



Halifax, PA 17032

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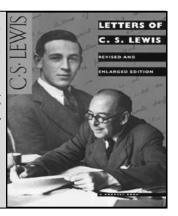
A Note from Pastor Brendan...

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

"Christ Centered | Community Driven."

As we approach the end of 2024 and the beginning of 2025, I am reminded of a quote by C.S. Lewis...

"The real struggle of the Christian life comes where people do not usually look for it. It comes the very moment you wake up each morning. All your tasks, responsibilities, and wishes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists simply in shoving them back; in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in. And so on, all day." (Taken from Letters of C.S. Lewis © 1966)



The Apostle Paul says, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

Jesus said... "A kernel of wheat must be planted in the soil. Unless it dies it will be alone - a single seed. But its death will produce many new kernels - a plentiful harvest of new lives." (John 12:24)

As we begin the New Year, we need to remember this principle: Every day must begin with remembering that we have died to self, and we are alive in Christ. We must put aside the things we want and set our minds on that which God wants.

God's future for us is blessed with his presence within us. Let's walk with joy and confidence in 2025, knowing that we walk with the KING.

I love you all,

Pastor Brendan

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church Staff

Pastor Brendan Hock, Senior Pastor—Ext. 101 | bhock@halifaxgmc.org

Pastor Jesse Funk, Pastor of Family Ministry—Ext. 102 | jfunk@halifaxgmc.org

Cherry Pechart, Youth Ministry Coordinator—Ext. 113 | youth@halifaxgmc.org

Adam & Tricia Farner, Children's Ministry Coordinators—Ext. 103 | children@halifaxgmc.org

Carol Bostdorf, Assoc. for Creative Worship/Choir Dir. – Ext. 105 | cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org

Kayla Wilbert, Administrative Assistant—Ext. 110 | office@halifaxgmc.org

April Wilbert, Financial Administrator—Ext. 106 | finance@halifaxgmc.org

Meagan Hock, Media & Communications | mhock@halifaxgmc.org

Molly Reber & Susie Smith, Custodians

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9 AM—2 PM

Friday: 9 AM—12 PM

Rainbow Preschool

PHONE: 717.896.8092, Ext. 108 EMAIL: preschool@halifaxgmc.org

Lisa Lau, Director & Teacher

Jen Warfel, Co-Teacher

Youth Center

231 Rise Street, Halifax | Contact Cherry Pechart with any questions.

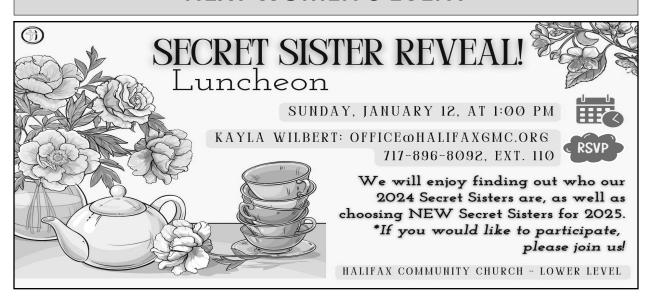
Cornerstone Christian Counseling at House on the Hill (HOH)

Christian Counseling for Individuals, Couples, & Families. Financial assistance is also available. Contact 717-585-0627 or intake@inhimchristianwellness.org to schedule an appointment.

Food Room at House on the Hill (HOH)

Mondays: 9—11:30 AM | Thursdays: 3:30—6 PM | 3rd Saturday of the Month: 9—11 AM

NEXT WOMEN'S EVENT



HOUSE ON THE HILL MINISTRIES





WORSHIP SCHEDULE



In the opening months of the year, we will be embarking on a message series called "TRUE NORTH: Heading the Right Direction."

In this series we will focus on God's Vision for our lives and for our Church.

In a world filled with conflicting opinions, how do we know which ones to trust? In the Age of Exploration, sailors had only one trustworthy guide: the North Star. It's the only star in the visible cosmos that never moves.

Sunday, January 5

Text: Romans 12:9-21

Title: True North-Love is a Verb

Sunday, January 12

Text: John 14:16-20

Title: True North-Where's Your Chair

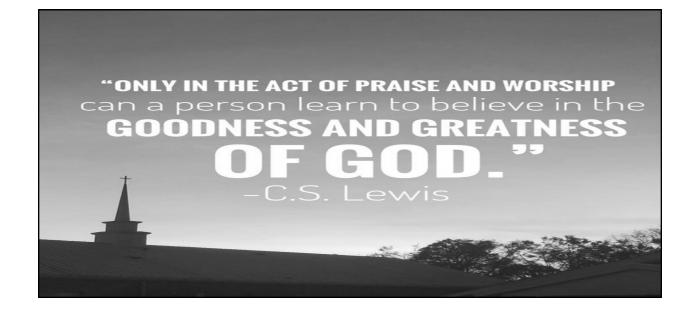
Sunday, January 19

Text: John 1:6-14

Title: True North-Grace & Truth

Sunday, January 26

Text & Title: TBD



ADULT MINISTRY UPDATE

Pastor of Family Ministry: Jesse Funk—jfunk@halifaxqmc.org | 717-896-8092, x 102

Happy New Year!

