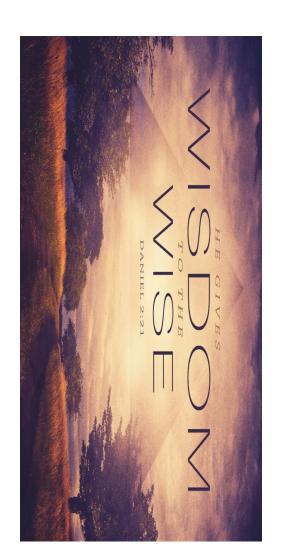
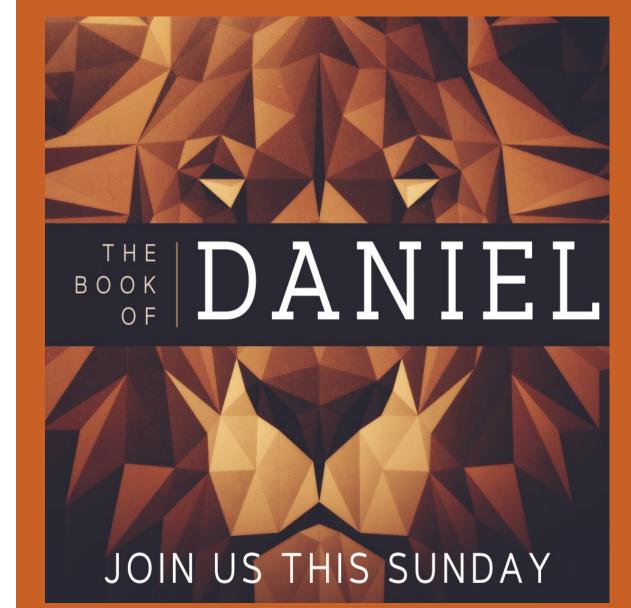
Halifax, PA 17032 105 Wind Hill Drive

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

US Postage Permit #13 **Non-Profit** PAID



HILLS OF HALIFAX OCTOBER, 2024



A Note from Pastor Brendan...

Pastor Brendan Hock: bhock@halifaxgmc.org / 717-896-8092 x 101

"Christ Centered | Community Driven."

A survey published by the Barna Group demonstrated that most American Christians don't consider themselves to be holy. The report states:

- 76% believe that it is possible for someone to become holy regardless of their past.
- 55% said that they knew someone they considered to be holy.
- 29% consider themselves to be holy.

It appears that believers are more convinced of their connection to their old nature than they are to their connection to their new nature. They're more aware of their acts of sinfulness than they are of their acts of righteousness. They're more aware of their failures than they are of their successes.

I suppose this makes sense. In the journey toward holiness, the ugliness of sin will stick out more, like a smudge on an otherwise beautiful painting. It is this awareness of sin that empowers us to fight it, reject it, and abandon it. But let's not let ourselves be too aware of sin -- not in the sense that it defines us. Though we struggle with the old nature, we must remember that who we really are is defined by the gift of grace that God has lavished upon us. Hebrews says we have made holy through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:10) and through this sacrifice we are being made holy. (Hebrews 10:14)

The first reference describes our position: God declares us holy. The second reference describes our performance: God is conforming us into the image of Christ.

For this reason we must learn to see ourselves as God sees us: New creatures, created in Christ to become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21) Your struggles with sin -- the fact that sinful tendencies frustrate you -- are an indication of what God has already done in your life and where He is taking you today.

I love you all,

Pastor Brendan Hock

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Join us for this annual meeting of the Church as we celebrate, reflect, and vision for the future ministry of 2025.

DATE: Thursday, November 14, 2024

TIME: 6:30PM

LOCATION: HCC Sanctuary

Rev. Eugine Liddick - Presiding Elder of the Harrisburg Region, will be presiding over our Church Conference.

GMC GENERAL CONFERENCE



The Convening General Conference of the Global Methodist **Church** - the very first meeting of the new denomination at the global level - was held September 20th-26th in San Jose, Costa Rica. The conference theme, "So the World Will Know," encapsulates the core mission of the Global Methodist Church.

