

NEWS & EVENTS

IMPORTANT CLASS DATES

BAPTISM WORKSHOP | JANUARY 25

The next Baptism Workshop will be held on Sunday, **January 25 at 11:00 a.m.** in the OC Groups wing, Room 402. This workshop will help you record your salvation journey and teach the meaning of baptism. It is a requirement for all high school students and adults. The next Sunday for baptism services is planned for February 22. Register on the OC App or visit otterbeinchurch.org and click on the Sunday page.

WELCOME TO OTTERBEIN CLASS | FEBRUARY 15

Are you new to Otterbein? Join Pastor Mike on Sunday, February 15 for our Welcome to Otterbein Class. In the class, you will learn more about who we are at Otterbein Church and how to take your next step. The class will be offered at 9:30 a.m. in the OC 45 building (beside the white tent building). Register at Connection Point, on the OC App, or at ocregister.org.



LOCAL2GLOBAL SERVE OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in getting more involved with **local outreach** or in responding to **disaster relief** needs through Samaritan's Purse? We are currently **updating our contact lists** for both ministry areas and would love to know if you'd like to be included.

INTERESTED IN SERVING IN HONDURAS IN 2026?

Pastor Adam will be hosting an **informational meeting on Sunday, February 1** at 12:30 p.m. in the OC45 Building. At this meeting, we'll share an overview of the ministry, answer questions, and walk through details for our two upcoming trips: May 16–23, 2026 and August 1–8, 2026.

For all Local2TGlobal opportunities, learn more on the OC App, online at ocregister.org or stop by Connection Point.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

TIMELESS TREASURES | FEBRUARY 14

Timeless Treasures (50 & older) is celebrating Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 14, at the Otterbein Community Center. Whether you're single, widowed or married, God's love is for everyone! Join us for a buffet luncheon at noon, the doors will open at 11:30 a.m. After lunch, we will enjoy music by "Sweet Life," a husband-and-wife duo, who sing of God's love. Sign up with payment of \$20 per person **at Connection Point TODAY** and January 25. Or sign up on the OC App/website Jan. 18–22.

GET READY TO RIDE!

We're excited to announce the kickoff of our 2026 Riding Season in March, with monthly rides continuing through October. If you're looking to connect with other riders, build community, and enjoy the open road, this is your opportunity. These rides are open to the entire community, so invite a friend or fellow rider to join us. Get your bike ready, we ride in March!



Please take a moment to complete the Annual Church Survey. Use the QR code above, or you can access it easily from the Sunday tab on both the OC App and at otterbeinchurch.org.

SMALL GROUPS

Otterbein has many different small group environments where people connect with others and learn biblical principles for life. Check out the Small Groups launching in January! Learn more or sign up on the OC App or online at ocregister.org.

Tuesday AM Women of the Word: This group will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m. in the OC 45 Building beginning January 20. Study TBD.

Men's Base Camp: This group will meet weekly on Wednesdays from 7:00–8:30 p.m. beginning on January 21: an interactive study of Hebrews with live teaching and group discussion.

Men's Group Thursday AM: This group will meet weekly on Thursdays from 9:00–10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room beginning January 22. The study will be on the book of Joshua.

Sunday PM Couples Small Group

The group meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in various homes, John & Lorie Lehman facilitate.

Widow Warriors Small Group: This group will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30–8:00 p.m. for 8 weeks beginning February 3. Study based on the book, *Hope for my Hurting Heart*, by Linda Dillow.

Hope & Healing Small Group: This group will meet from 6:30–8:00 p.m. on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays beginning February 4. Study based on the book, *Holding on to Hope*, by Nancie Guthrie. This group is for men and women.

THE BIBLE JOURNEY

The Bible Journey is our churchwide Bible reading plan—one chapter a day, with helpful podcasts, resources, and a place to ask questions along the way. It's a great way to grow closer to God by spending time in His Word.

You'll find the daily reading plan on the OC App, our website, and at facebook.com/groups/ocdevotionals (click "join" to have it show up in your feed). If you have notifications turned on in the OC App for "Bible Journey," you'll get a reminder each morning at 7:00 a.m. with a direct link to that day's reading. You can also download a weekly copy of the plan at otterbeinchurch.org/the-bible-journey. **We have added an audio link on the OC App to LISTEN to the daily reading.** Join us on the journey!