I'm looking forward to a very busy (and fruitful) 2025 with you all, particularly with additional adult discipleship opportunities. As we reflect and pray on ways to be living sacrifices to our Lord, keep these activities and events in mind!

The Men's Ministry will be The Men's Ministry will also The Women's Ministry will be holding the Annual Crockpot be holding an in-house holding their Secret Sister Cook-Off on Sunday, January Dartball league beginning in Reveal Party on January 12th 19th at 3pm in the Youth February. There is a sign-up in the HUB after church, and Center. You're invited to sheet on the Welcome Desk, will also be holding a Puzzling come out and eat, watch or you can reach out to me **Event on March 15th** (more football, play darts, and hear and I can put you on the list! info to come). Please reach an encouraging Biblical message.

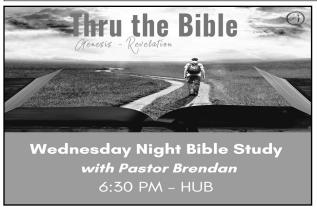
out to Kathy Stence with any questions...717-413-8705.

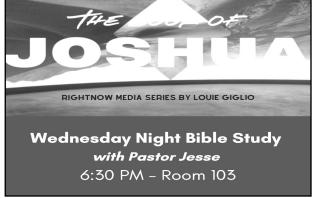
If the Lord has been nudging you to join a small group, lead a small group, or serve in any way, I'd love to sit down and have a conversation with you!

Blessings,

Pastor Jesse

WEDNESDAYS—STARTING JANUARY 15





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

currently available in the Church Office, reminded to please submit a receipt of Halifax School District Guidance Office, Halifax payment of their scholarship money to the Youth Center, and on our Church website college/university, a copy of their current (www.halifaxgmc.org).

The deadline for submitting a 2025 scholarship application is 11 AM on Friday, April 11, 2025.

The 2025 scholarship applications are Scholarship recipients from last year are transcripts, and proof of enrollment in the next semester, if applicable. This information can be submitted to the Church Office or emailed Lisa Weaver 4weavers96@gmail.com. Please submit this information by Friday, February 28.

HOLIDAY TREASURES BAZAAR—2025

The 2025 Holiday Treasures Bazaar is on November 1. This year, the bazaar will receive donations to sell! So, ladies start getting your knitting needles and craft ideas going. Men, get those saws buzzing. We need all of your talents to make the 2025 Bazaar a complete success!

2025 VBS ITEMS NEEDED



YOUTH CENTER & FOOD ROOM GRANTS

CAN YOU HFLP??

We are looking for 2-3 individuals interested You do not need to be an expert in the area of missing opportunities.

in leading an effort to find grants for our grant writing; However, some skills that are Youth Center and the Food Room. These are helpful are an interest in research, strong critical missions our church provides to our relationships, writing skills, attention to detail local community. Our incoming grant money and persuasiveness. Typically, once grants are is limited today and we strongly feel we are obtained, the work to maintain them is rather limited.

> If you are interested, please contact April Wilbert, Finance Administrator: 717-896-8092, ext. 106. | finance@halifaxgmc.org

> > Thank you in advance for considering this critical effort.

THANK YOU!

"I want to thank you friends at the church for all the beautiful cards and prayers I have received for my 100th birthday. I have received 90 cards so far. Thank you, Polly Hatter"

CLOSURE NOTIFICATIONS

Weather Related Closings

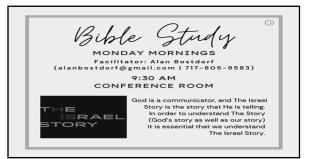
In the event of Sunday morning service cancelation, you will receive a recorded phone call. The cancelation will also be posted on our Facebook page.

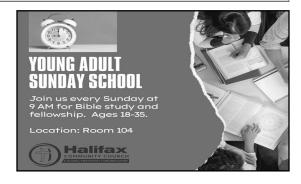
During the week, we will follow the HASD schedule. If school is closed or dismisses early, the church office will close. If school cancels evening activities, activities at HCC will most likely be canceled ... (Please check with the leader of the activity or Bible Study).

