

## Foundations

Doug Hinton, Senior Pastor

Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”

Matthew 7:24-27

### Foundations Matter

I heard a story of a young man building a concrete wall. One forty-pound block at a time, he laid the wall – seven, eight, nine courses of block high. Many of us can go into our basements and see what this may look like. However, the foreman came to the young man and asked if he was checking to make sure the wall remained level and plumb, to which the answer was no. The foreman knocked the wall down and told the young man to begin again. Why we would he do such a thing after all that hard work? Foundations matter. If you stand in your basement, looking at the block wall, you recognize the whole rest of your house depends on that first, underground or inground level. If the foundation is faulty or off in anyway, the rest of the structure will have issues.

### Jesus Following

Foundations matter. Our vision begins with “Jesus following...” because He remains the foundation, the cornerstone that holds all things together. As we study His teachings in Scripture, we can be sure that we can stand firm, that is trust in, His word. We do not sway with the cultural storms of our age, we do not respond on party-lines (especially when they contradict the teachings of Christ), we do not lose heart in the midst of denominational tensions - for all these things are man-made constructs, weapons of the enemy to keep us divided against God and one another. Instead, we turn to Christ for our answers, our relationships, our peace.

### Loving as we have been loved...

When we read this, it refers not to the earthly love that we may or may not receive, but the love Christ has for all of us. A love that sacrificed His life while *we were still yet enemies of God*. A love that speaks the truth with grace, a love that forgives 7x70, a love that is not a fleeting emotion, but as the Scripture says above, *acts*. A love that never ends, that calls others to be reconciled back to God, a love that can be extended to enemies because we once were enemies of the Lord. This kind of love is clear and gracious, carries boundaries and forgiveness, trust in the Lord and prayer for all that they may be saved. A love that humbles oneself to enter into a space not familiar so that they may point others to Jesus Christ our Lord.

### One another focused...

With a sure foundation, a posture toward humility, conviction, and learning, we turn toward one another to bless, to serve, to be served. I find it takes more humility to allow others to serve me than to serve another because I must release my sense of control and/or identity. And yet, as I am seeking to live out my faith, so are the others around me. We focus not only on the house of faith, but also our neighbors, co-workers, family and friends. As mentioned above, love remains an action. When we live self-sacrificing lives to benefit another in obedience to Christ, we participate in His way. It's not about us, but we do have a role. It's about Christ and He empowers us by His Holy Spirit as He promised. This may mean something new for us (which can be nervous or scary), but when we step out in faith, we can see new life take shape.

### Testify to Christ's Work

And when new life forms, we testify to Christ's work in our lives. We do this through baptism, Love Feast, testimonies in church, school, or work. We do this through changed actions, attitudes, and words. It may be a card, a small act at work toward another, a conversation over breakfast, a meal to a neighbor in a difficult time. We proclaim what Christ has done because we recognize we could not do 'this' on our own strength. We've heard some of these faith-stories this year and we look forward to hearing more in the years to come!



## HCOB Children's Ministry Happenings

As fall has begun so has Moms Connect ~ Kids Connect. Five mothers join Laura in exploring the Bad Girls of the Bible on select Wednesday mornings while nine energetic children play at stations in The Gathering Place. The children have a music time with Miss Jen and learn about Jesus through Bible stories. We continue to point to how much Jesus loves and cares for each of us. Thank you to our caregivers: Sue Brubaker, MaryAnn Fisher and Sally Davis. We appreciate the many hands.



We are looking for additional hands to serve our community during Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM to 6 PM. Fall-themed activities are set up outside for families to enjoy at their leisure. The balloon artist is back this year, along with some new stations and tractors at our photo opp. The Trunk or Treat will conclude our event. In addition to the need for cars, we are looking for volunteers to help during this event. Below are some ways to get involved. If you have questions, please contact Laura or Emmy.

