



Making disciples of Jesus, creating community

1211 Third Avenue
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JANUARY, 2018
(814) 695-8529
www.hicksumc.org

Here's How to Get Started

For a writer, beginnings are crucial. The beginning is the most important and often the most difficult part of writing a piece, contributing to writers often being lonely, unhappy people. (I'm not happy with this one either, but let's just get on with it).

As we begin 2018, we should give some thought to what we want this new year to be like for us. We should realize that much that will happen this year *will be beyond our control*. So, what we can shape, *what we do have control over*, is ourselves. We can control our priorities, our attitudes, our calendars and our resources. Our teaching series for the next month is *Applying God's Wisdom to Everyday Problems*. The challenge I put before you is **will you put God at the center of your life this year?** Will you make this commitment and do everything you can to honor Christ in your everyday life?

Here is a prayer that might help you make this commitment. It is a prayer of John Wesley that we use in worship every year about this time. It is often called the Wesley Covenant Prayer. We will be praying it this Sunday in worship:

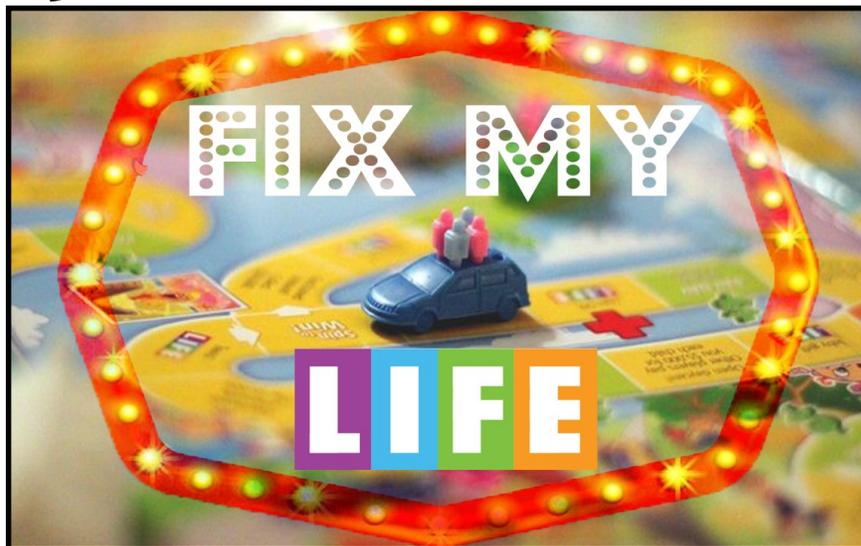
**I give myself completely to you, God.
Assign me to my place in your creation.
Let me suffer for you.
Give me the work you would have me do.
Give me many tasks or have me step aside while you call others.
Put me forward or humble me.
Give me riches or let me live in poverty.
I freely give all that I am and all that I have to you.
And now, holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
May this covenant made on earth continue for all eternity. Amen.**



May God bless you this new year and may we put Christ at the center of everything we are and do. See you in worship. Rich Morris, pastor

New January Sermon Series

We Need Your Help: For our new teaching series, "Applying God's Wisdom to Everyday Problems", we are asking you to submit a question or a scenario coming from your everyday life that you would like advice on. They could be questions about parenting, time management, family, relationships, work, anything really. We will keep your questions anonymous, but we also ask that the questions not be **Too Big** like, "How we can solve world hunger?" Small, specific, and ordinary is probably better.

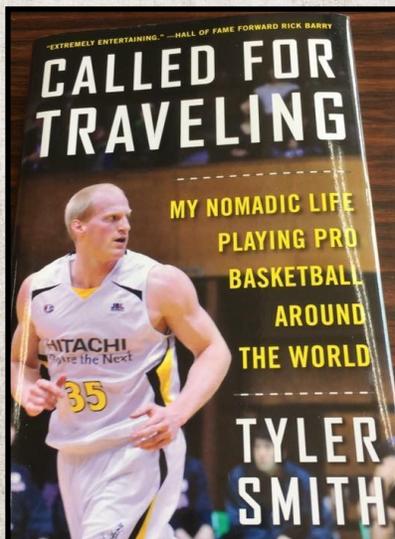


Shoot us your question on Facebook or email Richmorris@atlanticbb.net. We want to have fun with this in a little skit we will be doing each week called, "Fix My Life!" Be sure to be in worship this month and bring a friend.

January 14th Guest Speaker: Tyler Smith

We are excited to have **Tyler Smith** as our guest speaker in worship next Sunday, January 14th. Tyler was a standout on the Penn State Men's Basketball Team that made it to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in 2001.

