

# Good News in Ono

## October 2024

**Ono United Methodist Church**

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***Then he brought him outside and said, “Look up at the sky, and count the stars — if you can count them! Your descendants will be that many!” He believed in Adonai, and he credited it to him as righteousness.***

***Genesis 15. 5-6 (CJB)***



As we go through Romans this concept of faith being credited to us as righteousness occurs frequently. This idea is central to Christianity, but in the first century it was seen as crazy. Actually, I think we still do think it is crazy! We want to earn our way. Pulling yourself up from the boot straps is a central concept in modern Western civilization. You have to earn your keep. You get what you deserve. Jewish people in the first century believed that your faithful obedience to the Torah (law) was what drew you closer to God. Sinners were those who had failed to uphold Torah. The Gospel message is going to upend this concept, but Paul is reminding the Church that faith started with simply trusting God.

Abraham had no laws when God credited his faith as righteousness. Abraham did not even have the ritual of circumcision to set him and his descendants apart from the rest of the world. Abraham simply trusted that God would do what God promised. When the covenant was made, it was God who passed through the animals as a statement to Abraham that He would turn Abraham's descendants into a nation that would bless all nations. The order of events here is extremely important to Paul. Had Abraham received the requirement of circumcision first, it could be argued

that following that “law” was a requirement. By choosing to credit Abraham's faith as righteous, God is preparing us for the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. Just as Abraham's faith brought him righteousness, so our faith brings us righteousness as well.

The challenge for the early church that remains today is if righteousness comes from faith alone, then can I do whatever I want? Paul is going to point out that we are beholden to something in our lives: either we are beholden to God or to our sinful nature (Romans 6. 15- 18). Faith does not mean that we are free to do whatever we want. Faith means that we seek to be obedient to the one we trust. Do we trust our own nature and our own selves? Do we trust our Creator and the Holy Spirit given to us? The answer has always been that we are called to be obedient to God's righteousness. So while we are saved by trusting in Jesus, we then are obligated to be obedient to the love and grace that the Holy Spirit leads us to.

The gospel message has not changed in 2000 years. You are not righteous by your own choices. We have all sinned and fall short of God's glory. However, the death of Jesus serves as a sacrificial atonement for those who trust in Him. In other words, you are saved by your faith in Jesus. This does not give you the freedom to do whatever you want- it gives you the freedom to follow your Savior. We are called to be transformed by the Holy Spirit (Romans 12. 2). I hope that we can help each other in this transformation process. I pray that through our worship services, prayers, Bible Studies, small groups and faithful service, that we as a congregation will be transformed into the Holy Temple of God. May we have the grace and love for each other as we progress down the road of faith that God is leading us to.

*Pastor Robb*

## Youth Student Leaders Rising Up!!



The youth group had a beautiful day for a hike in September. Our destination was a new place to many of us. It was called Swatara Falls, the falls that the Swattie begins from near Hegin, PA. We explored the falls and the surrounding area. Before we left we shared in a brief devotion and time of prayer. It is always refreshing to get to spend time in God's amazing creation!



This fall some of our high school teens have felt led to take leadership of youth group and begin leading bible studies for their peers. What a joy to have them stepping up. They are doing a fantastic job! We can tell they are investing a great deal of time and effort to prepare the lesson, and they are presenting with such confidence! Please pray for these young leaders that God would use them to speak truth to their peers and grow their own faith in the process!

This month we are looking forward to many fun things planned! We will be having a grandparent party on October 16 at 6:30pm. All Ono kids and youth are encouraged to invite their grandparents to join us for a fun night of games and refreshments! Also, at the end of October the youth will be having an overnigher at HM Levitz. We plan to enjoy time in the woods, have a campfire, and a time of teaching. We also look forward to other church events like the hayride at Moyers Farm and pumpkin carving with the Ono kids!

The youth group always spends the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month having **Sweet Hour of Prayer**. We meet in the prayer room and take time to focus specifically on prayer. In September we took our meeting on the road and actually went to two of schools represented there that night (Blue Mt Christian School and Northern Lebanon) and spent time praying for the students, teachers and staff. We ended the evening with a sweet treat from Frostbitez!



