



# Otterbein United Methodist Church

Charleston, Illinois

## THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

JUNE 2015

---

---

### PASTOR'S PERUSALS

By **Chuck Trent**

CHUCKIN ALONG FOR THE LORD

AS WE PREPARE TO HEAD TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE YET AGAIN it is with a great deal of humility that I thankfully realize that this year I will be listed as “retired,” even as I prepare to take up the ¼ time Oakland UMC charge which, when added to the ¾ time charge of Charleston Otterbein UMC, must, mathematically at least, make me full time. So, I am full time BUT retired. These are only words anyway.

THIS MAKES ME THINK OF THE WAY WE USE WORDS. Often we will use words the way we want them to be used for our purposes, regardless of their true meaning. A great word that I learned while playing Lincoln at “Our American Cousin,” was “Absquatulate.” This term originally meant “to sit, be still.” Note the “squat,” in the middle of it. But thanks in large part to plays such as, “American Cousin,” it became used in the completely opposite term, “to move quickly,” “to leave.”

A HEALTHY LANGUAGE does have words which change meaning over time. “Awful,” used to mean the same as “Awesome,” two or three centuries ago. It was a totally positive term, which became the exact opposite in use over time. There are dozens of examples of word such as these in the English language.

CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT and knowing when to embrace it and when to reject it is a constant dilemma for Christians especially. In **Isaiah 5:20** we are told, “Woe to those who call **evil good** and **good evil**, who put darkness for light and light for darkness,…” and this makes us wonder, just what is good and what is evil? Today it can be hard to tell.

THIS IS WHY CONSTANT STUDY AND PRAYER, are so important. This is why we need to cling to every word of sermons and bible studies, seeking God’s discernment for the truth, and how we fit into it in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The message of the Bible does not change, but we change in our understanding of the message, because our understanding is always incomplete, no matter how much we learn.

SO STAY ON THE JOURNEY THIS SUMMER, be with us, or in church SOMEWHERE, every weekend. Bring us bulletins from where you have worshiped while out of town. And trust the Lord to guide and direct your learning every day.

Praise the Lord always,

*Chuck*

# LAY LEADER'S LINE

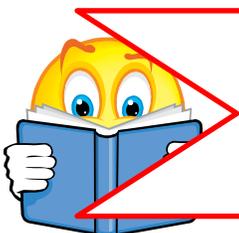
**Butch Hackett**

This month will be a difficult month for my family and I as it will be the first Father's Day and my father's first birthday since he went to be with the Lord. It's hard to imagine that the month of June in future years will be an easier, either. He was a man with a hard rough exterior that seldom displayed any emotion. Although if I had to pick an emotion that I witnessed the most throughout his life, it would be anger. Not only witnessed it, but occasionally experienced the result of it! I attribute the development of his demeanor to a lifetime of experiences that not many of us will encounter the totality of in our lifetime. Being raised by a strict stern father without a mother (from childhood through adolescence), being placed on the frontlines of combat in Korea at the age of 19, providing for a wife and four sons (three of which were a handful –of course not me), and out-living 2 of the sons would have an impact on any person. So, I learned early in life to watch what my father did, not so much of what he said. He was the first to teach me that "actions speak louder than words!" Whether it was donating time and money to the church and others in need; giving of his time to local civic organizations; being an officer at the VFW; spear-heading the Community Thanksgiving Dinner; picking up his 10 year old grand-daughter to take to breakfast every Saturday; or simply making sure the birds, squirrels, and rabbits in his yard had plenty to eat. This, to me, was his true nature. He didn't speak a lot, but usually when he did, a person could tell that it was well thought out in his mind. I am thankful that I was able to glean valuable wisdom from him during his life.

