

NEWS & EVENTS



**FREEDOM RIDERS
MOTORCYCLE GROUP**
CONNECT WITH OTHERS
WHO LOVE TO RIDE

OTTERBEIN MOTORCYCLE GROUP | TODAY

Join a group from Otterbein for a group ride TODAY—Sunday, April 12. The group will leave from the church parking lot at 1:00 p.m. **EVERYONE WHO RIDES IS WELCOME.** If you are interested in going on the ride — sign up on the OC App, oc-register.org, or stop by Connection Point in the church lobby.

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 at Connection Point TODAY & April 19.** Don't miss this wonderful time of film, food and fellowship!

NEW CAFÉ HOURS EFFECTIVE MAY 3

Beginning Sunday, May 3, the Café will be **open from 9:00–9:30 a.m. and again from 10:30–11:00 a.m.** Thank you for your understanding as we make this transition to our new schedule. We appreciate you!

BAPTISM WORKSHOP | MAY 3

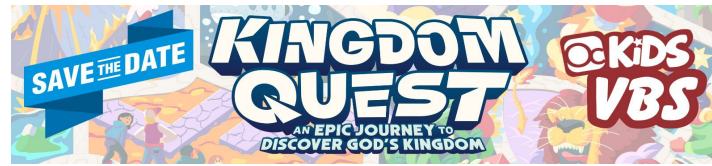
The next Baptism Workshop will be held on May 3 at 11:00 a.m. in the OC Groups wing, Room 402. This workshop will help you record your salvation journey and teach the meaning of baptism. It is a requirement for all high school students and adults. The next Sunday for baptism services is planned for May 24, 2026. Register on the OC App or visit otterbeinchurch.org and click on the Sunday page.

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION | MAY 10

We will have Parent/Child Dedications on Mother's Day, May 10. If you are interested in having your child dedicated, please complete the Parent/Child Dedication Application which is available under the registration link on the OC App or at otterbeinchurch.org. Applications are also available at Connection Point in the lobby. **Applications need to be submitted no later than May 3.** Please contact Pastor Mark Green at mark.green@otterbeinchurch.org if you have any questions.

OTTERBEIN PARK RESTROOM KEYCARDS

Spring is here! The restroom facilities at Otterbein Community Recreation Park (13375 Welty Road) are now open. The restrooms are locked except for scheduled group events/rentals. **If you picked up a keycard last year, those keys have been reactivated, 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.**



VBS 2026 SERVE OPPORTUNITIES

Join our **VBS 2026 Serve Team June 8-11th** as we take kids on an unforgettable journey to discover what it means to follow Jesus and find life in God's kingdom! In a world filled with hurt and division, we have the incredible opportunity to show kids that hope is found in Jesus. Come make a difference and join us as we go on a **KINGDOM QUEST!** For more information and to sign up to serve, visit the OC App, go online at ocregister.org, or stop by Connection Point. Please contact Amanda Myers, Director of Children's Ministries, at amanda.myers@otterbeinchurch.org with any questions.

SAVE THE DATES | VBS JUNE 8-11

Vacation Bible School will take place on June 8-11, from 6:00-8:15 p.m. for children who just completed Kindergarten through 5th grade. More details about child registration will be shared in the coming weeks!

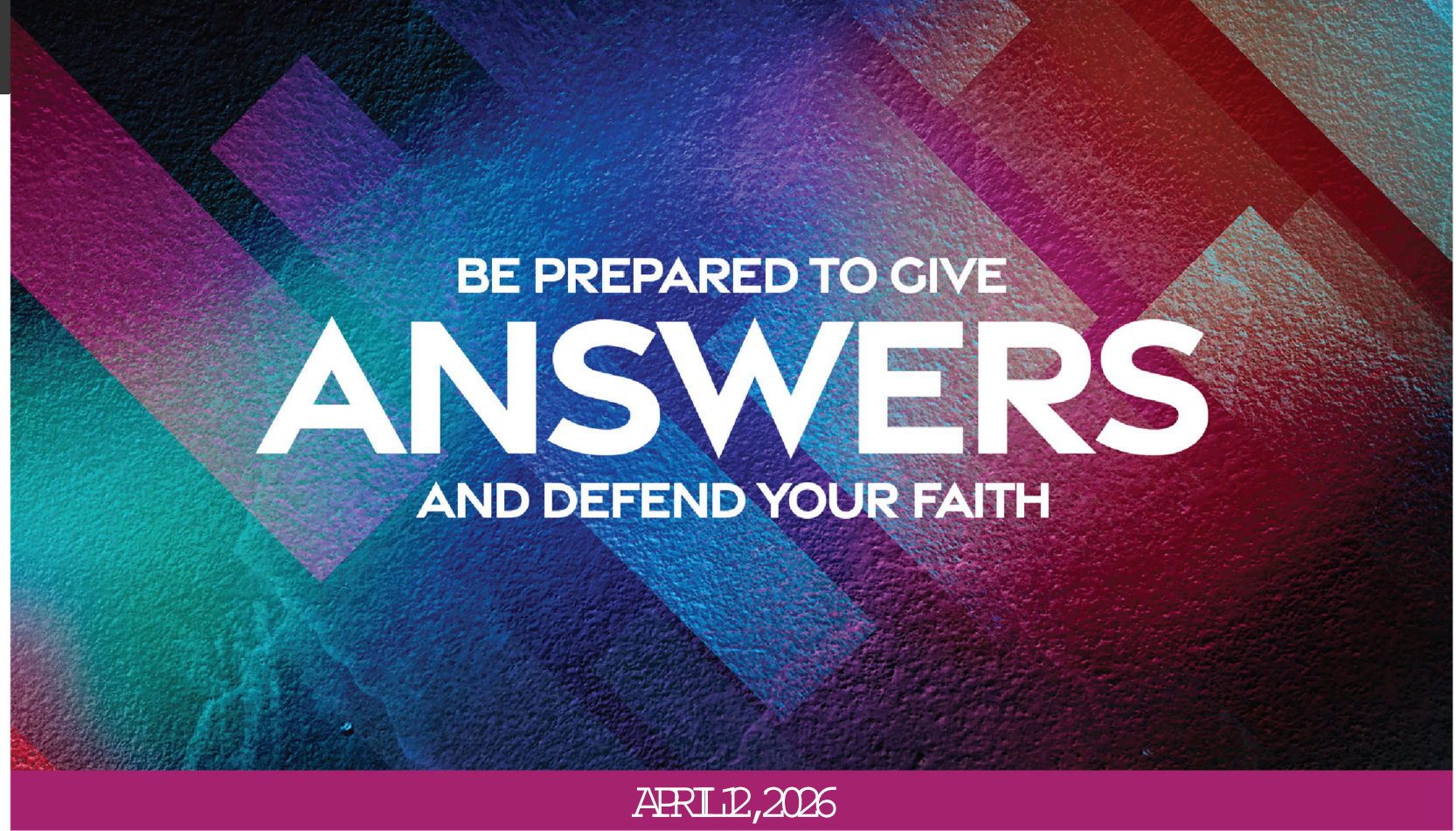
RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Linda Etter has been a faithful part of Otterbein Church for many decades and has served as our Office Administrator for over 24 years. She has announced her retirement, effective Friday, May 1. We invite you to join us for a special celebration in Linda's honor on **Sunday, May 3, from 12:30–2:00 p.m.** Light refreshments will be served. This will be a wonderful opportunity to thank Linda for her years of dedicated service and the care she has shown to our church family. We hope you'll join us in celebrating her and wishing her well in this next chapter. A card basket will also be available at Connection Point beginning Sunday, April 19, if you'd like to share a note of appreciation with Linda.