Inspired by Jesus' prayer in John 17, this theme calls on the GM Church to share the transformative message of God's love, salvation, grace, and forgiveness with the world - to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

The conference provided Worship, Missions training, and Visioning of our life together as a Methodist movement. This included voting on petitions regarding our organizational structure and discussing the role of Bishops and Conference Superintendents within the GMC, and much more. The conference was livestreamed, and it was heartwarming to see this movement of God rise up.

On more than one occasion I was moved to tears as I watched the presence of God settle down on that convention center in San Jose. At the time of this writing, the Conference has not yet concluded so I look forward to providing updates in our next newsletter.

In the meantime, let us continue to pray...Heavenly Father, please let loose your Spirit to move the Global Methodist Church in the direction you desire, so that we can make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. Please pour out your grace on each participant so they can experience the unity of the body of Jesus Christ to His glory and for the growth of the Kingdom of God here on earth. We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

HOLIDAY TREASURES BAZAAR—NOVEMBER 2



There will be many vendors filling the 2 levels of HCC! Vendors will sell homemade crafts and food, jewelry, crocheted/knitted items, soaps, coffee, cupcakes, cookies, treat boxes, t-shirts, and more! A great time to look for Christmas gifts and have delicious food for lunch (Takeout Available). There will also be a Silent Auction of Gift Baskets!

If you have any questions, please contact **Deb Herb**:

djher16@yahoo.com / 717-495-8251

THE CALL OF BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

Tithing is an important practice for the people of Halifax Community Church and plays a crucial role in the life of the church and its mission. In Scripture, believers are invited to give 10% of their income to help sustain and expand Christian ministry and enable it to make a meaningful impact in the community and beyond. (*Leviticus 27:30*)

These gifts are vital for providing a welcoming and functional environment where people can worship, learn, serve, and grow in their faith. By giving in a spirit of generosity, tithing also strengthens the sense of community and a shared purpose within the congregation. When we contribute of our resources, we are investing in the collective mission of the church and affirming our commitment to its God-given vision, Bible-based goals, & values. (*Proverbs 3:9*)

Lastly, tithing is also a spiritual practice that reflects a commitment to putting faith into action. It serves as a reminder of the importance of generosity and stewardship, aligning financial priorities with spiritual values. By giving in this way, we engage in a form of worship that acknowledges the role of God in our lives and demonstrates trust in God's provision. (I Corinthians 9:7)

We are blessed to see heart-warming, life changing impact in the lives of people who are touched by the ongoing ministries of HCC. Thank you for all you are doing to make a difference for Christ in our valley!!

-Pastor Brendan

FOOD ROOM SATURDAYS



WORSHIP SCHEDULE



October 27 – The Virgin Mother Kind

SUNDAY, October 6, 2024
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

TEXT: Daniel 4:1-3 & 37 **TITLE:** Daring: Submit

SUNDAY, October 13, 2024

TEXT: Daniel 5

TITLE: TBD by Pastor Jesse

SUNDAY, October 20, 2024

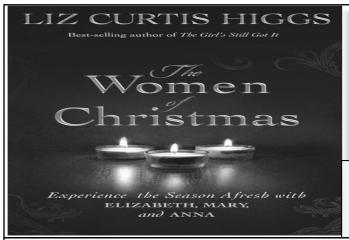
TEXT: Daniel 6:1-11

TITLE: Daring: Faithfulness

SUNDAY, October 27, 2024

TEXT: Daniel 6:16-28 **TITLE:** Daring: Trust

ADVENT STUDY—STARTING OCTOBER 6



ADVENT STUDY

STARTING SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 6
9 AM, ROOM TBD
LED BY
APRIL WILBERT

To sign up, please contact Pastor Jesse:

jfunk@halifaxgmc.org

717-896-8092, ext. 102

Have you ever wondered what it was like for the women of Christmas? Meet the women who played pivotal roles in Christ's birth! Elizabeth is barren, yet trusts God's promise. Mary is a virgin, but says yes when God asks her to bear his Son. And prophetess Anna proclaims the Messiah's arrival. Unpacking each verse from the Gospel of Luke, Higgs illuminates their love, faithfulness, and obedience to God.

