

Sharing the Good News of God's Work with God's People



April 2025

Exponential 2025

Pastor Doug Hinton

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and *greater* works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

John 14:12

About a month ago, pastors from East Petersburg and HBIC gathered at Hempfield COB with Kurt and Malachi from TNT to pray over our community. At the end of our time together, Pastors Josh and Chad from East Petersburg Mennonite invited me to join them at Exponential 2025 as they had another ticket. The conference took place at First Baptist in Orlando, Florida from March 17-20th. After a two-hour delay and a short drive, we finally arrived at our hotel around 2am ready to sleep and head to pre-conference session on Monday.

The conference theme, "Good, Great, Greater" rooted in the verse from John 14 above. challenged people to shift beyond the stationary silos that can be the American church, to the moving, living, multiplying entity we find since the time of Christ. Before the advent of the printing press, Scripture was read publicly as to own a personal or family Bible would have been a privilege. So, how did the church grow in a time without seminaries.

without church buildings or gathering places, without a full New Testament as we know it today? How did believers live out the faith when it was illegal and they faced persecution if openly professing the name of Jesus? What did they rely upon?

Alan Hirsch pointed to lives transformed through continual repentance, Scriptural study -i.e., learning the ways of Christ, and incarnational living. He stated that our faith in the West is primarily passed on through an educational process by the pastor to the flock of the local body, but in the Ancient Near East – the time of Christ – the disciples walked with Jesus day in and day out for three or so years: eating together, walking together, learning together, serving together. Through the victories and trials, the joys and sorrows, the new steps of faith and the encouragement from those who walked before us, lives sealed in the Spirit enjoyed one another's company. There wasn't a 10-step program or "5 rules to live by," there was a daily walk with Christ and His body to learn and practice His ways together.

Another highlight that came from a couple of the speakers named that churches need to work together.

> There is only one body with many parts. If we are to impact our communities, we must first learn work. worship, and serve together. As the lone 'brethren' with our Mennonite brothers and sisters, I felt encouraged by this as I thought of the ways that we seek to work with local bodies, food banks, and the church at large to proclaim and live into Christ's Kingdom. May we continue to follow

Jesus, speaking of His encounters with our lives.

planting seeds of faith in those around us, that in due time, the Lord of the harvest may collect in full!

Picture: back row: Mike, Pastor Josh, and me 😊 Front Row: Chelsea, Anne, and Pastor Chad





HCOB Children's Ministry Happenings

Kids Connect ~ Moms Connect is underway. As moms are meeting with Laura and looking at "Jesus and Women: In the First Century and Now," seven children are playing with a variety of toys, hearing a Bible story, and making music with Jen Hinton. The Bible stories' theme around animals as we look at God's character. We thank our volunteers for helping to care for these children, as well as the church's prayers for this program.





This month the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 12th at 10 AM rain or shine. There are a variety of ways to get involved.

Pray: Pray for the day of the event (the weather, safety, enough volunteers, meeting needs); Pray for those in attendance that may not know the Jesus. May seeds be planted and may church volunteers show participants and guests Christ's love through their words and actions.

Spread the Word: Share with your family and friends about our Easter Egg Hunt. There are flyers in the Narthex to distribute. Direct them to register on our church website, so we can plan accordingly. Donate:

- Time Join us to be a friendly face, hand out raffle tickets, or supervise egg hunting areas on that Saturday morning. We would encourage our volunteers to wear their Hempfield COB t-shirts.
- Prizes After the Egg Hunt, children pick a prize to take along home in their bags. Dollar Store prizes are perfect for donations, whether it's a box of crayons, a ball, or small toy. The bags contain an individual snack, a craft, and information inviting them to our church services and programs.



Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 10 a.m. to join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The morning will consist of a short story, raffle prizes, and of course the egg hunt. **Please register on our church website or below.** We have some additional needs if you feel called to help: prayers for the event and those in attendance, candy for stuffing the eggs, small Dollar Tree prizes, and people to serve that morning in a variety of ways. Check out the table in the narthex for more information and to grab some flyers to hand to your neighbors or friends.

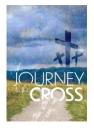
Register at: https://forms.gle/8ZJsm2iXWNEy9mkQ6



SAVE THE DATE – June 8-12, 2025.