Tyler went on to play professional basketball overseas and he tells the story of his faith and his profession in his new book, [*Called For Traveling- My Nomadic Life Playing Pro Basketball Around the World*](#). Tyler will be speaking at all three of our worship services on January 14th.



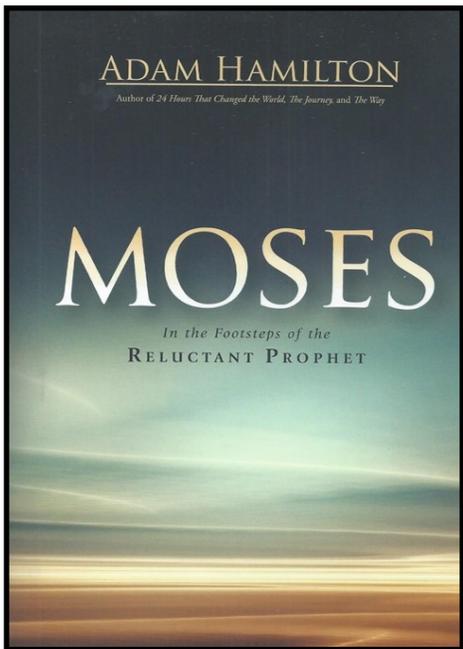
★
JOY
NOEL
ANGEL
JESUS
PEACE HOPE
WISEMEN
CHRISTMAS
BELIEVE FAITH
PRINCE OF PEACE
THANK YOU

Christmas Greetings from *Ray and Becky Kettig, Glenn and Sonia Keiper, Dick and Donna Fruth, Mel and Barbara George, Kevin and Katie Montgomery, Gene and Saundra Malone and Sam and Wanda Dunkle*. Doves were purchased for the Dove Tree instead of sending cards and \$95 was sent to the Mechanicsburg Children's Home. What a great alternative to cards and postage for church friends.

Kitchen Class Study of Moses

[TURN YOUR RELUCTANCE INTO BOLDNESS](#)

Join the Kitchen Class this January for a look at Moses through the eyes of Adam Hamilton as he explores the sites of Moses' life from the Nile River to the Reed Sea, from Mt. Sinai to the wilderness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and biblical text, Hamilton guides us in the footsteps of the reluctant prophet who blazed a trail of faith.



WEEK	SUBJECT
January 7	The Birth of Moses
January 14	Two Moments that Defined the Man
January 21	The Exodus
January 28	The Ten Commandments
February 4	Lessons from the Wilderness
February 11	Don't forget Pass It On

Moses. The epic account of his life, together with the deliverance of the Israelite slaves from bondage in Egypt, is the defining story of the Jewish people. For Christians, Moses' life serves as the backdrop for much that is found in the Gospels. Throughout history, his story has continued to speak to each successive generation. The Kitchen Class meets at 9:30 on Sunday mornings, downstairs in the Classroom off of the Kitchen. Turn

right at the bottom of the stairs and enter the classroom from the Kitchen at the end of the hall.

Coming in February for Lent: [Rob Burkhart's On the Road to the Cross.](#)

2018 Mexico Mission Trip Update

Just a reminder that the first Mexico Mission team meeting will be held at the church on Sunday, January 7th at 5 pm.

Last year we had a team of 23 and this year we are sending 31 to serve in Mexico! We have room for 2 more participants.

For those of you new to the trip, please bring a copy of your passport to the meeting or mail it to the church office.

Also, our second payment of \$500 (which is non-refundable) is due on January 14th. Please drop your check in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Airfare will be purchased after this payment is received. If you have received donations from sponsorship letters, [Jolene Cidor](#) will send you an email or text with the amount.



NEW TO HICKS? Thanks so much for being with us in worship. We encourage you to check out the different ways you can get connected through small groups, children and youth ministry, and service opportunities. You can find out more at hicksumc.org. Join us all of January for the series, *Applying God's Wisdom to Everyday Problems*.

OFFERING ENVELOPES. The 2018 offering envelopes are available on the Welcome Desk.

INDOOR WINTER YARD SALE. Clean out your closets, toy boxes, garages or storage sheds and donate your items for the sale. Our church is hosting another indoor yard sale in our Social Hall on Saturday, January 27th from 8:00am-1:00pm. Your donations are now being accepted through January 22nd and can be dropped off to the room across from the downstairs Preschool Classroom on Sunday mornings or during office hours, Tuesday-Friday, 9-1:00pm. Evening drop-offs will only be received January 8th, 15th and 22nd from 6:30-7:30pm. All proceeds will benefit the 2018 Mexico Mission Trip. For more information contact the church office at 695-8529 or katie@hickumc.org.

