

Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 57 Issue 5

May 2023

Join Us in Ministry this Spring!

Upcoming Events in May and June:

Cleveland Kids' Book Bank Mission Trips

Tuesday, May 23 and Tuesday, June 20, 1 pm - 3 pm, Carpool from NOUMC at 12:15 pm

Join us as we support Kids' Book Bank in their work to ensure all kids growing up in Greater Cleveland have books of their own to read and cherish. We will help to sort book donations; no lifting required. We will carpool from the church building at 12:15 pm. Contact Sarah Jackson to reserve a spot.

Prayerful Chair Yoga

Sundays, June 11, 18, and 25, 9:30 am, Prayer Room

Are you looking for a quiet time for reflection, words of wisdom, and small group prayer with movement and breathwork? Not sure but curious? Join Claudia Taller for Prayerful Chair Yoga on Sunday mornings, June 11, 18, and 25, at 9:30 am. The group will meet in the Prayer Room.

United Women in Faith's Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 13; Plants delivered at 9 am;

Pick up plant orders 12 pm - 2 pm

Don't forget to pick up your plant orders. They will be here on Saturday, May 13 and can be picked up between 12 pm and 2 pm. We would also appreciate your help unloading and sorting the orders (especially if you have more plant knowledge than the UWF president does). There will be some extras available that day and the next day, which is Mother's Day. The UWF thanks you for your support.

Lunch with Friends

*Meets on the third Thursday
of each month, 11:30 am*

For our May and June locations, read the church announcements or call Carole Bettinger.

UPCOMING
EVENTS



Worship Opportunities

Worship With Us In-Person and Online

Sundays at 10:30 am

Visit <http://www.noumc.org/worship-remote-worship-resources/> for bulletins and worship links.

Date	Greeter(s)	Liturgist	Usher(s)
May 7	Jean Scothon	Bev Hixon	Beth Cruz
May 14	Ellie and Jim Yager	Chris Byrns	Barb & Ron Clough
May 21	Sarah Jackson	Floyd Andrews	Judi Wagner
May 28	Claudia and Paul Taller	Randall Sheets	Sarah Jackson and Sydney Scothon



Day of Pentecost

Sunday, May 28

Pentecost is the fiftieth and final day of the Easter season. It marks the beginning of the Christian church and the proclamation of the Good News throughout the world. *You are invited to wear red* as we celebrate Pentecost and remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church.

Altar Flowers

You are invited to provide the altar flowers for our Sunday worship service. Flowers may be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the entryway, or contact the church office with a specific date. You can provide flowers from your garden, your own arrangement, or we can order an arrangement for you. Contact the church office to make any special flower or color requests and to provide the dedication for the bulletin.

An arrangement ordered through the church office costs \$30; *make checks payable to NOUMC and write altar flowers in the memo*. Payment can be made by putting your check in the offering plate on Sunday or by sending your check to the church office, attention Financial Secretary.

Support Camperships

Penny Sunday is May 21

Our May Penny Sunday collection will provide financial assistance to youth attending our United Methodist summer camps—Camp Aldersgate, Camp Asbury, and Camp Wanake. The summer camping experience provides youth with an opportunity to try new things, make new friends, and learn more about themselves and their relationship with God. They can learn and grow surrounded by the beauty that God has created.

Make checks payable to NOUMC and write May Penny Sunday or Camperships in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary.

Christian Education

Attention Grandparents!

Our Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team is doing a new, cool thing this summer!

We would like to invite you to bring your younger grandchildren to our new summer VBS sessions! This series will give you a chance to spend some fun, one-on-one time with your grandchildren. You and your grandchildren will hear a Bible story, engage in a craft or game, and enjoy a yummy snack. We are hoping to get grandparents with older grandchildren involved, too...as volunteers in our sessions during games, craft & snack time, etc. We are planning 3 sessions, beginning in the middle of June, and each session will last about 2 hours, one day a week.

If you would like to participate, or if you know of a grandparent who would like to participate with their grandchild, all are welcome! If you are interested, please see Wendy Cooper.



Opportunities to Give

Important Update on Collections

The Missions Ministry Team would like you to know that we've made some changes and will no longer be collecting some of the items we have in the past. *We're no longer going to be asking for eye glasses, calendars, pop can tabs, hats & mittens, or coupons.*

We will continue our more significant collections for Oxcart Pantry food items, Christmas stockings, Easter baskets, and school supplies.

If you wish to make donations on your own, information and addresses can be found online for the following:

Hats & mittens - City Mission/Laura's Home

Pop can tabs - Ronald McDonald House

Eye glasses - Lens Crafters

Coupons for the Military - Support Our Troops

Oxcart Pantry Collection

May collection item TBD; Please see upcoming announcements for more information

Please put all donations in the green Oxcart Pantry bin under the stairs in Fellowship Hall

We collected 65 cans of fruit, along with some miscellaneous items for Oxcart Pantry last month. We also put together 66 Easter baskets to add a little cheer and also to provide some needed personal items for the clients' holiday. A special thanks to the UWF for sorting, counting, shopping, and filling the baskets.

