



Otterbein United Methodist Church

Charleston, Illinois

THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

AUGUST 2015

PASTOR'S PERUSALS

By Chuck Trent

CHUCKIN ALONG FOR THE LORD

WRITING THIS THE DAY THAT I RETURNED FROM CAMP, what a wonderful time of ministry that was. Tomorrow, July 30, 2015, I had what I hope was my last heart stent inserted at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center. This procedure may have limited my participation in the Youth Rummage Sale, but I hope not. Good Lord willing, I survived the Heart Cath. and was able to go to Mission U. (Formerly known as School for Christian Mission.) where I should have accomplished my Continuing Education Points to keep me on my lifelong learning track. After that Linda and I were planning on taking about a two-week vacation, our first in several years.

IF YOU SEE THE THREAD OF MUCH ACTIVITY in this column so far, you are reading correctly. As soon as Linda and I return, we will be planning our 2015-16 ministry calendar with the leadership of OUMC. (Check out the ad in another part of this newsletter for information.) That time of planning and worship will bring about many other activities, projects, and spiritual adventures which will move us toward a more effective process of making Disciples for Jesus Christ.

ONE OF THE THINGS ABOUT WHICH I TALKED TO THE CAMPERS AT EAST BAY last month was the concept of giving the Holy Spirit room in which to work in our lives. In the midst of all of the increased activities, we need to make sure that we are, indeed, centering on making disciples for Jesus, and not just being centered on being busy. While much good can come from, and in the midst of busyness, busyness for busyness sake can be spiritually defeating, which undoes any good from our busy life style.

MAKE PLANS TO BE PART OF THE PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT of our 2015 – 2016 activities, but let's make sure that we are not so busy that we crown Jesus out of the mix. Running here and there, and being a slave to a calendar, does not make God love us one bit more than we are loved, but it can keep us from being as effective for God as we could be, and as effective as God wants us to be.

SO GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT ROOM TO WORK, and God will bless us so much better and differently than we have EVER been blessed before, that we'll have to schedule another series of meetings just to count our blessings. Wouldn't that be great?

Shalom,

Chuck Trent

OTTERBEIN UMC – AD COUNCIL AGENDA – July 16, 2015

- **Call to Order / Devotions / Opening Prayer**, Craigs or Pastor Chuck Trent
- **Minutes of Last Meeting**, Jim Craig
- **Committee & Other Reports**
 - 1) Finance Committee, Jane Cox
 - 2) Trustees Committee, Jim Hackett
 - 3) Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, Jerry Payne
 - 4) Nurture Committee, Joan Johns
 - 5) Church Camp, Lisa McDaniel
 - 6) Youth Ministry, Sean Hackett
- **Old Business**
 - 1) Updated 2015 Charge Conference Official Roll (handout)
 - 2) Summer Otterbein Vespers/Outings (July-picnic, w/Oakland UMC; Aug ?)
 - 3) Nov 8 -11, 2015, Matt Henson, Conf Evangelist/Speaker, Living The Adventure (needs/expectations?)
 - 4) Grief Support Group thoughts
 - 5) Letterhead needs for Church Secretary (status report)
 - 6) Parking direction signs (status report)
- **New Business**
 - 1) Future Otterbein Outings (Discussion: Monthly get-togethers?)
 - 2) Otterbein's Fall Charge Conference date?
 - 3) Prayer List, Prayer Chain, Meeting Email Cleanup
- **Miscellaneous Matters**
 - 1) VBS (is Otterbein hosting one?)
 - 2) Family Night (who's in charge? meals? Bible studies/resources? Calendar?)
 - 3) Fall Sunday School start-up date? Promotions?
 - 4) Fellowship Time between Worship Service and Sunday School?
 - 5) Fall Calendar Planning Meeting / date (w/Nurture Team, Family Night Rep, Youth Rep, Others?)
- **Pastor's Report / Concerns**
- **Meeting Dates**
- Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: _____
- **Adjourn / Prayer**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Lay Delegate Report

As your Lay representative to Annual Conference this year I experienced the usual good things- fellowship, worship and reports of great things the church is doing to make Disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Pastor Chuck did a fabulous job in last month's Encourager of reporting the doings of this Annual Conference.

One thing that he did not report weighs heavy on my heart. The Annual Conference approved the closing of ten churches in the Conference. It weighs heavy on my heart because I have gone through a church closing. While we celebrate the history and traditions of these churches, some that were in service for well over one hundred years, they leave the Conference with mixed feelings for those who were members. Some may be relieved because the struggle to stay open and pay bills has ended. Others may think that when the building is gone the memories will be gone, too. Whatever the feelings, the mission and purpose for those churches has diminished to the point where they just cannot carry on. That is sad!