Messages in April

April 6



Trust > Control

Matthew 4:8-11

Pastor: Doug Hinton

In this account of Matthew and the last temptation of Christ, Satan promises to give Jesus the kingdoms of the world if He only bow down to worship him. This brings a couple of questions to mind: What does it mean to worship another in posture, position, and authority? In the weakness of our flesh, is it easier to seek control and impose our will on another than it is to trust God at His word and live out what He commands? Jesus again quotes from Deuteronomy, commanding satan to leave Him. What discipline do we need to learn from this teaching and account? How did this further reveal Christ's resolve to do His Father's will and how can we follow? Further, what relationship does Scripture carry with the Living and Resurrected Christ?

April 13



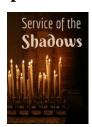
What Do We Remember?

Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34

Pastor: Doug Hinton

Discipline leads to a freedom and nearness in Christ that the individual strength of our will may not. Scriptural study and even conversation can be disciplines that when practiced in a healthy way, deepens our faith and practice. This Sunday, Pastors Doug and Del will have a conversation around the last supper and Jesus's statement do this in remembrance of Me. What are we supposed to remember? What does the Scripture say around these passages? How will remembering inform not just knowledge but practice? As we look toward our Maundy Thursday Service, we hope to encourage the body to join in a fuller understanding of this sacred and blessed time together.

April 18



Tenebrae: Submission & Confession

Luke 22:39-46; Matthew 26:36-46 Pastor: Doug Hinton and Laura Meiser

As we near Resurrection Sunday, we must first travel through the Garden of Gethsemane. In this account, we see Christ practicing confession and submission. From merriamwebster.com, confess can mean to tell or make known or to give evidence of. According to Richard Foster, submission "is the ability to lay down the terrible burden of always needing to get our own way." As the dark of night surrounds Jesus and the disciples in the garden, He states three times, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as Your will." Trusting His Father in and through death, Jesus stated His heaviness in the events to come and His trust in the Father. As the Light grew dim, He held onto the promise from Psalm 139, 'Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You." We enter this time with Christ: can we follow?

April 20

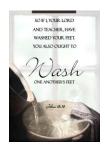


Listening: The Holy Spirit, Discipline

Luke 24:13-35 **Pastor: Doug Hinton**

He is risen! He is risen, indeed? Wait, what? Can we even imagine or fathom what that must have meant for those first believers in the days – days! – after the crucifixion? Take a walk with me. All these events happened around Jesus – the grand entrance, the flipping of tables, the unjust trial, the release of Barnabas (which means son of the father), Pilate, the thief on the cross, the crowds, the yelling, and finally the death of Jesus of Nazareth – and you're walking away from the city having a conversation with your friend trying to make sense of it all. While you're walking and talking, this guy walks up to you and kind of, you know, joins the conversation. He's asking questions, you're laying out the events, but then, he starts talking about Scripture and history and sorting through the details. Well, you invite him in for a meal – I mean, what could happen next? There are times in our walk of faith we need mostly to listen, and invite people to join us at a meal, and Jesus shows up! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

April 27



Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?

John 13: 1-20

Pastor: Geoff Davis

Jesus, the Son of God, who had all power to do anything he wanted, lived a life of service. He taught that serving others is a way to honor God and love your neighbor. At the most critical time of his earthly life, he put on the towel, got on his knees and washed the feet of his inner circle – including the one who would betray him. Can you truly get your head around that?

What's your image of being a "servant?" How does that fit in with our culture of entitlement? Why is it important? What would it look like? How could we grow more in service? Let's get started.

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 May4.

Where: Library

When: After the church service

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN **Annual Conference**JULY 2 - 6, 2025



Join us for the 238th recorded Annual Conference this summer in

Greensboro, North Carolina

Wednesday, July 2 through Sunday, July 6 at the Koury Convention Center



Conference Registration and Housing Reservations open on **Wednesday, March 5 at noon** (Central Time)

As we gather to explore the theme *Faith Working Through Love* based on Galatians 5:6b (and 1 Corinthians 13) conferencegoers can participate in a variety of events and activities designed to *unite*, *strengthen*, *and* equip the Church of the Brethren to follow Jesus.

EDUCATIONAL GRANT—The church, through the Education Team, is offering an **EDUCATION GRANT**. Individuals who are members or regular attendees of Hempfield Church of the Brethren planning on attending a school of higher learning, may apply for this scholarship grant overseen by the Education Team.

Inquiring applicants can send a request for an application to Donna Reed, chairman of the Education Team, via the church mailbox or receive the returned grant application is May 11, 2025.

