

## Jesus the Light of the World!

Pastor Doug Hinton

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. John 1:1-5, 9*

We are here! The season of Advent is upon us! *Advent* comes from the Latin meaning *coming* or *visit*. The writer of John connects this idea of Advent to the theme of light that runs throughout his Gospel as mentioned above in the ninth verse of chapter one: "The true light that gives light to everyone was *coming* into the world." In John 8:12, Jesus claims, "I am the Light of the world." What else can we learn about light from the Gospel of John?

- *Jesus is the light of all mankind. (1:4)*
- *The darkness has not overcome, understood, or overpowered the light. (1:5)*
- *The Light reveals the deeds of humanity. (3:19-20)*
- *The one who practices truth comes to the Light. (3:21)*
- *Those who believe in the Light will become children of light. (12:36)*

In September, we looked at our *being* through the book *Unoffendable*. During this season of Advent, we will look at Jesus' being as Light. How and why does understanding Christ in this way impact our walk with Him and our daily life with others? How can inviting the Light into our dark areas allow us to grow in His character? Just as John the Baptist, who might God be calling us to in order to testify about this Light? Join together with us in this season of *visitation* as we travel to the Light of Life, the Light of all humanity, the Light of the world. May we grow in understanding of the One we follow, deepen our own faith walk with Him, and go into the world to declare the Light has come!

# 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. This month's theme is: "God Commands Our Love, Respect and Obedience"

December 2	Love and Devotion	Teacher: Denny Bushong
December 9	Choose to Love and Serve God	Teacher: Alan Shuss
December 16	Love and Worship God	Teacher: Jim Kettering
December 23	Jesus: God's Loving Promise	Teacher: Galen Brumbaugh
December 30	Modeling God's Love	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 meet in the room just off the sanctuary, also used as the prayer room. We are just finishing the book, *The Art of Neighboring*. We will be doing the International lesson for Dec, Jan and Feb. The writer is Galen Hackman, you will remember he recently preached here at HCOB. Feel free to join us in this study time. Contact person is Rich Bushong

December 2	The Art of Neighboring-chapters-11 & 12	Teacher: Pete Cope
December 9	Choose to Love and Serve God	Teacher: Kevin Zurin
December 16	Love and Worship God	Teacher: Sue Brubaker
December 23	Jesus: God's Loving Promise	Teacher: Doug Hinton
December 30	Modeling God's Love	Teacher: Dennis Bushong

## HCOB Family News

**THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH A CARING AND GIVING CONGREGATION!** We collected \$2,260.00 for the Brethren Village Auxiliary Sponsorship Drive, having surpassed the \$1,150.00 from last year! The Sponsorship Drive this year was a partnership with the Hempfield residents at Brethren Village. It is a joy to be able to help the residents with our dollars! --Gerrie Hurst and Lois Killian

**2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE:** Starting today please pick up your 2019 offering envelopes in the narthex.

**BRETHREN VILLAGE CHRISTMAS COOKIES AND CRAFT BAZAAR SALE** Friday, December 7, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in Wolfe Auditorium including cookies, crafts, and food. Cookies are \$4.00 per pound. It is sponsored by the Brethren Village Auxiliary.

**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](http://www.hempfieldcob.org)
3. On the radio stations WJTL FM 90.3 and WDAC FM 94.5.

**Please note: the church office follows Hempfield School District.** If the school district is closed due to weather, the church office is officially closed and staff may use their own judgement about coming into the church.

# Messages in December

December 2



## Jesus' Being: The Light of Our Hope

*John 1:1-14, 18; James 1:16-18; Isaiah 59:9-20; John 8:12*

**Pastor Doug Hinton**

Returning to the first leg of our theme of 'Being,' we will look at Jesus' being as the Light of the World. If Jesus is the Light, what can we learn about light and darkness, His arrival in this world, and His consistent character? We will light the candle of Hope in this first Sunday of Advent and begin our study of The Light of the World.

December 9

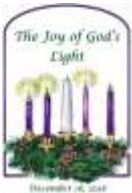


## Convinced of God's Light— *Revelation 21:10, Revelation 21:22-22:7*

**Pastor Del Kautz**

We are accustomed to seeing pictures of Jesus with a halo. We talk and sing about Jesus being the Light of the world. We read about heaven being a place filled with glorious Light. God's Word tells us that followers of Christ reflect his Light. But are we convinced? On this second Sunday in Advent we will explore the Light of the second Advent of Christ and its accompanying display of Light.

