



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694

9:00am Sunday School / 10am Worship ♦ ottawapresby.org

Rev. Amy Remaklus, *Pastor*; Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

May 2025



Good day to all,

Knowing this is my last newsletter article, I invite you to reflect with me on some of the positive things that have happened here at OPC in recent months. Let us celebrate and encourage one another as we move forward into what is NEXT in God's plans for us!

- † Since last fall, we have learned that a part-time pastoral relationship works well with dedication, communication, and flexibility.
- † We have continued the “usual” things at OPC – worship at the park, committee meetings, Sunday School, worship, coffee hour, morning breakfasts, various potlucks and celebrations, choir rehearsals, flowers during worship, a Christmas play, an Easter egg hunt and prayer vigil, and various giving opportunities through the Presbytery and General Assembly.
- † We tried new ways of worshiping: Different styles of music, a praise band, readers' theaters, and regular youth involvement.
- † We worshiped Kirkmont style!
- † We participated in Operation Good Start at the start of the school year.
- † We worshiped in our pajamas when the boiler wasn't working well.
- † A few times, I led worship in my socks.
- † Per our lengthy survey last fall, we discovered the three primary concerns of this congregation are prayer, education, and youth involvement in ministry.
- † With transportation for Gillian Holzhauser-Graber, she was able to attend Sunday School, worship, the Advent study on spiritual gifts, and various committee meetings multiple times throughout the year.
- † We reorganized our bulletin boards, added a picture section, and simplified the announcements.
- † Kate Gerding led us in a wonderful stewardship campaign last fall, and she has now preached and led children's talks!
- † Victoria Otto designed and implemented OPC t-shirts!
- † We participated in the suicide awareness event in Leipsic.
- † We are participating in Habitat for Humanity's Apostle Build!
- † Some of our youth attended a youth overnight with other Presbyterian churches in Findlay; and they also participated in Kirkmont's fall retreat!
- † Andee Parker led a spiritual gifts group in the fall, leading to growth and discernment, and even Baptism for Michelle Hilton!
- † With Karl Hirzel's help, our secretary Andrea Morman started sharing the most updated version of the Session minutes with the congregation each month!

- † We had a fun fall season with a hayride and cookout at Becky & Joe Riepenhoff's, and a corn maze at Suter's Farm!
- † We gifted those in need through the Council on Aging Christmas program.
- † We opened the sanctuary to prayer during Advent and Lent.
- † We hosted weekly Bible studies on Monday nights and studied creedal statements.
- † We updated our Facebook presence to include the group "OPC Church Family." We can share our pictures, events, and community life here!
- † An additional elder has been trained to preside over the Lord's Supper!
- † We supported one another when my mother died in January. I'm forever grateful!
- † We hosted a beach party in February and learned a new version of volleyball!
- † We co-led an ecumenical Good Friday cross walk in Ottawa.

Moving into the next season, here are some key details that I hope will practically support you:

- † Pulpit supply will come from a variety of backgrounds. They have been encouraged to support the congregation through preaching and prayer.
- † Kate G. will take on leadership of the children's moments during worship. This will maintain continuity throughout this transition period.
- † Beth and Chas M. will choose worship music to maintain continuity and ensure at least some familiarity with music choices.
- † The ongoing group that has volunteered to support those in need of pastoral care visits includes Beth M., Mike K., and Stan B..
- † The Facebook group "OPC Church Family" is a great place for folks to share events and pictures! Anyone in the group can print pictures from the group and post them on the bulletin board in the church hallway!
- † Rev. Ann Wasson will be the liaison for the Session. Her gifts of presence and calm will be welcome gifts during this transition period.

Friends, I greatly appreciate the time we have shared, and I thank you for the gifts of love, compassion, and empathy you have shown in my time here. Know that I will continue to pray for you all and have the best wishes for all that may transpire here in the upcoming months. I pray that your gifts will continue to be a great blessing to all of God's good creation!

With love,
 Pastor Amy
 (419) 890-9145
amyremaklus@yahoo.com



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Amy, in our office, or from our Session members.

