



Otterbein United Methodist Church

Charleston, Illinois

A church that is growing, praying, and serving to make disciples of Jesus Christ

THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

NOVEMBER 2013

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE HAS CHANGED!



Chili/Bazaar Day

Join us

Saturday, November 2

for the annual Chili/Bazaar Day
from 10:00am-2:00pm

Please help by signing up to bring ingredients for the chili and soup. We are also looking for donations of craft items to sell in the bazaar.

For more information, please see Wayne or Dorothy Cox.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Main Page	1
Pastor's Chat	2
Lay Leader's Line	3
Family Night	4
Women's Bible Study	4
Sunday School	4
Shut In List	5
Nurture Report	5
Contact Pastor Nicholas	5
Family Night Needs	5
Charge Conference	6
Advent Bible Study	6
Summer Mission Trip	6
Newsletter Deadline	6
Finance Report	7
Celebrations	8
Nov. Worship Leaders	8
November Calendar	9

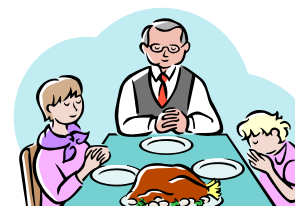
Community Thanksgiving Dinner

November 28th

11:00am-2:00pm

Otterbein UMC will once again serve as the hosting site of the Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 28. A complete Thanksgiving meal is available free of charge for those who would be spending the holiday alone. Deliveries are available. Please consider volunteering your time to help serve our community.

Call Harold Hackett (345-5044) or Butch Hackett (345-3072) to arrange delivery or for volunteers.



PASTOR'S CHAT

Pastor Nicholas Gleason

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and blessed. This is the month of thanksgiving. The month we reflect on how good God has been over the last year. This week I took some time to remember some reasons we can smile here at Otterbein.

1) Our Outreach Ministry

Our Church has proven our zeal to share the love and encouragement of Christ to the broken and lost souls around our community, ensuing in numerous lives being enriched.

Last January we welcomed Soup Stop to share in our ministry. Although, Soup Stop's ministry may be feeding hungry families, Soup Stop does much more than simply offer a hot plate of food. As Sandy Smallhorn recently reminded us, souls have been fed through sharing prayer and Scripture, and individuals have been led to seek God's fulfillment. Including one young man who gave his life to Christ, and entered a substance abuse treatment center, after experiencing Jesus' compassion through us.

2) Our Young Christians

While many churches are struggling to see their children, youth, and young adult ministries take off with fervor, the halls of Otterbein are filled with the sounds of young Christians reclaiming their voice.

This year our youth and young adults visited New Orleans, to give up a week of their summer vacation, for a week of being God's hands in the world. In New Orleans these young Christians helped to revitalize a fallen community. But these young Christians did much more than rebuild houses. They rebuilt God's hope in the hearts of the families they touched.

Our youth and young adults have already begun preparing for their next summer trip to Israel. But these energetic young Christians are not stopping with one annual spiritual retreat. These young Christians are also planning a trip to the Exotic Feline Rescue Center and the Creation Museum this spring.

But the vigorous discipleship isn't just seen in our youth and young adults. This coming summer, the children have requested to have their own mission trip. The children will be visiting the United Methodist Cunningham Children's Home in Urbana. Here, our children will be given the opportunity to share the hope and companionship of Christ with each of the kids they meet.

3) Our Faith

Though we are simply a small Christian family, we have continued to show our trust that God is in charge. We have opened our doors, taken on new missions, and traveled to new adventures together. From a five-day a week soup kitchen to a seven-day trip to the Holy Land, we continue to stretch boundaries of what our little church should be able to do, and in the process, we have encountered the Holy, and seen where God can take us.

For each of these three reasons, and for many more, this month of thanksgiving I can smile and praise God for all of His Goodness to our ministry here at Otterbein.

Shalom,

Nicholas

LAY LEADER'S LINE

Butch Hackett

While we were attending The Covered Bridge Festival on Columbus Day of this year, I had to stop and do a “double-take” at a sign that a vendor was selling. I thought it was a misprint. I read it again, “*Jesus Knows Me, This I Love*”. What a neat sign I thought.

It reminded me of a story I read from Richard De Hann from ‘The Daily Bread’. He wrote that Sir Michael Costa was conducting a rehearsal in which the orchestra was joined by a great chorus. About half way through the session, with trumpets blaring, drums rolling, and violins singing their rich melody, the piccolo player muttered to himself, “What good am I doing? I might just as well not be playing. Nobody can hear me anyway.” So he kept the instrument to his mouth but made no sound. Within moments, the conductor cried out, “STOP! STOP! Where’s the piccolo?” It was missed by the ear of the most important person there.

