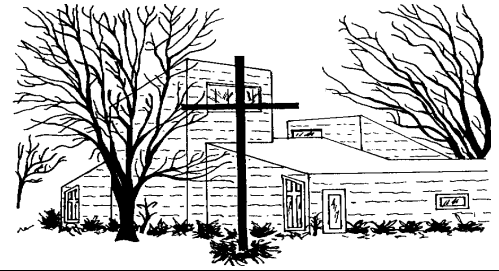


Agape

Greek for “Love without Limits”



A Publication of North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 51 Issue 6

July/August 2017

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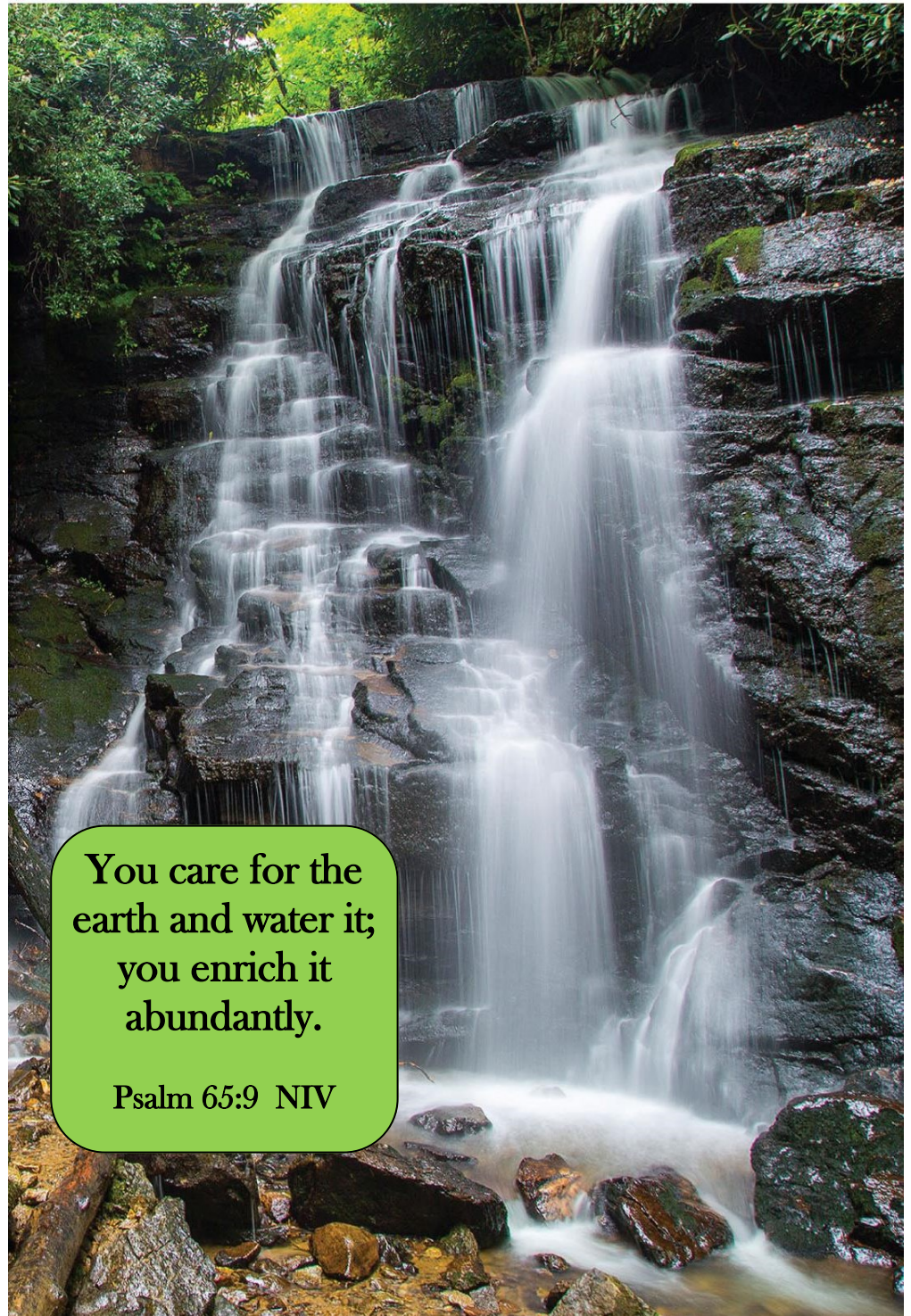
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**You care for the
earth and water it;
you enrich it
abundantly.**

