

## Back to the Basics: what questions do you have?

Pastor Doug Hinton

“I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

**2 Timothy 4:1-5**

Questions raised in the last six to twelve months have me thinking about the basics of the faith: the building blocks of understanding and practice as we seek to follow Christ together in this time and space. Many of us come from a Brethren or Mennonite background (Anabaptist and Pietist roots) and many of us do not. I would like to say the Brethren Church agrees on practice and polity, but I have not found that to be the case. So what does this mean? It means questions are raised – and that's ok.

In the Brethren Church, we hold to a believer's baptism: not baptizing infants, but rather dedicating them as the parents and church commit to sharing the gospel and the peaks and valleys of life until the child can decide on their own if they will follow Jesus. However, some of us were baptized as infants. Does that mean we need to be baptized again? What does Scripture say? How do we understand it? What has been practiced by the Brethren in the past?

If someone decides to follow Jesus but has not been baptized yet, can they share in communion? What about Love Feast (enactment and remembrance of the last supper Jesus shared with His disciples)? Can they participate at all? Can we be both invitational (we don't want to be legalistic) and set apart (or holy – what did Jesus and His disciples practice)? Speaking of Love Feast, why would we wash feet? I don't like feet. It's not a part of our daily lives, so why do it? What significance does it carry that we would continue to do such things nearly 2,000 years after Christ's death and resurrection? Do other denominations or churches carry such practice?

I keep bringing up Scripture. How do we view and understand the Bible? Are there differences between the Old and New Testaments, is there consistency between the two, and what do we do with that? Why study at 2,000+ year old collection of books written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek?

What is the church? When gathered, what should the church 'do'? How shall we be? Who do we reflect? Serve? Are we called to share our faith in Jesus with others? How and why? What does Jesus equate with faith? Bigger buildings, budgets, and more people? Or is it something different? Are we living to His standard or our own?

Prayer, baptism, anointing, corporate gathering and worship, community living and service, being 'set apart' in the world while living *in* the world, evangelism and testimony all conjure thoughts of Scripture and practice. So I'm curious...

**What questions do you have around the building blocks of faith? If you were to choose three to five to educate and share with a non-believer, what would make the list? How would you approach them or the topics at hand?** This will be important for us to pray over and through, to discuss and flesh out as we equip the body for the service Christ has set before us. As new believers come to faith in Christ, we want to communicate what is important and why, how we practice following Jesus and the reasons behind it. Not just me, but all of us. For those who follow Jesus, we are all ministers of reconciliation: so let's flesh this out!

# *Sabbatical Sighting!!*

As plans emerge and more details become known, here is a place to get some of your questions answered. More to come as time draws nearer.

## **A Theology of Sabbath and Rest**

**There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enter God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.**

Hebrews 4:9-10 (NIV)

Sabbaticals are rooted in the biblical concept of Sabbath (rest/ceasing), originating from God resting on the seventh day of creation and the Mosaic command to observe a weekly Sabbath (shabbath) and for a seventh-year land rest (Shemitah).

### **Key Biblical and Theological Themes:**

**Divine Pattern** (Genesis 2:1-3): God established a rhythm of work and rest, setting a precedent that rest is a vital part of the created order.

**Divine Command** (Exodus 20:8): Observance of one day a week for worship and rest is part of the law code of the Old Testament.

**The Sabbatical Year** (Shemitah – Leviticus 25): Beyond a weekly day off, the Old Testament prescribed that every seventh year, the land must lie fallow, debts forgiven, and slaves released, highlighting justice and trust in God's provision over human labor. (A Jubilee year was declared after seven sets of seven.)

Sabbath observance forced reliance on God's provision. It represents a theological shift from productivity-based worth to trust, allowing for renewal, reflection, and, in a modern context, a "rekindling of the fire" in ministry.

**Resistance to Culture** (Exodus 20:8-11): The Ten Commandments are all "counter-cultural," calling the people of God to embrace an "other-world" set of values.

**Trust and Provision** (Exodus 23:10-11, Lev 25:20-21): The theological premise is that God provides; the seventh-year rest forces a release of anxiety and reliance on God rather than self-sufficiency.

