

CORNERSTONE



DECEMBER 4, 2024

NO.73



**HE IS OUR GOD
WE ARE HIS PEOPLE**

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RON'S REFLECTIONS

The theme of the first Sunday of Advent is "HOPE" As we think about this hope, we are reminded that we need a hero in our lives and this hero is the promised Savior, Jesus Christ.

You see, each of us live out a micro story of the macro story of humankind every day. We each awaken to a day that seems untouched by our own human failure. Our first thoughts are about what an ideal day before us will look like. However, sometimes even by our second thought, or just as soon as we rise from the bed, we realize that that ideal day is not going to happen. Maybe it is because physical pain is triggered by a worn-out joint, or maybe the heart ache of yesterday's failures comes crashing in. The day that began perfectly, has taken a losing turn and instantly we realize how badly we need a hero to save us from ourselves or from the situation in which we find ourselves at that moment.

Isaiah the prophet brought a tremendous message of hope to all nations when he spoke of a coming hero to a nation devastated through judgement for its own neglect and disobedience to God.

In Isaiah 11:2-3 Isaiah describes the hero as follows: "And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD." This description of the Spirit of God that was to be upon the coming Hero or Savior is one that shows the completeness of the Holy Spirit. Take a moment to meditate on those character traits!

To sum it up, Jesus Christ, when he laid aside his glory and took upon himself the form of a selfless, yet courageous man who was empowered by the Spirit of the Almighty God is this much needed hero. And this selfless Jesus laid his life down that you and I can experience a win due to all the promises of God.

This God designed void in each of our hearts is in search of a Hero, something or someone who can save the day for us. Sadly we, along with most of society continue to seek to fill that void with imperfect heroes just like ourselves or with the material possessions that are advertised as if they could complete us. We spend Thanksgiving focused on trying to be grateful for our material possessions, rather than the steadfast love of the Father shown to us through sending us our much-needed Hero in his Son, Jesus Christ!

Consider yourself along with the millions who tune into some kind professional sport every day, hoping to see the hero on the team emerge to save the day with a win. It feels so good when "our" team wins! Or think about the estimated one trillion that will be spent in the US this Christmas season to feel better about ourselves. We are desperately in need of a Hero. Repeatedly our days and years, our relationships and our dreams have not turned out as we hoped. Yet, for 6000 years the promise of a Messiah, God's hero for us, has been proclaimed by the ancients and by proclaimers of the gospel today. Are we listening?

Christ has come, he came with the Spirit and with power. He fulfilled the promises of Isaiah then and now. His promises are yes and amen! His invitation stands for us today by saying: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Christ is the Hero you are looking for. Come to him today. Don't spend another minute or Advent season without him! Love ya!

Pastor Ron



PRAYER REQUESTS



Please consider writing a card, sending a text, making a call, or visiting some of our church family members that are going through a rough time. There are cards available in the church office if you need some. If you need additional info, please contact Katie Harsh or Pastor Ron Embleton.

Mary Ellen Yoder- 850 Sunnyside St. SW, Hartville 44632; 330-904-2105

Eva Kuhns Potts- 1420 Smith-Kramer St. NE, Hartville 44632; 330-453-0748

Kathleen Patterson- 1976 Gulf St. NW, Uniontown 44632; 330-877-1606

Audrey Ritter- 11750 Klinger Ave, Alliance 44601 Altercare of Alliance Rm 406; 330-823-8263

Ruth DeLong- 4900 Massillon Rd. Apt. 19, North Canton 44720; 330-697-5323

Wayne & Marjorie Byler- 10911 Market St. W, Uniontown 44685; 330-412-4651

Denise Petersen- 1979 Andrews St. NE, Hartville 44632; 330-705-5381

Lynn Schrock- 2995 Raymond St. Uniontown 44685; 330-801-6054

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

This year's Bible Reading Plan give us a little more flexibility. Instead of 7 days, it is only 5, that way in case you miss a day you're not behind. We hope it helps you read through your Bible in a year! Happy reading!

Week 48

Zechariah 9-11; 1 John 5
Zechariah 12-14; Psalm 94; 2 John
Ezra 5-6; Psalm 95; 3 John
Esther 1-3; Psalm 139; Revelation 1
Esther 4-6; Revelation 2





This week at a glance

SCHEDULE

DEC 2 - 7

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00am: Fellowship over coffee