Psalm 65:9 NIV

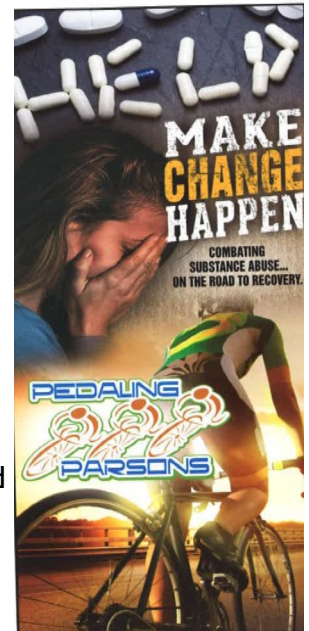
News and Notes from NOUMC



Summer outdoor yoga begins on Wednesday, July 12, at 6:30 PM on the lawn at Sandy Ridge Development's homeowners association, 26777 Sudbury Drive. From the church, turn left to go north on Dover Center, turn right onto Limpert, left onto Winton Park, and right onto Sudbury, and the driveway is partly-hidden halfway down the street on the right. We'll start with meditation, move into half an hour of movement, and end with restorative yoga and visualization. If it rains, we will meet on Thursday instead. Any donations go to United Methodist mission ministries.

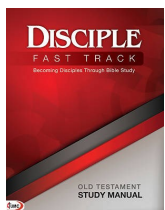
The Pedaling Parsons Ride to Combat Substance Abuse

Many of you know that Rev. Mark is an avid cyclist and a member of the Pedaling Parsons. The Pedaling Parsons is a group of mostly Methodist pastors and laypersons who take several long distance bike rides each year to raise awareness and funds for various mission projects. This year, the Pedaling Parsons are "teaming up" with OhioGuidestone to fight the rising challenges of opiate addiction and substance abuse.



OhioGuidestone provides a wrap around model to support victims of addiction and their families, while providing both inpatient and outpatient treatment to the addicted. Pedaling Parsons Brochures are by the calendar in the Administrative Hall. To support this important cause, simply write a check to NOUMC and put Pedaling Parsons in the memo line. (Note: All contributions will go directly to this cause. The cost of the rides are paid by the registration fees charged to the ride participants.) Thank you for your support.

Bible Study Planned for Fall...



Rev. Mark will be offering a twelve week Bible Study this fall – a study of the Old Testament. This will be a slightly abbreviated version of Disciple Bible Study with new material and new videos. Classes will be on Tuesday evenings beginning September 19th – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you have always wanted to know more about the Bible or if you just want to review your understanding, this class is for you. Cost is \$20 to cover the cost of the book and materials. Please sign up on the office door by September 3rd. (Note: A twelve week study of the New Testament will be offered in the Spring.)

Celebrating the Retirement of Rev. Don Kraps...

At the 2017 Annual Conference, we celebrated the retirement of Rev. Don Kraps. Rev. Kraps grew up in North Olmsted UMC; his parents were charter members. He entered ministry in 1986, first serving four years in the Iowa Conference followed by 27 years in East Ohio.

Perhaps, the best news is that we will be seeing more of Don. In retirement, United Methodist ministers are required to have an affiliation with a local church, and Don has decided to formally affiliate with NOUMC. While, he will frequently be attending other churches, greeting friends in ministry, doing pulpit fill, etc., he will also be worshiping here, and may, at times, also help with pastoral duties. I hope you will join me in welcoming Rev. Kraps to our church fellowship.



Rev. Mark

In Mission to the Mission...

