

OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
176 West Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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Tidings



October 2017

The Tidings
Otterbein United Methodist
Church

176 West Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Office - (540) 434-7747

Fax - (540) 433-4018

oumcharrisonburg.org

Prayer Ministry - (540) 434-7745

Tidings articles are due by the
15th of each month.

You may either bring articles to
the church office or email them
to oumcadm@hotmail.com

Saturday Night Alive

5:30 pm

Informal Worship Service

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Sunday School

for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

Please check the calendar for
times of regular and special
events.

Weekday Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm



Have you checked out our Facebook Page? You
can find us at facebook.com/OUMCHarrisonburg or
through the link on our website. Please check out
our page and share with your friends!

Our Staff

Rev. Adam Blagg

Senior Pastor

oumcpastor@hotmail.com

Sandy Schaefer

Music Director / Organist

oumcmusic@hotmail.com

Melissa Miller

Office Manager

oumcadm@hotmail.com

Judy Falls

Custodian

Dawn Hunter

Treasurer

oumctreasurer@hotmail.com

Office: 540-434-7747

X200 for Melissa

X201 for Adam

X203 for Dawn

X204 for Sandy

X207 for Judy

Otterbein in Prayer

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Baby Kolton | Doris Ely | Eugene Hillyard | Linda Ridder |
| Doris Akers | Lisa Ferenc | John Hoffnagle | Sylvia Shull |
| Matt Andes | Arnold Fishback | Dot Jones | Anna Snyder |
| Doris Baker | James Ford | Abu Bakarr Kanu | Mary Ellen St. Louis |
| Kathy Billhimer | Eleanor Fryer | Janet Liskey | Jane Stover |
| Anita Billingsley | Joann Gordon | Greta Marks | Dot Swartz |
| Mildred Byrd | Judy Grandle | Olma May | Maxine Thomas |
| Rev. & Mrs. Carson | Betty Griffith | Susan McDonaldson | Charlie Tibbits |
| Ralph Cline | Debbie Grose | Ruby Miller | Tony VanPelt |
| Doug Crider | Doris Hanger | Eric Mitchell | |
| Allen Dellinger | James & Crystal | Evelyn Myers | |
| Jean Early | Hayden | Margaret Pence | |
| Tara Eckenroad | Silas Herndon | Judy Pruett | |

Blood Drive

Our next blood drive is **Sunday, October 15, from 9:30 am—12:30 pm** in **Memorial Hall**. Please save your blood for our drive! We need at least 15 people to meet our goal. If you are in good health, weigh more than 100 pounds, and are 16 years or older, you are eligible to give blood. Be sure to eat breakfast before you come and bring you ID. Someone needs your blood and it's a pretty simple donation that takes less than an hour. To make an appointment, please call Susan Pollard at (540) 828-4562.



For Your Information

- **Tidings Deadline** for the **November** issue is **Monday, October 16 by 9 am**. All groups, classes, and individuals are welcome to submit articles for the *Tidings*. Plan your activities and bring the written details to the church office or email to the office at oumcadm@hotmail.com by the 16th.
- **Prayer Line Ministry:** Call 434-7745 anytime (day or night) to hear a prayer to encourage and give you support. To leave a prayer request: listen to the prayer, then follow the prompts to leave your request or words of praise.
- **Stamps for Mission**
Continue to save your used postage stamps and deposit them in the stamp box in the breezeway.

Trustees Report to the Congregation

The Trustees last met on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 to discuss issues related to the upkeep of the church buildings and property.

Fall Work Day—Fall Work day is scheduled for Saturday, October 14 beginning at 8:30 am. Jobs needing attention include cleaning up of the parking lot areas and replacing some gravel in various areas. All help and support is appreciated!

Sale of the Parsonage—The parsonage closing was set for September 22. The buyer accepted the church's price at \$250,000; the seller (church) pays part of closing and the attorney fees.

Carpet Cleaning/Sidewalk Repair—Kenny Wood of K & T Services has cleaned the carpet on the second floor of the church. He has also provided an estimate on repair of the broken sidewalk leading into the church from the back parking lot. Because of the coming fall and winter weather, these repairs will be made next spring.

