

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 57 Issue 3

March 2023

## Support United Methodist Committee on Relief

*UMCOR Sunday is March 26*

The ministry of UMCOR is achieved exclusively through your generosity. UMCOR provides hope and safety for communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement, and climate change. The special offering on UMCOR Sunday underwrites UMCOR's "cost of doing business" making it possible for UMCOR to focus on responding to communities and individuals when they need immediate assistance. It allows UMCOR to preserve the promise that 100% of any donation to a specific UMCOR project or missionary will go towards that project and not administrative costs.

*Make checks payable to NOUMC and write **UMCOR Sunday** in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary.*



## Cleveland Kids' Book Bank Mission Trip

*Wednesday, April 5, 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.

## North Olmsted United Methodist Church is seeking a Part-time Administrative Assistant

16-20 hours/week. Provide administrative support for pastor, support staff, church leaders, and congregation; manage office functions including church communications, record keeping, and annual reports; model friendly, welcoming, and attentive interpersonal skills; offer resources for committees and teams in the implementation of ministries; oversee building use scheduling and maintenance in work with the Trustees. Applicants may receive a job description by contacting the church office at 440-779-6634. Submit a cover letter and resume by Thursday, March 16 to the attention of Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair, North Olmsted United Methodist Church, 4600 Dover Center Road, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070.

## 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)
<b>March 5</b>	Ellie & Jim Yager	Greg Lavelle	Sarah Jackson & Sydney Scothon
<b>March 12</b>	Sarah Jackson	John Vas	Beth Cruz
<b>March 19</b>	Charlene & John Vas	Greg Lavelle	Barb & Ron Clough
<b>March 26</b>	Claudia & Paul Taller	Joel Chermonte	Judi Wagner

## More Opportunities to Give and to Serve

### Easter Baskets for Oxcart Pantry

*Donate Items for Easter Baskets until Sunday, March 26*

*The Penny Sunday Offering on March 19 will go towards purchasing items for Easter Baskets*



We are again collecting items for Easter baskets this year. They will be distributed to the clients of Oxcart Pantry. Please use the list below as you shop; items can be placed in the box in Fellowship Hall. Your help is appreciated.

You can also let us do the shopping for you; March's Penny Sunday offering will go towards purchasing items for Easter Baskets. **Make checks payable to NOUMC and write Easter Baskets or March Penny Sunday in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary.** For those worshipping in person, an offering basket will be made available.

### Oxcart Pantry Easter Basket Shopping List

*Donations due by March 26*

*Please place donations in the Easter Basket container in Fellowship Hall*

- |                            |                         |                     |                        |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ◇ Easter baskets           | ◇ Shampoo               | ◇ Conditioner       | ◇ Hair items           |
| ◇ Wrapped candy            | ◇ Deodorant             | ◇ Toothpaste        | ◇ Small coloring books |
| ◇ Toothbrushes             | ◇ Soap                  | ◇ Skin cream/lotion | ◇ Puzzle books         |
| ◇ Lip balm                 | ◇ Combs                 | ◇ Razors            | ◇ Crayons              |
| ◇ Nail clippers/nail files | ◇ Small tools           | ◇ Pens and pencils  | ◇ Jewelry              |
| ◇ Toy cars & trucks        | ◇ Small stuffed animals | ◇ Small dolls       | ◇ Cosmetics            |

## Oxcart Pantry Collection

*Collecting canned fruit until March 26*

Thank you for your generosity so far this year. Even though there wasn't a big need for them in February due to the mild weather, many of your neighbors and some residents of Laura's Home were happy to receive 61 hats, mittens, and scarves. There were many who also appreciated the calendars you donated. We also provided 53 side dishes. This month the requested item is canned fruit.



### United Women in Faith's Spring Plant Sale

*Orders due by April 16; Pick up orders on May 13, 9 am - 3 pm*

The UWF's first event of the year is ready to go. There are several ways you can purchase plants and enjoy seeing them spring to life. Order forms are available in the Agape, online, and at the church and are due April 16. Gift cards can be purchased and picked up as well that day.

**Also, Shop Dean's Greenhouse and Mention NOUMW!**

*May 1 - June 15*

An added feature this year is shopping in-person at Dean's Greenhouse between May 1 and June 15. **You just mention NOUMW, and we will receive 30% of the sales.** That way you can get some plants Dean's doesn't offer in our sale or add more plants that you didn't purchase enough of in your original order, and you still give some money back to the UWF (UMW) to use for church needs. We appreciate your support.

