

Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"



A Publication of North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 52 Issue 6

August 2018

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JOIN US!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SON-FEST

Sharing The Love of Jesus Christ In Service To Our Community

Church Staff

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

Admin. Assistant: Megan Howe
440-779-6634, ext. 10

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

Youth Director: Katie Chapman
440-779-6634, ext. 14

Organist: Marlene Dirksen

Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez

Social Media: Hanna Moore

**FREE COMMUNITY FESTIVAL
NORTH OLMSTED UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11th

11 AM TO 5 PM

BOUNCE HOUSE! MUSIC!

GAMES!

BALLOON ARTIST

CRAFTS!

MAGIC!

FACE PAINTING!

PRIZES!

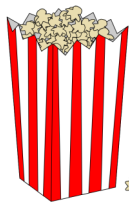
***FOOD: HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS,**

POP, COTTON CANDY

POPCORN AND MORE!

(*SMALL CHARGE FOR FOOD ITEMS)

Articles for the September issue of the Agape Newsletter are due by **August 15th**. Please email them to the office or place them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox.



News and Notes from NOUMC

NOUMC Welcomes Megan Howe. . .

As most of you already know, Sharon is retiring as our Administrative Assistant after approximately ten years in the position. Sharon's long term plans have her moving to the Columbus area, but she will continue to be around for a while, worshiping with us, leading her stamping socials, and supporting the UMW and the church as a whole.

While we will all miss Sharon's incredible skills and knowledge in our office, I am very pleased to announce the hiring of Megan Howe. Megan previously served as the Administrative Assistant of the Ohltown United Methodist Church (2013-2016). Prior to that, she worked as a reading intervention specialist in the Conneaut Schools and an instructional aide in the Tiffin Schools. Megan holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a concentration in Spanish from Grove City College, Grove City, PA. She is a Stephen Minister and a Sunday School Teacher in her church. Megan is married to Nathan Howe, the pastor of Berea United Methodist Church.

Please join me in welcoming Megan to our staff.

Rev. Mark

Get connected with NOUMC!



Are you on Facebook? So are we! Have you "Liked" our North Olmsted United Methodist Church page? Find us online at:
facebook.com/northolmstedunitedmethodistchurch

Friends of NOUMC Facebook Group

Join our Facebook group to stay connected with your church friends and family! Find our group at facebook.com/groups/friendsofnoumc



Coffee Hour ☕

Do you have questions or want to find out more? This summer, you will have the opportunity to see our social media accounts on display during coffee hour and ask any questions you may have regarding setting up or using your account.

We will have the table set up from 9:30-10:15 a.m. on July 22nd and September 16th. Stay tuned for more details!

Contact Tammy Moore or Andy Walsh if you have questions!

We are also on Instagram!

Follow us: [@northolmstedumc](https://www.instagram.com/northolmstedumc)



Photo Release Form



Occasionally, we may take a picture from an event. We would like your consent to use it on our website or Facebook page.

Please fill out a Photo Release form. These are coming soon and will also be available at the office or during coffee hour. Watch for more details!



Oberammergau Passion Play – 2020...

Rev. Mark and Ginny are headed back to Germany in 2020, this time to see the Oberammergau Passion Play, and you are invited to join them. The Passion Play has taken place every ten years since 1634, and depicts the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Over 2,000 Oberammergau villagers will participate in the 2020 play, almost half the town. Educational Opportunities has built a wonderful tour of Southern Germany and Austria around the play including visits to some fantastic castles and churches and trips to Salzburg and Innsbruck. Exciting tour extensions are also offered. Brochures are available on the bulletin board by the choir room or in the church office. For more information see Rev. Mark.

