

The Precepts of Men

“Then some Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, “Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.” And He answered and said to them, “Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘He who speaks evil of father or mother is to be put to death.’ But you say, ‘Whoever says to *his* father or mother, “Whatever I have that would help you has been given to God,” he is not to honor his father or his mother.’ And *by this* you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:

‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me.

‘But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’”

After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, “Hear and understand. *It is* not what enters into the mouth *that* defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man.”

Then the disciples came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?” But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”

Matthew 15.1-14

Our preaching focus at Hempfield Church of the Brethren this year, *Sharing Your Stories of Faith*, seeks to define and normalize sharing how we see God at work in and through His body. As I pondered our theme over the last two months, I recognized that I wanted to understand the story of God better: what story is God telling us? How do we see it played out in Scripture? Understanding His nature as revealed by Scripture and the Holy Spirit remain necessary if I am to even get a glimpse of God and His work in my own life. So, as many others, I began to read the Bible with a goal of reading the whole of Scripture this year. Currently, I’m reading two chapters in the Old Testament plus one Psalm, and then one chapter in the New Testament. This challenge also comes from an answer to a prayer: I asked God what He wanted me to do, thinking more of tasks to accomplish. Almost immediately, the thought that crossed my mind (which felt more like His response): Seek Me and know Me. As I read, I ask questions like:

- What does this tell me about God?

- What is He seeking to tell me?
- What is my response?
- How do I reflect whom I serve?

As I share my journey with others, they ask questions and continue to sharpen me as well. Which brings me to the passage above.

I read this passage and the two phrases highlighted in red really bothered me. The ‘precepts of man’ and ‘if a blind man guides a blind man, both fall into a pit.’

Merriam-Webster defines **precept** as *a command or principle intended especially as a general rule of action*. In context, the Pharisees were upset because the disciples of Christ did not wash their hands. Given, this was not a command of God but an understanding of man *applied* to a command of God. Here’s the fine line.

We see this today when pastors, preachers, and teachers apply conservative or liberal political ideologies to the Word of God or way of Christ. Meaning in order to be a good Christian or follower

of Christ, you *must* vote one way or the other. This very spirit remains one of the destructive forces tearing apart longstanding and mainline denominations and local bodies.

To bring it closer to home, we may see the Church of the Brethren marching against violence because we are an historic peace church, but will not speak the name of Christ for fear of offending another person. In conferences, we repent of sins of generations' past but not the immoral sins of current day when they fit our ideology. We must preserve the sanctity of life and holiness of life, but not the life of the stranger. Reading the story of Abraham, I wonder if he would be welcome here today? When the precepts of men do not reconcile with the whole of Scripture, with the character of God, with the way of Christ, we must choose which message we will declare, which actions we will live out, to whom we will be faithful. Because Christ warns: the blind guides will lead the blind into the pit. ← is this a parable or an eternal judgment?

Jesus both named the fault of the Pharisees and then told His disciples to 'leave them alone.' When the people of God organize themselves in such a way as to contradict the One they claim to follow, He will discipline, punish, scatter or remove them. The good news? God knows our nature, our choices, our short-sightedness and after giving us the Law, judges, kings, and prophets, He sent His only Son to show us *the Way, the Truth, and the Life*, promising all those who turn to Him His very Holy Spirit to teach, lead, and remind of all He taught and lived. The church needs to humble itself and re-turn back to the One who called us. One more clarifying note on this.

You may say, "Doug, I walk with the Lord daily. I need not return, I'm there." When you get together with other people, other Christians, is your first priority to seek Christ together with them, to seek His voice, to live His way? OR, is it to convince them of your *rightness* and their *wrongness*? Do you seek to teach them the precepts

of men while you yourself are unwilling to repent of the sin that so easily entangles? Are you willing to point out the spec of dust in their eye while looking around the log in your own? Because Christ's Kingdom oversees and out ranks any kingdom we can build here: whether through family, party, denomination, or nation.

If we want to see Christ's Kingdom come here in Hempfield, we must remain or return to a collective, humble state. When we approach one another, if a person makes a statement or judgment, ask them clarifying questions, repeat what you hear them saying, seek to understand them before responding or reacting. Then, go to the Scripture together, praying and asking God to open your eyes and ears, to be Christ's ambassadors here, weighing out understanding and perspectives against Christ's character found in the Bible. We are here to call people to another Kingdom: the Kingdom of Christ Jesus our Lord. Maintain focus. Seek to understand God's story. And then share where you see Him moving.