We are requesting sign-ups so we can get the books in advance.

October 6 – Kick-off/Provide the book to everyone/ **November 3** – O Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Explain my approach/etc. **November 10** – With Heart and Soul and Voice

October 13 – Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room November 17 - The Wondrous Gift of Given

October 20 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence November 24 – And Our Eyes at Last Shall See Him

December 1 – Joy of Every Longing Heart

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP UPDATE

Pastor of Family Ministry: Jesse Funk—<u>ifunk@halifaxgmc.org</u> | 717-896-8092, x 102

Hello everyone!

The apostle Peter writes in 1st Peter that we "like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." This is a monumental task that we thankfully are not asked to accomplish alone. It is our goal in adult discipleship to provide the space, the wisdom, and the support to be built into what God is doing in Halifax and in His church as a whole! Please consider the events that you see popping up in your bulletin in the near future!

With our fall season of ministry underway, I would like to encourage anyone who may have missed the sign-up sheets over the past few weeks to still consider joining a Sunday school class or mid-week small group. Feel free to give me a call or flag me down at church so we can discuss what group may be the best fit for you!

There will be a Mens' Ministry Barbecue on October 19th from 5pm-9pm at the Youth Center. Food will be provided (but please consider bringing a side or dessert), and there will also be yard games such as Dartball and Cornhole. Please consider joining us for a night of fellowship, food, and growing in the Lord!

Our Adult discipleship board is meeting quarterly and currently discussing how to best serve our small groups and Bible studies as shepherds, as well as how and when to appoint leaders within our groups to branch out and start their own small group/Bible study. If you have an interest in this area, please reach out to me!

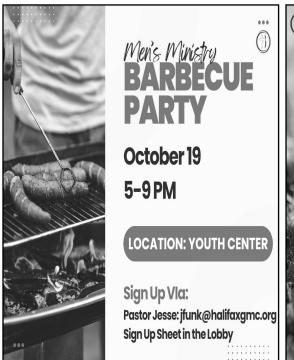
- Pastor Jesse



2025 CHURCH DIRECTORIES



OCTOBER EVENTS

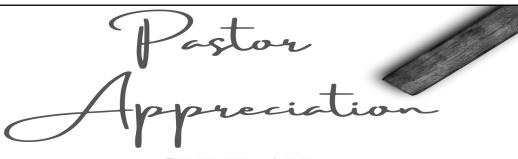




THANK YOU!

I want to thank the Halifax Community Church leadership and congregation for my 25th celebration worship service. It was a beautiful service and reception that I will always remember. I can't believe it's been 25 years serving with you. I love being able to serve God with music, and Halifax welcomed me with open arms. You made me feel at home from the start and I knew this is where God wanted me to be. Your support, the friendships I've made, and the awesome music ministry team that surrounds me has been a true blessing. My heart overflows with joy for all the love that was and has been shown to me. I thank you for the beautiful cutting board and the gift card to Sight and Sound from the church and for all the cards of appreciation that I received. My hope is to continue serving God and this congregation for as long as I am able. Probably not another 25 years, but we'll see what God has in store! Praise the Lord at all times!! - Carol Bostdorf

THANK YOU, PASTORS!