Each active church has a purpose and mission. Otterbein is no different. What is our purpose and mission in this community? Our attendance has been falling. Why have some of the members ceased to attend? Of course, some have passed away; some have moved away, some are unable to attend and some choose not to attend. Just as a vine that bears no fruit is thrown into the fire (John 15:6), so we who do not bear fruit will not continue to exist. Pray that Otterbein does not become like one of the ten churches that closed this year. Many other churches are thriving because they abide in Jesus and His words abide in them (John 15:7). Pray that we at Otterbein will do likewise.

Jim Craig

OTTERBEIN'S INTEREST SURVEY

Please check all of the survey options below that interest you (survey for youth group age thru adults to complete):

GET-TOGETHERS & OUTINGS:

- ☐ Church dinners
- ☐ Dinners in the Home
- ☐ Soup Suppers
- ☐ Wiener Roasts
- ☐ Ice Cream Socials
- ☐ Out-to-Eat: ☐ w/all ages;
☐ w/gals; ☐ w/guys; ☐ ; w/youth
- ☐ Seniors' Group
- ☐ Sports Outings
- ☐ Special Days Get-Togethers
- ☐ Everybody's Birthday Party
- ☐ Game Nights
- ☐ Family Movies at the Theatre
- ☐ Family Movies at the Church
- ☐ Dinner Drama Theatres
- ☐ Karaoke Evenings
- ☐ Impromptu Get-Togethers

Other Ideas:

PROGRAMMING & MINISTRY OPTIONS:

- ☐ Bible Studies: ☐ all ages;
☐ women's; ☐ men's; ☐ youth
- ☐ Family Night (for child/yth/adult)
- ☐ Small Grps: ☐ Home; ☐ Church
- ☐ Blessing of Our Pets Service
- ☐ Sing in a Choir
- ☐ Sing/Play a Music Special
- ☐ Attend Christian Concerts
- ☐ Attend Retreats: ☐ family;
☐ women's; ☐ men's; ☐ youth
- ☐ Mission Trip Participant:
☐ all ages; ☐ w/men; ☐ w/women;
☐ w/youth; ☐ w/my family
- ☐ Book Club Participant
- ☐ Praise Band Participant
- ☐ Volunteer at Soup Stop
- ☐ Part of an Email Prayer Chain
- ☐ Part of a Phone Prayer Chain
- ☐ Part of a Visitation's Team
- ☐ Part of a Church Work Team
- ☐ Part of a Grief/Loss Group (loss of a
friendship, a marriage, a loved one, a job,
a loss through natural disaster, etc)
- ☐ Help with Power Point
- ☐ Help with the Sound System

_____ Help organize fundraisers

_____ Join an Interest Group (sew, knit, scrapbook,
garden, carpentry, etc) List your
interest:_____

Other Ideas:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #'s _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: _____

Wedding Anniversary:_____

My availability information:

~I prefer: ____ mornings; ____ afternoons; and/or ____
evenings? (*list times/days*):

~If you have children/grandchildren (5th gde & under)
attending Otterbein, list their names, birth dates &
addresses (if different from yours). USE BACK SIDE OF
PAGE OR ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE.)

(Place in offering plate, or turn in to the church office, **by**
AUG 16, 2015, please)

2015 -2016

Ministry Planning Meeting!

Saturday

August 29th

Save the date so you can,

BE HERE

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch will be served

All

Committee Chairs, area directors, &
all interested Otterbeinians.

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Let us continue to remember our shut-in and homebound members.
Please remember them in your prayers and feel free to visit or send a card ☺

Francis Adkins

Odd Fellow Rebekah Home
201 Lafayette E
Mattoon, IL 61938
Birthday: 5/25

Jim & Bertha Anderson

13250 E Cty Rd 210N
Charleston, IL 61920

Joan Hutton

Hilltop Conv. Center
910 W. Polk Rm. 209
Charleston, IL 61920
Birthday: 4/21

Tom Watson

2200 Madison Ave.
Charleston, IL 61920
Birthday: 8/10



Eleanor Rice

Heartland Christian Village
101 Trowbridge Rd
Neoga, IL 62447
Birthday: 2/9

2015 Worship Leaders

Please check the website for a current list of Worship Leaders for 2015. These include **Greeters**, **Acolytes**, **Ushers**, **Family Cross** and **Children's Moment Leaders**. We appreciate your involvement in our weekly worship service.

