July Good News in Ono



Ono United Methodist Church

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Now when he heard this, he said, "It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice. For I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners."

-Matthew 9. 12- 13 (CSB)

Jesus truly was counter cultural. The first century Jews saw the occupation of Israel by the Romans as oppression. Their religious leaders would rail against the government and their taxation. The tax collectors were seen as cohorting with the enemy. Therefore, the tax collectors were every bit as "evil" as the Romans. In this environment, Jesus called Matthew, a tax collector, to follow Him. Earlier, Jesus had healed the servant of a centurion (Matthew 8. 5- 13). He even complimented the centurion's faith! Unintimidated by the expectations of the religious leaders, Jesus sought to live out God's promises to all people- even the ones that they would have counted as enemies. He used Hosea 6. 6 to remind them that God desires mercy not sacrifice. This plea does not seem to influence them as they continue to criticize His ministry.

The difference is stark. The sacrificial system was placed into society to remind the people that there was a cost to their faults. Sacrifices reminded the people that grace was not simply freely handed to them. The system undergirded the priest's lifestyle and provided the Israelites with assurance that God's presence and grace was with them. It seemed like a solid system. However, it was also at risk for being abused.

My mom told me that as a teen her Catholic friends would do whatever they wanted because they could simply confess them to the priest later. So long as you were willing to confess, you could do anything! The heart of God's law and system was not to give a convenient out, but to help us to seek to do right and correct wrongs when needed. The Old Testament prophets pointed out to the Israelites that while God imposed the sacrificial system, He desired the right heart first. He wanted them to have a heart of mercy and offer grace. Instead, they turned it into a system to attempt to manipulate God's favor while ignoring His laws. God punished them and sent prophets to remind them of His true desire- their hearts focused on Him.

Jesus simply continued that long historical tradition. He was very aware of the pain and cost the sacrificial system would place on Him- He would become that final sacrifice. He wasn't looking for people who simply sought God's favor for themselves. He wanted people's hearts to change as they come into the presence of a loving Savior. His message was so simple- change your hearts and lives for God's presence is here (Matthew 4. 17). There is no prerequisite to following-no test to pass other than a willingness to follow Him. And so Matthew, that hated tax collector, did what the beloved religious leaders did not- he followed Jesus. He did not allow their hate to block him from Jesus' love and mercy. I read that only 21% of non-Christians have a positive view of the church. My heart broke. Have we lost our message of mercy? How could anyone view an organization that seeks to serve, love and be merciful as anything less than positive? Let us be counter-cultural. Let us seek mercy. Let us be the doctors for a world that needs healing. By doing so, we know that we too walk with Jesus!

Pastor Robb

Youth and Worship news by Jessica Grimes



Thank you to all the youth for their leadership on June 6th. The theme of REFLECT was very challenging and timely as we find ourselves coming out of a pandemic into what God has for us in the future. To take some time this summer and reflect and do a heart check with God? What has God taught in the past year? Where is God directing you in the future? Perhaps it is to try something new, recommit to Him and serving Him, turning from a fault/sin and find forgiveness, or taking steps toward redemption in a relationship, etc. Only you and God can sort things out but it takes a willing heart and reflection time with your Savior!







Summer Mission Project for Ono Youth and families: This summer our youth and their families will be saving their spare change as an effort to raise funds for Gretna Glen camp. We would welcome anyone in the church to do the same and help us be a small part of blessing this awesome Christian camp. Find a jar and start saving today! You can bring your change anytime to the campfire in the narthex. All change will be collected and counted and then given to Gretna Glen by our middle school youth group on August 16.

Ono Children's Ministry

Parking Lot Ministry

We will be starting the parking lot ministry on July 7th and will be ending on August 18th. This will be a time (11:30am-1:00pm) of Bible Stories, Lunch, games and just a time to hangout and talk.





Science Lab was awesome!!! We all had a blast making a mess, learning that the everlasting Joy comes from putting our faith in Jesus. We had a few kiddos accept Jesus and put their faith in Him. God is still working and moving at Ono!



Our VBS will be August 9th and 10th for 3-5yr olds and August 11th and 12th for K-5th. The theme will \$cience again and we will be talking about how we are all created in the image of God. VBS will be at the church from 6:30pm-8:30pm. We will be having Bible stories, snacks, hands on crafts and a special guest appearance from Dr. Say Whaaaaat! I will be sending out a link to sign your kiddos up. If you do not get email you can email me or call me to register.

July Spotlight — Bethany Snyder



Congratulations to:
Bethany Snyder for feeling called to pursue full time ministry – She has been granted a scholarship from the Lottie J. Snavely Scholarship from Ono UMC to assist her in her studies at Lancaster Bible College this fall.



"Dear Church Family, Thank you for the generous scholarship that you gifted me with as I continue on my journey to Lancaster Bible College that God has prepared for me. Your continued support through prayer and words of wisdom are greatly appreciated.

