

OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
176 West Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Permit No. 34

Tidings



July &
August 2022

The Tidings
Otterbein United Methodist
Church

176 West Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Office - (540) 434-7747
Fax - (540) 433-4018
oumcharrisonburg.org

Prayer Ministry - (540) 434-7745

Tidings articles are due by the
15th of each month.

You may either bring articles to
the church office or email them
to oumcdm@hotmail.com

Saturday Night Alive
Not meeting at this time.

Sunday Schedule
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service

Please check the calendar for
times of regular and special
events.

Weekday Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm



Have you checked out our Facebook Page? You can find us at facebook.com/OUMCHarrisonburg or through the link on our website. Please check out our page and share with your friends!

Our Staff

Rev. Adam Blagg
Senior Pastor
oumcpastor@hotmail.com

Sandy Schaefer
Director of Music Ministries
oumcmusic@hotmail.com

Melissa Miller
Office Manager
oumcdm@hotmail.com

Judy Falls
Custodian

Dawn Warren
Treasurer
oumctreasurer@hotmail.com

Office: 540-434-7747
x200 for Melissa
x201 for Adam
x203 for Dawn
x204 for Sandy
x207 for Judy



Otterbein's Conference Giving
Report

A big thank you to everyone who helped
in any way with the Conference giving.

We contributed the following:

- 100 School Kits stayed in the area for local schools.
- 100 Hygiene Kits were sent to UMCOR.
- 120 lbs. of canned food were sent to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.
- \$200 was sent to cover shipping and toothpaste costs for the Hygiene Kits.
- \$800 was sent to purchase and ship 10 Flood Buckets.
- \$69 was sent as an additional donation for Kits.
- \$175 was sent for the Annual Conference Offering.

School supplies will be on sale in July for those wishing to save money on school kits for next year.

Thanks again for your continued generosity!



For Your Information

- *Tidings* deadline for the **September 2022** issue is **Monday, August 15** by **3 pm**. All groups, classes, and individuals are welcome to submit articles for the *Tidings*. Plan your activities and bring the written details to the church office or email to the office at oumcdm@hotmail.com by the 15th.
- **Prayer Line Ministry:** Call 434-7745 anytime (day or night) to hear a prayer to encourage and give you support. To leave a prayer request: listen to the prayer, then follow the prompts to leave your request or words of praise.

Congratulations!!

The following graduates were recognized during our worship service on June 12:

Jonathan Williams graduated with an Advanced Diploma from **Blue Ridge Christian High School** and earned a Merit Scholarship to attend **Hillsdale College** in the fall to major in Philosophy and Religion. He is the son of Sandy Schaefer.

Daniel Malabad graduated from **Turner Ashby High School** and plans to attend **James Madison University** in the fall to major in engineering as part of the JMU Honors College. He is the son of Paul & Melissa Malabad and the grandson of Marylee Huffman.

Morgan Stum graduated from **Harrisonburg High School** and plans to attend **Costal Carolina University** to major in Psychology. She is the daughter of Dean & Becky Stum.

Dylan Andrade graduated from **Massanutten Technical Center** in the **Veterinary Technician Program**. He works at Harrisonburg Animal Hospital. Dylan is the son of Kevin & Bonnie Andrade.

Jacob Blagg will graduate from **Virginia Commonwealth University** with a degree in Biology. He plans to work as a Lab Technician at McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond after graduation. Jacob is the son of Adam & Christy Blagg and the grandson of Jim & Pat Wingert.

Grace Bynum graduated Summa Cum Laude from the **University of Mississippi** and the **Sally McDonnell Barskdale Honors College** with a degree in Integrated Marketing and Communications from the School of Journalism and New Media. She is the granddaughter of Bonnie Goff.



FROM THE PASTOR

I have a mixed feelings about summer. The older I get, the less I like the hot humid days that seem to be the norm for the majority of June through August. Afternoon thunderstorms don't seem to be as refreshing as when I was a kid, and the 90-degree days just don't sit well with me anymore. Even the beach last year was stifling hot, most nights it barely dropped below 80 and we never saw a drop of rain to cool things off. On the other hand, I do enjoy the more relaxed routines of summer. While I would not want such a schedule year-round, I do appreciate a few extra days off and more free time to catch up on things that I put off during the remainder of the year. My reading list will shrink considerably during the next few weeks.

What I am going to enjoy most this summer is a few extra weeks to spend with my kids. School and work become so hectic during the remainder of the year that I can go days without really spending any quality time with the two kids left at home. While the older two come and go and are in the process of becoming independent, Christy and I still have some time left with Lena and Micah. Knowing that this time is fleeting and will move fast, I'm going to do my best to enjoy these summer days.

