

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

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Tidings

Hello, fall



October 2019

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 oumcdm@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

Rev. Faith Fowler

Associate Pastor of Health &
Wellness

faithfowler@vaumc.org

Sandy Schaefer

Music Director / Organist

oumcmusic@hotmail.com

Melissa Miller

Office Manager

oumcdm@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

x210 for Faith

Otterbein in Prayer

Phyllis Albrite	Elaine Ford	John Hoffnagle	Linda Stephens
Ruth Batten	Judy Grandle	LJ Joiner	Jane Stover
Millie Bruce	Florence Green	Bob Jones	Richard Stroop
Pat Brunk	Lynn & Betty Griffith	Dot Jones	Martha Taylor
Rev. & Mrs. Carson	Mindi Griffith	Steve Joseph	Craig Thompson
Linda Conrad	Ray & Audrey	Evelyn Keane	Charlie Tibbits
Cliff Davis	Griffith	Janet Liskey	Emily Tran
Allen Dellinger	Doris Hanger	Judy Liskey	Betty Karol Wilson
Ann Dellinger	Julie Haushalter	Pem Liskey	Mckenzie Woods
Jo Ellen Dickenson	Barbara Henry	Greta Marks	Richard Worden
Kermit Early	Silas Herndon	Paul Reed	Dennis Wright
Lisa Ferenc	Bennie & Gloria	Jack Ridder	Anita Yount
Abby Fisher	Hildebrand	Anna Joseph Sheets	

Charge Conference

Saturday, October 12

12:00 pm—3:30 pm

Asbury UMC

Charge Conference will look a lot different this year. It is
being called **Ministry Encounter** and will be a time of worship,
fellowship, training, and mission, along with the business of Charge
Conference. Our session is **October 12** and begins at **noon** with
a **carry-in meal** that we will share with other 7 other churches
that are also taking part in the Ministry Encounter that day. We
will then rotate through worship, training, mission, and business.
All are invited and encouraged to attend. More information about
the Ministry Encounters can be found in the District Newsletter.

For Your Information

- **Tidings** deadline for the **November** issue is **Tuesday, October 15** 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 oumcdm@hotmail.com by the 15th.
- **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.

Trustees Report to the Congregation

The Trustees last met on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 to discuss issues related to the upkeep of the church buildings and property.

Roof Repairs - Don Largent Roofing will make roof, mortar, and ceiling repairs, but will require scaffolding to make those repairs. This will be scheduled following the Anniversary weekend.

Chimes Repair - The microphone installation for the chimes has been completed. Melvin Falls assisted Ellsworth Neff with this project.

Van repairs - Repairs to the air conditioning in the church van have been completed by Highway Motors.

Storage Building - After discussion, the Trustees approved a **motion** to purchase a storage building for the purpose of housing the lawnmower and snow blowers and removing them from the porch of the office building.

New (replacement) Water Fountain - has been installed by Blauch Brothers, Inc. in the gathering area outside the Choir Room.

MANY THANKS to all who supported the Church Workday in September. The Trustees appreciate the time and energy spent to improve the appearance of Otterbein during the workday.

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



So what do you do when the party is over? We have lots of examples in life and the Bible about the need to celebrate and how to do it well. Jesus talks in his parables about rejoicing after the lost has been found. The parable of the two sons (or the prodigal son, as it is more commonly called) shows what it looks like to celebrate. In September, Otterbein celebrated a milestone, 125 years of ministry in the Harrisonburg community, but what happens next? What happens when everyone goes home, when Memorial Hall is swept and put back together, when the music is over, and the sermon preached? What happens when the planning committee is dissolved and life returns to normal?

