

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 56 Issue 8

August 2022

## NORTH OLMSTED 77<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL AUGUST 25-28, 2022

*Celebrate Good Times*

### North Olmsted Homecoming Festival

*Thursday, August 25 – Sunday, August 28*

It has been a while, but we plan to have a church booth during the Homecoming Festival again this year. We are looking for people to VOLUNTEER and help us staff the booth for the weekend. It's a lot of fun, you meet a host of new people, and you get to enjoy all the benefits of the Homecoming Festival. This year the city plans to have their Annual Fireworks during Homecoming! On Thursday, August 25, from 6 pm - 8 pm they are also having a Car Show at the Park.

We will have sign up sheets at church. You can also sign up by contacting Sarah Jackson or Ron Clough.



### Community and Congregation Ice Cream Social & Game Night

*Friday, August 5, 6 pm - 8 pm, Church Lawn*

*RSVP by August 3*

All are welcome to join us on our front lawn as we enjoy a sweet treat, fun, and fellowship. We will provide ice cream sundaes with all the fixin's, and we will have some fun games to play and a time to catch up with each other and get to know our neighbors. Please email Wendy Cooper by August 3 to let us know if you will be joining us!

## Worship Opportunities

### Worship With Us In-Person and Online

*Sundays at 10:30 am*

*Masks continue to be optional.*

*However, please be sensitive to and respectful of those who choose to wear masks.*

*If you are ill or experiencing symptoms, please stay home and worship with us online.*

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

Date	Greeter(s)	Liturgist	Usher(s)
August 7	Jean Scothon	Alice Walsh	Judi Wagner & Guylene Harold
August 14	Sarah Jackson	John Wolter	Sarah Jackson & Sydney Scothon
August 21	Charlene & John Vas	Randall Sheets	Beth Cruz
August 28	Claudia & Paul Taller	Chris Byrns	Barb & Ron Clough

### Prayers for “All Invite” Workshop

Please keep in your prayers the church leaders who will gather for the “All Invite” Workshop led by Beth Ortiz, Director of Strategic Ministries with the East Ohio Conference of The UMC, on Wednesday, August 31 from 9 am to 11:30 am at the church. The workshop participants are Sarah Jackson, Craig Mueller, Claudia Taller, John Vas, Andy Walsh, and Pastor Hoyte.

A review and action-oriented discussion will take place based on the two books: *BLESS: 5 Everyday Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World* by Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson; and *Remembering Your Story, Revised Edition: Creating Your Own Spiritual Autobiography* by Richard Morgan.

Beth will also direct the participants in beginning to envision how we and others in the congregation can continue to live into the focused theme of “A Year of Invitation” with one of the primary “Priority Programs for 2022” being: “All NOUMC members commit to inviting at least one person to an event during 2022.”

Our primary action step with this program will be to: “Form a work team to develop and conduct an education session to help members develop best practices for invitation, and help members to get over any discomfort with inviting others.”

Beth will help us to learn more about how to listen, invite, and disciple people into an active faith relationship with God and Jesus Christ while potentially connecting them with the ministries and missions of the local church. A goal is to strive toward *making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world* consistent with the mission of The UMC. In addition, a goal is to experience fruit which is reflective of the local church's mission of: “Feeding the Community—Body, Mind, and Spirit.”

## Thank You

I wanted to thank you for the scholarship to go to Camp Wanake. I had an awesome time at camp. It was so much fun, and I'm hoping to go again next year.

Thank you, Phoebe Tidmore

## Christian Education and Youth



### S'mores and Service Opportunity

*Coming Late September/Early October*

All youth, our congregation, and our community are invited to join us for an evening of fun and service to others. We will gather around a bonfire and make s'mores as we help our neighbors in need. To attend, we are asking you to bring a packaged paper product (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.) which we will then donate to the North Olmsted Oxcart Food Pantry. We don't often think to donate paper products to the food pantry, but those types of items are needed too! Please also bring a long stick for roasting your marshmallows. Please see your weekly bulletins and our Facebook page for further information as we finalize our plans!