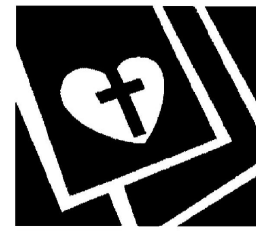
Church Van—The Trustees have received some estimates on doing work to the church van. Complete bodywork and paint re-lettering the van are being considered. Buying a newer van would cost a minimum of \$20,000. A brand new van would cost as much as \$50,000. Before having any work done on the present van, the Trustees decided to gather more information concerning the purchase of another vehicle.

Lower Parking lot Repairs—There was some discussion concerning the condition of the lower parking lot. The lot needs to have cracks repaired and/or be resurfaced. This job will need to wait until spring to be completed.

Budget Work—Motion passed to have the 2018 Trustee Budget remain the same. A total of \$15,000 is being requested with compensation to Melvin Falls to remain at \$4,000.

The next regular Trustee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Room 204

The current Trustees are John Liskey Sr. (chair), Ray Griffith (vice-chair), George Painter, Arnold Fishback, Bill Pollard, Diane Ritchie, Connie Liskey, Liz Lawson, and L.J. Joiner. The Trustees welcome your questions or comments concerning these items or any other church maintenance issues.



FROM THE PASTOR

Fall always seems to bring a certain excitement to the life of the church. Vacations are wrapped up, school is underway, planning for the coming year is in full swing, and worship resumes a more normal routine. The process of planning for 2018 comes to its climax with Charge Conference in November and as a church on the Harrisonburg District, we have been asked to report on our work of evangelism. A good number of you had the opportunity to hear Bishop Lewis speak at Verona this summer in what was billed as an Old Time Revival. Often we associate evangelism and revival; I definitely remember that focus as a child attending many a revival service back in Highland County. Evangelism at its root, though, is more than revival; it is spreading the good news, which takes on many different forms.

At times it looks like a good old fashioned revival with music and preaching and food. At times it looks like flood buckets assembled in the basement, each individual part brought by someone different, going out to places that need a message of hope in the midst of disaster. At times evangelism takes the form of conversation and care with someone who is seeking community, sharing time or maybe a meal or even simply a warm welcome. At times it looks like a table full of toddlers hearing their first Bible stories in a community that promises to love and nurture them. At times it means creating the space where we can gather and share with each other the joys and sorrows of life.

The good news, the message, the gospel, evangelism, is what we should be doing at all times in the life of the church. I rest easy knowing that come Charge Conference when we are asked about our plans for evangelism at OUMC, we can say it is a part of everything we do.

Adam



UMW News

Two members attended the Harrisonburg District UMW Prayer Breakfast on September 9 at Bridgewater UMC and heard Rev. Nancy Robinson give a

presentation on her mission work in Cambodia. Two important things she left with us:

"Sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed, and rearranged to relocate us to the place we are meant to be."

"To be rich is not what you have in your bank account, but what you have in your heart."

Tuesday, October 10, is our **Otterbein UMW Harvest Luncheon** at **11:30 am** in **Memorial Hall**. Sharon Harold, District UMW President, will present one of the Conference Mission Studies. All women of the church are invited to bring a covered dish and join us.

We will continue to collect for the "150-Year Celebration Legacy Fund." Our goal is \$150. The donation will be presented at the District Annual Meeting.

Thursday, October 12 is the **District UMW Annual Meeting** at **Dayton UMC** at **7 pm**. Marilyn Blagg is the speaker. Please plan to attend.

Children's Sabbath Sunday is **October 15**.

October 28 is the **Conference UMW 45th Annual Meeting** at Trinity UMC in Richmond. For more details, see the registration form on the UMW bulletin board.

Saturday, November 11 is the **District Leadership Training Meeting** at **Mountain Valley UMC** from **9-11 am**. New and old officers should plan to attend.

Tuesday, November 14 is our **"Thank Offering Meeting"** at **11:15 am** in **Room 204**.

