



Good News in Ono December 2025

Ono United Methodist Church

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Then Isaiah said, "Listen now, O people of David! Is it too small a thing for you to test men, that you will test my God as well? So the Lord Himself will give you a special thing to see:

-Isaiah 7. 13- 14 (NLV)



Perhaps the most appropriate song for Advent is "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." It is a song that beckons us to rejoice

because we know that Emmanuel will come to us. In the midst of a complicated and difficult world, it is good to know that God is with us. This is a concept that was not new to Christianity, but it is deeply rooted in the prophetic traditions of Israel- particularly with Isaiah. Isaiah recognized that he was a part of a broken community and was broken himself (Isaiah 6. 5). Despite this recognition, Isaiah trusted that God could still use him and speak about the coming glory of Jesus. This message was not only for people 700 years before His birth, it remains our message for a world that longs to find meaning, purpose and hope.

Isaiah was a prophet towards the end of the separated kingdoms of Israel and Judah. It would have been a scary time for faithful Jews. The promised land was under siege. The northern kingdom of Israel had failed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was failing. The land that they were promised was being lost. While it was other kingdoms doing the physical conquering, the prophets reminded them that it was due to their failures to uphold the laws. Their kings

had failed to lead the people into the holiness that God desired. Their world was falling apart.

A few thousand years later, some people feel like we are experiencing similar times. The world continues to struggle with violence. Poverty and injustice persist in spite of many people's efforts to eliminate them. Selfishness seems to run the world- and frequently even runs our own hearts. Society once again realizes that we need help. They need prophets to show them the way to a God who reigns with them. This Advent season, may we remind ourselves that this is our message to carry forward. We are the modern Isaiah's with an ancient message of hope. Except our message has a far greater reality. God is already with us!

As Jesus walked the earth, He preached, "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand." He was Emmanuel- God with us! After His death and resurrection, He offers the Holy Spirit- God with us! The Holy Spirit empowers our relationship with the Father- God with us! The Gospel message is not one for the future, it is one in the present. Life may be difficult, but we worship a God who lives with us! He meets us in worship, during walks through the woods or cities, as we are waking and as we are sleeping. He meets us regardless of the roads we decide to follow. He meets us even though we are a people of unclean lips living with people with unclean lips. He has entrusted us with the glorious message of Emmanuel. Let us make sure that we share that message with all those around us! Our families, our friends and our communities should all know that the beauty of our message is this simple: God is with us!
Pastor Robb



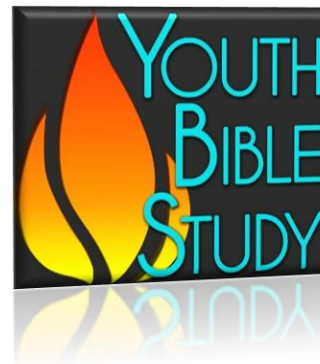
YOGA IS BCK!

All are welcome to join us Monday's @ 6pm.
Bring a H2O bottle and a mat.
(Fellowship Hall)

**YOUNG ADULT
BIBLE STUDY
And DESSERT!**
1st and 3rd Sunday's
at 6:30pm



**Youth led Bible
Study**
1st and 3rd Sunday's
at 6:30pm



1st and 3rd
Thursdays
9:30-11:00am.
Led by Jess G.
Fellowship Hall



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Thursdays
9:30-11:00am.
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Fellowship Hall



Wednesday evenings with Pastor Robb
At 6:30pm



**Youth Monthly
Prayer Gathering**
1st Wednesday
each month.



Thank you everyone! Your donations to the
FREE FOOD BOXES for the December
distribution made such a big difference!!!!

Free Food Box **Saturdays**

2nd Saturday each month @ 1pm
Jonestown UMC *Please pass the
word!*



12/1 Lois Gingrich	12/14 Hannah Andino
12/1 Julie Schriver	12/14 Mary College
12/2 Darryl Moyer	12/15 Kalyn Harmon
12/4 Tammy Blauch	12/15 Marina Weidman
12/5 Derek Blauch	12/16 Reid Shuey
12/5 Mark Boyanowski	12/20 Carter Steiner
12/5 Greg Staley	12/22 Larry Richard
12/6 Jeanne Hauck	12/22 Donell Rittle
12/7 Dawn Fessler	12/22 Sherry Wiest
12/7 Jo Miller	12/23 Staci Murray
12/7 Joan Sallada	12/24 Jenna Murray
12/7 Donna Smith	12/26 Leelon Knauff
12/8 Holden Zeigler	12/26 Jaxon Mount
12/9 London Mclean	12/27 Mikayla Shuey
12/9 Natalie Piotrowski	12/27 Louise Soliday
12/9 Gene Strickler	12/30 Mason Shuey
12/10 Brad High	
12/10 Sean Murry	
12/10 Natalie Rudy	
12/10 Florence Tashima	
12/11 Molly High	
12/12 Haley Blair	
12/12 Melody Fessler	
12/12 Michael George	
12/13 Robb Faller	