Your brother in Christ,
Doug Hinton
Pastor

Associate Pastor of Discipleship

“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” ~Colossians 3:16

A few months ago, I found myself alone in the church office late on a Monday afternoon. It was the kind of day in which everything took longer than it should have and extra things kept popping up. I was frustrated with myself because I needed to make dinner for my family before an evening Zoom meeting and was running out of time. When I finished the last task, I hurried to my car, mentally planning the small grocery list I needed to shop for on my way home. As I turned onto Stevens Street, I found myself annoyed with the driver of the sedan in front of me. They were traveling slower than I would have liked. Didn't they know I was in a hurry?

As I pulled up to the intersection at Stevens and Colebrook, I was growing increasingly irritated as the driver took an unimaginably long time to turn on their left turn signal and even longer to decide to begin making said turn.

And when they finally did.....S-L-A-M! They were broadsided by a very large red pickup truck. (Don't worry! It wasn't Doug's!)

The good news is that everyone was fine but obviously quite shaken up. (Myself included!) But as I eventually drove home, albeit quite amped up on a hefty dose of adrenaline, I sensed the nudge of the Holy Spirit.

What if I had left on time? *It might have been me in the cross hairs of that pickup truck.*

What if I had blown my horn as I have been known to do from time to time? *It might have caused the driver to pull out more quickly and hit more squarely on the driver's side door, potentially causing catastrophic injuries to the passengers.*

What if there hadn't been anyone there to pray?

What if?

But you know what? In all of that, God was there. There was certainly a protection for me, but also to the young couple in the sedan and the driver of the pickup truck. Everyone walked away from that accident and while the sedan was a bit worse for the wear, vehicles can be replaced.

As I sat there, I felt the nearness of God. Maybe you've experienced that too. I'm embarrassed to say that on that particular day, I did not find God in my office or in the sanctuary. I was too busy checking off boxes on my to-do list, chasing productivity. I did not find God while praying in chapel hall or while walking through the education wing.

So where *did* I find God on that day? At the intersection of two country roads, looking at a situation that could have been so much worse.

Over the course of the upcoming year, your pastors will be preaching toward the theme of “Living Testimonies.” These are the unexpected places and spaces in which we are invited into God’s story. Sometimes we have a part to play, something to do, a way to share the love of God in a dark, dark world. But other times, I think God is asking us to be still. To notice what is right in front of us and how he fits into it. To know that he is God and that he is here. And then to share that experience with others.

How has God been showing up in your life? Where do you see him moving in the body at HCOB? I'd love to hear all about it!

In Christ, Pastor Laura



HCOB Children's Ministry Happenings

January was a quiet month! We are embracing the calm of the post-Advent and post-Christmas season. Although many germs have been flying around this past month, we have been happy to see the smiling faces of many our children on Sunday mornings! We continue to pray for everyone's health during a season of colds and the flu.

In Children's Church, we have continued to learn about the early life of Jesus. We learned that God takes care of us, just as he took care of Jesus and his family when King Herod wanted to kill him. We talked through the tricky concept of Jesus being God's Son. We emphasized this concept with the paraphrased verse, "If we believe in Jesus, we will also become one of God's children" (John 1:12). We listened to the story of Jesus' baptism as well. While we learned of some of Jesus' first disciples (John, Simon Peter, Andrew, and James), we enjoyed the reminder that Jesus is our friend, too. We learned of how other people began to hear and see the great things Jesus was doing, and began following him too. We discussed how Jesus wants everyone to follow him, and we talked about ways we can spread His good news today!

We are excited to introduce a new program for children of the church and the community: Open Gym! This program is designed for children ages 0-5 years, along with their caregivers. We will be welcoming children and adults to join us in the gym to burn off some energy, along with a time for stories/songs and snacks. John Naas Hall is the perfect location to utilize as an energy outlet for children during the cold winter months! Please invite someone you know who may benefit from this opportunity- we are excited to share our space with those who may need it!