Rev. Mark Steiger

It was just a few weeks ago that I returned from Buffalo, New York with 22 other youth and adults, after spending a week in mission to Seneca Street United Methodist Church. As you might imagine, every mission trip is different. Most commonly, we divided our crew into work teams of six or eight and spread out into the community to work on the homes of people who are unable physically or financially to have the work done any other way. But, on this trip, our entire group spent the week working in Seneca Street UMC. Seneca Street is in one of the poorest areas of Buffalo, and the church is a major mission outpost in the midst of that poverty. The church provides a weekly community meal and daily food distribution. They provide laundry facilities for the poor and homeless to do their laundry. They have a computer lab where people without computers can check their e-mail, apply for jobs, etc.; and they provide major spiritual support to the community.

When we arrived at the church, it looked as “run down” as the community. The carpeting on the stairs was thread-bare. The kitchen was desperately in need of cleaning and paint. The stage in fellowship hall was worn and full of junk. On the first floor, the chapel and adjacent multi-purpose room had 1950’s linoleum with tarpaper backing that seemingly had become a permanent part of floor. Upper rooms were in need of paint and cleaning. And so, we went to work. One team took the stage and the kitchen. Another team took the floors. A third team took the painting and cleaning of the computer lab. Members floated between teams as needs arose. On Friday morning, as work in the church was finishing up, some in the group went with the pastor to begin work on a community garden. (That work was cut short by a thunderstorm.) Others laid new carpeting on the stairs. On Friday evening our kitchen crew, with some help from of our youth, hosted a dinner for the community at the church – a special time of sharing and expressing the love of Christ.

In a week’s time we were able to give that church a major “face lift.” The Holy Spirit is alive at that church; and the people of Seneca Street know that they are important; they are loved; folks care about them. Still, as much as the work we do is important; even more important is the growth of our youth. Over the course of the week, our youth learn how truly blessed they are. They learn the joy of serving and sharing the love of Christ. For the week, they are also immersed in daily devotions, evening prayers, and prayer before meals – disciplines that we hope will become life-long habits. I hope you will come to our annual slide-show/ice cream social on Saturday, August 5th at 5:00 pm to learn more about our 2017 Work Mission Trip. I thank God for the work of Seneca Street UMC, for the opportunity to serve and for the wonderful people with whom I served during this very special week.

See you in church,

Rev. Mark



Christian Education

by Wendy Cooper (sundayschool@noumc.org)



On Saturday, June 3rd, several of our youth, adults and I visited the Berea Animal Shelter to drop off our donations and to take a tour of the facility. The shelter was very happy to receive a check in the amount of **\$1372.17** along with several boxes filled with dog and cat food, cat litter, toys, treats, chew bones, cleaning supplies, gift cards, towels and blankets, a swimming pool, and lots of bleach and paper towels! We were taken through the facility, where we were able to see and pet the many sweet dogs and cats who are waiting for their "forever" homes. (Somehow we all managed

to escape the facility without adopting an animal, although it was very hard not to!) We learned that the facility is only one of many places in this vicinity where over 80 dogs and 200 cats are housed while waiting to be adopted. Our tour guide told us that the shelter is in the process of raising money to build a new, larger and more functional facility in Columbia Station. They will be selling bricks that will have the donors name on them to help fund this new facility. If you are interested in donating further or in volunteering, please see the ARF website (bereaanimalrescue.com) for more information regarding this and all the ways you can support the shelter. Most importantly, if you are thinking of adding a new furbaby to your family, would you please consider adopting? There are so many sweet animals just waiting to be loved and cared for! We really enjoyed our visit to the shelter, and it was great to be able to present our donations in person and to see how thankful the people at the shelter were to receive our help! It was awesome to actually see all of our hard work come to fruition and make a difference! Thank you for supporting our mission project this year and for helping our youth be the hands and feet of Jesus and to care for God's creation!

