

The *Spirit* of Otterbein

From the Pastor's Desk

September 2020

Return

“For the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if you return to him.

2 Chronicles 30:9

I, and the Church Council, want to see you return to the house of the Lord. We have done everything we can to keep the church as a safe space, so we will continue to wear masks, and social distance as we hope that you will come back for worship and Sunday School (adults at this time because we do not have an environment to offer children Sunday School safely in keeping with the pandemic protocols). While I trust that we have remained faithful to God throughout this time, we are all hopeful that we can see one another again at the church. If you've ventured to the grocery or drug store, a doctor's office or restaurant, or a gas station or convenience store, our church is probably much safer than those venues because as members together in the body of Christ we are all working together to keep one another safe by wearing masks and hand sanitizing and being vigilant about social distancing and cleaning for the sake of one another whom we love as Christian brothers and sisters. We cannot sterilize the building, but we can all be a part of minimizing risks.

During this Pandemic rest assured that our Communion is being done very differently. We are using factory pre-packaged elements that we will send home with you in a plastic bag so that in your own home where you can wash your hands and safely remove your mask so you can enjoy the bread and juice and then dispose of the cup.

Serving Christ together with you,

Pastor Patricia

September Worship Schedule

DATE	HIGHLIGHTS
September 6 11:00 a.m.	Fourteenth Sunday of Kingdomtide <i>Celebration of Holy Communion—super sanitary style</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20• Sermon: <i>Easy as 1-2-3</i>
September 13 11:00a.m.	Fifteenth Sunday of Kingdomtide <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture: Matthew 18:21-25• Sermon: <i>Forgiveness is Fundamental</i>
September 20, 11:00 a.m.	Sixteenth Sunday of Kingdomtide <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture: Exodus 16:2-15• Sermon: <i>God's Complaint Department</i>
September 27, 11:00 a.m.	Seventeenth Sunday of Kingdomtide <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7• Sermon: <i>Journeying by Stages</i>

2 Sheril Merki
3 Sonja Waters
7 Ann Bradshaw
10 Cathy Butts
14 Brenda McDaniel
15 Samantha Cronk
16 Steve Roach, Emily Waters
18 Walter Duke
21 Dave Fulk
23 Bob Lilienthal, Rodney McDaniel, Sr.
24 Wanda Wheeler
25 George Bradshaw
30 Patricia McDaniel



Read and Reflect Book Bunch Repeat Selection

Our summer read will return to be our first fall book: *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. The text will challenge you to rethink how you view yourself in a society with systemic racism. You can purchase the book from any bookstore or download on your e-book device. The book is also available as an audio book for those who prefer to listen, rather than read it. There is no need to sign up for this group. Those who would like to reflect on the selection after having read or listened to it are invited to an online chat on Thursday, September 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85657575531?pwd=cDJhOHd3eTVlOXgvWjNtdTI3ekpzQT09>

Phone In: +1 301 715 8592

When prompted enter Meeting ID: 856 5757 5531 When asked, enter the Password: 755161



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, Sept 7th in observance of Labor Day.

A huge thanks to the congregation for all of the generous graduation gifts. I plan to use the knowledge and advice I have received throughout my time at Otterbein United Methodist Church later in my life. During my 18 years of attending OUMC, I've met tons of great individuals and I'd like to thank everyone for helping mold me into the Christian I am today.

Connor Waters

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and phone calls that I received after my fall, but also as I "stayed in place" due to the Covid scare. I appreciated them all. I am happy to say my injuries are coming along very nicely however I am still "staying in place" for a while yet.

*Blessings to All,
Hallie Beveridge*

Sister ACTS News

Our next **SISTER ACTS** meeting will be held at **10:00 on Saturday, September 12 at War Memorial Park at the Hollow Pavilion**, which is located near the South entrance to the park, off Memorial Park Avenue.

Teresa Shumate, from COMMUNITY NETWORKS/FAITH COMMUNITY COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS will be presenting our program. Some of the items their agency can use are:

Pillows

Hairbrushes

Baby Wipes

Baby Bottles

If you would like to contribute any of the items, please bring them to our meeting or contact Mary Duke, Sue Palmer or Leigh Fleming

Following park rules, *masks and social distancing will be required*. *Please BYOL*—bring your own lunch (and chair) if you would like. Our speaker has another event after our meeting, so we will try to start promptly at 10:00.

