







105 Wind Hill Drive

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A Note from Pastor Brendan...

Pastor Brendan Hock: bhock@halifaxgmc.org / 717-896-8092 x 101 "Christ Centered | Community Driven."

THE POWER OF VISION IN THE CHURCH

Every new year in the month of January, I preach and teach about the vision of the church. Every thriving church is built not only on faith and fellowship, but also on vision. Vision is more than words on a wall; it is a God-given picture of who He is calling His people to become and what He is inviting us to accomplish together. Scripture reminds us, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Without clear, prayerful direction, we risk becoming busy without purpose—active, yet not fully advancing the Kingdom of God.

Vision, however, is not meant to be declared by leaders alone. It is a calling for the entire body of Christ to embrace. Each believer has a role in discerning, carrying, and living out God's purposes within the church and the world.

As we enter the first part of 2026, I am calling us, as a church family, into a **Season of Prayer**. We have much to celebrate in the ways God is moving among us—the growth we are experiencing, the spiritual hunger we sense, and the deepening community God is forming in our midst. These are clear signs of God's presence and faithfulness. And as we step into a season of transition, it is essential that we do so together, grounded in prayer and committed to lifting one another before the Lord.

In the New Year, I invite each of you to gather a small group of prayer partners around you- (Pastor Jesse is available and eager to help you with this). In addition, we are seeking to have every family with children/teens in our church "adopted" by a prayer partner. We are currently creating prayer cards for each family—complete with a photo and brief information—to help guide your prayers throughout 2026. These cards will be placed on a Christmas tree in the church lobby during January. You will be invited to take a card, place it somewhere visible—perhaps on your refrigerator—and commit to praying for and encouraging that family throughout the year.

Why are we doing this? Because God does remarkable things when His people pray. Over the years, I have been deeply encouraged by the prayerful faithfulness of the HCC family. I am convinced that one of the primary reasons we navigated the season of disaffiliation with unity and grace was because we were carried by praying people. Now, I am calling us to that same posture once again—praying for one another, for our church leaders, and for the new Spiritual Shepherd God is preparing for the next season of ministry at HCC.

May we move forward with faith, clarity, and courage - celebrating that God's plans are always greater than our own.

I love you all.

Pastor Brendan

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thank you for your generous giving towards Forward in Faith, which enables the church to save for future capital expenses vs. going into debt.

Below are the balances as of November 30:

Cost Incurred to Date: \$34K

Forward in Faith Savings Balance: \$77K

(Cost Incurred to Date has been removed from this number)

Thank you again for supporting the debt free future of our church.

WISHING YOU A PEACE-FILLED 2026!



CORNERSTONE

PRESCHOOL

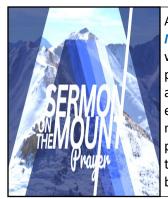








WORSHIP SCHEDULE



As we begin the New Year, we will enter the portion of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount where He teaches about prayer. The Sermon on the Mount is rich with wisdom and foundational ethics for faithful living. Jesus offers penetrating corrections to hypocritical religion, issues sobering warnings about the pursuit of wealth and the burden of worry, and challenges us to examine wrongful judgment and spiritual deception. However, some of the most powerful and transformational teachings surround the essential practice of prayer. Join us in the New Year as we focus on our prayer life through the teachings of Jesus, allowing His words to shape not only what we believe, but how we live and pray.

Sunday, January 4, 2025

Text: Matthew 6:5-8

Title: Sermon on the Mount: Praying

Sunday, January 11, 2025

Text: Matthew 6:9-10

MATTHEW 6:6

Title: Sermon on the Mount: The Lord's Prayer 1

BUT WHEN YOU PRAY.

GO INTO YOUR ROOM,

CLOSE THE DOOR AND

PRAY TO YOUR FATHER,

WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET.

THEN YOUR FATHER, WHO SEES

WHO IS UNSEEN.

WILL REWARD YOU.

Sunday, January 18, 2025

Text: Matthew 6:11-15

Title: Sermon on the Mount:

The Lord's Prayer 2

Sunday, January 25, 2025

Text: Matthew 6:16-18

Title: Sermon on the Mount: Prayer & Fasting

MUSIC MINISTRY

Creative Worship/Choir Director: Carol Bostdorf cbostdorf@halifaxgmc.org | 717-896-8092, x 105

A Note of Thanks!

Thank you to everyone that participated in the Christmas services and making our Christmas season of worship a time of celebrating and remembering the real reason for the season.

Here's looking ahead to a Blessed New Year!

