



Otterbein United Methodist Church

August 30, 2026
Traditional Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

647 Forge Road, Carlisle, PA 17015
Church office: (717) 258-6704
Office hours 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
Web site: www.ottumc.org



Find us on Facebook
"Otterbein.UMC.Carlisle"

STAFF

Rev. Steve Salisbury, Pastor
ssalisbury@susumc.org
Cell: (717) 578-0172
Church office: (717) 258-6704

Nancy Miller, Executive Coordinator
office@ottumc.org
Church office: (717) 258-6704

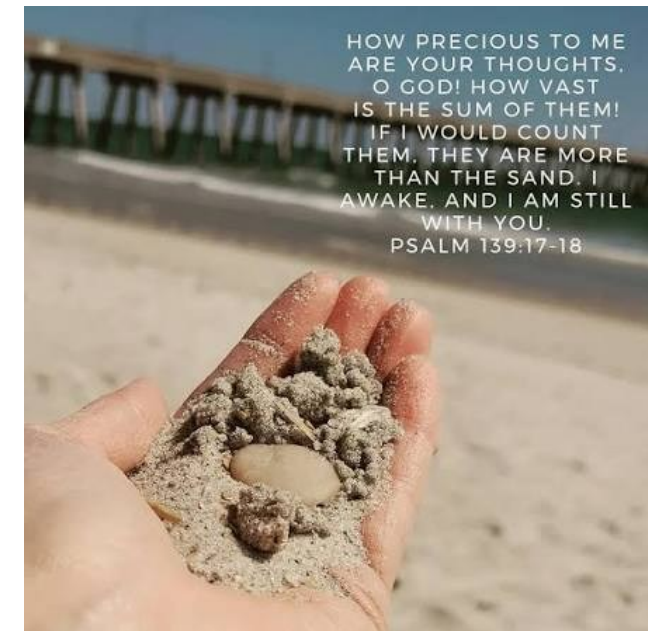
Brendan Warren, Contemporary Worship Coordinator (gathering@ottumc.org)

Janna Brandt - Director of Family Ministries (families@ottumc.org)

Kimberley Hudson, Daycare Director (daycare@ottumc.org)

Leslie Conway, Treasurer (treasurer@ottumc.org)

"The God Who Sees You" Psalm 139:1-18



Welcome to Otterbein Church

Whether you are a first-time guest, a new resident searching for a church home, or simply visiting the area, we are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today.

Otterbein is a United Methodist congregation committed to serving our Lord Jesus Christ by sharing the Good News and caring for our neighbors. We invite you to walk with us on this journey of faith and hope you will find a place within our church family.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE Elise Sweger

LIGHTING THE CANDLES / RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: O Lord, you have searched us, and you know us.
P: You know our thoughts, our words, and every step we take.
L: We cannot go where your presence is not already with us.
P: In darkness and in light, you remain near.
L: We praise you, for you have made us wonderfully.
A: Let us worship the God who knows us, loves us, and never leaves us.

HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" UMH 139

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

PASTORAL PRAYER / LORDS PRAYER (DEBTORS)

HYMN "Surely the Presence" UMH 328

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Elise Sweger
Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

SCRIPTURE Page 444 / 445 Psalm 139:1-18

SPECIAL MUSIC "Mighty Name of Jesus" Lindsay Ewing

MESSAGE "The God Who Sees You" Rev. Steve Salisbury

CLOSING HYMN "Abide With Me" UMH 700

PASTORAL BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES / CHIMES

POSTLUDE Ellise Sweger
(Please stand if able)

WORSHIP NOTES

Hearing assist devices are available at the right rear of the sanctuary in tech room.
Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the sanctuary. Please ask an Usher.
Children’s Worship - Children are invited to the front of the sanctuary for the children’s moment followed by Otter Kids in Room 5.
Today’s altar flowers are given in honor of our family and loved ones by Terry and Debra Dubbs.

Usher Captain – Ty Trainor Organist: Elise Sweger

Worship Schedule	Adult Sunday School:
8:45 AM Traditional	9:45 - Loyal Class (Library)
9:30 AM Contemporary "Gathering"	10:00 - BASIC Class (Room 8)
11:00 AM Chapel	

Attendance: August 23, 2026 Online:

8:45 Traditional	168	77
9:30 Contemporary	42	24
11:00 Traditional Chapel	23	

Total 233 Online: 101

The mortgage balance after the August 15th payment is \$109,626.46.

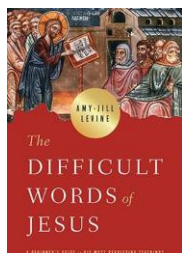
What's Happening at Otterbein!

Barnabas Group - August

This month, the Barnabas Group has chosen a new individual who would appreciate your prayers and words of encouragement. You will find their name and note cards in the **narthex** or **multipurpose room**.

Please take a moment to write a note that shares God's love, comfort, and encouragement. If writing is not your thing, preprinted cards with messages are available—just sign your name and place the card in the basket.