Looking Ahead...

The next monthly newsletter (*Aug 2015*) will be printed and distributed around the first week in August. The deadline to submit articles or information in the June newsletter will be **Thursday, July 23**. Please contact Michelle Price (217) 549-7285 or email the church office if you have information to include.

Please Note



If you need to reach
Pastor Chuck Trent

Cell (618) 262-3409

chucktrent47@gmail.com

Youth Group

Wednesday Evenings

6:00-6:30 pm Meal & Fellowship

Led By: Sean Hackett

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FINANCE REPORT

Please note the following figures and reports provided by the Finance Team.

Not, how much of my money will I give to God, but how much of God's money will I keep for myself.



— John Wesley

MONTHLY EXPENSES PAID BY LOOSE PLATE/TITHE

Ameren CIPS (Church)	\$ 495.00
City of Charleston (Water Dept)	\$ 26.00
Conf. Group Health Ins. (Pastor)	\$ 1,525.00
Consolidated Comm. (Church)	\$ 93.00
IGRC Missions	\$ 1,062.00
IGRC Pension (Pastor)	\$ 836.00
Childress Mowing	\$ 160.00
Janitor/Secretary Wages	\$ 494.04
Maintenance Supplies	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 40.00
Chuck Trent	\$ 2,380.26
Chuck Trent TV/Hse. Phone	\$ 120.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 41.00
Postage	\$ 49.00
Print Co (Newsletter)	\$ 24.00
SS Material	\$ 72.00
Upper Room/Devozine	\$ 27.00
<u>State Farm Ins. (Bldg & Work Comp)</u>	<u>\$ 285.15</u>
TOTAL	\$ 7,779.45
Weekly	\$ 1,245.00

Monthly Mortgage Payment \$ 1,356.55

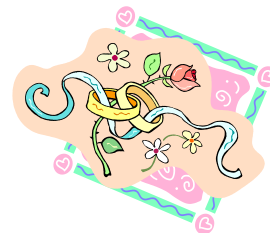


★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

Celebrations

Birthdays

8/08	Bertha Anderson
8/14	Phyllis Hackett
8/17	Omarion Smallhorn
8/21	Braiden Folson
	Toby Snider
8/23	Kaitlin Mohon
8/27	Lexi Stone
	Clinton Tribby



Happy Anniversary

Chuck & Linda Trent	8/22
Larry & Melody McGrath	8/24



August Worship Leaders



Greeters

08/02	08/09	08/16	08/23	08/30
Randy & Becky Rice	Jim & Carolyn Craig	Jim Hackett	Austin & Sean Hackett	

Acolyte

Omarion Smallhorn	Mackensie Williams	Jade Smyser	Brandon Shultz	Kayla Donley
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Family Cross

Marty & Loretta Buell		Joan Johns	Larry & Melody McGrath	Sandy Smallhorn
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Ushers

Carolyn Craig	Sean Hackett	Sandy Smallhorn	Doug Hennig	Mackenzie S.
Jim Craig	Jerry Payne	Marcia Lawhead	Mary Hennig	Deece Schwartz
	Brad Bircher	Phyllis Hackett	Butch Hackett	Ian McDaniel
		Betty Potts	Linda Hackett	Keridwen M.

Children's Moment

Carolyn Craig

Jane Cox





August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 <u>Worship</u> 9:30am	3 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm Finance Meeting 6:30p	4 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	5 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Youth Group</u> 6pm-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	6 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	7 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	8
9 <u>Worship</u> 9:30am	10 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	11 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	12 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Youth Group</u> 6pm-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	13 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	14 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	15
16 <u>Worship</u> 9:30am	17 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	18 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	19 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Youth Group</u> 6pm-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	20 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm Newsletter Articles due	21 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	22
23/30 <u>Worship</u> 9:30am	24/31 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	25 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	26 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm <u>Youth Group</u> 6pm-7:30pm <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	27 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	28 <u>Soup Stop</u> 10:30am-1pm	29 Calendar Planning Retreat 9a-1p

Otterbein United Methodist Church
2175 E. Harrison
Charleston, IL 61920



THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

AUGUST 2015

Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.

**Otterbein United Methodist Church
2175 E. Harrison
Charleston, IL 61920**

CONTACT US:

(217) 345-5843 (phone)
charlestonotterbein@yahoo.com (email)
www.charlestonotterbein.org (webpage)

www.facebook.com/groups/CharlestonOtterbeinUMC

All are welcome!