Community Connectors *Services*

Do you have a business?

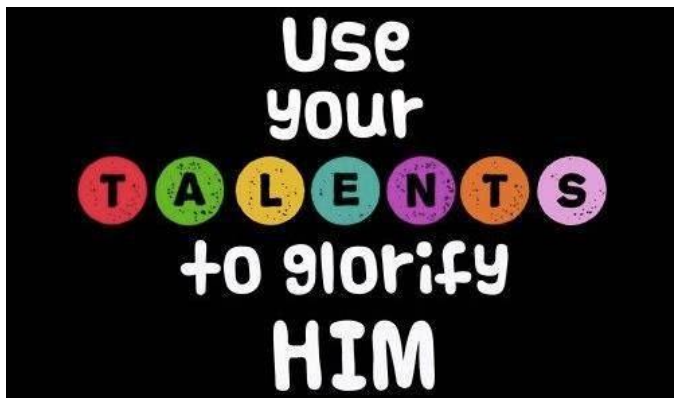
Do you have a specific talent or gift?

Would you like others to know about it?

All are invited to be a part of the:
Ono Community Connectors and Services

There is a box located in the Main Narthex. There you can submit your business card or contact information with your business, gift, talent or service. A booklet will be compiled and updated as new entries are collected.

Looking forward to realizing the diverse and talented people that walk through these halls!



See Dee with questions.



Join us Saturday, **December 13th** to go caroling in Lebanon. Please meet at the church at 11am. Any questions contact Ken and Kim Moyer!



Dec. 20th.

There are many ways you can share in this food ministry: Donations of food, money, gift cards, bake a dessert, help serve the meal, share a musical

talent during worship service or share a testimony. Pls contact Jeannette Shuey, 717-644-1831 or Kim Moyer, 717-926-5077 with questions.



Sunday, Dec. 7th is the last week to donate items for the FreeFoodBoxes. Items we are requesting are: canned tuna, canned chicken, span, stew, and peanut butter. Thank you for all the food that has been received over the past two months! It makes a difference!!



The Youth are offering a Free Postal Service for you to send Christmas greetings to all you Ono Church friends! Simply place 1st and last names on the cards and “mail” them in the blue mailboxes at either entrance. Cards will be accepted through December 21st. (Thank you, Ono Youth!)



Last 2 Choir rehearsals! Dec. 11 and 18.
Thursdays at 7pm!



Two LifeVac Anti-Choking Devices have been added to the building for use in choking emergencies. One is located in the main hallway across from the office with the AED box. The second is in the kitchen, on the wall by the phone.



Friday, December 12th
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Sounds like fun!!
See Jess Grimes for details!

Family Movie Night!



Seeking Storage Containers:

The Altar Team is in need of some storage containers. As we decorate our church for holidays and special occasions, we sure could use some clear plastic w lids containers. If you are able so gift one, please be sure it is at least 12 gallons in size. Thank you so much!

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Sunday, Dec. 14

“King of Kings”
6:00pm

Feel free to wear P.J’s!
...There will be popcorn!!



Wednesday, Dec. 17th, 6:00-7:30pm!
All Wednesday small groups will gather to
enjoy a "Grinch Night" of festivities!



Sunday, Dec. 21st in the Main Narthex.
Ono's 2026 Mission Team will be offering
their Home Made Christmas Candy for sale!
It never dissappoints!!!



Sunday, Dec. 21st at both 8am and 10:30am
Worship Services.
Bring the family as we enjoy the beautiful
sound of Christmas!