Looking Ahead

-Open Gym 9:30-10:30am

Tuesday, February 3

Wednesday, February 18

Thursday, March 5

Tuesday, March 17

Wednesday, April 8

Tuesday, April 21

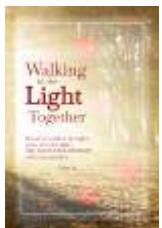
-March 22 (Sunday)- Fellowship Meal and Easter Egg Stuffing

-March 28 (Saturday)- Easter Egg Hunt

Your sister in Christ,
Monica

Messages in February

February 1



The Apostles Tell What They Saw

1 John 1

Pastor: Doug Hinton

What happens when your life intersects God's story? The apostle John fished with his father and brother before Jesus. After Jesus's call, his life would never be the same. When we allow, when we release control, Jesus transforms our lives. It may be like John with a career, maybe a marriage that needs released into His care, a local church body in a slump...when we turn to and engage Jesus Christ by His Holy Spirit, we become something new, different. How can we share about that transformation? Well, how did the apostles do it? Today, we look at the first chapter of 1 John and hear John's words. How can his words inform us today?

February 8



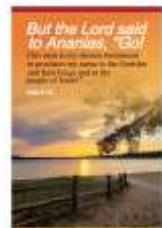
Say What You Saw

Acts 3:1-10; Acts 4:7-21

Pastor: Laura Meiser

We've often heard it said that eyewitness accounts are unreliable. And that may be true at the scene of a crime or accident, a place in which eye witnesses weren't expecting what happened to happen. But when we think of the eyewitness accounts of the disciples who walked and talked with Jesus for three full years, we think of credibility and authenticity in their reporting. Today we'll explore an experience Peter and John had both through healing a lame beggar and being called on the carpet by the Sanhedrin. How did their experience become their unique testimonies? How can we apply what we see here to our own lives?

February 15



What's Your Story?

Acts 9:1-19; Acts 22:1-21; Acts 26:1-23

Pastor: Geoff Davis

Paul told his conversion story three times in Acts—each time to a different audience, with different emphasis, but the same core truth. This week: how to share your faith in a way that's both faithful to the gospel and flexible to the listener. Because adaptation isn't compromise—it's wisdom.

Have you ever felt stuck when it comes to sharing your faith? Like you need one perfect, memorized script? This Sunday, we're looking at how Luke told Paul's story three different ways to three different audiences—without ever compromising the truth. If you've ever wondered how to connect your faith to people who think differently than you, this message is for you.

February 22



Extraordinary in the Ordinary

Acts 16:14-15, 31-40

Pastor: Doug Hinton

We expect the apostles to testify to Jesus: they were with Him! But how did the church get from there to here? Stories of faith must have been passed down; acts of Christ witnessed; faithful people must have been obedient. Today we look at the story of Lydia. How did she come to know Christ? What did she do after hearing a testimony? What first steps did she take in enacting her faith? can you do what she did?

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 March 1.

Where: Library

When: After the church service



About the Speaker

Ann Clark Van Hine was born in England but grew up in the United States. Ann is the mom of two grown daughters, the widow of a FDNY firefighter, a retired small business owner, was a docent with 9/11 Tribute Museum from 2006 – 2022, a published writer, Children's Ministries volunteer, and a breast cancer survivor.

Since September 11, 2001, Ann has had numerous opportunities to share the story of God's presence and peace as she navigated "a personal loss in the midst of a national tragedy."

ANE  COB
Atlantic Northeast District
Church of the Brethren

March 21,
2026

SAVE THE DATE

ANE District Women's Spring Fellowship

Lancaster Church of the Brethren

Speaker: Ann Van Hine

Theme: Stillness in a Chaotic World
(Psalm 46:10)

Come enjoy music, lunch,
sessions on being &
becoming, Q&A, and
fellowship!





Sewing Group Report – 2025

Thank you to those who have donated money or materials to our sewing projects. We made 26 Twin Blankets and 63 Baby Blankets. Those receiving our blankets were:

Water Street Mission

Align Pregnancy Center in Columbia

A Woman's Concern

Camp Swatara Fund Raising Auction

We entered 2 blankets in the Elizabethtown Fair and 2 different blankets in the Manheim Fair. We won 3 Blue Ribbons for 1st Place and 1 Red Ribbon for 2nd Place. The \$49 prize money was given to the church.

