

The Air Hill Breezes

January

2022

Air Hill BIC Church
7041 Cumberland Hwy.
Chambersburg, PA 17202
267-3373
airhilloffice@gmail.com
Office Hours Mon.— Fri. 8-12

AIR HILL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

“To Follow Jesus Christ through the Wind of the Holy Spirit”

I just completed a book at the end of December called, “Mirror to the Church.” Emmanuel Katongole wrote this book about the Rwandan genocide in 1994 in which 800,000 people who were identified as Tutsi or moderate Hutu were murdered by the Hutus. Let me give you a brief glimpse into this tragedy through a couple quotes:

The Rwandans who killed one another in 1994 were not ancient tribal enemies who had been at odds for generations. They were neighbors who spoke the same language, lived in the same villages – even married one another, as my parents did. How do people who are in almost every way alike learn to see one another as enemies?... Javan Sebasore, a genocide survivor from the village of Muisozi, tells the story of hiding in a small building beside the church in his village. From his hiding place, he listened as the interahumwe slaughtered his neighbors in the nearby church. ‘The people started shouting out, ‘havyaramanna, so of so and so, you are killing us,’” Sebasore remembers. The victims knew their killers. “They would call out to their killers by name ask, ‘Why do you kill us?’”

Let’s throw in one other factor, Rwanda was 85% Christian. Christians were killing other Christians. Christians were killing fellow church members.

When a Catholic cardinal visited Rwanda on behalf of the pope in 1994, he asked the assembled church leaders, “Are you saying that the blood of tribalism is deeper than the waters of baptism?” One leader answered, “Yes, it is.”

This is the challenge. This is what the Rwandan genocide exposes for the global church to recognize. Christian expression throughout the world has too easily allowed the blood of tribalism to flow deeper than the waters of baptism.



Who are you?
Where do you find your identity?
Is your identity in Jesus Christ, or is it in something else?

As we begin a new year, this is something we really need to consider. Last year we saw people leave churches over Republican vs. Democrat, vaccinated vs. unvaccinated, masked vs. unmasked, and so much more? The church experienced division, not over Jesus Christ, but over politics. What does that tell you? Our identity is not based on Jesus Christ.

This book was written before last year; it was written in 2009. However, Emmanuel Katongole is holding up the Rwandan genocide as a mirror for the church to gaze, because we too might be heading the same direction. Where do you and I find our identity?

*But our identities are never simple reflections. All identities are formed over time and shaped by the stories we live into. This is why memory is so important. **We can never begin to imagine a new future for ourselves until we find ways to remember ourselves differently.***

*The church’s mission, then, is not so much rooted in some future that we’ve yet to achieve as it is in remembering God’s new creation, which Jesus embodied when he rose from the dead. **Our mission is to be a new community that bears witness to the fact that in Christ there is a new identity.***

We are not Steeler fans or Lion fans. We are not maskers or non-maskers. We are not Americans or Canadians or Mexicans. We are not Republicans or Democrats or Libertarians. We are not even white or black or male or female. (Gal. 3:28)

(Cont. on next page)

January Spiritual Exercise

No, Jesus is our way and our truth and our life. He is our king above any other king or ruler. He created us. He sustains us. He has saved us from our bondage to sin. He has raised us and brought us new life – a new life that lasts forever. In him we are to find our identity.

Who are you?

Where do you find your identity?

As you begin this new year, may you increasingly define yourself by your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pastor John

Who are you? Look up the following Scriptures and fill in the blank “I am God’s “_____”
John 1:12; 1 Corinthians 3:9; 6:16,20; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 1:4; 2:10; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Timothy 4:6; James 2:23.

Who are you? Look up the following Scriptures and fill in the blank, “I have been _____”
Romans 3:24; 8:1-2,15; Ephesians 1:4-11; 3:12; Colossians 1:13; 2 Timothy 1:7; 2 Peter 1:3-4; Revelation 1:5

January Prayer:

Father, in this world of confusion, remind me today that I am your child valued and treasured by you in Jesus Christ. Amen.

