

# HOGE HERALD

*Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church*

2023

## September

**PASTOR TOM'S – "LITTLE CORNER OF HOGE"**

**Read Matthew 25: 31-40:**

**"For one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me!"**

When I was younger, I had wild ideas about what I would do in retirement. I envisioned seeing the world, maybe an African safari, or a cruise around the world: The world would be my oyster, as I explored remote regions and have great adventures! Wow! What a vivid imagination God has blessed me with! Reality finally returned to me, as I contemplated my first move into retirement. God was putting ideas of serving our Lord, Jesus Christ in my head. I kept repeating a common phrase that played like an "ear worm" over and over. "Bloom where you are planted." So, now, I often look at my feet to find where they are planted. I looked for little ways to share God's love, while I was still working, then Jesus Christ came a knocking on my door with my retirement plan. My Lord was calling me into personal service to Him! This eventually led me to pastor our flock here at Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church in the hilltop. I had no idea how Jesus would utilize me in this ministry, but I was willing to give it to Jesus to show me the way to serve here at Hoge. When I was growing up as a kid, I used to hear my youth church leaders say that God is everywhere! And, I used to wonder – "How can God be everywhere when I cannot see God anywhere?" But, after I started looking for the signs of God, I began to experience God's presence in most of life's situations. When I lost my job, I felt God's presence, directing me into a new career path. This voice within me kept reminding me that God will provide – I just needed to provide the faith! So, I've learned over the years, when a struggle in life occurs, I look for God and Jesus to direct my path. In my struggles, I've formed the habit of rising early for meditation, prayers, and praise to our Lord, Jesus Christ. During those dark moments, God's presence and grace has become my greatest hope and refuge. I know that Jesus sees and understands my situation. See, we have this active relationship together – I pray for Christ's guidance every day and it comes.....everyday! I pray to feel God's presence everyday and it comes! Sometimes His presence is a cool breeze after a cleansing rain, and sometimes it's the smiles I see at Hoge during a food pantry day, or an HM3 worship service. God is all around us at Hoge – Can't you feel His presence? He is everywhere and we will continue to feel and experience His power in our ministry here at Hoge! September is traditionally a back-to-school month, and we here at Hoge are going to celebrate a back-to-church day here at church on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. We are inviting all our members and neighbors to join us in worship at 10:30 AM on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> in our sanctuary. See, we know that everyone feels better to fellowship in person with one another, so we can express our love for each other in Jesus Christ! I promise that this fellowship will give you the "Warm & Fuzzies!", and I also promise you will feel the presence of God as we lift up one another and our Lord, Jesus Christ in song, and scriptures, and agape Christian Love! So, come out to join us on September 17<sup>th</sup>, and feel the power of love through Jesus Christ happening right now at our church. Looking forward to seeing each of you in the pews here at Hoge, and please know you are treasured and loved by our God!

Grace and Peace!

Pastor Tom

# Special Announcements

## KEEP IN DAILY PRAYER

Please remember the following Joys and Concerns in your daily prayers.

- For Richard Kline experiencing health issues
- For Curtis Hinton, Jr. recovering from surgery
- For Jim Aiken, Bill's brother, experiencing health issues
- Bob Rector (Joy's son), experiencing health issues
- Bev Neil recovering from surgery
- Charlotte Smith recuperating from
- Natalie Alter in the loss of her friend, Joel Peck. He passed away on February 14
- Chim Mphande, Mary's son, with health issues.
- Jack Neil experiencing health issues
- Tenzin Blearsch, grandson of Jack and Bev Neil, now home for long recuperation
- Judy Isel experiencing health issues
- Barbara Mapes recovering at home
- Jim Cheadle experiencing health issues
- Jeni McGraw's son for various health challenges
- Dorothy Pemberton family member working in the health field
- Police Officers, other front line responders and our military families
- Hoge Church: support for community-based ministries.
- Our city, nation, and world leaders. Our schools, teachers and children.