Thank you to all who help with this ministry. Mary Ellen McEvoy



Offering tabulators for 2026

Cycle A: January, April, July, October

Dan Witter

Deb Bendit

Cycle B: February, May, August, November

Gary Shenk

Darren Meiser

Cycle C: March, June, September, December

Dave Dum

Rick Schaidle

Alternates:

Justin Kleinfelter, Jim Kettering, Tom Connelly, Wes Bowers

We heartily thank these individuals for their willingness to help in this important work of the church. You are a vital part of the ministry of the church. With the accurate nature of the work they do each Sunday, only those scheduled should be present as they count the offerings. If you cannot be available on the weeks that you are scheduled, please make arrangements to obtain coverage for yourself from another tabulator or substitute volunteers. Please don't leave your partner alone with the job. Blessings and thanks to all who volunteered. If you are interested in helping, please see Justin Kleinfelter.

CAMP SWATARA SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE 2026

SUMMER AT A GLANCE

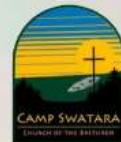
| DATE: | EAST | WEST | FCC - DAY CAMPS |
|------------------|--|--|--|
| MAY 28 - JUNE 3 | COUNSELOR TRAINING | | |
| JUNE 5 - 6 | BIG & SMALL - GRADES K-3 (FRI TO SAT) DROP OFF: 7PM PICK UP: 7PM | | |
| JUNE 7 - 11 | | MONARCH I - AGES 16+ (SUN TO THURS) DROP OFF: 2:30PM PICK UP: 6PM | |
| JUNE 14 - 18 | EUREKA - GRADES 5-8 (SUN TO THURS) DROP OFF: 3PM PICK UP: 6PM | | |
| JUNE 20 - 27 | MUSICAL - GRADES 8-12 (SAT TO SAT) DROP OFF: 3PM PICK UP: 9AM | | |
| JUNE 22 - 26 | | | DAY CAMP - GRADES 1-8 (MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY) DAILY DROP OFF - 9AM DAILY PICK UP - 4PM |
| JUNE 28 - JULY 2 | | MAPLES - GRADES 1-4 (SUN TO THURS) DROP OFF: 2:30PM PICK UP: 6PM | |
| JULY 5 - 9 | | MONARCH II - AGES 16+ (SUN TO THURS) DROP OFF: 2:30PM PICK UP: 6PM | |

LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DAY CAMP - BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

THEME: INTO THE WILDERNESS

MATTHEW 4:4



For more information, see Janice Haldeman



Greetings. Your faithful giving has once again contributed to the health and well-being of over 300 families, including over 1,000 people in the Hempfield and Manheim communities. For the year, we donated 3,353 pounds of food and personal care items, along with \$12,105, increases of 1,524 pounds and \$6,001 over 2024. Much of this increase was due to your outreach efforts in your communities to support our two-day food drive in November.

In addition, we committed our December collections to the **Faith Tabernacle Church of God** Food Pantry, which supports 130 families in the southeast section of Lancaster city. We became familiar with the Pantry through our Five Elements Prayer Group, and Dave Bendit remains active in its operation. Our December collections for Faith Tabernacle totaled 324 pounds and \$3,300. The money donation will be to the Faith Tabernacle Central Penn Food Bank account. Our understanding is this money donation will be matched by a Pennsylvania business.

Since we started keeping records in April 2020, HCOB Food Pantry donations total 16,195 pounds and \$64,698.

As we look to the New Year, food pantries continue to feel the strain of diminishing government support. As a result, both food and money donations remain critical. Some items are no longer available from the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank at a reduced cost and must be purchased from local grocers. For example, packaged cheese slices have always been a staple item, but for several months has been unavailable. Because of money donations the Hempfield pantry was able to purchase 45 cases of 12, 16 slice packs for \$1,441.80

Special Requests for Hempfield include:

canned chick peas, canned mandarin oranges, canned red beets, lentils (one pound bags), strawberry jelly, tomato paste, black beans, canned chicken (small size), canned tuna, chick peas, chicken rice soup, chunky soups, cream of celery soup, dry beans, lentils - 1 pound bags, pancake syrup

Special Requests for Manheim include:

applesauce, baked beans, beef stew, canned chili, diapers, mandarin oranges, Items needed for both pantries include: canned meats, canned vegetables, canned fruit, packaged pasta of all types, pasta sauces, boxed mac and cheese, cereal, peanut butter and jelly (no glass containers), one-pound bags of dry beans and rice, canned and boxed soups, pancake mix and syrup.