-Carol Bostdorf

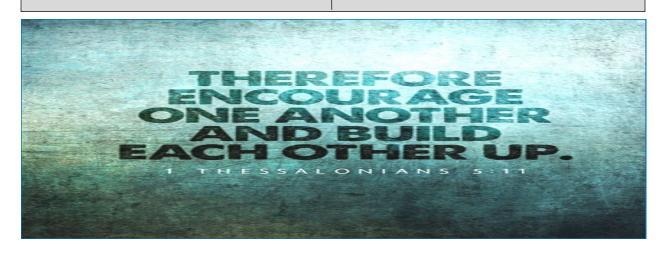


PRAYER CARDS FOR FAMILIES



HCC is starting off 2026 with a call to prayer – corresponding with Pastor Brendan's teachings from the Sermon on the Mount. As part of this emphasis, we are asking people in our congregation to "adopt a family" and pray for them throughout the year. We are creating Prayer Cards for each family with children/teens—a photo and brief information—to help guide people's prayers throughout 2026.

Families: We invite you to submit a family The Rest of the Congregation: You will be picture of you and your children/teens and invited to take a card, place it somewhere include brief information such as names and visible in your home—perhaps on the ages of children, hobbies, favorite activities & refrigerator—and commit to praying for and snacks. These prayer cards will be placed on a encouraging that family throughout the year. Christmas tree in the church lobby during January. Please submit info to Kayla at: office@halifaxgmc.org.



JOB OPENING



SPRC is accepting resumes for the position of Financial Administrator at HCC. We are seeking an organized, reliable individual to manage the financial responsibilities of our church. Bookkeeping experience is preferred.

This is a part-time position (expected 15-20 hours per week). All interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume to SPRC Interview Committee, 105 Wind Hill Drive, Halifax, PA, 17032; or submit requirements to office@halifaxgmc.org.

A detailed job description will be made available upon request.

PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

Reverend Robert Townsend, the GMC presiding elder managing our pastoral transition, has asked the Staff Parish Relations Committee to complete a church profile form. This is the first step in the process of a lead pastor being considered for appointment to Halifax Community Church.

Staff Parish would like to offer you the opportunity to share your perspective. Please prayerfully consider what gifts and attributes you consider most vital in our lead pastor. We welcome your verbal or written response any time before January 5, 2026. Please reach out to Lay Leader, Rick Stence, or any member of the SPRC. Thank you for continuing to pray for Pastor Brendan and his family. Please also pray for the future pastor God has called to serve at HCC.

Rick Stence: rstence@gmail.com 717-413-9170

Vonda Blasick: blasicks@comcast.net 717-215-2379

Troy Masser: troyheather@comcast.net 717-319-3350

Ryan Rhoades: ryanrhoades156@yahoo.com 717-979-6000

Steve Ciccocioppo: cicco97@yahoo.com 717-579-2120 Brad Bruner: brad.bruner@fastsigns.com 717-919-2712

Jen Altland: jenfelk@yahoo.com 717-645-9509

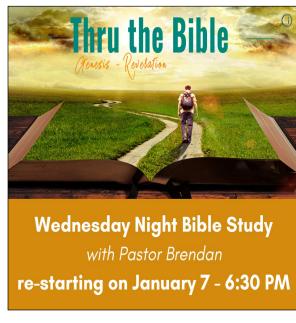
Lois Campbell: ljcwcc@hotmail.com 717-896-8507

Jeff Tracey: jtracey531@gmail.com 717-443-3587

Lynn Gilmore: lynngilmore@gmail.com 717-756-344

WINTER BIBLE STUDY

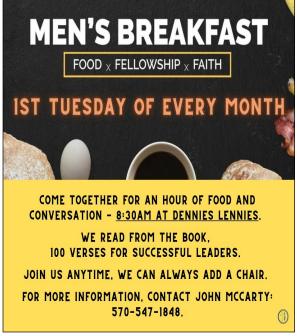
BEDROCK GANG





MEN'S BREAKFAST

SECRET SISTER LUNCH





ADULT MINISTRY UPDATE

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

Merry Christmas everyone!

As we move forward together into the New Year, I hope these words from the Apostle Paul resonate with you:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. -Ephesians 3:14-19

Paul has a clear desire for those God entrusted to him. He wanted them to know "the breadth and length and height and depth" of Christ's love. But how does he plan to achieve this?

He doesn't preach another sermon.

He doesn't lay holy hands on them.

He doesn't send Timothy to take care of them spiritually.

He prayed for them.

A heart satisfied in Christ is a heart that doesn't wander, a heart that doesn't ache or hunger. Now that Christ's death tore the temple veil in half, we have the privilege AND the invitation to experience God's goodness through prayer.

If you have been unsure what your next step of faith is, prayer group is a great place to discern that! We would love to add to our men's group, as well as start additional groups for men, women, and possibly some co-ed groups as well. If this is something that interests you, please reach out to me!

Over the last several months, a small group of men have been gathering every other week to pray for each other, pray for the church staff, and pray for the church as a whole. It has been a wonderful opportunity to lay our burdens down, and help our brothers in Christ carry theirs, as we raise them up to the one who can truly carry them for us.

Our Adult Ministries continue to move forward with 4 Sunday School classes, with most of them meeting year-round! There will be 4 mid-week discipleship groups running throughout the Winter/Spring season as well, catering to a variety of life-stages that we have here at HCC.

