

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

# THE END MOTIVATES



## The End Motivates the Present

God is the Creator of all things. As the Creator, He is the rightful King and Ruler of His Creation. Throughout human history, Satan has been attempting to usurp God's authority and steal His glory. *And we are right in the middle of it*. The battle is a battle for our hearts, our affections, and our souls.

The Book of Revelation helps us to see these spiritual realities in light of the events of the past, present and future. Here we see that **what happens in**the end motivates our present actions.

God wins. Jesus will reign. Looking to that glorious future motivates our actions today.

In this Annual Report, you will catch glimpses of how God is working among this body of believers in profound ways. More are putting their faith in Christ. More are serving Him. More are sacrificing for Him. More are coming to see that our certain future motivates our uncertain present, and the End of human history motivates our present actions. Enjoy!



## A note from Pastor Nick



As we look back at the past year and look forward to the year ahead, we see God's hand on the ministry of Old North. There are a lot of things that we can do to encourage people in faithfulness, but only God can institute the type of life change that we see on a regular basis. One of the defining marks of this past year has been seen in our sermon series in the book of Revelation. It is that the **Triumph of Jesus Christ** motivates the faithfulness of His followers throughout all the seasons of life. During plenty and want, joy and pain, health and disease, cultural favor or cultural pressure, **the end motivates the present**.

There are a number of different emotions and postures that this truth evokes.

- Joy
- Hope
- Urgency
- · Steadfastness
- Longsuffering
- · Evangelistic Zeal
- · Hunger for God's Word
- · Dependence on God in Prayer
- · Love for each other and reliance on each other

The list goes on. In this cultural moment with all its complexities, with all of its temptations to love the world more than to love God, with all of the false narratives about personhood and gender and love, with all of the political upheaval, the fact the Jesus Christ will triumph grounds us and motivates us. The end motivates the present.

Friends, it is a great joy to be part of this church family during this time in history. I'm so thrilled to see how *God is using you* to glorify Himself. Let's keep growing, keep serving, keep giving, and keep sharing our faith. Let's continue to let the end motivate the present.

You are Loved,

Pastor Nick



### **ONC Leaders**



CHRIS DROMBETTA

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

"In Colossians 1, the apostle Paul describes the philosophy of his ministry team. "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ." (Col 1:28). This has been our same philosophy of ministry at Old North for many years. This year, however, strikes me as particularly fruitful and encouraging. God is at work among us! He is growing his people. I'd like to thank our amazing staff for their unwavering commitment to this same ideal. I'm also grateful to all of you, our congregation, for embracing this same commitment to growing through gospel proclamation. May it long continue and to God be the glory!"



RICK ENLOW
PASTOR OF CARE AND CONNECTION

"It was such a joy to serve our people this past year through our Care and Connection Ministry! We saw record numbers in our Get To Know and Membership Matters classes. Many of those folks came into membership. Our Sunday morning Welcome and Hospitality Teams continue to serve well as Greeters, Connection Center Workers, Ushers, Coffee Hospitality Team and Prayer Team. In the Care Ministry our Shut-in Ministry continues to serve our homebound members with visits, cards and gifts. Care Nights have been a big blessing to those who have attended GriefShare and DivorceCare. The Lord has been so faithful to our folks that have struggled through illnesses and hospital stays as well as many other challenges of life. "



JUSTIN KNIGHT
PASTOR OF ADULT MINISTRY

"Each year, more people are joining Adult Ministries to deepen their knowledge and dependence on God. In our Sunday school and Midweek classes, we've studied various books of the Old Testament that explain God's grand plan to redeem humanity through his anointed king. In Growth Groups, we're finishing up a study on the resurrection of Jesus, where we're learning what it means to be raised with Christ. We've also seen great growth in our OASIS ministry and Men's ministry. This summer, we will be running the Summer Institute during the month of July as we tackle many different tough topics of the Christian faith. It's amazing to see how God uses these different ministries to mature people in the faith."