December 16

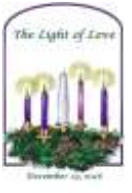


## The Joy of God's Light – *1 John 1*

**Pastor Geoff Davis**

The third Sunday in Advent is a time to celebrate the joy that Christ's birth symbolizes. This joy is rooted in the fact "a people living in darkness have seen a great light - that Jesus is the light of the world. This light is the glory of God – how humans perceive God's presence – and Jesus is the lamp. Jesus brought the light, shared the light, and overcame darkness. He expects us to share the light with the world: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

December 23



## Jesus' Being: The Light of Love

*1 John 2: 7-11; Isaiah 60:1-7; Psalm 139:7-12; John 13:34-35*

**Pastor Doug Hinton**

In the true light of Christ, there is no hiding, no darkness, to hatred. Jesus showed His Disciples the love of God. The Light of all humanity shines His love through all who follow him. We light the candle of Love as we look to Jesus' model, His way, His example and recognize the power of Light and love.

December 30



## Jesus' Being: The Light Who Sends

*Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:12-18*

**Pastor Doug Hinton**

In the Gospel of John 8:12, Jesus declares, "I am the Light of the world." In Matthew 5:14, He declares, "You are the Light of the world." We pivot here at the end of the year to see how Jesus' being then informs our *doing* as the light of the world.

# December Ministry Schedules

## NURSERY

**December 2** Carol Koser, Ivy Davis, Peg Layman  
**December 9** Marg Zurin,  
**December 16** Sue Brubaker, Sallie Hoppert, Kensey Rice  
**December 23** Betty Cox, Sarah Fisher, Jake Rannels  
**December 30** Angela Ebersole, Naomi Beach, Emmy Schott



## WORSHIP LEADERS—8:00

**December 2** Jamie Bushong  
**December 9** Tom Fritz  
**December 16** Ray O'Boyle  
**December 23** Pete Cope  
**December 30** Randy Ziegler

## WORSHIP LEADERS—10:15

Randy Zielger  
Sue Brubaker  
Karen Rice  
TBD  
TBD

## SPECIAL MUSIC



## CHOIRS/SPECIAL MUSIC

**December 2** Sanctuary Choir  
**December 9** Sanctuary Choir, QuintEssentially Brass  
**December 16** Sanctuary Choir  
**December 23** Sanctuary Choir  
**December 30** TBD

## VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Dave Bendit  
Ben Johnson  
Dave Bendit  
Doug Howard  
Dave Bendit



## SOUND TECHNICIANS—8:00

**December 2** Dick Caldwell & Rich Bushong  
**December 9** Jamie & Rich Bushong  
**December 16** Jamie & Rich Bushong  
**December 23** Jamie & Rich Bushong  
**December 30** Dave Schott

## 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

**December 2** Doris Wright  
**December 9** Millie Hoffman  
**December 16** Nancy Haas  
**December 23** Ruth Johnson  
**December 30** Doris Wright

## JNH GREETERS

Jean & Jerry Barger  
Faye Rohrer  
Lowell Landis  
Edith Martin  
Earl & Betty Zimmerman

## OFFERING TABULATORS

Dave Dum, Rick Schaidle



# Advent & Christmas@ HCOB



## Operation Christmas Blessing--Phase 2

Any family is invited to take a HOPE ornament from the tree in the narthex and take it to the member of the Outreach Team who will be in the narthex after the 8:00 service and before and after the 10:15 service. You will receive \$100 to bless someone, a group of people, or an organization in whatever way you wish this Christmas season. On the back of the ornament, describe how you used the money to share blessings and hope. Then bring the ornament back and hang it on the tree by Christmas Eve.

*Wait and Hope*, an Advent devotional is available on the Narthex Table. This is a gift from the Education Team to each church family. (If you desire, a donation of \$3.50 can be placed in the offering.) Waiting in hopeful expectation is part of our Christmas preparation as we reflect on the events of Christ's birth. May the presence of Christ be born again in your heart this Advent season.



