

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

Januray 4, 2025

Prelude
Victory in Jesus! (473)
Prayer
Kids Korner
Worship Music
Bible Message
Now I Belong to Jesus! (511)
Benediction

* This 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.

Pastor:
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	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
1st Nursery	Tom & Lori Clopper	Morgan Brouse & Lori Clopper
2nd Nursery	Sylvia Clement & Char Timmons	Tom & Lori Clopper
Acolyte	Mason Keller 1st Loretta Wagaman 2nd	
Prelude	Leta Sipes	Suzanne Hess & John Piper
Greeters	Ed Whitmer Family	Ben & Celina Stoops

Missions commission meeting
Jan 10 at 9 am

Last Week...	12/28/25
Attendance	179
General	\$9,070.00
Missions	\$3,018.50
Building Fund	\$1,414.50
Sunday School	\$ 100.00



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

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



In Case of Inclement Weather,
to learn if services are being
canceled, please check the church website -
www.greencastleub.org

I would like to thank the congregation for your generous Christmas gift. As David said last week, we're not just a church, we are a community who worship together and love and support each other. I am grateful to not only serve the congregation, but to be a part of it. Blessings! Carol Schwalm

Youth Group Update! Each month Jordan is putting together an interactive Bible Reading and Reflection Guide that the youth will be completing. Copies are on the upper lobby table for you to see what the youth are doing and/or feel free to take a copy!



WMF MEETING—Thursday, Jan. 8 at 6:30pm. This is the first meeting of the new year. All ladies are invited to attend. Questions? Contact Amy Gour (717-597-9202 or amymgour@yahoo.com).

Next Senior Outing

Tues., Jan. 13

Meet at 1:00 at the Capital Grill

412 N. 2nd Str., Chambersburg, PA

RSVP to Fran Stoner at (717) 599-0189 by Mon., Jan. 12



Senior News!



COME VISIT THE
CHURCH LIBRARY

A **BIG** thank you to Linda Baer who chaired the library committee for 2025. She did an awesome job with her innovative ideas to clear up unused items, encourage more participation from congregation, and make filing of books simpler. Thank you to Dave, her husband, who hand crafted a the cover for the cabinet that holds the visitor's welcome kits.

If you have used household batteries or ink cartridges needing recycling, there are containers on the bookshelf to the left when entering the library. I have a Rewards account with Staples and it earns monthly funds that I am using to buy needed supplies for the library. We are still accepting book donations at this time. Our shelves are almost to maximum capacity. There is a set of the New Testament Audio CD's available for check out. If anyone would like to donate a set of the Old Testament Audio CD's, that would be most welcomed. Thank you for your support!

Your 2026 Library Committee: Shawn Daley, Sandy Turman & Suzanne Hess

CLARITY (What is my goal?)

PSALM 121 HILLS... eyes moving _____

Response: The one who placed the hills is quite _____

The one who placed the hills will also _____ and
_____ for me.

- _____ (not slip) • _____ (not sleep)
- _____ (shade) • _____ (coming & going)
- _____ (now and forever more)

The hill(s) is a high place, a peak or pinnacle. Spiritually, this represents a lofty thought, a worthy aspiration, a _____.

To lift up my eyes unto the hills is to see/comprehend/embrace/pursue this goal.

To ASCEND unto God begins with the clear thought that my GOAL is knowledge, relationship, cooperation, and unity with God... ultimately to be in his presence (heaven).

CLARITY = • _____ • _____ • _____
(Philippians 3:7-11)

GOALS OF THE GODLY (from other Songs of Ascent)

- √ The joy of dwelling in "God's house" (122:1)
- √ The confidence of standing before God's throne (without fear) (123:1)
- √ The peace of trusting God and being unshaken by trouble (125:1-2)
- √ The relief and laughter from seeing God rescue and restore (126:1-3)
- √ The assurance that my house [life] is being built by the Lord (127:1)
- √ The intimacy of communication with God from the depths of my being (130:1-2)
- √ The excitement of living in an attitude of praise for God (135:19-21)

This will not happen by accident or chance. The Jewish pilgrims who ascended the Temple mount didn't say, "What a lucky day! We never dreamed we would actually be here!" No. Long ago and far away they set a goal... with CLARITY of mind and heart, they determined what they _____. God gave them their desire because they pursued it. And what he did for them, he will do for you!