In our world amongst the billions of people, it’s very easy to get discouraged and think that your contribution to the kingdom does not make any difference. Satan likes to whisper in our ears things like, “Why are you giving that pithily amount to the church? It’s not going to pay off the mortgage or pay the pastor or even pay for one day of utilities. Why don’t you keep it?” Or; “Why do you always volunteer to help when you know that something is going to come up that you would rather do. Someone else can handle it”

Matthew 10:30 and Luke 12:7 both record Jesus saying, “*And even the very hairs on your head are numbered.....*”

These verses tell me that God doesn’t make mistakes, He created us with His breath and Christ saved us with His death. As Max Lucado put it in a lesson we studied about the 7 last days of Jesus life, “When Christ died, you and I were on His mind.” We often think of what Christ did as happening 2000 years ago and the results of His death gave us the ability to be saved, but have you ever considered that Jesus actually thought of you by name before He died? Like so much of what we study in the Bible, this concept is hard to wrap our minds around. That is where our faith comes in. We have to have faith, that God hears everything we say, watches everything we do, and reaches into our hearts to bring us back to Him. JESUS KNOWS US THIS WE LOVE!

In His Grip,

Butch



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

*In God's eyes, it is a great thing
to do a little thing well!*

Intentional Faith Development

Faith

FAMILY NIGHT



Something for EVERYONE!!
Bring your whole family!

Wednesday Evenings
6:00-6:30pm Meal & Fellowship
6:30-7:30pm Small Groups
(All Ages)

J4J

Ages 3-5th grade

LiNC

6th-12th grade

Women's Bible Study



All women are invited to attend
Tuesday Morning Bible Study
at 9:00am
w/ Sandy Smallhorn

Fellowship

Family

• November's Schedule for the Men's/Women's Group:

- 11/6 - Lesson Week - taken from "*Bible Answers For Almost All Your Questions*"
- 11/13 - Library Night Cont'd
- 11/20 - Visit w/ Joan Hutton at Hilltop
(All ages who wish to attend)
- 11/27 - No Meeting (Thanksgiving week)

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Sundays at 10:30am)

Sunday School classes available for all ages—Everyone is welcome!

Preschool Class

(Age 3-Kindergarten)

Meet in Noah's Ark Room
w/ Sandy Smallhorn

Elementary Class

(1st-5th grade)

Meet in Garden Room
w/ Jane Cox

M.S./H.S. Class

(6th-12th grade)

Meet in Blue Room
w/ Sean Hackett

Adult Class #1 (Believers)

Meet in Gold Classroom
w/ Butch Hackett

Adult Class #2

Meet in Café Agape Room
w/ Jim & Carolyn Craig



Please stay and share with us in Fellowship Time

each Sunday following the worship service

(even if you do not plan to stay for Sunday School).

This is a wonderful time to reconnect with your church family ☺



As the holidays are approaching, 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 ☺

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

Fern Percy

Odd Fellow Rebekah Home
201 Lafayette E
Mattoon, IL 61938
Birthday: 6/12

Raymond Plath

Brookstone Estates
314 Lincoln Hwy. Rd
Charleston, IL 61920
Birthday: 3/10

Eleanor Rice

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

Tom Watson

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

Nurture Committee Report

The Nurture Committee met Tuesday evening, October 15th at 6:00pm. We discussed all of the upcoming events for the remainder of the year and confirmed dates. We are excited about all of the activities! Please continue to notify us about any new events.

Thank you,
Joan Johns, Nurture Team Chairperson

Please Note!

If you need to reach
Pastor Nicholas:

Cell Phone: (740) 513-6199
Home Phone: (217) 345-2046



Family Night

*We could still use your help in providing supplies for Wednesday Family Nights.
Here's how you can help...*

- Donate canned fruits, cake/brownie mixes, frosting, peanut butter & jelly, salad dressings, pudding cups, Rice Krispies & marshmallows, Apple Juice or Lemonade Mix (*Place them on the "Family Night Supplies" shelves in the room across from the kitchen*);
- Donate \$\$ for paper & plastic supplies & teaching resources. Cash in an envelope, or a check marked "Family Night", can be placed in the offering plate.



Let Us Not Give Up Meeting Together...



Charge Conference

Sunday, December 1
5:00pm
at Wesley UMC

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Evenings from 6:00-7:00pm

Will begin meeting Thursday, Nov. 21 and go through Dec. 19.

We will not meet Thanksgiving evening (Nov. 28). Pastor Nicholas will begin sign ups in October and will hand out Bible passages in November to begin your preparation and meditation before the study begins.



Summer 2014 Mission Trip

The youth and young adults have begun planning for the Summer 2014 Mission Trip. They will be going to the Holy Land in Israel.

Please remember them in your prayers as the preparation & fundraising begins! Please also pray for their hearts to be ready for this amazing and life-changing experience.