Please help keep this list current. Provide the church office with prayer requests for inclusion of "Keep in Daily Prayer" sections of the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters either by phone or email

Food Pantry July Totals: Households, 97 Seniors 50, Adults 165, Children 97, Total Number of People Served 312

## Happy Birthday – September



Kylee Alter, 6; Judy Moody, 15; Veronica Martin, 17; Kevin Colborn, 25; Marion Stenner, 25;  
Charles Stenner, 26; Judy Isel, 28



Note: If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know and we will be glad to add it.

**BASEBALL IN HEAVEN?**-Two buddies Chris and John were two of the biggest baseball fans in America. For their entire adult lives, Chris and John discussed baseball history in the winter and they pored over every box score during the season. They went to 60 games a year. They even agreed that whoever died first would try to come back and tell the other if there was baseball in heaven. One summer night, Chris passed away in his sleep after watching the Yankee victory earlier in the evening. He died happy. A few nights later, his buddy John awoke to the sound of Chris's voice from beyond. "Chris is that you?" John asked. "Of course it's me," Chris replied. "This is unbelievable!" John exclaimed. "So tell me, is there baseball in heaven?" "Well I have some good news and some bad news for you. Which do you want to hear first?" "Tell me the good news first." "Well, the good news is that, yes, there is baseball in heaven, John." "Oh, that is wonderful! So what could possibly be the bad news?" "You're pitching tomorrow night."

The time of year that Keats called the '**Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness**', autumn is a season famous for its harvest times, turning leaves, cooling temperatures and darkening nights. Trees prepare for winter. The chemistry of colour, vibrant ambers, reds and yellows of autumn. The days get shorter. The word equinox comes from the Latin equi (meaning equal) and nox (meaning night) accounting for the equinox marking the time when day and night are of equal length. Autumn and Fall. We typically think of 'fall' as the North American version of the word 'autumn', but it was in fact in widespread usage in England until relatively recently. Originally a shortening of the phrase fall of the leaf, the phrase was common in England in the 17th century. The word autumn entered English from the French automne and didn't become common usage until the 18th century.

# REMI NDER

**Lay readers:** January-Mike Minch, February-Patti Gorman, March-Judy Manley, April-Mike Minch, May-Judy Manley, June-Gail Garman, July-Diana Purcell, August-Gail Garman, **September-Mike Minch**, October-Judy Manley, November-Gail Garman, December-Donna Swaneck.

*If you cannot be the lay reader for the month, contact Worship Committee*

**Communion Servers** - If you are unable to serve, please try to find a replacement and notify the worship committee.

January 1-Natalie Alter, Donna Swaneck, Diana Purcell, Joy Rector

February 5-Susan Barrett, Jack Neil & Bev, Patti Gorman, Gail Garman,

March 5-Charlotte Smith, Mike Minch, Diana Purcell

April 2-, Donna Swaneck, Gail Garman, Patti Gorman

May 7-Natalie Alter, Joy Rector, Jack Neil, Bev Neil

June 4-Susan Barrett, Gail Garman,

July 2 - Mike Minch, Donna Swaneck, Gail Garman

August 6-Patti Gorman, Joy Rector, Diana Purcell, Natalie Alter, Bev Neil

**September 3- Jack Neil, Gail Garman, Susan Barrett**

October 1- Mike Minch, Diana Purcell

November 5- Natalie Alter, Joy Rector, Patti Gorman, Bev & Jack Neil, Gail Garman

December 3-Gail Garman, Mike Minch. Susan Barrett, Charlotte Smith, Ann Adair

December 24-Donna Swaneck, Diana Purcell, Debbie Peters, Bev Neil

**Schedule of Ushers:** If you would like to usher, please contact Gail Garman

Usher Team #1 (Jan, April, July, Oct.) Jack Neil, Bev Neil

Usher Team #2 (February, May, August and November): Mike Minch, Judy Manley

**Usher Team #3 (March, June, Sept, Dec): Mike Purcell, Diana Purcell, Jim Cheadle**

**Worship Committee** This is the schedule for the fellowship hour on the second Sundays:

January-Finance and Facilities; February-Session; March-Outreach/Worship/Christian Ed; April-TBA; May-TBA;

