

Commitment to One Another: Approach & Belief

Pastor Doug Hinton

Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but *rather* appeal to *him* as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

1 TIMOTHY 5:81-2

Who doesn't like being right? It seems to drive our culture. Knowledge = power. Survival of the fittest. Might is right. You may hear this in subtle ways. Someone says it's 61 degrees out only to have a friend say it said 62 in their vehicle...does anyone feel that one degree difference? Arguments about the color of a dress or curtains, which political leader did this or that right, condemning ads or commercials if we feel a company or individual committed some moral wrong in our eyes, naming the greatest basketball or baseball player...the list is endless. And – we did not even touch on the list of theological ideologies that people hold, dividing churches, families, or friends. Being right or wrong does not remove truth, but how we approach one another allows us to live in the way of Christ or not, promote the way of Christ or not, bring people to the way of Christ or not. So, what do I mean?

It's not always the belief that may push people away from us but the manner in which we approach an individual that understands differently than we do...than I understand. In the above passage, Paul coaches Timothy – a younger brother in the Lord and leader in the body – how to approach different people that he may need to correct, rebuke, or encourage. Look at the language

Paul uses: it's a familial. In our culture where so many broken families and relationships exist, this can be difficult language for us to understand. Stepping back, we see that Paul encourages Timothy to speak to older members with honor and respect, younger men with the same, adding that

The kind of community we aim to be...**Jesus following, one another focused, loving** God, neighbor, enemy, and self with the love we received in Christ, **inviting** others into the fold, **proclaiming** the excellencies of the One who called us out of dark and into His marvelous light.

purity should be added when approaching younger women. To first recognize that we are family in Christ Jesus our Lord who joins us one to another. To see that disagreements may arise and people may need reminded of who they are in Christ, but that we are committed to one another as Christ is committed to us.

We are to love as we have been loved, forgive as we have been forgiven, and

come alongside one another as Christ through the Holy Spirit comes alongside us. The belief is important; the approach is evermore so.

When times are good/comfortable, it's easy to show one another we are committed to Christ and each other. Can we do this when times are hard or uncomfortable? If so, our lives reflect Christ, our love grows, and His way is made known to those who do not yet follow.

Right belief is good. Let's practice that in our humble approach to one another and see Christ show up!



HCOB Children's Ministry Happenings

Spring is around the corner, and the Children's Ministry is in full preparation of bountiful opportunities to share Jesus with the community. In a couple of weeks, Kids Connect ~ Moms Connect begins. This six week session is a reconstruction of Kids Connect that was happening prior to covid, where children with a guardian came to play and hear a Bible story. However, this spring we plan to provide a time for moms to join together in a time of fellowship and devotion as volunteers care for their little ones by engaging in playtime, a time of music, and a Bible story. The sessions will be held from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM on Wednesday mornings: March 15, March 29, April 12, April 26, May 10, and May 24. Kids Connect ~ Moms Connect is available to those in the community. If you know of someone who may be interested, please share with them about this opportunity. They can visit the church website for more information and to register any children in advance. We are looking for a few extra hands to care for the little ones. If you are interested in helping one, two, or all six of the mornings, please reach out to Laura Meiser or Emmy Schott.

We are also looking for help at our Easter Egg Hunt that will be held on April 1st at 10 AM. We will be stuffing eggs with candy and little prizes on Sunday, March 26th following the Congregational meal. Many hands make light work! If you are willing to donate candy, please sign up at the table in the Narthex. Candy should be peanut free. We need helpers to be present at the Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1st. Your smile could be used as a greeter and possibly to hand out raffle tickets. If you enjoy observing, would you mind lending your eyes to overseeing the baskets as guests drop their raffle tickets into boxes in front of the baskets. If you have the energy and stamina to spread hundreds of eggs, would you be willing to come early on Saturday morning to prepare for the Egg Hunt. There are a variety of ways to serve and use your gifts. Your presence is also seen as a gift. Please pray for those who attend and feel free to join us.