Volunteers Day of Event	Items Needed
Set Up Crew	24 pack water bottles (16.9 oz)
Set Up Crew	24 pack water bottles (16.9 oz)
Set Up Crew	24 pack water bottles (16.9 oz)
Clean Up Crew	1 box of variety pack of chips Costco/BJ's
Clean Up Crew	55 piece of M&M's, Skittles, Starbursts, Snickers (4 bags)
Clean Up Crew	10.78 oz bags of Kit Kats Snack Size (4)
Craft Table	19 oz bags of Crunch fun size (4)
Pumpkin Decorating	10.48 oz bags of 3 Musketeers (4)

Trunk or Treat Parking	65 Count of Swedish Fish, Sour Patch Kids, Oreo Minis (3)
Train Barrel Helper	4 feed sacks to borrow
Photographer	
Photographer	
Face Painting	
Face Painting	
Trash Control	
Ground Supervisor	
Spin Art	
Photo Opp!	
Welcome Table	
Welcome Table	



## Bible Points for Children's Church for October!

October 1	Adam and Eve Sin
October 8	Cain Kills Abel
October 15	Noah Builds the Ark
October 22	God Floods the Earth
October 29	Children in Service



The Eastland Alpaca Open House is coming up November 4-5, 11-12. We have grown so much that it has become our only fundraiser to fund our youth activities and carry out the mission of Christ throughout the year. We will again be serving hotdogs & sauerkraut, pulled pork sandwiches, walking taco and taco salads, chicken corn noodle soup and French fries.

Here is how you can help: We are looking for cans of soda. This year we are asking specifically for Coke/Diet Coke, Sprite, A&W Root Beer, and Dr. Pepper. Baked goods will be made in the church kitchen. Stay tuned for dates and times to help prepare the treats.

We have a sign-up table in the narthex and an online sign-up sheet is available on the church's website. We encourage you to sign up to sponsor one or more of the food items. As you are able, please sign up with the item and the amount.

Monetary donations to offset our start up shopping are appreciated as well. Thank you for all your support and prayers!

Hempfield Church of the Brethren has a beautiful property that has continued to be cared for over the years, in addition to seeing some changes like a vegetable garden and a softball field at one time. The church, throughout the years, has continued to maintain beautiful flower beds, removal of dead trees, and a manicured lawn. The church has also blessed many children with the playground over the past 30 years (with the help of a generous original contribution by the Heisey Family). It is time to continue to provide endless memories and smiles for children by updating the playground. Many of our community events are held outside and the children are naturally drawn to the playground. We often see children run to play on the playset after searching for eggs at the Easter Egg, our Harvest Fest event as well as other times throughout the year. The past couple of summers Emmy and Laura have invited children to “Popsicles in the Park” at Rapho Township due to the current state of the playground. With an updated playground, we could hold that event here on the church property as well as other events. Please prayerfully consider giving to this playground project.



### **DO YOU WANT TO PLAY??**

It's time to **SWING** into the goal of replacing our playground area. You can **CLIMB** into the process and help support the efforts. Don't forget to **SLIDE** into your wallet and give as you feel led. You won't just be **MONKEYING** around as this project becomes a reality.

**JUMP** in on the fun!

There are giving envelopes on the display table and you may also give online through Breeze (just choose the Playground Project fund). Track the **FUN** on the thermometer in the Narthex display. For questions, see Donna Reed.

**Perhaps you, your neighbors, your friends, or your family want to be involved in giving....here are some options.**

1. You can place a check in the offering plate with “Playground Fund” marked in the memo. You can also place your check in an envelope provided by the display in the Narthex. If you are mailing a check, again, mark the playground fund in the memo line on the check and send it to P.O. Box 246, East Petersburg, PA 17520
  2. If you are a current member/attendee of Hempfield COB, you can use our online membership database for giving online. To access this, visit our website at [www.Hempfieldcob.org](http://www.Hempfieldcob.org). Choose the Member's Directory option on the top banner. It will open into Breeze (our membership database). Search for your name and follow the prompts to donate online.
  3. If you have a friend, family or someone outside of the church who would like to donate we have now added a “Donate” option on the top banner of the website. You can click on that option and it will take you directly to a place to enter your donation information. Use the dropdown box to choose the fund you'd like it to go to (for the playground, choose that fund). Follow the instructions and you will be able to donate using your bank, debit or credit card information.
- It is easy to give online to any project or giving fund for the church!! Thanks for giving!