BAKE SALE DONATIONS NEEDED. The Mexico Mission Trip is asking for donations of baked goods for their bake sale tables at the January 27th Indoor Yard Sale. All proceeds will benefit the 2018 Mexico Mission Team Trip Expenses. If you are able to contribute, please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

NEW STUDY ON BOOK OF ISAIAH. You are welcome to join the Genesis Class this month for a study of the Book of Isaiah. The Prophet, Isaiah, is a spokesman for God. Isaiah is the most quoted Old Testament book in the New Testament. In our suffering world today, Isaiah encourages us not to lose hope. We will meet in the Wesley Room in the church house at 9:15 AM.

KNITTING GROUP. The Knitting group will begin meeting again on Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00-8:30 PM in the Grace Koon classroom. No experience needed to join. Crocheters are welcome too. Come to learn or bring a project to work on while you visit the other crafters. Questions? Call Sonia Keiper 696-0519.

VETERANS HOME THANK YOU. Dear Members, on behalf of the residents of the Hollidaysburg, Veterans Home, we would like to thank you for your donation of \$100.00 to the Veterans Holiday Fund Program on December 7, 2017. This donation will be earmarked and will be used to buy gifts for our Veterans for Christmas. Your generosity and support that you showed toward our residents is greatly appreciated by them as well as the staff and administration of our facility. It is organizations like yours that make it possible for our residents to enjoy the comfort and the atmosphere at their home. We are indeed grateful for your support.

Sincerely, Deborah A. Nesbella, Commandment





OUR MISSION: Our Children's Ministry's purpose is to assist parents with their children's life long journey to know, love and follow Jesus. We want to connect children to God and to each other as we teach and equip them to become disciples and create community.

Weekly Children's Church: 9:30 & 11:00am

Upcoming Children's Ministry Dates

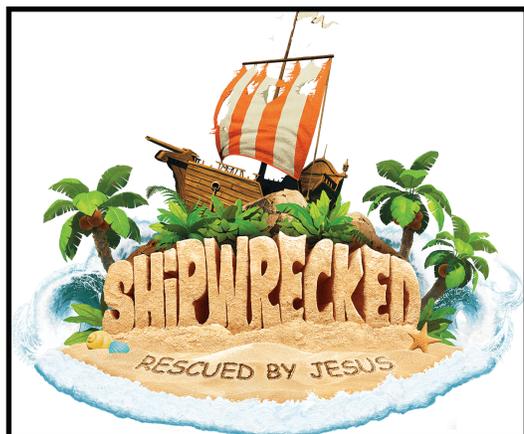
JAN. 15TH: Children's Ministry Volunteer New Year's Party

Two words: **Chocolate. Fountain.** Our annual Children's Ministry Volunteer New Year's Party will be held on Monday, January 15th at 6:00pm in our Social Hall and you won't want to miss it! join us for a night of fun, **chocolate** and fellowship as we look forward to another year serving together. Please RSVP to me by Jan. 12th so I can be sure to have enough CHOCOLATE and snacks planned.



JAN. 21ST: Friends 'n Faith/Champions 4 Christ Resume

Our elementary groups will resume their monthly meeting; any new girl in grades 3rd-6th or boy in 1st-6th is welcome to join us on Sunday, January 21st 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall.



APRIL 22ND: VBS Annual Team Kickoff Luncheon

Sunday, April 22nd, 12:15-1:30pm, Social Hall. VBS Kick-Off Luncheon is for ALL of our VBS volunteers and their families: Station Leaders, Crew Leaders, Youth helpers, etc. A separate Volunteer Recruitment Email will be sent out next month.

JULY 9TH: "Shipwrecked" VBS

Monday, July 9 – Friday, July 13, 6:00-8:15pm, Hicks UMC Sanctuary. VBS is for any child ages 3 – completion of 4th grade. Online registration will be available May 1st.

JULY 22ND: Awesome Elementary Church Camp at Wesley Forest

Sunday, July 22nd – Friday, July 27th. This camp is for students entering grades 4th-7th in the fall of 2018; register online at <http://www.susumcamps.org/index.php/wesley-forest>





2017
Christmas Eve
Children & Family
Worship Service

Hicks Youth Fellowship January Events



January always brings an exciting time for the youth group. For the past several years, Hicks Youth Fellowship has travelled to Wesley Forest for a winter retreat.

