

Welcome to Otterbein United Methodist Church

September 27, 2026

10:30 am

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

We Gather to Worship the Lord

Prelude *Little Prelude for Organ no. 6* Bach

Welcome

Special Music *Give Me Jesus* arr. Larson
Otterbein Chancel Ringers

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God is with us. Christ is present. The Holy Spirit surrounds us.

**All: But sometimes amid the challenges of life, we lose our focus on God,
and we start to sink.**

Leader: With God's outstretched arm, we can begin again.

**All: God loves us. Christ will lift us up. The Holy Spirit will rescue us from
the currents that threaten to overwhelm. Thanks be to our God. Let us
worship the Lord!**

***Opening Prayer**

*Opening Hymn *You Are My Hiding Place* No. 2055, TFWS

Children's Time in Worship Sarah Macomber

We Proclaim the Word of God

Anthem *Ave Verum Corpus* Mozart
College Chorale

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading	Psalm 85:8-13	(OT, pg. 543)
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Scripture Reading	Matthew 14:22-33	(NT, pg. 16)
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Sermon	“JESUS REACHES OUT”	Rev. Laura Stratton
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*Hymn	<i>Stand By Me</i>	No. 512, UMH
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We Give Our Thanks

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation, Confession, Pardon, & Peace	No. 12, UMH
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Anthem	<i>My Father's Beautiful World</i>	Martin
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*Doxology	No. 95, UMH
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Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Holy Communion	No. 2257, b-d, TFWS
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Prayer after Communion	No. 11, UMH
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We Go Forth Renewed

*Closing Hymn	<i>Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i>	No. 474, UMH
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*Benediction

*Postlude	<i>Little Fugue for Organ no. 6</i>	Bach
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* Please stand as you are able.

This Week's Opportunities

Sunday, September 27

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Monday, September 28

4:30 pm Soup Kitchen

4:30 pm Clothes Closet

7:00 pm Financial Policy
Committee—Rm. 207

Tuesday, September 29

6:00 pm Bible Study—Rm. 204

7:00 pm Nominations—Rm. 204

Wednesday, September 30

10:00 am Bible Study—Rm. 204

6:00 pm Bells

7:15 pm Choir

Thursday, October 1

9:30 am Guys Grief Group—Mr.
J's Bagels

3:45 pm New Horizons Band—
MH

Friday, October 2

Saturday, October 3

10:00 am Animal Blessing—
LOVEworks Park

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Otterbein in Prayer

David Angier

Rosalie Bailey

Gary Billingsley

Whitney Bradley

Rev. Louis Carson

Lt. Col. Sam Cartee

Loretta Crider

Nissa D'Andrea

Cliff Davis

Jo Ellen Dickenson

Mike Earman

Rev. Samuel & Judith

Espinoza

Zach Fickes

Mary Ann Glendye

Ray Griffith

Fred Hopkins

Joel Jordan

Steve Lilly

Patty Liskey

Chuck Macklin

Art Mitchell

Eric Mitchell

Maxine Perry

Judy Pruett

Ann Sebrell

Dot Swartz

Carolyn Stroop

Michelle VanPelt

Hazel Willi

Keith Wright

Family of Millie Bruce

Family of Jackie Lilly



*The flowers on the altar today are
given in memory of Ret. HFD Deputy
Chief Jacob "JC" Huffman (10/2/08)
and to the Glory of God by Marylee
Huffman and the Malabad Family.*

Assisted Listening Devices and **large print bulletins and hymnals**
are **available**. Please see an usher for assistance.

- **Parking Lot Safety**—Selah Academy's student drop-off/pick-up is around 9 am and 2 pm, Monday–Thursday. Please be aware that there will be extra cars and children in the parking lot if you are coming to the church during that time.
- **Mystery Friends 2026-27**—**College students:** do you want to receive a reminder each month of how special you are to Otterbein? **Congregation:** do you or your group want to make a college student's day? Mystery Friends is the perfect match, and it's SO EASY! **Students:** simply fill out an information form (found at the church entrances and in the choir room) and **return it TODAY.** **Congregation:** if you would like to participate, you can sign up to cover one month, birthdays, special occasions, however works best for you. Contact either Bev Nelson (beverleynelson@comcast.net, 540-908-8793) or Kim Zigler (kzigler@comcast.net, 540-246-7781).
- **Financial Policy Subcommittee** will meet **Monday, September 28 at 7 pm in Room 207.**
- **Nominations Committee** will meet **Tuesday, September 29 at 7 pm in Room 204.**
- **Otterbein Signature Coconut Cakes**—Orders for Otterbein Signature Coconut Cakes & Cupcakes will be taken during the month of September. Sign-up sheets are located at the water fountains. All proceeds will be donated to Otterbein's Outreach Programs.
- **Animal Blessing**—There will be an **animal blessing service** on **Saturday, October 3 at 10 am** at **LOVEworks Park** (next to Turner Pavilion).
- **Otterbein UMM Canned Food Drive**—So far in 2026, we have received food donations totaling **795 pounds!** This represents the food needed for **694 meals.** Let's see if we can reach a total of at least **1000 meals** before our drive ends in early December! Your next opportunity to donate will be next **Sunday, October 4** and the first Sunday of the month through this year. All donations are going to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. *Thank you* for your continued support in achieving our vision of nourishing food and good health for everyone, every day!

Lay Reader:

Patsy Liskey

Attendance Last Sunday:

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers:

**TLC Person
of the Week:**

Ila Kimata
1336 Woodland Park Circle
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

*Remember Ila this week with a
note or a card.*

*Let's show her Otterbein's
"tender, loving care"!*

OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Office: (540) 434-7747

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 3 pm

Friday: Closed