



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

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

9:30am Breakfast/10am Worship ♦ ottawapresby.org

Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

August 2025



This month is a busy month for many. It is the wrap up to many summer breaks and the start of a new school season. I hope you all had a wonderful time making memories this summer. I hope you all enjoyed the heat as well!

At the start of the new year, OPC would like to bless the students in our community. We would like to donate school supplies and hygiene products to Ottawa Elementary for the school year. Approximately 16 million children in the U.S. lack access to essential school supplies. This translates to roughly one in four students, or 25%, who can't afford the necessary materials when school starts. This lack of supplies can negatively impact a child's academic performance, self-esteem, and attendance. Statistics show that a significant portion of students, particularly those in low-income situations, experience "hygiene poverty" and struggle to afford basic necessities like soap, shampoo, and deodorant. This can lead to students missing school or being unable to focus on their studies. One in four menstruating students in the US have struggled to afford period products. With donating we can hopefully give students the right start to an amazing year of learning and growing. Giving them one less stress in their life. (A list of items is provided in the newsletter and on the bulletin board)

Before we go back to school, let's enjoy the great outdoors. Our outdoor worship service will be August 10, at the Memorial Park in one of the shelter houses. Please join us with a potluck to follow afterwards.

And on a quick reminder note: Sunday School starts back up September 7th.

While enjoying your last couple weeks of hot weather, here are five ways to enjoy the outdoors while deepening your faith.

- 1) taking a peaceful walk and observing God's creation.
- 2) finding a quiet spot for prayer and reflection.
- 3) meditating on scripture outdoors.
- 4) watching a sunrise or sunset as a reminder of God's power.
- 5) engaging in outdoor activities that foster gratitude and appreciation for nature.

I am enjoying the last of my summer days listening to bible stories while I am out in the garden, making sure to give the Lord a quick thank you when a breeze blows my way. Getting deep in thought about how wonderful this world he created is and praying. I hope you all have a blessed day, month, and year.

Victoria Otto



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 the time our congregation had under the leadership of Rev. Amy. And likewise, we pray for her family in their new endeavors.

Please pray for our **Pastor Nominating Committee** as they dedicate time and prayer to the process of finding new pastoral leadership for our church.

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!

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).

Upcoming Happenings



Breakfast before worship is in full swing beginning at 9:30am. A volunteer is needed for August 31, to supply a simple breakfast. Please sign up on the sheet on bulletin board if you can help. Thank you to those who have already committed to August breakfasts.

Becky put up a flyer for a BGSU Saturday football game outing. Three days are listed. Vote for a day to get tickets if interested by August 3.

She will get a confirmed date and get an official sign up to buy tickets then. All are welcome. Invite friends, relatives, neighbors. Most likely we will be organizing a tailgate party in the parking lot before the game for those interested—let her know if you would like to help with that.

Worship in the park will be held on Sunday, August 10 at 10 AM, at shelter house number 10, which is close to the caboose. Rev. Ann Wasson will be leading worship that morning, and we will have communion in the park as well. What a special way to celebrate God's love surrounded by nature! After the service, we will have a potluck, of course! Bring a lawn chair, a tasty dish to share for the potluck, and your own table service if you want. And bring a friend! Lemonade, iced tea, and water will be provided. Hope you will be able to join us that day!

Community Happenings

Senior Expo: Friday, August 1 from 8:30 – 11:30am. Ottawa Elementary School. This free event will have 50 exhibitors. You can enjoy a free brunch, health screenings, and medication disposal. This year's entertainment is comedian and magician Jason Abbott. Free shuttle service will be available from the parking lot to the entrance.

Operation Presbyterian Potty Project (OPPP) Thursdays at the Rex continue into August. Volunteers are needed for August 21 & 28th. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board if anyone is able to help. The event is from 5-8:30pm.

LIVE MUSIC FOOD TRUCK/ & FUN 5-8:30PM
100 E MAIN ST, OTTAWA, ON

Month	Date	Band/Event
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

Share your voice in the 2025 Putnam County Community Health Assessment by going to the health department's website, www.putnamhealth.com, and completing the Community Health Survey, which should take approximately 15 minutes. The data collected will be used to improve the health and quality of life in Putnam County. A healthier community starts with you!

The Friends of the Putnam County Library are sponsoring a bus trip September 18 to La Comedia dinner theater. We will see Legally Blonde, the Musical. Cost is \$115 and includes transportation, buffet, show, and tips. For information or to sign up, call/text Nancy Ruhe at 419 231 0531.

Pulpit Supply for August

August 3	Mary Herman
August 10	Rev. Ann Wasson
August 17	JP Schumacher
August 24	Ellen Hugunin
August 31	Leslee Kirkconnell

Liturgists are needed for August 24 & 31



Church family and friends are invited to Gillian Holzhauser-Graber's 70th Birthday Open House on Tuesday, August 12, from 5-7pm. Location is at Findlay Inn & Conference Center, 200 E. Main Cross Street, Findlay. Rsvp to Karen at 419.423.0762

School supply list (Suggested donations)

- Crayola Crayons
- Backpacks
- Binders
- Calculators
- Highlighters
- Pencils
- Blue or black pens
- Erasers
- Folders
- Index Cards
- Pencil Pouch
- Composition Notebooks
- Filler Paper
- Markers
- Pencil sharpeners
- Blunt nose scissors – Left/Right Hand
- Books
- Composition Books
- Dividers
- Pens
- Rulers

Hygiene List

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste*
- Soap*
- Shampoo*
- Deodorant *
- Combs
- Lotion
- Feminine hygiene products: Pads and/or tampons.*
- Lip balm
- Floss*
- Mouthwash

*starred items are ones that students look for the most.

