



Otterbein United Methodist Church

October 18, 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)

OPEN POSITION - Director of Family Ministries (families@ottumc.org)

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

Leslie Conway, Treasurer (treasurer@ottumc.org)

“Wait?!? That’s in the Bible. The Man Who Wrestled God” *Genesis 32:22-32*



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 “I Need Thee Every Hour” Elise Sweger

LIGHTING THE CANDLES / RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP “Let the People of God Go Singing”
Adult Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Sometimes faith feels less like standing still and more like wrestling.
P: We bring our questions, our fears, and our struggles before God.
L: Jacob wrestled through the night and refused to let go.
P: And he left wounded, changed, and blessed.
L: God meets us even in our struggles.
A: Lord, help us hold on to You until the blessing comes.

HYMN “How Firm a Foundation” UMH 529

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

PASTORAL PRAYER / LORDS PRAYER (DEBTORS)

HYMN “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder” UMH 418

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory “My Jesus, I Love Thee” Elise Sweger
Doxology “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

SCRIPTURE *Page 25* Genesis 32:22-32

SPECIAL MUSIC “His Eye is on the Sparrow” Adult Choir

MESSAGE “Wait?!? That’s in the Bible “The Man Who Wrestled God”
Rev. Steve Salisbury

CLOSING HYMN “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” UMH 514

PASTORAL BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION “Shalom” Adult Choir

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES / CHIMES

POSTLUDE “Be Thou My Vision” Elise 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 to the glory of God in thanksgiving for His many blessings by Patti Johnson.

Usher Captain – Slim Connors **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 - October 11, 2026

8:45 Traditional	146	Online: 146
9:30 Contemporary	33	46
11:00 Traditional Chapel	28	

Total 207 Online: 192

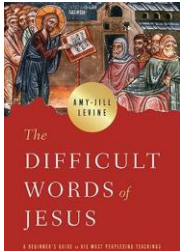
What's Happening at Otterbein!

Barnabas Group - October

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. 20 – Oct. 25)



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).

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

The Women's Bible Study Group is starting “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!

We invite you to join the study, even if you can attend only a few sessions. We know you will be blessed!

Circle of Prayer

Each week our Susquehanna & Upper New York Conferences requests prayer for churches within their area and our Conference Camp / Retreat centers. During the **week of October 18 - 24, 2026** – (PA) Beavertown UMC – Beavertown, Bethel Altoona UMC – Beford, Bethel Brogue UMC – Brogue, Braman UMC – Equinunk, Centre UMC – Osceola Mills; (NY) Ashville UMC – Ashville, Bath: Centenary UMC – Bath, Berlin UMC – Berlin, Borodino UMC – Skaneateles, Brainardsville UMC – Chateaugay, Central Endicott UMC - Endicott.

Children's Handchime Choir (open to all 3rd grade and above)

Children’s Handchime choir will begin rehearsals Sunday October 11th at 9:30 during Children's Church. The choir will be performing during the Children's Christmas Showcase, December 19th, and during the 7:30pm Christmas Eve Family service.

Please see the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the church office and in the Contemporary. Any questions contact Tammy Ham (c: 717-243-1872)

Pot Pie made lovingly by the United Methodist Women

We need help to do the following: make the dough, run the dough through the pasta machines, cut dough into pieces and stack it on trays, peel potatoes, cut potatoes into chunks, measure ingredients, cook the pot pie, handle the heavy pots, and fill the quart containers for sale. If this sounds like something you are able and willing to do, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board located outside the office or in the Contemporary. You do not have to be a chef to help.

We need your **help on October 29 and 30th from 8:00 a.m. – 12 PM.** Pot Pie will be **sold on Friday, October 30th, starting at 1:00 until 5 PM** in the multipurpose room. Pot pie is \$10 per quart. Thank you!

Upcoming at Otterbein

Event	Date	Time	Location
Daycare Exec. Board Only Meeting	October 19	6 – 9:00 PM	Library
Thanksgiving Team Mtg.	October 19	6:30 PM	Room 8
Bells	October 19	6:30 PM	Choir Room
Boy Scouts	October 19	7:00 PM	Multi-purpose Room
Bible Study	October 20	9:00 AM	Library
Outside Group	October 20	5:30 – 8:30 PM	Gym
Missions Meeting	October 20	7:00 PM	Library
Women’s Bible Study	October 20	7:00 PM	Room 8
Special Olympics	October 21	5:45 – 7 PM	Multi-purpose Room
Pastor Bible Study	October 21	6:30 – 7:30 PM	Library
Choir Practice	October 21	6:30 PM – Cantata 7:00 PM – Choir	Choir Room
Pastor Bible Study	October 22	10:00 – 11:00 AM	Library
Men’s Life Group	October 22	7:00 PM	Library
CAIU	October 23	8 AM – 5 PM	Library
CPARC	October 23	4:30 – 9:00 PM	Multi-purpose Room
Directory Pictures	October 22 / 23 October 24	2 – 8:30 PM 10:00 AM – 4 PM	Narthex
Youth Group	October 25	6 – 8:00 PM	Multi-purpose Room

1st Sunday of each month – New Person for Barnabas Group to write notes to

2nd Sunday of each month – Canned Fruit Sunday

3rd Sunday of each month – Wave to our friends joining us from home.

Communion Dates for 2026

November 8th

December 24th (2:00, 6:00, and 11:00 PM)