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

Summer is flying by and Fall will be here before we know it....and that means that Sunday School will be starting up again! And THAT means that we are in need of volunteers to teach Sunday School! The Bible says that we are to pass on our faith to our children: "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up." Deuteronomy 6:6-7. **PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING OUR YOUTH!** Working with our youngest members and teaching them about Jesus is a joy, and sometimes we learn more from them than they learn from us! My aim is to have several volunteers who teach on a rotation basis as their schedule permits (rather than one teacher who teaches every week), and to find a curriculum that is engaging for the students but easy for the teacher to prepare. Please watch your weekly bulletins for further information and updates regarding our Sunday School program, and please see me if you have any interest in teaching...or even if you would just like to ask some questions!



Outreach Committee

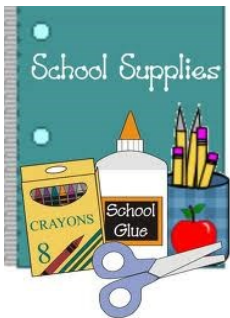
Barb Andrews & Sue Shellhouse Strichko

You continue to help us meet our quota for the **Oxcart Pantry**. The 102 cans of soup were especially well received. There was not a big supply of soup on the shelves when we got there. We're finishing up our canned fruit donations as this article is being written. Next on the agenda is canned vegetables, due August 13, and pasta sauce, due September 10. The need has not lessened, so all your donations are welcomed by your neighbors.

Oxcart Pantry Items

Canned Veggies	Due Aug. 13
Pasta Sauce	Due Sept. 10

The **School Supply** box in Fellowship Hall is starting to fill up. We will be collecting school supplies and backpacks until July 23. Since the needs extend from kindergarten to high school seniors, the needed supplies are quite varied. Some sales are happening already even though school doesn't start until the end of August. The people at the Oxcart Pantry have to do their shopping early to compile the backpacks and get them distributed. This month's Penny Sunday is also going toward this project, so if you'd rather let someone else do the shopping for you, that's the way to go. Unfortunately, no store has stepped forward to give the Pantry special deals, so if you can find a good bargain, pick it up.



- back packs
- spiral note books
- markers
- pens
- 3-ring binders
- pocket folders
- colored pencils
- rulers
- pencils
- glue or glue sticks
- erasers
- **Due by July 31.**

New Outreach Project:

Encouragement Packets for Teachers at OhioGuidestone's Stepstone Academy

We have a long history with OhioGuidestone (formerly Berea Children's Home). Founded in 1864, as the German Methodist Orphan Asylum, OhioGuidestone been a part of the Berea community, rooted in faith and a legacy of serving children and families for over 150 years. While their roots remain in Berea, today OhioGuidestone supports reach statewide, with 13 offices in seven counties. Rev. Mark serves on their Board of Directors. OhioGuidestone is leading the development and implementation of Stepstone Academy, a high performing charter school on Carnegie Ave. in Cleveland's Central Neighborhood. The mission is to focus on children who do not have access to the high-quality education they need and deserve.

We are seeking to provide support to the Teachers of Stepstone Academy by providing Encouragement Packets with personal items a teacher could use. Items for Teacher Encouragement Packs will include such things as gum, snacks, hand sanitizer, lotion, chap sticks, post it notes, good quality pens and gift cards as well as encouraging notes to the teachers. Starting July 23rd, a bulletin board located in Fellowship Hall will have gift tags for the Encouragement Packs. You may select a tag, purchase the item and then place the item in the box provided. The Encouragement Packets will be presented to the Teachers the week of September 11th

Our August Penny Sunday Collection will go to OhioGuidestone. Some of the collection will be used to purchase items still needed for the Encouragement Packets with the rest donated to OhioGuidestone.



Youth Work Mission

Thank you all for supporting our trip to Buffalo. The Seneca Street CDC (Community Development Corp) a 501(c)3 non-profit group was formed in 2009. Seneca Street UMC is 100 years old and is used daily for after school programs funded by the city of Buffalo. We had a very successful mission! When we arrived we were greeted with a worship service and dinner. We refinished a hardwood floor in their "winter chapel," which is the main room used for the after school program, refinished a small stage, painted a kitchen, painted a kindergarten room, and rolled aluminum roof coating on the flat roof. We replaced carpet on stairs and worked in the community garden. But, it wasn't all work all work and no play, we also visited Niagara Falls and had a great time at Beaver State Park. All of this work was done in time for their VBS to begin the Sunday after we left. We were greeted warmly with open hearts and with much generosity and appreciation!