Upcoming Calendar:

- Oct 1st - 6-8pm - Youth Group @ HCOB
  - Oct 8th - 6-8pm - Youth Group @ HCOB
  - Oct 13-15th - Fall Retreat @ Gretna Glen
  - Oct 15th - Harvest Fest @ HCOB
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- **Fall Retreat - October 13-15** Fall Retreat is at Gretna Glen where the youth can participate in archery, boating, ropes course, and more. Our theme for this year is called Sketch and based on Ephesians 2:8-10. This event is open to 6th-12th graders. The cost for this event is \$10 for active youth group members.
  - **Bible Quizzing Program** We have the opportunity to participate and have a team represent Hempfield COB in a Bible quizzing program. This year the program would focus on Galatians, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians, and Philemon. If youth are interested in a program like this, please let us know and we will evaluate how to proceed. This program is open to 6th graders through age 19.

# Messages in October

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## October 1



### Integrity Before God and People

Leviticus 19:11-12; Matthew 5:33-37

**Pastor: Doug Hinton**

From September 17 through Advent, we turn to Leviticus 19 where we find the second greatest commandment to ‘love your neighbor as yourself,’ honing in on the *one-another focused* passages. In today’s passage, we see that we are not to steal, lie or deal falsely with people around us AND not to swear falsely by God’s name. This all seems straightforward, right? So, do we practice it? Why is this important to both our character and God’s character? Are you known to be trustworthy, a keeper of your word? Are you a people pleaser, saying ‘yes’ too much and then not fulfilling all your commitments? How can we accept our limitations and retain our word?

## October 8



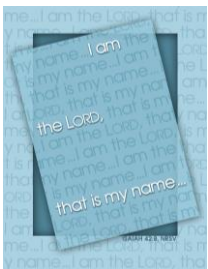
### One Another Focused: Deacon Call

1 Timothy 3:8-13; Matthew 20:20-28

**Pastor: Doug Hinton**

“I’m spiritual, but not religious.” Have you heard this expression? As I’ve pondered it, I come to the conclusion that religion is how we structure our communal spiritual lives. And yet, Christ’s call to His body stands in stark contrast to the society within which we live. All of Jesus’s disciples are called to be a servant (in the Greek, same word for deacon), but some are specifically called to the role of deacon. What does this mean? Who qualifies? Who does the qualifying? And what role does deacon fill in Christ’s body today? We will dig into this role and place a call to the body: who may we further call?

## October 15



### I Once was Blind....

Leviticus 19:14

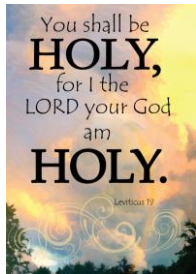
**Pastor: Geoff Davis**

As we continue our examination of being one another focused, God continues giving Moses principles for living and has special instruction for treating those who are blind and deaf: “Don’t curse the deaf and don’t put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God.” Why would you curse – heap obscenities on – someone who can’t hear? Why would you put any obstacle that can be tripped over in front of a blind man?

There’s more than one kind of blindness and more than one kind of deafness. Being holy means imitating God’s behavior. God’s love for everything and everyone he created includes those with physical disabilities like blindness and deafness.

How are you experiencing blindness? What aren’t you able to hear? What does it take to see and hear differently?

**October 22**



## **What Does the Lord Require?**

Leviticus 19:15-16, Matthew 6:1-4, 20:1-6

**Pastor: Laura Meiser**

Leviticus is one of those books of the Bible that seems to cause people to groan and question its relevance to 21st century life. Yet there it is, in the canon of Scripture, ready to teach us. Today our focus is on justice, the power of our words and how they relate to one-another focused living. How important is justice to God? What does just living look like as we practice it with those around us? What does the Lord require of us in this respect? Let's look at a few key verses in Matthew, which Jesus taught, as we explore this weighty concept.