### Nursery Volunteers Needed

*Beginning Rally Day, September 11*

We want to offer the nursery for our families with small children, as well as any families who might visit our church. One thing that young families look for when choosing a church is a safe place for their children so they may be free to concentrate on worship without worry. In order to have our nursery available, we are in need of two volunteers to help out in the rooms each week. We will have a Sign Up Genius available so you can sign up easily online. You can choose specific days and how frequently you would like to volunteer, and if we have no children on your day, you are welcome to attend worship in the sanctuary. Contact Wendy Cooper to sign up or to ask questions.



## Opportunities to Give

### Support Laura's Home

*Penny Sunday is August 21*

August's Penny Sunday offering will go to help finance our mission to feed the women and children at Laura's Home. Every month a group from our church and our wonderful chef and food shopper feed from 75 to 100 people at Laura's Home for \$125. The money does not come from the church's general fund, but exists from donations.

You can donate to this cause any time by sending a check to the church. *Make checks payable to NOUMC and write August Penny Sunday or Laura's Home in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary. For those worshiping in person, a basket will be designated for Penny Sunday.*

## Opportunities to Serve and to Give



### Cleveland Kids' Book Bank Mission Trip

*Save the date: Tuesday, September 20, 1 pm - 3 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. Our next trip is in September; invite a friend! We have room for up to 20 people. No lifting required. We will carpool from the church building. Contact Janis Jarvis for more information or to reserve a spot. This trip is sponsored by the NOUMC Racial Justice Group.

### Oxcart Pantry Collection

*Collecting summer side dishes until August 28*

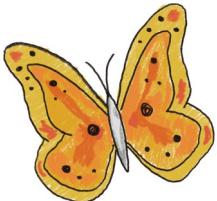
The 50 breakfast items we donated to Oxcart Pantry in June were well-received—thank you! In July, we took a break from collecting food to collect school supplies, which are an important collection item for families who need extra help preparing for the school year in North Olmsted. In August, we are again collecting food: summer side dishes. These include **canned corn, green beans, chick peas, baked beans, salsa, pasta, salad dressing, black beans, and beets**. Thanks for your help.

### NOUMC Main Garden Update

Have you noticed some changes in our main garden? You may have seen a grid of string, or maybe little people working in the garden? They are Junior Girl Scouts of Troop 71067 who meet at our Church on Sunday afternoons.

For the Bronze Award they are required to come up with something to help their community, plan, fund, and then do all the work. They have to each put in at least 20 hours on the project, although our Scouts will put in much more than 20 hours! They took on the gardens as a way to say “Thank You” for the meeting space at NOUMC!

The small sticks with butterflies indicate where they have planted a plant that attracts butterflies. Some plants are donated or purchased and some started as seeds. They have painted the Peace Pole and are awaiting the lettering to complete it. Look for other changes as the summer progresses! The girls will maintain the garden through the summer with a weeding and water schedule.



*This is a photo of the girls receiving their Bronze Award!  
Thank you to the girls (and parents)  
for all their hard work.*



## General Conference Updates

For developments concerning General Conference 2024 or for other matters regarding our connection with the denomination, please visit [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org).

Please note the larger connectional church's annual report as we pray, discern, and live in ministry with the commitments of sustaining and advancing our vitality in ministry as the local church of North Olmsted UMC.  
<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/the-united-methodist-church-releases-2021-state-of-the-church-report>

## Church Office and Covid Updates

### September Agape Deadline

*August 15*

Email articles and meeting dates to [noumc@noumc.org](mailto:noumc@noumc.org), mail them to the church, attention Megan Howe, or put them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox outside the church office by August 15.

#### Office Hours

*Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
10 am - 2 pm*

On Tuesday, Megan will work from home and will continue to check her email and voicemail during office hours (10 am - 2 pm).

The office will be closed the week of July 25. Please email urgent needs to Pastor Hoyte. Urgent emails and voicemails will be returned. All other concerns will be addressed when the office re-opens on August 1.

#### Adult Fellowship Ministry Updates

Due to the rise in Covid cases, we will hold off on activities until September. This includes the Murder Mystery Night planned for July. If you have any ideas for activities you would like to see us organize, please let me know. We welcome your input!