The simple answer is that we pick up where we left off. For 125 years we have consistently worked at the same task. We worship God in such a way that equips people to transform the world; in other words we work at our mission, *"Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World."* The more nuanced answer involves moving in step with our strengths. It has always been evident to me that one of the defining strengths of Otterbein is music. If you look through our history, you will see the part it has played in the life of our church. From organs to choirs to tower chimes to bells to Glenn Draper Singers and other innumerable guests, Otterbein can be defined by its love for and attention to music. It is not our only passion, but it is clearly something that we have given much energy to over the years. It only makes sense that as we move into our next 125 years that we look to continuing the development of music as a means of mission. There will always be room for new ministry at Otterbein but there is something to be said for doing what we have always done so well. Music is central to who we are, so let's embrace it not only as something that gives us great pleasure, but as something that can transform the world.

Adam



UMW News

Happy 150th Birthday to the United Methodist Women!

At our September meeting, Betty Redmond gave a presentation (with pictures and articles) on how the UMW began at Otterbein. We had a discussion from members reporting when they became members and what they remember about the earlier years. The program was very informative, interesting, and enjoyed by all.

The UMW will meet **Tuesday, October 8 at 11:45 am in Memorial Hall for the covered dish harvest luncheon.** Barbara Phillips, District UMW Vice President, will give a presentation on “Women United for Change: 150 years in Mission,” which was one of our Conference Mission Encounter Studies. All women of the church are invited to bring a dish and join us. We will have a birthday cake for dessert. Contact Wilma (433-9545) with questions.

The **District Annual Meeting is Thursday, October 10 at 7 pm at Keezletown UMC.** We will carpool from the church.

Jo Ann Liskey plans to attend the VA Conference UMW Annual Meeting on October 25-26 at Reville UMC in Richmond.

Four members attended the District UMW Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, September 7 at St. James UMC. The speaker was Brenda NeSmith. She was accompanied by her husband, Sam, who served as Harrisonburg District Superintendent in earlier years. Much reminiscing was done and he took part in the program.

Conducting—Collegiate/University Division. He married JMU and UVA alumni Anna Kobylski in June 2018. While living in Harrisonburg, Anna played cello for Otterbein and sang in our sanctuary choir. She now teaches French in the Alexandria City Public Schools and is a private cello instructor. David directs the choirs at Stonewall Jackson High School in Manassas and sings with the St. Catherine of Siena Choir, National Cathedral Choir, and Shrine Choir in D.C.

Thomas Florio graduated from JMU in Spring 2007. He went on to earn a Master's Degree from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and joined the International Opera Studio of the Hamburg State Opera in 2011. Since then, in addition to Hamburg, he's been featured at the Bavarian State Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Opéra national de Lorraine (France), and San Francisco Opera, among others. His work in vocal chamber music has taken him to festivals and series in Finland, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Germany, and across the United States.



A proponent of contemporary composition, he's been praised for his interpretation of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Eight Songs for a Mad King* as “peerless” (*NRC Handelsblad*), “a grand master of using his voice” (*Hufvudstadsbladet*), and “vocalism seamlessly combined with physical expression” (*Rondo Classic*). Thomas also devotes himself to educating the next generation of musicians and music lovers. He performs in children's operas, narrates symphony concerts for families in both German and English, leads post-show conversations with young audiences, and works with local schools to provide in-school presentations. If you scour Google enough, you might even find a video of him as a guest on a German cooking show, teaching the audience how to cook his favorite winter snack—Apple Brown Betty.

College Chorale Alumni Update

In preparing for the 125th Anniversary Celebration weekend, Sandy was able to contact many of our College Chorale Alumni (we have 33 who have gone through the program since 2008). Throughout the rest of the year, we will run updates on a few alumni each month to help you keep up with their lives, careers, and accomplishments. Thank you for continuing to financially support the Otterbein College Chorale program. The spiritual, musical, and relational impacts of this music ministry are immeasurable!

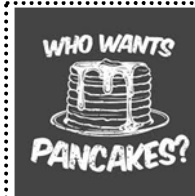
Austin Colby sang at Otterbein from 2009—2011 and graduated from JMU with a degree in Musical Theater. He is getting ready to play the role of Hans in the Disney *FROZEN* North American Tour. The tour will launch in Schenectady, NY, prior to an official opening in Los Angeles this fall. Austin married well-known musical actress Caroline Bowman in November of 2017 and she will be playing the roll of Elsa. Prior to this, Austin starred as Bob Gaudio in the off-Broadway production of *Jersey Boys* and was in the national tour of *The Sound of Music*.



