



# Good News in Ono April 2025

**Ono United Methodist Church**

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When he had received the sour wine, Jesus said, "It is completed." Bowing his head, he gave up his life.

-John 19. 30 (CEB)



My favorite "holiday" is probably Good Friday. As a generally positive, upbeat person, it is a day of sadness that grabs my attention the most. Perhaps it is God's way of centering me. Certainly, it is not a day where we gather with family and eat large meals like most holidays. Instead, Good Friday is the day we remember when Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice for all of us. While grace is free to us, it cost Jesus everything. Therefore, we use this day to focus on that price. We are reminded of the sadness that comes with the death of a loved one. In Scripture, darkness covered the land (**Luke 23. 44, Mark 15. 33, Matthew 27. 45**) as the light of the world breathed His last earthly breath before the resurrection.

The phrase associated with this day that I find most impactful is the very simple statement of "It is completed." Theologians have stressed the many meanings from this statement - sin has been defeated, failures have been redeemed, the separation between God and man removed, grace has won! There are so many wonderful ways to express the reality that at the cross the payment for all failures of all time had been paid! Creation has been wonderfully redeemed from the decay and destruction that humanity had created. This is why we call it Good! I think we should rename it Great Friday! This is not simply good news, it is great news! Because of this day, I don't have to live under fear that my failures will keep me from God. Instead, I can rest in His

perfect presence because He has offered us redemption! This Great Friday, I hope that you spend time reflecting on Jesus' wonderful sacrifice for you.

The pastors of the Northern Lebanon UM churches decided we wanted to afford the opportunity for a unique worship experience. Weather permitting, we will do a cross walk from the Clothing Closet to Jonestown UMC starting at 11:30am. We will stop at different intersections to pray together in and for our community. Then, we will have a three hour service from noon till 3. Focusing on the seven last statements of Jesus as recorded

in Scripture. You may come and go as your schedule allows. Honestly, I caught myself lamenting that I would be sitting in a pew for three hours, then I realized how much easier that is than what Jesus did for me... sometimes God humbles me quickly. I hope this time blesses us all, even those who cannot attend.

Finally, I think I love Great Friday because I know the rest of the story! Sunday is coming! Christians have long worshipped on Sundays because each time it is a reminder that Jesus raised from the dead! Death has been defeated! Many times, when life seems dark, we need to be reminded that *Sunday is coming!* In this world we will have many troubles, but Jesus has overcome this world (**John 16. 33**). Every Sunday that we gather together should be filled with hope - hope that the light will shine into our darkness. Hope that our Lord will continue to draw us nearer to Him. Hope that we will soon be worshipping Him in heaven where death, sorrow and destruction will be no more! May that hope fill each of your hearts this Holy week! May God's blessings rain upon you, His face shine down on you and grant you peace!

*Pastor Robb*



**April 27th**

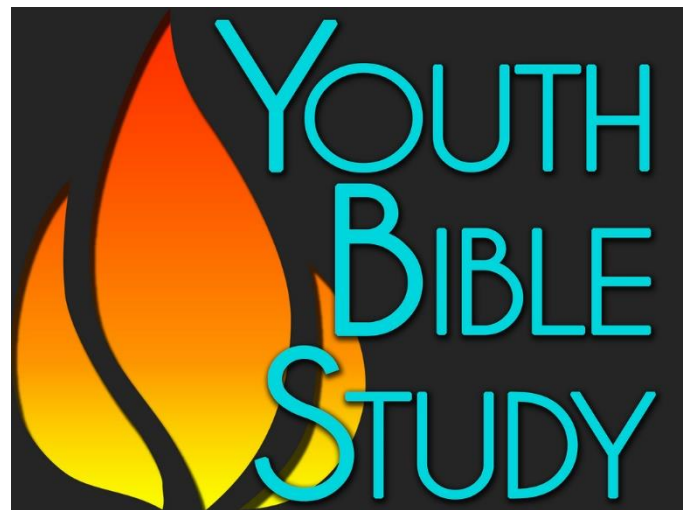
**Pot Luck at 5:30pm – Groups to follow.**