The first fundraising event has already begun. The "Money Wall" can be found in the hallway. Take an envelope & fill it with the amount of money listed on the front of the envelope.

Looking Ahead...



The next monthly newsletter (*December 2013*) will be printed and distributed around the end of November. The deadline to submit articles or information in the December newsletter will be **Thursday, November 14.** Please contact Samantha Baker or email the church office if you have information to include.

But Let Us Encourage One Another (Hebrews 10:25)

FINANCE REPORT

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

LOOSE PLATE/TITHE

	<u>Amt Received</u>	<u>Amt Needed</u>	<u>Over/(Short)</u>
10/6	\$ 1,620.75	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 564.25)
10/13	\$ 1,498.25	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 686.75)
<u>10/20</u>	<u>\$ 1,579.20</u>	<u>\$ 2,185.00</u>	<u>(\$ 605.80)</u>
TOTAL	\$ 4,698.20	\$ 6,555.00	(\$ 1,856.80)



Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!

--Malachi 3:10 (NLT)



MONTHLY EXPENSES PAID BY LOOSE PLATE/TITHE

Ameren CIPS (Church)	\$ 450.00
City of Charleston (Water Dept)	\$ 12.00
Conf. Group Health Ins. (Pastor)	\$ 1,525.00
Consolidated Comm. (Church)	\$ 125.00
County Office Products (Copier)	\$ 78.00
IGRC Missions	\$ 1,053.00
IGRC Pension (Pastor)	\$ 836.00
J&J Lawn Care	\$ 200.00
Janitor/Secretary Wages	\$ 535.00
Maintenance Supplies	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 125.00
Nicholas Gleason	\$ 3,084.00
Nicholas Gleason TV/Hse. Phone	\$ 120.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 41.00
Postage	\$ 44.00
Print Co (Newsletter)	\$ 24.00
SS Material	\$ 72.00
Upper Room/Devozine	\$ 46.00
State Farm Ins. (Bldg & Work Comp)	\$ 279.00
<u>Worship Service</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 8,729.00
Weekly	\$ 2,182.25

BUILDING FUND

Current Balance

10/6	\$ 1,437.04
10/13	\$ 1,517.04
10/20	\$ 1,777.04

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

Celebrations



Birthdays

11/4	Andrea Carr
11/6	Sharon Johns
11/14	Jessica Watton
11/14	Jared Tanner
11/17	Bob Stoner
11/19	Jim Craig
11/19	Austin Hackett
11/20	Jacob Smallhorn
11/24	Betty Stoner
11/24	Wade Hennig



Anniversaries

11/1	Harold & Phyllis Hackett
11/11	Ken & Sandy Smallhorn
11/15	Randy & Krista Snider



November Worship Leaders

	<u>11/3</u>	<u>11/10</u>	<u>11/17</u>	<u>11/24</u>
<u>Greeters</u>	Jim & Carolyn Craig	Ken & Sandy Smallhorn	Dorothy Cox & family	Randy & Becky Rice
<u>Acolyte</u>	Kenny Smallhorn	Keridwen McDaniel	Kayla Donley	Mackensie Williams
<u>Ushers</u>	Shelli Blair Mary Hennig Jim Craig Randy Rice	Jim Hackett Austin Hackett Ron Hall John McDaniel	Bob Stoner Rose Snider Clinton Tribby Bonnie Tribby	Bill Snider Brad Bircher Wayne Cox Bill Harrison
<u>Family Cross</u>	Betty Potts	Bill & Judy Harrison	Marty & Loretta Buell	Bill & Rose Snider
<u>Children's Moment</u>			Carolyn Craig	Jane Cox





NOVEMBER 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Harold & Phyllis Hackett</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	2 <u>Chili & Bazaar Day</u> 10:00am-2:00pm
3 <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	4 <i>Andrea Carr</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Finance Mtg</u> 6:30pm	5 <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	6 <i>Sharon Johns</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg</u> 8:00pm	7 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	8 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	9
10 <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	11 <i>Ken & Sandy Smallhorn</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	12 <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	13 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg</u> 8:00pm	14 <i>Jessica Watton</i> <i>Jared Tanner</i> Newsletter Articles Due <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	15 <i>Randy & Krista Snider</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	16
17 <i>Bob Stoner</i> <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	18 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	19 <i>Jim Craig</i> <i>Austin Hackett</i> <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	20 <i>Jacob Smallhorn</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg</u> 8:00pm	21 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Advent Study</u> 6:00-7:00pm	22 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	23
24 <i>Betty Stoner</i> <i>Wade Hennig</i> <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	25 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	26 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	27 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>AA Mtg</u> 8:00pm	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> <u>Community Thanksgiving Dinner</u> 11am-2pm	29 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	30

THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday School

9:00 a.m.
10:30 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)



Find us on **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/charlestonotterbein

All are welcome!

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