## Racial Justice Group

Stand up for Islamophobia wherever you see it.

### Things That White People Can Do

*(to be anti-racist and intentional when interacting with others)*

*Offered by the Racial Justice Group of North Olmsted UMC*

The Racial Justice Group is currently offering "things that white people can do" in our Agape Newsletters and bulletin announcements. It is our hope that conversations regarding these thoughts will take place in our faith community and create opportunities for change that move people one-person-at-a time to become anti-racist and more sensitive and kind in treatment of our Black brothers and sisters.

No one should seek their own good, but the good of others (1 Corinthians 10:24).

"Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future, and renders the present inaccessible." —Maya Angelou, poet, Civil Rights activist

Source: 100 Ways White People Can Make Life Less Frustrating for People of Color [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ne95dm/how-to-be-a-white-ally-to-people-of-color](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ne95dm/how-to-be-a-white-ally-to-people-of-color)

Be grateful for the lesson when you're called out on racism; getting defensive won't help.

## Christian Education

### East Ohio Summer Camps: Camp Information Is Here!

#### *Register Now for Camp to Take Advantage of Early-Bird Savings*

If you know of a youth who would love to spend a week away at camp this summer, why not invite them to check out one of our beautiful area United Methodist summer camps? There are many different camps available; there is something to spark every interest. Information is now available. Please see Wendy Cooper or email her for more information.

Register by March 15 and your camper will receive a limited-edition 2023 Summer Camp t-shirt that is not available in the stores at Camp Aldersgate, Camp Asbury, or Camp Wanake AND a \$20 discount will be applied to their Summer Camp fee. Register by April 15 and your camper will receive a limited-edition 2023 Summer Camp t-shirt that is not available in the stores at Camp Aldersgate, Camp Asbury, or Camp Wanake. Camperships are available to ensure that all people have an opportunity to attend camp.



### Easter Flower Sale

*Orders due March 12*

Our Christian Education and Youth Ministry Team is still selling Easter Lilies, Hyacinths, Martha Washington Geraniums, and Tulips to decorate our altar on Easter Sunday. Proceeds will be used to fund future youth activities and events. Order forms are available in Fellowship Hall and online. Please fold your payment into the order form and place it into the purple box available in Fellowship Hall, send the form with your check to the church office, attention Wendy Cooper, or email your order to her.

### Adult Sunday School Lenten Study: *Sermon on the Mount*, by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine

*Sundays in Lent, 9 am, Prayer Room*

How is the follower of Jesus to understand the words of the Old Testament? How are those words relevant to the New Covenant he is establishing? What might the words of The Lord's Prayer have conveyed to his initial followers, and why is that historical information essential to the prayer two millennia later? In *Sermon on the Mount*, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine takes a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5-7, collectively known as Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Through Dr. Levine's engaging method of biblical interpretation, readers will come away with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context. All are welcome!

## Opportunities to Be in Fellowship and to Serve



### Join Us for Our Spring Cardmaking Day!

*Saturday, March 25, 10 am - 2 pm, Fellowship Hall;  
Sign up by March 19*

Sandra and Sharon have designed a selection of handmade cards for spring holidays including Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and graduation. They can also be easily adapted for birthdays, get well, and other occasions. Card kits cost \$2.00 each. Bring a snack to share and a double-sided tape runner (can be purchased at the event). If you can't make it that day, you can order a kit where all you have to do is assemble and mail. Please email or call Sharon for photos of the cards being offered and an order form.

Move past your white guilt.  
Guilt is an unproductive emotion. Don't sit there mired in woe, just be better.

Recognize that fighting racism isn't about you. It's not about your feelings; it's about liberating people of color from a world that tries to crush us at every turn.

### United Methodist Men Spaghetti Dinner (In-person and Carry-Out)

*Sunday, March 19, 11:45 am - 2 pm, Fellowship Hall*

UMM is hosting a spaghetti dinner, cafeteria-style. Carry-out will also be available for those who would like that option. The menu is spaghetti and sauce, salad, bread, and a piece of cake for dessert. Meatballs will also be available. Sign up in Fellowship Hall on Sundays before and after worship, email Ed Brewster, or contact the church office. The cost is \$15.