June - Session; July - Finance and Facilities; August- Ushers; **September- Outreach/Worship/Christian Ed;** October-

Regular Session Meeting. July 17, 2023. Clerks' Report – Diana Purcell. Communion was served to (27) on July 2 and HM3 on July 1, 2023. **Moderators/Pastoral Care Report:** In person visits were made to Dave & Carolyn Colborn, Judy & Dan Isel, Rev Ed Sensenbrenner, Joby Whitehead. Phone calls to Ron & Diane Line, Dorothy Pemberton, Charlotte Smith, Jerry Fetherolf, Fred & Barbara Mapes, Daniel Katsckene. **Treasurer's Report** – Patti Gorman-Conrardy: No Actual Report available. Bills are being paid. Final Payment Was made on the Flat Roof. Financials were available at Finance & Facility meeting on July 1, 2023, at Mike & Diana Purcell. Financials through the End of June: Total Revenue-Operating \$9,303.82, Total Expenditures-Operating \$(25,691.50), Operating (Deficit) Surplus \$ (16,387.68). **Committee Reports: Worship/ Outreach/Christian Ed:** Ministers to preach in July: July 2- Rev Samuel Monte, July 9- Peggy Holcomb, July 16- Pastor Tom Billman, July 23- Rev Marion Stenner, July 30-Rev Susan W. Smith. We have Three Sundays Still not covered for preaching. They are October 8 & 29 and December 31. Hispanic church has started their Services on Sunday's afternoon. Stated they wanted to pay \$500.00 a month. They are interested in doing a Deep cleaning project and worked in the Sanctuary Dusting, running Sweeper Etc. **HM3:** Open Saturdays for HM3 meals in 2023 are December 9 and December 23. Need to work on Songbook. Handouts to make sure all songs are included, and everyone can participate and not feel left out. Darryl from the Buckeye Clinic came on Saturday and helped with the drinks, wrapped silverware, and cleaned tables. His plan is to continue to come every week. **Out of the Box Community Theatre:** There will be performances on October 13,14,15,20,21 and 22 of "Hounds of the Baskerville". There will also be a Christmas Radio show in December. Dates to follow. **Finance, Facilities, and Stewardship** – Jack Neil / Mike Purcell: Committee met on Saturday July 1, 2023 Mike and Diana's. Items discussed: Stanley Edwards (Retired Licensed Electrician) going to look at Light on Roof so it can shine on Windows in Sanctuary. Approved by motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, moved. Patti wants to Purchase more Artic Air Towers and small ones for the Various meeting rooms and Sanctuary. Approved with motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, moved. Going to Contact ADT about installing outside cameras and possibly reducing our monthly payment. Approved with motion, 2<sup>nd</sup>, moved. Wedding still on for August 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Rehearsal and Set up on Saturday August 26 during HM3. Tom & Jack met with Mark Diemer Lutheran Pastor with Church of God who is working with Hispanic Pastor Who wants to hold church services on Sunday, Bible Study temporary until October. Wants to use church on First Sunday all day 8-12. Asking for donation of \$200.00 for July, August, September. Tabled having Air Conditioning Installed. Going to try other options with Artic Air Coolers. Security System was updated on July 17, 2023. Doors have new Sensors and shows who Arms and Disarms the System. **Nominating:** - Natalie Alter- No Report. **Personnel:**- Natalie Alter/Judy Manley – Committee met on Tuesday 7/18 with Paul in Tom's office to discuss His 90-day review. (continued on page 4)