I know we are taught as Christians that we all will die and will be with Christ in our wonderful, heavenly, eternal home where there will be no pain or sadness. However, this still doesn't make it any easier for those of us who remain on earth. Daily reminders of Dad still cause me to shed an occasional tear because of the ache and pain I am carrying in my heart. Prayer, meditation, and time will ease some of the pain, but I'm not sure I want it to end. This may seem a little odd, but I had an epiphany or what some might call a "wow-moment" during the first month after dad passed away. During my daily devotional time, I came across the following passage, *:[To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness....."* ] 2 Corinthians 12:7-9.

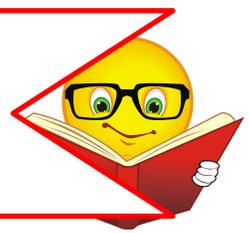
While pondering this passage, I was able to accept the heartache and turn it into a reminder. Rather than letting the ache bring me down, I will make a choice to accept the ache as a reminder that dad (and Christ) are with me constantly to give me guidance, strength, and endurance to finish this life-race. Hopefully by following the wisdom and life examples of both my earthly father and Heavenly Father, I can leave a worthwhile legacy to those I have had the pleasure of knowing, or will come to know in the future>

(Still) In His Grip, Butch



## **Thought for the Day**

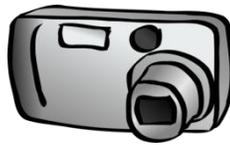
When we die we leave behind us all that we have and take with us all that we are.



# Picture Page



In case you missed it, **Ian Skyler McDaniel (top) & Deece Wallace Schwartz (bottom)** became the newest members of OUMC Pentecost Sunday when they were confirmed into full membership. Be sure to congratulate Ian & Deece and welcome them into our community of faith.



## **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING – April 30, 2015**

**Attendance:** Jane Cox, Carolyn & Jim Craig, Butch Hackett, Jim Hackett, Bill Harrison, Joan Johns, Jerry Payne, Becky Rice, Randy Rice, and Pastor Chuck Trent.

The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Craig at 6:30 pm, and she opened with a devotional reading from "The Way", by Adam Hamilton. Pastor Chuck Trent also presented some devotional insights, and an opening prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting, 4/19/15, were read and approved.

**Committee Reports: Finance, Jane Cox** – Report attached to Minutes. Highlights from the report:

- Savings due to the two-point charge arrangement between the Otterbein UMC and the Oakland UMC, starting in July, will be \$5,511.20.
- Wayne Cox is working with a couple of different companies for quotes regarding replacement of the sound system that has gone bad. Once he receives firm quotes, this matter will be turned over to the Trustees for a decision.

**Trustees, Jim Hackett** – Jim Hackett has come on new as Chair of the Trustees. They have had no meetings yet. However, a matter of immediate need was reported:

- The church was broken into on 4/27/15 through a broken window in the sanctuary. Replacement glass will cost approximately \$300. The locks on the church and parsonage doors are also being changed since Otterbein's key box was tampered with.

**Pastor Parish Relations, Jerry Payne** – Report attached to Minutes. Highlights from the report:

- PPRC has met with Pastor Chuck Trent to review how things are going for him and for Otterbein. They will continue to meet for periodic reviews.
- The District Superintendent has met with the PPRC and with the pastor to discuss a 2-pt charge with the Oakland UMC, effective July 1, 2015. Oakland's services start at 8 am, so Otterbein is being asked to consider starting at 9:30 am to give the pastor time to drive from Oakland to Charleston for Otterbein's services. This proposal was presented to the congregation on April 19<sup>th</sup>, and again on April 26<sup>th</sup>, and a vote will be taken after the worship services on May 3, 2015.