**Purpose of Rest** (Mark 2:27-28): Jesus taught that "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath" indicating that rest is a gift for human restoration and refreshment, not a restrictive burden. Sabbath is not found in legalistic obedience to a set law, but in the willing engagement of routines and practices that bring renewal and refreshment to the soul.

**Types of Sabbaticals:** Modern applications include rest and recuperation, but also purposeful activities like study, writing, and, for academic contexts, research.

### **Key Purposes in Pastoral Sabbaticals:**

**Renewal & Refreshment:** from the often-demanding requirements of pastoral work

**Restoring Joy:** engaging in activities that bring joy and rejuvenation.

**Professional Development:** including some kind of professional growth component.

**Spiritual Reflection:** Stepping away to focus on the relationship with God; restoring the soul.

**Trust Building:** Acknowledging that God's work is not dependent upon one person.

# Associate Pastor of Discipleship

*“While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work, to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.” Acts 13:2-3)*

As I was preparing for a recent sermon, the verse above stood out to me. Specifically, the concept of fasting caught my attention. Fasting, of course, is a practice that we see mentioned throughout Scripture. Jesus fasted for 40 days. Daniel partially fasted for 21 days. Moses, through God’s provision, was a fasting superhero! He completed two back-to-back 40-day absolute fasts (no food or water) as he spent time with God on Mount Siani and waited on God’s commands for his people.

I was reminded that Jesus himself said, *“When you fast....”* (Matthew 6:16) Well, that captured my attention. Jesus said WHEN in relation to fasting and not IF. As I pondered that verse, it became clear to me that fasting, while not a command, must have been a spiritual discipline being practiced on the regular in the Jewish world in which Jesus was rooted. It turns out that most Jews in the first century would fast twice a week. After Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, those early followers would fast on Wednesdays and Fridays, a practice that endured for many centuries.

That’s great, but why might we even want to fast? The long and short of it is to make space, to clear distractions, so we can hear from God more directly. This could be in the form of a periodic practice, but there are some very specific reasons we might fast. In the case of Barnabas and Paul, they were seeking direction for the ministry to which they felt called. One might fast in preparation of a new season as they did or for guidance, for direction, for spiritual breakthrough, or release from bondage to sin. In some cases, entire cities or nations were called to pray and fast. One thing is clear, however. God must always be the focus of our fasting.

Fasting should never be about what think we can get from God, but about an increased time of nearness to him. Whether we’re fasting food and drink or something else (such as screens, social media, etc.), we offer to God the time we’d normally spend preparing food (or doomscrolling). Ideally, we’re able to slow down, to spend some set apart time to pray and meditate on scripture, and then we wait and see what the Lord will do. Sometimes, it’s something big, and other times it might simply be a sweet time with the Lord, but when we come to God sacrificially, he always shows up.

What is your experience with fasting? Have you ever done so? If so, how did God show up in this practice? I’d love to hear your story!



It's hard to believe we have already entered the month of May. This school year seemed to speed by, and we are moving very quickly towards the summer!

In Children's Church, we learned more of the lessons that Jesus taught. We spent some time on the often-quoted scripture of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son," and discussed the amazing gift of everlasting life that Jesus has given us. We learned of the story of the Woman at the Well and how she found new life in Jesus. We also learned the lesson of treating others with kindness and compassion by reading the story of the Good Samaritan.

The Open Gym program has wrapped up for the season. As I look back on the past few months, I feel so humbled that God chose to use our space, time, materials, and this program to touch the lives of so many in our community. Over 20 families utilized the time and space of Open Gym to play, meet new friends, connect, and pray together. We will be hosting one final event this season for the families that attended Open Gym- I plan to invite the families to meet us on playground one morning in the next few weeks (I'm keeping my eye on the weather for the most ideal day).

The flyer has a light blue and yellow background. On the left, there is a large illustration of a blue and yellow kite. The text is as follows:

JOIN US FOR  
**Go Fly a Kite**  
Bring your family, friends, and a kite for an afternoon of fellowship and kite flying lessons.

First 15 children receive a kite  
Bring a lawn chair!

Saturday, May 2nd  
2:00pm  
Hempfield Church of the Brethren  
1186 Stevens Street  
Manheim, PA 17545

**Event Highlights**

Kite Flying Demos and Lessons Featuring:  
World Renowned Kite Designer Dodd Gross

Join us for an afternoon of joy and kites!

