



# Otterbein United Methodist Church

Charleston, Illinois

## THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

JANUARY 2016

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### PASTOR'S PERUSALS

By Chuck Trent

#### CHUCKIN' ALONG for the LORD

**THIS YEAR IS AN ELECTION YEAR.** No matter what you think about any or all of the potential candidates we can be reassured that God is in control and that no matter how many steps backward or forward we humans seem to take, we will survive.

**THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS BEEN BIGGER** than one president and any one person and will continue to be. As a student of history I can cite many times when the prophets of doom and gloom have predicted, "the end," if certain candidates were elected. Time and again, "that candidate," has been elected and the republic has still stood.

**CHURCHES ARE ORGANIZATIONS** of the mission of Jesus Christ. In our Wesleyan tradition pastors come and pastors go. In Christian tradition dating back to the first century and the Book of Acts, when the Apostles Peter and Paul had a falling out over proper table mates, and Paul and Barnabus couldn't agree on who was worthy of being on their mission trips. The church survived, and thrived, sometimes because of these disagreements.

**THE CHURCH IS BIGGER THAN ANYONE PERSON.** People come and go, ministries wax and wane, but the mission of Jesus Christ, which is bigger than all of us, continues and thrives, often because of these changes.

**IN TIMES OF CHANGE** this is good to remember. And we are always in times of change.

Shalom,

Chuck

# LAY LEADER'S LINE

Butch Hackett

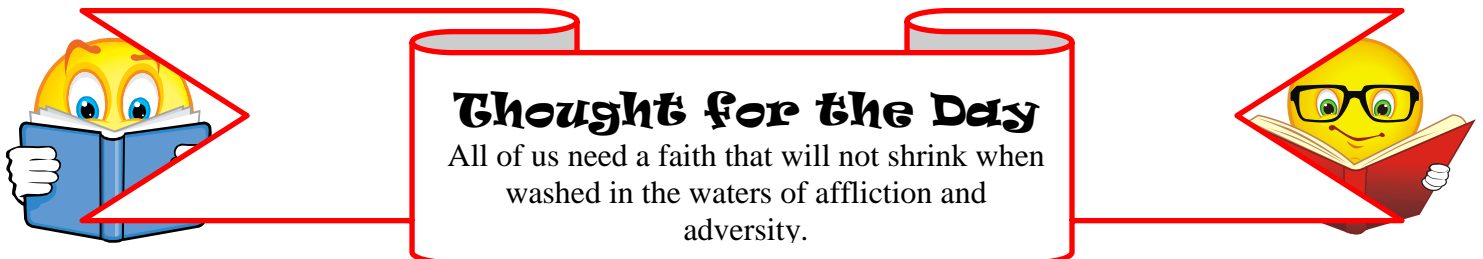
The front of the card had a picture of Jesus walking on the water with the words, *"In the face of the storm, remember you are never alone."* A hand-written paragraph on the inside of the card brought tears to my eyes. The words carefully chosen and neatly written were from my daughter's hand. She told me that she thanked God every day for having me as her father. The rest of the note reassured me of how good God was to us. I came across this note while cleaning out a file cabinet. I remember that Shayna had placed the card in my 'catch-all' drawer that I keep my wallet and keys in, knowing that I would get it before I left for work.

I remember that she had written that note in 2003, which also was a bad year for our family. The tears continued as I thanked God for sending me a message from the heart of my little girl. You see, 2015 was not a very good year for our household. This past year has brought our family what seems to be more than our share of grief, trials and tribulations. Don't get me wrong, I am not so naïve to think that my family should be exempt from bad things, it's just that why does it have to come all at once? In the face of adversity, we are often blinded to the blessings around us. Here, out of the heart of my child, God spoke to me. All the years of trying to be a godly example, teaching and training up in the way she should go, and praying over her, had return to me ten-fold. The maturity of her words was God way of telling me that I did O.K. and He would always be there for her even when I can't be. He had filled in the "parenting-gaps" that I had missed. I remember thinking that I might have never received this blessing if it were not for the valleys that we have been going through. Sometimes we may wait a lifetime to reap the harvest of our labors, but Praise God, He gave me a sample of the crop early.