We were so excited to have 18 of you join us for our August meeting, and it is great to get the wheels turning again for us to continue making a positive difference in the lives of others! Thanks to your continued generosity, we received **\$1,290.00 in donations** in the last month to use in benefitting our community in the coming months. ***Thank you, thank you for supporting this growing ministry!! You are wonderful!***

At our meeting, the group decided to send donations of **\$300 each to both Hospice OTP and Berkeley County Parks & Rec** for their use during this time of increased needs. We also agreed to purchase 20 duffle bags for the **Children's Home Society** and members signed up to purchase a number of smaller items for their use in working with foster children. We also agreed to continue our Wednesday **soup ministry for Immanuel's House**. Thanks to everyone who signed up to make a pot of soup for them. We still need someone for the following dates:

November 24

December 9

December 16

December 24

December 30

If you can make & deliver 8-10 quarts of soup on one of these days, please let Mary know and she can give you more details. You can email her at Wvgardengal@aol.com

FYI, Sister ACTS now has their own Facebook page, so if you haven't liked our page, please check it out!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3326116024142883>

Hope to see you on September 12!

Notes from the Board of Trustees

The installation of the black iron fence in front of the church (replacing the old fence) is set to take place in the next several weeks.

The church facilities will be available to all groups who have met here previously, starting in September. We ask that all groups contact the church office to confirm the date of their meeting. All COC guidelines will be followed.

Information about Sunday school and what plans are in place for returning to our classes will follow at a later date.

Reenie Raines
Chairperson

MISSION MOMENT

The “Things You Can't Eat” Ministry

Update

The distribution of cleaning/paper products, etc. on August 12th and 26th was very successful! We gave out 30 bags on the 12th and 35 on the 26th. All the recipients were very grateful for the help. We put flyers with information about the church as well as copies of Our Daily Bread and The Upper Room in each bag.

Our next day to distribute bags will be Wednesday, September 30 from 10am-12noon. We hope to give away 50-60 bags at that time. (More if we get extra donations).

The day to bring donations to the church will be Wednesday, September 9th from 10-12. Donations can also be brought to the church on Sunday mornings when attending services. (leave them in the Assembly Room). If you wish to bring items at another time, please call the office to insure that someone is here to receive them.

We ask that you limit your donations to these items:

- Liquid laundry detergent (46 fl oz or smaller - Pods are ok, too)
- Liquid dishwashing detergent
- Bars of soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Boxes of tissues or individual packs
- Toilet Tissue (4 pack or individual rolls)
- Paper Towels (Packs or individual rolls)

If you have shopping bags with handles (from food deliveries), we can use them! No additional plastic bags are needed.

You can also donate monetarily to this ministry. Make your check to OUM and note in the memo that it is for TYCE Ministry or the Blessing Box.

We really appreciate all the donations (items and money) that we have received. Otterbein is still a vibrant and generous church!

Again, thanks so much for helping us help our neighbors and the community.

Blessing Box and TYCE Ministry



OUR RESIDENTS:

Linda Brining, Room 716
Cadia Healthcare
14014 Marsh Pike
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Raymond “Mutt” Gano
Elmcroft Assisted Living, Room 201
200 Gloucester Drive
Martinsburg, WV 25401

Betty Raines
Clary Grove, Room 159B
209 Clover Street
Martinsburg, WV 25404

Ethel Bovey
Shenandoah Center
50 Mulberry Tree Street
Charles Town, WV 25414

Terry Bowers, Room 127
Hospice of The Panhandle
320 Hospice Lane
Kearneysville, WV 25430

SPPRC MEETING:

There will be an SPPRC meeting on Sept. 14th at 4:30p.m. via Zoom. An invite will be emailed to committee members a few days before.

Pastor’s Study for Fall: Deepening Faith – Moving Jesus from Head to Heart

This is a three-part study on deepening faith by moving Jesus from your head to your heart. No matter how long you’ve been a Christian, you can always go deeper in your faith. Through this study you'll meet Jesus in the Bible, encounter him face-to-face in prayer, and experience him directing your lives in unmistakable ways. The study will be conducted virtually through Zoom with a phone-in option through which we will be engaging in vibrant discussions and an occasional adventure! We will begin with *Help! How Do I Read the Bible?* which will be followed later by *Help! How Do I Pray?* and *Help! How Do I Know God's Will?*

Please let the pastor know by September 15 if you plan to participate so that we can order a text for you and make sure that you receive the instructions for joining the live sessions which will begin on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. beginning October 14th. We will be ordering through the church’s account and thereby saving you from the tax since we are a tax exempt organization. Each book costs \$6.00 for those who order which is \$18 for all three of the books. So that we have time to get the books to you, we will begin on October 14 at 6:15 p.m.

Patricia Sebring is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting starting on October 14th at 6:15 p.m.