### Free Community Meal

*Thursday, March 30, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
Fellowship Hall*

A sign-up sheet for help with set-up, serving, and clean-up will be in Fellowship Hall in March. For more information, contact Barb Linton.

And remember: Being an ally is a verb, not a noun. You can't just magically be an ally to people of color because you say you're one; it's something that you must continually work on.

## Church Family News

1	Judy K.	5	Kirsten R.	19	Liam B.
1	Sally C.	5	Sharon W.	20	Barbara M.
1	Javier G.	6	Luma B.	20	Debra C.
2	Gwen H.	9	Nathan C.	21	Wendy C.
 <p><b>MARCH BIRTHDAYS &amp; ANNIVERSARIES</b></p>	12	De Niro B.	25	Marilyn R.	
	12	Nicole B.	30	Dick M.	
	17	Kris H.	31	Diane P.	
	17	Kim & Ken D.			
	27	Gabriela M. & Javier G.			
	28	Barb & Ed B.			

## 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 family of Shirley Crombie following her passing  
 Carole B.  
 Sally and Will S.  
 Louise A.  
 Curtis, lifted by Reba Y.  
 Greg, lifted by Sarah J.

Karen, sister of Jeff R.  
 David, lifted by Mary Ellen M.  
 Jane P.  
 Bob, lifted by Claudia & Paul T.  
 Terry, lifted by Claudia & Paul T.  
 Barb & Ray S.  
 Justin, lifted by Vann P.  
 Judy F.  
 Josh O. & Guylene H.  
 Judy, lifted by Brenda F.  
 Nancy D.  
 Ron W.  
 Lois D.

Keith A.  
 Barbara B.  
 Steve, son of Mary Ellen M.  
 Selene, lifted by Carole A.  
 Christopher Y., USAF  
 Matthew F., USAF  
 Lt. Col. Bill G., USMC



### April Agape Deadline

*March 15*

Please email articles to [noumc@noumc.org](mailto:noumc@noumc.org), mail them to the church, or put them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox outside the church office by March 15.

## March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Office Hours:</i> <i>Monday, Wednesday, &amp; Thursday</i> <i>10 am - 2 pm</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On Tuesday, Megan works from home</i> <i>and will check her email and voicemail</i> <i>during office hours, 10 am - 2 pm</i></p>			<p><b>1</b> 10 am UWF (Classroom 7)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p>
<p><b>5</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:45 am Missions Ministry Team (Classroom 7)</p>	<p><b>6</b> 5 pm Bells (Choir Room)</p> <p>6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p> <p>8:30 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 11 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p> <p>7 pm Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>7 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom)</p> <p>8 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7 pm Choir (Choir Room)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 8:30 am UMM Breakfast (Canary's)</p> <p>10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p>
<p><b>12</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2:30 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p>	<p><b>13</b> 5 pm Bells (Choir Room)</p> <p>6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8:30 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>14</b> 11 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p> <p>7 pm Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><i>April Agape Deadline</i></p> <p>7 pm Dover Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>11:30 am Lunch with Friends</p> <p>7 pm Choir (Choir Room)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p>
<p><b>19</b> <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:45 am - 2 pm UMM Spaghetti Dinner (FH)</p>	<p><b>20</b> 5 pm Bells (Choir Room)</p> <p>6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8:30 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>21</b> 11 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p> <p>7 pm Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>7 pm Dover Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>7 pm Choir (Choir Room)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>24</b> 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p>	<p><b>25</b> 10 am - 2 pm Stamp Social (FH)</p>
<p><b>26</b> <i>UMCOR Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2:30 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p>	<p><b>27</b> 5 pm Bells (Choir Room)</p> <p>6 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8:30 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 11 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved</p> <p>7 pm Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>7 pm Dover Players (Sanctuary)</p> <p>8 pm AA (FH)</p>	<p><b>30</b> 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Free Community Meal (FH)</p> <p>7 pm Choir (Choir Room)</p> <p>7 pm D. Players (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	

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

Please contact the church office ([noumc@noumc.org](mailto: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, March 30*

*4:30 pm - 5:30 pm*

*Fellowship Hall*

Menu: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Salad,  
Peaches, Dessert, and Beverages

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.*