

# 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](http://www.greencastleub.org)

# THE LORD'S DAY

## December 8, 2024

PRELUDE  
HOSANNA CHOIR  
ADULT CHOIR  
WORSHIP MUSIC  
READING #705  
HYMNS #130 - 133  
PRAYER  
SCRIPTURE (*Matthew 3*)  
BIBLE MESSAGE  
HYMN #143  
BENEDICTION

Children's Church 9:00 and 11:10 (basement)

*Who is he in yonder stall, at whose feet the shepherds fall?  
Who is he in deep distress, fasting in the wilderness?  
Who is he at Jordan's edge, one with man, baptized in pledge?  
Who is he on yonder tree, dies in grief and agony?  
Tis THE LORD! O wonderful story!  
Tis THE LORD, the King of Glory!  
At his feet we humbly fall, Crown him, Crown him Lord of all!*

### TODAY

8:30/10:45 - Worship and Preaching  
9:50 - Children's Christmas Program  
4:00 - Christmas Eve PRACTICE

### WEDNESDAY

6:30 - children/youth/adult groups for growth/prayer/fellowship

DECEMBER 22nd and 29th... one worship service only at 9:30.

\*December 22 is our annual "ALL MUSIC" Christmas service.

We welcome your musical participation! Alone or group.

Voice or instrument. Notify Becky Sipes at (717) 375-8099.

December 31...

We look forward to our annual New Year's CELEBRATION.

Music. Testimony. Holy Communion. Plan to come!

Pastor:  
 David Rawley  
 rawley1977@gmail.com  
 (717) 597-3211  
 Secretary:  
 Carol Schwalm  
 office@greencastleub.org  
 (717) 597-8525  
 Hours 9 to 4 Tues/Wed/Thurs.  
 Building/Van Scheduling:  
 Holly Ressler  
 facility@greencastleub.org  
 (301) 842-7573  
 Prayer Group:  
 Deb Cline  
 debandmaude@yahoo.com

	<i><b>This Week</b></i>	<i><b>Next Week</b></i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Nursery</b>	Deb Michalsky & Heidi Myers	Char Timmons & Sandy Turman
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Nursery</b>	K.D. & Stephanie Rife	Cindy Rawley
<b>Acolyte</b>	Dane Ruelas 1st Shelby Rife 2nd	Cole Tracey 1st Isabel Thompson 2nd
<b>Prelude</b>	Suzanne Hess & John Piper	Sheri Michalsky
<b>Greeters</b>		Grant Murray Family

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.

<b>Last Week...</b>	12/1/24
<b>Attendance</b>	242
<b>General</b>	\$10,397.50
<b>Missions</b>	\$4,667.50
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$1,467.50
<b>Sunday School</b>	\$265.00

**LADIES CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** (sponsored by WMF)  
 Sunday, Dec 8 at 1:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

There will be food, fun, fellowship, special music, door prizes, and a make and take nativity ornament. Ladies of all ages are invited! Come celebrate the Christmas season!



*Merry Christmas to All!*

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



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.

### "HIGH DRAMA" (Sunday Sermons)

- JOHN ... "I cannot do this!" Dec. 8
- MAGI ... "We will not be distracted!" Dec. 15



Senior Activity - Breakfast together on Dec 10, 9:00@  
30 West Family Restaurant.  
RSVP to Fran Stoner (717-597-0189) by Dec. 9.

Women's Bible Study Monday the 15th at 1:00. We'll be studying Esther.



Chanel Wiest, our church member who is serving time in Muncy Prison, has sent us a Christmas card that is posted on the upper lobby bulletin board. Please keep her in your prayers.

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.



\*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!

# I CANNOT DO THIS!

(Matthew 3)

John the Baptist had a short lived, powerful, provocative life. His fiery rhetoric stirred people up! His life and preaching had a narrow focus.

**MISSION:** Prepare people... \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.  
(Mk. 1:1-4, Jn. 1:16-23)

**METHOD:** Confrontational \_\_\_\_\_, "repentance" \_\_\_\_\_. (Lk. 3:3, 7-9)

**APPEARANCE:** Rough and simple; \_\_\_\_\_ garb. (Mk. 1:6)

**LOCATION:** Jordan river just north of the dead sea (Judea). (Lk. 3:3, Mk. 1:5)

One day (unexpectedly) Jesus showed up, coming all the way from the northern territory of Galilee. (Mt. 3:5, 13)

**HIGH DRAMA...** "Baptize me also, John."

"No way! Unthinkable! If anything, you must baptize me. (3:13-14)

Reply of Jesus: (3:15)


This act of baptism was God's righteous plan by which Jesus IDENTIFIED with man and man's sin. He could not \_\_\_\_\_ for them unless he fully \_\_\_\_\_ their condition which baptism \_\_\_\_\_.

*Isaiah 53:12 - numbered with the transgressors.*

*11 Cor. 5:21 - made him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf.*

Consider John's reluctance, not simply theological, but human. He did not feel capable for this task that came unexpectedly upon him. He felt overwhelmed and strenuously objected. "I cannot do this."

In the reply of Jesus (apart from theology) is God's answer to those who do not enjoy their responsibility or feel ineffective for their assigned role.

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- God has you in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Do not despair or \_\_\_\_\_ simply because it seems "illogical."
  - Your inadequacies may be the \_\_\_\_\_ that God has placed you where you are... to give testimony to God's \_\_\_\_\_.
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