

Otterbein United Brethren in Christ Church



Connecting
Affirming
Reaching
Equipping
Sending

146 Leitersburg Street
Greencastle, PA 17225
www.greencastleub.org

A Church That
C.A.R.E.S.



THE LORD'S DAY

December 28, 2025

Call to Worship #674
Joy to the World! (125)
Prayer
Sermon (Genesis 26, part 1)
(Skit) "Only One Savior"
Worship Music
Sermon (Genesis 26, part 2)
I Am Thine, O Lord (358)
Benediction

Time rolls. Time rules. It will always be that way until God's eternal order puts time on the shelf and all things become endless. So, we are on the cusp of another (new) year! May the Lord do a new work in your life during this upcoming year. And may you WORSHIP God in return. WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY (6:00) Join us for our annual New Year's Eve celebration.
Just music... testimonies... and Holy Communion together.

* Next Wednesday (Jan. 7) the adult group will begin a study in the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. This book conveys both powerful wisdom and strange statements that will be a joy to discuss together. Bible study and prayer. 6:30 on Wednesdays.

Towards the end of the Psalms is a section called "Songs of Ascent" (120 - 134). These were quoted and sung by Jewish pilgrims making their way to Jerusalem for festival or sacrifice. Almost always they were climbing (ascending) in elevation. This is a profound illustration of the heavenward journey of life! Several themes emerge from these songs, which we will explore in the Sunday morning sermons.

CLARITY (Goal) *Knowing the place we wish to attain* (Jan 4)
CLIMATE (Journey) *Setting forth with commitment* (Jan 11)
CLIMB (Struggle) *Descending is easy. Ascending is work!* (Jan 18)
CLIMAX (Reward) *Balancing satisfaction with longing* (Jan 25)

Administrative Board... reminder of the meeting... Jan. 13th (6:30)

* Monday evenings (Jan. 5 -Apr. 6) will offer an in-depth opportunity to have the Word of God speak to your struggles and challenges. This class includes homework and heart work! (6:30 - 8:30). If you haven't signed up, speak with Barry Stottlemeyer, teacher.



Please take a moment to read the note from the Laurel Mission in Kentucky for the people from the Mission trip in late October 2025. It is on the upper lobby bulletin board.

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	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
1st Nursery	Tom & Lori Clopper	Tom & Lori Clopper
2nd Nursery		Cindy Rawley
Acolyte	Ben Bowman & Carter Wagaman	
Prelude	Daphne Murray	Leta Sipes
Greeters	Ed & Trudy Norris	Ed Whitmer Family

Last Week...	12/21/25
Attendance	225
General	\$9,959.00
Missions	\$2,275.00
Building Fund	\$3,159.50
Sunday School	\$ 187.00



The Altar Flowers are in memory of
Melissa Leckron by her Mother



Peace by Piece has placed baskets of Christmas pocket crosses in the lobbies. We encourage you to take several to hand out during this Christmas season.

The 2026 Commissions and Committees listings are on the upper lobby table.



Please check your church mailbox. There are lots of Christmas cards waiting to be read!

FAMINES and WELLS

(Genesis 26)

1) **FAMINE**... represents (for us) issues, commitments, arrangements, assignments, etc. which are not easy. To prosper requires _____ (present) and _____ (future).

1) **besides the earlier famine**... Both a fallen world and human nature guarantee that hardships and disappointments will always be with us, a _____. Different... but the same!

1) **Isaac went to Philistia** [western Palestine]... represent our human tendency to "run" [leave, escape, relocate], seeking a way/place that requires _____ effort and _____ reward.

2) **Do not go down to Egypt. STAY in this land.** [Philistia was part of "this land" given to Abraham]. Philistia = seeing future _____. Egypt = abandoning past _____.

3) **"I will be... bless... give... confirm..."** God promises to bless the commitment and work involved in _____ in covenant and _____ the famine in the place he called us to be.

6) So Isaac stayed...

12-19) Isaac planted crops... reopened wells... dug new wells... "settled there."

Not attempting to copy or impress anyone, Isaac simply worked the fields and flocks available to him. He used old resources and developed new ones. When he got elbowed in the ribs (*Abimelech, vs. 16*), he simply moved out of elbow range and kept working. He was single minded and committed to this _____, _____, and _____.

* God loved it, blessed him, and Isaac was fabulously successful (12-13).

19-22) Conflict and competition... Isaac refused to be disturbed, discouraged, or even distracted. He believed there was such great opportunity, that everyone could thrive. When someone demanded his water, he simply dug another well! He was _____ to the work (crops and cattle) and the location (SW Palestine).

22-23) The PROCESS of place > oath > well > city is simply a continuation and growth of one single ingredient of _____. Isaac did not visit Beersheba (23) for his entertainment. He created Beersheba from his commitment (33).

THE CHALLENGE: Cultural change (famine) and leadership change (ownership of the well) face us in this new year. We must not: a) _____ to Egypt. b) _____ over the water hole. Instead, we must _____ ourselves to this work and this people.

Wells conquer f