

A close-up photograph of a red and white knitted winter glove. The glove is held open, and a single, large, white snowflake is resting in the center of the palm. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white, suggesting a snowy environment. The overall mood is warm and festive.

Good News in Ono February 2026

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For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

-1 Corinthians 15. 53- 54 (NKJV)



Ash Wednesday is one of the more intriguing days of the Christian year. Growing up on a predominately Catholic block, I recall seeing all my neighbors with smudges on their foreheads. As a child, I pondered why they did it- the parents and children alike. As an adult, I appreciate that it is a mark that indicates that you are a believer in Jesus Christ. Why did we choose such a mark?

Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return stems from Genesis 3. 19. God formed humans out of the dust of the earth (Genesis 2. 7). Upon eating from the forbidden tree, death enters creation. Humans are reminded where they came from and that they would eventually return to such form. It is a reminder to us that our physical bodies are temporary. They are dust. Someday, they shall return to dust. It is a fate that is inescapable for all people.

The corruptibility of the human body does not need death to be proven. I remember playing basketball as a young man against older men. They would complain about their knees, elbows, etc. I thought they were just complainers. Now, I understand at a much different level. I have issues with my right elbow and my right knee. I had major heart surgery. My eye sight is failing.

My body is revealing a simple spiritual truth. It is temporary. It was designed to be temporary. We can fight for this life as much and as long as we want, but the conclusion is inevitable. This body will fail. Dust will return to dust. If that was the end of the story, then humanity should be a sad group. Thank God that there is more to our story!

Paul reminds the Church of this beautiful story- our corruptible, mortal body will put on incorruptibility and immortality! Because of the gift offered to us by Jesus, we do not need to fear death any longer! Death has been swallowed up in victory! The victory belongs to Jesus who gives it to us. This Ash Wednesday, I will have ashes available in the sanctuary all day. Stop in and mark yourself with the sign of the cross. We will leave a place for prayer requests to be posted. This is the beginning of a 40 day journey. I have also prepared a devotion for us to do together. I encourage you to follow along the devotion in an effort to make the presence of Jesus Christ profoundly impactful in our lives. Throughout Lent, let us remember that we are dust, but that we have also been given the victory through Jesus Christ. May God bless our journey together!

Pastor Robb

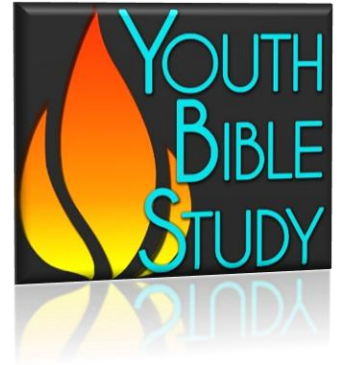




Get flexible in the New Year!

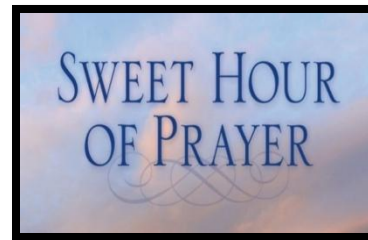
All are welcome to join us Monday's @ 6pm.
Bring a H2O bottle and a mat.
(Fellowship Hall)

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

Wednesday evenings with Pastor Robb
At 6:30pm



Youth Monthly Prayer Gathering
1st Wednesday
each month.



*Praying for each box,
As it is filled with food and love!*

Free Food Box

Saturdays

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

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



Celebrating
FEBRUARY
Birthdays

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|------------------|
| 2/2 | Brandt Seyfert | 2/24 | Eloise Adams |
| 2/2 | Austin Atkins | 2/24 | Emily Shuey |
| 2/3 | Sok Chea Pho | 2/28 | JoLynn Brummer |
| 2/3 | Fred Staley | 2/28 | Cathy Boyanowski |
| 2/4 | John Bomgardner | 2/28 | Lee Eisenhour |
| 2/4 | Amanda Walker | 2/28 | Preston LaPorte |
| 2/5 | Kaleb Longenecker | | |
| 2/7 | Brenna Rollman | | |
| 2/7 | Drew Meyer | | |
| 2/10 | Dewey Dove | | |
| 2/10 | Caleb Steiner | | |
| 2/12 | Emory Helsel | | |
| 2/12 | Nancy Strickler | | |
| 2/13 | Roman Andino | | |
| 2/13 | Josh Moyer | | |
| 2/13 | Aria Straley | | |
| 2/14 | Gavin Rollman | | |
| 2/15 | Ben Boyanowski | | |
| 2/15 | Joel Seibert | | |
| 2/18 | Dustin Blauch | | |
| 2/19 | Dennis Funck | | |
| 2/19 | Emilee Kisner | | |
| 2/21 | Samuel George | | |
| 2/21 | Dennis Grubb | | |
| 2/22 | Naomi Miller | | |
| 2/23 | Sara Artley | | |





Community Connectors *Services*

Do you have a business?