Patricia Sebring is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Phone in: 1 301 715 8592

Topic: Pastor's Bible Study Sessions

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84879077105?pwd=cGhmY295VXdnVGZkQXVXd3N4cFRkZz09>

Prayer List

SEPTEMBER 2020

MEMBERS & FRIENDS:

Jack & Betty Allen
Mary Kay Apple
Terry Bowers
Linda Brining
Mike Callahan
Lee Cutlip
Mark Day
Mike Emery
Jean and Dave Fulk
John Kesecker
Phyllis Kusner
Barbara Lancaster
Patty LeMaster
Lewis Mason
Arlene Mauck
Lydia and Steven McBee
Sheril Merki
Dwight Neel
Captain Jack Overton
Woogie Powell
Betty Raines
Cliff Sebring
Janice Shipe
Mike Shipe
Mike Wheeler
Linda Winegardner
Carol Zdziera

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:

Ethel Bovey
Max Corbin
Bob & June Cutlip
Scott Davis
Janet Deter
Janice Dodson
Jeremy Duke
Rion Foster
Dave Fulk
Mutt Gano
Dan Kesecker
Jerry and Phyllis Kusner
Brenda McDaniel
Betty Ann Keiter Tabler

MILITARY MEMBERS:

Joshua Brining
Nick Foster
Brett Richards



GENERAL PRAYER CONCERNS:

End to the Coronavirus
Those living with cancer
Unity in the spirit of our Nation
Drug Addiction Epidemic
Our Military & Families
Homeless
Families touched by violence

CCAP/Loaves and Fishes
National, State, & Community Leaders
Police officers
First Responders
Health care workers
Children's Ministry

PRAYER CHAIN MEMBERS:

Jean Butts 304-263-4427
Emily Waters 304-263-9433
Joy White 304-229-0946
Pat Wilson 304-263-5887

If you would like to become a member of the prayer chain, please let Jean Butts know.

SYMPATHY:

Our sympathies are extended to the friends and family of the following:

- ✎ Bob and Gisela Lilienthal upon the passing of Lars Lilienthal.
- ✎ Terry Bowers upon the passing of his son, David Bowers.
- ✎ Steven McBee upon the passing of his sister, Judith Shriver.

Dear Otterbein Church Family,

Please accept our heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy and condolence for the untimely passing of our son, brother, and husband, LARS LILIENTHAL, after a courageous battle with cancer. The Lord graciously and mercifully relieved him of all his pains and suffering on August 4, 2020, at the age of 52, and took him home. He is sorely missed by all his friends and will be forever in our memory.

Robert (Bob) and Gisela Lilienthal

Erin White-Lilienthal

Ulf and Maureen Lilienthal and Children

Sven and Rebecca Lilienthal and Children

For a Reason *For a Season*

Otterbein United Methodist Church Policies and Procedures for Pandemic

Purpose: To keep everyone as safe as possible in the midst of a highly contagious virus and to ensure compliance with all applicable governmental and BWCUMC guidelines.

Safer at Home:

- Stay home if you feel ill or have any symptoms of disease (cough, fever, etc.)
- Those over 65 years of age and those with any pre-existing medical conditions that compromise their immunity are advised to not come to the church but to worship from home until the pandemic ends.
- Worship virtually from home at 11:00 a.m.
 - Facebook: Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/otterbeinumcmartinsburg
 - Internet: For those with internet but not on Facebook go to <https://zoom.us/> and enter Meeting ID: 886 6337 0629 and when prompted Password: 310715
 - Phone: For those without internet you can call in from your telephone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 886 6337 0629 followed by Password: 310715
 - Recorded services are available after Sunday on our YouTube channel [oumcmartinsburg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/oumcmartinsburg)

Coming for Worship:

- Come straight from home to church without stopping at other establishments to reduce possibility of bringing virus into church property.
- Minimize the items you bring with you into church building (suggest that you do not bring printed material, no food or beverages, and ladies may wish to use a small washable handbag or bag that can be disinfected).

Arriving at Church:

- Follow the direction of the safety team who will direct you to an available space.
- Park with a space between your vehicle and other vehicles to maintain social distance when exiting and entering your vehicle.
- Put on face covering before you exit your vehicle.
- If you choose to wear gloves put them on before you leave your vehicle. (Sanitizer is available inside the church for those not wearing gloves.)
- Always maintain a minimum social distance of 6 feet between yourself and others.

Entering the Church:

- Enter only through the portico entrance at the rear of the church.
- Always maintain a minimum social distance of 6 feet
- Face coverings are required. If you are not wearing a face covering you will receive one from the safety team before you enter the building.
- Wear face coverings over nose and mouth at all times while on church property including parking lot, hallways, common areas (Assembly Room, Sanctuary, Classrooms, Restrooms, etc.) and office spaces.
- Hand sanitizing is required immediately upon entry into the building and hand washing or sanitizing after using restroom facilities or touching any common-use surfaces (door handles, handrails, light switches, etc.)
- Check-in with our safety team who will ensure we have your name and phone number for contact tracing (this information will be used in the event you contract COVID 19 to contact all who had contact with you and will be used if anyone in worship contracts COVID 19 to let you know you've been exposed).