**October 29**

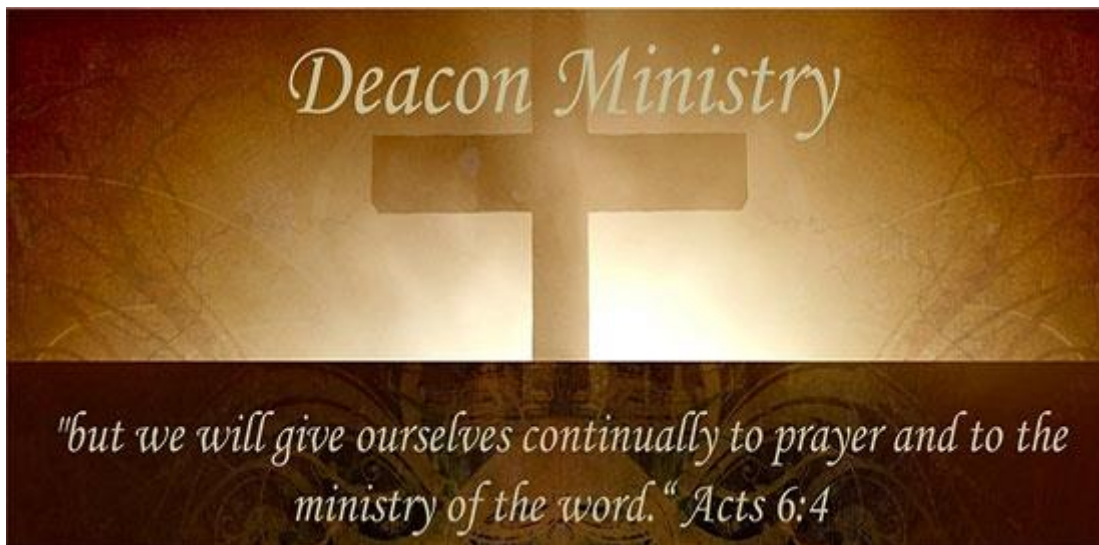


## **♪♪ Love, love, love...dah, dah, dah♪♪**

Leviticus 19:17-18

**Pastor: Doug Hinton**

Love is all you need, right? What does this mean? Many people use the word love to justify all kinds of things the Lord never intended. We see in our passage today that we can 'reprove our neighbor,' but not hold a grudge nor take vengeance on the same. What does that look like? AND...AND...if we are to love our neighbor as ourselves, how can we do that if we do not love who God made us to be? I don't know about you, but I know my flaws: physical, mental/attitude, spiritual – I mean, at least some of them. Do you know yours? Are you able to love yourself or even accept yourself (your strengths and limitations)? Why is this important: at home, in church, at school, at work? How can we live into the verse more fully?



## IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Are you a member struggling with the answer to this question if you are called to serve the church? Are you perhaps thinking you are not ‘holy’ enough, or you don’t know scriptures well? Remember, God does not choose the qualified, He qualifies those He chooses. The word “deacon” means service—service of a practical nature. As a deacon, a person helps shepherd the flock through prayer, visitation, acts of hospitality and kindness, preparation of love feast, communion, baptisms and coming along side new members.

History tells us that the Brethren church “called” people to be deacons rather than elect deacons. Also, the Church of the Brethren has considered deacons a *set-apart* ministry in the congregation. *Set-apart* affirms that deacons (and ministers) are called to a special and unique ministry in the Body of Christ. Thus, *set-apart* has no connection with hierarchical structures, but rather refers to a specific and unique ministry.

Today, the “call” looks a bit different. It is *set apart* from the way other committee members are selected. Instead, the congregation has the opportunity to participate in calling persons to be deacons. This may be by open call, or from a list provided by the deacon body. The list is then presented to the whole deacon body for review. A contact will be made by a deacon to the individual to offer the invitation. Persons are invited to attend a deacon meeting beforehand. Once they have made the decision to be a deacon, they will have a mentor who they will shadow. The mentor will give advice, guide them and answer any questions. Many times, people miss a wonderful opportunity to learn and to enjoy new relationships because they are afraid of taking a risk. As a deacon, what you give to others will be returned ten-fold to you. Establishing new relationships as you walk side by side with your brother or sister in Christ is a wonderful experience. To serve is a gift from God. Please prayerfully consider this unique and wonderful opportunity to grow.

We welcome anyone who wishes to learn more about deaconship to attend our November 3 meeting at 7:00 pm. Come, ask questions, learn, share and grow with us. We have God’s work to do.

“The unfailing love and work of the Lord never ends”- - nor should we.

Contact Penny Kettering, Wes Bowers or your deacon for more information.



# HCOB Family News



## Checks For You

... Blood Pressure Checks that is.

The Deacon Committee, through their Health Ministry Team, is providing monthly blood pressure checks to all participants of our church family.