MARTY SWEENEY
PASTOR OF MINISTRY TRAINING

"The book of Revelation has provided us with some of the best 'visions' of the great day when our faith becomes sight and Jesus is praised in person. That day is what all Christians eagerly desire. But as Jesus' disciple Peter wrote (in 2 Peter 3), we know that the day is being held off so that more and more people call upon the Lord for forgiveness and salvation. With that, we ought to be praying for and laboring in the work of the Lord so that many will be found in Christ to the praise of his name. This is what drives our ministry apprenticeship - what we call MAPs. Our work is to prayerfully proclaim the powerful word of God to all people and raise up as many as possible to do the same. Join us in not only praying for these men and women for this work but come along side them in the work itself so that God may be praised and people may be saved."



**REGGIE SEUTIA**PASTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

"The art of music and lyric is meant to point us to behold the One who truly satisfies the deepest longings of our heart and the source of true and lasting joy. Psalm 90:14 has encouraged me to aim for the right things. It says (and sings), 'Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.' I see God answering this prayer every Sunday in the life of our church as you all join your voices as one. Thank you to our music ministry team and thank you for being a singing church."



BRUCE CHIMANI
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULTS

"I am thankful that this year we saw several families from our church step up into international students ministry - and we have the opportunity to minister the gospel to students who comes from countries where the gospel is scarce! Added to that, we have been increasing evangelistic heat, and have seen students care about their friends who don't know the Lord. The Lord has been kind with all the opportunities we have - we had about 20 Bible reading groups each semester, and mostly student led. Praying He does more, and saves more this year!"



**KYLE HOFFSMITH**PASTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY

"God has, yet again, worked beyond what we could have imagined in students this year through the teaching of His Word at weekly gatherings and expanded efforts in school outreach and discipleship. Our high school ministry's theme this year is "Follow Jesus." We want students to orient their lives around Jesus and what he has called them to do. As we wrap up this school year, we anticipate lots of spiritual growth and fun this summer through Bible studies, events, and Student Life Camp."



JOSIAH RIOS
PASTOR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

"This year, Middle School Ministry has been marked by deepening discipleship and engaging outreach. Sunday mornings have provided students with a firm foundation in Scripture, as we studied Revelation 1-3 and the concept of the Royal Priesthood. On Wednesdays, we tackled real-life faith questions through studies on emotions, doubt, and the character of God. Engagement events like Nerf Wars and First Friday helped bring new students into our ministry, while our unique themed nights like "Name That Chicken Sandwich," and "Fiesta Olympics," created fun spaces for students to connect. We see many students growing in their hunger for God's Word through participating in Bible reading groups, memorizing passages, or completing memory challenges. We pray that God continues to shape these young hearts in the year to come!"



JOANNA MUNOZ KIDS MINISTRY DIRECTOR

"There's a short chorus we sometimes sing to the preschool group, "Oh, be careful little heart whom you trust!" This has been our theme this year - teaching the toddlers through fourth graders the importance of trusting our great God. In the preschool classes, the children have been introduced to the Bible and why we believe it. The elementary group has been instructed in the examples of people who believed God's promises because He was and is God. We hope that these simple truths will be trusted for a lifetime."





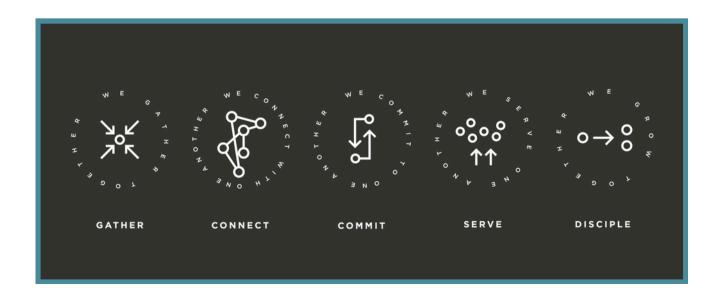
BETH HARRELL
WOMEN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR

"I am excited at the ways I see our women living out God's truth in their real lives. They are inviting non-Christians to Bible study and church. They are discipling people in their circles and they are being refined by their engagement with scripture. In the coming year, we will continue to spend time and resources on our fellowship gatherings which aim to make a big church feel small. In our women's' bible studies, we will look at the book of Acts and in the fall we will begin our eleventh year of the Good Food program. Im also looking forward to deploying some new leaders and launching a new ministry. It brings me joy to see how God is at work through our committed volunteer leaders and teachers."

