

NEWS & EVENTS

Celebrate EASTER with us

EASTER EGG HUNT | SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Hop on over to Otterbein Community Park (13375 Welty Road) on Saturday, March 28 for our annual Egg Hunt! This fun-filled event is open to kids ages 2 through 5th grade, and the hunt will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. Be sure to arrive early and bring a basket or bag to collect eggs—we have plenty to go around, but the fun goes fast!

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND | MARCH 28 & 29

Join us on Palm Sunday weekend for a special Easter celebration that will include our adult choir, worship team, children's dance ministry, and a message by Pastor Mike. There will be two Saturday evening services, at 4:00 & 6:30 p.m. Childcare will be available for children birth—preschool. We will have our regular schedule on Sunday morning with services at 8, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

COMMUNION SERVICE | THURSDAY, APRIL 2

On Thursday, April 2, we will have two communion services (6:00 & 7:30 p.m.) in the Worship Center. Childcare will be available for children birth—preschool at 6:00 p.m. Both services are identical and will last approximately 60 minutes. The service will include an intimate time of worship and reflection as we focus on Jesus' death and share communion.

EASTER WEEKEND | APRIL 4 & 5

We will have a Saturday evening service on Easter weekend at 6:30 p.m. to make room for additional guests who will join us as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Childcare will be available on Saturday evening for children from birth—preschool. We will have our regular schedule on Easter Sunday at 8, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

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.

This past week we began our journey through the short letters written by the Apostle Paul. While short in length, they are dense in content. Join us as we consider the background of each letter and discover how Paul addresses specific challenges and needs in the local church. If you are new to the Journey, you can 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 invite you to get your own Bible Journey Journal for \$5 at Connection Point. **Now is a great time to start reading the Bible!**

EASTER meal & Breakfast

We are providing Easter meals to people in our community who are struggling financially. People can choose a bag of food that includes ham, potatoes, dinner rolls, corn, green beans, macaroni and cheese, fruit, butter, and cookies OR they can request individually packaged meals that can be heated up in a microwave. Here are ways that you can be involved in helping our church serve our community in Jesus' name:

Give \$35 for an Easter Meal bag which will feed an entire family, \$12 for the purchase of a single serve meal, or give a gift in *any amount* for the breakfast and/or other expenses related to the Easter Outreach Meal.

UPDATE: We were blown away by the incredible response from those eager to serve! The cookie bakers have responded, and our volunteer roster is now full—THANK YOU for your support! If you would like to give towards this outreach, sign up on the OC App, at ocregister.org, or stop by Connection Point.

COLLEGE AGE (18-25) | MARCH 22

If you are a young adult (18-25) and want to connect with others your age and grow spiritually, join us on Sunday evenings. We connect each week over food, fellowship, and Bible study. On Sunday, March 22, join us at Hagerstown Ice & Sports Complex at 2:30 5:00 p.m. We're going Ice Skating! Questions? Email dwight.karkan@otterbeinchurch.org.

OTTERBEIN PARK RESTROOM KEYCARDS

Spring is here! The restroom facilities at Otterbein Community Recreation Park (13375 Welty Road) will be opened Wednesday, March 26. The restrooms are locked except for scheduled group events/rentals. **If you picked up a keycard last year, those keys will be reactivated March 26, so there is no need for a new card.** If you do not yet have a keycard, you can request one through the OC App, online at ocregister.org, or by signing up at Connection Point. Please allow 3 business days for us to prepare your card.

SIGHT & SOUND—OUT OF TICKETS!

The Timeless Treasures bus trip to Sight & Sound on Wednesday, September 30 filled in record time! There are no more tickets left for this event. If you would be interested in being on the **waiting list** for this bus trip to see the new production, "Joshua," contact Pastor John Hoffman at 240-520-4743. The cost for the trip is \$175.00 per person. This price includes your admission to the show, bus transportation, and a meal afterward at Shady Maple Smorgasbord.

TIMELESS TREASURES MOVIE & LUNCH | APRIL 30

If you're 50+ consider joining us for a special gathering of Timeless Treasures. On Thursday, April 30, we are showing the inspirational movie, *Remember the Goal*, in the OC Youth Building at 10 a.m. with lunch to follow in the OC 45 Building. Cost is \$10 per person. **Sign up will be available beginning April 12.**

BE PREPARED TO GIVE ANSWERS AND DEFEND YOUR FAITH

MARCH 22, 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.**



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

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

March 22, 2026
Mike Newman, Senior Pastor

IN THE "ANSWERS" SERIES:

March 8: *Does God Exist?*

March 15: *Can We Trust the Bible?*

March 22: *Why Does God Allow Suffering?*

March 29: *Why Did Jesus Have to Die?*

April 5: *What Does the Resurrection Prove?*

April 12: *Effective Ways to Give Answers and Defend Your Faith*

1 Peter 3:15b–16a (NLT) (15)...**If someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. (16) But do this in a gentle and respectful way....**

TODAY'S BIG QUESTION: WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

John 16:33 (NLT) (33) I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

FIVE TRUTHS ABOUT SUFFERING:

1) **Suffering entered the world through _____ and was not God's desire for us.**

Romans 5:12 (NLT) (12) When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR US TO EXPERIENCE SUFFERING. SUFFERING WAS THE CONSEQUENCE OF ADAM AND EVE'S SIN.

A WORLD WITHOUT FREE WILL WOULD BE A WORLD WITHOUT LOVE.

2) **Suffering can _____ that comfort and an easy life could never produce.**

GOD DOES NOT WASTE SUFFERING.

James 1:2–4 (NLT) (2) Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. (3) For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. (4) So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

1 Peter 1:6–7 (NLT) (6) So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. (7) These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

3) **God is at _____ even when we cannot see it.**

Genesis 50:20 (NLT) (20) You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

Romans 8:28 (NLT) (28) And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

WE OFTEN ASK "WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?" A BETTER QUESTION TO ASK IS "WILL I TRUST GOD TO BE AT WORK IN MY SITUATION WHEN I CANNOT SEE IT OR FEEL IT?"

Psalm 22:1–2 (NLT) (1) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help? (2) Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.

Matthew 27:46 (NLT) (46) At about three o'clock, Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means "**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**"

4) **God _____ through our suffering and we never have to do it alone unless we choose to do so.**

Psalm 23:4 (NLT) (4) Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.

GOD DOES NOT PROMISE TO REMOVE THE VALLEY. HE PROMISES TO WALK WITH YOU THROUGH IT.

Hebrews 4:15–16 (NLT) (15) This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. (16) So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Psalm 34:18 (NLT) (18) The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FACE WHAT YOU ARE FACING ALONE!

5) **Look forward to your _____ and choose to believe your suffering is not the end of the story.**

Romans 8:18 (NLT) (18) Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

Revelation 21:3–4 (NLT) (3) I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. (4) He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

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