World renowned kite designer and flight instructor, Dodd Gross, will be joining us to offer kite demonstrations and even some kite flying lessons!

Dodd has been in the kite industry for 26 years. He has been involved in kite manufacturing, teaching, promoting, and demonstrating all types of kites at festivals around the world. Dodd is also a former US National Champion in controllable sport kites, and has been involved with power kiting since the early 90's- he was one of the first kite surfers and kite buggy pilots! He has taught thousands how to fly and master dual and quad line controllable sport kites!

So bring a friend, a kite, and a lawn chair, and meet us in our back field for some kite flying fun!

Light refreshments will be provided.

\*This event is weather-permitting with a rain/no-wind date of Saturday, May 9th\*\*



Planning for Vacation Bible School is in full swing! Lists are being made, materials are being ordered, piles are being organized and decorations are being constructed!

You are invited to be a part of our program!

In the narthex, you will find a list of different ways that you can be involved. There will also be dates/times in June (to be announced soon) in which we will need some extra hands to decorate the inside of the church.

Please also continue to pray over this year's Vacation Bible School. We are praying that the children who participate will continue to grow in their relationship with God. We are praying that the children take what they learn during their time with us and share it with family and friends. We are praying

that our volunteers feel strength and joy in this opportunity to serve our church and community.

We will also be previewing a VBS song and dance on May 17<sup>th</sup> during Music Celebration Sunday!

Looking Ahead:

-May 2 (Saturday at 2pm)- Go Fly a Kite: Bring a friend and a kite for a flying demonstration by Dodd Gross, as well as some time to fly kites together

-May 17- Music Celebration Sunday (during the worship service)

-June 7-11 (Sunday-Thursday 6pm-8pm)- Vacation Bible School

For children who have finished 4-year preschool through children who have finished 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Your sister in Christ,  
Monica

# Messages in May

May 3



## Suffering, Faith & Testimony

Acts 7:48-8:1; James 1:2-8; Job 14:1-17

**Pastor: Doug Hinton**

What do we do with suffering? In veins of American Christianity, health and wealth seem the good news of the day; but what does Scripture say? In John 16, Jesus promised His disciples that they would have trouble in this world, but to take heart, He had overcome the world. Disciples were jailed and beaten, threatened and scattered, shipwrecked and put to death. What did they have, what conviction did they carry, to allow them to endure such horrible events? Scripture carries many stories of tragedy and redemption: so which do we believe to be the stronger of the two? What if, in some way, our suffering can be redeemed, meaning, we are not solely defined by the suffering, but how God can redeem it? What is our response in the midst of loss, tragedy, and world of unrest? Can suffering become more than just loss, but lead us to some of our greatest faith, our greatest testimony, and God's power to redeem?

May 10



## Suffering and...

2 Corinthians 1:3-7; Genesis 40:1-23

**Pastor: Laura Meiser**

As we continue or exploration into suffering and how this impacts our testimony, we will consider the life of Joseph. His journey from arrogant young man to being sold into slavery by his brothers, and beyond his story is compelling. He knew deep rejection, suffering, and disappointment, yet he also knew great favor and prosperity. God was clearly using him to build a nation but his life was never easy.

How do we process suffering among believers and in this hurting world? Do we have expectations as to how we feel God should respond? Let's explore!

May 17



## The Silence Between

Luke 24:13-35; Acts 18:24-28; James 1:19-20

**Pastor: Geoff Davis**

Today's message honors both the music context (the space between notes) and the relational space God calls us to create.

Music teaches us something we often forget in conversation: the space between notes matters as much as the notes themselves. In this week's sermon, "The Silence Between," we explore what it means to be quick to listen and slow to speak — not as a communication technique, but as a Spirit-formed way of being. Drawing on James 1:19, the story of the disciples on the Emmaus Road, and the quiet example of Priscilla and Aquila, we ask: what filters are we bringing into our conversations, and what might God build in the space we learn to make?