(continued on the next page)

Otterbein United Methodist Church Policies and Procedures for Pandemic (Continued)

In the Sanctuary

- Maintain social distance of six feet.
- You will be guided to your seat by a member of the safety team.
- People living in the same house may sit together without six feet of separation between household members.
- No seating in the balcony.
- No printed materials in the sanctuary.
- No singing or unison speaking during the pandemic to reduce the amount of exhaled aerosol that could contain virus.
- Remain seated until dismissal by rows to avoid congestion in hallways.
- Offering received upon exit from the sanctuary in designated box

Restrooms

- Limited to one person at a time to maintain appropriate distance. (Young children may be accompanied by parent or guardian.)
- Hand washing for minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water following use of the facilities.
- Use a clean paper towel to open door upon exiting.

Exiting the Church:

- Altar Guild will remove flowers before congregation exits and take them outside for pick-up by donors.
- Follow the direction of the safety team to the exit.
- Maintain safe social distance of six feet between yourself and others.
- Exit immediately upon conclusion of the service.
- Exit only through the portico entrance at the rear of the church.
- Wear face covering (and disposable gloves if you choose to wear them) until you are in your vehicle and dispose of these in a proper waste receptacle at home.
- Exit the parking lot promptly to clear the way for others to safely get to their vehicles.

Discontinued until further notice are the following:

- No Bulletins
- No Greeters at Sanctuary entrance
- No Lay Readers
- No Coffee Hour: No food or beverage in the building
- No Sunday School for children, youth, and adults.
- No Nursery or Children's Church
- No Small Group gatherings
- No Renting to outside groups
- No Card ministry table
- No Prayer Request Sheet (Contact pastor by phone, text, or e-mail with requests)
- No Registration Pads or Connection Cards

Remember It Is All
For a Reason  ***For a Season***

Please be advised that as the ongoing pandemic situation changes, this information will be reviewed and updated to correspond with the current level of risk and governmental/BWCUMC guidelines and requirements.

Five Ways to Worship

Worship in the sanctuary or worship virtually from home at 11:00 a.m.

Our virtual services have been greatly upgraded.

Please try one or more of these methods to worship.

- **In person** in the sanctuary following the guidelines outlined in the For a Reason-For A Season in this newsletter
- **Facebook:** Facebook Live at www.Facebook.com/otterbeinumcmartinsburg
- **Internet:** For those with internet but not on Facebook go to <https://zoom.us/> and enter Meeting ID: 886 6337 0629 and when prompted Password: 310715
- **Phone:** For those without internet you can call in from your telephone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 886 6337 0629 followed by Password: 310715
- **YouTube:** Recorded services are available after Sunday on our YouTube channel [oumcmartinsburg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/oumcmartinsburg)
Past Recorded services are available on our website.

Give to Glorify God!!!

Options for Supporting Your Church with Your Gifts ~

Our finances depend upon your continued support throughout this time.

These are some options to get your financial gifts to your church.

- **Mail** your check(s) in an envelope to Otterbein UMC
P.O. Box 2378
Martinsburg, WV 25402
- **Click and give** by making a donation through the church website at www.otterbeinumc.net on the home page. Click the “donate” button to give through either PayPal or by debit or credit card.
- **Online banking** by submitting an electronic payment through your bank online bill-pay
- **Auto pay** Please consider making your online/electronic contribution a recurring monthly gift



Otterbein United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Patricia L. Sebring, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 443-510-3308 Pastor's e-mail: revdrpls@gmail.com

*Donna Hall, Administrative Assistant
Robert Mabe, Audio Visual Director/Custodian*

*Reenie Raines, Organist
Sylvia Michel, Nursery Attendant*

Phone: 304-263-0342

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2378, Martinsburg, WV 25402

Located at 549 N. Queen Street, Martinsburg

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Website: www.otterbeinumc.net

Email: secretary@otterbeinumc.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/otterbeinumcmartinsburg

YouTube: Otterbein UMC - Martinsburg

Our Sanctuary is Open for Worship

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

(No Sunday School at this time)

*** MASKS ARE REQUIRED!!!! ***

*** IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A MASK WITH YOU,
ONE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU. ***



**Otterbein United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 2378
Martinsburg, WV 25402**

The Spirit of Otterbein
SEPTEMBER 2020