**Work Mission
Ice Cream Social
& Slideshow
Saturday, August 5th
at 5:00 pm**

Come out and enjoy some ice cream on us, and stay to see the hard work our mission team did in Buffalo, New York.



Church Family News

July 18 Gabriela Martinez
 July 20 Wil Stacho
 July 22 Mary Lou Fitzgerald
 July 23 Amber Faught
 July 28 Jane Burnett
 Aug. 3 Barb Brewster
 Aug. 4 Barbara Bilas
 Aug. 4 Mary Best
 Aug. 4 Michael Kunz
 Aug. 6 Liam Mahoney
 Aug. 8 Bill Cooper
 Aug. 11 Emily Krueger
 Aug. 14 Shawn Dennis
 Aug. 15 Bill Ransom
 Aug. 15 Jane Hildebrand
 Aug. 22 Craig Mueller
 Aug. 23 Brigid Dennis
 Aug. 26 Bob Nupp
 Aug. 29 Peggy Cornell
 Aug. 31 Dave Linton
 Aug. 31 Frank Miotti
 Sept. 1 Sandi O'Dell
 Sept. 2 Jessica Plogger

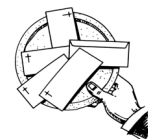


JULY & AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

We'd like to celebrate your special days with our church family!

If you have not seen your birthday or anniversary in the Agape or bulletin then we need your special dates! Please contact the office at 440-779-6634 or email office@noumc.org so we can update our records.

Worship Support



Date	Greeter	Reader	Usher	Acolyte
July 23	Mary Best & Barb Schultz	Joel Chermonte	Sarah Jackson	Amy Cooper
July 30		Janis Jarvis	Wayne Pullman	Derek Busser
Aug. 6	Shaded areas need volunteers!	Zoe Bridges	Peggy Cornell	Zoe Bridges
Aug. 13		Greg Lavelle	Jennifer & Michael Gaydos	Sydney Busser
Aug. 20		John Vas	David Jarvis	Shane Mincik
Aug. 27		Ken Delfing	Mike Moore	Amy Cooper
Sept. 3		Anita Bridges	Sarah Jackson	Derek Busser

JULY & AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



July 16 Leslie (Werner) & Neil Dilley
 July 26 Jennifer (Blosser) & Alex Kearney
 July 27 Georgia & Don Awig
 Aug. 3 Christine & Shawn Mincik
 Aug. 27 Marilyn & Bill Ransom
 Aug. 27 Mary (Bridges) & Justin Mugge



"Actually, sir, the rules *were* chiseled in stone."

Prayer Concerns

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✠ Stephen Ministers & Care Receivers | ✠ Jeff Ickes, friend of Delfings |
| ✠ First Responders | ✠ Mark Armbruster |
| ✠ Bradley, nephew of Peggy Cornell | ✠ Lois Leonard |
| ✠ Buford Wyrick & family | ✠ Kristin Floyd, brain cancer, friend of Peggy Cornell |
| ✠ Ray Schurr, recovering from knee replacement | ✠ Brian Rice |
| ✠ Mike Tinapple, brother of Sharon Werner | ✠ Doris Bridges |
| ✠ Calvin Yeager, N. O. teen fighting cancer | ✠ Linda Powell |
| ✠ Paul Taller | ✠ Steven, grandson of Carole Andrews |
| ✠ Tim with ALS, son of Will & Sally Stacho | ✠ Carol, sister of Mark Bailey |
| ✠ Bonnie & Timmy Smith, daughter & grandson of Jim & Rita Wallace | ✠ Don Rasgaitis |
| ✠ Josh O'Shaughnessy | ✠ Larry, nephew of Jane Burnett |
| ✠ David Leonard, caregiver | ✠ Catie, cousin of Anita Bridges |
| ✠ Donna Mayne, cancer, sister-in-law of Tom | ✠ Mabel, sister of Jane Burnett |
| ✠ Dot & Jim Kay, sister & brother-in-law of Ed Brewster | |
| ✠ Joan Browning, Barb Linton's sister | |
| ✠ Jay Smith, friend of Peggy Cornell | |
| ✠ Grace Homany | |
| ✠ Debbie, sister of Chris & Reba | |
| ✠ Jan Corman, mother of Anita Bridges | |
| ✠ Mike & Vera Brewer | |
| ✠ Ryan Leonard, Crohn's disease | |



