

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

Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

September 2025

Church family,

As we turn the page from summer into fall, we are invited into a season of reflection and renewal. Fall is often a time when we pause to give thanks for the harvest and all that God has provided. It is also a fitting time to reflect on how we, as a congregation, are called to use the gifts entrusted to us—our **time, talents, and treasure**—for the work of God's Kingdom.

This past year has been a journey of both blessings and challenges. A time where we might have more questions than answers. We tried new things during worship with the kids table, and the Praise band. We started a family tree in the hallway and received a lot of positive feedback about our potty project on Thursday evenings. Looking forward, we ask: *Where is God leading us now?*

Stewardship is more than financial giving; it is the joyful response of our whole selves to God's call. Each of us has been gifted in unique ways:

- **Time**—the hours we offer in service, prayer, and presence with one another.
- **Talents**—the skills and abilities God has given us to build up the Body of Christ.
- **Treasure**—the financial resources we are entrusted to use wisely and faithfully in support of God's mission.

As we prepare for the months ahead, we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might share your time, talents, and treasure in ways that strengthen our church and further God's work in our community. Together, let us open our hearts to the Spirit's guidance and faithfully step into the future God has prepared for us.

We are grateful for your continued commitment and support. May we each be reminded that stewardship is not a task, but a way of life—a daily act of gratitude for all that God has done and continues to do through us.

With thanksgiving and hope,

Kate Gerding



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, 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!

The Prayer Circle is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns. Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org.

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

Sunday School starts back up on Sept. 7, at 9am with worship beginning at 10am.

Worship & Music Committee Mtg will be held on Sunday, September 14, after worship.



Pizza and Conversation!!!

We will be holding a Congregational Conversation with PIZZA on September 28, immediately following worship.

This conversation is an opportunity for us to hear your thoughts on the possibility of a future shared ministry. We'll discuss important topics such as:

- * Are you open to having a shared pastor with another church?
- * Are you willing to have a later morning or evening worship service to accommodate travel time for a shared pastor?
- * Would you be willing to try a worship service every other week with a Zoom service on alternate weeks?
- * Would you be open to recording the message at one church, and playing it at the second church in the future?

Your input is valuable as we consider these important decisions for our church's future. We hope that you will be able to attend!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing. Psalm 100:1

Have any favorite hymns?

On September 28, we will have a Hymn Sing Sunday! If you have any favorites that you would like to sing that day, please let either Beth or Lynne know. Depending on how many requests we have, we may be only able to sing one or two verses from each hymn, so if you have a favorite verse that you'd like to sing, make note of that.



BGSU Game and tailgate party



BGSU vs University of Toledo
October 11

Time will be announced approximately 2 weeks prior to game due to it being televised. Becky may be able to add seats if you want to come-let her know ASAP \$22 per ticket
Stay tuned for further info.



Sunday, November 16, Christmas ornament pottery class with Marcie Hirzel. Cost \$20. Time: 11:45 am after church. Soup lunch provided.

Limited to first 15 people who sign up. Will last 1 1/2 -2 hours. Kids should be at least eight years old and accompanied by an adult.

Building Entry

If anyone still has old fashion keys the doors are going to be updated with new locks and those old keys will not work.

Session needs to have a Fob/door entry policy: i.e.-list for fobs, who to contact if you lose the fob, what if your fob doesn't work, etc. We plan to discuss this at the Congregational conversation on September 28 following church. Session would like the congregation's input.

Pulpit Supply for September

September 7	Andee Parker
September 14	Rev. Ann Wasson
September 21	Leslee Kirkconnell
September 28	Hymn Sing Sunday

Liturgists are needed for September 14 & 28

3rd Annual PC Suicide Awareness Event

Is scheduled for Sunday, September 14th. If you would like to register to run/walk, or make a donation or just show up to the event and provide fellowship and support. Go to:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Ottawa/PutnamCountySuicideAwarenessPrevention>

Registrations by Sept 1. will be eligible to receive a t-shirt.

Putnam County Council On Aging September Activities

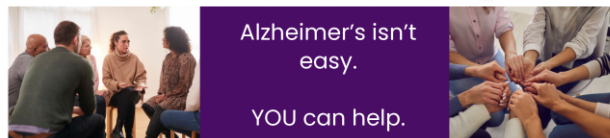


Date	Event	Time	Location
9-4-25	Bingo	1:00 pm	Fort Haven Apartments, Fort Jenn
9-9-25	Crafting Companionship	10:00 am	Northside Lions Den Shelter House, Kalida
9-10-25	Family Feud	10:00 am	Vaughsville Comm. Center, Vaughsville
9-11-25	Let's Resin	10:00 am	Putnam County Council on Aging, Ottawa
9-17-25	Guess the Link	10:00 am	Continental United Methodist Church, Continental
9-18-25	Pumpkin Palooza	10:00 am	Fogel Center, Leipsic
9-22-25	Brushing Scams	1:30 pm	Putnam County District Library, Ottawa
9-23-25	Fall for Euchre	10:00 am	Columbus Grove Good Shepherd Church
9-25-25	Puzzle Day	10:00 am	Miller City Sportsman Club, Miller City
9-30-25	Coffee and Conversation	10:00 am	Ottoville Parish Center, Ottoville

Call us to learn more or RSVP!
419-523-4121 or Toll Free 1-877-796-1760



JOIN US VOLUNTEER NEEDED! JOIN US



- Do you want to make an impact on a caregiver's life?
- Are you passionate about helping others?

The Alzheimer's Association is looking for a Caregiver Support Group Facilitator in Putnam County.

As a facilitator you will:

- Gain experience in group leadership
- Build community and reduce isolation for those facing this tough journey
- Give back - many facilitators were once caregivers themselves
- Receive training and ongoing support from the Alzheimer's Association

You don't need to be an expert - just someone who listens with empathy, leads with heart, and shows up for others!

For more information, contact Marybeth Torsell at matorsell@alz.org or call 419-419-5858

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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
September 7	Brandon F.	TBD
September 14	Kate G. (Communion)	TBD
September 21	Victoria O.	TBD
September 28	Mike K.	Beckman

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**