Charlene Vas, Adult Fellowship Ministry Team Chair

#### Lunch with Friends Update

Due to the rise in Covid cases, we won't meet in July or August.

#### Church Office:

440-779-6634

[noumc@noumc.org](mailto:noumc@noumc.org)

**Pastor:** Hoyte Wilhelm  
ext.16

**Christian Ed. & Youth Director:**  
ext.13

**Organist:** Marlene Dirksen

**Admin. Assistant:** Megan Howe  
ext.10

**Social Media:** Hanna Moore

**Music Director:** Gabriela Martinez

**Financial Secretary:** Ron Clough

## Church Family News

3	Barb B.
4	Mary B.
4	Barbara B.
4	Michael K.
6	Liam M.
8	Bill C.
11	Emily K.
14	Shawn D.
15	Jane H.
15	Bill R.
22	Craig M.
23	Brigid D.
26	Bob N.
29	CJ C.
31	Dave L.
31	Frank M.



3	Christine & Shawn M.
27	Marilyn & Bill R.

## Prayer Concerns

First Responders

Victims of natural disasters

Those suffering from mental illness

Those affected by gun violence

Those who are homeless

Our condolences to Reba Y. and  
Chris B. following the passing  
of their sister, Alta Faye W.

Sally C.

Jan, a community meal guest

Don, lifted by Liz L.

Judy K.

Nancy D.

Carol W.

Sally S.

Kathy, lifted by Claudia & Paul T.

Hannah, lifted by Louise A.

Sterling B.

Ron W.

Lois D.

Josh O.

Viola C.

Susan W.

Donald R.

Keith A.

Barbara B.

Carol, lifted by Sally & Wilbur S.

Sherry, lifted by Sally & Wilbur S.

Patty, lifted by Janis J.

Miriam, lifted by Janis J.

Mary, lifted by Susan W.

Monica, lifted by Susan W.

Donna, sister of Carol N.

Steve, son of

Mary Ellen McMillin

Selene, lifted by

Carole Andrews

Judy, lifted by Brenda Forsberg

Christopher Yontz, USAF

Matthew Fitzgerald, USAF

Lt. Col. Bill Gorsuch, USMC



# August 2022

	<b>1</b> 8:30 pm AA (FH)	<b>2</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved  7 pm Scouts (FH)	<b>3</b> 10 am UWF (Classroom 7)  7 pm Council on Ministries (Classroom 7)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6 pm - 8 pm Ice Cream Social (church lawn)	<b>6</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>7</b> 10:30 am Worship  2 pm - 4 pm Farewell & Thank You Celebration for Rev. Dr. Steve Bailey (RRUMC)  3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	<b>8</b>  12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom)  8:30 pm AA (FH)	<b>9</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved  7 pm SPRC (Classroom 7)  7 pm Scouts (FH)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30 am UMM Breakfast (Canary's)  10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
<b>14</b> 10:30 am Worship  3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	<b>15</b> <i>September Agape Deadline</i>  12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	<b>16</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved  7 pm Scouts (FH)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>21</b> Penny Sunday  10:30 am Worship  3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	<b>22</b>  12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom)  8:30 pm AA (FH)	<b>23</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved  7 pm Scouts (FH)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Free Community Meal (Carry-Out Only)  North Olmsted Homecoming	<b>26</b>  North Olmsted Homecoming	<b>27</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist  North Olmsted Homecoming
<b>28</b> 10:30 am Worship  3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)  North Olmsted Homecoming	<b>29</b>  12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom)  8:30 pm AA (FH)	<b>30</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved  7 pm Scouts (FH)	<b>31</b> 9 am - 11:30 am "All Invite" Workshop (FH)	<i>Office Hours:</i> <i>Monday, Wednesday, &amp; Thursday</i> <i>10 am - 2 pm</i>		

*For the most up-to-date calendar, visit [www.noumc.org](http://www.noumc.org).*

*Please contact the church office  
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 (Carry-Out Only)**

*Thursday, August 25*  
*4:30 pm - 5:30 pm*

**Carry-Out Menu:**

**pasta alfredo with chicken, green beans,  
fruit, and dessert**

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.*