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 20, 2025 in order to complete a short questionnaire that is due April 27, 2025 We would like to celebrate with you as you finish this chapter of your life by recognizing you on Graduation Sunday which is June 1, 2025



Welcome campers and camping wanna be 's... Aug 15 and 16 has been selected as a weekend for family camping. No skills necessary but must have a love for outside fun and fellowship. Sites go fast so go to Camp Swatara . org and hit family camping and map to see what blue sites are left to choose. if you don't have a tent or camper cabins are available to rent... for questions see Janice Haldeman or Janice Shenk.



We are beginning a search for our new Children's Ministry Coordinator, as the position needs to be filled by the end of the school year. If you are interested in applying or know someone who might be, please contact Donna Reed or the church office for more details.

Please join us in praying that the Lord will bring the right person to continue the spiritual growth of our children here at Hempfield.



Looking for places to plug in, meet new friends and connect? Watch this space for opportunities to join in the fellowship.



The Quilting and Sewing ministries at Hempfield COB

For many decades, Hempfield Church of the Brethren has had some type of sewing groups. The earliest sewers sewed "layettes" for babies, as well as making comforters and quilts. The days of making baby clothing are far gone, but Hempfield continues to have a wonderful <u>comforter</u> ministry, and our <u>quilters</u> support the <u>Brethren Disaster Relief Auction</u>.

Any of you who may be available on the <u>second Wednesday mornings of each month</u> are invited to come and join us, beginning at 8:00 AM to 11:00, and put together comforters with us. Mary Ellen McEvoy ALSO is always looking for people to knot the smaller baby comforters at their homes during the month. If you are interested in either of these, please get in touch with Mary Ellen... she is very happy to show you what to do!

On all of the other Wednesday mornings, also from 8:00 to 11:00, there is a small but mighty group of ladies who hand quilt. Arlene Slotter creates the vast majority of quilt tops that the group has quilted. Hand quilting is a very slow process, and it is not unusual for the group to take five to six months to complete a queen or king size quilt. Deb Bendit is in charge of the quilting ministry here at Hempfield, and if you would like to learn how to quilt, or if you know how and are interested in joining the quilting group, please make sure to contact her. Please pray for all of the sewers and quilters as they continue these ministries, and if God is calling you to help in some way with one or both groups, please see Mary Ellen McEvoy or Deb Bendit for more information.

Small Group @ The Schott's



Spring Study: The Overcomers by Matt Chandler

Description from RightNowMedia:

A Bible Study on the Book of Revelation

Are you ready to live fully prepared and fully equipped to handle anything life throws at you? As Christians, we can be courageous and confident, knowing that God has placed us in human history for his purposes, and he will empower us regardless of our circumstances. In this eight-session series, pastor and author Matt Chandler will walk us through the book of Revelation to remind us of God's fierce,

conquering, commanding authority over all the earth.

Meet the following Sunday's at 4 PM. All are welcome to enjoy a meal and fellowship after the study around 5:15 PM. Children are welcome. Transportation for youth kids up to church is available as well. If you are interested in joining us (even for some of the sessions), please contact Emmy Schott (717-333-8216).

- April 13: Your Cultural Caution
- April 27: Your New Home



Do you like to sing? Perhaps this ministry is a great place to fellowship and build lasting friendships with others that like to sing too. Consider becoming involved in the church choir. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm (first 2024-2025 rehearsal is Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 7:00pm). Come join the fun!!

Questions? Contact Laura Meiser



Current Study...



What happens when you take 2,000 years of a Christian tradition, capture the heart of it, and reimagine it? Whether you're a veteran of observing Lent or a rookie who is jumping in for the first time, you can join thousands of people for an experience that just may surprise you.

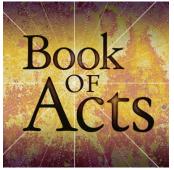
It's simple. You watch a short video on Ash Wednesday that kicks the whole thing off. Then, each Sunday until Easter you will watch a short video that will give you your Lent Experience challenge for the week. The challenges are based on things that have been a part of Lent for centuries. Your participant journal is loaded with everything you need to learn more about Lent and to successfully complete each week's challenge.

April 6 – **Forgiveness** – Galen Brumbaugh

April 13 – **Bible Reading** *Need Leader – (No luncheon – Palm Sunday)

April 20 – No Class – Easter Sunday

May – Resume Study of Acts



The Book Acts tells the story of the early church. Unlike works of fiction, this narrative offers a factual, historical account. The Book of Acts chronicles the beginning of the Church and the incredible growth that resulted. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, these early believers took the Gospel to new lands. As God worked through His people then, we are charged with the same task the early believers received, to be a living witness of the gospel to the world.

