

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"



A Publication of North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 51 Issue 5

June/July 2017

## Inside this issue:

News & Notes	2
Reverend's Remarks	3
Education	4
Outreach	5
United Methodist Women & Adult Council	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Prayer Concerns	8
Calendar	9
Community Meal	10



## Church Staff

Reverend Mark L. Steiger  
440-779-6634, ext. 16

Admin. Assistant: Sharon Werner  
440-779-6634, ext. 10

Christian Education: Wendy Cooper  
440-779-6634, ext. 13

Organist: Marlene Dirksen

Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez

Stephen Ministry: Janis Jarvis  
440-779-6634, ext. 12

Nursery Caregiver: Claire Taller

## Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

Worship begins at 10:30 am.

The United Methodist Men will provide  
a picnic lunch following the service.

The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs  
and other picnic goodies. The UMM will not be  
selling tickets for the picnic but will take up a  
free will offering at the event.

## News and Notes from NOUMC

### Bakers for Work Mission

The missionaries love homemade cookies for their lunches and snacks!



We are asking for donations of homemade cookies for Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, the day we leave for Buffalo and a week of work. (Please label if they contain eggs or nuts, to avoid allergic reactions) If you have any questions see Jean or Tammy.

**Thank you for your support of Youth Work Mission!**

### Yoga Classes to be rescheduled!

Those attending Yoga classes have decided that Sunday evening is not the best time to meet so classes have been cancelled until a new day and time is decided upon. Please watch for updates on the website or in the bulletin.



### UMCOR Cleaning Buckets Needed!!

The shelves are empty at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center



In May over 4,000 Cleaning Buckets were sent to flood victims in Missouri and Illinois. The shelves need to be restocked for the next major flooding. The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is an UMCOR Depot.

At East Ohio Annual Conference the MMDC truck will be ready to receive your buckets, bulk items, or checks (Payable to MMDC). The average cost of a flood bucket is \$65.00. The truck will be there Sunday and Monday, June 11 & 12.

**You may also give money through NOUMC**, just mark your check MMDC on the memo line, place it in the offering and we will forward it to MMDC through the conference. A complete list of needed items is available on the Outreach Bulletin Board.

**East Ohio Reconciling Ministries Network invites you to join us for a JUSTICE-SEEKING DAY AT LAKESIDE on Wednesday, June 14, during East Ohio Annual Conference.**



- East Ohio RMN Joyful Parade – Wed., June 14<sup>th</sup> (approx. 5:00 PM) The parade leaves from Lakeside UMC – join us as you exit Hoover Auditorium on our journey to the Banquet Tent next to Lakeside Hotel for an Open Table Service.
- East Ohio RMN Open Table Worship and Communion Service – Wed., June 14<sup>th</sup> in the Banquet Tent Next to Hotel Lakeside, when the Joyful Parade arrives (approx. 5:30 PM) All are invited to this service led by Bishop Sally Dyck, of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference. Following the service, pizza and beverages will be available during a time of fellowship.

**Come to Lakeside on June 14, spend the day, and enjoy the inclusive fellowship and Christian Love!**



### *Piano Dedication Concert & Reception*

Please join us on Sunday afternoon, June 25<sup>th</sup> as we dedicate the new piano given in memory of Fredrik L. Forsberg.

A reception will follow the concert.

## The Spirit is at Work...

**Rev. Mark Steiger**

I have often said that the greatest miracle of Christianity was not one of the works of Jesus – the healing of the blind or the lame, or the raising of Lazarus. The greatest miracle of Christianity was not even the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The greatest miracle of Christianity is the story of the Book of Acts. The greatest miracle of Christianity is that, in the midst of Roman persecution, under the threat of torture and death, the first century church not only survived but thrived. Over the first seventy years following Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, the church grew from a small handful of followers to several thousand; and it all began at Pentecost.

On the Pentecost following that first Easter, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. The Holy Spirit gave them the power – the words to say and the conviction, courage, and strength to tell the story of God's amazing love as personified in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Indeed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is the greatest news the world has ever known; but, it's through the power of the Holy Spirit and the work of those who received that power at Pentecost that we have the Good News today. Had it not been for the Spirit at Pentecost Christianity would have simply been a minor sect within Judaism which would have died with the death of Jesus and his followers.