Because Georgia at Oxcart Pantry has been on jury duty this month, we have not learned what item(s) she wants for May. As soon as we find out, we'll let you know.

NOUMC Financial Snapshot

This month the Finance Committee is sharing a short new report on the church's finances. We'll update this condensed summary each month going forward, to provide regular transparency to the church's financial condition for all our members and friends. For those wanting more detail, we also plan to publish full financial statements every quarter, which you can get from the office.

We will mail directly to the congregation a more comprehensive financial picture in the coming weeks, in connection with our annual stewardship campaign. Please watch for it and read it closely and prayerfully. In the meantime, we thought you would appreciate seeing this snapshot.

Our modestly sized church has an outsized impact on our community thanks to the generous direct donations of our congregation. Locally that includes targeted missions like our monthly community meal, Laura's Home, the Oxcart Food Pantry, and many others. And we contribute meaningfully to global United Methodist missions through UMCOR and other shared ministries.

However, since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, we have been running a consistent deficit in our regular giving, which support our programming, our staff, and our building. That has been particularly acute in recent months, and the church leadership is watching it closely. You'll be hearing more soon about how we plan to address that deficit. In the meantime, if you have the means, please consider an increase to your regular giving to help us close this gap and ensure we can continue *Feeding our Community—Body, Mind, and Spirit*.

If you have questions, please contact our Treasurer, Andrew Walsh or any member of the Finance Committee.

	January thru March 2023		
	YTD	YTD	Variance
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	
<u><i>Regular Operations</i></u>			
Regular Giving	\$ 48,943	\$ 57,825	\$ (8,882)
Operating Expenses	66,859	65,077	1,782
Excess (Deficit)	<u>\$ (17,916)</u>	<u>\$ (7,252)</u>	<u>\$ (10,664)</u>
<u><i>Ministries funded through targeted donations (not included in operations)</i></u>			
Donations	\$ 5,010		
Disbursements	<u>\$ 5,640</u>		
<u><i>Cash Balance</i></u>			
Unrestricted (for operations)	\$ (3,860)		
Restricted (for targeted ministries)	36,424		
	<u>\$ 32,564</u>		
<u><i>Apportionments Payable</i></u>	<u>\$ 8,861</u>		



Church Council and Council on Ministries Meeting Minutes

To read the details of all business and issues discussed at the Church Council or Council on Ministries meetings, contact one of the following persons to obtain the link for direct access to the postings of meeting minutes: John Vas or Becky Riddlebaugh.

Office News

Welcome, Terri!

We are excited to welcome Terri Wilhelm, our new Administrative Assistant at NOUMC! An announcement was made with the hire of Terri before the beginning of worship on Palm Sunday, April 2. Terri was trained by Megan Howe from April 10-27.

Terri brings a great set of skills to the position with her past work experiences in church, business, and higher education settings. In particular, Terri has excellent organizational, communication, teaching, and creative problem-solving skills. Of special interest is that she owned and operated her own ice cream retail shop called "SCOOPS," and has worked in areas of membership recording-keeping, financial management, and music programming in several UMC churches. She views the position of Administrative Assistant as a "ministry" with the church. Her office hours will be on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm and she will work from home on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please welcome Terri with a phone call, friendly note, and in-person when you see her!

June Agape Deadline

May 15

Please email articles to nomuc@noumc.org mail them to the church, or put them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox outside the church office by May 15.

The Dover Players

The Dover Players Present: *The Boyfriend*

April 28; May 5, 6, 7, 13, 14

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm
and Sundays at 6 pm

Tickets are \$5 and can be reserved by contacting:
440-263-7046 or doverplayers@gmail.com

Dover Players is attempting a come-back. We encourage your support as we move forward!

Dover Players' productions are fund-raisers for the church. Half of the ticket price for church members and their guests are given to the church, as well as the concession profits. Dover Players is also a part of church outreach.

The Boyfriend is a "twistery," a mystery with a "twist." George O'Malley is a frustrated retired police detective confined to a wheelchair after being wounded on duty and forced to retire. He becomes increasingly suspicious of Tim, the boyfriend of his daughter. Tim is a highly intelligent, nice, and polite young man with no past. George uses all of his forensic skills as a detective and is unable to get any answers. The audience attempts to solve the mystery of the boyfriend. Is he a serial killer, the victim of a paranoid father's over-active imagination, or something else entirely? The audience member, filling out the Sleuthing Form, states his conclusions as to what, if anything, the boyfriend is hiding and his predictions as to the ending of the play in order to qualify for prizes.