BASIC Adult Sunday School Class – 10:00 AM – Room 8 (Sept. 6 – Oct. 11)



Please join Harry Owens as he leads the class on “Difficult Words of Jesus” starting on September 6th. Jesus provided his disciples teachings for how to follow Torah, God’s word; he told them parables to help them discern questions of ethics and of human nature; he offered them beatitudes for comfort and encouragement. But sometimes Jesus spoke words that followers then and now have found difficult. He instructs disciples to hate members of their own families (Luke 14:26), to act as if they were slaves (Matthew 20:27), and to sell their belongings and give to the poor (Luke 18:22). He restricts his mission (Matthew 10:6); he speaks of damnation (Matthew 8:12); he calls Jews the devil’s children (John 8:44).

In *The Difficult Words of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how have they been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation.

Women’s Bible Study – 7:00 PM – Room 8 (September 15 – November 17)

The Women's Bible Study Group is wrapping up their summer study and are planning their fall study! Next up: Beatitudes from the Back Side (a different take on what it means to be blessed) by J. Ellsworth Kalas. It has been said that Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount is “Christianity 101.” Certainly the Beatitudes are much loved, yet can be quite confusing...how can being persecuted or being in mourning feel “blessed?”

Join us on Tuesdays for ten sessions, beginning September 15 and concluding November 17, the week before Thanksgiving. We look forward to having different women lead each session. If you would like to volunteer to lead a discussion, please contact Brenda Brehm or Rosa Seyfried. You will find it rewarding!

If you would like us to order a book for you, please respond to the Women’s Group Facebook post or contact Sally Mentzer at sallymentzer@gmail.com. The book order will be placed on Sept. 4, so please submit your request before that date. Books are also available on Amazon if you prefer to order your own copy. We invite you to join us for this study, even if you can only attend a few sessions. We know you will be blessed!

Two Bible Study Opportunities by Pastor Steve

Philippians: Joy in Every Circumstance – 10:00 AM - Library (Sept. 17 – Oct. 22)

What does it mean to experience genuine joy, even when life doesn't go according to plan? Join us for a six-week study of Paul’s letter to the Philippians as we explore Christian joy, humility, purpose, peace, and contentment. Together, we’ll dig into the biblical text, discover what Paul’s message meant for the early church, and consider what it means for us as followers of Christ today.

No previous Bible study experience is necessary—just bring your Bible, your questions, and a willingness to grow.

How to Be a Disciple Wednesday - 6:30 PM - Library (Sept. 16 – Oct. 21)

Following Jesus is more than believing the right things, it's learning to live like Jesus in every part of our lives. In this six-week study, we'll explore what it means to grow as a disciple through prayer, Scripture, worship, Christian community, serving others, and sharing our faith. Each week will combine biblical teaching with practical ways to put our faith into action.

Whether you're new to following Christ or have been walking with Him for years, come discover what it looks like to move from simply believing in Jesus to intentionally following Him.

Mission Trip Scheduled!

Are you available September 20th? The Mission Committee has scheduled a Hurricane Helene rebuilding trip with Appalachia Service Project from September 20–27 in western North Carolina. Appalachia Service Project helps build and repair homes for people in need throughout Appalachia. There will be work for every skill level, and we will stay in an Airbnb with plenty of bedrooms and bathrooms. If you can only join us for part of the week, that is perfectly fine. It is time to SIGN UP and there are SPOTS AVAILABLE! If you are interested in the trip, talk to Julie Greenisen for more information (717) 701-0701.

Otterbein Youth

OY (Otterbein Youth) returns Sunday, September 13th! OY is open to all youth in grades 6 – 12. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, September through May. OY meets from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the gym; dinner is provided. If you would like to be added to the email reminder list for OY, please reach out to Janna Brandt at families@ottumc.org.

Glenn Pepper Milk Giveaway

On **September 12, 2026**, from 8:00 to 12:00 noon, Otterbein will be hosting the Glenn Pepper Milk Giveaway. There will be 500 gallons of milk available until 12:00 noon or until it is gone. Glenn passed away on September 30, 2021. His family and friends continue his passion by keeping the milk giveaway alive. To date, 2500 gallons of milk and 700 Farm Show milkshakes have been given out to the public. The milkshakes were donated to Tim Tebow's "Night to Shine", which is a prom for special needs young adults. Tell your friends and neighbors – let's keep Glenn's dream alive by ensuring everyone has milk.

Calling all Singers!

Love to sing and worship the Lord? Join the Adult Choir! Singers of all experience levels are welcome!

Adult Choir Rehearsals begin on Wednesday September 2nd at 7:00pm, with a potluck dinner for choir members and their families starting at 6:00 pm in Room 8.

Interested in singing, but want a shorter commitment? Join us for the Christmas Cantata! Rehearsals begin Wednesday October 7th at 6:30 pm. Students in 9th grade on up, who sing in their school choir, are welcome to join as well. We will perform on Sunday, December 13th at the combined worship service.

Contact Elise Sweger at elisebordner@gmail.com if you are interested in joining or have any questions.