

Otterbein: A Church That Cares

Every person has an innate need to
belong, to **connect**, but most of all, to
matter.

We **connect** people to God because God created every person with **immeasurable worth** on **purpose**.



¹Therefore if there is any **encouragement** in Christ, if there is any **consolation** of love, if there is any **fellowship** of the Spirit, if any **affection** and **compassion**,² make my **joy** complete by being of the **same mind**, maintaining the **same love**, **united in spirit**, intent on **one purpose**.

³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with **humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves**; ⁴ do **not merely** look out for your own personal interests, but **also** for the interests of others.

⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which **was also in** Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard **equality with God** a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a **bond-servant**, and being made in the likeness of men.

⁸ Being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled Himself by becoming
obedient to the point of death, even
death on a cross. ⁹ **For this reason** also,
God highly exalted Him, and bestowed
on Him the name which is above every
name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus **every knee will bow**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that **every tongue will confess** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:1-11

Why We Affirm Every Person in Love

1) Every person has value.

²⁶ Then God said, “**Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;** and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ God created man **in His own image**, in the **image of God** He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 1:26-27

Our worth comes from our creator.

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- Every **baby** bears the image of God
- Every “**seasoned adult**” bears the image of God
- Every **addict** bears the image of God
- Every **CEO** bears the image of God
- Every **un-homed person** bears the image of God
- Every **student** bears the image of God

**We will continue to be a church that
values people and treats them with
dignity from the womb to the tomb.**

¹³ For **You** formed my inward parts;
You wove me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will give thanks to You, for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.

Psalm 139:13-14

Why We Affirm Every Person in Love

1) Every person has value.

2) Every person is created for a purpose.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Jeremiah 1:5

who has saved us and called us with a
holy calling, not according to **our works**,
but according to **His own purpose** and
grace which was granted us in **Christ**
Jesus from all eternity,

2 Timothy 1:9

We don't **earn and deserve** our spot in
God's plans. Because of Jesus and His
mercy, we have everything we need to
step out boldly!

Everyone has been carefully crafted and formed by God. He doesn't just make people, **He carefully designs them for a purpose.**

If God has **invested** so much time and care into every human life, then how should we **affirm and treat** them?

Why We Affirm Every Person in Love

- 1) Every person has value.
- 2) Every person is created for a purpose.
- 3) Every person is more valuable than you.

³ Do nothing from **selfishness or empty conceit**, but with **humility of mind** regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but **also for the interests of others.**

⁵ **Have this attitude** in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ **but emptied Himself**, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:3-8

Progression of Affirmation

- 1) Don't act out of selfish ambition**
- 2) Humbly view others as more important**
- 3) Act in the interest of others**
- 4) Adopt Christ's mindset**

Jesus served, washed feet, ministered to
the sick, welcomed children, ate with
sinners, made the overlooked feel seen,
broke the chains of addiction and **loved**
everyone!

It is **human nature** to rank people. We rank based on influence, ability, popularity, education, and even job title, but **Jesus never did.**

Otterbein will be a place where...

- The **lonely** find family.
- The **hurting** find comfort and hope.
- The **skeptic** finds someone willing to listen.
- The **next gen** will be treasured...not just when they are cute babies.
- The “**seasoned**” will be honored and utilized.
- The **struggling** aren't judged.

Visitors won't **simply attend**. They will
know that **they belong**.

That is what a church that **C.A.R.E.S.**
looks like.

- Serve Saturdays
- Undue Medical Debt Campaigns
- Blood Drives
- Your ideas

Challenge

This week, notice someone everyone else overlooks. Learn their name, invite them to God's favorite restaurant, write someone an encouraging note, sit with a visitor, build up people, or pray for that annoying person.

Jesus **affirmed** people because He created them. If we are going to **strengthen our reputation** as a church that C.A.R.E.S, then every person who walks through our doors **should encounter people** who see them the way Jesus does.

As an **image bearer of God**, deeply **loved**
by Him and worthy of **dignity, honor, and**
compassion.