# Notes and Photos

**Deacons:** June Food Pantry: Served 88 Families Susan, reported she visited Dave & Carolyn Colborn Dave had surgery on his eyelid. Donna & Susan have been working on flower beds. Donna and Maddy working on project for the food Pantry to bring in can goods or shelf staples. **Presbytery of Scioto Valley/Cap City Helping Hands:** Natalie going to Condit Presbyterian in Sunbury to vote Samuel Monte as pastor. Rev Wayne Morrison will be present as the Interim Pastor. **Old Business:** Nothing to Repor. **New Business:** Rehearsals have started for the Harmony Project to be held on October 19, 2023, and Tom stated. He can only miss one rehearsal. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next Session Meeting: August 14, 2023, at 7:00 pm. Respectfully: Diana L Purcell, Clerk of Session

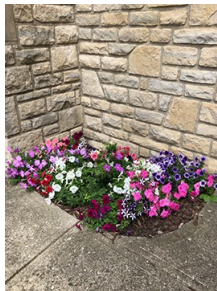
**Back to Church Sunday!** The Deacons are sponsoring "Back to Church Sunday" on Sunday September 17 th . We hear a lot about going back to school and decided to set aside a Sunday to focus on going back to church. Please plan to be at Hoge on Sunday September 17 th , and then hopefully on a regular basis after that. We gain a lot of strength from gathering together for worship each week. Hoge helped Stuff the Bus with school supplies. Let's likewise fill the pews to worship as summer comes to a close! Immediately following the worship service, there will be a special fellowship hour with refreshments in the parlor. See you then!

**First Food Pantry Sunday**—August 6, 2023 Our first food pantry Sunday was a big success! Many people put food in the food pantry box when they came to church. When it was time to go to Sunday School, Maddy and I took all the food that was placed in and around the food pantry box to the Children's Room. For the first part of Sunday School, we sorted and counted all the food. Here is what the congregation donated: One 12-pack of Ramen noodles, Two 6-packs of Ramen noodles, 5 big cans of Chunky Soup, 3 cans of corn, 1 can of baked beans, 1 big can of beef ravioli, 3 cans of cream of mushroom soup, 1 can of cannellini beans, 1 can of Skettio's and Beef, 1 jar of peanut butter, 1 can of chick peas, 2 cans of tuna. Maddy said, "I am so happy we got all of this food." Then we walked down to the food pantry, and she found all the various places on our shelves to put the donated food. Food Pantry Sunday is the first Sunday of each month. The next one is Sunday September 3 rd . Donna Swaneck

Kids on the parking lot as summer ends



Two of our flower beds



Tucking pointing being completed



# Messages

From Rev. Keith Jones' blog

Mark 4:10-13

The Purpose of the Parables - 10 And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. 11 And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, 12 so that "they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven." 13 And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?"

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I could never see the pictures in those Magic Eye books. I tried -- I read the instructions and held the books at the right distance and tried to focus my eyes... but it never worked. Not once. It was right in front of my face, but I never could see through the picture to what was beyond.

Sometimes, it seems like Jesus was painting pictures with words that were like the Magic Eye. There was a story, but there was another story behind it, and you had to listen with your ears and with your heart to truly understand what Jesus was trying to say. He was painting a picture of a God of grace and glory, but it was so easy to be focused on what we've always known and miss the new story Jesus was telling.

We're often in the same boat today. We think we know everything, and so we listen with our ears, but our hearts and attention may be drifting elsewhere. We're focused on the next thousand things we have to do, and we're not really expecting God to say anything new anyway, so we float along.

May the Holy Spirit wake each of us up, and may we spend our time wisely with God. God wants us, body and soul, to be focused on the mercies of God, which are new every morning. May we be amazed and delighted, refreshed and renewed, and discover that the more of God we receive, the more we want.

