

Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 57 Issue 6

June 2023



Join Us in Ministry this Spring!

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 breath work? 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.

Hot Dog Social

Saturday, June 3, 5 pm

6128 Christman Drive, North Olmsted

Would you like to eat hot dogs and play backyard games with your church family? Come to the Adult Fellowship Third Annual Hot Dog Social. Please bring a potluck dish to accompany the fresh-off-the-grill hot dogs. Sarah and Ron Jackson host this event at their home. RSVP to Sarah at 440-777-4169 or at seimarykay@hotmail.com. We'd love to see you there! If you are able to help move tables and chairs from NOUMC and back again after the picnic, please let Sarah know when you RSVP.

Lunch with Friends

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

For our June and July locations, read the church announcements or call Carole at 440-234-3611.



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)
Jun 4	Charlene & John Vas	John Vas	Beth Cruz
Jun 11	Barb Andrews	Bev Hixon	Barb & Ron Clough
Jun 18	Ellie & Jim Yager	Greg Lavelle	Judi Wagner
Jun 25	Jean Scothon	Michelle Wolter	Sarah Jackson & Sydney Scothon

Opportunities to Give

Oxcart Pantry Collection

June kicks off barbecue season! This month, we will collect picnic condiments! Please put all donations in the green Oxcart Pantry bin under the stairs in Fellowship Hall.

Mayo, Mustard, Ketchup, Pickles, Relish, BBQ Sauce, Steak Sauce, Worcestershire, Marinades, Miracle Whip, Ranch or Slaw Dressing



UWF News

Plant Sale

We are still working on getting a final total on the profit from the plant sale. Right now we think it is around \$2000 and are very happy. There is still time to help a little more. If you saw something you really liked when you picked up your order or have decided on a need for more plants, stop at Dean's, and when you check out just mention North Olmsted United Methodist Women, and the cashier will hit a button to give us some credit. This promotion goes on until June 15. We will have a final count by the end of June, hopefully. Once more we can't thank you enough for your support and help. We couldn't do it without you!

Mission Ministries

We are working on a solution to "Where's the green container?" and "Why is it so out-of-sight, I keep forgetting to bring in my food donation for the Oxcart Pantry?" problem. Right now, the container is under the stairs; certainly, not the best location, but the need does continue. Hang in there until we sort this out. If you can't remember what this month's item is, the Pantry can use any food item you pick up. Let's see if we can get our donations back up to the time when you were reminded, in a better way, that there are hungry people in North Olmsted.



Christian Education

News From Your Christian Education/Youth Ministry Team

Did you know that Christian Education is for everyone...not just for kids? Adults are also in need of guidance on how to live out our calling as children of God. In the coming months, be on the lookout for new educational opportunities that are specifically aimed at helping our Adult congregation to strengthen our faith through Bible studies, current issue focus sessions, and ministry opportunities. Your Christian Education/Youth Ministry Team invite you to join us as we branch out in this new way! Continue reading for our first two new opportunities!

"Seamless" Summer Adult 7 Week Bible Study

Maybe you went to Sunday School as a child and have favorite Bible stories from that time. Maybe you are new in your faith and reading scripture for the first time. Either way, you might be struggling to understand and you aren't sure how it all fits together. Are you unsure how the Bible relates to your life? Do you want to study your Bible, but you aren't sure where to start? The Bible is made up of 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over a 1600 year time period. It uses 7 different literary styles. It isn't in chronological order. It can seem disconnected and overwhelming! Join us as we take a broad overview of the Bible to discover how the 66 books of the Bible tell one seamless story, from Genesis to Revelation, about God and His great love for us! We will meet on Thursday mornings at 11AM, for about 2 hours each week, for 7 weeks, beginning on June 8th. The participation booklet cost is \$20. Please see Wendy or email her at sundayschool@noumc.org by May 22st if you have questions or would like to sign up.

Grandparent/Grandchild Vacation Bible School

Grandparents, you are invited to bring your younger grandchildren to our new summer VBS sessions! Spend some fun one-on-one time with your grandchildren as you hear a Bible story, engage in a craft or game, and enjoy a yummy snack together! Grandparents with older grandchildren are invited, too, to volunteer together in our sessions during games, craft & snack time! This is a hands-on experience, and grandparents should plan to stay the entire time. Our VBS Sessions will be held on June 21st, June 28th, and July 12th, from 10 AM - 12PM. If you would like to participate, or if you know of a grandparent who would like to participate with their grandchild, all are welcome! Also perfect for parents, aunts and uncles, or neighbors who would like to participate. If you are interested, please see Wendy, call her at 440-454-4153, or email her at sundayschool@noumc.org.