**Nurture, Joan Johns** – Report attached to Minutes. Highlights from the report:

- They have met to discuss Lenten matters, fellowship time between services, summer camps, VBS and the possibility of another church joining us (possibly the Oakland UMC), and establishing acolyte guidelines with older ones coaching the younger ones.
- Also mentioned was an idea regarding offering special occasions for us to get together on more of a social level. One suggestion mentioned recently is to offer a Sunday evening vespers, at people's houses or at the church, approximately once/month throughout the summer. Perhaps at a vesper's service in July, we can invite the Oakland UMC to join us. The idea is to offer some type of inspirational reading or thoughts, and then to enjoy an evening of fellowship and relaxation together.
- Upcoming discussion: 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade plans. Butch Hackett said this is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Red, White and Blue Days. There's to be a traveling Vietnam War Wall at the occasion this year.

**Other Reports:**

**Family Night, w/Pastor Chuck Trent, Jane Cox, & Sean Hackett**

- They will be finishing up their season at the end of May, using "The Way", an excellent Adam Hamilton series for children, youth and adults.
- Jane is asking for more volunteers to help furnish a meal on Weds nights through May.

**Youth, w/Sean Hackett, No report**

- The pastor reported that he had been working with Sean to try to come up with a more locally organized mission trip for the youth this summer.
- There was mention of trying a "Backyard Mission" event, helping with needs in our own community, but making it like a mission trip by staying at the church, etc. This would be a bit more intense with the organization and planning details however.

**Church Camp, w/Lisa McDaniel** – Report attached to Minutes. Highlights of her report:

- 9 children/youth will be attending church camps this summer: Keridwen McDaniel, Debra Bircher, Ian McDaniel, Tyvon Smallhorn, Omarion Smallhorn, Drew Schwartz, Zoey Smyser Jade Smyser, and Kayla Donley, at a total cost of \$2,200.00
- A goal for 2016 is to raise enough funds (through fundraising or donations) to cover half the cost of sending all children/youth to camp in 2016.

### **Old Business:**

**Charge Conference 2015 Official Roll** – The Minutes of a meeting of Nominations Committee, on April 28, 2015, to complete the 2015 Charge Conference paperwork was reported by Bill Harrison, and is attached hereto. Highlights from that report are:

- Jim Hackett, named as Board of Trustees Chairperson
- Butch Hackett, named as Nominations/Leadership Development Vice-Chairperson
- Jim Craig, named as Lay Member of Annual Conference
- Betty Potts, named as Alternate Member of Annual Conference (but has since declined that position, so an Alternate is still needed)
- Jim Craig, named as (Lay Servant) Witness Ministries Representative
- Sean Hackett, named as UMYF Youth Leader, and Coordinator of Camping
- Dorothy Cox & Lisa McDaniel, named as Co-Church School Superintendents.
- Larry McGrath, named to complete the term of Harold Hackett, deceased on the Board of Trustees
- Melody McGrath, named to replace Lisa McDaniel on the Committee on Nominations & Leadership Development through 2017
- Sandy Smallhorn, added to the Trustees, since she is the Janitor of the Church and can see more immediate needs. Any future Janitors should be on the Trustees.

A motion was made by Jerry Payne, and seconded by Joan Johns, to accept the updated Report to include the withdrawal of Betty Potts as Alternate Delegate to Annual Conference. Motion approved. Updated list to be made available to the congregation by May 3, 2015

### **New Business:**

**Grief Support Group** – Mention was made that in light of so many deaths and losses this year at Otterbein and in the community that perhaps a grief support group could be a good thing. The pastor and his wife, Linda, have looked as one resource (a Grief Kit study) that was made available for their review. However, the pastor stated that it was labor intensive. Likely this is not the level of grief support, fellowship and encouragement that we are looking for.

**Donor Request** – A donor of a griddle that fits over the burners of the stove, as well as a Keurig coffeemaker, both items of which are not being used by the church, has asked if she might reclaim them. A motion was made by Jerry Payne, and seconded by Butch Hackett for the donor to reclaim the griddle and coffeemaker. Motion approved.

**Summer Sunday School** – A question was raised regarding whether Otterbein will hold Sunday School classes during the summer months. Butch Hackett and Jane Cox, expressed they would like the summer break. The new S. S. Superintendents will make the call when the summer season break will start/end. Also, Dorothy Cox will be handling the Sunday morning details of this position. She will need updated attendance sheets, to start in May, 2015.