God Bless, ~Bethany Snyder"



- 7/2 Bob Adams
- 7/3 Bob Long
- 7/3 Tracy Gomez
- 7/5 Anna Gongloff
- 7/5 Jaxon Gongloff
- 7/6 Jeanna Seyfert
- 7/6 Jaden Gerber
- 7/7 Danielle Blauch
- 7/7 Aiden Crawford
- 7/7 Kristopher Frazier
- 7/8 Karen Fuhrman
- 7/9 Toni Diamond 82nd
- 7/9 Ilene Schriver
- 7/9 Justin Helms
- 7/9 Lori Kimmel
- 7/9 Rick Wise
- 7/10 Peighton Moyer
- 7/12 Karen Wentling

- 7/13 Ken Moyer
- 7/13 Mason Hostetter
- 7/14 Joyce Zeigler 82nd
- 7/16 Janet Hahnlen
- 7/16 Andreanna Davis
- 7/19 Grace Hostetter
- 7/19 Carlie Zechman
- 7/24 Avery Stoner
- 7/28 Kevin Helms
- 7/28 Brett Kveragas
- 7/29 Laura Wiest
- 7/29 Mason Moyer



Hospital Admissions:

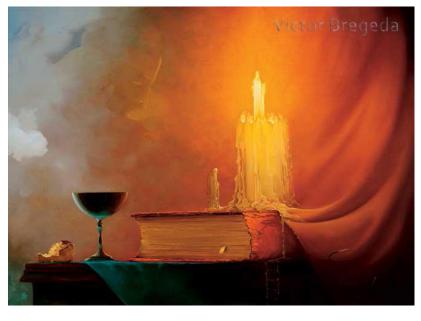
Please inform the church office when you or a loved one becomes a patient in the hospital or other health care facility. The federal HIPPA regulations do not permit health care providers to release personal information without your expressed permission. Not all health care facilities have chaplains on staff to contact us about your admissions. A phone call to the church office at 717-865-7469 will help us to respond to you with pastoral care. *Thank you!*

Is God inspiring you into a new ministry?

Do you need help getting started?

Let us help you, help others!





Holy Communion

Sunday, July 4th

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.



Update on the May 25 Church Congregational Vote

Greetings!

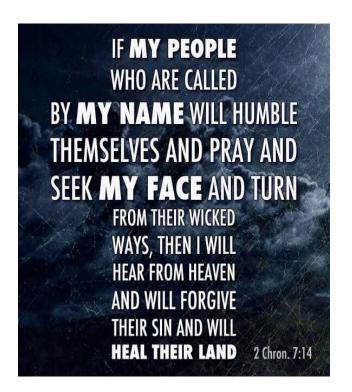
On Tuesday, May 25, at a special meeting for all Ono Church members, the decision was made to approve the following motion that had been approved and recommended by Ad Council:

Motion to purchase the property at 74 McGillstown Road, Annville, PA 17003 from Ken and Kim Moyer at the price of \$195,000. The church would pay \$70,000 as a down payment (\$20,000 from building, \$50,000 from CD) and closing costs from the CD to secure a \$125,000 mortgage. The church conference (congregational vote) must pass with a minimum of 2/3 approval from members present.

In the next few weeks, the purchase will be completed. Once the church assumes ownership, the plan is to have the house rented out to tenants like the 17 Main Street church property rental house.

Thank you to all who have been in prayer for this decision and for those who were able to attend the meeting on May 25. Keep praying for God's direction in the months and years to come for how best we can use this new purchase toward our mission of being salt and light to the community of Ono.

Eric Wentling







Dogs and Dialog:



Join us Thursdays, for weekly conversations around a variety of faith related topics.

Starting time is at 6:30pm at different locations throughout our community. We will provide hot dogs and drinks and ask that you bring a simple side dish to share if you are able. A Pastor from our Northern Lebanon Cluster will begin the



discussion time with prayer and then will introduce the topic. We may then split into small groups before coming together to close around 8pm.

Please RSVP if possible so we know how many hot dogs and drinks to purchase.



Children currently in grades 3, 4, and 5 meet in **room 23** located in the main hallway.

The following classes meet downstairs in the pre-school/youth wing:

Children currently in grades 1 and 2 – **room 16**

Pre-K and Kindergarten – room 14

Children younger than Pre-K – room 12

Nursery care available for infants through 2+

Adult Sunday Classes:

You now have 2 options for gathering Sunday mornings!

Gathering in Fellowship Hall Gathering in Rm 22/24 led by Dave Hahnlen

Ono United Methodist Church

Offering the Way

Teaching the Truth

Living the Life through Jesus Christ

The mission of our church is to be fellowship intent on BEING and MAKING disciples of Jesus Christ.



Saturday, July 17th!

- -Starting at 7am (usually winding down by 1pm)
 - -Please bring your own tents and tables.
- -Set up will be at the east entrance and the front lawn.
- -Green Drop will be picking up any items left over, so ya don't need to worry about bringing it all home again! Items will be donated to Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is "a network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need."

Please have your items boxed and/or bagged for ease of transportation.

Coming soon.... Little Free Library!

Plans to start a Little Library have been going on for quite some time. We are so pleased to announce that there will be a "Little Free Library Grand Opening" on July 17th during the Ono Yard Sale!

Stories will be read at the library from 9-12 by a variety of our church members. Each story read will be made available that day for lending.

The idea of the Little Free Library is to provide our church and our community with an opportunity to share books... take a book, leave a book. Even if you have no book to leave at the time, feel free to take a book. Many of the books provided are from the church's library while donations of children's and adult books will always be accepted. The Little Free Library location is at the preschool door entrance. Hope you can join us on the 17th!



From it's arrival to making it our own, it has been quite a journey. Please stop by on the morning of the 17th

Just one more way we tell our neighbors that Jesus loves them and so do we!

By the way, we will have a table set up at the yard sale where all donations go toward the Little Free Library!