9:30am: Sunday School

10:30am: Worship Service & Baptism

WEEKLY

Tuesdays

6:30pm: Grief Recovery Class

Wednesdays

8:00am: Senior Men's Bible Study

Fridays

9:30am - Senior Community Group

FOR THE RECORD

OFFERING UPDATE

2024 Weekly Budget: \$5,340

Last Week: **\$3,575.05**

Offering Average: \$4,389.82

Attendance for Dec 1, 2024: 115

2024 Attendance Average: 126

WEDNESDAY

8:00am - Senior Men's Bible Study

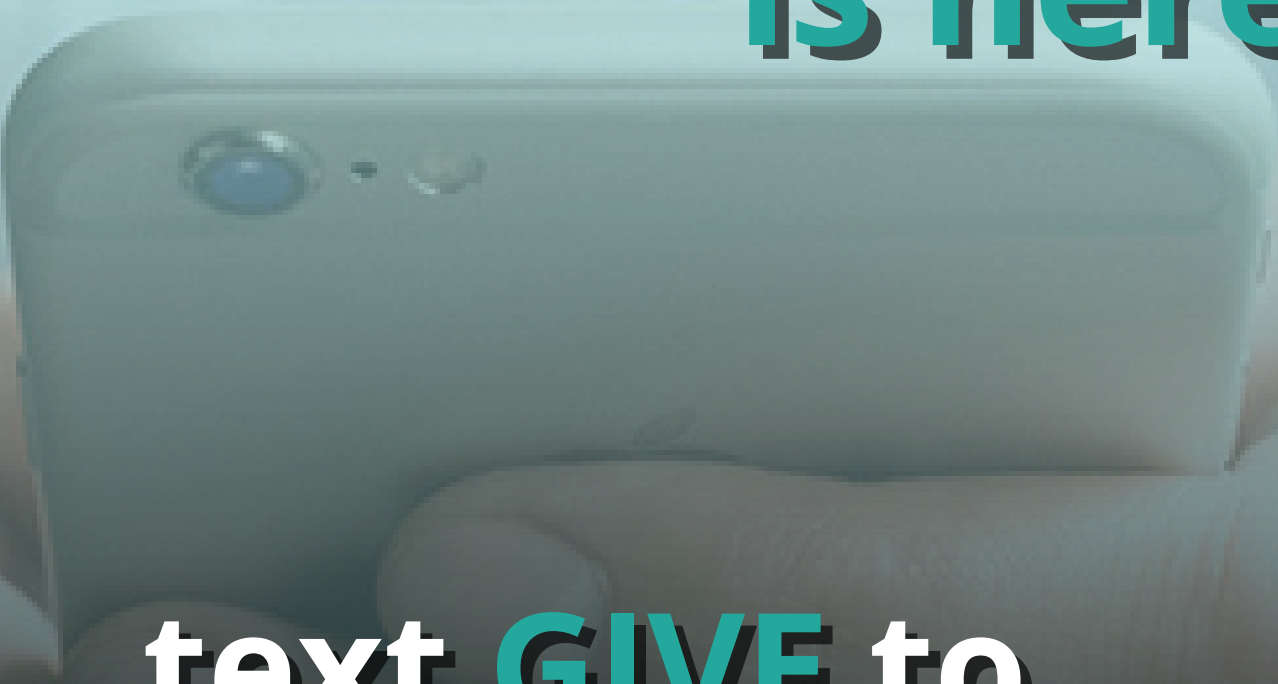
6:15pm: Prayer gathering

7:00pm: Family Night Bible Studies

Family Night details on Page 8

Knowing Jesus, Growing in Jesus, & Loving Others like Jesus

TEXT TO GIVE
is here.



text **GIVE** to
844-779-7619
and follow instructions

Let's give together, so we can advance the Gospel together



BAPTISM SUNDAY

THIS WEEK DEC 8th

10:30am

**Join us & bring a friend to
hear what God has done**

SERVING LEADERS

Children's Director: Nicole Miller

Nursery Director: Rachel Beachy

For the week of Dec 4 - Dec 11

Children's Church: Carolina Venegas & Charlotte Reidl

Nursery: Yadira Miller & Xeni Madderom

Bread: Jerry W. Miller

Worship Leader: Jacob Coblentz

Dinner Coordinators: Brian & Christie Johnson



For the week of Dec 12 - Dec 18

Children's Church: Nicole Miller, Yadira Miller, & Sarah Byler

Nursery: Chelsea Breda & Alexa Overholt

Bread: Kevin Beachy

Worship Leader: Mike King

Dinner Coordinators: Lee & Esther Kurtzman

If you'd like to serve in one of these ministries please see the serving leader of the ministry or Katie Harsh.

Happy Birthday

5 JOEL VENEGAS

6 ALLISON SCHLONEGER

7 RICHARD MATTER

8 MIKE KING

9 LINDA YODER

10 DINA BEACHY

CAN YOU HELP US LOAD OUR GIVING TREE?

We aim to bless those in our community who are facing challenges this holiday season by providing them with gifts.

From now until December 15th, we are gathering gift cards for our Giving Tree.

These gift cards can be for any amount and from any store. Please drop them off at the church office or place them on the tree located on the stage.

