

Let us Fix Our Eyes on Christ!

Pastor Doug Hinton

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. –Hebrews 12:1-2

Christ is calling us to a new season in our church life. As we look to April with a possible affirmative vote to the recommendation of the Pastoral Search Team, by the end of the year, half of our staff will be different than last year. With this much change in such a short amount of time, questions have been raised on different levels as to the best way forward. Concerns have been raised as to continuity and momentum, i.e., will people fall through the cracks? Those who need a visit, our children, our youth...what is going to happen next? In some sense, there is a subtle uncertainty about the days ahead of us...however...

We must not take our eyes off the author and perfecter of our faith, Jesus Christ, who prepares, calls, and equips us to carry out His purposes! Already we see people stepping into new roles to strengthen our children and youth ministries. Already, new people are getting their clearances done to further come alongside our children. Already, people who barely knew one another previously are beginning to work together to edify and strengthen the body. Already, people are seeking how we can further strengthen the outreach ministries through this local body. Already, people are joining together with believers from other church bodies, laying differences aside to carry a unified witness for Christ forward into our community. Christ is ALREADY at work within the body here at Hempfield COB! HE has led us on this course and continues to set the trajectory on where we are going! HE is doing new things in individuals and groups here! To HIM be all honor, glory, and praise as we seek HIS will for our life here!

Questions, concerns and fears may rise. That's OK. My encouragement is that we take them all to Christ together and seek His guidance, wisdom, and strength. He has led us to this place and I am confident He is leading us now. Let us fix our eyes on Him "who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us," that is His Holy Spirit, and see what new things may come!

In This Issue...

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| † Page 2—"Forward Focus" by Laura Meiser | † Page 5—HCOB Kids |
| † Page 3—Messages in April | † Page 6—HCOB Family News |
| † Page 4—April Ministry Schedules | † Page 7—April HCOB Calendar |
| † Page 5—HCOB Adult Sunday School | † Back Cover—"Toon of the Month" |

Forward Focus

Laura Meiser

I ran a red light the other day. Why? Because I was so focused on looking at what was happening behind me in my tiny rear view mirror that I forgot to appropriately take in the information that was emerging in front of me. I was distracted on a drive that I make many times each week and it was nearly costly.

We do that in the Kingdom, too, don't we? We each have a God given assignment but past history and the mundane-ness of life can side track us. And we peer so hard in that rear view, unpacking over and over the things that cause us to feel left out, left behind, disqualified and disenchanted. We see the opportunities that could have been, the path not taken and decide that a new detour is impossible. We see that old passion but remember being scolded for daydreaming or not being productive. We lose focus.

Life moves on and the demands are many. And we continue to glance in that rear view.

It's easy to forget to let the windshield, our forward focus, inform our choices. Because with God, there's always another opportunity. Ephesians 2:10 says, *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

That word, 'workmanship', hails from the Greek word 'poiema'. It means "a product, a masterpiece." That means you and I are both masterpieces in His loving eyes. Created with intention and purpose with a God-ordained job to do.

But writers who never write cannot share the words God would have them pen for the one who needs to read them.

And the teacher who does not teach cannot inspire the one who needs to hear that wisdom.

The individual who wishes he or she was anywhere else won't do the God-thing that is right in front of them, calling in this season. And that might be as simple as praying with your children. Sending a card to someone experiencing loss. Praying for someone in need.

It's not all or nothing. It's not never because it hasn't come yet. There's still time. To dream. To learn. To try. It doesn't have to be big. But pause with God and He'll let you know.

Let the rear view instruct you. But don't let it side-track you. Look forward. There's always a new path.

Let's tune in and look around. Let's be willing to go. Let's see what God has for each of us at HCOB as we look intently at His best which is all around us.

Messages in April

April 1



Only a Fool Believes—*Luke 24:36-49*

Pastor Doug Hinton

After Jesus' death on a cross, darkness fell on the land while the disciples watched from a distance. On the third day, Jesus appeared to two after walking on the road to Emmaus. While telling their story to the apostles back in Jerusalem, Jesus appears again: showing his hands and feet, even eating fish. So what? Why is this important to our faith? To the faith of so many who walked before us? Is it really foolish to follow Christ?

April 8



Timothy's Spiritual Learning Curve—*2 Timothy 1:1-18*

Del Kautz

Timothy's spiritual journey began as a young lad learning from his mother and grandmother about the life of Jesus. He also learned about LIFE in Jesus from them. He also had a spiritually mature mentor to guide him on his journey with Jesus. That man's name was Paul. Timothy was also set apart for work in the ministry by the Church. Probably most of us can identify more closely with Timothy than some of the wonderful stories of persons who had a lightning fast life change when they met Jesus.