SUNDAY OCTOBER 20, 2024

PLEASE PLACE YOUR
CARDS/NOTES OF
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR:

PASTOR BRENDAN

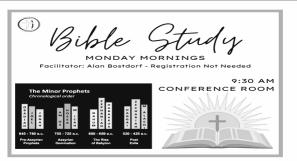
PASTOR JESSE

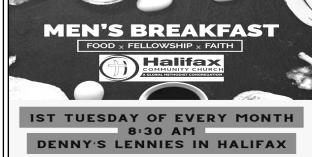
CHERRY PECHART

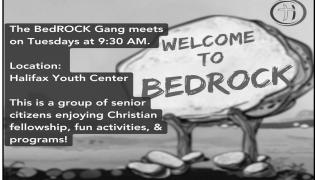
TRICIA & ADAM FARNER

Cards and Notes will be presented on Sunday, October 20th during the worship services. Thank you! -SPRC

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP (CONTINUED)







BEDROCK GANG—SCHEDULE

Oct. 1: Fellowship and Games

Oct. 8: Fellowship and Games

Oct. 15: Bingo: Please bring 2 prizes; i.e., canned

fruit or veggies

Oct. 22: Fellowship and Games

Oct. 29: Fellowship and Games, then out to lunch





"REACH OUT" WOMEN'S LIFE GROUP

A supportive group
to study God's Word
and learn together.
Held in the home of
Kathy Stence on
the 2nd & 4th
Saturdays of the
month at 10 AM.
For more
information, please
contact Kathy:
717-413-8705





ROCKSOLID YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Cherry Pechart—<u>youth@halifaxgmc.org</u> | 717-896-8092, x 113
We exist to reach, equip, and empower students to be life-long followers of Jesus.



GIFT CATALOG



Birthday Party

Party Cost-\$120

Bi-Monthly we celebrate all Youth Birthdays from the corresponding months with Ice Cream, Cake, Pizza and a small gift (candy, bracelet, etc). Homemade Cakes would be a welcome if anyone would like to bless us in this way!



Take-Home Food Bags

Weekly Cost- \$50

The Youth Center provides take-home food bags for students who need this support at home. 5-10 bags are provided weekly. With increased funding these bags can contain more nutritional foods.



Pool Passes

Suggested Gift-\$60

For the last few summers, the Halifax Youth Center has helped to provide 10-session punch cards for students to use the Halifax Community Pool. The Halifax Youth Center and Halifax Community Pool staff coordinate to determine what students may benefit from this.



Take-Home Hygiene Products

Suggested Gift- \$20

The Halifax Youth Center would like to start a Hygiene bank containing supplies of soap, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, etc., for students to take home as needed.



Tickets to Halifax Sporting Events

Suggested Gift- \$30

(Halifax Students-\$3 a ticket)

In 2023, the Youth Center began coordinating with the Halifax School District to provide pre-purchased tickets for Youth Center students to attend a school sporting event. Many students who would normally not be able to attend because of the cost took advantage of these tickets!



Club Supplies

Suggested Gift- \$50

The Youth Center offers a variety of clubs throughout the year for which supplies are needed. (Art Club, Sports Club, Book Club, Game Club, etc.)

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

Associate for Creative Worship/Choir Director: Carol Bostdorf—<u>cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org</u> | 717-896-8092, x 105 Choir Rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:30PM / Bell Rehearsals on Thursdays at 6PM / Praise Team on Thursdays at 7PM

Adult Choir meets every <u>Wednesday @ 6:30pm in the choir room</u>. They sing in worship on the first and third Sunday of each month, and special services (Thanksgiving Eve, Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve etc.). Anyone in high school or older is welcome to sing with us. For additional information or an interest in joining please contact Carol Bostdorf: cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org

Hand Bell Choir meets on Thursday evenings @ 6pm in the Bell room. This choir is open to anyone who would like to play bells or learn how to. Reading music and being able to count is a plus. We are in need of additional ringers. We try to play once a month in worship and special services (Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve etc.) For additional information or any questions please contact Carol Bostdorf: cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org

Festival Choir – This choir presents are annual Christmas cantata. This year the cantata will be presented in both worship services on Sunday, December 22nd. This choir is open to anyone who enjoys singing, high school age or older. You do not have to be a regular member of the Adult Choir. Festival Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, October 9th @ 6:30pm in the choir room. Rehearsals will continue every Wednesday evening in October and November except for November 27th (Thanksgiving Eve service). Adult choir rehearsals will follow @ 7:15pm. You do not have to attend every rehearsal. We will have additional rehearsals in December. If interested or have any questions please contact Carol Bostdorf: cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org