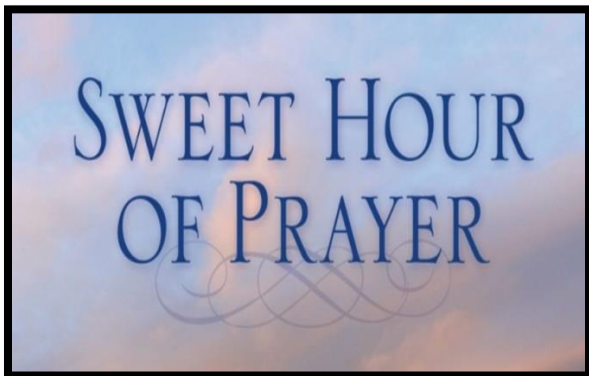
**Jess G.**



We are so excited to start the 2024/25 school year with a Hangout time for kids before Kids4Jesus begins!

We play games, have snacks and enjoy a time of chilling with each other before small groups begin.  
**6:00-6:30 pm with small groups to follow.**

*Hope to see ya'll then!*



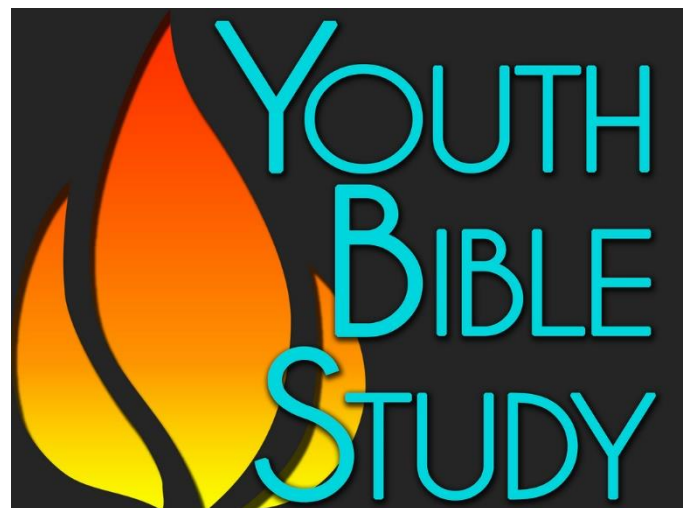
Our Youth start each month in the prayer room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday as Jess Grimes leads them deeper into an intentional prayer life. October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30pm



Join Pastor Robb as he leads us through God's Word, Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30.



For all you Chosen fans, we will begin the viewing of season 4 on Wednesday's thru Oct. - 6:30-8:00pm!  
Looking forward to where this season brings us!



Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Join us at 6:30 for our Youth Led Bible Study

**WOW!**



A New Nativity Play for Kids

**Sign up with Mrs. Leann!**

## Operation Christmas Child

We praise God for your partnership in sending the Good News of Jesus Christ to children around the world through gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Samaritan's Purse sends your prayerfully packed shoeboxes to ministry partners in more than 100 nations. These trained volunteers host festive outreach events where they present the Gospel in a child-friendly way and hand out the shoebox gifts as a tangible expression of God's love. In addition, each child also receives a Gospel storybook to point them to God's Greatest Gift, His Son, Jesus Christ. Many shoebox recipients are invited to participate in our 12-lesson follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, where they learn how to follow Christ and share Him with friends and family. As they, in turn, come to Christ and tell still others, believers and churches are multiplying all over the world!

**220 = 220**  
**MILLION = MILLION**

shoebox gifts  
delivered since 1993.

Gospel  
opportunities.

**11.3 | 10**  
**MILLION | MILLION**

shoebox gifts  
collected in 2023.

of these came from  
the United States.

**118,000+**

outreach events led by trained local church leaders.



The Greatest Gift  
Gospel story booklet  
accompanies  
shoebox gifts.

Available in  
**107**  
**LANGUAGES**

More than  
**100 COUNTRIES**

receive shoebox gifts for boys and girls.