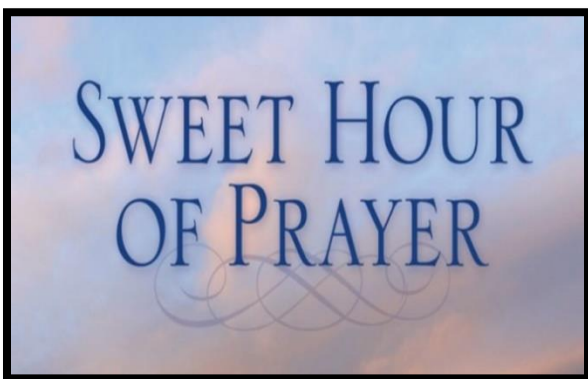
Join Pastor Robb as he leads us through God's Word, Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30pm.



**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY  
And DESSERT!  
Sun., April 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm**



**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Join us at 6:30pm for our  
Youth Led Bible Study**



**YOUTH MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING  
Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30pm**



**April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:30-11:00am.  
Led by Jess G. in Fellowship Hall**



***Free Food Box Saturday***  
 Sat., April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm  
 Jonestown UMC  
***Please pass the word!***



***The Ladies Of Ono*** blessed all who gathered for our BRO-FEST on March 16th!

The square dancin and BBQ and entertainment and birch beer and corn bread and belly laughin...well, it was a hoot and a hollar of a good time!

**Many thanks to the ladies of Ono!!**



Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 8am and 10:30am services.

**Ono annual easter egg hunt!**



It's that time! Donations can be placed in the basket in Mission Corner by the elevator.

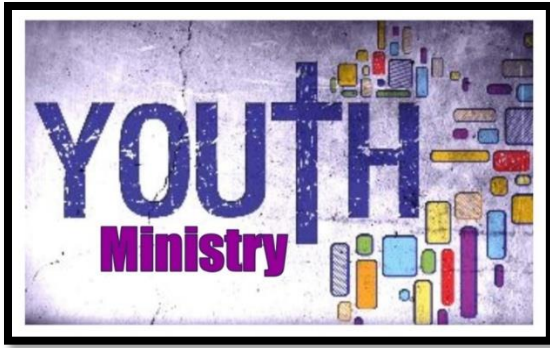
**Fill the Eggs on Mon. April 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm.**

The Hunt will be on  
**Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 10am**

Contact Loretta Longenecker for more information – 717-503-8093



Yoga will be meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
**All are welcome!**



God is First  
*I AM SECOND*



### Youth Confirmation/Baptism 2025

Pastor Robb and Jess Grimes will be having a confirmation class this spring for any youth grade 6 -12. The classes will focus on the basic tenants of the faith, church structure and theology. We will meet for 6 weeks beginning April 27 during Sunday school at 9:30am.

Teens will hear the personal faith stories of various church leaders and be given a chance for service together as a class. The class will end on Pentecost Sunday, June 8 with a celebration of confirmation and baptism.



This year for Lent the youth have been working through a plus one challenge. Instead of taking something away for Lent we have been challenged to add a different spiritual discipline to our lives. On Wednesday evening we focus on a new spiritual discipline like prayer, bible reading, acts of service and fellowship and then try to implement it throughout the week. After our acts of service night, we scheduled a time to serve at Midwest foodbank. We had a few hours to help package noodles which will be given out to local ministries. We pray that by practicing these spiritual disciplines in our lives we will draw closer to God and grow in faith.



On March 23 over 150 teens from multiple church gathered at Lifeway church for The Lebanon Valley Youth Rally. The theme of the night was Get in the Game! Be a player (disciple) for Jesus not just a fan! Youth wore their favorite team jersey, worshipped together , listened to a speaker and met in small groups to apply it to their lives. God is at work in the lives of the young people in this county! Praise be to God!



## Why does the date for Easter change every year?

The simplest way to explain the date of Easter is that it falls on the first Sunday after the full moon that follows the spring equinox. Because the actual date of the spring equinox can differ by a day or two, the Catholic Church created a fixed date of March 21 to define it, known as the ecclesiastical equinox. And the full moon that occurs just on or after March 21 is known as the Paschal full moon. Paschal derives from "Pascha," the Greek and Latin word for "Passover." The Paschal full moon will appear on April 12th this year. So, Easter is on April 20th, the first Sunday after the full moon's appearance.

Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn remembrance



of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34)

The cross is where we see the convergence of great suffering and God's forgiveness. [Psalms 85:10](#) sings of a day when



coincided with his mercy. We receive divine forgiveness, mercy, and peace because Jesus willingly took our divine

"righteousness and peace" will "kiss each other." The cross of Jesus is where that occurred, where God's demands, his righteousness,

punishment, resulting from [God's righteousness](#) against sin. "For the joy set before him" ([Hebrews 12:2](#)). Jesus endured the cross on Good Friday, knowing it led to his resurrection, our salvation, and the beginning of God's reign of righteousness and peace.



*Deepen your faith journey with fellow journeyman.*

## Lent 2025 – The Beatitudes 7pm

April 2 @ Trinity UMC

Pastor Robb: Pure in heart

April 9 @ Ono UMC

Pastor Brian: Peacemakers

April 17 @ Trinity-Lickdale

Maundy Thursday Service

April 18 @ NL Clothing Closet

11:30am - All Cross Walk

April 18 @ Jonestown UMC

12n-3pm – Good Friday Service



We will meet at

The Northern Lebanon Clothing Closet  
Promptly at 11:30am

Carrying a cross thru the streets of Jonestown.

Join us as we pray and sing,  
Bringing His glory and honor to the streets!

Our April wish list is:

PJs, shirts – any size  
Pants for boys: size 6 and 5T

Thank you!

BACKPACKS OF HOPE



## VBS Work Nights!

Tuesday – 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Monday – 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Monday – 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Monday – 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

**Come on out and help create crafts and decorations for our 2025 VBS Week!**

Volleyball season is right around the corner! See or phone Mike Edris: 717-460-4063 for information! Games are played on Thursdays.



18 kids came out for our end of March **Kids Pizza Party Hang Out!** So much fun eating pizza, playing games, learning about the miracle of the 2 fish and 5 loaves!

We made new friends and are pretty sure paper wins most of the time! 😊



Easter Sunday  
April 20<sup>th</sup>  
8am and 10:30am

## NEED A BABYSITTER?

Contact Brea Weneck at (717-673-7758)  
Ages (9 months-9 years)  
Experience: I work in the nursery every Sunday and love working/playing with kids!

A little about me: I'm 12 years old, I go to Northern Lebanon, and I do track, field hockey, and dance!

*Here's a short story shared by Audrey Gongloff, quite timely as we prepare our gardens here at church and at home!*

## **Pulling Weeds by Janet White**

When I was a child of eight or nine, I remember the delight of the first warm summer rain. My sister, brother and I would dash out to the nearest puddle with glee to discover the tingly feeling of the soft mud oozing between our toes. We sailed newspaper boats or pieces of sticks down our newly made river. We danced with our tongues heavenward, catching each delicious drop. Our mother didn't worry about us catching colds. As a matter of fact, she sometimes joined us.

Mom had delights of her own that I never quite understood. After a shower, she would call out, "Let's go pull some weeds!" That was her idea of fun – on that we children didn't share. She actually enjoyed it, if that was possible. She knew that it was easier to remove those irksome pests when the soil was soft.



So, reluctantly and with much groaning and complaining, we helped Mom beautify the lawn and garden. And it really did look better and gave us a sense of satisfaction as well as aching backs.

Recently, I had a dream about my mother pulling weeds. But this time I knew that it had to do with sin in my life – little habits that I'd let crop up. Because of our neglect, the garden of my life was not so beautiful anymore. Oh, I had an excuse: The past few months had been busy and stressful, with many frustrations and disappointments.

Then I realized that those hard times represented the thunderstorms of my life, and now that they were over it was a good time to start pulling weeds, when the soil of my heart was soft and pliable. Of course, it took a lot of effort, and even hurt at times, but the results were worth it.

The Bible tells us to rid ourselves of "anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language" (Col. 3:18). These are only a few of the 'weeds' that need to be removed – yanked out by the roots so that we can plant seeds of humility, kindness and patience.

Pulling weeds is an endless job. Those ornery critters are stubborn and require constant attention, especially after a downpour. We have to keep at it if we want to bear the fruit of joy, love, and peace. So, let's not put off the job any longer: now is the best time to tackle that unpleasant chore.

