

Announcements for Sunday, September 20, 2020

Support Oxcart Food Pantry

Today is Penny Sunday

As a compassionate congregation, we are aware of the financial distress families are currently facing. North Olmsted Oxcart Pantry provides food and household items to ease the economic burden of affected individuals.

The September Penny Sunday collection will go towards this worthy cause. It will be an open monetary gift with no designation so that Oxcart Pantry can apply it to wherever they see the most need. *Make checks payable to NOUMC and write September Penny Sunday in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Ed Brewster, Financial Secretary.*

East Ohio Annual Conference Worship and NOUMC Gathering Afterwards

Sunday, September 27, 10 am, on Zoom

Please note the change in time for worship next Sunday

This year's East Ohio Annual Conference has been rescheduled to this coming weekend and will be held via a Zoom webinar. On **Sunday, September 27**, North Olmsted United Methodist Church has the opportunity to worship with the rest of the East Ohio Conference in a **live-stream worship service at 10 am** (*please note the change in time.*) To join us, visit www.eocumc.com/eoac20/livestream. The congregation of NOUMC will have an opportunity to gather via Zoom immediately following the service for a time of fellowship, reflection, and prayer led by Pastor Hoyte. The link to do so will be provided before Sunday, September 27.

Please also know that you may view the livestream feed of all of the Annual Conference worship services and business sessions on the Conference website at www.eocumc.com/eoac20/livestream.

September Free Community Meal—Carry-Out Only

Thursday, September 24, 4:30 pm – 6 pm

The Community Meal will again be carry-out only this month. We will serve three-cheese chicken penne, mixed vegetables, peaches, and dessert. For more information, contact Barb Linton at blintonofnr@aol.com.

Adult Sunday School Class: *The Color of Compromise*

Sundays beginning September 20, 9:30 am – 10:15 am, on Zoom

Join us as we study via Zoom the DVD series, *The Color of Compromise*. In this series, Jemar Tisby discusses racism in the American Church. Email Craig Mueller cpa.mueller@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in joining us, and Craig will be sure to email you the course guide information and the Zoom link for each week.

Anti-racism Discussion Group

For the past 3 months a small group has been meeting, socially distanced in the church parking lot, to discuss the book *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo. We would like to share some of what we have learned and invite you to start your journey. This is not an easy journey and being uncomfortable along the way means you are learning.

We learned it's not our fault we have racist thoughts. We have been socialized to be racist. But if we are willing to listen and really hear what people of color are saying, we can start to understand how deeply imbedded racism is in our country. We have been granted privileges just because we were born with white skin. We become defensive if it is suggested that we enjoy white privilege or any of our thoughts or actions are racist. We exhibit white fragility.

Meaningful change must come from within each of us. It's a messy, lifelong process. Where to go from here is the big question. There are many books and videos available. In the upcoming weeks we will share with you some videos that we found not only eye opening but heart opening as well.

We welcome your feedback. You can email Beverly at hix456@aol.com or contact any member of the group.

Please Consider Teaching Sunday School This Year!

September is here, and decisions are currently being made about Sunday School classes. Please look for updates in upcoming bulletins and e-newsletters about our return to classes, whether online or in person. When we do return to Sunday School, either online or in person, we will need several volunteers to teach classes at all levels. Please consider teaching our children, youth, or adults this year. All classes welcome new teachers into their rotation! Contact Wendy at sundayschool@noumc.org if you are interested in teaching.

Support the Sunday School Mission Project: Africa University

Africa University is the first and only fully accredited institution of higher learning, established on the African continent by action of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. Bishop Tracy Malone has asked the East Ohio Conference to take on the challenge of raising \$1.5 million to build a new dorm for female students of Africa University. Many students must commute long distances from remote areas or choose to live in off-campus housing that could put female students in risky living situations. Bishop Malone's vision is for the EOC to build an on-campus dorm that will provide a safe, secure environment and a community of support so that female AU students can focus on their education without risking their lives.

This year, all fundraising done by our youth will be used to help meet Bishop Malone's goal of raising \$1.5 million dollars. We will accept any donation you are led to give. *Please make checks payable to NOUMC and write Africa University in the memo. Mail your donations to the church office, attention Wendy Cooper. Visit www.africau.edu or www.eocumc.com and click on Teach-Reach-Bless for more information.*

Upcoming Meetings

"Facing Covid Together": Tuesday, September 22, 7 pm, on Zoom

Technology Team: Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 pm, on Zoom