

Keep Your Behavior Excellent

Pastor Doug Hinton

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.--1 Peter 2:11-12

One Lord. One Body. One Call. We are being called as ministers of reconciliation. We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, the son of God and son of man, who taught people to live as God would live. The One who did not sin nor was any deceit found in His mouth. The One who walked with the refuse of society and shared meals with them. The One who shared meals with the elite and convicted them of their abuses of the poor and helpless. The One who first submitted to God and *then* the human authorities above Him. Entrusting Himself to the Father, He was crucified by the human authorities above Him. Through His blood being shed on the cross, He reconciled all humanity back to God. But when He died, and darkness covered the land, the story came to a rest: until the third day when he fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies and rose again! After doing so, His promised was fulfilled on Pentecost as the church, that is Christ's body, Christ's representatives, Christ's mouthpiece, was filled with the Holy Spirit!

Early followers of 'the Way (of Christ)' did not mind living different than the society in which they lived. In fact, it was their 'otherness' that often drew people to Christ. They lived holy, set-apart lives as individuals *and* as a community: giving up their possessions so that no one had need, healing the sick, learning the apostles' teachings, being joyful whether in prisoned or free, and sharing meals together. It was a daily transformation: having their minds transformed by the teachings of Jesus and *then* putting them into practice. Like Jesus, many of the apostles were killed for their faith, proclaiming the freedom they had in Christ until their last breath. When they were falsely accused, they did not return insults or abuse. Some, when they were put to death, prayed that their persecutors would be forgiven of their sin. You see, even in their death and imprisonment, they lived holy, set-apart lives. They only had one desire: that any person within earshot might be reconciled back to God through Jesus Christ. They 'kept their behavior excellent' in hopes that when Christ 'visited' them, they would be saved.

- What first step do you need to take to grow in your walk with Christ? Join a small group, form a small group, have daily Bible study, seek and join an outreach ministry; these are just a few ideas.
- What *fleshly lusts* may you need to turn away from to strengthen your witness for Christ? What is causing you to stumble, be stagnant, or stale in your walk? Who do you need to seek forgiveness from? How can the church walk with you in this process?

As you ponder these questions, I pray we can continue to grow in *excellent behavior*. Living as a ROYAL PRIESTHOOD among our society, keeping our integrity intact, and proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, that those around us may be reconciled *in the day of visitation*.

Messages in July

July 1



Nation and Faith—*Matthew 15:21-28*

Pastor Doug Hinton

In his conversation with the Syrophenician woman, Jesus tells her, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel,” and that “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” Did Jesus just compare the woman to a pet? What can we learn from this interaction between Jesus and this woman of a different nation? How can this account inform us today about who we are called to be to our neighbors, especially if they are a different race or nationality?

July 8



The Good Neighbor—*Luke 10:25-37*

Pastor Del Kautz

Who is God calling us to be with our neighbors? And just who exactly is our neighbor? Jesus addresses that issue in this parable from Luke's Gospel. He tells of a man who was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. En route he was robbed and beaten. An unlikely stranger became a good neighbor and provided the help he needed. The story is a wonderful example about what it means to be a good neighbor in God's Kingdom of Peace. God is calling us to be reconciled to himself "so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21).

July 15



Feed Your Enemy—*2 Kings 6:8-23; Proverbs 25:21-22; Matthew 7:7-12*

Pastor Doug Hinton

Who's your enemy? Do you think about justice or enacting your own when your enemy wrongs you? I once looked over my DVDs and noticed that many of them carried a theme of one man exacting revenge for the death of a loved one. Jesus taught us to pray for our enemies and to bless those who persecute us. He also said to treat people the same way you want them to treat you. Did He mean our enemies as well? Our teaching comes from the prophet Elisha today...who's in the Old Testament. But, did he practice what Jesus taught? If so, how can this change our own behavior and attitude toward our enemy?

July 22



Love God, Love People—*Eph. 2:11-22; Acts 10: 9-23; Matthew 22:34-39*

Laura Meiser

As we explore who God is calling us to be in terms of our neighbors and enemies, we realize that once we too were enemies with God in our sin. In our reconciliation, we learn that the love God has given to us is the love we must reflect back and share with others. Period. What will our neighbors and enemies see when they look at us? How will we reveal Christ's work within us? How will this impact those we come in contact with? With those we love and also with those who are unlovely, different or difficult?