# Discipleship Pathway

Discipleship is part of the core of our identity at Old North. We define discipleship as growth toward Christian maturity in conviction, character, and competency through a deepening relationship with God's word and God's people.

We've created a simple discipleship pathway that will help you make progress as a follower of Jesus. We invite you to both explore and participate in this pathway!



# Who We Are

Old North Church's vision is to be a Christ-centered, multi-generational community of disciple-making disciples. Our core values are *Biblical* preaching & teaching, intentional & personal discipleship, and healthy children & families.



An important part of Old North's DNA is training. We believe that many aspects of Christian growth are both caught and taught and that replication happens as the people of God are well trained for the work of God. We are intentional about raising up more Gospel workers for this region through our training programs.

It is our desire to help you grow in the most significant relationship you can have in this life, a relationship with Jesus Christ.



#### 2024/2025

# **Highlights**

Our congregation has experienced substantial numerical growth through the invitation, hospitality and efforts of our church family.

We've been compelled toward deeper faithfulness as we've considered the triumph of Jesus Christ in our series in the Book of Revelation.

Growth in Men's ministry through quarterly Men's Breakfast and Bible Reading Groups.

Adult ministry classes stimulated thinking and built up believers through different topics and books of the Old Testament.

**Regional Ministry to Pastors, Churches and Students** grew in impact through workshops and seminars.

Strengthened outreach to Canfield HS, MS, and elementary schools.

Finalized our Five Milestones for Family Ministry.

Grew in engagement with college students through the ministry of The Bible Talks at YSU and Old North as well as through Evangelism Teams, Fall Bible Conference, International Student Ministry, and Come and See.

Two new parking lots were built to meet the needs of the growing congregation.

The people of Old North have continued to grow in financial giving as we strive to be a culture of generosity. This year, Old North has given more money to Gospel work than ever before!

#### 2025/2026

## **Initiatives**



Our Elders will strive to complete our next 5-year Strategic Plan to guide us into the future.

Expand the number of **Deacons** to facilitate ministry and meet the needs of our growing church.

Continue to serve our church by expanding the number of Growth Groups that are peppered throughout the region for ongoing Christian fellowship.

Women's ministry will host a course to share the Gospel with non-Christian friends.

Continue to refine an "Evangelistic Funnel" to promote the regular habit of sharing the Gospel.

Increase training opportunities for the dozens of volunteers serving in Children's ministry.

We are prayerfully considering how to minister to more college students in their dormitories.

Engage, Encourage and Integrate the many new people into the life of the Old North Church family.

Strategically expand the ministry of A Better Word radio program to share faithful Bible teaching with more people.

Continue to encourage growth in generosity, recognizing that our resources come from the Lord and he calls us to use them for the expanse of His Kingdom.



# **ONC Elders**



**TODD DAVIS** Elder (2020-2026)



CLAY CAMPFIELD Elder (2025-2027)



**NICK GATZKE**Senior Pastor & Elder



**RICH MORROW** Vice Chairman (2025-2027)



JASON NORBO Elder\* (2022-2025)



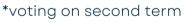
MIKE SHEVOCK Elder (2023-2026)



PAUL SLATER Elder\* (2022-2025)



**BEAU TIGER** Chairman (2023-2026)





### **Elder Candidates**





#### **JOHN LIGHTLY**

Has attended ONC: 29 years

**Family:** wife Ami (principle at Heartland Christian) and twin daughters Emily & MacKenzie (freshman at Cedarville University)

**Service:** choir, usher, term as a deacon, Awana leader, Sunday School teacher, Growth Group leader as well as a member of the Medical Team

Favorite verse: Phil 3:13-14

Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Where do you work or what type of industry do you work in?
Battalion Chief Youngstown Fire Deptartment