CHURCH BOARD

- A motion to receive the membership of Derek and Amber Ocker was approved.
- A motion was approved to add an Air Hill Membership Policy.
- Job descriptions for the Sunday School Committee and the Children’s Sunday School Superintendent were approved.
- The social distance section will continue to be available.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

It’s that time of year again. In the case of cancellations for church, please watch your email and/or check our facebook page. If you know someone that does not use email or facebook, please call them and pass along the information.

| JAN. 2022 BIBLE READING PLAN | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Psalm 1 | 14 | Psalm 14 |
| 2 | Psalm 2 | 15 | Psalm 15 |
| 3 | Psalm 3 | 16 | Psalm 16 |
| 4 | Psalm 4 | 17 | Psalm 17 |
| 5 | Psalm 5 | 18 | Psalm 18:1-24 |
| 6 | Psalm 6 | 19 | Psalm 18:25-50 |
| 7 | Psalm 7 | 20 | Psalm 19 |
| 8 | Psalm 8 | 21 | Psalm 20 |
| 9 | Psalm 9 | 22 | Psalm 21 |
| 10 | Psalm 10 | 23 | Psalm 22:1-11 |
| 11 | Psalm 11 | 24 | Psalm 22:12-31 |
| 12 | Psalm 12 | 25 | Psalm 23 |
| 13 | Psalm 13 | | |

From the Oberholzers

As we reflect upon 2021 we have a lot to be thankful for. Here are a few of the highlights from the Freedom of Nations Church and our on-going ministry work among the Navajo. Please join us in celebrating and thanking the Lord for His goodness!

- One new decision to follow Jesus
- 2 people were baptized
- Other people made recommitments in their faith journey
- We had a successful summer church campout at a nearby state park
- A new House Church formed in the Teec Nos Pos community
- Connections have been made with others; more groups are on the verge of being created
- New contacts were made and people were ministered to through Jason's role as fire Chaplain
- Our community garden had a bountiful harvest that was shared with neighbors
- Multiple prayer walks and outreach events occurred that planted seeds for the Gospel
- The Oberholser family had a successful Home Ministry trip during the month of Oct

As we plan for a new year ahead, here are some needs we anticipate having. Please join us in praying for and lifting these requests to the throne of God.

- Pray for wisdom and discernment as we set goals and lead the Freedom of Nations Church network
- For each member of our network to grow in their understanding of God, to grow in leadership and to share His love with others
- For the Lord to direct us to new individuals and families who are open and hungry for interaction with the body of Christ.
- Pray for the lingering affects of Covid-19 in the Four Corners Region. Many of our Navajo friends are still concerned about the virus and how it could impact them. Large numbers of people are being infected on a daily basis in our community. Our local hospitals are overwhelmed and understaffed.
- Pray for Jason and Bekah as we endeavor to lead and teach our children in a Godly manner. Pray for each of them to become good apprentices that learn quickly and who eagerly look for opportunities to impact their world.

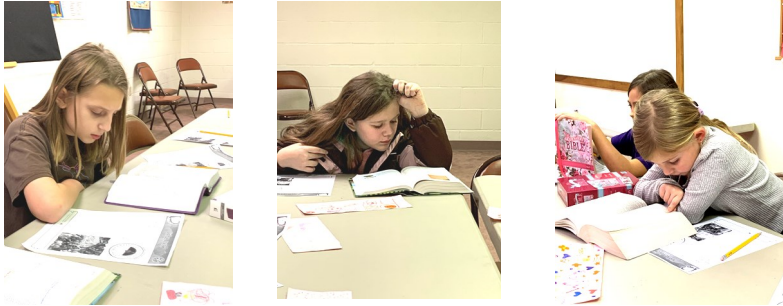
VAN PROJECT Your generous cash contributions and ongoing pledge commitments have met our fundraising goal through our current term (Aug 2023) of church planting with Brethren in Christ U.S. World Missions. With these funds secured, we have now turned our attention towards raising funds for upgrading a vehicle for ongoing ministry. A 12 passenger van will provide more options for outreach and also to meet our family's transportation needs as we continue to church plant among the Navajo. Here are three specific ways we are inviting you to participate with us in this project:



- Pray that the Lord would direct us to the right vehicle and provide the necessary finances.
- Give: We anticipate the cost of this vehicle will be over \$35,000. Before purchasing the new vehicle, we are responsible to fundraise \$24,500 toward the total cost of the vehicle. You can make a tax-deductible contribution toward this ministry project.
- We invite you to share any leads you might have for a good value on a large van. Perhaps you or someone you know has connections to the auto industry. We would be happy to explore all options, even if we need to travel to pick up vehicle.