**Membership Cultivation, Bill Harrison** – Copy of a 2006 Cultivation Report attached to the Minutes. Highlights of that Report are: It was stated that a request had been made last year for Lisa McDaniel's 2 older children's names to be taken off the roll (if they are, in fact, members), as they will not be attending, as well as the name of Carly Schmitt name. A motion was made by Jerry Payne and seconded by Becky Rice to table further action on these updates until the Charge Conference paperwork is addressed in the fall of 2015. Motion approved. Bill Harrison will continue updating the membership list in the meantime.

#### **Current Needs:**

- Michelle Price, Church Secretary needs church letterhead.
- Parking directions signs to direct people to park in the back of the church are needed. A motion was made by Butch Hackett, and seconded by Jerry Payne, to allow Jane Cox permission to check out the cost of such signs. Motion approved.

#### **Pastor's Report, Pastor Chuck Trent**

- Outreach Ideas – 1) purchasing/placing a sign in member's yards that say "See you at Otterbein this Sunday!"; 2) placing the fish-shaped Otterbein magnets on our cars.
- Always be ready to encourage visitors to return and invite people.
- There are 2 youth ready for confirmation on Confirmation Sunday, 2015.
- Matt Hensen, a Conference Evangelist/Speaker, and son of Brad Hensen, is willing to come to Otterbein, but Otterbein needs to be committed and on board with this idea. If/when we are ready, the pastor can take care of scheduling him to come.
- Would like to see a planning meeting, made up of the Nurture Committee or a committee of people, to work on a 2016 Planning Calendar.

#### **2Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

- **May 3, 2015 (following the Worship Service):** To vote on Otterbein's new 9:30 am Worship Service start time, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Next Regularly-Scheduled Meeting:** Thursday, July 16, 2015, at 6:30 am.

A motion was made by Jane Cox, and seconded by Becky Rice to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved. Carolyn Craig closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Craig, Administrative Council Recording Secretary

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING, May 3, 2015**

**ATTENDANCE:** General Church Body (See Attendance Sheet attached to the Minutes)

The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Craig, Chairperson of Administrative Council. Jim Craig, Recording Secretary, read aloud the Minutes from the April 19, 2015 special meeting.

The matter before us today was in relation to a motion that had been tabled on April 19, 2015 recommending that Otterbein's Worship Service time be changed to 9:30 a.m. starting July 1, 2015, to accommodate Pastor Chuck Trent's travel time between Otterbein UMC and the Oakland UMC, which will be starting at 8 a.m.

Jane Cox made a motion, and Sean Hackett seconded the motion, to remove from the table the April 19, 2015 proposal. The motion made is that Otterbein UMC's Worship Service starting time be 9:30 a.m., rather than the current 9:00 a.m., with a brief fellowship time, and then Sunday School from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m., effective July 1, 2015. Motion approved.

Jane Cox made a motion, and Butch Hackett seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.

Jim Craig, Administrative Council Recording Secretary

## **\*Special Administration Council Meeting\***

**June 7<sup>th</sup> following Church Service**

**To review the proposal of the sound system!**

Let us continue to remember our shut-in and homebound members.  
Please remember them in your prayers and feel free to visit or send a card ☺

### **Jim & Bertha Anderson**

13250 E Cty Rd 210N  
Charleston, IL 61920

### **Francis Adkins**

Odd Fellow Rebekah Home  
201 Lafayette E  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
*Birthday: 5/25*

### **Joan Hutton**

Hilltop Conv. Center  
910 W. Polk Rm. 209  
Charleston, IL 61920  
*Birthday: 4/21*

### **Tom Watson**

2200 Madison Ave.  
Charleston, IL 61920  
*Birthday: 8/10*



### **Eleanor Rice**

Heartland Christian Village  
101 Trowbridge Rd  
Neoga, IL 62447  
*Birthday: 2/9*

## 2015 Worship Leaders

Please check the website for a current list of Worship Leaders for 2015. These include Greeters, Acolytes, Ushers, Family Cross and Children's Moment Leaders. We appreciate your involvement in our weekly worship service.