Otterbein's Week to Host Open Doors November 6—13

We will be housing up to 40 guests.

How You Can Help:

- Mary Earman is already lining up volunteers to cook and prepare meals. Call her if you can help (833-5213).
- Volunteers will be needed to set up cots, etc. in Memorial Hall on **Monday, November 6** at **1:00 pm**.
- Volunteers will be needed to load supplies into the van to be taken to the next site on **Monday, November 13** at **7:15 am**.
- We will need **2 volunteers each night** to stay overnight (7 pm—7 am) on **Monday, November 6** and **Friday, November 10**. The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints will take care of the other nights. Open Doors provides a paid Shelter Manager who stays awake all night and is trained to help in emergencies.
- **Hospitality Helpers** to talk with guests during and after supper on **Monday, November 6** and **Friday, November 10**.

Please contact Linda Conrad if you can help (564-3798 or lst62conrad@yahoo.com). **Thanks!** This is a wonderful ministry for the community that we need to continue to support.

Join Us for Bible Study!

Bible Study continues as we complete our work in the Gospel of Matthew. Listed below is our complete Bible Study schedule for 2017-2018. We will meet at 10 am and 6 pm on each Tuesday, but will consider other days and times if there is adequate interest. There will be reading guides available prior to each lesson and for the October 24 and December 12 sessions. Optional homework will enhance our time together.

Sept. 12 – Oct. 17:

October 24:

Oct. 31 – Dec. 5:

December 12:

Jan. 9 – Feb. 13:

Feb. 20 – Mar. 27:

April 3:

Apr. 10 – May 15:

May 22 – June 26:

Matthew 13-25

OT In 60 Minutes

OT book study (TBD)

Advent

United Methodist Connections

Matthew 26-28, Lent

Easter Break

1 Corinthians

Applying the Text

October Outreach Project: Collecting for First Step

In October, we always collect items needed by First Step, the shelter for abused women and children in Harrisonburg. They are in need of:

- Personal Hygiene Items, such as shampoo/conditioner, lotion, deodorant, and razors
- Paper Supplies, such as toilet paper, paper towels, trash bags, and fabric softener sheets
- Food Items, such as cereal, mayonnaise, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats, cookies, crackers, juices, canned fruits, Crystal Light drink packets, coffee, and tea
- Gift Cards to Walmart, Food Lion, the Dollar Store, and gas stations

Bring your items and place them in the bin in the breezeway to help those who are going through a tough time. Thank you for your generosity!



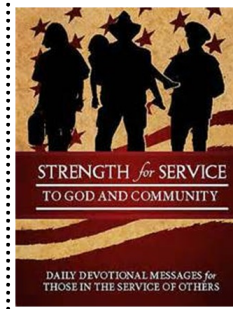
Charge Conference Reports & Forms are **DUE BY NOVEMBER 1**

This includes reports from:

| | | |
|----------|------------|--|
| Finance | Lay Leader | Ministry Team |
| Trustees | UMM | Goals for 2018 |
| SPRC | UMW | (Congregational Care, Discipleship, Outreach, Worship) |

Charge Conference is Tuesday, November 21 at 7 pm

Our regular breakfast/prayer meetings for this month will be **Saturday, October 28** at **7:30 am** at **Thomas House Restaurant** in Dayton. Check the website below for meeting and event dates and consider this your invitation to join us and bring a friend.



Following up on the completion of our project to provide copies of *Strength for Service to God and Community—Daily Devotional Messages for Those in the Service of Others* to the Harrisonburg Police Department recently, the Otterbein Men were able, through generous donations, to provide additional copies of this book of daily devotions to the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department and the local branch of the Virginia State Police.

Our next meal event is planned for **Sunday, December 10**, in Memorial Hall following Worship. The **Family Christmas Brunch** will feature good food and fellowship for everyone! We plan to feature our regular menu of scrambled egg casserole, sweet rolls, and hot biscuits with toppings. Watch the church calendar, powerpoint announcements before worship on Sundays, and *Tidings* for more details.