Kingdom Kids Girls 2nd-5th Grade

Teachers Wendy Wenger and Deb Ogburn have very much enjoyed watching the girls pour into the Scriptures and study.



Our Youth Group

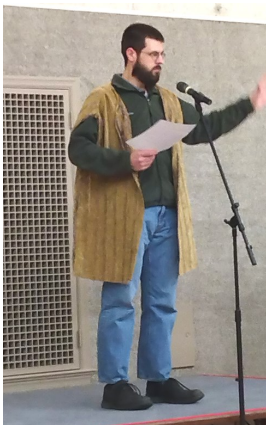
meets on Wednesday nights under the leadership of Kyle Grove.

Not only do they study the Bible, but they have lots of fun!!! Ask one of the youth what game they are playing. They also supported the Kingdom Kids by watching the Christmas Program on December 15th.



Kingdom Kids Christmas Program

Family and Friends joined our Kingdom Kids in an interactive Christmas Program complete with craft making and cookie eating.



Men's Lumberjack Breakfast

Sponsored by the Allegheny Conference Discipleship Council



January 15, 2022
Antrim BIC Church, Chambersburg
7-10 am

FREE! (registration required)

Register at:
surveymonkey.com/r/lumberjack-bfast
or call 814-623-6116

In the case of inclement weather, this event will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2022.



Join congregations across the Brethren in Christ U.S. as we pray, reflect, and seek God during the start of a new year.

This year's theme,

"Choosing to be Counter Cultural – Engaging in a Deeper Faith," invites participants to move beyond shallow Christianity and into closer discipleship with Jesus.

Devotionals for the week are on the table in back of the sanctuary.

A Sacred Assembly will be held on January 9th at Five Forks BIC Church @ 6:00 pm

 Your Soles ~ Their Souls
www.thetide.org



Help us reach our goal of 100 bags by donating your new or gently worn used shoes!

Funds raised benefit Gospel Outreach through Literacy Classes in India.

Collection begins 01.03.2022

January 3rd - Feb. 23rd

We invite you to join us for this win-win-win fundraising event!

- You get to clean out your closets
- The Tide ministry raises funds for Gospel Outreach through Literacy Classes in India
- The shoes collected benefit micro-enterprise around the world

Our goal is to fill 100 bags of 25 pairs each.

A box will be in the Narthex.



A Winter Wonderland Tea

Please note the time change.

January 22, 2022
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
Ragged Edge Inn
Chambersburg, PA
Speaker: Heidi Payne

All Ladies Welcome

Sponsored by the Allegheny Conference Discipleship Council

If you would like to go as a group contact Sandy Bender.

January

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|-----------|--|
| | | | | | | <p>1</p>  |
| <p>2</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S. 10:00 am Worship 2:00 pm Prayer on the Mountain</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise/Prayer</p> | <p>5</p> <p>6:30-7:45 pm Youth Group/Kingdom Kids</p> | <p>6</p> <p>6:30 pm Prop. Mgt. Meeting</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> <p>8-4 Gym in Use</p> |
| <p>9</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S. 10:00 am Worship</p> | <p>10</p> <p>8:30 am Ladies Sewing 7:00 pm Church Board</p> | <p>11</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise/Prayer</p> | <p>12</p> <p>2:15 Good News 6:30-7:45 pm Youth Group/Kingdom Kids</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Gym in Use</p> |
| <p>16</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S. 10:00 am Worship</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise/Prayer</p> <p>Blood Drive</p> | <p>19</p> <p>2:15 Good News 6:30-7:45 pm Youth Group/Kingdom Kids</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22</p> <p>9-1 Gym in Use</p> |
| <p>23</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S. 10:00 am Worship Council Meeting</p> | <p>24</p> <p>7:00 pm Ministry Board Meeting</p> | <p>25</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise/Prayer</p> | <p>26</p> <p>2:15 Good News 6:30-7:45 pm Youth Group/Kingdom Kids</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> |
| <p>30</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S. 10:00 am Worship</p> | <p>31</p> <p>7:00 pm Sunday School Committee Meeting</p> | | | | | |