The Good News is that the Spirit is still at work today. As we celebrate Pentecost 2017, we will celebrate confirmation. We will joyfully welcome three youth into full membership in our congregation. As I consider the world that our confirmands will mature into, it will be very different than ours. They will spend more time relating to people through technology – facebook, twitter,

instagram, and other things not yet envisioned. They will spend more time seeking meaningful involvement in social justice programs. They will probably be maintaining much busier schedules than we did at their age. And still the Spirit will be calling; and they will be looking for ways to respond to the call. We, the church, as we move into the decades ahead, must prayerfully seek ways to respond to the changes of culture which we are beginning to see.



I'm excited about Pentecost 2017. I'm excited about the confirmation of three youth; but, more than that, I'm excited because our church is moving forward. Led by the Holy Spirit, we are seeking to build, to grow, to spread the Good News of God's Amazing Love to all God's people of all ages at all times. On Pentecost almost 2100 years ago, the church had its beginnings. On Pentecost 2017, we are being called to continue some of our cherished traditions; but, we are also being called to do some new things to spread the Good News that the church might flourish in the twenty-first century.

I hope you will join me on Pentecost, June 4<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate confirmation and communion. Let us celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit; and let us pray for the guidance of that same Spirit as we continue the work those first disciples began twenty-one centuries ago.

See you in church.

**Rev. Mark**

## Christian Education

### THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The youth would like to thank all who purchased Monkey Bread and other goodies at our Mother's Day Bake Sale! The youth raised **\$175.00!** This money, along with all of the money they have raised over the course of the past school year, will be donated to the **Berea Animal Shelter**, as part of their annual Sunday School Mission Project. All in all, the youth raised a total of **\$1312.17!!!** The youth will be visiting the shelter on June 3rd to present this donation, along with all of the material donations they have been collecting, to **ARF...** in person. The kids will also get to tour the facility and pet some of the animals! **Thank you to all the members of our congregation who so generously supported our mission project this year, and who helped our youth be the hands and feet of Jesus and to follow God's commandment to care for the needs of His creation (Proverbs 12:10)!**



Thank you **SO VERY MUCH** to all of our talented and dedicated Sunday School teachers! You have all worked very hard this year to make our Sunday School program a success, and your time and service is very much appreciated! (Our teachers were honored during worship on May 28th.) Hope you all enjoy your summer!

### CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS!



Congratulations to **Derek, Amy, and Shane** who will confirm their commitment to Christ during worship on June 4th! May God bless you as you pledge your Faith in Him, and may He continually walk by your side as your Savior, Friend, and Guide. We will celebrate their confirmation with cake and punch after worship!

### Congratulations Graduates!



Congratulations to **Sara, Christine, Hanna and Sydney**. We will be recognizing our graduates during worship on June 11th, with a small reception afterward. We hope you can join us! **Blessings and best wishes to all of you from your NOUMC family!**

**VBS** - NOUMC will not be hosting VBS this year.

If you are looking for a VBS program for this summer, or if you would like to volunteer to help out with VBS, many of the churches in our immediate vicinity also hold programs. Some of these include: John Knox (*Maker Fun Factory*, June 19-23), Friends Evangelical (*Galactic Starveyors*, June 26-30), Westlake UMC (June 19-23), Fields UMC (July 17-21) and Olmsted Community Church (*Hero Central*, July 17-21).