**Next check October 1.**

Where: Library

When: After the church service



In the Church of the Brethren, baptism is for people old enough and mature enough to understand the meaning of choosing to follow Jesus Christ. We call the “believer’s baptism”. We understand baptism to be:

- A response to God’s saving act through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- An act of obedience to the teachings and example of Jesus Christ
- A symbol of cleansing and new life
- A public witness of the covenant relationship with God
- An initiation rite into the church, the body of Christ
- An ordination into ministry
- A beginning – not something completed, but the start of the Christian’s pilgrimage of faith

*This month we welcome and celebrate with Deniece Leber and Vanessa Houck as they both take this step of faith.*





**Sunday School Hour:** Held in The Gathering Place following the service

- Beginning September 17<sup>th</sup>
- The Book of Jeremiah
- **Sunday Evening Study:** Held in the home of the Schott Family (6397 High St. East Petersburg)
- Sundays Evenings 4 PM to 6 PM (Start with study, followed by a meal)
  - September 17
  - September 24
  - October 1
  - October 8
  - October 22
  - October 29
  - November 5
- The Book of Titus
  - In this *Book of the Bible* series, Chip Ingram unpacks the book of Titus. He challenges us to display the gospel in our lives through doing good. We do good works not to earn God's favor, but as a result of God's favor. When the gospel has truly taken root in our lives, it produces the fruit of godliness. As we pass these things on to future generations, the Church stands in bright contrast to the darkness of the world.

**Ladies Study:** Held in Chapel Hall

- Thursday mornings beginning on September 14<sup>th</sup> (8 weeks)
- Book Study: Are You Really OK?
  - This is one of Debra Fileta's best books. Honestly, after a year of chaos in the world, everyone needs to read this book. Her chapter on how Jesus addressed His emotions was eye opening and profound. I think a lot of times in the church we talk about spiritual health or even physical health but fail to address emotional and mental health. This book made me love God more. I had so much hope after reading this book. I know you will too....with Jesus right by your side. Praying for God to equip the church in emotional health. I know He will use this book powerfully!



The Connect program will again be starting on September 20, 2023 from 9:30-11:00am, every other Wednesday through November 15<sup>th</sup>. A great way for moms to have a time of learning and fellowship while their children enjoy some awesome activities. For more information, contact Laura Meiser or Emmy Schott.



## A Gift of Appreciation

In appreciation for the generous support of the Hempfield congregation for their ministry abroad, Taylor (Denlinger) and Jonny Qui presented the congregation with a beautiful scroll that included Jeremiah 17, verses 7-8 at the conclusion of their visit. We will be looking for a location in the next few weeks to hang this beautiful gift.





## Christmas Shoeboxes for Romania My Brother's Keeper Ministry

Our church is helping children in Romania again this year by assembling Christmas shoeboxes. My Brother's Keeper (MBK) works with children, some in orphanages, throughout the year and provides a gift at Christmas. It is a great opportunity to share the Gospel with the kids, and with parents, if applicable.



MBK's mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, assist the helpless and equip the younger generation to make good decisions for their lives.



WHAT TO PUT IN THE BOX: Toys (small cars, balls, dolls, small stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, small Etch A Sketch®, Slinky, etc.), school supplies (pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons or markers, coloring books, writing pads or paper, calculators, etc.), other (hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, ball caps, socks, T-shirts, hair clips, watches, small picture books, stickers, etc.).

DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; food or chocolate; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins.

HOW TO WRAP THE PACKAGE: Put everything in a shoebox (standard size) or a small plastic container. Wrap it as a gift and place a label on the outside of the package if it is for a boy or girl and the child's age category. Age categories: 2-4; 5-9; 10-14.