(See the next page for Men & Women Events/Opportunities!)

-Pastor Jesse

MEN & WOMEN EVENTS

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Twenty HCC ladies had a wonderful afternoon on Dec. 14 going out to lunch followed by the Christmas production at Christian Life Assembly in Camp Hill. The Women's Ministry Committee has a year full of events planned to get to know one another better and enjoy one another's company. Plan ahead and put these activities on your calendar so you don't miss out on the fun! More details will follow for each one closer to the date of the event:

January 10, following 2nd Service: **Secret Sister Luncheon**, Reveal and Selection of New Secret Sister for 2026 (HUB).

February 21, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: White Elephant Bingo (HUB)

March 14, 6:00 – 8:00 PM:

"A Puzzling Event"

April 11, time TBD, **Women's Retreat** (Youth Center)

June 13, 11 AM – 2:30 PM, Cookie Bake (church kitchen)

September 19, time/location TBD, Ladies' Picnic

There may also be some "pop up events" in addition to these! If you ever have questions about any of the activities, have suggestions, or want to serve on the planning committee, reach out to a committee member (Kathy Stence, Lynn Gilmore, Deb Herb, Luanne Strohecker, Cindy Carron, Tracie Snyder, Ann Marie Creigh, or Jacquie Cooper).

MEN'S MINISTRY





JFUNK@HALIFAXGMC.ORG | 717-896-8092. EXT. 102



ROCKSTAR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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



2025 adventures started with Family UBS Night, follwed with our Easter adventures and Rockstar Sunday—displaying what we've learned while celebrating Mothers for their special day, dressed in Fruits of the Spirit! We quickly rolled into UBS where we learned that Trusting Jesus is the best way through our wild world! We added in a Family Fun Day to Butchers Farm and then off to the races to support our NDCS's 30th year 5K with our "God is on the Move" faithful crew! Our Family Fellowship Nights at the YMCA and our Dinner and a Movie night followed and we'll finish the year off with our Children's Christmas Program lead by our amazing, Carol Bostdorf!

WHAT AN AMAZING 2025!

Children's Ministry has been hugely blessed in 2025 with so many volunteers, we were able to grow a new 5th grade program and cover all classrooms each weekend. That's 14 volunteers each Sunday and we are so grateful for everyone and the volunteer family we have here at HCC.

You are all such a blessing!

Let's recruit in 2026 and grow our amazing team!

We've had so many awesome events and Sunday School lessons this past year, we are looking forward to an action filled 2026 coming in with momentum and Joy filling this

We plan to have another "Dinner and a Movie" event over the colder months and Family UBS Night will be coming in February 2026 with our UBS 2026 theme announcement! God is on the Move will be coming back in the spring so stay tuned for the next session.

We are looking forward to more Family Fellowship in 2026!

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

717-896-8092, ext. 113, or visit the Halifax Youth Center on Facebook.

Thank you to all who supported the Youth Center and Youth throughout this Thanksgiving and Christmas Season. We are so appreciative of the continued support of supplies, food, and prayers! We have an amazing bunch of young people who are learning, growing and thriving! Thank you from us all.





ROCKSOLID YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Cherry Pechart—youth@halifaxgmc.org | 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

RockSOLID Youth This Event: 7th-12th grade

All-Nighter

Friday, January 16th

Meet at the Church at 6pm Friday
Pick-up 8am Saturday

Registration Required-Limited Spots!

Worship Time with Alex C.
Cosmic Bowling Outing (8-10pm)
Group Games (Sardines, Manhunt...)
Christian Fellowship
Table Games, Crafts, Movies, etc

Bring a Snack to Share and \$5 towards bowling

Come for the Evening or stay All-Night
All evening pick-ups must happen before Midnight

Youth Sunday School-

Join us from 9-10am in the HUB.

6th-7th Grade Sunday School

Bible in Life- God's Plan

8th-12th Grade Sunday School

Better than One: Dhati Lewis

Save the Dates

Feb. 7th: Guys' Night Out Dodgeball Tournament Feb. 22nd: Girls' Day Out Shopping Trip

Wednesday Youth Group-

Held at the Youth Center
5:30pm Dinner

6:00-7:30pm Lesson/Gametime

Lesson Topic January-

Surrender: Francis Chan

What Are You Holding On To?

Surrender typically implies weakness, loss and defeat. Can you actually gain something by giving up? Jesus said that the only way to truly live is to fully surrender your life to Him.

CONFIRMATION 2026 WHEN WILL CLASSES

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.



TAKE PLACE? CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Classes will begin on

APRIL 12TH

and run for 7 weeks.

Weekly 12-1pm in the

church conference room. Lunch served 11:45

Sunday, February 8th

Please **RSVP by January**25th if you intend to participate.

Brief Parent Meeting January 25th after 2nd service in HUB. (11:45am

CONTACT

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

JANUARY, 2026

The calendar is also on our website: www.halifaxqmc.org / Resources / Calendar