#### **MARK LEGER**

Has attended ONC: 25 years

**Family:** wife Linda, 2 children Zak & Caitlin (grown and married) with 4 grandkids between them

**Service:** trustee, youth and Men's Ministry leader, member of the Security Team, Growth Group leader, previous elder for a total of 13 years

Favorite verse: Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

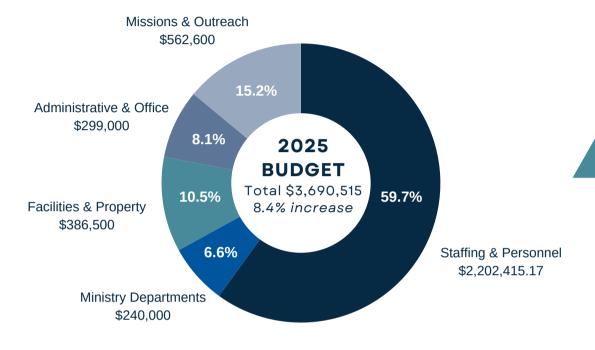
Where do you work or what type of industry do you work in? Western Reserve Mechanical - HVAC, plumbing and pipe processing for industrial and commercial companies



#### **Ballot Information**

Only members of Old North Church are able to vote. Ballots are available during the Annual Meeting on 5/4 at 6pm

# By the Numbers



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#### **2024 FINANCIAL NUMBERS**

- **Budget** \$3,403,124
- **General Fund Giving** \$3,600,000\*
- **General Fund Expenses** \$3,950,000\*
- **Active Giving Households** 759
- **Active Online Givers** 330
- New Givers 48
  - \*Projections include approximately \$650,000 in expenses for the new parking lots, which have been paid out of savings

#### **ATTENDANCE**

- Sunday Average -1725
- Midweek Average 645
- Christmas Eve 2663\*
- Easter 2,613\*

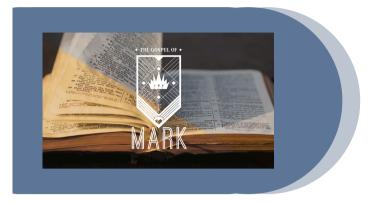
#### **CELEBRATIONS**

- Baptisms 40
- New Members 55
- Total Members 728
  - \*2024 numbers

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### **Sermon Series**





#### THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Jesus came to usher in the Kingdom of God and call all people to repent and believe and thus follow the King. We spent the first half of the year in this gospel growing in our understanding of the how God's Kingdom is completely different than the Kingdoms of the world and how we can live the life of Faith as members of His Kingdom

#### **GENESIS**

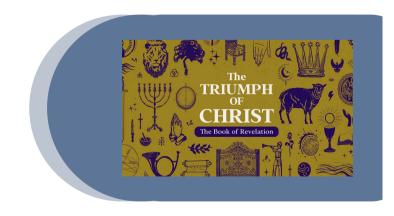
Early in the year our Associate Pastors finished their series on selected passages through the book of Genesis. With particular emphasis on the life of Joseph, we saw how the faithfulness of God to His chosen servant was displayed, and how Joseph continued to maintain fidelity through false charges and imprisonment and then through great power and blessing. This motivates us to live in the same manner.

#### THE PSALMS

Throughout the Summer we heard from different Psalms. Key themes were the fact that God turns our sorrow into Joy; there is great blessing in forgiveness; the need to cry to the Lord amid trouble because of His steadfast love; the Law of the Lord is perfect and revives our souls. These themes and their applications serve as helpful perspectives as we navigate our days on this Earth.

#### **REVELATION: THE TRIUMPH OF JESUS CHRIST**

Through a sequence of intense visions, God pulls back the veil of the cosmic battle with Satan and shows us the reality of this life as it relates to the collision of the spiritual and physical realms. The plan of the salvation and judgment of the world is wrought with vivid pictures, severe responses, emotional outpouring, heart-wrenching execution of justice, and overwhelming victory in the triumph of Jesus Christ.