Our Girls Scout Troop Service Unit is collecting
items for Align Life Ministries.
(previously: Susquehanna Pregnancy Services)
The following items are needed: diapers, wipes,
unopened formula, new or gently used baby
clothing, baby wash, lotion, new feeding utensils,
new or gently used toys (no used stuffed animals
pls.) and new pacifiers. Items will be collected
through January.
Please place items in the bin in the narthex.
Please note: in lieu of the Giving Tree this year,
please consider purchasing items for Align or the
items needed for our local Food Banks and the
Food Box Ministry.

*Thank you for your support in these selfless
services!*



An update from our Lay Leader:

In September of 2024, our church held a congregational vote on the choice between:

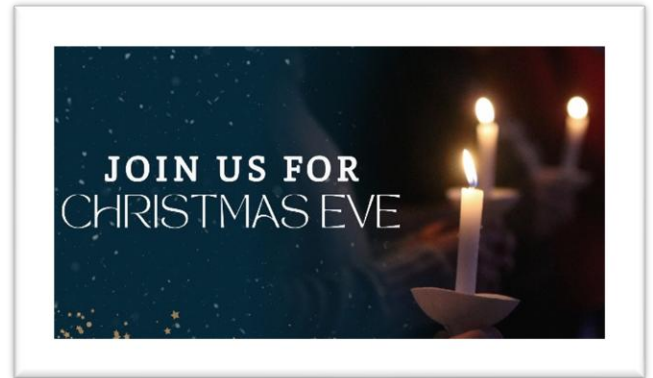
- 1) a desired future staying connected to the Eastern PA Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church or
- 2) 2)a desired future separation from the Eastern PA Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

By a vote of around 89%-11%, the congregational vote chose a desired future separation from the Eastern PA Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

A part of what Ad Council has been continuing to monitor related to this issue is the ongoing civil dispute in Montgomery County, PA Court. This civil dispute between approximately 50 Eastern PA UMC churches and the Eastern PA UMC Annual Conference has been ongoing since April 5, 2023. On August 21, 2025, the County Judge presiding over this dispute announce a trial date for the dispute. A non-jury civil trial is scheduled to begin on March 30, 2026. The Judge has set aside 7 court calendar days for this trial. Ono Church is not part of the dispute directly, but Obno Church is hoping to benefit from a ruling/trial decision favorable to the churches in the dispute that would be applied or available to all the roughly 400 UMChurches in the Eastern PA Annual Conference.

We continue to encourage each other to focus first on our ongoing ministry and mission at Ono Church while at the same time continue to trust God, our Good Shepherd, to lead us on toward that desired separation.

Eric Wentling – Lay Leader



5:00pm
Kid Friendly Service



7:00pm
Family Service with candlelight.



10:00pm
Holy Communion with candlelight.

The Ono Youth and Kids had a great time shopping and



packing our shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Older ones paired up with younger ones and shopped for thoughtful and useful gifts to fill the boxes. We prayed that night for the boxes to reach the child God intended them to and for each one to hear the Good News of Jesus as well when they receive their box.



What a view! In November we took some time to head the 501 lookout near Bethel for a short hike and to see the beautiful view from on top of the mountain. Wow!

God's creation is stunning. During our time there we saw a majestic eagle take off and we took time to do a short bible study on our word of the year TRUST.

This was our 3rd annual Friendsgiving in youth group. We had such yummy dishes prepared by everyone. Our meal consisted of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, corn, frosted cranberries, fruit, almond cake, peanut butter balls, chocolate cake, soda and more!

After enjoying our great meal we took a test to see who was the biggest turkey (congrats to Brea Weneck for claiming that honor!), shared things we were thankful for and ended with a youth group favorite game called Body Body. It was a great start to a thanksgiving holiday!!!



Mira Grimes and Jenna Murray will be traveling to NYC with the Northern Lebanon Service Club again this year to distribute coats and blankets and hats/gloves to homeless folks on December 16th. If you have anything you would like to donate, please let Jess Grimes know or bring your items to the church marked "NYC".

They should be placed in the Mission Central area next to the elevator.

Thank you!

"John answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.'" – Luke 3:11



Operation Christmas Child:

The total shoebox gifts collected this year here at Ono was 442. Other totals will come out in January. Thanks to everyone who participated in the packing and to those who helped transport these boxes to the Collection Center!

ONO's GOT TALENT 2 is coming up! Be sure to sign yourself up to share your talents and gifts! You know, the things that bring you joy! Singing, dancing, poetry, artwork and everything in-between! We can't wait to see and celebrate with you. There is a sign-up sheet located in the main narthex.

