



in **ONO**

August 2018

ONO United Methodist Church
717-865-7469

From Pastor Robb

Afterward, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at a kiosk for collecting taxes. Jesus said to him, "Follow me."

Levi got up, left everything behind, and followed him. Then Levi threw a great banquet for Jesus in his home. A large number of tax collectors and others sat down to eat with them. The Pharisees and their legal experts grumbled against his disciples. They said, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

Jesus answered, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. I didn't come to call righteous people but sinners to change their hearts and lives."

-Luke 5. 27- 32

I have to admit that I am a theology nerd. I enjoy thinking, discussing and debating theological matters. While many people wouldn't even be able to, or care to, explain what theology means, I find it invigorating and thought provoking. The truth is that our theology truly does dictate our responses to situations. If I do not believe in God, then I do not allow concerns for His approval to way in on my decisions. If I believe that God values obedience to His commands, then I am more prone to figure out what those commands are. As Christians, we have a shared theology on many issues. We believe in a Triune (the Trinity) God. We believe that Jesus Christ's death has provided us with mercy and grace and enables us to receive the ultimate reward of eternal life in God's presence. These theologies unify the Body of Christ and empower us to be grace-filled in our interactions with each other. However, there is a distinctness within the theologies of the different denominations as well.

In this passage, the religious leaders find themselves in opposition to Jesus. His willingness to afford grace bothered them. They had a theology of righteousness that made it hard to people to earn their way into their respect. Jesus simply asked Levi to follow Him. It is easy to overlook in the story that it states that Levi left everything. It is simple to think that Jesus simply ignored Levi's faults. In truth, Levi sacrificed everything in order to follow Jesus. Meanwhile, the Pharisees simply watched from afar. They left nothing and wanted nothing from Jesus. Instead of rejoicing at Levi's change of heart, they were frustrated that Jesus accepted it. Jesus made a simple and true statement to them- healthy people do not need healing, sick people do. The Pharisees had a righteousness that Jesus compliments in Matthew 5. 20. Their problem is that they did not help others to turn toward God. Instead, the religious leaders were happy to point out the faults of those "sinners." Jesus, however, understood that God's heart was for people to change their lives and follow Him. Levi did not simply forget his old life, he abandoned it in favor of a better life. Jesus honored that commitment by following him into his home and eating with him.

We are holiness people. There are multiple terms for that- Arminian, Wesleyan, Methodist, etc. What that really means is that our theology is bound by the recognition that God's love is greater than our faults (prevenient grace), that God's love desires to call us to Him (saving grace) and that God's love desires to change our lives (sanctifying grace). This theology is clearly evident in the story. Jesus calls Levi before Levi really even knows Him. Levi accepts that call and changes his life by leaving the old behind. The presumption is that Levi will (spoiler: he does) follow Jesus and grow in his faith and understanding. As holiness people, we take hold of this great thought: God loves us where we are and will help us to become who we are called to be. Let us rejoice in that wonderful theological understanding of God's presence in our lives!

HOT 18

ONO YOUTH

By: Jessica Grimes
Youth Ministry News

The High School Mission Trip was July 28 - August 3. The team of 26 headed to Rainelle, West Virginia and served the community still struggling with the after effects of severe flooding last spring. Thank you for all your prayers! We are having a **Potluck Lunch** on

Sunday Aug. 12th after the 10:30 Worship Service!

Won't you join us as we share pictures and testimonies!





Summer is starting to come to an end. It has been an exciting time to be involved with the Children's ministry. I have seen God change lives of not only the children but the adults also. Melissa and I are truly blessed to be a part of a loving and Growing church like Ono. We are excited to see where God takes us Next!

It was an awesome experience to see the children interact with the residents at Countryside and Lebanon Valley Homes. Not only did the kids enjoy it, the Residents did Also. Melissa and I would like to thank the volunteers who helped.

The Parking lot ministry has been going very well. We have been averaging around 14 Kids. The kids participated in two Martial Arts demonstrations. They had a blast!

Please come join us on our last day of the parking Lot Ministry for the Summer (August 15th 11-1). We will be having a state trooper visit us while having the kids ride through an obstacle course in the parking lot. Should be a fun and exciting Day!



ATTENTION LADIES!

When: October 19 – 21, 2018

Where: Gretna Glen Retreat Lodge

Who: Gwen Jackson

Theme: “Unforced Rhythms”



Gwen wrote the book “Unforced Rhythms”
which will be the talking points of the retreat.

Cost: \$120.00 (\$60.00 by A.S.A.P. with balance by Sept. 9th) to reserve your spot.

Could this be your first retreat?!

This is one of the most wonderful ways to get to know some of the women at Ono!

We stay in a lovely facility in the heart of the woods with opportunities to craft, nature walk, campfire and fellowship between sessions.

Do you have any question?

Please see Jessica Grimes, Stacie Murry or Dee Faller! We would love to chat!

Destination Worship

Wednesday, August 15th

Won't you bring the family to our Community Outdoor Worship Services!
Our host Churches are Trinity and Emmanuel UMC's

This month's gathering will be at the KOA in Lickdale, Eat at 6pm, Worship at 7pm.
See ya there!



**Come on out
for an Ono Evening at Linda's
Speedway!
Friday, Aug. 17th**

**Free admission!
Ono will lead the invocation and national anthem.**

Gates open at 5pm, races start at 7pm

Schedule for the evening - 270 Micro Sprints, Winged 600 Micro Sprints, Slingshots, Chargers, Modifieds

2018 Lebanon Valley School Prayer Walk

2018-19 SCHOOL PRAYER WALK: It is soon time for the sixth annual Lebanon County School Prayer Walk! It will be held on **Saturday, August 25**. The members of our congregation will meet at Ono UMC at 9:45 am. From there we will commute to East Hanover Elementary School. When we arrive at the school, we will stroll in small groups and silently pray for the upcoming school year, students, teachers and school staff. As we put our feet to our prayers, we will begin to pray with a kingdom-sized hope for our schools!
For more information please see Dee Faller.



Family Camp 2018



Aug. 24th - 26th

Woodcrest Retreat in Ephrata.

Please contact Suzan Shuey for any/all information needs!

sshuey44@comcast.net or 717 865-1098

: a note to our ono committee and groups :

we would love to include any projects or wisdom that God's been working in and thru your gatherings! Drop your articles/photos off in the church office.