Those in military service:

- ✠ HM3 Stanley Maculewicz
- ✠ Jacob Dillon, nephew of Carole Bettinger
- ✠ Major Bill Gorsuch, USMC
- ✠ Sgt. Robert Bailey, son of Mark Bailey

United Methodist Women By Barb Andrews

The UMW continues to enjoy our summer, helping with projects around the church and working on crafts. Of course, we also enjoy our weekly visits to area restaurants. This Agape, though, alerts us to the fact that summer is coming to an end.

We will resume business meetings on Wednesday, Sept. 6th at 10:00 am. Things get busier after that. Keep an eye out in the bulletins so you can join us for our annual trip to Amish country in September. Other dates upcoming are the craft show on October 14 and the rummage sale on November 10. You'll hear more about these events in the next Agapes, but please plan to help and attend both activities.

NewsLetter DEADLine

**Items for the
September issue of the
Agape are due by
Monday, August 21.**

North Olmsted UMC
 4600 Dover Center Rd.
 North Olmsted, Oh 44070
 Phone 440-779-6634
 Fax 440-779-0903
office@noumc.org

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday–Wed. 10 am - 3 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
Sunday, July 16 <i>Penny Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship Noon - Potluck	17 7 pm Long Range Planning Team 8:30 AA	18 11am AA	19 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	20	21	22 9-10 am Fitness Class
Sunday, July 23 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship Noon - Ad Board Meeting	24 8:30 AA	25 11am AA 1-3 pm Alz. Assoc.	26 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	27 4:30-6 pm Free Community Meal	28	29 9-10 am Fitness Class
Sunday, July 30 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	31 8:30 AA	August 1 11am AA	2 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	3	4	5 8:30 am UMM at Canary's 9-10 am Fitness Class 5 pm Work Mission Slideshow/Ice Cream Social
Sunday, August 6 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	7 8:30 AA	8 11am AA	9 10 am UMW 8:30 AA	10	11	12 9-10 am Fitness Class
Sunday, August 13 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	14 8:30 AA	15 11am AA	16 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	17	18	19 9-10 am Fitness Class
Sunday, August 20 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	21 Agape Articles Due!! 8:30 AA	22 11am AA 1:30 - 3 pm Alzheimer's Grp.	23 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	24	25	26 9-10 am Fitness Class
Sunday, August 27 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship	28 8:30 AA	29 11am AA	30 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA	31 4:30-6 pm Community Meal	Sept. 1	2 8:30 UMM at Canary's 9-10 am Fitness Class

Coming --- 10
Sunday, Sept.



Sunday School
Rally Day



& UMM BAR-B-Q!

**NORTH OLMSTED
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**FEEDING OUR COMMUNITY -
BODY and SOUL !**

4600 Dover Center Rd.
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

July & August
Agape Newsletter

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NORTH OLMSTED UNITED METHODIST'S FREE COMMUNITY MEAL



Thursday, July 27, 2017 Serving 4:30 - 6:00 pm

**We are serving barbequed chicken, potato salad, cole slaw,
assorted desserts and beverages. All are welcome!**

Thursday, August 31, 2017 Serving 4:30 - 6:00 pm

**The menu will include shepherd's pie, salad and
assorted desserts and beverages. All are welcome!**



**Held at North Olmsted United Methodist Church
4600 Dover Center Rd., North Olmsted, Ohio 44070 440-779-6634
email: noumc@noumc.org web site: www.noumc.org**

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