## Otterbein

# United Brethren in Christ Church



Connecting
Affirming
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#### THE LORD'S DAY

#### **December 10, 2016**

PRELUDE
OPENING SONG #136
CHRISTMAS READING #142
SONGS OF PRAISE #143
OFFERING
BIBLE MESSAGE
CLOSING SONG #166
BENEDICTION

Children's Church today at 9:00 and 11:10 in the basement for ages 4 thru  $5^{\text{th}}$  grade.

TODAY

8:30 and 10:40 - Worship/Preaching

9:50 - Sunday School classes - Children's Christmas party

during Sunday School

6:30 - Small groups

WEDNESDAY

5:30 - Snak Shak open ... food available (basement)

6:00 - Hosanna Choir

6:30 - Groups for adults/youth/children

7:40 - Adult choir practice (sanctuary)

Last Week	
Attendance	263
General	\$ 6,439.00
Missions	\$ 3,532.50
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$ 1,049.00
Sunday School	\$ 230.00

#### WELCOME TEAM

Dec. 11 – The Widder Family

Dec. 18 – Scott Garling

Dec. 25 – Gary & Grant Murray

Jan. 1 – Tom & Christopher Keely

Jan. 8 - The Widder Family

Dec. - First Service Ushers Bob Stoner - Head Usher Perry Norris Gene Weagley Ed Tracey Sean Tracey



A basket is available under the mailboxes to drop off your Christmas cards. Youth group members will sort the cards to put in the individual boxes.

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David Rawley		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
rawley@centurylink.net Youth Director: Josh Lance	1 <sup>st</sup> Nursery	Tim & Holly Ressler	Connie Tracey
597-8525 ext. 12 504-5604 (cell) joshlance85@gmail.com	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nursery	TBD	Cindy Rawley & Sylvia Clement
Secretary: Carol Schwalm office@greencastleub.org 597-8525 Hours 9 to 4	Acolyte	Josh Rayarao (1st) Karleigh Bubeck (2nd)	Caitlyn Horner (1st) Grace Akers (2nd)
Tues/Wed/Thurs. <b>Building/Van Scheduling:</b> Holly Ressler	Greeters	Andy Webb Family	John & Bea Hoffman
facility@greencastleub.org: 597-8525  Prayer Chain: 597-2531 or Melarl@aol.com	Prelude	Becky Sipes	Daphne Murray



www.greencastleub.org

web site:

Dec. 13 - Join us for breakfast at Perkins in Chambersburg. The vans will leave the church at 8:30 or meet at the restaurant at 9:00 am.

Jan 10 - Bowling and lunch. Details coming soon!

Questions? Contact Bob & Fran Stoner (597-0189)

#### Heritage Christmas Dec. 16th

Signup Sheet to donate cookies is on the Lower Lobby Desk. We are also looking for volunteers to work the table on Dec. 16.





Crusaders Class Christmas banquet Thursday, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm at Hoss's Restaurant, Chambersburg. Please let Janice Bartles, Lorraine Hess or Jeannie Johnston know if you plan to attend.

Music planning for 2017 is underway. If you would like to volunteer to play prelude during Sunday morning worship, contact Daphne Murray (597-8830).

#### REMINDER...

NEXT SUNDAY is our ALL MUSIC service for the Christmas season. We would love to have you participate... vocal or instrumental. Contact Daphne Murray to get on the schedule. Invite an unchurched friend on that day. Everyone loves Christmas music!



• December 18 at 6:00 p.m. We're going Christmas caroling to some local homes. Join us! If you have a person you would like to have visited, please speak with Pastor Rawley.



Both Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Sunday this year. On both of these Sundays our schedule at OUB will be the same... One combined WORSHIP service at 9:00 with no Sunday School classes. You will enjoy and be inspired! We will NOT be doing our traditional New

Year's Eve celebration this year.



On the narthex mission's board are Christmas <u>cards</u> and <u>envelopes</u> for our missionaries already addressed. Please take one and send some Christmas cheer to one of the missionaries supported by O.U.B. Thanks!

Quick breads, donuts and muffins (no cookies) are needed for fellowship time between services on Dec. 18. Drop off goodies in the kitchen before the first service that day. Any questions, please contact Leta Sipes (328-3583).





Come enjoy an evening of "Candlelight and Carols" on Wed, Dec. 21 or Sat., Dec 24 at 6:00 pm. This service will include lots of carols, scripture readings and special music. It will offer a wonderful opportunity to worship and quietly reflect on the events surrounding our Savior's birth.

Sign up sheet for nursery volunteers for Jan, Feb, & March is on the lower lobby desk. Please consider helping with this ministry.



### **FOLLOW THE STAR**

(Matthew 2:1-12)

Why did God choose a <u>star</u> to guide the men from the Far East to Bethlehem? Why not a cloud (Israelites), an angel (shepherds), or dream (Joseph)? Perhaps he simply chose something these men were familiar with or perhaps he wanted the symbolism to speak for the reality. The wise men followed the star until they found THE STAR!

STAR 1. A self-luminous, gaseous body of great mass, visible in the night sky

2. An outstanding talented or highly publicized performer who stands out among fellow performers

GIFT of the STARS = In the overwhelming blackness, ioneliness,
and void of outer space is a luminous diamond bright and beautiful a star.
*Into the crushing darkness of and shines
the and of Christ, unafraid of evil pure
and powerful God's STAR. (Heb. 1:3, John 1:6-9, 12:44-46)
<b>CERTAINTY of the STARS</b> = Across history and civilizations, the fixed positions of stars have been depended upon for navigation and negotiation.
*Among the shifting and shadowy realms of human ideas, cultures, leaders
and values shines the and of Christ God's STAR
to us safely through the minefields. (Heb. 1:4, 3:5-6, 13:8)
MAGNITISM of the STARS = Across the emptiness of space, stars are gravitationally bound together and form giant clusters rotating around a center of mass. Galaxies!
*Within God's astounding universe are elements both visible and invisible (to
humans). Each part and the whole are held in, in, in, in, all
things functionally by Christ God's STAR who (like gravity) all
<b>PROCESS of a STAR</b> = At the core of every star is nuclear fusion.
Raw. Brutal. Powerful. Every hydrogen atom crushed by undeniable, inescapable
pressure until it morphs into helium the most basic and simple form possible.
Pressure > Fusion > Heat > Light. Overwhelming process. No resistance possible.
*One day every person from every age and place, every being with
intelligence and identity will be reduced to their before
the and of Christ God's STAR. Every
skepticism smashed. Every excuse pulverized. Every resistance crushed.
(Phil. 2:9-11, Rev. 19:11-16, 20:13. John 3:18, 5:22-17, Psalm 2:1-12, 110:1-2)