

## Announcements for Sunday, April 25, 2021

### Looking for Signs of Spring: Adult Fellowship Picnic and Walk

*Sunday, April 25, 12:30 pm, Lagoon Picnic Area\* of Rocky River Reservation*

You are welcome to join us today for a walk at Rocky River Reservation! The Cleveland Metroparks has provided Char Vas with wildflower information, and Claudia Taller is equipped with a two-page spread of wildflower descriptions and pictures from Lorain Metroparks. We should be able to spot lots of tiny flowers as we walk the paths. Bring your brown bag lunch, drink, and walking shoes. Feel free to head home after lunch if walking in the woods does not fit into your schedule. There is a large shelter and restrooms. Currently the Metroparks are not taking reservations for shelters.

DIRECTIONS: \*Lagoon Picnic Area - Columbia Rd.in North Olmsted to Cedar Point Rd. At the traffic light at the bottom of the hill (Valley Parkway), turn right. In .04 of a mile turn right into the Lagoon Picnic area (sign is on the left side of the road). Follow the road to the parking lot; the shelter is not visible from the Parkway.

FYI - You can download an app for your phone with maps of the Cleveland Metroparks. If you would like to help us identify flowers, there are many apps in the Play Store – PlantSnap, Picture This, etc. Read reviews and decide which one sounds best!

If you RSVP we will know to look for you, but showing up is just fine! To RSVP, contact Charlene at [charvas@cox.net](mailto:charvas@cox.net) or Claudia at [claudia.taller@yahoo.com](mailto:claudia.taller@yahoo.com).

### Racial Justice Group

*Wednesdays, 12 pm – 1 pm*

The Racial Justice Group is now meeting on Wednesdays on Zoom at lunchtime so that those at work might also attend. Now is an excellent time to join us!

***This Wednesday, April 28*** we will watch two videos from the East Ohio Conference Black Pastors Fellowship.

Videos can be found and viewed at <https://www.eocumc.com/standagainstracism/blackpastorsfellowship.html>

Two black pastors share, about 8 minutes each, followed by discussion. We'll view the videos of Rev. Dr. Anthony Everett, Former Pastor of University Circle UMC and Rev. David Whitt, Pastor of Twinsburg Faith UMC.

***May 5, 12, and 26*** (with a break on May 19)

We chose to watch the series from St Luke's UMC "We Cannot Walk Alone" in three 30-minute sessions, followed by discussion. A featured speaker is Garlinda Burton, interim chief executive for the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR). Find the YouTube video at: <https://www.stlukesccse.org/general-8>

For more information and the Zoom link, contact Janis at [janisjar@yahoo.com](mailto:janisjar@yahoo.com) or Pastor Hoyte at [hoytewilhelm@gmail.com](mailto:hoytewilhelm@gmail.com).

### April Free Community Meal—Carry-Out Only

*Thursday, April 29, 4:30 pm – 6 pm*

The Community Meal will again be carry-out only this month. We will serve ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and dessert. For more information, contact Barb Linton at [blintonofnr@aol.com](mailto:blintonofnr@aol.com).

## Honoring Our Graduates

We will be honoring our graduates during worship sometime in June. If you are a graduate or know of a member who is graduating from high school, college, technical school, or with an online degree, please give your information to Wendy Cooper by the end of May. She will need your name, school, degree, and what you will be doing next. Email Wendy at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org).

## Online Sunday School

Elementary and Middle School students, join us each week on our Friends of NOUMC Facebook page as we continue to study God's Word! Each week, a video Bible lesson is posted on the Facebook page, and links to activity sheets are posted in the comments. High School and Young Adults can click on a weekly devotion with questions to ponder. Lessons are posted by Saturday evening on our [Friends of NOUMC Facebook page](#).

## Need a Caring, Listening Presence?

NOUMC is blessed to have trained lay persons to provide a caring, listening presence in addition to the ministry of pastoral care provided by Pastor Hoyte. You and others may receive care from one of our trained Stephen Ministers by contacting Alice Walsh, Stephen Ministry Leader at [alice@baywalsh.com](mailto:alice@baywalsh.com) or Pastor Hoyte at [hoytewilhelm@gmail.com](mailto:hoytewilhelm@gmail.com).

## What Is Stephen Ministry?

*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ* (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called *Stephen Ministers*—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.



## What Is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

## Upcoming Meetings and Small Groups

Adult Sunday School, Sunday, April 25, 9:30 am, Zoom // Racial Justice Group, Wednesday, April 28, 12 pm, Zoom

### 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.

*Our Faithful Journey*