In the midst of it all, we learn that God calls Christians to be faithful to Him all the way to the end. Persecution will come and we will be tempted to love the world more than to love God, but Jesus will triumph and reign supreme, and in this we can be confident. As a result, *The End motivates The Present*.

# **Volunteer Highlights**



#### **RON & LAURIE ANDERSON**

Ron and Laurie Anderson have been part of the Old North family for 25 years, and their quiet, steady presence has made a lasting impact. Over the years, they've served together in many areas—providing transportation for shut-ins on Sundays and for special events, singing in the choir, and helping with kitchen duties for our OASIS ministry. Each week, they also come in to restock the pew backs—ensuring everything is neat, replenished, and ready for worship. In the past, they've also served as Sunday morning greeters and volunteered with the high school youth group.

When asked about their service, Ron and Laurie say they find great joy in being able to serve others in these simple yet meaningful ways. They're grateful for the opportunity to give back and be part of what God is doing at Old North.



#### **RICH & LIZ HEAVENER**

For the past 16 years, Rich and Liz Heavener have called Old North home—and their love for the church family is reflected in the many ways they serve together. Whether leading a Growth Group, ushering on Sunday mornings, helping with communion, or singing in the choir, the Heaveners are deeply involved in the life of the church. Rich also shares his passion for teaching by leading apologetics classes through ONSI, speaking at youth Equipped Conferences, and teaching in Adult, High School, and Young Adult Sunday School classes.

They reference Acts 17:26, which reminds us that God has placed each of us in a specific time and place-even in what can feel like hostile enemy territory-to fulfill His purposes. The Heaveners find deep fulfillment in doing what God has gifted and called them to do. In that obedience, they've discovered true contentment. They also share that serving is a wonderful way to build friendships and grow in fellowship with their brothers and sisters in Christ while meeting the needs of the church family.

# **Opportunities to Serve**



#### We would love for you to serve!

If you have an interest in any of the following ministries please reach out to the contact below:

- Care, Connection & Shut-in Visitation Rick Enlow: renlow@oldnorthchurch.org
- Greeters & Hospitality Bill Padisak: zenbb7@yahoo.com
- Connection Center Sue Miller: tedandsuemiller@icloud.com
- Growth Group Leaders Justin Knight: jknight@oldnorthchurch.org
- Tech Team Bill Schotten: bschotten@oldnorthchurch.org
- Music Ministry Reggie Seutia: rseutia@oldnorthchurch.org
- Kids Ministry Joanna Munoz: jmunoz@oldnorthchurch.org
- Christmas Decorating Team Rebecca Halcomb: rhalcomb@oldnorthchurch.org
- Choir Members Darla Funk: choir@oldnorthchurch.org







# **Mission Highlights**





#### **3 TIMOTHY**

3 Timothy exists to equip and empower expositors around the globe. We do this because we believe that God's Word brings life and transformation. Transformational preaching leads to transformational living. 3 Timothy is based in Chicago and trains pastors in Russia, Ukraine. Poland, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and California. It is led by Pastor Sean Martin who is married to Jenn. They have 5 children.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Psalm 96:3





#### **RENEWAL FELLOWSHIP**

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA - Renewal Fellowship is a gospel-centered church (plant), planted in March 2021, in Edenvale, Johannesburg, South Africa. Their vision is to be a people seeking to extend the glory of God by making disciples through the gospel of Jesus Christ for the renewal of East Johannesburg. Renewal Fellowship seeks to reach young families, students, young professionals and the broader community in the East of Johannesburg, specifically the Edenvale, Greenstone and Modderfontein areas. They are a church committed to evangelism, discipleship and gospel-centered ministry.



#### **SEAN & ASHLEY REIMER**

ZAMBIA, AFRICA - Doctors Sean and Ashley Reimer and their three kids Ezekiel, Elijah and Eliana moved to Zambia in July 2024 to join the mission staff at Mukinge Hospital. Their vision is to help transform this small mission hospital into a vibrant training facility for surgical and medical training with a central focus on discipleship and mentoring. They plan to do this by starting a general surgery residency program through the Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS).