However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those **serving in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for **those facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

Please include a prayer of thanks for our congregation and the time that we have had together under the leadership of Rev. Amy. And likewise, we pray for the Remaklus family in their new endeavors.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—as we continue to celebrate and enjoy more than 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

Upcoming Church Happenings

Church Outdoor Clean Up Day that was scheduled for this Saturday, May 3, **has been postponed** due to the weather outlook of rain. Stay tuned for a new date.

Congregational Mtg & Convo will be held on Sunday, May 4, following worship for the sake of dissolution of our relationship with Pastor Amy and also election of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Please plan to be in attendance.

May 18: We will be honoring graduate Halle Schroeder during church with a little reception in fellowship hall following the service.

Last Day of Sunday School is May 18th.

Summer Schedule: Will begin on May 25 at 9:30am with breakfast and worship at 10am. We will need people to sign up to provide a light breakfast – donuts, yogurt, fruit, bagels and juice. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

Update in the Directory

Andee Parker has a new email:
andeeparker4967@gmail.com

Session will meet on Wed. May 14 at 6:30 pm

Financial Reports

Financial reports for the church are available in the hard copy version of this newsletter. If you would like more information, you may also contact our treasurer (treasurer@ottawapresby.org).

Operation Presbyterian Potty Project (OPPP)

We need people to help with this on Thursday evenings starting June 5th. The church will be open this evening for use of restroom facilities that can be available during the Rex Center Music events. (Attached are the bands) The events are from 5-8:30pm. At times we do have people come at 5pm, but it can be opened a little later if trying to get here after work. Generally close around 8pm, unless there is a crowd. The Badders have donated a pop up canopy that can be set up to keep the sun off. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

The Ottawa Senior Citizens Center would like to invite you to:

LUNCH IN THE PARK,

May 15, 2025

11:00 AM– 1:00 PM

Menu includes choice of:

Taco Salad

Fruity Chicken Salad Croissant Tray

Brats Tray

Hot Dog (regular or southern style) Tray

(Trays include potato chips, Cole Slaw and dessert)

Also available: Drinks & dessert

Carry outs are available by calling 419-523-5593

Music and Worship Committee Notes

After Pastor Amy finishes her time with us on May 11, we will once again be returning to Pulpit Supply to lead our Sunday morning worship services. The list of available pastors and CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elders) is provided by Maumee Valley Presbytery. As of now, we have the Pulpit Supply filled for Sundays through the end of August. If anyone in the congregation knows of a speaker from a particular local organization or group that would be of interest to our congregation, please share this information with Lynne Hirzel. We will like to start filling the fall pulpit supply in June.



With warm summer nights ahead of us, let's go to the ol' ball game to watch the Mudhens! And they will host a **Faith and Family Night on Sunday, June 29 at Fifth Third Field!**

Here's what the day looks like:

2:00 PM – A heartfelt pregame panel featuring Mud Hens players and keynote speakers sharing how faith and family have shaped their personal and professional

journeys.

4:05 PM – Stick around for all the action as the Mud Hens hit the field! Join in celebrating Snoopy, Charlie Brown, and all their friends at Peanuts Day! They will have an inflatable theme park, and more.

🔪 **Tickets are just \$13 per person** and include access to both the panel and the game. Children under two are not required to have a ticket, but must sit on a parent's lap. You can choose to not attend the Faith and family portion of the day.

There will be a sign up list on the church bulletin board. Please sign up and turn in your ticket fee by Sunday, May 25 to Lynne Hirzel or Becky Riepenhoff.



GLANDORF ROD & GUN CLUB

Youth Fishing Derby (FREE)

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

9AM TO 11AM

8585 Rd 11, Ottawa, OH 45875

Registration before the derby is required to be eligible to win prizes. Opened to the first 100.

Bring your own fishing pole & bait. A limited number of fishing poles will be available for use, bait will be available to buy.

Register by scanning the QR code or clicking link below; please complete one form per child participating:

[2025 GRG Fishing Derby Registration](#)



SCAN ME

Food to be served in clubhouse

Rain or Shine - Big Pond behind game club.