April 27 – Acts 14:11-23 – The Truth

May 4 – Acts 15:7-9, 22-31 – The Gospel

May 11 - Acts 15:39-16:10 - Kingdom Work

May 18 – 50th Anniversary Sunday (No Class)

May 25 – Acts 16:11-15, 29-40 – Early Opportunity

June 1 – Acts 17:22-34 – Believe

June 8 – Acts 18:1-11, 18-21 – Together

June 15 – Acts 19:11-20 – Motives

June 22 - Acts 20:18-32 - Commit

June 29 – Acts 22:6-21 – Witness



HCOB Youth Ministry exists to be a loving, Christ-centered community that grows together in faith and life.

At HCOB Youth Ministry, we desire to see youth who build bridges between the church and the world through the profession of Christ as Savior, discipling others in their walks of faith, and continuing in communion with church and family.

National Jr. High Conference - June 20-22 - Register by Apr 30th

Junior High youth (completed 6th - 8th grade) are invited to a weekend of faith formation, friendship, and fun! The weekend will be filled with worship, small group time, workshops, and recreation. The theme for the event is "Let Your Gentleness be Known - Philippians 4:5." The conference will take place at Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. This event only occurs every other year. Refer to the denomination's website for more information and details from the last event. The cost for active youth members is \$10. Advisors will register the group as a whole for the event. Please complete HCOB NJHC registration for the event by April 30th using the link.

Upcoming Calendar:

- Apr 6th 6-8pm Youth Group @ HCOB
- Apr 13th 6-8pm Youth Group @ HCOB
- Apr 20th NO Youth Group Happy Easter!
- Apr 27th 6-8pm Youth Group @ HCOB



Hempfield COB is celebrating 50 years as an amazing congregation this year. Many exciting things are being planned to help make this year a special time of remembering and looking forward. Check here for exciting things to be aware of and involved in!

"Continuing Forward for the Glory of God and Our Neighbor's Good."



Sunday, May 18, 2025 is a great day to come celebrate 50 years of Hempfield Church of the Brethren!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Worship with us in the morning hour at 9:30am and then stay to participate in Table Fellowship with us for a wonderful mean. It will be a great time for renewing old friendships, making new friends and celebrating what God has done here for 50 years!



A beautiful tree has been promised to celebrate our 50th anniversary, and it will be planted at the proper time during the next year. We hope that this will be the cornerstone of a future prayer and meditation garden.



Hempfield Church of the Brethren supports a wide group of outside ministries with the Outreach dollars that you give. Look here each month to read a bit about those ministries – perhaps get involved if the Spirit leads....



DATE OF TRIP: October 5-11,2025 # OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 15 CONTACT PERSON: Dave Dum EMAIL: davesdum@gmail.com

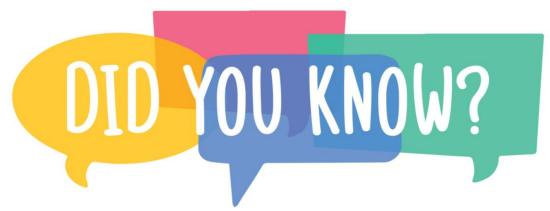
PHONE: 717-278-0618

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP: September 7, 2025



Miles for Friendship Community - The Outreach Team is challenging the congregation to support Friendship Community this April in its Miles for Friendship Community Fundraiser. For more information please visit their website or link at https://www.friendshipcommunity.net/event/milesforfriendship/. You can sign up for the virtual walk or if you prefer to make a donation, select the Hempfield Church of the Brethren Outreach button to help us reach our goal of raising \$1000. For those who prefer to contribute via check, please feel free to pick up a special offering envelope from narthex and place it in the offering plate. Please mark Friendship Miles Challenge in the memo line.

Please contact an Outreach team member with any questions.



It is our desire to keep you each informed of all the things that you need to know about The Hempfield Church of the Brethren. Below are some things that are always available to you and how to access them quickly and easily. If you have other questions, please feel free to ask. We want you all in the KNOW.



Are you familiar with RightNow Media? It is a wonderful resource for Bible Studies and other materials. The church has a membership for their site and you can have access to it as well. If you'd like the information of how you can access all of this information, see Pastor Doug for login information.