David Mann was in the College Chorale from 2011—2013. He is currently a teacher, conductor, and active singer in the Washington, D.C. area. After earning his B.M. in Music Education at JMU, he received his M.M. in Choral Conducting at Michigan State University. In 2018, David was recognized nationally when he was named the winner of the American Prize in Choral



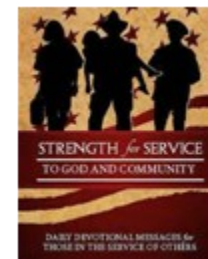
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**Pancake Brunch
Planned for
Sunday, October
13th**



The Otterbein Men invite everyone to enjoy a **Pancake Brunch** on **Sunday, October 13** in **Memorial Hall** immediately following the Worship Service. The menu will include fluffy pancakes (of course!), sausage, fruit, coffee, juice, and milk. Donations from the Brunch will be used to purchase additional Devotional Guides for Veterans and others. Please plan to support our efforts! And we *thank you*, in advance, for your support!



The next Otterbein **Prayer Breakfast** will be **Saturday, October 26**. The meeting begins at **7:30 am** and will be held at **Thomas House Restaurant in Dayton**. Breakfast is followed by a short business meeting, concluding with a time of devotions and prayer. No meeting in November, but on **Saturday, December 7** at **7:30 am** we will meet in **Memorial Hall** at **Otterbein UMC** for a short meeting and to prepare for the **Christmas Family Brunch** on **Sunday, December 8th** following worship service. More details to follow.

Check the website below for additional information.



Want to know more?

Contact President Art Mitchell, Vice President Kevin Andrade, Secretary Bill Pollard or check our website:
<https://www.oumcharrisonburg.org/united-methodist-men>



Reflection on Spiritual Disciplines: Guidance

Every Discipline has its corresponding freedom. Freedom is the purpose of the Disciplines. Our aim should be the freedom, not the Discipline. The Disciplines are the means to an end that leads us to the ultimate goal of all Christians, which is that of drawing closer to Jesus Christ.

Richard Foster, in his book, *Celebration of Discipline*, believes that the world has yet to see the breaking forth of the apostolic church of the Spirit. He believes that people with this Spirit will not emerge until there is a deeper, more profound experience of the concept of “God with us.” Foster says “corporate guidance” will help Christians achieve this level of spirituality.

Corporate guidance is one aspect of divine guidance. We receive guidance as God leads us through Scripture and through the promptings of the Spirit upon the individual heart. However, there has been little written about how God leads *through His people*, the body of Christ.

Moses was one of the first to offer corporate guidance as he spoke to God, then conveyed the message to the people of Israel. Jesus showed what it meant to live in response to the voice of the Father, especially when “two or more” are gathered together (Matthew 19:19,20). There was the assurance from Christ that when people genuinely gathered in His name, His will could be more completely discerned.

Spiritual direction or guidance is first born out of natural, spontaneous human relationships. The ordinary, but necessary kinds of caring and sharing found in the Christian community are the starting point for spiritual direction.

The dangers of corporate guidance are realized if that guidance is used as a way to manipulate and control others. Corporate guidance must be biblically based. The teachings of scripture must be included in all thinking and acting.

Richard Foster concludes, “Scripture itself is a form of corporate

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It's time for Advent! Or at least Advent Devotionals. Around the first of October, there will be a sign-up sheet for our own Advent Devotional Guide. Only 25 writing spots available, so be sure to sign up early!

One Session Bible Study

If you missed the Mark sessions of Bible Study and want to catch up all at once, there will be a one hour book study format session on **October 17th** at **10 am** and **6 pm**. The only pre-requisite is to read Mark chapter 1-8 and be ready to engage in a discussion.