As we think about our own journey through life, we know that it too is fleeting. Time rushes on and as we age, we understand that we have less time each day to truly do the things we want or are called to do. I hope you take the time this summer to enjoy those moments. While that looks different for each of us, I hope you engage in that same spirit of mindfulness for the days that come before you. It can be

continued next page...

the simple things in life: a phone call with old friends, days away with the family, an early morning walk enjoying God’s creation. It could also be those things that call to us in a more profound way: repairing a broken relationship, sitting in silence to fully understand God’s presence, or answering God’s call to ministry.

So, enjoy your summer. Relax and take in the goodness of God’s creation and the blessings of life lived in community. Cherish each day and all that it brings. Make the time to do this work, for it will sustain you in times when life is not so restful. See you in September.

Adam



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith (UMW) News

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

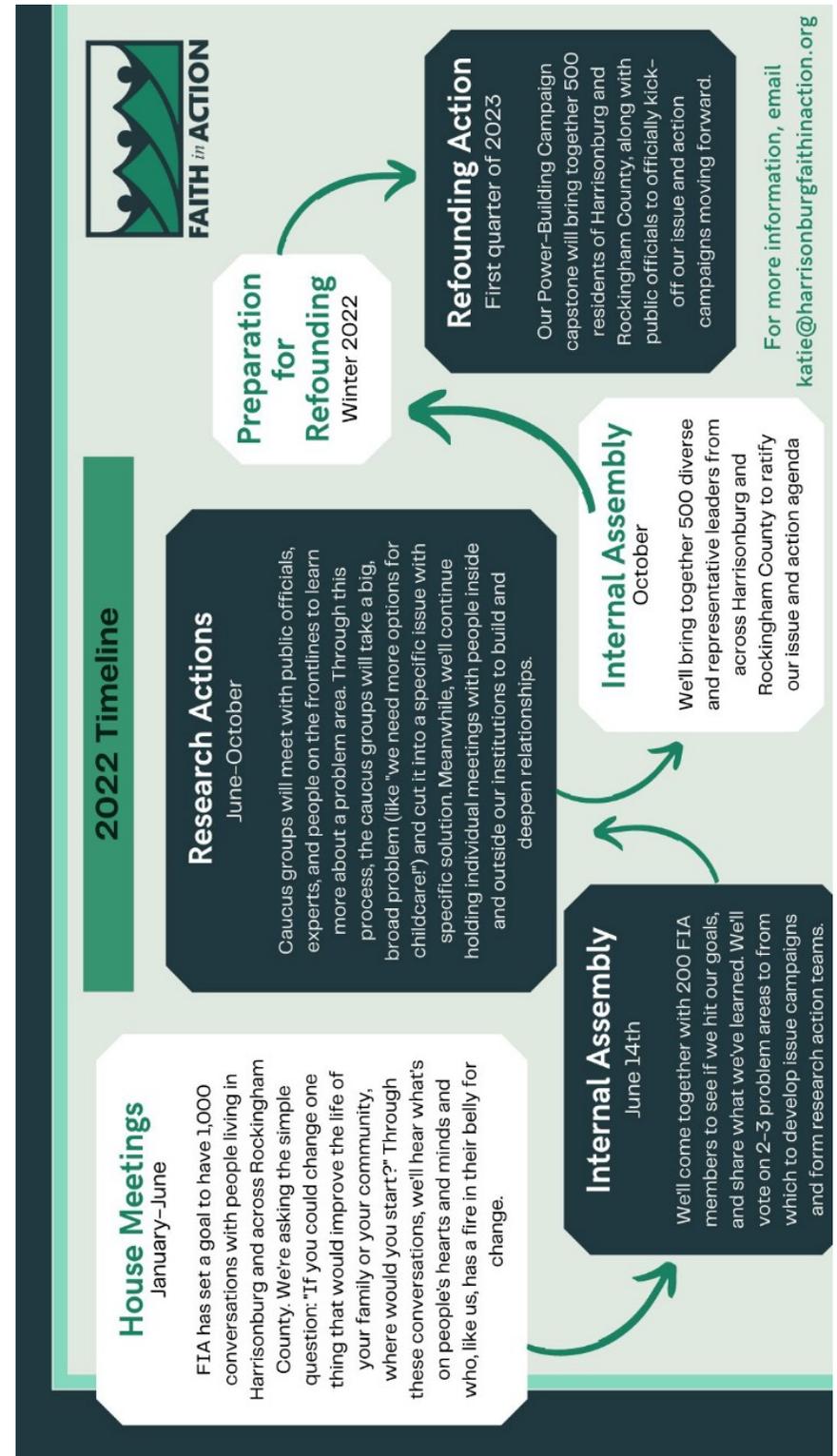
From the *Declaration of Independence*

No monthly meetings in July or August.

Please complete all reports and turn them in by the deadline dates. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Wilma at 540-433-9545.

