



HICKSUMC.ORG

1211 THIRD AVENUE, PO BOX 389 DUNCANVILLE, PA 16635

April 2024

Romans

"Paul's letter to the Romans is a kind of Christian manifesto. . . a manifesto of freedom through Jesus Christ. It is the fullest, plainest and grandest statement of the gospel in the New Testament. Its message is. . . that human beings are born in sin and slavery, but that Jesus Christ came to set us free."

John Stott, *Romans*

There is nothing like Romans. It is majestic and poetic in one moment and in the next it hits in the gut with its insight and practicality. Its impact on the church and world history cannot be overstated. It was Romans that convicted and moved Martin Luther to proclaim that we are justified by grace through faith in Christ. This doctrine was the trumpet of call of the Reformation. For this reason, among others, William Barclay says there is no Protestant theology (or Protestant Church) without the letter to the Romans.

Romans fueled the Reformation in direct line from Luther to Calvin and Zwingli. Romans also played a significant role in the life of a later Reformer by the name of John Wesley. Wesley and his brother, Charles, had been religious young men and engaged in impressive activities of study and piety. But John's heart (and soul?) remained restless and doubting, even as he continued to do missionary work for the Lord. He was in London one May day in 1738. He had just returned from a mission trip to Georgia, which he felt a failure. That evening he went to a Moravian (church) meeting on Aldersgate Street. He later wrote in his journal that he went "very unwillingly". Someone was reading Luther's preface (yes, that Luther) to the Romans. (continued page 2)

Then this happened:

At about a quarter before nine, when he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

John Wesley was changed forever and the Methodist movement was born. Such was the power of the letter to the Romans that by *merely reading an introductory preface* a man's life was changed. We Methodists owe a great deal to Romans.

In April and May we are going to teach from this “manifesto of freedom through Christ.” There is so much to learn, so much information to gain. But more than that, my prayer is that God would move our hearts and souls to salvation, reformation, and revival as He has done so often before.

Make it an appointment with God to be in worship to learn from this letter. Whether you come eagerly, or “very unwillingly” – doesn't matter – just come.

In Christ,

Rich



Children's Ministry News

Safe Sanctuary and Emergency Response Training Meeting

Monday, April 22nd at 6:30 PM

We are committed to making sure our church is as safe as possible as we minister & serve. If you volunteer with children, youth, or vulnerable adults, this meeting is a definite priority. We will be reviewing our Safe Sanctuary Policy & Emergency Response Plans. All are welcome to attend. Contact laura@hickschurch.org for more details.

Vacation Bible School is coming

June 10th-14th 6 – 8:15PM

Sign- up to volunteer at the VBS table in the chapel or at hickschurch.org

Check out our donation options at the table. Grab a fish & help us impact our kids & community.

A Great Big Thank You to all who helped our kids bring Jesus' story to life through the Children's Easter Musical. Your love and support blessed us as the children lifted their praises to the Lord.

Youth Group Activities

Important Dates

April 6th Volunteering at ARC 11:30-1:30

April 7th No Youth Group

April 14th Worship Night at Journey Church 6-8PM

April 21st No Youth Group

April 24th Combined Youth Group Zion Lutheran Church time TBD

Upcoming Activities

Worship Night

April 14th HYF will be participating in a combined worship night with a number of other youth groups in the Hollidaysburg Area. This will be a great chance for our teens to see peers that they may not have realized believe in Jesus. This also gives our teens a chance to worship with peers around their own age. Worship Night is from 6-8 PM at Journey Church in Hollidaysburg. Teens wanting to attend should drop-off/pick-up their kids at the church.

Combined Youth Group

On Wednesday April 24th we will be participating in a combined youth group with Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg. Parents will drop off/pick up their kids at Zion. The time of the Youth Group will be announced at a later time.

Mark your Calendars

Sunday May 19th is the Baccalaureate Service for all graduating seniors at HAHS. The service starts at 7pm in the high school auditorium. If you are a graduating senior, or a parent of a graduating senior I encourage you and your family to attend this service. Hicks's own Pastor Allyce will be our speaker this year. .

Thank You

Special shout-out to all the youth that participated in the Good Friday Service this year. We had several members of our congregation share how much they enjoyed the powerful symbolism that was displayed during that service.

Church Pictures

We are doing a New Church Picture Directory! Its time to update so that we can include all of our wonderful new people. This is for everyone (you don't have to be a member). We have scheduled picture days for May 5th, May 6th, and May 7th. Look for signups at church very soon. You can also contact the church office to sign up for your time slot. Our photographer is our own Lyndsay Link. Lyndsay does a great job and will work with you for a good picture. Everyone who gets their picture taken will get a free directory.

Thank you

Young life: Thank you for your support of Young Life. Our mission is to Introduce kids to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith. Once kids decide to follow Christ, we encourage them to get involved with a local Church. Thank you for partnering with us as we strive to further the Kingdom together. We appreciate your kindness.

Blair Regional YMCA: We want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your generous donation to our Red Envelope Campaign. Your support plays a crucial role in helping "Build a Better Us" in the community that we serve. Thanks to your contribution, we are achieving our mission and making a positive impact. Your generosity not only makes a difference but also serves as a beacon of hope for those who benefit from our programs and services.