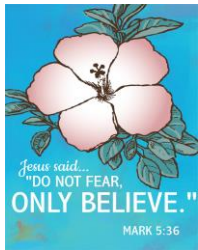
Lastly, VBS is scheduled for Sunday, June 11th through Thursday, June 15th. This year we will plan to hold all 5 days of lessons. We are excited to share Joseph's story and celebrate God's greatness through the VBS theme Monumental. Prayerfully consider how you can use your gifts to prepare for the week or to serve those who attend.



The Easter Egg Hunt is coming up April 1st! We are in need of candy donations and volunteers for the Egg Hunt. Our supply of small prizes is running low. If you find yourself at a Dollar Store, we would greatly appreciate any item for ages 2 to 12. Questions? Please contact Emmy Schott or Laura Meiser.

Messages in March

March 5



When the Going Gets Tough: Committed Anyway

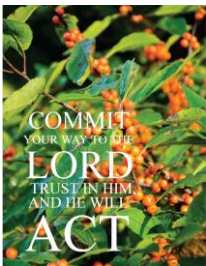
Mark 5:21-43

Pastor: Laura Meiser

What does one do on the worst day of their lives? Have you been there? What was your first response? Tucked in Mark 5 we find a story within a story. Two individuals in the midst of impossible situations. One with nothing to lose. The other with everything to lose. It was there that they both found themselves looking for Jesus, firm in the knowledge that no one else could help them in the midst of their pain.

What can we learn from Jairus and the bleeding woman? It seems that their actions look a lot like commitment to Christ. How can this impact our commitment to Christ each and every day? How might it also inform us about those who God places value upon and what our response should be to them?

March 12



Humble Commitment

Mark 5:1-20

Pastor: Doug Hinton

Jesus sets a man possessed by demons free from bondage. People who saw this ran away to tell of what they saw. As Jesus was leaving, the man asked to follow Him. But Jesus said, "Go and tell..." rather than "come and follow." Jesus said no without saying no. Did the man become discouraged? Did he plea with Christ to change His mind? Did he chase after Him? No, he humbled himself and made Christ known. Are we willing to submit our plans to Jesus? Are we willing to commit our ways to following Him? What do we need delivered of or what do we need to die to in order to fully commit our way to Him? How do we need to humble ourselves and why is this so important?

March 19



Committed to Christ Together

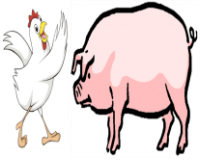
John 13:34-35; Colossians 3:12-17

Pastor: Doug Hinton

Last week we spoke on the importance of commitment and humbling ourselves to Christ's way. We continue in the line of thinking and make it more concrete our commitment to Christ leads us to bear with and commit to one another. Following Jesus is not like many movies in our culture that carry one lone outlaw hero. To follow Jesus is to follow with others. To whom do we commit? Jesus told His disciples to love as He loved them. Paul encourages the church to love and bear with one another. How are you known? How are we known? By words or actions? By believe or posture? Are we willing to commit to the way of Christ, to be one another focused, to love as Jesus loved us, so that the Kingdom may live on earth? What's one step you can take this week? Who do you need to partner with or what do you need to start in order to strengthen the ministry here at Hempfield? We are called to follow Christ – so let's do so together!

March 26

Involved? Committed?



Eggs Ham

A Chicken or a Pig?

Matthew 13:1-8; 18-23; Luke 9:23-27

Pastor: Geoff Davis

There's an old Lancaster County story that goes like this. Some men were sitting around the breakfast table at their favorite restaurant, discussing what it took to be truly committed. The oldest member of the group leaned back and said, "It's like breakfast." Well the others had no idea about what that had to do with commitment until the old guy said, "The chicken is involved, but the pig is committed."

Now I'm not suggesting that our faith has anything to do with breakfast, but it does have a lot to do with whether we're committed or involved. What does it take to be truly committed to helping God achieve his vision? To be committed to Christ? Let's take a look in the mirror and see what we each might be able to do to strengthen that commitment and see why it matters for each one of us.