COMMUNITY LIFE GROUPS

DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES

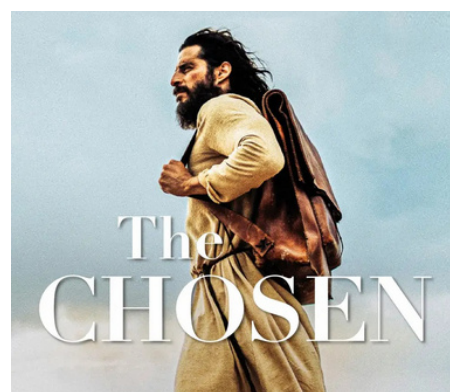
Jason & Chelsea Breda's

Join us in **Apologetic Potluck!** Bring a snack or side dish for after church service to share as we embark in a 12-week course that teaches you how to combat the 7 most common objections to Christianity. Join us the **1st & 3rd Sundays every month @ the church from 12:30PM - 2PM**. All ages welcome!



Brian & Christie Johnson's

Meeting **every other Tuesday** we are currently watching and discussing the 3rd Season of the Chosen. This group meets **at Brian & Christie's home: 336 King Church Ave, Hartville Ohio 44632 at 6pm**. Pastor Ron leads this group. We would love to have you join us!



Clay Akins'

Are you a young adult looking for a small group to join? You are welcome here! This group is connecting **every other Friday @ Clay's house (8632 Wedgewood Ave North Canton 44720) @ 7PM**.



INTERESTED IN JOINING?
CONTACT PASTOR RON OR KATIE HARSH
330-877-1250 | 330-685-2689

WEDNESDAYS.

FAMILY NIGHT | 7-8:30PM

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP

Our youth group ranges from 6th grade through 12th grade. They are led by our wonderful youth leaders, Ivan & Carolina Venegas. Each week has the potential for God to reveal new things to the kids as they read their Bibles together. They are currently going through a series on apologetics. Great opportunity to bring a friend!



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Come join a wonderful group of men of all ages where we discuss how to interpret the Bible (hermeneutics). We also discuss what the Bible has to say of things going on in the world and our lives, pray and worship. Jason Breda and Pastor Ron lead this group and are working through the book of Romans.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



We are studying through the book of Romans for the rest of the year. We are learning so many good and practical truths and how to apply these wonderful truths to our everyday lives. Pastor Ron's wife, Wanda, leads this group wonderfully. Woman of all ages are welcome. We pray for each other and share our hearts with one another.

DISCIPLESHIP

focused.



**"THE GREAT COMMISSION IS NOT AN OPTION TO BE CONSIDERED;
IT IS A COMMAND TO BE OBEYED."
- HUDSON TAYLOR**

When Jesus sent His disciples out to preach, He prepared them not only for success but also for rejection. Matthew 10:14 reminds us that rejection is part of the journey of sharing the Gospel. Jesus' instruction to "shake the dust off your feet" is both a practical and symbolic gesture, teaching us to trust God with the results and remain faithful.

In Matthew 10, Jesus sends out His disciples to preach, heal, and proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is near. The disciples were instructed to rely on God for provision and focus on their mission without fear. What does it mean to be faithful in sharing the Gospel, even when it's not well-received?

Jesus acknowledged that not everyone would accept their message. Rejection of the Gospel is not a rejection of you personally but of Jesus and His message. How should we respond when people refuse to listen or dismiss the message of Christ? Think about this.

In biblical times, shaking off the dust was a symbolic act indicating a separation from those who rejected God's message. It is not a sign of anger but a declaration that you've done your part, and the rest is between them and God. Our responsibility is obedience, not outcomes. Even when faced with rejection, trust that God is working. Some plant, some water, but God gives the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6-7).

Ask God to strengthen your heart when faced with rejection and to give you wisdom in sharing the Gospel. Success in God's kingdom isn't measured by numbers but by obedience. Focus on faithfulness and to be on mission for Him.

- Jason Breda

PARABLES OF JESUS

LAST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

adult & youth study



At Cornerstone, we emphasize discipleship based on Titus chapter 2, where older members mentor the younger generation. On the last Wednesday of each month, youth join adult Bible studies to explore Jesus' parables through collaborative learning. Upcoming meetings are:

**DECEMBER 18:
PARABLE OF THE TWO
DEBTORS**

LED BY PASTOR RON

CORINTHIANS

TRUE SPIRITUALITY

SERMON SERIES BEGINS JANUARY 2025

REIGNITE YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH THROUGH 1 CORINTHIANS!

THIS SERMON SERIES FOCUSES ON GROWING IN FAITH, UNITY, AND HOLINESS, WHILE ALSO ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN OUR CULTURE SIMILAR TO THOSE FACED BY THE CORINTHIANS.