### Agape Newsletter Deadlines

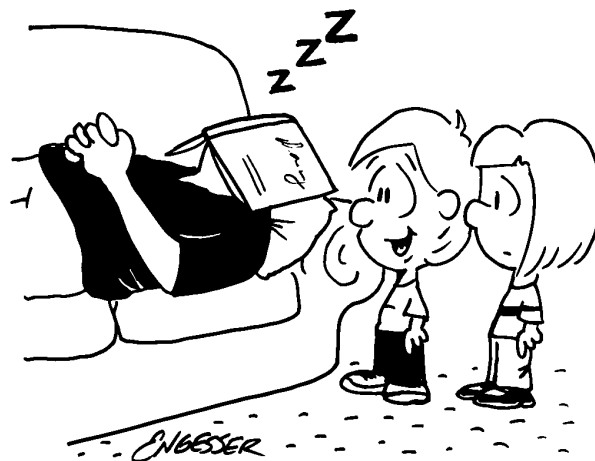
#### Combined Summer Issues

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

The July-August issue will cover the last half of July and all of August. Deadline is **Sunday, July 9th.**

### Join Our Telephone Message Chain!

On occasion important issues arise that the congregation should be made aware of immediately. Many people do not have e-mail or do not check it daily. If you would like to be added to the Phone Message chain, call the church office at 440-779-6634.



"He's using the devotional we gave him for Father's Day."



# Outreach Committee

## Oxcart Pantry Items

<u>Item</u>	<u>Due</u>
Soup	June 11
Canned Fruit	July 9
Vegetables	August 13

We "outreached" our May goal of 70 items and sent 111 cans of beans to the Oxcart pantry...great job! We are presently collecting soup, which is due June 11, followed by

canned fruit, due July 9 and vegetables due on August 13. If there is a sale on any of these items, you can pick them up early and leave them in the green cart in the front of the sanctuary. We'll hold any of them until they are due to be delivered.

## June Penny Sunday for Camperships

Our June Penny Sunday offering will provide financial assistance for youth attending one of our Methodist Camps. Camp Aldersgate, Camp Asbury and Camp Wanake provide activities like swimming, canoeing, sports, and arts and crafts where youth can develop positive social skills and form lasting friendships. East Ohio camps provide an opportunity for campers to explore God's creation in a fun and relaxed atmosphere and develop a sense of Christian values to carry back with them to their daily lives.



If there are any youth reading this, you might want to skip this paragraph. Our youth are not out of school for the summer yet, and we are asking for back-to-school items! The next Agape will not come until mid-July, and the supplies are needed by the pantry by the end of July. Many youth in North

Olmsted start school at a disadvantage because their parents cannot afford backpacks and supplies, so the Pantry, with our help, provide these items for as many as they can. Needed supplies include backpacks, pens, pencils, colored pen-

cils, markers, rulers, scissors, crayons, notebooks, lined paper, folders, and so on. The supplies usually go on sale early in July, so if you see a bargain, bring it in, and put it in the box in Fellowship Hall. **Our July Penny Sunday collection will go for these articles, as well.**

A few years ago we were appalled that one of the requested gifts by one of our Adopt-a-Families at Christmas was toilet paper. Thus was born our **Toilet Paper Ministry**. You haven't heard much about it since that early period, and that was because you were so generous that the fund became large enough to fund buying enough of that article to supply the whole month's need at the Pantry for a couple of years. Now that fund is empty, and we have not been able to send our monthly donation lately. If you would like to help with this need, you can leave a check or cash in the office or put it in the collection plate with "T.P. fund" in the memo line. Your North Olmsted neighbors appreciate all that you do.



## Chief Cooks Needed for Community Meal:

Thanks to those who have signed up to cook for our Community Meal! We still have some openings, for cooks and we always need help set-up, serving and clean-up. If you are willing to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet provided on the Outreach Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.



## Military Coupons

We are still collecting coupons for military families to use at the PX. These coupons help them stretch their budget and they greatly appreciate them! Please **clip** the coupons before bringing them in and place them in the envelope under the Outreach bulletin board (by the nursery). Thanks for your help with this mission project.



## United Methodist Women

Summertime and the living is easy. The UMW's last project before we reached that point was the plant sale. We hope you are enjoying your summertime plants. The parking lot looked festive the morning of the sale. Thanks to all who purchased plants and helped with the unloading and sorting. We made a profit of \$600.00 while the purchasers received a better price than if they were to go to Deans on their own.