HCOB Family News



Recent Giving

01/29/2023

General Fund \$ 6,763.00

Building Fund \$ 450.00

02/12/2023

General Fund \$ 5,748.54

Building Fund \$ 100.00

02/05/2023

General Fund \$ 15,622.63

Building Fund \$ 100.00

02/19/2023

General Fund \$ 7,307.49

Building Fund \$ 400.00

mark  your **Calendar**

The Leadership is sponsoring a celebration meal on March 26th after the morning service. We are celebrating the congregation's commitment and service to God at HCOB.

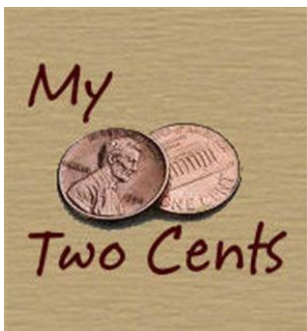
When we have needed monumental finances to meet our yearly budget, God has always helped to provide. When we need help to visit, mulch, husk corn, volunteer at the baking or serving at the alpaca, help with the children ministry events and worship service as a worship leader or sharing your musical gift you are always there. God has led you here to serve and share his word to others. We want to take time to celebrate together for all that God has done in and through each one of you!

Plan to join us for our world-famous chicken noodle corn soup, beef barbecue, hot dogs, sauerkraut, fresh vegetable relish tray with dressing and cake and ice cream. Gluten free options will be available.

If you want to work off some calories after the meal, plan to stay and help the Children's Ministry Team stuff Easter eggs for their annual Easter Egg hunt for the community. Over 2000 eggs needed to be stuffed!

Make plans now to join us in this wonderful celebration of who we are at Hempfield Church of the Brethren!

Blessings to all, Hospitality team



We will be collecting the '2-Cent-A-Meal' offering on Sunday, March 12th for the **Global Food Initiative (GFI)** program. This program is the primary way that the Church of the Brethren assists hungry people in developing food security around the world.

Global Food Initiative seeks to:

- invest in small-scale economic development
- join efforts to improve diet and health practices
- champion soil conservation
- promote awareness-raising and advocacy on hunger issues."

On behalf of the Outreach Team and those that benefit from your giving, Thank You!



The church, through the Education Team, is offering an **EDUCATION GRANT** of up to \$2,000 to individuals who are: (1) pursuing a career in Christian Ministry by attending a Christian college or university, or (2) attending a college that is affiliated with the Church of the Brethren. Inquiring applicants can send a request for an application to Donna Reed, chairman of the Education Team, via the church mailbox or rdreed2@verizon.net. The deadline to receive the returned grant application is May 7.



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 & contact information to Donna Reed, of the Education Team, (via church mailbox or rdreed2@verizon.net) by April 16, 2023 in order to complete a short questionnaire that is due April 23, 2023. We would like to celebrate with you as you finish this chapter of your life! Graduation Sunday is June 4, 2023.



Upcoming OUTREACH IN ACTION

March 20 Church World Services -Refugees – Andrew Mashas

April 23 – Unfilled. – Darren will seek other potential presenters.

May 14 – Force for Food -Sue Brubaker and Paula Stoner



If your youth might be interested in participating, please let Ed Haldeman or myself know as soon as possible. We would like to gauge interest, so we can guarantee the advisors and transportation to attend. We will register for the events as a group. The church will cover the costs after a small deposit.

National Junior High Conference:

Who: Junior High (completed 6th-8th)

When: June 16-18, 2023

Where: Juniata College (Huntingdon, PA)

What: The youth will engage in worship services, workshops, music, and recreation. The theme is "What does God want from me?" and will focus on Micah 6:8. Refer to attached brochure for more information.

Upcoming Calendar:

Mar 5th - Youth Group ("Jesus is our Generation" Part 4) 6-8pm



With some of the funds that the youth raised at Eastland Alpaca, we were able to purchase a 9-Square game. Thank you again to the entire church for your support!!! 9-Square is a game that we have enjoyed playing at fall retreat, and we are excited that we now have our own! We will have it set up for Family Game Night. Come out tonight to learn how to play this exciting game!!!