Check-in starts 8:15am - Announcements 8:50am - (No Fishing before 9am)

Return registration card at 11am

Medals to be awarded:		
Age 5 & under	Age 6 to 11	Age 12 to 17
Longest Fish	Longest Fish	Longest Fish
Most Fish Caught	Most Fish Caught	Most Fish Caught
Shortest Fish	Shortest Fish	Shortest Fish
ALL TAGGED FISH ARE TO BE TAKEN TO SHELTER HOUSE TO RECEIVE PRIZE MONEY		

AWARDS & PRIZES TO BE HANDED OUT AROUND 11:30AM

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

June

- 5 Two Groovy
- 12 Alvey's Mixed Up Band
- 19 Seventy80 Band
- 26 Aaron Hertzfeld

July

- 3 Ryan, Noe & Mike
- 10 Electric Raindrops
- 17 Wastin Neon
- 24 Two Fat Dads

August

- 7 Village Idiots
- 14 Antique Mayhem
- 21 60s Survivors Band
- 28 Motel Chic

LIVE MUSIC FOOD TRUCKS & FUN 5-8:30PM

100 E MAIN ST. OTTAWA, OH





Putnam County Council on Aging May Activities

We invite all Putnam County Residents,
age 60 and better, to join the fun!



May 7- 12:00 a.m. Senior Day

Columbus Grove American Legion 412 Plum Street, Columbus Grove

Join us for our Senior Day celebration in honor of Older American's Month. Cost to attend is \$10.00, which includes lunch catered by Ted's Market, door prizes, and entertainment by the Columbus Grove and Leipsic High School Choir. Please RSVP by April 30th

May 14- 10:00 a.m. Memorable Mothers

Trinity United Methodist Church 137 North Pratt Street, Ottawa

Come join the fun as we honor and celebrate all the wonderful mothers. Take part in games, conversation, as well as light snacks and drinks! Please RSVP by May 7th



May 20- July 24- 9:00 a.m. Bingocize

Columbus Grove Community Center 17524 Road 8-P, Columbus Grove

Get ready for a fun 10- week evidence based program that combines the game of Bingo with exercise. Attend class twice a week for 10 Weeks to get the full experience of the benefits of improved physical fitness, improved cognitive function all while having fun! Seating is limited to the first 20 people that call. Please RSVP by May 13th

May 21- 10:00 a.m. Friendly Feud Just for Fellas **MEN ONLY EVENT**

Northside Lions Den Shelter House 429 Northland Drive, Kalida

Calling all Fellas! Come along as we have a light-hearted competition and often humorous responses to survey questions. It's a game of quick thinking, teamwork, and sometimes a bit of luck! Please RSVP by May 14th



May 28- 10:00 a.m. Warning Signs of Alzheimer's and Dementia

Lilac House at the Meadows of Leipsic 901 East Main Street, Leipsic

Join us for a presentation on Alzheimer's and Dementia with Marybeth Torsell from the Alzheimer's Association. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Please RSVP by May 21st



To register please call the Council on Aging
at 419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760

OTTAWA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by:

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Our website is ottawapresby.org

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
May 4	Lynne H.	TBD
May 11	Kate G. (Communion)	TBD
May 18	Becky R.	TBD
May 25	Brandon F.	Doepker

2025 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel
Worship and Music – Lynne Hirzel
Fellowship/OPW Rep. – Becky Riepenhoff
Mission and Outreach – Brandon Font
Stewardship & Communication – Kate Gerding
Presbytery Rep - Chas Myers
Christian Education & Youth – Victoria Otto
Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel
Church Operations/Personnel – Mike Kaufman
Nominating Committee Chair – Kate Gerding (As outgoing Elder for 2025)

Session:

Class of 2025: **Katelyn Gerding, Becky Riepenhoff**
Class of 2026: **Lynne Hirzel, Mike Kaufman**
Class of 2027: **Brandon Font, Victoria Otto**