## Looking Ahead...

The next monthly newsletter (*July 2015*) will be printed and distributed around the first week in July. The deadline to submit articles or information in the June newsletter will be **Thursday, June 18**. Please contact Michelle Price (217) 549-7285 or email the church office if you have information to include.

## Please Note

If you need to reach  
Pastor Chuck Trent

Cell (618) 262-3409

[chucktrent47@gmail.com](mailto:chucktrent47@gmail.com)



## Youth Group

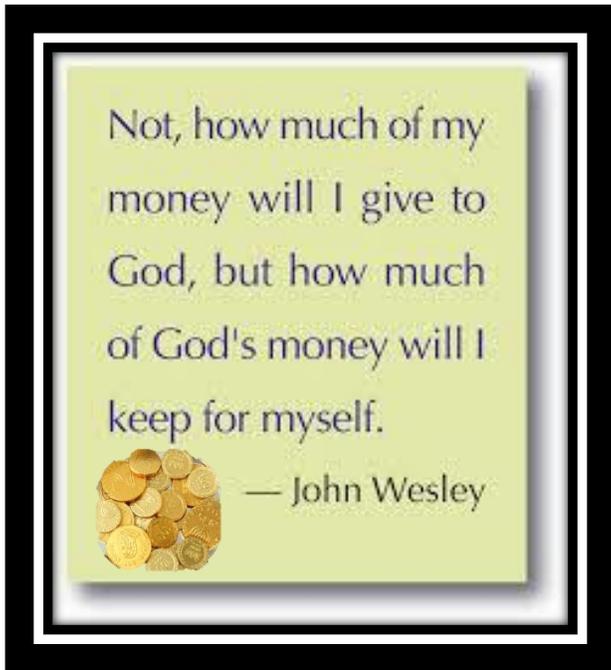
Wednesday Evenings

6:00-6:30 pm Meal & Fellowship

Led By: Sean Hackett

# FINANCE REPORT

Please note the following figures and reports provided by the Finance Team.



## MONTHLY EXPENSES PAID BY LOOSE PLATE/TITHE

Ameren CIPS (Church)	\$ 495.00
City of Charleston (Water Dept)	\$ 26.00
Conf. Group Health Ins. (Pastor)	\$ 1,525.00
Consolidated Comm. (Church)	\$ 93.00
IGRC Missions	\$ 1,062.00
IGRC Pension (Pastor)	\$ 836.00
Childress Mowing	\$ 160.00
Janitor/Secretary Wages	\$ 494.04
Maintenance Supplies	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 40.00
Chuck Trent	\$ 2,380.26
Chuck Trent TV/Hse. Phone	\$ 120.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 41.00
Postage	\$ 49.00
Print Co (Newsletter)	\$ 24.00
SS Material	\$ 72.00
Upper Room/Devozine	\$ 27.00
<u>State Farm Ins. (Bldg &amp; Work Comp)</u>	<u>\$ 285.15</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,779.45</b>
<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 1,245.00</b>

**Monthly Mortgage Payment    \$ 1,356.55**

With the need to replace the sound system and emergency lights along with other expenditures that may arise on our work day if you are lead to contribute please designate monies to the Capital Improvement Fund. Thank you! Finance Team

# Celebrations

## Birthdays

6/6	Drew Schwartz
6/8	Mandy Buell
6/13	Martin Clark
6/15	Jayna Menser
6/16	Christopher Schulz Sandy Smallhorn
6/17	Dan Bircher
6/18	Jane Cox
6/19	Alesia Smyser
6/24	Brandon Schulz Michael Donley
6/25	Rachael Bircher Sharron Waltrip