Teacher Recognition is Sunday, June 11, 2023

We will be recognizing the hard work and dedication of our Sunday School teachers during worship on June 11th. Please be sure to join us!

Thank you so very much to our talented and dedicated Sunday School teachers, Craig Mueller and Claudia Taller, who faithfully taught our Adult Sunday School class this year, and worked hard to offer compelling studies and wonderful fellowship time to our congregation. Thank you, Craig and Claudia! Your time and service is very much appreciated! We hope you both enjoy some well-deserved rest this summer!



NOUMC Financial Snapshot

Through the first four months of the year the church's regular giving is running close to the amount anticipated (year-to-date) in our annual budget, thanks to an increase in giving during April. Our expenses during the same period, however, were about \$3,500 over budget. This difference is primarily due to higher-than-expected utility bills and insurance costs, and some transition costs related to our change in administrative assistants.

As always, our congregation has been very active with targeted missions. Among the most notable of those in April were:

The church donated \$600 to the United Methodist Committee on Relief that was collected on UMCOR Sunday.

We raised \$140 for our Youth activities through the Easter Flower Sale.

We provided our regular monthly meal to the community on April 27.

We provided \$125 for a meal at Laura's Home.

Through our capital campaign, new toilets were purchased for the building and will be installed with the help of volunteers from one of the AA groups that meet here regularly; and

You all made a generous farewell gift to Megan Howe.

Thanks for your continued generosity and faithfulness in supporting the financial needs of NOUMC.

Financial Snapshot			
North Olmsted United Methodist Church			
For the year to date through April 30, 2023			
January thru April 2023			
	<i>YTD</i>	<i>YTD</i>	
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Variance</i>
<i>Regular Operations</i>			
Regular Giving	\$ 74,058	\$ 75,000	\$ (942)
Operating Expenses	90,276	86,769	3,507
Excess (Deficit)	\$ (16,218)	\$ (11,769)	\$ (4,449)
<i>Ministries funded through targeted donations (not included in operations)</i>			
Donations	\$ 7,379		
Disbursements	\$ 7,462		
<i>Cash Balance</i>			
Unrestricted (for operations)	\$ (629)		
Restricted (for targeted ministries)	36,699		
	\$ 36,070		
<i>Apportionments Payable</i>	\$ 11,815		



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 (jvas@cox.net) or Becky Riddlebaugh (jriddleb1@att.net).

Cabinet East Ohio Conference Re-District Proposal

Flexibility, Creativity, Courage”

Considering rapid changes in our church and culture, Bishop Tracy S. Malone convened a task group to look at current trends and consider how to best address these realities. The primary task of this group was to study these realities and recommend how many districts are needed in the East Ohio Conference to address these trends and to best position Conference laity and clergy to live into our shared vision and mission. Bishop Malone introduced the process for redistricting in February 2022. Per ¶ 415.4 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, the bishop and district superintendents will “form the districts, after the number of the same has been determined by vote of the Annual Conference.”

Following the action of the 2023 East Ohio Annual Conference to determine the number of districts Bishop Malone and the Cabinet will work to develop new boundary lines at their September meeting. The goal is for new districts to be in place on January 1, 2024.

The task group that studied the current district structure of the East Ohio Conference and provided a written recommendation to Bishop Malone and the Cabinet was comprised of a diverse group of clergy and laity from across the East Ohio Conference. The work of the task group was guided by these three values: flexibility, creativity, and courage.

Flexibility

The number of districts should provide as much flexibility as possible to the gifted lay and clergy leaders of the East Ohio Conference so that they best utilize both our people resources and our financial resources in moving one step closer to living into our shared vision and mission. Redistricting will provide flexibility in Conference and district structures and best position us to be good stewards of people’s time, gifts, and energy so that more financial resources will be available for ministry in the local church.

Creativity

When East Ohio Conference pastors, congregations, and faith communities have flexibility in how vital resources can be used it will free all to be more creative in ministry. One way this creativity has been modeled over the past year has been demonstrated in new models for superintendency. The hope is that these new models will better position districts to be able to more effectively resource and equip churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It is the local church that is the primary place for disciple making and each district is a key grassroots connection for resourcing this primary mission. With more resources at the grass roots level, churches can increase capacity to engage in ministry with their neighbors and communities.