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Mark 3:22-30

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit - 22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." 23 And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. 27 But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

28 "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— 30 for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

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Sometimes, when you decide you don't like someone, you'll come up with any argument to put them in a bad light. Every once in a while, you haven't thought it all the way through because you're angry, so you just say the first thing that comes to your mind and hope no one picks it apart. Usually, we get away with this -- I feel like we're not a society that delves deeply into arguments anyway. We tend to accept whatever is presented at face value, which is an entirely different problem for another day.

The Pharisees are doing this with Jesus -- they're mad at him, so they pick up whatever objection comes to mind first.

Only Jesus has time to delve deeply into things. He can pick apart the flaws in their logic. He can ask hard questions.


When we come to Jesus, we need to be prepared to think, to be challenged, to study, to learn. Jesus asks much of us -- all of our hearts, minds, and bodies. However we come, we are then challenged to build a foundation of faith, to grow, day by day, to learn. Sometimes, it can be tough, and we want something easier, but Jesus is building us into people that will live forever. Of course that's hard! It's supposed to be!

So let us engage with all of heart, mind, and strength, and Jesus will build us up, not tear us down. In our churches and communities, may we also be the kind of people that build one another up!



MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

# September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>Use of left over coffee grounds: <b>Composting</b>-Nitrogen-heavy coffee is a perfect supplement to any at-home compost bin and it's proven by science that a grounds-based compost is actually richer in nutrients than one made with food scraps alone (and also more environmentally-friendly). <b>Cleaning Pots And Pans</b>-Coffee grounds are a natural abrasive and can be added to any dish soap and water combo to scrub away pesky scum and food stains. But do not use those grounds on anything *too* delicate, or it can permanently scratch the surface. <b>Keeping Away Pests</b>-The alluring smell of a fresh cup of joe does not have the same effect on insects and pests like snails and slugs. In fact, they downright hate it. Set out bowls of coffee grounds among your outdoor seating areas to prevent ants, mosquitoes, fruit flies, and squirmy critters from crashing your barbecue. (continued at the bottom of this page.)</p>		
<p>3 8:00am IDDN Esperanza Fasting 8:30am AA 9 :30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/Tom Billman Piano Recital 12:30pm Iglesia De Dios Nueva Esperanza Worship 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>4 7:30pm NA</p> 	<p>5 6:00pm AA 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>
<p>10 8:30am AA 10:30am Worship w/Peggy Holcomb, CRE 11:30am Donut Fellowship 12:30pm Iglesia De Dios Nueva Esperanza Worship 7:00pm AA Meeting</p> <p><i>Grandparents Day</i></p>	<p>11 7:30pm NA</p>	<p>12 6:00pm AA 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>
<p>17 8:30am AA 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/Tom Billman 12:00pm Area 53 12:30pm Iglesia De Dios Nueva Esperanza Worship 7:00pm AA Meeting</p> <p><i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <i>Happy Birthday Veronica Martin</i></p>	<p>18 7:00pm Session 7:30pm NA</p>	<p>19 12:00pm Food Pantry 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Session 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>
<p>24 8:30am AA 10:30am Worship w/Mike Minch 12:30pm Iglesia De Dios Nueva Esperanza Worship 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>25 7:30pm NA</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Kevin Colborn</i> <i>Happy Birthday Marion Stenner</i></p>	<p>26 2:00pm Food Pantry 6:00pm AA 8:00pm NA Meeting</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Charles Stenner</i></p>
<p><b>Whipping Up Body Scrub</b>-Rub a dub dub, coffee grounds make a good scrub. Half cup of used coffee grounds, Quarter cup of any body-friendly moisturizing oil like coconut or olive, Splash of fragrance from either citrus, herbs, or essential oils. Combine used coffee grounds, moisturizing oil, and a splash of fragrance together. Safely rub homemade mixture into your skin when showering, and voila — dead skin doesn't stand a chance against this dermis-friendly concoction. <b>Removing Hair Impurities</b>-If you suffer from excess hair build-up, dullness, or thinning, it's time to wake up those follicles with caffeine-packed coffee grounds that can be massaged into the scalp to promote luster and thickness. Blondes, beware: The grounds do not dye lighter shades, so don't leave them in your hair for too long. (cont. on pg 7)</p>		