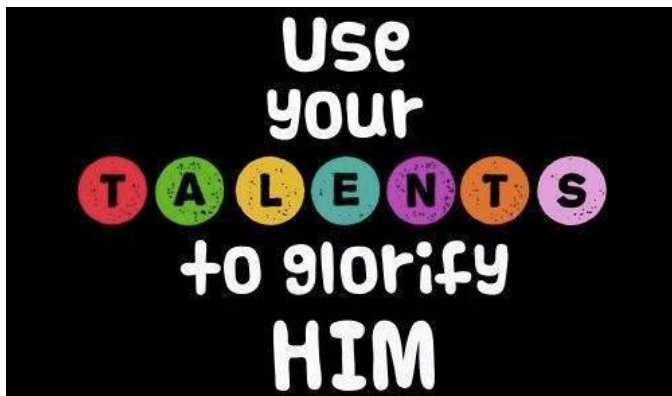
Do you have a specific talent or gift?

Would you like others to know about it?

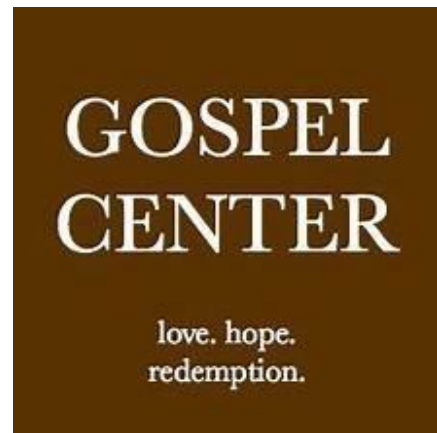
All are invited to be a part of the:
Ono Community Connectors and Services

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.

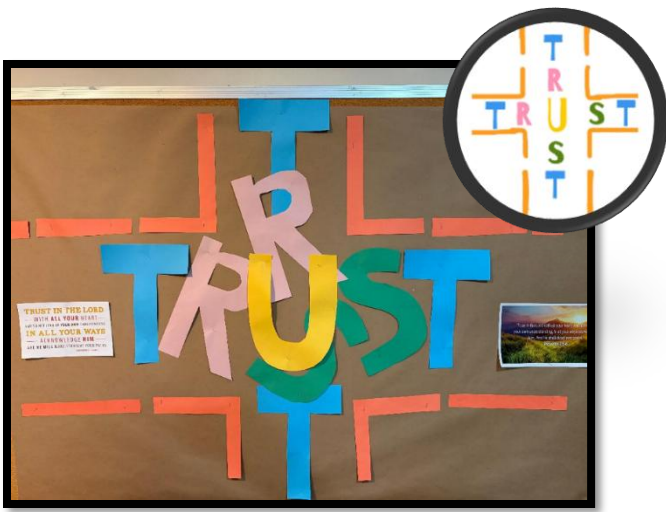


Feb. 28th.

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.





Enjoy a lovely evening with your sweetheart at this year's sweetheart dinner on

Sunday February 15 at 6pm

in the fellowship hall!



TRUST '26! We have chosen TRUST as our theme for the youth ministry in 2026. Our theme verse is Proverbs 3:5-6 which we hope will be written on all our teen's hearts because of its great wisdom and truth. Teens (actually people in general) seem to be always in decision making mode whether it is about their future, who to date, where to work, what classes to take, how to spend their time, etc. These "crossroads" or decision moments can be extremely stressful and at times overwhelming BUT God's word in Proverbs instructs us to not lean on our own understanding in those moments. God wants us to learn to trust Him in those moments and acknowledge Him and allow Him to direct us in the way He wants us to go. How easy do you find it to TRUST God in those moments? Why do we tend to try and figure things out first without God? Have you seen God's way work in your life?

The High School Mission team will be preparing and serving a yummy chicken dinner for you.

*Child Care is provided (just let us know if you are bringing children with you!) Each couple is asked to bring a dessert to share to enter our contest to win a free dinner out! **Please RSVP to the church office or to Jess Grimes by Sunday Feb 8.** All donations for dinner will go towards the summer mission trip to Puerto Rico.*

S.H.I.F.T. dinner at Ken and Deb George's house was a great time of discussion, sharing and eating together on January 18th. It our hope that as the teens get to know more adults in the church better and hear their faith stories they will feel more connect to the church as a whole. For these high school leaders, it is a crucial time of shifting gears into young adulthood.



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP JESS GRIMES

Lent - A journey of the heart

by Keith Anderson

Henri Nouwen, known for his deep insights into spiritual life, saw Lent as a time for inner transformation—a journey of the heart.



He often emphasized the importance of vulnerability, inviting followers of Jesus to step away from the distractions that impede their souls and examine their hearts honestly. Nouwen described Lent as a journey of returning to God, very much in

the thread of the story of the prodigal son.