Current Study...



2023 *Jesus' Farewell Message* with Francis Chan

Do you know Jesus? It's one thing to know facts about him, but to experience his love, wisdom, and guidance in your life is what it means to follow him. On the night before he was crucified, Jesus invited his disciples into a deep relationship with the triune God—and his invitation stands for us too. In this 6-part series, Francis Chan dives into John 13–17, a passage rich in promises, commands, and eternal truths. He'll remind us we aren't called to a part-time faith—we were made to know, walk with, and commune with God.

March 5 – John 13:1-35 – Christ Prepares His Disciples

March 12 – John 14:1-14 – Christ Reveals the Father

March 19 – John 14:15-31 – God with us

March 26 – Congregation Celebration – No Sunday School

April 2 – John 15:1-27 – Abiding in Christ

April 9 – Easter Sunday – No Sunday School

rightnow MEDIA

Did you know that our Church has had a subscription to Rightnow Media for 4 years? Are you signed up?

What is it?

- Our Church's Bible Study Library with over 20,000 Discipleship videos

Who is it for?

- EVERYONE! Kids, Youth, and Adults

Where is it?

- Online at rightnowmedia.org or download theRightNow Media app for free

How can I get it?

- Email or call Pastor Doug letting him know that you want to be added to our church's account. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.
- You will be provided a link with step by step instructions to set up your individual account

Then what?

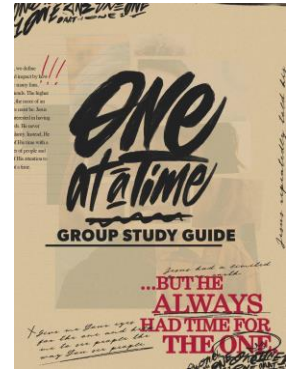
- Use the browse feature to find a study based on topic, teacher, etc.
- Click on the Hempfield Church of the Brethren banner at the top of the page to view what studies are being used within our church

LOOKING AHEAD...



2023 One at a Time with Kyle Idleman

Nobody grows up dreaming of waking up, going to work, heading home, watching Netflix, scrolling through social media, and then doing it all over again the next day until their last breath. We all want to be used to change the world. We don't want to spend our lives being time-wasters, or space-takers, or binge-watchers, or game-players, or even book-readers. We want to be difference-makers. But it's easy to get caught up in the everyday stuff of life until the years slowly go by, and with each passing year, the question seems to get louder: *Am I making any difference in this world?* We want to make a difference, but there are so many opinions on the way to do that. Maybe there's a different way to make a difference, and we're just missing it. Without a doubt, Jesus is the person who has made the biggest difference in all of history. So, how did Jesus make such a difference in this world? If we study the story of his life as recorded in the Gospels, there are a number of answers we could highlight, but there's one particular phrase that captures how Jesus had such an impact, and this phrase is how he wants to use us to make a difference: *one at a time*. Making a difference isn't measured by a viral post or a name on a building. It isn't determined by a following or a fan base. Making a difference isn't dependent on what's in your bank account or who's in your contacts. Want to make a difference? Focus on the one. That's it. That's the secret of the way of Jesus. *One at a time*.





NEWS!!

FOOD SERVICE:

Our kitchen needs your help!! Please consider volunteering for breakfast, lunch, or dinner shifts during any of the below dates. Bonus: WE WILL FEED YOU!

