimacy with God! And it is God who tells you how to get there...in the way that He made you!

January Ministry Schedules

January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

NURSERY

Carol Koser, Ivy Davis, Peg Layman
Marg Zurin, Carolyn Gingrich, Karen Rice
Sue Brubaker, Sallie Hoppert, Kensey Rice
Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Jake Rannels
Angela Ebersole, Naomi Beach, Emmy Schott



January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

Dick Caldwell & Rich Bushong
Rich & Jamie Bushong
Dave Schott
Rich & Jamie Bushong
No 8:00 Service

SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

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



January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

One of the pastors
Randy Ziegler
Ray O'Boyle
Tom Fritz
No 8:00 Service

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

Sarah Barger
Diane Garber
Sanctuary Choir
Sanctuary Choir
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS—10:15

Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson
Doug Howard
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson

January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

DEACON GREETERS

Tom Connelly
Penny Kettering
Ruth Johnson
Wes Bowers
Doris Wright

JNH GREETERS

Earl & Betty Zimmerman
Bruce, Bonnie & Abby Wright
Edith Martin
Richard & Carolyn Gingrich
Jerry & Jean Barger



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.

January 1	Praising God the Creator	Teacher: Denny Bushong
January 8	All Creation Overflows with Praise	Teacher: Butch Nachbar
January 15	Praise God the Provider	Teacher: Jim Kettering
January 22	Praise God the Creator	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
January 29	All Creation Praises God	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.

HCOB Family News

GREET & EAT WITH CRAIG SMITH—Save the Date—January 15th after the 10:15 Sunday service. Craig Smith is retiring! Join us in honoring him for all his years of service as the ANE District Executive.

MANY THANKS TO THE BAKERS who provided cookies for the Brethren Village Cookie and Craft Sale and for those who attended. \$1,206 was the net profit from the cookie sale alone. —Gerrie Hurst and Lois Killian

DEACONS AND DEACONESSES WE THANK YOU for all your services to us throughout the year, especially for the thirty-seven Christmas baskets and boxes that were prepared for some of us.-- Members of the Hempfield Church

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS for the sanctuary in the coming year please sign up for a Sunday on the chart in the outer office.

SERVICE CANCELLATION POLICY: In the event of inclement weather, you can receive information about service cancellations in a variety of ways:

1. Via text if you have signed up with the church office for this service
2. On our church website at www.hempfieldcob.org
3. On the radio stations WJTL FM 90.3 and WDAC FM 94.5.

STEWARD OF THE MONTH SIGNUP SHEET for 2017 is on the bulletin board in the outer office. If you would be willing to take a turn opening and closing the church on Sunday for one month, please sign up for this important ministry.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS—If you are interested in becoming a member of HCOB, Pastor Pete will be holding a membership class on January 15, 22, and 29 at 9:00 AM. Please see Pastor Pete for more information.

WANTED: GRACIOUS BAKERS to donate cakes, cookies etc. for Retirement Party for Craig Smith. Please deliver to church kitchen by Sunday A.M. January 15th.

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day Pastor Pete on Vacation 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	2 Office Closed 7:30 PM Education Team	3 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	4 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:00 PM E 100 Study 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	6	7 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
8 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Ministry Teams Commissioning 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	9	10 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:30 PM Fellowship & Hospitality Team 7:00 PM Stewards of Property 7:00 PM Worship Team	11 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:00 PM E 100 Study 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12	13 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	14 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
15 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Membership Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Craig Smith Retirement Party 4:00 PM Miller family Christmas party 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	16 Church Office Closed Martin L. King, Jr. Day	17 6:30 PM Outreach Team	18 HERALD DEADLINE 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:00 PM E 100 Study 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
22 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Membership Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	23	24 7:00 PM Leadership Team	25 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:00 PM E 100 Study 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28 6:00 PM June Lantz practicing organ
29 9:00 AM Membership Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Service of Remembrance 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	30	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**



**Toon of
The Month**

JANUARY

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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