The Reimers are working hard to adjust with lots of building, renovating, language learning, and getting used to being in a new and strange place!



# Ministry Apprentice Program (MAPs)

The Ministry Apprenticeship Program at Old North (MAPs) is a vital aspect of support for the gospel both here and beyond Canfield. God wants us to participate in the raising up of gospel workers (Matt 9:37-38) for every sphere of life - pastors, campus workers, missionaries, and more.

By bringing young men and women in to be part of our church family, we want them to understand and experience the training DNA that we want all Christians to know and experience.

By investing in these young people, we are investing in the gospel work that we fervently want to foster everywhere in Canfield, the Mahoning Valley and indeed the whole world.



### **Current Apprentices**



**JAKE PITZER** 

MAPs Program Focus: Campus Ministry & Evangelism

Favorite Verse: 1 John 1:9
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



### **JOHN MORTON**

MAPs Program Focus:
Counseling

Favorite Verse: Colossians 1:19-20
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him, to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

# **Apprentice Update**





#### What's next?

"I am excited to be coming on staff as College & Young Adult Coordinator. I will also be starting seminary online through Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary this fall. Looking forward to continue working alongside Pastor Bruce and ministering to this specific age group."

**OLIVIA ELIAS** 



## **ONC Staff**



OLIVIA ELIAS Ministry Apprentice



JOHN MORTON Ministry Apprentice



JAKE PITZER Ministry Apprentice



MONICA CORLL Kids Ministry Coordinator



BETHANY HEARNE Student Ministry Coordinator



REBECCA HALCOMB Office Administrator



FRAN SHEVOCK Office Assistant



SOPHIA KOPER Office Assistant & Content Creator



KARLA
UEHLINGER
Finance Administrator

# **ONC Staff**





SCHOTTEN
Tehnical Ministry Director



MATT KUEBLER Production Assistant



ANTHONY JANDROKOVIC Sports Ministry



EMMA MCCOY Facilities Administrator



LIA LEVITSKI Custodian



FRED COULTER
Custodian



**KATHY EPP**Custodian



BOBBY WISE Custodian



GARY GONGAWARE Groundskeeper

# **Golf Outing**



\$11,500 was raised to help Renewal Fellowship Church in Johannesburg, South Africa!!!



**Equipped** 

YOUTH CONFERENCE



### **A Better Word**





Sunday at 11am on Sirius XM Family Talk (Channel 131)

Sunday at 12:30pm & weekdays at 10:00pm on WCRF Moody Radio Cleveland (103.3 FM)

www.abetterword.org

Hebrews 12:24-25 says,

"You have come...to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled **blood that speaks a better word** than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse him who is speaking."

As the Lord has continued to grow the impact of *A Better Word* across Ohio and beyond, this ministry faces a crossroads of expansion. We are currently in active conversation about what markets and radio networks *A Better Word* will air on in the year ahead. This is a complicated equation of *opportunity* met with the need for *financial resources* as our Sunday Broadcasts on WCRF and Sirius XM Family Talk 131 and our nightly broadcasts on WCRF share the messages currently reaching thousands. We are praying for God's leading as to the next steps. This year, our podcast audience grew by 2-2.5 times and has reached 6,000-8,000 downloads a month, which extends the reach even further.

**Please pray** for the right opportunities at the right time and that the Lord will provide the resources needed. If you would like to **financially partner** with A Better Word beyond your regular giving to our church, you can do so on our church website or ABetterWord.org.

Jesus gives us a Better Word than the culture around us. He gives us a Better Word than the philosophies of our time. He gives us a Better word than self-help inspiration.

God is using His Word to save more people and build up more Christians through radio and we are thrilled to be a part of this work.

Thanks for your support and prayers!



### **OLD NORTH CHURCH**

7105 Herbert Rd. Canfield, OH 44406



330.533.6848



oldnorthchurch.org





The vision of Old North Church is to be a Christ-centered, multigenerational community of disciple-making disciples.