



Otterbein United Methodist Church

Charleston, Illinois

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

THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

OCTOBER 2013



Chili/Bazaar Day

Join us

Saturday, October 26

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
Contact Pastor Nicholas	4
Sunday School	4
Fellowship Time	4
Family Night	5
Soda Can Covers	6
Children's Moment	6
Newsletter Deadline	6
New Library	6
Finance Report	7
Celebrations	8
Oct Worship Leaders	8
October Calendar	9

As fall activities resume, 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 Pearcy

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

PASTOR'S CHAT

Pastor Nicholas Gleason

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and blessed. Ok, enough with the niceness. Let's have a moment of honesty. Have you ever wanted to help me prepare for my sermons and worship service? Have you ever thought, oh brother, Nicholas has just missed the point of this Scripture teaching?

Of course not. I didn't think so. Naturally I get it right every time. Nevertheless, the IGRC RIM has asked me to invite a group of men, women, and teens to join me in my sermon and worship service preparation.

During the season of Advent, this group will meet between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM every Thursday evening, beginning on November 28th to December 19th.

Together we will read and study the text for the upcoming sermon. We will discuss what we think this text is sharing with us. We will reflect how the sermon and the worship service can be built around this theme. We will consider the use of multi-sensory interactions within worship. And we will have time to discuss and evaluate the sermon and worship service of the past week.

This is a learning experience designed, not only to help me in my weekly preparations, but also to help me hear your experiences. Each of us is walking on the same road with the same message. But we find ourselves at different places in that journey. And God may speak to us in different ways, depending on where in this journey we are currently standing.

Your input will not only help me understand where you are in your spiritual life. But it will also help me customize our sermons and services to better fit the Otterbein United Methodist family.

I think each of you will gain as well. It is a very different experience to approach a Scripture passage with the intent of doing Biblical exegesis, than it is to simply read it for encouragement. I'm sure during our study together you will go deeper in these Scripture passages and strengthen your own understanding of God's message.

I will begin to sign up names for this study during the month of October. In November, I will pass out the Biblical passages so you will each have a few weeks to do some private reflection.

I encourage you to join us for this time together. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with me.

Shalom,

Nicholas



LAY LEADER'S LINE

Butch Hackett

The following poem appeared on the pages of my daily devotional written by a person with the last name of Young:

“Disappointment – His appointment,

Change one letter, then I see

That the thwarting of my purpose

Is God's better choice for me.”

These words ring so true to me as I think of times that I've experienced delays, changes of plans, and redirections in my life. Most of the time, my first response is one of frustration or anger. But have you ever looked back to those delays and seen God's hand working through it? I read about a couple of Christians who were delayed in an airport 4000 miles from home for over 24 hours and nearly no one spoke English. One of the Christian youths, Dave, was frustrated and anxious, while the second youth, John, took the opportunity to mingle with other passengers that were being delayed as well. John “happened” to find some fellow Christians from India- and in talking to them he heard about a ministry they were involved with and they invited John to participate with them in a short term project. This project developed into a thriving ministry.

In Acts 16:9-31, Paul was taking a trip to Philippi. God directed Paul through a vision to go to Macedonia instead. Unbeknownst to Paul, God was sending him to jail! I can't help but think that somewhere along the way; Paul had second thoughts about his vision wondering if he got it right. But Paul was faithful and through the imprisonment, God led Paul to bring salvation to a Jailer and his family. The Holy Spirit guides us to the right places, but He also guides us away from the wrong places! As we seek God's will, it is important to know what God wants us to do and where He wants us to go, but it is equally important to know what God does not want us to do and where He does not want us to go. God can use inconveniences in our lives if we look at them as divine appointments.

In His Grip,

Butch



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

**God can turn obstacles
into opportunities.**

Intentional Faith Development



FAMILY NIGHT

Something for EVERYONE!!

Wednesday Evenings

6:00-6:30pm Meal & Fellowship

6:30-7:30pm Small Groups

(All Ages)

see page 5 for more info



Please Note!

If you need to reach
Pastor Nicholas:

Cell Phone: (740) 513-6199

Home Phone: (217) 345-2046



Women's Bible Study

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

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 ☺



FAMILY NIGHT START-UP

The Family Night Fall Season is now in full swing! The church is shiny and clean, and there is a good feeling of simply being back together again! Thanks to everyone who supports this ministry: those who pray for it, the volunteers who prepare the entrees and desserts, the teachers/leaders, those who donate supplies to keep it going, and for your monetary support as well. It would not be possible without the love and support from all of you!

Faith

REMEMBER THE WEDS NIGHT SCHEDULE:



- 6:00 PM - Meal & Fellowship—Bring your whole family!
- 6:30-7:30 PM – Group Ministries:
 - LinC, w/Adam Baker, Pastor Nick & Sean Hackett – Ages 6th-12th grades (or turning 12 that year)
 - J4J (Kids Club), w/Jane Cox – Ages 3 yrs-5th grades
 - Men’s/Women’s Combined Group, w/Jim & Carolyn Craig – Ages 18 & over

Family

• October’s Schedule for the Men’s/Women’s Combined Group:

- 10/02/13 - Lesson Week – taken from *“Bible Answers For Almost All Your Questions”*
- 10/09/13 – Missions Week – Laundry Soap Making (for Standing Stone)
- 10/16/13 – Activity Week – “Cookies Lesson, - Cooking demonstration, w/Carolyn Craig, using a library Cookbook--you get to eat the goodies when they’re done!
- 10/23/13 – Library Week - Sharing what we’ve read from the library!

5th Wednesday-of-the-Month Special:

- 10/30/13 – All-Church Evening Worship Service - singing your favorite hymns or other songs, special music, and/or simply sharing “*what God has been up to in your life lately*” moments!