May 24



## Sabbatical

Hebrews 4:9

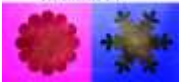
**Pastor: Galen Hackman**

There remains, then, a **Sabbath-rest** for the people of God;

May 31



There is a time  
for everything,  
and a season for  
every activity  
under heaven.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1



## A Time for Everything, When Not to Share....

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; Matthew 7:1-6; Proverbs 9:7-9; James 2:14-26

**Pastor: Doug Hinton**

Are there times not to share our faith? Ecclesiastes states that ‘There is a time for everything...’ Does this mean staying silent about the Lord? Do we merely show our faith without words, or proclaim our faith without discernable change or reliance upon Christ? Where does discernment and wisdom fit into this? Today, we will wrestle with the questions, “Are there times *not* to share my faith? If so, how would I know?”

# HCOB Family News

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## 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 June 7.**

Where: Library

When: After the church service



Is God calling you (or perhaps someone you know) to a ministry with youth? If so, Hempfield COB has a place for you! Simply visit the church website at [www.hempfieldcob.org](http://www.hempfieldcob.org) and follow the link at the top of the main page for more information.



## *Brethren Village Spring Social*

Bingo

May 16

2 pm

Townhouse Activity Room

There will be refreshments and communion, too.



As the Lord leads, please consider an additional offering designated "For Outreach" to help meet our commitments through April 15, 2026. Currently, we have met Outreach commitments only through January 15, 2026. Thank you!.



## 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.



Help Wanted: **FINANCE TEAM**. We are seeking individuals to help guide and be a steward for the Church's finances. Experience is not needed, but must be willing to learn and share ideas. Anyone interested in hearing more, please contact Justin Kleinfelter. 717-585-3472

For more information, see Janice Haldeman or Janice Shenk

# *Hempfield Camping Weekend at Camp Swatara*

August 14-16, 2026



**Bring your own camper (and find your own site) or rent a cabin and join us for a great weekend of fun and fellowship.**

**For more information, contact Janice Haldeman or Janice Shenk**





## Featured Hymn Writer

May 2026

# Phillip Bliss

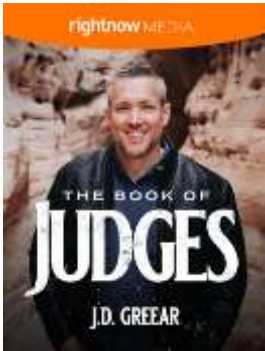
Phillip Bliss is a renowned American Christian song writer, singer and evangelist. Born in 1838 to a poor family in Clearfield County, PA, he had very little of any kind of formal education as a boy. However, his mother made up for that lack by teaching him countless Bible stories and Bible reading as a child. He worked as a laborer in logging camps when very young, and left home at 11 to earn his living. He became a self-educated music teacher and a life long friend of Dwight Moody, the famous Christian preacher of the day. His sister was also known for her voice and her song writing.

By 17, Bliss secured his teaching requirements and became a schoolmaster in Hartsville, N.Y. Later on he had formal voice training and was persuaded to become a music teacher by William Bradbury back in PA at Rome Academy. There he met Lucy Young who soon after became his wife. Bliss was an avid abolitionist and became a lieutenant during the Civil War. After the war he spent several years as an itinerant music teacher, traveling long distances on horseback. He soon turned to composition work especially of gospel songs and toured for several years giving concerts. He was hired by well-known music publishers and experienced great success. In 1874 he felt called to evangelism work, and he and his wife traveled extensively. He met his demise doing just that, along with his wife, is what was known as the Ashtabula Railroad Disaster on December 29th, 1876. The train they were riding in has almost finished its journey across the river when the bridge collapsed and all passengers fell from a great height into the river below. The tragedy claimed the lives of 92 of the 159 passengers. Phillip and his wife were never recovered from the accident sight. They had been on their way to a Moody event. Their home in Rome, PA, now known as the Phillip Bliss Gospel Museum is a popular tourist attraction. One of his most famous hymns, "I Will Sing of My Redeemer" was found in a trunk at the family home and became one of the very first songs ever recorded by Thomas Edison for his new invention.

Hymns: "Hallelujah, What a Savior", "Wonderful Words of Life", "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning", and music for Spafford's "It is Well with My Soul".



## Current Study...



The book of Judges cracks a window into depths of the human soul. Watch a nation struggle with its identity and relationship to its God. Heroes and heroines arise, who seem to have the potential to save Israel. But in the end, each proves to be a broken savior that cannot deliver.

In this series, pastor and author J.D. Greear wades into the book of Judges to shine a light onto the muddy waters of human rebellion. The stories and truths within are not just archaic tales with no relevance for us today. Rather, J.D. works through each chapter unpacking the truth of God's grace in the midst of human wickedness, and shows how only the divine can redeem the fallen.

