Welcome, Announcements and Passing the Peace

Call to Worship
Leader: We gather today giving thanks for the gift of friendship and the people who walk beside us.
People: We are grateful for those who encourage us, support us, and share life's journey with us.
L: Jesus reminds us, "I have called you friends."
P: What an amazing gift to know that the God of all creation calls us friends!
L: Come, let us celebrate the love of a God who never leaves us, never forsakes us, and always welcomes us.
ALL: Let us worship the Lord, our faithful friend, whose love surrounds us and whose grace gives us hope! Alleluia!

***Opening Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Page 526**

Opening Prayer

Children's Sermon

Prayer of Confession
Leader: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of friendship and for the wonderful blessing of knowing that Jesus calls us friends. Yet we confess that too often we have fallen short of being the friends you have called us to be.
People: Forgive us when we have been selfish instead of caring, judgmental instead of understanding, and too busy to notice someone who needed a friend.
L: Forgive us when we have held grudges rather than offered forgiveness, turned away from those who were lonely, or failed to show the love of Christ to others.
P: Forgive us also for the times we have neglected our friendship with you. We get caught up in the busyness of life and forget to pray, to listen, and to spend time in your presence.
L: Lord, draw us closer to you. Help us to be more loving, more patient, more forgiving, and more generous with our friendship.
P: May we become the kind of friends to others that Jesus has been to us.
ALL: Thank you for loving us even when we fall short. Thank you for never giving up on us. In the name of Jesus, our greatest friend, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness
L: Hear the good news! Jesus tells his disciples, "I have called you friends." What a wonderful reminder that God's love is not based on our perfection but on His grace.
P: Even when we stumble, God welcomes us. Even when we wander, God seeks us. Even when we fall short, God's love never fails.
L: Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited into a fresh beginning.
ALL: Let us go forth with grateful hearts, ready to share the same love, forgiveness, and friendship that God has so freely given to us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Mission Moment: Alternative Christmas Gifts

Offering You've Got A Friend

Doxology Page 95

***Hymn "Nobody Knows the Trouble I See" Page 520**
"Give Thanks"

Scripture: James 2:23, Proverbs 17:17, John 15:9–17

Sermon: ***The Gift of Friendship: Being a Friend of God***

Blessing of 2027 Pledges

Pastoral Prayer Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" Page 2151**
"Voice Of Truth"

Benediction

Lay Readers		*Coffee Hour*
John Schoenherr	*8:30am*	*Sharlene Moran*
Vonnie Jacquard	*10:00am*	*Lisa Kerkorian*

Join us for coffee hour after the service each Sunday in our Solarium. If this is your first time, please fill out the registration pad in the pew. Reminder: We want to get to know each other. If you see someone you don't know, greet them and introduce yourself.

Church Happenings

Holiday Fair Sugar Cookie Christmas Saturday, November 21



Donate items for the gift baskets
We need fudge, hot fudge sauce, chocolate treats - anything chocolate! Simple recipes are available if you need ideas.
Decorative jars of M&M's or gourmet chocolate baskets
Questions? Contact Kathy Silvia at 508-400-2964 or Cindy Frazier at 518-791-4063.

Food Pantry

Starting in November, we are collecting Mashed Potatoes and Gravy (not in glass jars).

If you'd like to read our weekly church newsletter, go to our website www.ostervillechurch.com click "sign up" for weekly emails. submit your email and you will be subscribed.

Alternative Giving for Christmas:

We have the perfect Christmas gifts you can give to those who truly do not need any more things! Alternative Gifts can be given in their honor with your donation. You will get a specific Ministry Card for your recipient that will support the Ministry of your choice. The *Alternative Giving for Christmas* Campaign begins on Sunday, 11/8, and wraps up on Sunday, 12/6. Outreach Team members will be in the Solarium after both services every Sunday to facilitate your participation. We welcome you to join us in celebrating and supporting A Baby Center (ABC), Champ Homes, HAC (Housing Assistance Corporation through BIC cards), the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (PDF), Miracle Kitchen, Unsheltered Veteran Heroes, our church Foster Child, Bright Promise Preschool Scholarships, our International UMC Missions in Sierra Leone, plus *Dress-A-Live Doll and Teens Love Christmas Too* programs. Checks should be made payable to *UMCO.* In the memo section please write the name of the Ministry you wish to support.

Men's Fellowship Group every Tuesday 10 am – 11 am

Bible Study on Thursdays at 10 am. All are Welcome!

Rainbow's End Thrift Store Open Wed -Sat 10:30 AM to 3 PM



"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." - Jesus *- John 15:15*

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost
Friendship Sunday
November 15, 2026

Pastor John Wesley Taylor
Music: Brian Morris, Janet Lahey, Laird Boles & Ben Ninesling
Osterville United Methodist Church
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