Money donations can be sent as follows:

Hempfield Area Food Pantry - 85 East Brandt Blvd., Landisville, PA 17538

Manheim Central Food Pantry - c/o Salem UMC, 140 North Penn Street

Manheim, PA 17545

Or mail to Pete Cope and it will be delivered to the Pantry.

Please mark Hempfield COB Donation in the memo line for reporting purposes.

Thank you for your continuing faithful support of this ministry.



*When you need a helping hand, or know someone who
does in our church community, please let us know.*

Call: (717) 898-0181 extension #12

Email: ShepherdHands@hempfieldcob.org

IN THE *Shepherd's* HANDS. PSALM 23

THINK TANK



Got ideas? Are there things you'd like to see happening at Hempfield Church of the Brethren? Are you someone who would like to take an idea and help make it happen? Maybe you have something near and dear to your heart that you'd like to see happen here? Would you help with that? Here's your chance. Below are some of the ideas that have been floated around....we just need the help to make them happen. New ideas are also welcome in the Think Tank. If any of these things (or a new idea of your own) strike you, contact Pastor Laura with your thoughts and be willing to be involved. It's going to be a great year as Hempfield Church of the Brethren!!

Current ideas floating out there looking for ownership.....

1. Library Project – how can we organize, revamp and make the current space more user friendly and inviting.
2. Trivia Night – Are you someone who loves trivia and particularly Bible trivia and would be willing to spearhead a fun, family night?
3. Church Historian – There is a need to gather and protect church history documents. They need to be gathered from the “four winds” and housed in a central, safe, preservation environment. Does church history get you excited? Would you help in this endeavor?
4. Brethren Village Ministry – there is a lot more that we could do to include and support our friends living at Brethren Village...new and fresh ideas are welcome.
5. Touching our community – Do you have ideas of ways that we can reach beyond our walls? We'd love to hear them.
6. Tech Team – Looking for a way to plug in? (Pun intended) – Think about becoming part of the Tech Team. That could be Sound, Video, Live Streaming or just willing to help anywhere.

So much more that can be done. We are only limited by your willingness to share ideas and become involved. The world is waiting!



Featured Hymn Writer

February 2026

JOHN FAWCETT

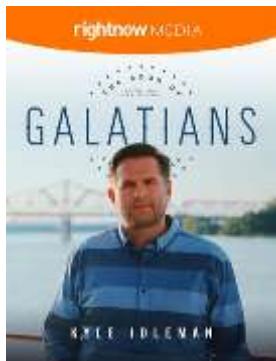
Information on John Fawcett is not vast, and some of the information is different depending on the source. However, John Fawcett was born in 1739/1740 and died in 1817, living most of his life in Yorkshire England. According to one source, he was orphaned at age 12, at which time he began an apprenticeship under a local tailor, but he had developed a love of scripture at an early age and was eventually drawn to the ministry. In 1762, John joined the Methodists, “but three years later was united with the Baptist church”. He served a small church in Hebden Bridge (Wainsgate) beginning in 1765 until he was called in 1772 to Carter’s Lane Baptist Church, a much larger, wealthier, and more influential church. He intended to accept the call but at the last minute decided to remain at Wainsgate even though it meant more of a struggle for his family. He finally earned a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1811 from America.

The hymn Blest Be the Tie That Binds was written in 1782 as a commemoration of his decision to stay at the small church where his heart was. John was a prolific hymn writer, but this was his most famous by far. The fourth verse is often used as a benediction, and at East Petersburg COB it was used at the end of every Love Feast that I can remember as a child.

Diane Garber



Current Study...



If someone asked you to explain the gospel, what would you say? What is the good news of the Christian faith? Writing to the Galatians, Paul made it clear how easily we can be tempted to turn toward fraudulent gospels, especially those that teach we can earn God's love through our works. Though they may have the appearance of truth, they're lifeless and leave us empty in the end. In this Book of the Bible series, Kyle Idleman dives into the book of Galatians, one that contains some of the clearest explanations of the gospel in the New Testament. Through biblical study and engaging lessons, Kyle shows that true freedom is found in surrender, not self-dependence. Because our gospel is not one based on our works, but faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

- Feb. 1st – Galatians 2:1-23
- Feb. 8th – Galatians 3:1-29
- Feb. 15st – Galatians 4:1-31
- Feb. 22nd - Galatians 5:1-26
- Mar. 1st - Galatians 6:1-18



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.