July 29



Hard Teaching!—*Romans 12:9-21*

Pastor Geoff Davis

Jesus tells us to “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you... If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you?” James seems to say that quarrels and fights are directly related to our actions and intentions and that “Friendship with the world is enmity (hostility or animosity) with God.” But then Paul writes to the Romans that we are to “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse... Do not repay anyone evil for evil.” How is that working for you? How well are you blessing those you consider to be your enemies? Let’s remind ourselves of some core concepts of Christianity that are more than just words; they’re a blueprint for how God designed our lives to be.

July Ministry Schedules

NURSERY

July 1 Carol Koser, Peg Layman
July 8 Marg Zurin, Carolyn Gingrich, Morgan Rice
July 15 Sue Brubaker, Sallie Hoppert, Kensey Rice
July 22 Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Jake Rannels
July 29 Angela Ebersole, Naomi Beach, Emmy Schott



WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

July 1 Jamie Bushong
July 8 Joel Kettering
July 15 Tom Fritz
July 22 Ray O'Boyle
July 29 Randy Ziegler

WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

SPECIAL MUSIC



CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

July 1 TBA
July 8 TBA
July 15 TBA
July 22 TBA
July 29 TBA

VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Ben Johnson
Doug Howard
Dave Bendit
Dave Bendit
Doug Howard



SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

July 1 Dick Caldwell & Rich Bushong
July 8 Jamie & Rich Bushong
July 15 Jamie & Rich Bushong
July 22 Dave Schott
July 29 Jamie & Rich 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



DEACON GREETERS

July 1 Tom Connelly
July 8 Al Shuss
July 15 Penny Kettering
July 22 Ron Smith
July 29 Millie Hoffman

JNH GREETERS

Nicolas & Joanna Huacani
Jean & Jerry Barger
Carl & Lisa Poloncha
Bruce, Bonny & Abby Wright
Jim & Sue Musser

OFFERING TABULATORS

Jim Stauffer, Dwayne Hostetter, Sue Hostetter

HCOB Adult Sunday School

COMBINED ADULT SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

During the months of July & August we will focus on the theme: *"A Christian Perspective on Maintaining a Healthy Body, Soul and Mind."* We will be meeting in the Choir Room at 9:00 am.

- ★ July 1 – The Power of Forgiveness and Reconciliation
Leader: Ray Hutchison
- ★ July 8 – Function and Value of Palliative Care
Leaders: Chaplain Dave Brubaker and Dr. Kristi Newport
- ★ July 15 – Issues Surrounding Addictions
Leader: Greg Kessler, Water Street Mission
- ★ July 22 – Necessary Conversations between Adult Children & Aging Parents--Leader: Galen Brumbaugh
- ★ July 29 – To be announced
- ★ August 5 – Leader: Connie Metzler
- ★ August 12 –2018 Annual Conference Report
Leaders: Darren and Laura Meiser
- ★ August 19 – Organ Donation
Leader: Michael Killinger
- ★ August 26 – Issues Facing Today's Families
Leader: Abby Keisler, COBYS

HCOB Family News

BRETHREN VILLAGE WHEELCHAIR WALKS are scheduled for Tuesdays June 26, July 24, August 28, and September 25 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM. Please contact Gerrie Hurst (569-3047) or Lois Killian (560-9429) if you can help. The residents of the Village thank you!

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Creation Festival Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	2 Church Administrator on Vacation	3 Church Administrator on Vacation	4 Annual Conference Church Administrator on Vacation Church Office Closed Independence Day 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast	5 Annual Conference Church Administrator on Vacation 7:00 PM Prayer Experience	6 Annual Conference Church Administrator on Vacation 6:45 PM WORDD Worship	7 Annual Conference
8 Annual Conference Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	9	10 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 12:00 PM Silver Singles 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 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group 7:00 PM Stewards of Property	12 7:00 PM Friends Together Week Evaluation	13	14
15 Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	16 7:00 AM setup for WORDD Social	17 6:00 PM WORDD Summer Social	18 HERALD DEADLINE Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 6:00 PM Ladies Summer Book Club 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	19	20	21 National Youth Conference
22 National Youth Conference Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	23 National Youth Conference	24 National Youth Conference 7:00 PM Leadership Team	25 National Youth Conference Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 6:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	26 National Youth Conference	27	28 4:00 PM Metzler Family Reunion
29 Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship	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**



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The Month**



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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