As my mother would say, 'Come on, let's pull weeds!'

### ***An Easter Prayer***

*That you gave your one and only Son,  
that we might be called your children too.  
Lord, help us to live in the gladness and  
grace of Easter Sunday, everyday.  
Let us have hearts of thankfulness  
for your sacrifice.  
Let us have eyes that look upon  
your grace and rejoice in our salvation.  
Help us to walk in that mighty grace  
and tell your good news to the world.  
All for your glory do we pray, Lord,  
Amen.*



# EMPTY BOWLS



**April 13<sup>th</sup>**

**6pm**

**Ono Fellowship Hall**

Our Empty Bowls Supper will be recognizing the Northern Lebanon Clothing Closet!  
The guest speaker will be Deb Reiner.

We know that we usually support other food ministries in our surrounding area, but we're sure that you can see the connection that the Clothing Closet has to such needs.

With spring in the air, they are in need of summer clothing and footwear. We will have the cart ready for item collection as you enter the east doorway.

**April Wish List:**

**Men:**

- Athletic wear- all sizes
  - Summer pajamas – all sizes
  - Summer shorts - sizes L,XL, XXL
  - Sneakers or summer lightweight shoes- sizes 9 - 12
- NO DRESS SHOES PLEASE**

**Women's, Boys, Girls and Men's – socks and underwear all sizes (In original packages please and NO WHITE)**

**Women's camisoles sizes small, medium & large – ( I was told that Walmart has a great & inexpensive selection)**

**Girls - Jeans sizes 7 & 8 Junior –Summer clothes. Sizes 3-9**

**THANK YOU FOR YOU SUPPORT!!**

We will also be accepting any monetary donations you wish to give as a Lenten offering.

So come out! Ready to be inspired by wonderful people serving in our community  
*and*

Some truly delicious homemade soup and bread!  
*(y'all remember Josh Millers homemade bread...)*



Northern Lebanon Clothing Closet  
APRIL 2025

**We've added a Community Shopping Day**

Attention: **Northern Lebanon School District Residents**

If you are in need of **FREE** clothing, we invite you to come visit the Clothing Closet, located in the former Jonestown Elementary School (Northern Education Center). We are located on the Lancaster St. side of the building. Look for the signs.

**PROM AND SEMI-FORMAL DRESSES ARE HERE**

**NEW** **Community Shopping Day**  
**EVERY Third Saturday of the Month**

**ALL residents of the NL School District** are invited to shop and dive into a treasure trove of fashion finds. And the price? It's all by a freewill financial donation!

**Come and find your SPRING & SUMMER wardrobe**

We are open the dates and times listed below. We also accept donations at these times and dates.

APRIL						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		10:00 - Noon		4:00 - 7:00		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	10:00 - Noon					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		10:00 - Noon				10:00 - 1:00
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	10:00 - Noon					
27	28	29	30			

The NL Clothing Closet is a ministry of the NL Ministerium...  
Questions? Please call (717)454-3697 or email nlclothingcloset@gmail.com



4/1 Mary Bitzer  
4/1 Jarrod Strickler  
4/1 Cheyann Lengle  
4/2 Jerry Fessler  
4/3 Natalie Snyder  
4/3 Allison King  
4/5 Daryl Funck  
4/5 Carter LaPorte  
4/7 Jess Grimes  
4/8 Arlene Dove  
4/8 Carlene Snyder  
4/8 Frank Moore  
4/9 Leah Staley  
4/9 Evan Snyder  
4/11 Mike Batz  
4/12 Michelle Seibert  
4/13 Lyndsy Zechman  
4/15 Jericho Andino  
4/15 Leann Snyder

4/16 Erin Marinkov  
4/20 Stephanie Poist  
4/20 Mike Govern  
4/23 Cheryl Barr  
4/23 Becky Atkins  
4/23 Riley Sallada  
4/24 Dillon Blauch  
4/24 Teresa Helms  
4/25 Deb Adams  
4/25 Charlie Symanski  
4/26 Mike Edris  
4/27 Jean Howard  
4/29 Ashley Blauch