Tithe.ly (formerly Breeze) is our online church management database. You can Tithe.ly (and should) have your own login to the system that will allow you to have access to contact information for our church community and to keep your own

information active and current. To create your own account, simply visit the church website at www.hempfieldcob.org and click on the Member's Directory link at the top of the page. If you already have an account and password, you can log in from there. At the bottom of that screen you'll see a place to "create an account". Follow that link to set yourself up – easy as that!. Once your account is created, you will see several tabs across the top of the page – go to the one that says "my profile". That will show you what is already loaded into Breeze for you and will give you the place to edit any incorrect information. In addition, if you'd like to have ready access to Tithe.ly from your smart phone, simply go to the App Store on your phone and download the Tythe.ly app and download the church app.. You will then be able to log into information at your fingertips. If you have questions, contact Irene in the church office.

NOTE: If you are using Breeze to send out a mass email to the congregation, please use the "Directory" tag that you'll find in the system. The "HCOB Family" tag no longer exists. Thank you!



www.hempfieldcob.org is the address for our church website. If you haven't visited there lately, you really should! There is a lot of great information to be found there.

- On the front page you will see scrolling pictures of different upcoming events and other fun times in the life of the church.
- You can follow the tabs on the top of the page to all of our social media platforms where things are posted regularly.
- There is basic information about our church.
- The "Events" tab will lead you directly to the church calendar so you can know many of the meetings and events
 happening in the life of the church. If you have church-wide events that you'd like added to the calendar,
 contact Irene in the church office.
- The center of the main page gives the church's vision statement and the pane to the left will give you the title of the upcoming service and a place to access the past services.
- If you click on "Our Church" you can find all kids of information about our ministries and staff. There is also a link under that tab that says "Sermons". There you will find the YouTube videos of past services. The most recent service is typically posted there early in the week following.
- The "Donate" tab takes you directly to screen to be able to give directly online. The dropdown box will allow you to also designate what fund you want that donation to go to.
- The last tab at the top of the page, "This Sunday" takes you to the information and downloadable version of the bulletin for the upcoming service.
- Near the bottom of the page, there are scrolling boxes that highlight other happenings in the life of HCOB. If
 you click on any of the boxes it will give you update information and registration links. The Herald box will give
 you links to the most current and previous two issues of the newsletter.
- Basic directions and contact information can be found at the very bottom of the page.

The website is a wonderful resource for much of the information you need to know about what is happening at HCOB!!



ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK???

Help spread the word about events and topics of interest at HCOB – it's simple! When you see a post from either the main HCOB FaceBook page or the HCOB Kids FaceBook

page, just take a second and "share" that post. At the bottom of the post there should be a space that says "share" – click on that and it will share that post on YOUR FaceBook page so that it now reaches everyone you know. If we all did that, the good news of HCOB could be spread far and near. Help let the community know of the great opportunities that they can be a part of. Share, share, share.

April Calendar

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

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Fellowship Meal and Egg Stuffing 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	31 Doug's Day Off	1	8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 11:00am Mom's Connect 6:00pm - 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4 in Irene Off 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	5 9:00am - 12:00pm Communion Bread Making 2:00pm - 8:00pm Houck - Gym
6 Blood Pressure Check 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 10:30am Care of Church Community Meeting 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	7 Doug's Day Off ∱ Irene Off	8 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT	8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 6:00pm - 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Stewards of Property	9:30am - 11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	11 Egg Hunt Prep	12 10:00am - 11:00am Easter Egg Hunt
13 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship - Palm Sunday 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	14 Doug's Day Off 6:30pm Worship Team	15	16 HERALD DEADLINE 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 11:00am Mom's Connect 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	Maundy Thursday Love Feast	18 Good Friday (Church Office Closed) 7:00pm - 8:00pm Good Friday Service	19
20 9:30am - 11:00am Easter Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	21 Doug's Day Off 6:30pm - 8:00pm Outreach Team	22 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	23 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	24 6:30pm - 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	25 Leadership Retreat	26 Leadership Retreat
9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 11:00am - 12:00pm Congregational Gathering 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	28 Doug's Day Off	29 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT	30 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 11:00am Mom's Connect 5:30pm - 7:30pm Fellowship & Hospitality Team 7:00pm - 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal		2 6:00pm - 9:00pm Women's Table Fellowship 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	3 ⊕ Emmy Out

The Hempfield Herald

Sharing the Good News of God's Work with God's People



April 2025





RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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