Fellowship



• Be Reminded of Family Night’s More Immediate Needs

(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...



Soda Can Covers

Sherry Strode is sewing soda can covers that she would like to sell for 50 cents each. These are great for keeping out bugs when you are outside enjoying the weather ☺ She plans to donate all the proceeds to Otterbein. Please see Sherry if you are interested in making a purchase!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We need volunteers who are willing to lead a Children's Message during Sunday Morning Worship. We have several people who currently rotate once/month, but we still have about **5 spots** to fill for the remainder of 2013.

You are welcome to share a message on any topic you would like, or you can follow the scripture/sermon for the morning. There are many resources and ideas available on the internet if you would like the extra help ☺ Please see Samantha Baker for more information.



Looking Ahead...

The next monthly newsletter (November 2013) will be printed and distributed around the end of October. The deadline to submit articles or information in the November newsletter will be **Thursday, October 17**. Please contact Samantha Baker or email the church office if you have information to include.

Something NEW!

If you haven't had an opportunity to do so yet, please take a few moments to visit Otterbein's new library! Thank you everyone who donated books to make this library possible! Thank you, Tom Blair, for painting additional library shelves to be used in the room set-up! Select some good books or magazines and take them home to read. There are many categories: children's, youth, teaching resources, novels galore, devotionals, missions, finance, pastor's helps, church-related, John Wesley, LOTS of Bibles and Bible helps, men's and women's, humorous, prayer, well-known authors, biographies, cookbooks, magazines, health & healing books, and more! We're hoping to make good use of the new library on Family Nights as well. Taking out books to read is on the "honor system". Make your selection, take them home and read them, and return them in the basket on the file cabinet by the library door. Or, escape for a while and sit a spell in the church library and enjoy a book in the quietness there! Let's make the new library a "well-used room"!

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>
8/4	\$ 1,955.50	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 229.50)
8/11	\$ 1,038.05	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 1,146.95)
8/18	\$ 1,204.50	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 980.50)
8/25	\$ 1,588.25	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 596.75)
9/1	\$ 1,559.50	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 625.50)
9/8	\$ 1,297.50	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 887.50)
9/15	\$ 470.00	\$ 2,185.00	(\$ 1,715.00)
9/22	\$ 2,295.09	\$ 2,185.00	\$ 110.09
<u>9/29</u>	<u>\$ 1,746.35</u>	<u>\$ 2,185.00</u>	<u>(\$ 438.65)</u>
TOTAL	\$ 13,154.74	\$ 19,665.00	(\$ 6,510.26)



BUILDING FUND

Current Balance

8/4	\$ 1,875.14
8/18	\$ 2,035.14
8/25	\$ 1,290.14
9/1	\$ 898.59
9/22	\$ 802.04
9/29	\$ 862.04

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

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/Devozone	\$ 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

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

--Acts 2:44-47 (ESV)

Celebrations



Birthdays



10/8	Jade Smyser
10/12	Cord Hackett
10/13	Sue Payne
10/16	Christopher Fitzpatrick
10/17	Rick Waltrip
10/23	Lisa Clark
10/23	Eli Tanner
10/25	Rose Snider
10/28	Wayne Cox
10/29	Bill Snider

Anniversaries

10/11	Tom & Shelli Blair
10/14	Ray & Alice Szalay
10/18	Butch & Linda Hackett
10/20	Marty & Loretta Buell



October Worship Leaders

	<u>10/6</u>	<u>10/13</u>	<u>10/20</u>	<u>10/27</u>
<u>Greeters</u>	Jim Hackett	Adam & Samantha Baker	Brad Bircher & Crystal Schulz	Betty Potts & Cathi Brockman
<u>Acolyte</u>	Tyvon Smallhorn	Ian McDaniel	Debra Bircher	Deece Schwartz
<u>Ushers</u>	Sandy Smallhorn Butch Hackett Dorothy Cox Doug Hennig	Lisa McDaniel Bonnie Tribby Dan Bircher Wayne Cox	Crystal Schulz Lisa McDaniel Betty Potts Cathi Brockman	Alesia Smyser Keridwen McDaniel Debra Bircher Ian McDaniel
<u>Family Cross</u>	Dan & Vickie Bircher	Harold & Phyllis Hackett	Brad Bircher & Crystal Schulz	Randy & Becky Rice
<u>Children's Moment</u>	Kenny Smallhorn	Carolyn Craig		Jane Cox





OCTOBER 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	2 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	3 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	4 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	5 <u>Building in Use—Baby Shower</u>
6 <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	7 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Finance Mtg</u> 6:30pm	8 <i>Jade Smyser</i> <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Nurture Mtg</u> 6:00pm	9 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	10 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	11 <i>Tom & Shelli Blair</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	12 <i>Cord Hackett</i> <u>Building in Use—Arts Council</u> 9am-3pm
13 <i>Sue Payne</i> <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	14 <i>Ray & Alice Seeley</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	15 <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	16 <i>Christopher Fitzpatrick</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	17 <i>Rick Waltrip</i> Newsletter Articles Due <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	18 <i>Butch & Linda Hackett</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	19
20 <i>Marty & Loretta Buell</i> <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	21 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	22 <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 9:00am <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	23 <i>Lisa Clark</i> <i>Eli Tanner</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Family Night</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	24 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	25 <i>Rose Snider</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	26 <u>Chili & Bazaar Day</u> 10:00am-2:00pm
27 <u>Worship</u> 9:00am <u>Sunday School</u> 10:30am	28 <i>Wayne Cox</i> <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	29 <i>Bill Snider</i>	30 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Worship Service</u> 6:00-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	31 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm		

THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

OCTOBER 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!



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