“It is no coincidence that the last four letters in AMERICAN spell I CAN.”

Peggy Germain





FAITH *in* ACTION

Faith in Action Update

Over the past two years, Faith In Action (FIA) has

been working diligently at reorganizing as a body of like-minded institutions that seek to form a broad-based coalition to effect change in our community. You will see on the opposite page a timeline of what we are focusing on for the next nine to twelve months. Inside Otterbein, we have developed a core team to help connect our institution to the broader work of FIA. This replaces the old model of two covenant assembly reps and allows us to have a deeper connection to the work FIA is engaging in.

On June 14th, FIA held the internal assembly you see noted in the timeline with 13 members of Otterbein's core team present. At this assembly we caucused and selected two areas of attention: *transportation* and *childcare*. You will hear more about both of these in the months to come, as well as being able to provide your own experiences and wisdom to the work. If you would like more information about FIA or being a part of the Otterbein core team, please reach out to Linda Conrad or Adam Blagg.



A big thank you to all who donated time, resources, and finances towards a very successful Pancake Brunch prepared and sponsored by the



Otterbein UMM in May. Approximately 65 persons attended and enjoyed pancakes, sausage, and wonderful fellowship! Donations totaling \$2,600.00 were received and this amount went directly towards supporting the College Chorale Scholarship Fund. That amount will support scholarships for 2 and ½ students for one semester!

The Otterbein Men's Fellowship will be leading the Worship Service on **Sunday, August 28** at 10:30 am in-person in the Sanctuary and streaming as well. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Tom Murphy. The Men's Choir will be singing.

We continue to meet during the summer months for breakfast, prayer, and fellowship at Thomas House Restaurant in Dayton. Our schedule of regular **Saturday morning** meetings will be **July 23 and August 27**. Fellowship begins at **7:30 am** and concludes in about one hour. Please check the website below for other meeting and event dates in 2022.

Plans are moving forward for the Men's **Annual Spaghetti Supper** this year to be held on **Saturday, September 24, 4:30 to 7:00 pm** in **Memorial Hall**. Mark **September 24** on your calendar NOW and watch for additional details in the future.



Want to know more? Contact any member of our planning team: Mike Earman, Bill Pollard, or Carter Ritchie, or check our website: <https://www.oumcharrisonburg.org/united-methodist-men>



CREATION CARE TASK FORCE

Scripture is clear that creation belongs to God: *"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it."* Psalm 24:11. Scripture also tells

us who is to care for God's creation: *"You made human beings the rulers over all that Your hands have created."* Psalms 8:6

Our Christian faith calls us to care about our world and to love and protect God's amazing creation. Yet it can be a challenge to know where to start, or the right steps to take. We are fortunate to live where the beauty of God's creation is always close at hand. One of our first steps can be to spend time in our favorite spot of God's creation and give thanks for what we see. Then give prayerful thought to what additional steps we as individuals and families can take.

Unfortunately, our day-to-day choices and attitudes are often driven by our culture and lifestyle preferences. Too often we choose what is convenient: bottled water, individual serving packs, quick-fix food in disposal non-biodegradable containers. The science is clear: because of human activity, we see effects like species extinction and climate change. Unfortunately, it seems the strongest predictor of whether we accept the scientific consensus on climate change is not how much science we know or how religious we are, but current political agendas. Again, when we fail to see the world as God's creation, we end up abusing it.

continued next page...

Selfishness and greed take over.

Over the past few years, the Creation Care Taskforce has offered a number of ways our church family can become more protective of God's creation:

- **Reduce** the amount you buy.
- **Reuse** the things you already have.
- **Recycle** to reduce what ends up in the trash, rivers, and oceans.
- **Repair** instead of buying new.
- **Restore** the earth's resources.

No matter how little they may seem, any steps towards restoring and respecting God's creation is a step in the right direction. We may not have all the answers to the challenges facing our environment today, and it can feel overwhelming, but we need to give it our best try.

Betty Redmond
Creation Taskforce

Otterbein in Prayer

Susie Ayala
Gary Billingsley
Millie Bruce
Rev. Louis Carson
Fern Cline
Charlie Davis
Cliff & Jean Davis
Jo Ellen Dickenson
Amber Earman
Mike Earman
Nancy East
Dennis Gaines
Ray & Audrey Griffith

Doris Hanger
Laura Headlee
Norma Heath
Hunter Hensley
Alice Ely Howell
Dot Jones
Janet Liskey
Allen Litten
Marion Malabad
Allene McCoy
Becky Morlan
Eugene Moyers
Mary Jo Mitchell

George & Betty Painter
Judy Pruett
Don & Bonnie Rohr
Mary Ellen Rohrbaugh
Becky Smith
Linda Stephens
Paul Swartz
Juanita Taylor
Daisy Van Pelt
Keith & Sharon Waters
Mary Wenger