ADULT FELLOWSHIP & GROWTH





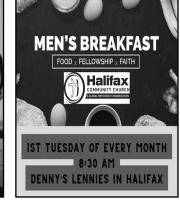
















ROCKSOLID YOUTH MINISTRY

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.

WEEKLY YOUTH RECHARGE/GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Sunday School: JOIN US FROM 9-10AM IN THE HUB

- ⇒ Middle School Youth Study- Flyte Jr. High Curriculum
- ⇒ High School Youth Study- **RightNow Media Youth Study**

Wednesday Youth Group: WE MEET AT THE YOUTH CENTER EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 6-7:30PM

⇒ Dinner is served at 5:30. 6-7pm watching/discussing Chosen TV Series Season 1, 7:00pm game time



CONFIRMATION 2025

WHO IS CONFIRMATION FOR?

Confirmation with Halifax Community Church is designed for students in 7th grade or higher who wish to publicly affirm their baptism and commitment to walk with Christ. Students who have not been baptized can be baptized at this time as well.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



WHEN WILL CLASSES TAKE PLACE?

Classes will begin on Sunday, February 2nd and run for 7 weeks. Weekly 12-1pm in the church conference room. Lunch served 11:45.

Please RSVP by January
19th if you intend to
participate.
Brief Parent Meeting

January 19th after 2nd service in HUB. (11:40am)

CONTACT

Cherry Pechart- Rock Solid Youth Ministry Coordinator Email: Youth@halifaxgmc.org Phone: 717-896-8092, ext 113



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES:

With your help, along with the youth shoppers and kid packers, we were able to send 82 shoeboxes to kids around the world. Thank you!



MUSIC MINISTRY

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

I would like to thank the following persons that participated in all of our Music Christmas events and programs; for the *Adult Choir* who blesses us throughout the year with their anthems in worship: to the *Hand Bell Choir* who has so much fun together ringing the songs of our faith: for the 21 people who went *caroling* to our homebound (they were very grateful for us stopping by during the holiday season): for the 32 people in our *Festival Choir* who blessed us with the cantata "Hope Awakes in Bethlehem": for the 31 children and youth who took part in our *5pm Christmas Eve Pageant* this year: for the families and friends who led us in our *Advent Wreath lighting*: for those who provided *special music* for the Christmas season, whether during our regular Sunday morning worship services or on Christmas Eve: for our faithful *Worship, Media, & Sound Team* who are so committed to organizing and leading worship each Sunday: to *Men in Harmony* who presented a wonderful Christmas concert: to the *Rhoades family* for providing Christmas carols for us in the lobby on December 22nd: for all the scriptures readers and narrators who read for our Christmas services. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful team of people around me that love serving God with their gifts. They bring their passion and love of God to our services and enhances our worship.

I want to thank *Pastor Brendan and Pastor Jesse, and the church staff* whom I enjoy working with. For their willingness to help each other with their support, suggestions, and encouragement. We have an awesome team. And finally, I want to thank the *congregation* for all their prayers, cards, and encouragement for this ministry during the Christmas season. I am so grateful to be able to serve such a loving congregation and your support means so much. *Wishing everyone a wonderful and blessed New Year! Looking forward to another great year of praising the Lord!*

We sing praises to the Lord!

Carol Bostdorf



A special thank you to *Doug and Donna Enders* who have now moved to Lancaster and are starting their next chapter of life with their children and granddaughter. They welcomed me into this congregation from day one when I had big shoes to fill following Doug as choir director. Even though he is left-handed, he has been my 'right-hand man' through so many changes and new music ministries over these last 25 years. His gift of music is a special gift given from God and we will truly miss him in all assets of the music ministry. Donna has been an essential part of the music ministry team as a faithful choir member, providing special music, and as a bell ringer. She has also been an Adult Sunday School teacher and served as an adult leader for our youth group for many years under Alan's leadership. We are truly grateful for everything you have done in your many years of service at Halifax Community Church. You will be truly missed, but we know that there are still great things in store for you both. We have been blessed by your friendship and all your support.

Best wishes and God bless.

Carol and Alan Bostdorf

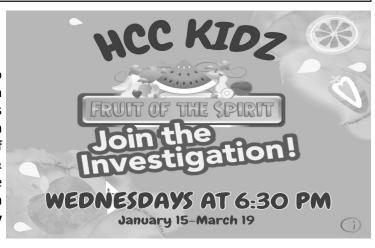


ROCKSTAR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Fruit of the Spirit – Wednesday evenings January 15th- March 19th, 6:30-7:30 PM!