Last day for items will be August 17th.

Session will meet August 20 at 6:30pm

Vera Jones Obituary

Please share a memory of Vera to include in a keepsake book for family and friends.

[View Tribute Book](#)

Vera Jones, 86, passed away on Saturday, July 5, 2025, in Niles, Michigan.

Vera was born on April 7, 1939, in Columbus, Ohio to the late Morgan Williams and Catherine (Price) Williams.

Along with her parents, Vera was preceded in death by her loving husband of many years, Robert M. Jones.

Left to cherish the memory of Vera are her children, Gwenith (Steve) Deighton and Robert (Julie) Jones; 7 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild.

Vera dedicated her life to education, inspiring countless students throughout her many years as a teacher. Holding a bachelor's degree, she was not only committed to her students but also to her own continual growth, which led her to explore various creative outlets. A talented craftsperson, Vera expressed herself through music and poetry, leaving a legacy of creativity behind. She also took great joy in writing, having published a book that reflected a friend's experiences escaping the Russian revolution.

In addition to her career in education, Vera was known for her love of nature. She enjoyed walking outdoors and exploring the beauty of the world around her. A beekeeper for a short while, she developed a profound appreciation for the environment and its delicate balance. Her love for animals extended to her fondness for dogs, who brought much joy to her life.

For over three decades, Vera sang in her church choir, where her melodious voice uplifted and inspired her community. Her musical contributions will remain a cherished memory among her fellow choir members and congregants.

Above all, Vera cherished her role as a mother. She dedicated her life to her family, always putting the needs and happiness of her children first.

In keeping with Vera's wishes, there will be no services held at this time.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Photos, condolences, and memories may be left for Vera's family at www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

Putnam County Council on Aging

August Activities

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
8-1-25	Senior Expo	8:30-11:30 am	Ottawa Elementary
8-5-25	Crisis Averted	10:00 am	Lilac House, Leipsic
8-7-25	Bingo	1:00 pm	Fort Haven, Fort Jenn.
8-7-25	Car Fit	2:00 pm	Fort Haven, Fort Jenn.
8-12-25	Tour De Harley Davidson	10:00 am	Ben Breece Harley Davidson, Ottawa
8-14-25	Guess That Theme Song	10:00 am	Northside Lion's Den Shelter House, Kalida
8-19-25	Ice Cream Social	10:00 am	Continental United Methodist Church
8-21-25	Guess that Phrase	10:00 am	Senior Center, Col. Grove
8-25-25	Podcast Like A Pro	1:30 pm	Putnam County District Library, Ottawa
8-28-25	Let's Play Penny Drop	10:00 am	Parish Center, Ottoville

Call us to learn more or RSVP!

☎ 419-523-4121

🌐 www.putnamcouncilonaging.org

📘 Follow us on Facebook for updates!



HOME REPAIR HELP

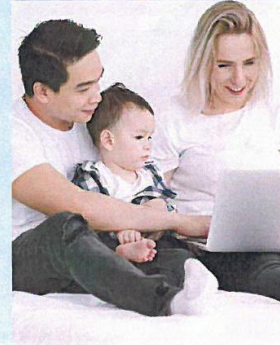
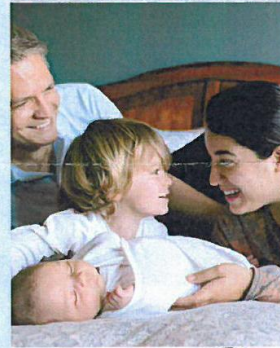
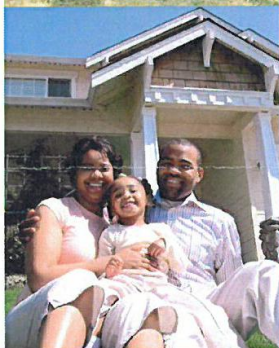
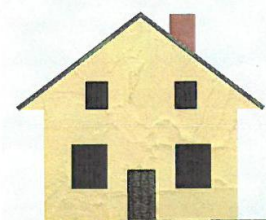
**NO COST FOR PUTNAM
COUNTY RESIDENTS***

The Putnam County Community Housing
Impact & Preservation (CHIP) Program
provides home repairs for plumbing,
electrical system, ADA modifications,
HVAC systems, roofs and other needs.
Income eligibility guidelines apply.

800-775-9767
glcap.org/homerepair



*Home repairs are entirely grant-funded. Call for details.
CHIP is administered by Great Lakes Community Action Partnership.



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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
August 3	Lynne H.	Doecker
August 10	Mike K. (Outdoor Worship & Communion)	Myers
August 17	Kate G.	TBD
August 24	Victoria O.	Kaufman
August 31	Becky R.	TBD

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**