April 15



Taking a Tune from Thomas—*John 20:19-29*

Pastor Galen Hackman

We all struggle with doubts and fears and lack of confidence. Thomas is known for his doubting, but he was so much more, as a result of his interactions with Jesus, particularly after the Resurrection.

April 22



Hidden & Revealed in Christ—*Colossians 3:1-4*

Pastor Doug Hinton

Colossians 3 tells us that those who follow Christ are hidden in Him and they will be revealed in Him in glory. What does this mean? How can it impact our walk of faith in school, at work, at home, with our friends, family, and teammates? We'll look at the rest of Colossians 3 to better understand what Paul wrote.

April 29



Transformed—*John 20:1-18, Ephesians 4:1-10*

Laura Meiser

In the hours after the crucifixion, there was fear and uncertainty among Christ's followers, but before dawn on that Easter morning, Mary Magdalene was standing outside the tomb, prepared to worship Christ one last time. Her life had been transformed when Christ physically healed her and her spirit would soon be ministered to as well. What can we learn from Mary's encounter with Christ and how does it apply to our lives now?

April Ministry Schedules

April 1
April 8
April 15
April 22
April 29

NURSERY

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



April 1
April 8
April 15
April 22
April 29

WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

Tom Fritz
Ray O'Boyle
Janice Haldeman
Randy Ziegler
Joel Kettering

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

Kevin Zurin
Kim Glass
Laura Meiser
TBA
Doug Hinton

SPECIAL MUSIC



April 1
April 8
April 15
April 22
April 29

CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

Sanctuary Choir
TBA
Sanctuary Choir
TBA
TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Dave Bendit
Dave Bendit
Ben Johnson
Doug Howard
Dave Bendit



April 1
April 8
April 15
April 22
April 29

SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

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

SOUND TECHNICIANS—10:15

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



April 1
April 8
April 15
April 22
April 29

DEACON GREETERS

Ruth Johnson
Ron Smith
Betty Cox
Doris Wright
Millie Hoffman

JNH GREETERS

Jean & Jerry Barger
Edith Martin
Butch Nachbar
Jeff & Bev Moyer
Lowell Landis

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. Our theme for April is “All Glory and Honor.”

April 1	He Has Risen	Teacher: Denny Bushong
April 8	The Risen Lord Appears	Teacher: Butch Nachbar
April 15	Follow Me	Teacher: Bill Longenecker
April 22	The Lord God, the Almighty	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
April 29	Blessing, Glory, Honor Forever	Teacher: Tom Fritz

✠ **THE SEEKERS**—Please join us for teaching and discussion that will help us to delve deeper into our Christian faith and life. We are currently doing a Bible Study of the same Scriptures the pastors are preaching on each Sunday. We meet in the Prayer Room just off the Sanctuary. Rich Bushong is the contact person.

April 1	Luke 24:36-49	Teacher: Rich Bushong
April 8	2 Timothy 1:1-18	Teacher: Ray O’Boyle
April 15	John 20:19-29	Teacher: Tom Fritz
April 22	Colossians 3:1-4	Teacher: Ray Hutchison
April 29	John 20:1-18, Ephesians 4:1-10	Teacher: Dennis Bushong

HCOB Kids News

Laura Meiser



♥ **Digging in to God’s Word:** Our children continue to learn and grow in Kid’s Church! Each week children are guided through a Bible story and experience times to share and pray together. Children are tucking God’s word in their heart through Scripture memorization. How exciting it is so hear them excitedly share each new verse they learn!

- ♥ **Kid’s Praise and Worship:** Over the last few months, Kid’s Church kids have been exploring non-singing ways to worship God. One week we listened to music and each child drew a picture of what God spoke to their heart. We took time to build a prayer wall, decorating post-it notes with the blessings God has given us and sticking them to a wall. We also explored the significance of the communion table in the front of our sanctuary as well as the reasons why God’s people built altars in the Old Testament. Then we raised our own Ebenezer! (1 Samuel 7:12). So many ways to praise God!
- ♥ We had such fun as Prayer Buddies and others in the congregation met for a special **Easter Service Project**. We shared lunch and then came together to sort and stuff eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. What a big job but many hands make light work. Children also had the opportunity to experience serving as Christ served through foot washing in preparation for our spring Love Feast.
- ♥ **A special thank you** to everyone who has volunteered their time, talents or shared supplies so generously. While the children may be the future of HCOB they are also present right now! Your investment into their spiritual journey is crucial and so greatly appreciated.

HCOB Family News

UPDATES FROM THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee is pleased to recommend our own Pastor Doug Hinton as our next Senior Pastor. Please join us for the following two events:

- **Q & A with Pastor Doug:** Saturday, April 14th at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary we will hold a question and answer session with Doug Hinton. Please come prepared to ask him any questions that are on your mind. Refreshments and fellowship will follow in the gym. Childcare will be provided.
- **Congregational Gathering:** Sunday, April 15 following the 10:15 service there will be a congregational gathering to vote on both Doug's ordination and call to senior pastor. A meal will follow the congregational gathering.