## Happy Anniversary

Dan & Vickie Bircher	6/07
Doug & Mary Hennig	6/09
Rex & Joan Johns	6/20
Jerry & Sue Payne	6/22



## June Worship Leaders



	<u>06/07</u>	<u>06/14</u>	<u>06/21</u>	<u>06/28</u>
<b><u>Greeters</u></b>	Clinton Tribby	Sandy Smallhorn	Jim Hackett	Bill & Rose Snider
<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>	Deece Schwartz	Omarion Smallhorn	Mackensie W.	Jade Smyser
<b><u>Family Cross</u></b>	Dan & Vickie Bircher	Daniel & Tabatha Lewis	Bill & Rose Snider	Jim Hackett
<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	Betty Potts Butch Hackett Jim Hackett Mary Hennig	Randy Rice Rick Waltrip Bob Stoner Jim Craig	Austin Hackett Sean Hackett Wayne Cox Brad Bircher	Phyllis Hackett Melody McGrath Vickie Bircher Lisa McDaniel
<b><u>Children's Moment</u></b>	Pastor Chuck Trent	Carolyn Craig		Jane Cox



# June 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 30 <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>2</b> 30 <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>3</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b> <u>Youth Group</u> <b>6pm-7:30pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>4</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>5</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:00am</b> <b>Special Ad</b> <b>Council</b> <b>Meeting after</b> <b>worship</b>	<b>8</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <b>Finance</b> <b>Meeting 6:30p</b>	<b>9</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>10</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b> <u>Youth Group</u> <b>6pm-7:30pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>11</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>12</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:00am</b>	<b>15</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>16</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>17</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <u>Youth Group</u> <b>6pm-7:30pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>18</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Articles due</b>	<b>19</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <b>Afternoon</b> <b>Linda Hackett</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Shayna &amp;</b> <b>Linda Hackett</b> <b>11-1</b>
<b>21</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:00am</b>  	<b>22</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>23</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>24</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b> <u>Youth Group</u> <b>6pm-7:30pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>25</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>26</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:00am</b>	<b>29</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>30</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>				

## **Father's Day Prayer**

By Joanna Fuchs

Lord, please bless our fathers, these men who mean so much to us, who are greatly responsible for who we are and who we are becoming.

Bless them for having the courage to do what's necessary to keep us out of trouble, for making us do the right thing, for helping us build our character, even when it makes us angry; and bless them for pushing us to do our best, even when they just want to love us.

Bless our fathers for being our protectors, for leading us through stormy times to safety, for making us believe that everything will be all right and for making it so.

Bless our fathers for quietly making a living to provide for those they love most, for giving us food, clothing, shelter and other necessary and not so necessary material things, for unselfishly investing time and money in us that they could have spent on themselves.

Bless our fathers, Lord, for saving some energy for fun, for leading us on adventures to explore the outer reaches of ourselves, for making us laugh, for being our playmates and our friends.

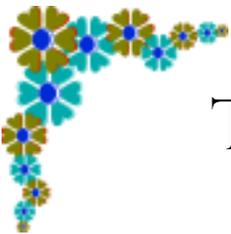
Bless them for being our secure foundation, our rock, for holding on tight to us...until it's time to let us go.

Lord, bless these men we look up to, our role models, our heroes, our fathers. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Otterbein United Methodist Church  
2175 E. Harrison  
Charleston, IL 61920



# Happy Father's Day!



## THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

JUNE 2015

Sunday Morning Worship

9:00 a.m.

**Otterbein United Methodist Church  
2175 E. Harrison  
Charleston, IL 61920**

**CONTACT US:**

(217) 345-5843 (phone)

charlestonotterbein@yahoo.com (email)

www.charlestonotterbein.org (webpage)

[www.facebook.com/groups/CharlestonOtterbeinUMC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CharlestonOtterbeinUMC)

**All are welcome!**