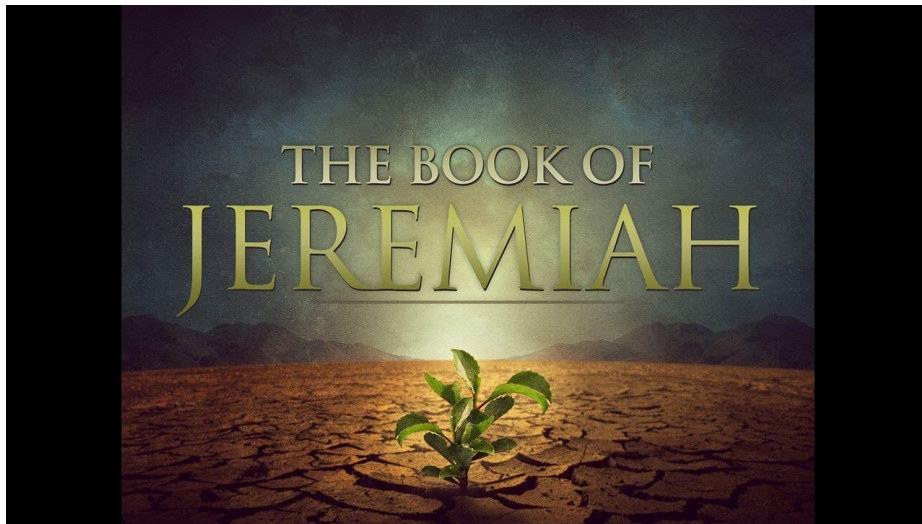
SHIPPING: Please donate \$6 or more with each package for shipping & customs charges. It is important for each of the box to get to Romania. You can write a check to My Brother's Keeper (note "Christmas shoeboxes" on memo line) and place it in an envelope on top of the gift box. If you are preparing more than one shoe box, please make one combined donation. (Please do not put the money inside the box and then wrap the box.)

Your whole family can participate in this great ministry. **Please place completed boxes under the table in the narthex by Sunday, October 8.** Thanks for helping to brighten a child's life! The Outreach Team



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Current Study...



Jeremiah was a 7<sup>th</sup> Century BC prophet tasked with proclaiming God's message to the people of Judah. His words were a warning – they were to turn from their sinful ways and toward God. God had seen their idolatry of turning to other gods, and as a result He would bring judgement. We get a glimpse of that judgement in Jeremiah's prophecies. Still, Jeremiah's message offers words of hope of God's restoration, if they listened and obeyed.

Oct. 1	Jeremiah 7:1-15	Ray Hutchison
Oct. 8	Jeremiah 12:1-13	Galen Brumbaugh
Oct. 15	Jeremiah 18:1-17	Rich Bushong
Oct. 22	Jeremiah 23:1-12	Galen Brumbaugh
Oct. 29	<b>Congregational Meeting (No Class)</b>	

# October Calendar

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

## October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Doug Off <b>9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship - World Communion Sunday</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> Doug Off	<b>3</b> 7:00pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting	<b>4</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 11:30am Mom's Connect 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 9:00am - 10:30am Women's Bible Study <b>6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal</b>	<b>6</b> <b>ANE District Conference</b> Eder Financial	<b>7</b> <b>ANE District Conference</b>
<b>8</b> <b>9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	<b>9</b> Doug's Day Off 6:30pm Worship Team	<b>10</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing Group	<b>11</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:00pm QuintEssentially Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Stewards of Property	<b>12</b> 9:00am - 10:30am Women's Bible Study <b>6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal</b>	<b>13</b> Youth Fall Retreat 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	<b>14</b> Youth Fall Retreat
<b>15</b> Youth Fall Retreat <b>9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship</b> <b>4:00pm - 6:00pm Harvest Festival</b>	<b>16</b> Doug's Day Off 6:30pm - 8:00pm Outreach Team	<b>17</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Education Team	<b>18</b> <b>HERALD DEADLINE</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 11:30am Mom's Connect 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 9:00am - 10:30am Women's Bible Study <b>6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 11:00am - 6:00pm Hershey Event
<b>22</b> <b>9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship</b> <b>10:30am Care of Church Community Meeting</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> Doug's Day Off F&H Kitchen and John Naas Hall	<b>24</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	<b>25</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 9:00am - 10:30am Women's Bible Study <b>6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Congregational Gathering Irene Vacation</b> <b>9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	<b>30</b> Doug's Day Off <b>Irene Vacation</b> 8:30am - 3:00pm F&H Kitchen and John Naas Hall	<b>31</b> <b>Irene Vacation</b>	<b>1</b> <b>Irene Vacation</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 8:30am - 2:00pm F&H Kitchen and John Naas Hall 9:30am - 11:30am Mom's Connect 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm - 9:00pm F&H Kitchen and John Naas Hall	<b>2</b> <b>Irene Vacation</b> 9:00am - 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>Irene Vacation</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP - Thanksgiving Service	<b>4</b> Eastland Alpaca



"All our summer shade  
is falling down!"

# Leafy

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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