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>GARLIC GREEN BEANS-1½ Tbsp. minced garlic, 3 Tbsp. oil, 6 cans green beans (not French cut), 1 chicken bouillon cube (dissolved in ¾ cup hot water), 1 tsp. sugar, 1½ tsp. salt (maybe less), ½ tsp. pepper. Sautee garlic in hot oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add beans. Add remaining ingredients. Cover, reduce heat, Cook 20 minutes. Montgomery PC, Montgomery OH</p> 		<p>1 6:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>2 5:00pm HM<sup>3</sup>—Robin 6:00pm AA</p>
<p>6 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:00pm IDDN Esperanza Bible Study 7:30pm Choir 8:00pm NA Meeting <i>Happy Birthday Kylee Alter</i></p>	<p>7 7:00pm Outreach/Worship/Christian Ed. 7:00pm Girl Scout Leaders</p>	<p>8 6:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>9 5:00pm HM<sup>3</sup>—Grace 6:00pm AA</p>
<p>13 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:00pm IDDN Esperanza Bible Study 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 6:00pm AA Meeting <i>Happy Birthday Judy Moody</i></p>	<p>16 5:00pm HM<sup>3</sup>-Covenant 6:00pm AA 7:00pm IDDN Esperanza Nightly Vigil</p>
<p>20 12:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:00pm IDDN Esperanza Bible Study 7:30pm Choir 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9:00am Newsletter prep 6:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>23 5:00pm HM<sup>3</sup>- Condit 6:00pm AA</p> 
<p>27 12:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:00pm IDDN Esperanza Bible Study 8:00pm NA Meeting</p>	<p>28 <i>Happy Birthday Judy Isel</i></p>	<p>29 6:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>30 5:00pm HM<sup>3</sup>- Condit 6:00pm AA</p>

**Tenderizing Meat**-It can also impart a wonderfully earthy and rich flavor. Simply coat your protein an hour or two before cooking to yield tender, juicy bites. **Acting As An Odor Neutralizer**-We know about the wonders of baking soda as an odor neutralizer, but coffee grounds work just as effectively and will even leave behind the invigorating aroma of being in your favorite cafe. Toss a handful of grounds into a small bowl and set it anywhere in need of a quick refresh. **Repairing Furniture**- Wet coffee grounds, when applied delicately with a Q-tip and left to sit for a few minutes, can actually repair and conceal these imperfections once scrubbed away with a rag. **Treating Bags Under Your Eyes**- Caffeine is one of the most sought-after ingredients for any under-eye cream or roller and coffee grounds are obviously chock-full of it. Two teaspoons of coffee grounds, Half tablespoon of honey or egg whites. Mix grounds with honey or egg whites. Pat the mixture directly under your eyes and allow it to sit for about 10 to 15 minutes. Wipe it away with cold water and proceed with your typical morning skincare regimen.

**HOGUE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**2930 WEST BROAD STREET**

**COLUMBUS, OHIO 43204**

**PHONE: 614-276-5433**

**FAX: 614-276-5434**

**Email: [hogemempresbchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hogemempresbchurch@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.hogemempresby.org](http://www.hogemempresby.org)**

<https://www.facebook.com/hogemempresbchurch/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HM3-297321510385768/>

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/r>

**Hogue Memorial Church Staff**

**Head of Staff: Jesus Christ**

**Sexton, Paul Russell**

**Organist, Phil Leston**

**Pastor, Thomas (Tom) A. Billman**

**Various Committee Heads**

**Various Volunteer Office Staff**

**Heads of Various Programs and**

**community service groups**

**Food Pantry, HM3, AA and NA**

**groups, Girl Scouts, Urban Minis-**

**tries, Members of Out of the Box**

**Community Theatre**

*Feeding the Community Physically & Spiritually*

**Inside this issue**

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