At camp, the youth spend time hiking, sledding, playing on the frozen lake, and studying God's word. Our time at camp allows the youth to get away from the hustle and bustle of their lives and enjoy camp in all its winter wonderfulness. The youth group will head to camp this year on January 12th – 14th. The cost of the trip is \$20 per youth. We will leave the church at 5:00 PM and return at 12:00 PM on Sunday.

For the rest of January, the youth will meet on the normal Sunday evening schedule. Youth group is open to anyone in grades 7-12. Any youth interested in attending need to contact Jason at jgarman09@yahoo.com by Jan. 8th.



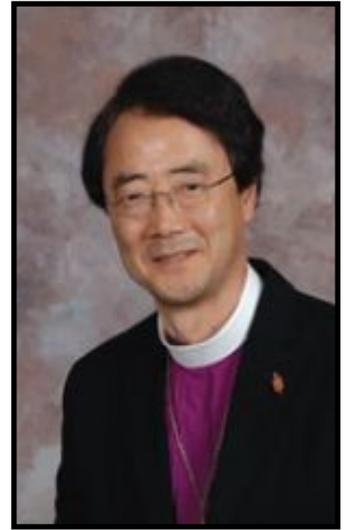
January Calendar

21st	Youth Group	5:30-7:00
28th	Youth Group	5:30-7:00

Bishop Park to Attend Altoona “The Way Forward” Discussion

Bishop Park will be in the Altoona District on January 14, 2018 for a gathering from 2pm-4pm at First United Methodist Church in Hollidaysburg. The purpose of this gathering is the review the work of the Commission on the Way Forward as it has been shared with the Council of Bishops. Prior to coming to this conversation, we do invite you to spend time in significant prayer for the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance in these conversations (not only for the gathering in our district, but throughout the Annual Conference).

Please know that these conversations are to gather input and information for the Council of Bishops and possibly the Commission on the Way Forward, but the Bishops aren't bound by any sketch. Also know that these discussions will not center around human sexuality. And, as we want to do in all our conversations, please do come prepared to treat one another with respect, kindness, and Christian compassion.



If you are planning to attend, please contact the church office so that we can be registered in advance.

Happy January Birthday to You!



Betty Wilkinson	January 3	Corie Stapelfeld	January 13
Ethan Cutshall	January 4	Deborah Treese	January 13
John Dively	January 5	Glenn Keiper	January 14
Ella Ruth Black	January 6	Meganne Black	January 15
Scott Kavanagh	January 6	Luke Jandora	January 19
Nate Stahl	January 6	Tucker Selfridge	January 19
Stephen Noal	January 7	Adam Schneeberger	January 20
Victoria Camloh	January 8	Isabella DeStefano	January 21
David Lee	January 10	Barbara Hazlett	January 21
Scott Magnetti	January 10	Jodi Albarano	January 26
Kevin Russ	January 11	Linzi Biesinger	January 26
Amber Selfridge	January 11	Julian Camloh	January 26
Donna Lindsey	January 12	Paula Brennecke	January 27
Cindy Odell	January 12	Mel George	January 27
Kip Parris	January 12	Terry Koelle	January 27
Elizabeth Noal	January 13		
Kenzie Schneeberger	January 13		

Did we miss your birthday?

Contact Nancy at

office@hicksumc.org to update our membership database.



JANUARY 27TH
8:00AM-1:00PM

HICKS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HUGE Indoor Yard Sale
DOWNSTAIRS SOCIAL HALL

- Collectibles**
- Home Decor**
- Furniture**
- Computer Equipment**
- Baby Items**
- Toys**
- Clothing**
- Books**
- Kitchenware**

Homemade Baked Goods
& Drinks Available to Purchase

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HICKS
UMC 2018 MEXICO MISSION TRIP**

HICKS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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CONNECT WITH US:
 hicksumc.org
 facebook.com/hicksumc1

making
DISCIPLES
of **JESUS,**
CREATING
community

GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS.
MATTHEW 28:19

Our Staff

- Alan Anderson, Praise Band Leader
- Cathy Baird, Sexton
- Nancy Cherry, Church Secretary
- Jolene Cidor, Financial Secretary
- Heidi Fogle, Treasurer
- Jason Garman, Youth Director
- Katie Guise, Children's Ministry Director
- Billie Jo Jackson, Nursery Coordinator
- Jessica Peacock, Discipleship/Outreach Coordinator
- Robin Ritchey, Assimilation
- Rev. Bob Rupp, Congregational Care
- Elaine Mallory, Organist
- Sandy Steele, Choir Director