He first saw a reproduction of Rembrandt's painting entitled, "The Return of the Prodigal Son" on a colleague's office door. It may be impossible to explain the lifelong impact that experience had on Henri's life. The image stirred something deeply profound in his heart.

Rembrandt completed the painting between 1668 and 1669. It hangs in the **Hermitage Museum** in Saint Petersburg, Russia, which Nouwen visited specifically to see.

I invite you to read the Prodigal Son text in Luke 15:11-32 and take a moment in this first week of Lent to let the story Jesus told also penetrate your heart. Write your feelings, thoughts, or simple responses in a journal to which you may return.

The painting captures the stunning moment when the prodigal son returns home. He arrives in utter humility, knowing he has brought shame upon his father and family. Rembrandt, however, saw it through his own eyes of faith: instead of shame and rejection, the prodigal son is embraced by his father in a grand moment of **welcome home**. Artists have long studied Rembrandt's

dramatic use of light and shadow, which displayed the biblical story's deep emotional and spiritual significance.

A journey of returning to God

Nouwen described Lent as a journey of returning to God. He believed that in this return, followers of Jesus can recover their identity and remember always that we are the beloved children of God. How did he practice Lent? He urged believers to practice solitude, prayer, and acts of compassion during Lent. These disciplines, he argued, help individuals confront their own brokenness and open their hearts to God's healing love. For him, Lent was not merely about outward rituals but about profound intimate encounters with the grace and mercy of God.

Through extended reflection on this work of art, he came to understand his calling to become a loving, compassionate and forgiving one, like our Abba-father, full of compassion, and forgiveness.

Lent will do that to you. It can be both a transformation and a homecoming, as it was for the prodigal. Nouwen came to see himself as a recipient of grace and as someone called to extend that same love to others. The painting became a lens through which he viewed his own life, ministry, and relationship with God. When we return home, we are moved to invite others to the table of our spiritual home, where God, the Father, races down the driveway to welcome us.

In the week ahead, I invite you to pray this prayer each day from Nouwen's book, *Show me the Way*:

"Dear Lord, be with me today. Listen to my confusion and help me know how to live it. I don't know the words. I don't know the way. Show me the way."

Prepare Your Winter Emergency Kit.

When you live where you have severe cold you know that there are things needed in order to prepare to endure the winter. As Christians, when our "winters" and trials come into our lives we must learn to prepare for them as well. Here are a few basic things we should have on hand.

"Spiritual Winter Emergency Kit"

Non Perishable Food--Scripture

Have some things on hand to sustain you through. Memorized Scriptures can help more than anything. Just a phrase of Scripture to grasp in the dead of our "winter" can be a great comfort to us.

1. **Extra Blankets and Warm Clothing--Fellowship**

During a "winter" some people forget about attending church and fellowshiping with other Christians. How much more it is needed when trials come into our lives. Having fellowship with other believers strengthens us. We need their love, support, and prayers. It becomes a real warmth to us.

2. **Drinking Water—Christ the Living Water**

Bottled water in a winter emergency is a must. We need it to survive just like we need the Living Water. We need Christ and His Word to live. Relying on Him will keep us from a parched existence. Drink in His love, His promises, His blessings, and His strength. Looking to Him in the face of our trials and circumstances will help see us through our "winter".

3. **Emergency Candles or Flashlights--God's Guidance**

The electricity may go out because of the weight of snow and ice on the power lines so we always need a light source to have on hand. God's guidance is our light source. We can't get through our daily lives, let alone our "winters" without following God's direction and leading. Staying sensitive to God's leading will keep us going in the right direction and will help us to see a little more clearly.

Conclusion:

We will all have "winters" in our lives, but choosing how we deal and prepare for them can make all the difference in the world.

So, are you winterized?



Feb. 6,7,8 at Camp Orchard Hill!



Tues., Feb. 24th 6-7:30pm!

Sign-up by Sun., Feb. 22nd.

Bring a friend!!



Rehearsal begins Thurs., Feb. 19th @ 7pm

Any questions, please see Jess Grimes.



We will once again join together with our local churches and community for Wednesday evening Lenten Worship Services! Fellow NL Methodist Churches will share their space as each pastor shares a weekly message on our journey.

Ash Wednesday, 2/18 @ Ono Church

Pastor Jim Chan An

"I am the resurrection and the life"

John 11:25

Wednesday, 2/25 @ Fredericksburg Church

Pastor Robb Faller

"I am the Good Shepherd"

John 10:11

Wednesday, 3/4 @ Emmanuel

Pastor Brian Rhea

"I am the Bread of life"

John 6:35

Wednesday, 3/11 @ Jonestown

Pastor Matt Whayland

"I am the way, truth, life"

John 14:6

Wednesday, 3/18 @ Bellegrove

Pastor Gail Rickard

"I am the light of the world"

John 8:12

Wednesday, 3/25 @ Trinity Lickdale

Pastor Tom Robinson

"I am the door"

John 10:8

7pm each week