Church Family News

1	Sara B.								
3	John G.								
4	Cameron R.								
4	Raymond S.								
9	Carole A.								
10	Susan W.								
10	Leslie D.								
12	Mike M.								
13	Carolyn O.								
13	Judi W.								
13	Alice W.	<h1>MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES</h1>							
14	Chris B.					22	Colin J.	10	Barb & Ron C.
14	Oriana B.					22	Zoe B.	14	Deb & Joel C.
15	Ed B.					23	Georgia A.	22	Liz & Greg L.
15	Anita B.					24	Josh W.	22	Janis & David J.
17	Lisa D.					25	Mark B.	27	Natalie & Josh W.
17	Guylene H.					26	Benjamin D.	28	Tammy & Mike M.
17	Susan L.					30	Shane M.	30	Kelly & Chris B.
21	Linda G.							31	Barbara & Frank M.

Prayer Concerns

First Responders
 Victims of natural disasters
 Those suffering from mental illness
 Those affected by gun violence
 Those who are homeless
 Those experiencing addiction
 Our condolences to the loved ones of Louise Anderson following her passing
 Our condolences to Don Pattison and family following the passing of his stepmother Marianne, lifted by Janis J.
 Norma, Pastor Hoyte's mother
 Anita B.

Barbara B.
 Ron W.
 Chris B.
 Cole, lifted by Greg and Liz L.
 Sally and Will S.
 Curtis, lifted by Reba Y.
 Karen, sister of Jeff R.
 Jane P.
 Barb & Ray S.
 Bob, Terry, Kathy, and Deb, lifted by Paul and Claudia T.
 Judy L.
 Nancy D.
 Josh O. and Guylene H.
 Judy, lifted by Brenda F.
 Lois D.

Keith A.
 Steve and David, lifted by Mary Ellen M.
 Selene, lifted by Carole A.



May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5 pm Bells (Choir Room) 6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	2 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	3 10 am UWF (Classroom 7) 8 pm AA (FH)	4 3 pm Celebration of Life for Louise Anderson (Sanctuary) 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	5 8 pm <i>The Boyfriend</i> (Sanctuary)	6 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 8 pm <i>The Boyfriend</i> (Sanctuary)
7 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6 pm <i>The Boyfriend</i> (Sanctuary)	8 5 pm Bells (Choir Room) 6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	9 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	10 7 pm Church Council (Classroom 7) 8 pm AA (FH)	11 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	12	13 8:30 am UMM Breakfast (Canary's) 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 12 pm - 2 pm Spring Plant Sale 8 pm <i>The Boyfriend</i> (Sanctuary)
14 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 6 pm <i>The Boyfriend</i> (Sanctuary)	15 <i>June Agape Deadline</i> 5 pm Bells (Choir Room) 6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	16 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm SPRC (Classroom 7) 7 pm Scouts (FH)	17 8 pm AA (FH)	18 11:30 am Lunch with Friends 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	19	20 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
21 <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	22 5 pm Bells (Choir Room) 6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	23 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 1 pm - 3 pm Kids' Book Bank 7 pm Scouts (FH)	24 8 pm AA (FH)	25 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Free Community Meal (FH) (St. Clarence)	26	27 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
28 <i>Pentecost</i> 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	29 Memorial Day/ Office Closed 8:30 pm AA (FH)	30 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	31 8 pm AA (FH)	<i>Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm</i> <i>On Monday and Wednesday, Terri works from home and will check her email and voicemail during office hours, 10 am - 2 pm</i>		

For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.noumc.org.

Please contact the church office (noumc@noumc.org or 440.779.6634)
to add your meeting or gathering, virtual or in-person, to the church calendar.

Agape Newsletter

North Olmsted United Methodist Church
4600 Dover Center Road
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070



Our Guiding Principles

- We appreciate and invest in our youth.
- We actively serve our neighbors in the North Olmsted community and the wider world.
- We provide varied opportunities for people to grow in their faith.
- We welcome and nurture a diverse congregation who become extended family.
- We foster lasting personal relationships, which are especially important in a digital world.

Free Community Meal (In-Person Only)

Thursday, May 25

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Menu: Chicken, Potato Salad, a Roll, and Dessert

St. Clarence is providing and serving the meal.

Please join us for dinner and fellowship!

The Free Community Meal is a mission of North Olmsted United Methodist Church with assistance from our friends at St. Richard and St. Clarence Catholic Churches and others in the community. All meals are funded by donations, and the dinners are prepared and served by volunteers. Menus may change because of donated food or food pricing. Additional volunteers are always welcome! If you would like more information, please contact us at 440-779-6634. *We are an accessible facility.*