1. **ADDRESSING REAL-LIFE CHURCH ISSUES:** PAUL'S WISDOM OFFERS SOLUTIONS TO DISUNITY AND MORAL CONFUSION, HELPING US BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY.
2. **RECLAIMING THE CENTRALITY OF THE GOSPEL:** THE LETTER EMPHASIZES THE GOSPEL'S IMPORTANCE, REALIGNING OUR MISSION WITH MAKING DISCIPLES.
3. **LEARNING TO LIVE OUT IN LOVE:** PAUL'S DESCRIPTION OF LOVE IN 1 CORINTHIANS 13 CHALLENGES US TO EMBODY CHRIST-LIKE LOVE IN OUR INTERACTIONS.
4. **EMPOWERING SPIRITUAL GROWTH:** PAUL ENCOURAGES THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS, EMPOWERING MEMBERS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN MINISTRY.
5. **NAVIGATING CULTURAL PRESSURES WITH GRACE:** HELPS US MAINTAIN OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES IN A CHALLENGING CULTURE.
6. **BUILDING HOPE THROUGH THE RESURRECTION:** PAUL'S TEACHINGS ON THE RESURRECTION INSPIRES CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S PROMISES AND PERSEVERANCE IN FAITH.

STUDYING 1 CORINTHIANS CAN TRANSFORM US JUST AS IT DID THE CORINTHIANS, FOSTERING UNITY AND DEEPENING OUR FAITH. LET'S EMBARK ON THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER!



LADIES MAKE and BAKE DAY

Join us for a delightful crafting gathering on Saturday, December 14, starting at 10 AM, where creativity and community come together! Ladies are invited to enjoy a day of knitting, crocheting, and other exciting crafts. If you love baking, don't miss our cookie exchange at 1 PM — bring your favorite recipe and some delicious treats to share.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and mentorship, allowing you to connect with others and perhaps learn a new skill or two. Children are welcome to attend, though please note that daycare services will not be available. Feel free to stay for the entire day or drop in for the cookie exchange. We look forward to crafting and sharing cookies with you!



LADIES CHRISTMAS DINNER THIS FRIDAY!

DEC 6, DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

WE ANTICIPATE A FUN AND ENCOURAGING TIME OF FELLOWSHIP. WE'LL ALSO BE REVEALING THIS YEAR'S SECRET SISTER AND ASSIGNING A NEW ONE FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.

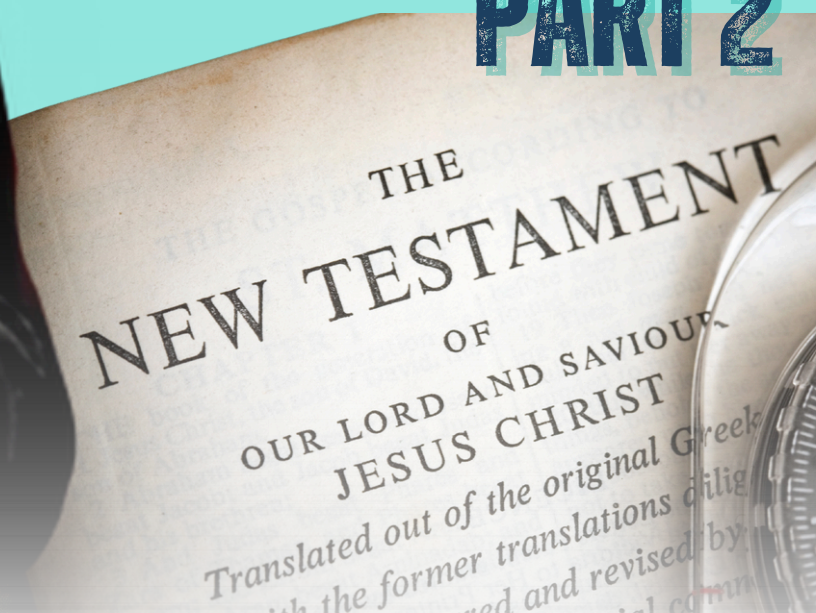
APOLOGETIC POTLUCK

ONLY 2 MORE LESSONS LEFT
SUNDAY, December 15
FROM 12:30-2PM

IS THE
NEW TESTAMENT
RELIABLE?
PART 2



WITH
FRANK TUREK



LOOK WHAT GOD HAS DONE!

LET US KNOW!



VIDEO TESTIMONIES

Sunday December 22 & 28 we will have Sara Ruth available to record video testimonials. We are looking for a total of 4 willing participants (can be couples or individuals) to share their testimony on camera after service. Let Pastor Ron or Jason know if you are interested. We have prepared questions for you. We want to allow you to have some time to prepare what you want to share. The videos will be professionally edited and will be available to share to our church & community to show what God has done in your life! This is a beautiful way to spread the Gospel to others! Please consider participating!