Shift times: Breakfast 6:45am-9:15am

Lunch 10:45am-1:15pm

Dinner 3:45pm-6:15pm

For more information email: foodservice@campswatara.org

Needed Dates: School Group

April 27 th	Dinner Shift
April 28 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
April 29 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
April 30 th	Breakfast & Lunch

School Group

May 15 th & 22 nd	Lunch & Dinner
May 16 th & 23 rd	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
May 17 th & 24 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
May 18 th & 25 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
May 19 th & 26 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Summer Camp

June 9 – August 6 th	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
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Retreat Group

July 15 th	Lunch & Dinner
July 16 th – 21 st	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
July 22 nd	Breakfast & Lunch

CAMP SWATARA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 9	Outdoor ED – Maple Syrup Making 101 (grades K-6)
March 9	Maple Syrup Making 101
March 11	Paul Bunyan Day
March 24-25	Mother & Daughter Weekend (grades 1-6)
March 25	Trail Mix & Maintenance
March 31-April 1	Spring Camp (grades 1-6)

CONTACT

Campswatara.org

**Find all about the Summer Camp Program
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!**

DONATION INFORMATION To give your tithes and offerings to Hempfield COB, please send your checks to the church at PO Box 246 East Petersburg PA 17520.

If you wish to give to the Benevolence Fund, with which the deacons and pastors collaborate together to meet needs in our congregation and community, you may send your check to the church with "Benevolence Fund" in the memo line. This is also a tax-deductible donation and will help with urgent needs in the church and neighborhood.

Reminder: Only offering amounts received in church giving envelopes are recorded for end of the year contribution statements.

**Hempfield Church of the Brethren
Financial / Ministry Statement
January 1 through January 31, 2023
Year-to-Date Actuals vs. Budget***

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11

	Actual Jan 2023	Budget Jan 2023	Actual Under/(Over) Budget
Beginning Balance 1/1/23	\$14,564		
<u>Income</u>			
General Fund Offerings	\$55,047		
Interest	\$0		
Total Income	\$69,611		
<u>Expenses</u>			
Finance	\$4,978	\$4,201	(\$777)
Outreach	\$9,604	\$9,896	\$292
Education	\$1,642	\$1,898	\$256
Deacons	\$0	\$92	\$92
Care of Church Community	\$0	\$208	\$208
Worship	\$2,871	\$3,440	\$569
Leadership	\$11,194	\$16,217	\$5,023
Stewards of Property	\$5,390	\$7,190	\$1,800
Fellowship & Hospitality	\$1,295	\$600	(\$695)
Total Expenses	\$36,974	\$43,742	\$6,768
2023 Actual % of Budget	84.5%		

Checking Account as of 1/31/23 \$32,637

Outreach is paid through January 31, 2023.

	2023	2022	\$ Increase
General Fund Offerings 1/1 to 1/31 (Five Sundays in each year)	\$55,047	\$45,723	\$9,324
2023 Offerings % of 2022	120.4%		

* YTD Budget is based on the same amount for all 12 months

THANK YOU for supporting our ministries for Christ and His church!

March Calendar

For more details about upcoming events and up-to-date calendar information, please visit <http://www.hempfieldcob.org/whatsup.html>

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship - 1st Sunday in Lent - Communion 10:30am Care of Church Community Meeting 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	27 Doug's Day Off 2:00pm - 4:00pm Brethren World Mission	28 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	1 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	2 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	3 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	4
5 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	6 Doug's Day Off	7 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting	8 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing 7:00pm - 8:30pm Stewards of Property	9 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	10	11
12 2 Cent A Meal Offering 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	13 Doug's Day Off 6:30pm Worship Team via Zoom	14	15 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal HERALD DEADLINE 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	16 6:16pm - 7:16pm Fellowship & Hospitality Team 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	17	18
19 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 12:30pm - 6:30pm Al Houck Reservation 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	20 Doug's Day Off 6:30pm - 8:00pm Outreach Team 7:00pm - 8:00pm QuintEssentially Brass Rehearsal	21 6:00pm - 7:00pm Education Team	22 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	23 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	24	25 8:00am - 11:00am F&H Kitchen and John Naas Hall
26 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 10:30am Care of Church Community Meeting 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	27 Doug's Day Off	28 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	29 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	30 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	31	1 Houck - Gym Tentative 9:00am - 10:00am QuintEssentially Brass Rehearsal 10:00am - 11:00am Easter Egg Hunt



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Bill
and
JEFF
KEANE

"I guess this means that March is
gonna go out like a lamb."



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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