*"Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper, the waves of the sea was hushed."* Psalm 197:28-29

In His grip,

Butch



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*

## **2016 Worship Leaders**

Please check the website for a current list of Worship Leaders for 2016. 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 (*Feb 2016*) will be printed and distributed around the first week in February. The deadline to submit articles or information in the February newsletter will be **Thursday, Jan 21st.** 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](mailto:chucktrent47@gmail.com)



## **Family Night**

Every Wednesday

6:00-6:30 pm Meal & Fellowship

6:30-7:30 for the Whole Family

J4J (Kid's Club) W / Jane Cox

~ 3 ~  
LinC (Youth Group) W / Sean Hackett  
Bible Study (Adults) W / Pastor Chuck

# 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/Devozone	\$ 27.00
State Farm Ins. (Bldg & Work Comp)	\$ 285.15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,779.45</b>
<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 1,245.00</b>

Monthly Mortgage Payment     **\$ 1,356.55**



# Celebrations



★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!

Joan Johns	1/02
Randy Rice	1/04
Dereck Hennig	1/09
Jim Hackett	1/15
Marty Buell	1/16
Debra Bircher	1/22
Tabatha Bircher	1/26
Kaden Donley	1/26
Rex Johns	1/31



## January Worship Leaders



### Greeters

1/3	1/10	1/17	1/24	1/31
Dorothy Cox	Rick & Sharron W.	Clinton T.	Sandy S.	Randy & Becky R.

### Acolyte

Tyvon S.	Deece S.	Kayla D.	Mackenzie W.	Jade S.
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### Ushers

Jim H.	Clinton T.	Vickie B.	Deece S.	Melody M.
Wayne C.	Randy R.	Dan B.	Kenny S.	Becky R.
Rose S.	Jim C.	John M.	Ian M.	Sandy S.
Bill S.	Jerry P.	Lisa M.	Alesia S.	Sharron W.

### Children's Moment

Carolyn C.	Jane C.
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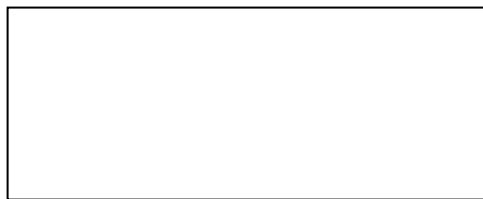


# January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:30- 10:30 am</b> <u>Fellowship</u> <b>10:30-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>10:45-11:30 am</b>	<b>4</b> <u>Finance Meeting</u> <b>6:30 PM</b>  <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>5</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>6</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b> <u>Family Night</u> <b>6-7:30 pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>7</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <b>PPRC 6:30 pm</b>	<b>8</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:30 -10:30 am</b> <u>Fellowship</u> <b>10:30-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>10:45-11:30 am</b>	<b>11</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>12</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>13</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b> <u>Family Night</u> <b>6-7:30 pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>14</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>15</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:30-10:30 am</b> <u>Fellowship</u> <b>10:30-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>10:45-11:30 am</b>	<b>18</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>19</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>20</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <u>Family Night</u> <b>6-7:30 pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>21</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <b>Ad Council 6:30</b>  <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Articles Due</b>	<b>22</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24/31</b> <u>Worship</u> <b>9:30-10:30 am</b> <u>Fellowship</u> <b>10:30-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>10:45-11:30</b>	<b>25</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>26</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>27</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>  <u>Family Night</u> <b>6-7:30 pm</b>  <u>AA Mtg 8:00pm</u>	<b>28</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>29</b> <u>Soup Stop</u> <b>10:30am-1pm</b>	<b>30</b>

**\*Nurture Meeting Sunday Jan, 17<sup>th</sup> right after Church services\***

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



# THE OTTERBEIN ENCOURAGER

JANUARY 2016



Sunday Morning Worship	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	10:45 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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CharlestonOtterbeinUMC)

**All are welcome!**