

Otterbein United Brethren in Christ Church



Connecting
Affirming
Reaching
Equipping
Sending



A Church That
C.A.R.E.S.

146 Leitersburg Street, Greencastle, PA 17225

www.greencastleub.org

THE LORD'S DAY

December 15, 2024

Prelude
Reading
Handbell Choir:
O Come O Come Emmanuel
O Come All Ye Faithful
Kids Korner
Worship Music
Bible Message
As With Gladness #163
Benediction

TODAY

8:30 and 10:45 - Worship and Preaching

9:50 - Sunday School

*1:30 - practice for The Other Wise Man (Note time change from previous)

TUESDAY

6:30 - Administrative Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY

* NO MIDWEEK GROUPS will meet this week. However, a rehearsal for the Christmas Eve drama is 6:30 for all participants

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 - All music, one combined service of worship, no Sunday School

*Same schedule for Sunday, December 29.

Tuesday, December 31 will be our annual NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION. Plan to participate! Holy Communion. 6:00 pm.

Pastor:
 David Rawley
 rawley1977@gmail.com
 (717) 597-3211
 Secretary:
 Carol Schwalm
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 Hours 9 to 4 Tues/Wed/Thurs.
 Building/Van Scheduling:
 Holly Ressler
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 Prayer Group:
 Deb Cline
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	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
1st Nursery	Char Timmons & Sandy Turman	Cindy Rawley
2nd Nursery	Cindy Rawley	Combined service
Acolyte	Cole Tracey 1st Isabel Thompson 2nd	Carter Wagaman
Prelude	Sheri Michalsky	Latasha Johnson
Greeters	Grant Murray Family	Paul Lehman & Dolan Starr



The 2025 Altar Flower Sign-up Sheets are on the upper lobby table. We will be using Living Well Florist, Greencastle. This cost is \$37.50 for two vases, and you will be billed directly. Please write legibly and include your message and who is to be billed.

Last Week...	12/8/24
Attendance	219
General	\$10,975.68
Missions	\$2,305.50
Building Fund	\$6,699.50
Sunday School	\$427.00

The November 12 Administrative Board Meeting Minutes are on the upper lobby table.

Women's Bible Study Dec. 16 at 1:00. We'll be studying Esther.



Ornaments 4 Orphans is an organization that helps alleviate the global orphan crisis through fair trade. They work directly with artisans in Kenya, Nepal, Peru, and Uganda to craft unique handmade items. A table with ornaments for purchase will be at the top of the stairs through November and December. Please contact Alison (Keely) Whitmore for more information.

Stop by the Missions Board in the upper lobby and pick up a Christmas card to send to a missionary with a personal note inside! The envelopes are postage paid already.



Hi! My name is Carletta Moats and I am the new Secret Sister coordinator. The new secret sister years starts on Jan 5, 2025. There are secret sister forms on the table in the upper lobby. If you are interested in being a Secret Sister, please fill out the form and put them in my mailbox (C-15). Forms need turned in by Dec 29. If you have any questions, my email address is snope2@comcast.net. If you want to meet new ladies in our church, this is a fun way to do it, and it is a blessing to know that someone is praying for you through the year.

*The small 2025 calendars from the Handicapped and Disabled Workshop are in the display holder by the fountain in the upper lobby. Help yourself! Take some for friends! Plenty are available!



THE OTHER WISE MAN
December 22 & 24, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Candlelight service closing

Did you notice the beautiful stained-glass sign hanging in the vestibule? This was taken from the original Otterbein church building (Washington St) and has finally found a suitable place here on Leitersburg St. Many thanks to Geremie Akers and Ben Stoops for mounting it?

Otterbein Handbell choir is interested in expanding. We invite those of you who can read simple music notation and rhythms to join us. If you have an interest and or have questions, please talk to any one of the current handbells members. You can also send an email to John Piper of your interest in the handbell choir .
jrppsuoobx@gmail.com.



WE WILL NOT BE DISTRACTED!

(Matthew 2:1-12)

After the birth of Jesus (months? years?) a troop of eastern aristocrats showed up in Jerusalem asking where they could find the recently born King of the Jews.

King Herod (the Great) consulted the Bible scholars to see if there was such a prophecy. They told him, "Yes indeed! Our scriptures say he will come out of Bethlehem."

King Herod called these Magi (Parthian? Persian?) to a secret meeting. He said, "You find him. Then inform me. Immediately! I wish to worship him also."

HIGH DRAMA ... Would they _____ Herod and _____ his directive?

Possible DISTRACTIONS

1. **Jerusalem** ... months of travel probably tempted them to _____ in the city for some rest, relaxation, and entertainment. Finding the infant king would be great, but it would surely be nice to _____ a _____.
2. **Politics** ... surely it was flattering to have a powerful king _____ them for a _____. He could give them press coverage and _____ for being the "Discoverer" of Israel's Messiah.
3. **Discouragement** ... They had a conviction and a star and now they had a Scripture and a town. Apart from these scraps of information they had nothing. No name, address, birth date or picture. How would they even _____ if they _____ him? No indication whether he was still in Bethlehem!

These men **RESISTED EVERY TEMPTATION** to stop and stare (*Jerusalem!*) to agree and aggrandize (*politics!*) or discard and discontinue (*the search*). They had a **GOAL** and would not be distracted. They intently pursued the understanding that _____ had _____ a _____ and they would (literally) _____ him with gifts and worship.

*This is not simply the _____ of Christmas, but it is the _____ of Christmas. My pursuit is **FAITH**. My gift is **MY HEART**. Nothing will be allowed to distract me from the Savior. **NOTHING!**