Happy New Year!! We are excited to launch into 2025 of growing our faith in Jesus!! We will start on Sunday Mornings with "EPIC" stories of the Bible through our Dig-In program. Please reach out if you would like to see the scope & sequence of these weekly lessons. We will start off with Fruit of the Spirit which will fit perfectly with our Wednesday night Kidz CLUB.



Families, don't hesitate to allow your kids to bring their friends on Sundays. We've been seeing a lot of new faces and we love it! Allow your kids to be little disciples and share their faith through Sunday school. A reminder that at **9AM Sunday School**, the lessons includes extra activities/occasional crafts/games. At **10:30AM Kids Church**, we focus primarily on the Bible Lesson since children worship with their families for the first part of the second service.

Mark Your Calendars for our Family WINTER Event on February 22nd, 6-8:30 PM. This is a family event—all ages are welcome and families will adventure through Bible Verses in John with our VBS Scuba friends, together for a fun night of fellowship! Psst...The VBS theme will also be announced that evening!

Lastly, we are planning a volunteer **luncheon to occur in March** to re-group with all of our <u>amazing</u> volunteers. Adam and I will be participating in a Children's Pastor's Conference in January 2025, and we look forward to sharing what we learned from that conference during this luncheon with you. Please stay tuned for that! This will also be a great time to get introduced to our team, So anyone interested in learning more about volunteering with RockSTAR Ministry is welcome to attend the luncheon.

As always, we encourage anyone to come back during a service to observe. Maybe you are nervous and not sure how Sunday mornings go...please reach out, we'd love to have you visit and see if it could be a place to share your love of the Lord!

Thank You... - Tricia & Adam



YOUTH MINISTRY (CONTINUED)



The Halifax Youth Center is open on all Halifax <u>full</u> school days, from 2:30-5:30pm.

6th-12th grade students from any school are welcome to attend.

For more information please contact Cherry Pechart at youth@halifaxgmc.org or visit the Halifax Youth Center on Facebook.



Thanks to The Seibold Company for Sponsoring Thanksgiving Dinner this year. Also Thanks again to Vivian and Gary for Cooking!









JANUARY, 2025

You can access the most up-to-date calendar on our website: halifaxgmc.org / Resources / Calendar

5	6	7
9am 🗘 Adult S.S. Class	8:30am CCC Hours - Step	8:30am 🗘 Men's Breakfast &
eam 🗘 Middle & High Schoo	9am 🗘 Food Room Open	9:30am C Bedrock Gang
am 🗘 Traditional Worship	9:30am 🗘 Bible Study	10am C Weekly Staff Meeting
10:15am 🗘 Bible Study Group	12pm CCC Hours - Lily	1pm CCC Hours
10:30am Contemporary Wo	2:30pm C Youth Center Oper	2:30pm D Youth Center Oper
5:30pm 🗘 Boy's Life Group		
12	13	14
9am C Adult S.S. Class	8:30am CCC Hours - Step	9:30am C Bedrock Gang
eam C Middle & High School		10am C Weekly Staff Meeting
Pam Traditional Worship		1pm ♥ CCC Hours
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10:30am Vouth Cabinet Me		6pm ⊅ Girl's Lifegroup
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19	20	21
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26	27	28
9am Ф Adult S.S. Class	8:30am CCC Hours - Step	9:30am Bedrock Gang
9am Ф Middle & High Schoo		10am C Weekly Staff Meeting
9am C Traditional Worship		1pm □ CCC Hours
10:15am Bible Study Group		2:30pm Youth Center Open
10:30am ⊅ Contemporary Wo	2:30pm Youth Center Ope	6pm ¹⊅ Girl's Lifegroup

Jan 1	2	3	4
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9am 🗘 CCC Hours - Stephar	3:30pm 🗘 Food Room Open	2:30pm D Youth Center Oper	
11:45am 🗘 Released Time - 🖣	6pm 🗘 Bell Choir Rehearsal		
_{tpm} 🗘 Cintas - Soap/Cleane	7pm 🗘 Scout Meetings (Earl		
	7pm 🗘 RockStar Core Leade		
6:30pm 🗘 Bible Study with P	7pm 🗘 Praise Band Practice		
6:30pm 🗘 Bible Study with P			
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal			
7pm 🗘 Women's Lifegroup			

8	9	10	11
12:30pm	2:30pm		
1pm Ф Cintas - Soap/Cleane 2:30pm Ф Youth Center Ope	2:30pm Youth Center Open 3:30pm Food Room Open 6pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Scout Meetings (Earl 7pm Praise Band Practice		18
22	23	24	25
9am C CCC Hours - Stephan	2-30pm (2) Youth Center Oper	12pm C CCC Hours - Stepha	10am C. Reach-Out Lifegroup