Upcoming Calendar:

- February 1 - youth group from 6-8
- February 8 - NO YOUTH GROUP - SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
- February 13-16 - Winter Retreat (see separate announcement below)
- February 22 - youth group from 6-8

WINTER RETREAT - February 13-16 Please use this [link](#) to register if you have not yet done so and are interested in going. Registration will close on Sunday night. If you have not yet paid for winter retreat, you can do so at youth group on February 1.

Our next youth group will be February 1 from 6-8.
There is no youth group on February 8 due to the Super Bowl.



NYC Registration meeting Feb 1 at 6 pm here at the church. All 9th thru 12th grade youth and parents are invited to attend this information and REGISTRATION EVENT. Questions or inquiries regarding NYC may be directed to Ed Haldeman. Looking forward to meeting with those interested parents and youth.

NYC is being held at the ESTES PARK YMCA OF THE ROCKIES July 18th to the 23rd in Estes Park Colorado.

COME AND SEE!"



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....



Power Packs Project is a nonprofit organization in Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties dedicated to ending hunger in our local schools over the weekend, when free school breakfasts and lunches aren't available.

Every week, our participants receive a Power Pack - a fresh recipe, all the ingredients to make that meal, pantry staples like cereal or peanut butter, and local fresh items like milk and produce.

660,000+ meals

Power Packs provided more than 660,000 meals in the 24-25 school year and summer programs. We're on track to beat that number this year. That's 64,182 packs!

8,456 hours

Over 8,456 volunteer hours went into helping us meet our mission last year. From working in the office on admin projects, to packing and delivering boxes, we can't do it without our amazing volunteers!

58,161 children

During the 23-24 school year + summer program, we have served over 58,161 children right in our backyard!



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 (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 kinds 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???

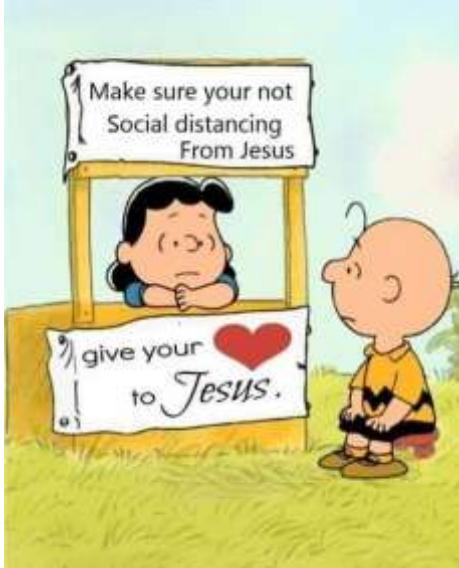
Help spread the word about events and topics of interest at HCOB – it's simple! When you see a post from either the main HCOB FaceBook page or the HCOB Kids FaceBook page, just take a second and "share" that post. At the bottom of the post there should be a space that says "share" – click on that and 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.

February Calendar

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

February 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| 1 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group | 2 Doug's Day Off | 3 9:30am - 10:30am Open Gym 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT 7:00pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting | 4 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 5 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal | 6 Laura's Day Off 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP | 7 |
| 8 NO Youth Group 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 10:30am - 11:30am Baptism | 9 Doug's Day Off 6:30pm Worship Team | 10 ✖ 10:15am - 11:15am Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT | 11 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Stewards of Property 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 12 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal | 13 Laura's Day Off Youth Winter Retreat | 14 Youth Winter Retreat |
| 15 Youth Winter Retreat 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 10:30am - 11:30am CCC | 16 Doug's Day Off Youth Winter Retreat 6:30pm - 8:00pm Outreach Team | 17 6:30pm - 7:30pm Education Team 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT | 18 ASH WEDNESDAY HERALD DEADLINE 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 9:30am - 10:30am Open Gym 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 19 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal | 20 Laura's Day Off | 21 4:00pm - 8:00pm Hershey Event |
| 22 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship - 1st Sunday in Lent - Communion 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group | 23 Doug's Day Off | 24 ✖ 10:15am - 11:15am Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team | 25 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ladies Bible Study 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 26 9:30am - 11:00am Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal | 27 Laura's Day Off ✖ Tabulator Reminder | 28 |



HEBRAHES

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

East Petersburg, PA 17520

P.O. Box 246

Hempfield Church of the Brethren