SEWING SUPPLIES FOR REFUGEES! Deb Bendit is collecting sewing supplies and notions for classes for refugees who will be learning how to sew. If you have some basic sewing supplies (scissors, hand and machine needles, dressmaker pins, seam rippers, good quality newer thread, rotary cutters and rulers and mats, sewing boxes, irons, sewing machine oil, elastic, sew-in Velcro, buttons, snaps, etc.) that you have on hand and would like to donate, please see Deb or drop off in the labeled box in the sewing room. Deb's sister, Carolyn, refurbishes old sewing machines, and after completing the classes, the refugee will be able to take home her own machine and her supplies. Please help these women to be able to learn a new skill to help their families! Thank you! If you have a used sewing machine (1935 to present) that you would like to donate, talk to Deb.

EDUCATION GRANT—The church, through the Education Team, is offering an education grant to individuals pursuing a career in Christian Ministry, attending a Christian college or university, or attending a college that is affiliated with the Church of the Brethren. Inquiring applicants can send a request for an application to Donna Reed, secretary of the Education Team, via the church mail or rdreed2@verizon.net. The deadline to receive the returned grant application is May 1, 2018.

POST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: If you or someone you know is graduating from a college, university, or other post high school program, please send the name and contact information to Donna Reed, secretary of the Education Team (via church mailbox, Breeze, or rdreed2@verizon.net) by April 15, 2018 in order to complete a short questionnaire that is due April 22, 2018. We would like to celebrate with you as you finish this chapter of your life! Graduation Sunday is June 3, 2018.

BUCKET BUILDING PROJECT--The Brethren Disaster Relief Auction will be assembling 1200 Disaster Relief Clean-Up buckets at the Florin Church of the Brethren in Mount Joy. These 5-gallon buckets are filled with items to assist victims of flood disasters and will restock the supply in the New Windsor warehouse. Help is needed on April 6 and 7, 2018, to set up and complete the project. Friday is set-up day and will involve unpacking and preparing the assembly lines for the actual build on Saturday. All hands are welcome! Friday begins at 10:00 AM until the work is finished. Lunch will be provided. Saturday's schedule starts at 8:00 AM and is expected to conclude by noon. The Outreach Team has also designated this event as an all-church outreach project for this Spring. If you have questions, please call Tom Fritz at 717-823-2745 or email at twfritz@ptd.net.

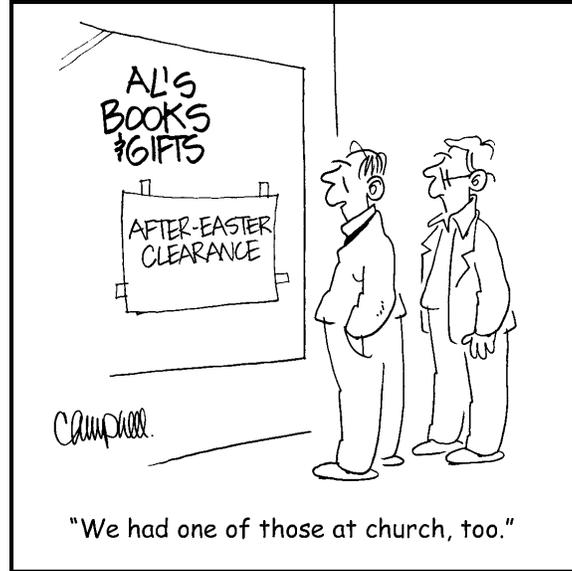
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: If you or a family member is graduating this year from High School, please submit the name and contact information to Donna Reed by April 29, 2018 (via church mailbox, Breeze, or rdreed2@verizon.net). Then you will receive a short questionnaire that is due May 6, 2018, so that we may recognize your achievements on Graduation Sunday, June 3, 2018.

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Sunday Music	2 Church Office Closed for Easter	3 6:00 PM Young Adults/Families Small Group 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	4 Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	6 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	7 2:00 PM Haldeman baby shower
8 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Sunday Music 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	9	10 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 12:00 PM Silver Singles 6:30 PM Fellowship & Hospitality Team 7:00 PM Worship Team	11 Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Stewards of Property	12 7:00 PM Education Team	13	14 6:30 PM Q & A with Pastor Doug
15 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Sunday Music 11:30 AM Congregational Gathering 12:00 PM Church Dinner 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	16 6:30 PM Outreach Team	17 6:00 PM Young Adults/Families Small Group	18 HERALD DEADLINE Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 9:00 AM Ladies Bible Study	20	21 2:00 PM BV Social
22 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Sunday Music 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	23	24 7:00 PM Leadership Team	25 Administrative Professionals Day Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 10:15 AM Sunday Music 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	30					

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
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