## Blue Christmas Service Friday, December 14—7:00 PM

The Christmas season for many is a joyful and festive time of year filled with wonder and hope. For others, however, it can be a difficult time filled with questions, pain, isolation, or even guilt. A *Blue Christmas Service* invites people to come as they are, whether joyful or sorrowful, excited or dreadful, peaceful or restless, to reflect and seek the Light of all Humanity together. We hold this before the Christmas holiday to acknowledge our pain and grief, questions and memories openly and honestly and invite the Christ-child into our world. We will hold this in lieu of our Remembrance Service in January.

## HCOB Christmas Eve Service—7:00 PM

Our whole church family is invited to worship together on Christmas Eve! Please join us for this joyful and family-friendly service as we celebrate Christ's birth with music, choir anthems, candlelighting and more.



# Reflections on Time

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So easy to waste, so hard to find enough of  
Impossible to save, despite our best efforts  
Nor can it be spent in the literal sense  
It cannot be earned, nor bought  
Yet somehow, it manages to fly, though not like a bird  
But like a roll of bathroom tissue nearing its end  
It doesn't heal all wounds or ease all losses  
Some are just too painful and deep for that  
Though its passing is said to dim the pain  
And at least once or twice in our lives  
It does seem to stand still  
There are those glorious golden fleeting moments  
That burst like bubbles and evaporate before we can fully take them in  
Sunrises filled with hope and promise for each new day  
And sunsets that dissipate too quickly to imprint their beauty in our souls  
When we tell ourselves for the upteenth time that we have no time for this or that  
It might be the perfect time to do exactly those things we never have time for  
Before the opportunity is forever lost to us

What we do with our allotted time on earth is up to us  
It's the second most precious gift from God we'll ever get  
We are free to share it with fellow travelers  
Or jealously guard it for ourselves  
No one can gain any more of it simply by wishing  
Worktime slows it to a crawl, though it speeds like a whirlwind in our leisure  
It can be our best friend or our worst enemy depending on our unique circumstances  
While young it is a terrapin inching across the sand  
And when old, it becomes a flitting hummingbird, gone in the blink of an eye  
What if we could truly live in each moment we're given?  
We might view our days under a different microscope  
Seen from our Creator's perspective; to be and do whatever He has purposed for us  
How soon we forget that all our seconds and hours and years  
Have been ordained by Him from the beginning of time  
So Carpe Diem, my friend, seize the day  
And use every moment purposefully, steeped in God's wisdom and certain of His promise

# December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 1:00 PM Visitation for Brenda Wright 2:00 PM Brenda Wright Memorial Service
<b>2</b> Advent Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM <b>June Lantz Luncheon</b> 3:00 PM <b>Family Christmas Celebration</b> 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Worship Team	<b>5</b> Pastor Doug's Day Off Set up WORDD Christmas Program 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 12:00 PM <b>Church Administrator Out of Office</b> 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> Set up WORDD Christmas Program 7:00 PM <b>Prayer Experience</b>	<b>7</b> 6:45 PM <b>WORDD Christmas Program</b>	<b>8</b> 7:30 AM Deacons assembling fruit baskets 10:00 AM Moyer Family Christmas Dinner
<b>9</b> 2-Cent-A-Meal Offering QuintEssentially Brass Playing Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM <b>Lowell Landis Family Dinner</b> 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	<b>10</b> Church Administrator Out of Office 12:00 PM <b>Brethren World Mission</b>	<b>11</b> 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 12:00 PM Silver Singles 6:00 PM <b>Leadership Team Social</b>	<b>12</b> Church Administrator Out of Office Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 8:00 AM Sewing Circle 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Stewards of Property	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM <b>Blue Christmas Service</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00 AM <b>Construction Clean Up Day</b> 10:00 AM Fisher Family Cookie Baking
<b>16</b> Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 4:00 PM Young Adult/Young Families Small Group 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	<b>17</b> Church Administrator Out of Office 6:30 PM Outreach Team 7:00 PM <b>QuintEssentially Brass Rehearsal</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>HERALD DEADLINE</b> Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting Group 12:00 PM <b>Church Administrator Out of Office</b> 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM <b>Christmas Eve Service</b>	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Church Office Closed	<b>26</b> Pastor Doug's Day Off 6:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00 AM Davis Family Christmas Celebration
<b>30</b> Sunday Music 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 8:50 AM Praise Band Practice 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Blended Worship 6:30 PM Youth Cell Group	<b>31</b>					

*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**

**DECEMBER**

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

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