Worship Team leads worship every Sunday at the 10:30am service. New singers and instrumentalists are always welcome (high school age or older). Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings @7pm in the sanctuary. If interested or have any questions please contact Carol Bostdorf: cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org

Family Christmas Eve service— held at 5pm on December 24th and is led by our children and youth (kindergarten through eighth grade). We are currently deciding on the direction in which to go this year based on the number of participants. If your child or youth is interested in being a part of this program, please contact Carol Bostdorf, Tricia and Adam Farner, or Cherry Pechart as soon as possible so that we can finalize our plans.

Mark your Calendars:

Wednesday, November 27th – Thanksgiving Eve @ 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 4th – Blue Christmas Service @ 6:30pm

Sunday, December 15th – Men In Harmony Christmas Concert @ 4pm

Sunday, December 22nd – Christmas Cantata at both services

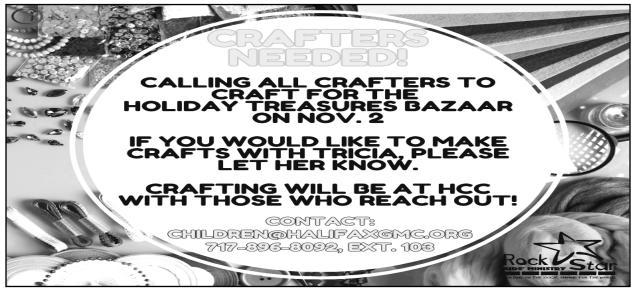
Tuesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Worship:

- *5pm Family Christmas Service- children and youth program with Candlelight
- *8pm Christmas Carols, Special Music, Scripture, Message and Candlelight
- *10pm Christmas Carols, Special Music, Message, Communion and Candlelight



ROCKSTAR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Ministry Coordinators: Tricia & Adam Farner children@halifaxgmc.org | 717-896-8092, x 103





We are very thankful for all who stepped up to support Children's Ministry in the way of volunteering! We are honored & excited to be serving alongside each of you!



hank You... - Adam & Tricia



YOUTH MINISTRY (CONTINUED)



Sports Equipment

Suggested Gift-\$30

Our games/balls get a lot of use! Footballs, Basketballs, Volleyballs, Ga-Ga balls, etc. Help us replace and supply these for the many hours of fun and connection!



Gaming/Tech Supplies

Suggested Gift \$50

Our computers and gaming systems get lots of use. Computer supplies, technology repairs and updated games will be purchased with these donations.



Daily Meal

Suggested Donation-\$40

Sponsor a Daily Meal which is offered to all youth center students. These are crockpot dinners, pre-prepared casseroles or fresh-cooked meals. Staff and volunteers plan this meal for 30-40 students daily. Please talk to staff if you are interested in helping to prepare these meals.



<u>Snacks</u>

Any amount appreciated!

We offer daily snacks such as crackers, chips, cookies, granola bars, fruit, cereal, etc. Any donations of snacks themselves are welcomed and appreciated as well! These can be individually packaged, large bags, healthy, fruit, treats or homemade snacks. Pretty much anything gets eaten and enjoyed!

We will do our best to use your financial gifts for the specific area in which it was donated.

If there is an over-abundance of support in a specific area, the Halifax Youth Center may use the funds given for another area of need.

Thank you for your support of our Youth!

These financial gifts can be given to staff at the Halifax Youth Center, the Halifax Community Church Office, or mailed to Halifax Community Church, 105 Wind Hill Dr. Halifax, PA 17032.

Cash or Checks; Checks made out to *Halifax Community Church*, memo: Halifax Youth Center.

Please add a note regarding the intention of the gift or include the slip below.

Birthday Party	Daily Meal	Club Supplies
Pool Passes	Where Most Needed	Game/Tech Supplies
Tickets to Sporting Events	☐ Take-Home Food Bags	☐ Snacks
Sports Equipment	☐ Take-Home Hygiene Produc	ts