For additional information please check our website:
<https://www.oumcharrisonburg.org/united-methodist-men>

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

What a great time for the congregation to express their gratitude to Adam and his family. Please take this opportunity to send a note or email to Adam to let him know how he has impacted you personally. Continue to pray for our pastor, his family, and our congregation.

~ Staff-Parish Relations Committee ~

Commission on the Way Forward

In February of 2019 there will be a special called General Conference to hear a report from the Council of Bishops regarding the topic of human sexuality. The initial work being done currently to outline a proposal is being handled by the Commission on the Way Forward, a group of 32 people from around the world, comprised of laity, clergy and bishops from diverse backgrounds. The Commission most recently met in Berlin from September 18-20. As updates become available they will be shared with the congregation in multiple formats.

The OUMC Administrative Council has been following the work of the Commission and has reading together a suggested book on conflict entitled *The Anatomy of Peace*. Discussion of this book occurred during the September Administrative Council regular meeting. The Council is also closely monitoring the work of the Commission through the UMC website and encourage you to do the same; the most recent summary of the work to date is available and is very informative of their process. A printed copy can be requested at the church office.

Below is a portion of the Accountability Covenant that the Commission agreed to work under; continue to lift up their work in your prayers. I am always available for questions, comments, or discussion.

~Adam

Accountability Covenant

What are the covenantal practices that are so essential to our work together that we must perform them with excellence in order to fulfill our mission?

We covenant to pray for one another, for the Commission, for the United Methodist Church, for the mission of Christ, and for a way forward together.

We covenant to attend all meetings unless unexpected urgencies prevent us, to prepare adequately for meetings by reading assigned books or papers, to stay engaged and focused, to participate actively in learning experiences and conversations, and to follow through with any assignments or projects that we agree to accept. We will offer our best and highest to the work of the Commission as servants of Christ and leaders of the church.

We covenant to treat one another with respect, to assume the best in others, to represent one another in the best possible light, to speak the truth with love, and to practice and expect trustworthiness. We will each do our part to offer grace, to create an atmosphere of hospitality, and to moderate our anxiety through mutual encouragement, good humor, and with genuine love for one another.

Continued next page

We covenant to listen actively to others, to seek first to understand rather than to be understood, to ask for clarity or help from others, to remain attentive to cultural, language, and contextual diversity, to be patient with one another, and to foster hopefulness and mutual encouragement. We covenant to maintain strict confidentiality, and so we will avoid inappropriate sharing of personal information, stories, or perspectives of other members without their consent. We will not share information about the work of the Commission that the Commission or its moderators have not granted permission for release.



A Big THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who contributed items or a complete bucket to our UMCOR Flood Bucket Drive! We were given 54 complete flood buckets assembled by the employees of RMH and we collected items and buckets to make 17 more for a total of 71!

All of our flood buckets were loaded on a truck with more from around the Conference and are headed to Texas and Florida.

So what does it take to complete 71 buckets?

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 71 5-gallon Buckets | 71 cans of Air Freshener |
| 71 bottles of Laundry Detergent | 71 cans of Insect-Repellent Spray |
| 71 bottles of liquid Household Cleaner | 142 pairs of Dishwashing Gloves |
| 71 bottles of Dish Soap | 71 pairs of Work Gloves |
| 3,550 Clothespins | 355 Sourcing Pads |
| 7,100 feet of Clothesline | 71 Scrub Brushes |
| 497 non-cellulose Sponges | 355 Dust Masks |
| 1,704 heavy-duty Trash Bags | \$106.50 for Shipping Costs |
| 1,278 Cleaning Wipes | |

Do you know our Core Principals?

Some of them are readily available. The Nicene Creed and Apostles Creed are found in our hymnals, pages 880 and 881. Want to read the Articles of Religion or Confession of Faith? Find any *United Methodist Book of Discipline* (we have lots in the church, just ask!) and flip to paragraph 104, section 3 for our doctrinal standards laid out in print. How about a Wesleyan Hymn? Again our hymnal has many of them—look at #240, #287, #302, and many, many more! Keep an eye out in the bulletin for other things such as John Wesley's Three General Rules, another core principal of who we are.