- May 3 – Judges 7
- May 10 – No Class (Mother's Day)
- May 17 – Judges 8:1-10
- May 24 – No Class (Memorial Day)
- May 31 – Judges 10:6-12
- June 7 – No Class (Youth Sunday & Vacation Bible School)
- June 14 – Judges 13
- June 21 – Judges 14-16
- June 28 – Judges 17-18
- July 5 – No Class (4th of July Weekend)
- July 12 – Judges 19-21



*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:

May 3 - youth group - 6-8 PM at the church –

we will begin planning for Youth Sunday which is June 7.

Sunday, May 10 - NO youth group - Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 17 - youth group - 6-8 PM at the church - we will continue our planning for Youth Sunday (June 7)

Sunday, May 24 - NO youth group - Happy Memorial Day

Sunday, May 31 - youth group - 6-8 PM at the church - we will finalize plans for Youth Sunday (June 7)

## Who We Are!

### **Mission Statement:**

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

### **Vision:**

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.

### **What These Mean:**

When you are here at Hempfield Youth, you come with a fresh start. We care more about building a community now that grows in the future than we do about someone's past.

We live this way because Christ gave us all fresh starts by dying on the cross for our sins. We don't want to be an "exclusive club." Instead, we want to be an open invitation to anyone who needs a place to feel loved, cared for, and like they have a purpose.

Christ calls us to love, and we hope that you know His love through how we live, and that we can grow together to be better than we were yesterday.

We hope we can grow with you!



*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....*

## **Expanding Our Outreach Together**

During our April Hempfield Happenings, the Outreach Team will be sharing an exciting vision for expanding Hempfield's outreach by encouraging and supporting greater volunteer engagement within our local community. We believe God is continually opening doors for us to live out our calling to serve, and we want to help connect our congregation with meaningful opportunities that reflect Christ's love in tangible ways.

Hempfield has been blessed to partner with many impactful ministries already doing vital work in our region. These partnerships provide a variety of ways for individuals, families, small groups, and ministry teams to serve according to their gifts and availability.

In addition to highlighting current opportunities, the Outreach Team will also be inviting the congregation to share about places where they are already volunteering or ministries they feel God may be calling Hempfield to support in the future. Together, we can prayerfully discern how God is leading us to serve our neighbors more faithfully.

### **LOCAL MINISTRIES**

Water Street Ministries – <https://wsm.org/get-involved/volunteer/>  
Serving Meals • Mentoring • Shelter support • Donation sorting • Various based on volunteer interests

Lancaster Food Hub – <https://lancasterfoodhub.org/volunteer/>  
Food packing • Distribution support • Community gardening • Hospitality

Bible2School – <https://www.bible2school.com/volunteer/>  
Classroom volunteers • Prayer partners

Align Life Ministries – <https://alignlifeministries.org/get-involved/serve/>  
Client advocates • Gardening • Receptionist • Cleaning • Handiwork

Friendship Community / Special Friends Ministries – <https://www.friendshipcommunity.net/>  
Housekeeping / Light maintenance • Pen Pal • Event volunteers

Habitat for Humanity – <https://lancasterlebanonhabitat.org/volunteer-opportunities/>  
Construction teams • ReStore volunteers • Skilled trades • Donation pick up / sorting

TNT East Petersburg – <https://www.tntyouthministry.com/get-involved>  
Youth mentoring • Activity leaders • Meal support

Blessings of Hope – <https://blessingsofhope.com/volunteer/>  
Stock shelves • Sort and package food

## REGIONAL & DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

Camp Swatara – <https://www.campswatara.org/volunteer-opportunities>  
Camp counselors • Kitchen teams • Workdays • Resource counselors

Brethren Disaster Relief Auction – <https://brethrenauction.org/get-involved/volunteer/>  
Auction volunteers • Hospitality • Heifer sale support • Children's activities

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others.” — 1 Peter 4:10

# Expanding Our Outreach Together



*Get Involved • Make a Difference • Share God's Love*

# HCOB Outreach Survey

Purpose: To help the Outreach Team better understand how our congregation is currently serving and how we can grow in serving others “for the glory of God and our neighbor’s good.”