Courage

The task group agreed that with the rapid changes in our church, and culture, it is time to make a bold and courageous change to adapt to these realities. This adaptive change is being proposed so that local churches will feel empowered to expand the transformational ministries that are impacting communities across the State of Ohio. Reducing the number of districts is a courageous way for the East Ohio Conference to be more flexible with resources and more creative missionally so that pastors, congregations, and faith communities can continue to live into our shared vision of reaching new people, younger people, and more diverse people.

Proposal

After receiving and reviewing the report from the task group, the East Ohio Conference Cabinet makes the proposal to the Annual Conference to reorganize around four districts. The Cabinet believes redistricting in this way will empower the East Ohio Conference to be more flexible, creative, and courageous in living into the principle that districts and conferences exist to support the local church. Following Annual Conference action, the next step per ¶ 415.4 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* is for the bishop and Cabinet to work together to draw the district boundaries.

More information will be forthcoming.

Church Family News

1	Amye & Ron Sabin
1	Jennifer Gaydos
3	Makena Chapman
4	Asher Bernard
4	Barb Andrews
5	Minna Bautista
5	Matias Gonzalez
7	Emily Jurecki
9	Michelle Idada
9	Chris & Kara Homola
11	Sydney Busser



JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

13	Walt Spalding	19	Matthew Gonska
14	Rebecca Weihrouch	22	Wesley Weihrouch
14	Vann Preiss	22	Alex Kieffer
14	Barb & Ray Schurr	25	Barb & Floyd Andrews
15	Barb & Kurt Bilas	27	Hoyte & Terri Wilhelm
17	Judi & Ron Wagner	27	John & Michelle Wolter
18	Mark & Virginia Steiger	29	Kara Mincik
18	Shawn Mincik	30	Amy Cooper



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
 Billy Ellis, brother of Sarah Jackson
 Marianne, lifted by Janis Jarvis
 Ryan & family, lifted by the Cloughs
 Anita Bridges
 Barbara Bilas
 Ron Wagner
 Chris Byrns



Cole, lifted by the Lavelles
 Curtis, lifted by Reba Yafanaro
 Jane Philpott
 Barb & Ray Schurr
 Bob, Terry, Kathy, and Deb, lifted by the Tallers
 Judy Lachvayder
 Nancy Driftmyer
 Josh O'Shaughnessy & Guylene Harold
 Judy, lifted by Brenda Forsberg
 Lois Dow
 Keith Alexander
 Steve and David, lifted by Mary Ellen McMillin
 Selene, lifted by Carole Andrews

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11 am Bible Study (C Café)	2	3 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 5 pm Hot Dog Social—Jackson's
4 Peace with Justice Sunday/Trinity Sunday 10:30 am Worship	5 8:30 pm AA (FH)	6 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 6:30 pm Christian Ed (CR7) 7 pm Scouts (FH)	7 10 am UWF (CR7) 8 pm AA (FH)	8 Annual Conference 11 am Bible Study (C Café)	9 Annual Conference	10 Annual Conference 8:30 am UMM Breakfast (Canary's) 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
11 9:30 am Prayerful Chair Yoga (PR) 10:30 am Worship Teacher Recognition	12 8:30 pm AA (FH)	13 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	14 8 pm AA (FH)	15 11 am Bible Study (C Café) 11:30 am Lunch with Friends July Agape Deadline	16	17 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
18 <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9:30 am Prayerful Chair Yoga (PR) 10:30 am Worship	19 8:30 pm AA (FH)	20 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 1 pm - 3 pm Kids' Book Bank 7 pm Scouts (FH)	21 10 am-12 pm VBS 8 pm AA (FH)	22 11 am Bible Study (C Café) 7 pm Worship Team (CR7)	23	24 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
25 9:30 am Prayerful Chair Yoga (PR) 10:30 am Worship	26 8:30 pm AA (FH)	27 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	28 10 am-12 pm VBS 7 pm Council on Ministries (CR7) 8 pm AA (FH)	29 11 am Bible Study (C Café) 4:30 pm-5:30 pm Free Community Meal (FH) St. Richard's	30	

Please contact the church office (office@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, June 29

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Menu: Sloppy Joes, Potato Salad, Sides and Dessert

St. Richard 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.*