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.

We are continuing the 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!**



BE PREPARED TO GIVE

ANSWERS

AND DEFEND YOUR FAITH

APRIL 12, 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.

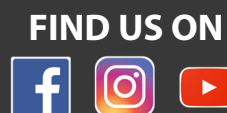


OTTERBEIN CHURCH APP

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

EFFECTIVE WAYS TO GIVE ANSWERS & DEFEND YOUR FAITH

April 12, 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*

Jude 3 (NLT) (3) Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, **urging you to defend the faith** that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people.

1 Peter 3:15–16a (NLT) (15) Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And 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....

SEVEN PRACTICAL THINGS:

1) **Be clear about what you are _____.**

> A great resource is the book "Tactics: A Game Plan for Discussing Your Spiritual Convictions" by Gregory Koukl

1 Corinthians 3:6–7 (NLT) (6) I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. (7) It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow.

YOUR GOAL IS TO PUT A STONE IN SOMEONE'S SHOE.

2) _____ **is more powerful than making statements.**

Two Great Questions:

- **What do you mean by that?**
- **How did you come to that conclusion?**

Luke 20:1–8 (NLT) (1) One day as Jesus was teaching the people and preaching the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders came up to him. (2) They demanded, "By what authority are you doing all these things? Who gave you the right?" (3) "**Let me ask you a question first,**" he replied. (4) "Did John's authority to baptize come from heaven, or was it merely human?" (5) They talked it over among themselves. "If we say it was from heaven, he will ask why we didn't believe John. (6) But if we say it was merely human, the people will stone us because they are convinced John was a prophet." (7) So they finally replied that they didn't know. (8) And Jesus responded, "Then I won't tell you by what authority I do these things."

3) **You don't have to have _____.**

2 Timothy 2:15 (NLT) (15) Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and **who correctly explains the word of truth.**

John 14:26 (NLT) (26) But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and **will remind you of everything I have told you.**

Luke 12:11–12 (NLT) (11) "And when you are brought to trial in the synagogues and before rulers and authorities, don't worry about how to defend yourself or what to say, (12) for the **Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what needs to be said.**"

THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL HELP YOU WHEN YOU HAVE SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS.

4) **You need to know when to _____ because not every conversation is worth having.**

Proverbs 23:9 (NLT) (9) Don't waste your breath on fools, for they will despise the wisest advice.

Proverbs 26:4 (NLT) (4) Don't answer the foolish arguments of fools, or you will become as foolish as they are.

Proverbs 26:5 (NLT) (5) Be sure to answer the foolish arguments of fools, or they will become wise in their own estimation.

Matthew 7:6 (NLT) (6) "Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.

NOT EVERY COMMENT DESERVES A REPLY. PROTECT YOUR WITNESS BY CHOOSING YOUR BATTLES WISELY.

5) **You already have _____ to the most common objections.**

6) _____ **matters as much as what you say.**

1 Peter 3:15–16a (NLT) (15) Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And 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.**

Colossians 4:5–6 (NLT) (5) Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. (6) **Let your conversation be gracious and attractive** so that you will have the right response for everyone.

THE GOAL IS NOT TO WIN THE ARGUMENT. THE GOAL IS TO WIN THE PERSON. YOU DON'T WIN PEOPLE TO JESUS BY MAKING THEM FEEL STUPID.

7) **Your _____ is the most important argument for the Christian faith.**

PETER DIDN'T JUST TELL US TO EXPLAIN "THE" HOPE. HE TOLD US TO EXPLAIN "OUR" HOPE.

THIS WEEK, PUT A STONE IN SOMEONE'S SHOE AND TRUST GOD TO DO WHAT GOD DOES.

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 our website at www.otterbeinchurch.org.