## 1. Current Involvement

In which outreach ministries or service activities are you currently involved?  
(Include church, community, or personal efforts)

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## 2. Future Interest

In which outreach ministries or types of service would you like to become involved?  
(The Outreach Team can help connect you to opportunities.)

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## 3. Outreach Priorities

After reviewing the HCOB Outreach Budget (2025 Church Directory, pages 21–22), which ministries do you feel are most important for HCOB to support? (List up to three)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Why These Matter

What draws you to the ministries you selected above?

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## 5. Additional Input

Are there other ministries, organizations, or needs in our community that you believe HCOB should consider supporting?

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## Optional

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_



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**

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](http://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](http://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???

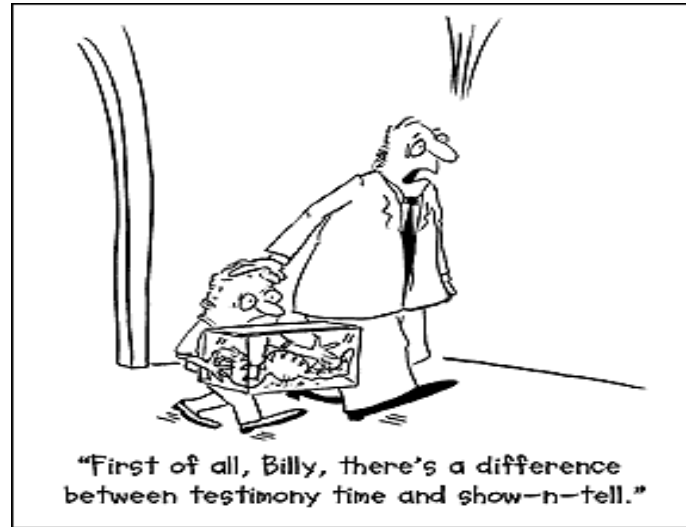
Help spread the word about events and topics of interest at HCOB – it's simple! When you see a post from either the main HCOB FaceBook page or the HCOB Kids FaceBook page, just take a second and "share" that post. At the bottom of the post there should be a space that says "share" – click on that and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

# May Calendar

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

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> Congregational Gathering 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Group	<b>27</b> Doug's Day Off	<b>28</b> 🔒 10:15am - 11:15am Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	<b>29</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>1</b> Laura's Day Off 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	<b>2</b> Go Fly a Kite
<b>3</b> 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Sunday Planning	<b>4</b> Doug's Day Off	<b>5</b> 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT 7:00pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting	<b>6</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting 7:15pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>8</b> Laura's Day Off Ruth Meily Service	<b>9</b> 3:00pm - 5:00pm Kettering Family (Jody)
<b>10</b> Mother's Day NO Youth Group 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship	<b>11</b> Doug's Day Off 6:30pm Worship Team Via Zoom	<b>12</b> 🔒 10:15am - 11:15am Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm TNT	<b>13</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Sewing Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Stewards of Property	<b>14</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>15</b> Laura's Day Off	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10:30am CCC Meeting 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Sunday Planning	<b>18</b> Doug's Day Off	<b>19</b> 7:00am - 8:00pm Election Primary 6:30pm - 7:30pm Education Team 6:30pm - 8:00pm Outreach Team Meeting (via Zoom)	<b>20</b> HERALD DEADLINE 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	<b>21</b> Fellowship & Hospitality Team 6:00pm - 7:00pm Fellowship & Hospitality Team 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>22</b> Laura's Day Off	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> NO Youth Group Pentecost - Communion 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship	<b>25</b> Doug's Day Off Memorial Day - Church Office Closed	<b>26</b> 🔒 10:15am - 11:15am Staff Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Leadership Team	<b>27</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	<b>28</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>29</b> Laura's Day Off 🔒 Tabulator Reminder	<b>30</b> 12:00pm - 4:00pm Cope Family
<b>31</b> 9:30am - 11:00am Sunday Worship 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Sunday Planning	<b>1</b> Doug's Day Off	<b>2</b> 7:00pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting	<b>3</b> 8:00am - 11:00am Quilting	<b>4</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Sunday Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>5</b> Laura's Day Off 6:45pm - 7:45pm WORDD FELLOWSHIP	<b>6</b> 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Sunday Rehearsal



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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