GROWING FORWARD

BECOMING THE PERSON GOD CREATED YOU TO BECOME

JANUARY 3, 2026

WELCOME

We Are Glad You Are Here!

CHILDREN

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, it is our goal to make this the best hour of their week and the most helpful hour of yours. We encourage you to take advantage of our age-graded ministries for your children during the worship service. This will allow your children to learn at an age-appropriate level. For assistance in locating your child's classroom, please visit GUEST CENTRAL. If you choose to keep your children with you, we ask that you be considerate of others by taking them to the lobby if they become restless or have extended periods of crying. There is a television for you to watch the service in the Cafe seating area in the lobby.

OFFERING

OFFERING baskets are available in the lobby at the Worship Center doors or you can give online on the OC App and at otterbeinchurch.org using a debit or credit card.

NEW HERE?

We encourage you to visit **GUEST CENTRAL** in the lobby following the service so we can provide you with additional information about Otterbein, answer your questions, and give you a gift.

WELCOME CARD

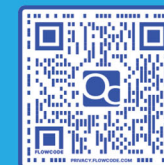
We encourage you to complete a Welcome Card which can be found in the seat backs in the Worship Center. A digital Welcome Card is also available (Use the QR Code).

If you have a **PRAYER REQUEST** you would like our prayer team to pray for, please include it on the Welcome Card. Welcome Cards can be dropped in the baskets at the lobby doors at the conclusion of the service.



OTTERBEIN CHURCH APP

We encourage you to download the OC APP where you can complete the Welcome Card, give online, read the announcements, share a prayer request, find message notes, register and sign up for events, watch last week's service and much more. Use the QR Code or search for Otterbein Church Waynesboro in any of the app stores.



***SIGN UP, REGISTER, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ON THE OC APP, OCREGISTER.ORG, OR AT CONNECTION POINT IN THE LOBBY.**

FIND US ON



OTTERBEIN CHURCH

912 S. Potomac Street, Waynesboro PA 17268 | otterbeinchurch.org

SERVICE TIMES:

8:00 a.m. – Worship, Nursery & Preschool
9:30 a.m. – Worship, Nursery, Preschool, Elementary & Youth
11:00 a.m. – Worship, Nursery, Preschool & Elementary

BECOMING FREE

January 18, 2026
Mike Newman, Senior Pastor

IN THE “GROWING FORWARD” SERIES:	
January 4: <i>Becoming Confident</i>	January 11: <i>Becoming Like Christ</i>
January 18: <i>Becoming Free</i>	January 25: <i>Becoming Focused—Part 1</i>
February 1: <i>Becoming Focused—Part 2</i>	February 8: <i>Becoming Content</i>

GOD DOESN'T WANT YOU TO BE THE SAME PERSON YOU ARE TODAY AT THE END OF 2026.

John 8:31–36 (NLT) (31) Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. (32) And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (33) “But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free’?” (34) Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. (35) A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. (36) So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

Philippians 3:1–11 (NLT) (1) Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith. (2) Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. (3) For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, (4) though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more! (5) I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. (6) I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. (7) I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. (8) Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ (9) and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. (10) I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, (11) so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

1) Becoming free means _____ faith.

Philippians 3:3–4 (NLT) (3) For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, (4) though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

Matthew 11:28–30 (NLT) (28) Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (30) For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

2) Becoming free requires _____ for Christ’s perfection.

Philippians 3:7–9 (NLT) (7) I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. (8) Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ (9) and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT) (21) For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Romans 5:1 (NLT) (1) Therefore, since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

WHEN YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN, YOU ARE NOT JUST FORGIVEN—YOU ARE DECLARED RIGHTEOUS. THAT IS REAL FREEDOM!

Becoming A Christian Involves:

- Believing in Jesus
- Repenting and Confessing Sins
- Surrendering Your Life to Jesus

3) Freedom is found in _____.

Philippians 3:10–11 (NLT) (10) I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, (11) so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

WHEN YOU STOP TRYING TO PERFORM FOR GOD AND START PURSUING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, THAT IS WHERE YOU FIND REAL FREEDOM.

Philippians 2:12B–13 (NLT)Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. (13) For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

WHEN YOU PURSUE KNOWING JESUS, IT WILL HAVE A PROFOUND IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE AND HELP YOU TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP TO BECOME THE PERSON GOD CREATED YOU TO BECOME.

For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking “Next Steps > Jesus” on