**11**  
**NATIONS**

collected shoeboxes in 2023:  
Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland,  
Germany, New Zealand,  
South Korea, Spain, Switzerland,  
United Kingdom, United States.





**Free Food Box Saturday**

Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm  
Jonestown UMC

Please pass the word!



We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 9:30-11:00am.

Led by Jess G.



**Preparing** dinner for our friends in Lebanon on Oct. 12 at 4pm. Please call Kim Moyer or Jeannette Shuey for more info!



Sunday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm  
Pot Luck Dinner

Followed by Small Groups for all of us!  
Mens, Womens, Teens, Kids!



We begin our 2024 Christmas rehearsals on Thursday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm!

Don't be shy! Come out and join!



Sunday, Oct. 6 and 20 at 6:30pm  
Young Adult Bible Study



Ono's Annual  
All Church  
Hayride at the  
Moyer Farm!

# LET'S GO ON A HAYRIDE

We'll be roasting  
hot dogs and  
marshmallows!  
Your family will  
also have a chance  
to build your very  
own scarecrow!

(feel free to bring your  
own accessories.  
We'll supply the T-frame,  
straw and some spare  
clothing for your  
scarecrow )



Write your own poem!

## Leaves

by Elsie N. Brady

How silently they tumble down  
And come to rest upon the ground  
To lay a carpet, rich and rare,  
Beneath the trees without a care,  
Content to sleep, their work well done,  
Colors gleaming in the sun.

At other times, they wildly fly  
Until they nearly reach the sky.  
Twisting, turning through the air  
Till all the trees stand stark and bare.  
Exhausted, drop to earth below  
To wait, like children, for the snow.

## Scarecrow!

by  
Susan Hansen



I saw a \_\_\_\_\_ scarecrow,  
Scaring crows away!  
It waved its \_\_\_\_\_ arms  
On a very windy day!

Then a little \_\_\_\_\_ mouse,  
Crept underneath his hat,  
And the silly \_\_\_\_\_ crows,  
Flew away just like that!

[www.creativeclassroomconnections.com](http://www.creativeclassroomconnections.com)



10/1	Robin Rollman	10/15	Donna Seaman
10/1	Kris Gongloff	10/16	Jordan Andino
10/2	Sara (Smith) Lucas	10/17	Kathy Smith
10/2	Mauriana Userry	10/17	Kaden Beamesderfer
10/2	Randy Piotrowski	10/17	KC Leiss
10/4	Al Howard	10/18	Lee Moyer
10/4	Eric Ritz	10/19	Jen Lengle
10/4	Justin Beamesderfer	10/20	Mira Grimes
10/6	Chelsea Schneider	10/20	David Warner
10/6	Clara Fessler	10/23	Derik Shepps
10/6	Sue Miller	10/24	Ryan Walker
10/7	Abbey King	10/24	Jenna Wentling
10/9	Jeannette Shuey	10/25	Carol Hebel
10/11	Elta Seaman	10/25	Maggie Miller
10/11	Ruth Leibold	10/26	Sue Hawley
10/12	Travis Wise	10/28	Brenda Gerberich
10/13	Isabell Adams	10/29	Joyce Good
10/13	Amanda Murry	10/29	Charlie Grimes
10/14	Diane Miller	10/30	Kim Moyer
10/15	Nancy Shuey	10/30	Grant Adams
		10/31	Becky Moyer



## Kids Pumpkin Painting/Carving!



October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm

3<sup>rd</sup> grade and under / painting

4<sup>th</sup> grade and up / carving

~

Sign your kids up by Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>

Text Jessica M. 717-679-5374



October 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

Join your grandkids for an evening of  
Bingo ~ Snacks ~ and Fun Times!



### Welcome Maya Williams!

Ono Preschool's newest staff member!  
She's done summer ministry with Word of Life  
for the past two summers.  
Is involved in Wednesday night Kid's Ministry.  
Loves coffee, her family and serving Jesus!

BACKPACKS OF HOPE



### Oct. Collection

Hats, gloves and  
scarves to deliver in  
Nov. A BIG thank  
you for all the  
school supplies we  
received!