The Sierra Leone Initiative: Thank you for your support of the ministry of paying the salaries of the Pastors of the Sierra Leone Conference of Sierra Leone, Africa.

Night of Worship

On the 3rd Saturday of the month, members of the Duncansville community gather at Coffee on 3rd for a Night of Worship. Join us this month on Saturday, April 20th at 7:00 P.M. for a time of fellowship, good coffee, teaching, and worship. The vision of Night of Worship is to have the opportunity to worship with community members we would not otherwise get to interact with in a typical Sunday morning worship setting. We also hope to attract individuals seeking a church home. Those attending from our church are encouraged to invite a friend (or five)!



WOMEN IN FAITH LUNCHEON

WOMEN IN FAITH met March 20 and following a delicious luncheon and a brief business meeting, Donna Fruth presented an inspirational message called Dreams. Then the ladies were shown how to fold and cut a piece of paper to make a cross. On the back of the cross they were to write words that come to mind when you see a cross. Also everyone was given a stick

cross with the message "May my Life reflect God's love."



Easter eggs were then filled for Evergreen Manor.

The Women in Faith are now self governing and will be exploring and supporting ministries in the area and around the world. April 17, Melanie DePetro will speak on the Homeless and in May Sonia Keiper will share information on UMCOR. They voted to give \$100 to a recent fire victim. They will also expand their card ministry to include family members in the military. BE SURE TO SUBMIT to Sonia Keiper or the church office the name and address of your military member along with their birthday.

All women are welcome to attend Wednesday, April 17 at noon in the social hall. The members provide a pot-lunch meal to share with any guests. In March there were four guests from the Presbyterian Village and a total of 20 women present.

If you have a question, call Donna Fruth, president @ 814-695-6236

Come give us a try **Wednesday, April 17 at noon.**



Cameron Dick	April 1	Adam Guise	May 8
Beth Geist	April 1	Rachel Monahan	May 8
Pam Robison	April 2	Gene Malone	May 8
Ann Kelly	April 2	Josef Brannock	May 10
Cathy Baird	April 3	Tim Cherry	May 10
Steven Dodson	April 3	Phyllis Grannas	May 10
Abigal Bell	April 8	Esther Potter	May 10
Brian Webb	April 9	Katie Casanova	May 11
Barbara Webb	April 10	Jordan Dick	May 11
Amy Garman-Hall	April 11	John Hartsock	May 11
Donna Bon	April 12	Brian Bell	May 12
Sarah Zelem	April 13	Barabra George	May 12
Marcia Bathurst	April 14	Ken Moritz	May 12
Joan Hartsock	April 16	Jayden Pooley	May 13
Sawyer Robison	April 16	Anthony Destefano	May 15
Susie Ridenour	April 17	Brooklyn Nelson	May 18
Leo Fanelli	April 19	Kay Dunkle	May 19
Luca Fanelli	April 19	Dennis Ridenour	May 19
Mark Pehinec	April 19	Meredith Smith	May 19
Rich Morris	April 19	Addison Smith	May 19
Kimberly Morris	April 22	Claudia Shaw	May 21
Logan Kantoski	April 26	Tim O'Brien	May 21
Brian Fleck	April 29	Todd Wallace	May 23
Debra Oppel	April 30	Carole Graffius	May 24
Nolan Sell	May 1	Orphi Hartman	May 24
Elizabeth Wallace	May 1	Kaitlynn Sell	May 24
Shirley Geiger	May 3	Cory Hartman	May 27
Noah Wallace	May 4	Melaine Depetro	May 28
Heather Destefano	May 5	Brantly Ackinclose	May 28
Donna Imler	May 6	Justin Magnetti	May 28
Makayla Koelle	May 6	Jeremy Magnetti	May 28

Church Directory Information

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Numbers: _____

Emails: _____

Your Birthday: _____ Spouse Birthday: _____ Wedding Anniversary: _____

Children's Names & Birthdates

May we put your information in the public church directory?

Yes ___ No ___ Yes, but only a portion of my information _____

If we acquire any photographs from church events with you or your family members, may we have your permission to publish them to our website or social media pages?

Yes ___ No ___

**** If you have already filled this form out, you DO NOT need to fill it out again.**

Hicks Memorial Methodist Church Staff

- Rev. Rich Morris, Senior Pastor
- Allyce Logue, Associate Pastor
- Cathy Baird, Sexton
- Bob Baird, Building Superintendent
- Laura Wallace, Children's Ministry Coordinator
- Kathy Ozio, Financial Secretary
- Chelsey Dick, Church Secretary & Nursery Coordinator
- Heidi Fogle, Treasurer
- Jason Garman, Youth Director
- Elaine Mallory, Organist
- Jeremy Ross, Technology
- Jean Rupp, Choir Director

Hicks Memorial Methodist Church
1211 Third Ave., PO Box 384
Duncansville, PA 16635
(814) 695-8529
office@hickschurch.org
www.hickschurch.org

Building Communities of Devoted Followers of Jesus.