We will continue to meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00, helping around the church or working on crafts for our fall sale, with a business meeting June 7th. We have planned a field trip on Wednesday, June 21 to *Miller Nature Preserve*. We will leave the church around 10:00 and have lunch there around 11:00. We would like to have a general idea of attendees so we can alert the kitchen there. Let Barb or Sharon know if you'd like to join us.



## Adult Council

Thanks to everyone who attended our Adult Council Potting Party at Dean's Greenhouse. We enjoyed some snacks, learned some new tricks for planting combination pots, and made a creation of our own.

Everyone is invited to attend Adult Council events. If you would like to plan an event, please talk to Claudia, Tammy, Sharon or any Adult Council member.



Here's the scoop...



**National Ice Cream Day Potluck**  
**Sunday, July 16**  
**After Worship**

Our next Adult Council sponsored event will be a potluck after worship on Sunday, July 16th celebrating *National Ice Cream Day*. Adult Council will provide the ice cream! Bring a dish to share and plan to stay for food, fun and fellowship!

**North Olmsted UMC**  
 4600 Dover Center Rd.  
 North Olmsted, Oh 44070  
 Phone 440-779-6634  
 Fax 440-779-0903



**Office Hours:** (closed on Mondays & Fridays)  
 Tuesday - Wed. 10 am - 2 pm  
 Thursdays - 10 to 5 pm  
**Christian Ed Office Hours:**  
 Mondays - 1 to 3 pm  
 Thursdays - Noon to 3 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>June 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:30 UMM at Canary's 9-10 am Fitness Class
<b>Sunday, June 4</b> <i>Pentecost</i> Confirmation 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship Noon - Ad Board Meeting	<b>5</b> 6-7 pm Long Range Plan- ning Team  8:30 AA	<b>6</b> 11am AA	<b>7</b> 10 am-UMW 5 pm Worship Committee 8:30 AA	<b>8</b> 11 am-2 pm St. Richards FF 5-7 pm Feedback Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9-10 am Fitness Class  10am-2pm Feedback Meeting
<b>Sunday, June 11</b> <i>Outdoor Worship</i> Graduate Recognition 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship & UMM Picnic	<b>12</b> 9am -2 pm Classroom rental 8:30 AA	<b>13</b> 9am -2 pm Classroom rental 11am AA	<b>14</b> 9am -2 pm Classroom rental 10 am-UMW	<b>15</b> 9am -2 pm Classroom rental	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9-10 am Fitness Class
Annual Conference						
<b>Sunday, June 18</b> <i>Father's Day</i> <i>Penny Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	<b>19</b> 8:30 AA	<b>20</b> 11am AA	<b>21</b> 10 am UMW Field Trip to Miller Nature Preserve	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9-10 am Fitness Class
Youth Work Mission Trip to Buffalo N.Y.						
<b>Sunday, June 25</b> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship 4 pm - Piano Dedication 5 pm - Reception	<b>26</b> 8:30 AA	<b>27</b> 11am AA 1:30 - 3 pm Alzheimer's Grp.	<b>28</b> 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	<b>29</b> 4:30-6 pm Community Meal (St. Clarence)	<b>30</b>	<b>July 1</b> 9-10 am Fitness Class
<b>Sunday, July 2</b> <i>Communion Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	<b>3</b> 8:30 AA	<b>4</b> 11am AA 	<b>5</b> 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30 UMM at Canary's 9-10 am Fitness Class
<b>Sunday, July 9</b> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	<b>10</b> 8:30 AA	<b>11</b> 11am AA	<b>12</b> 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9-10 am Fitness Class

**NORTH OLMSTED  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



4600 Dover Center Rd.  
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070



Agape Newsletter

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
North Olmsted, Ohio  
Permit No. 25

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY



# **Free Community Meal**

## **Thursday, June 29 , 2017**

### **Serving 4:30 to 6 pm**

Our friends from St. Clarence will be here and will be preparing and serving the meal. The menu includes Sloppy Joes, macaroni salad, bean salad and their famous cupcakes with sprinkles! Please join us!



**Held at North Olmsted United Methodist Church**  
**4600 Dover Center Rd., North Olmsted, Ohio 44070 440-779-6634**

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. Menu's 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 a handicap accessible facility*