Bible Study

Our Old Testament Study this year will continue with the history of Israel. Our past two studies took us through 1 & 2 Kings as we learned more about King David and the rise and fall of Judah and Israel. This Fall, we will venture further forward to the books of Ezra and Nehemiah as Judah returns from exile. Study begins October 22nd. Sessions are offered on Tuesdays at 10 am and 6 pm in Room 204.





October Blood Drive

**American
Red Cross**

On **Sunday, October 27th**, we will host an American Red Cross blood drive in **Memorial**

Hall from **9:30 AM - 1:30 PM**. Illness,

accidents, and surgeries take place every day, and the need for blood is a constant reality. If you, a family member, or a friend needed blood, the American Red Cross would be there for you, because of those that give the Gift of Life. Please consider spending an hour with us to donate blood.

You must be 16 or over and in good health to donate, and you need to bring an ID with you. It also is very helpful if you eat a good breakfast before you come. Contact Susan Pollard @ 828-4562 if you have questions or wish to make an appointment.



**Happy 100th Birthday
to Allene McCoy!**

**Come to Harrisonburg
Health & Rehab Center at
1225 S. Reservoir Street
on Saturday, October 19
between 2—4 pm to**

**drop by and say hello to a centenarian
enjoy some refreshments and drinks!**

No gifts, please.

guidance. It is a way God speaks through the experience of the people of God.”

If you would like to learn more about Guidance or any of the other Spiritual Disciplines, check out the book, *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster, found in our church library.

Prepared by Bill Pollard
Discipleship Ministry Team

October Outreach Project Collins Center & Child Advocacy Center

The Collins Center & Child Advocacy

Center in Harrisonburg is our Outreach project for this month. Their mission is to eliminate sexual violence and its impact in our community. They began back in 1987 following the tragic sexual assault and death of a well-known woman from Harrisonburg named Shirley Collins. A group of community members came together and took action to address the ways that sexual violence was affecting our community. In 1988, Citizens Against Sexual Assault, CASA, was founded. In 2007, it was renamed the Collins Center, honoring Shirley Collins.

The Collins Center offers support services to men, women, and children, many of which are free. They offer counseling, both individual and group, and prevention programs to the community to educate us and show us how to support those affected by it. They have a 24-hour crisis hotline with support for reporting assaults, advocacy for medical processing, and legal assistance for filing charges and going to court. They offer therapy for adults and children recovering from an assault and trying to get on with life.

The Collins Center has 8 full-time and part-time employees who need our support. They operate on grants plus some local, state, and federal funding, but they greatly need our donations. If you feel so led, please make out your check to Otterbein UMC with “The Collins Center” in the memo line and drop it in the offering plate any Sunday in October. A representative of The Collins Center will be here to speak to us on October 20th.

Health & Wellness

The Mindset of Christ

If we want to be spiritually well, I believe that the best thing we can do is to allow ourselves to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. This Scripture from Philippians points us to what this looks like, and the Wesley Covenant Prayer that follows is an invitation for us to give our lives fully to Jesus.

“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

*Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped;
rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a
servant, being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”*

(Philippians 2:1-11)

Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.

continued next page...

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me
have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and
disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified
in heaven. Amen.

May it be so for each of us today – and everyday – by
God’s grace and because of His amazing love.

Your sister in Christ,
Faith

Check Out Our Scrapbooks!

Our 125th Anniversary is now history and what a joyous and wonderful celebration it was!! The worship, music, food and fellowship was beyond expectations! Thanks to everyone who had a part in the planning, contributing memorabilia, and attending the two-day event. We hope you were inspired by the past, present, and future of Otterbein United Methodist Church. Please note that the numerous Historical Scrapbooks that were prepared for this event will be available anytime for your enjoyment. They are permanently stored in a new bookcase in Room 204 where you can sit at a table and browse at you leisure.

Patsy Liskey, Chair, 125th Anniversary Committee