Potluck Labels

The members of our summer session of the Daniel Plan suggested that we find a way to label dishes served at potlucks and other events here at NOUMC. Doing so would assist our members who have food allergies as well as helping those who want to make informed choices on what they consume. We devised this label that can quickly be filled out to indicate common allergens. It also notes who made the dish so we can all bug you for the recipe! Here is what the label looks like:

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| POTLUCK DISH: _____ | | |
| MADE BY: _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VEGETARIAN | <input type="checkbox"/> VEGAN | <input type="checkbox"/> LOW FAT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GLUTEN FREE | <input type="checkbox"/> SUGAR FREE | <input type="checkbox"/> DAIRY FREE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAINS NUTS | <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAINS EGGS | |
| OTHER: _____ | | |

The labels are in the cabinet by the dishwasher.

The Connectional Church...

Rev. Mark Steiger

I've stated several times that there are three reasons I'm a United Methodist: 1) The Wesleyan Doctrine of Grace; 2) The United Methodist Commitment to the Social Gospel; and 3) The Connectional System. I've written many times about Grace – God's love of all God's people, and how John Wesley so wonderfully explained that love. But today, as I reflect back on our recent Youth Mission Trip to Buffalo, I highlight our Connectional System.

I have often spoken about how wonderful Youth Mission Trips are. On mission trips, youth experience God's grace "up close and personal" in ways that simply aren't possible at home; and youth find ways of sharing that love with those less fortunate than themselves. On mission trips, youth and adults appreciate how blessed we really are, as we work with those far less fortunate than ourselves. And, as a bonus, youth learn some handy skills: cleaning, carpentry, painting, drywall; flooring, etc.

But these mission trips would not be possible without our connectional system. Indeed, within the United Methodist denomination, through our chain of conferences, every United Methodist Church is "connected" to every other United Methodist Church in wonderful ways. When the decision was made to head to the New York area to be in mission; a simple call was placed to the New York Conference office, telling them that we wished to be in mission in their area. That office immediately put us in touch with Seneca Street Church, a missional church of the conference. The connection had been made. But we needed a place to stay, a place to sleep and eat and shower. So Seneca Street contacted Clarence UMC; they had room; they had good kitchen and bathroom facilities; and they had

showers in the church. The connection had been made; we had a mission trip home. But the connection is not just about mission trips. On occasion I have received calls from other pastors some distance away saying, "I have a parishioner from my congregation who is traveling to Cleveland for special treatment at The Cleveland Clinic. Would you minister to them?" Of course I will. Now, other denominations might do the same thing; but our connectional system makes the connection easy.



It was a special time in 2017, traveling in Erfurt, Germany, when we looked over a bridge and saw a Methodist Cross and Flame. We went inside; and, in my very broken German, I told a member of that congregation that I was a United Methodist Pastor from the USA. He explained that we have far more Methodist churches in the USA than in Germany, and invited us to see the church. They are part of the connection, and a special bond was forged.

Finally, our Connectional System makes, what John Wesley called "Holy Conferencing" possible. While I sometimes get frustrated by the actions of our United Methodist conferences, I do believe that we are a stronger denomination because of them. Indeed, I am thankful for the Connectional System and the world-wide connection that is United Methodism.

See you in church,

Rev. Mark

Our Faithful Journey



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.

Christian Education

by Wendy Cooper

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SON-FEST!

North Olmsted United Methodist Church will be spreading the love of Christ to our community by hosting a summer festival celebration for the whole family!

Son-Fest will be held at NOUMC on Saturday, August 11th from 11 AM to 5PM.

There will be something for everyone: crafts, games, a bounce house, a magician, a face painter, music, a photo booth, and fair food, etc. The festival will be free to everyone, with a small charge for food items. Come join us for a fun-filled summer celebration...ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please spread the word and invite your extended family, friends and neighbors!

It is not too late to join us....we are still in need of volunteers to help with crafts and games during the festival... demonstrating how a craft is done or a game is played, assisting the kids, and setting up for the next round. You can volunteer for just an hour or two...or the whole day, whatever works for you! There is a sign up sheet on the office door, or see Wendy.



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! We are in need of several 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 THIS YEAR! 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! This year we will have a Middle School class and a Young Adult class. My aim in these classes is to have several volunteers who teach on a rotation basis as their schedule permits (rather than one teacher who teaches every week). I will be looking for a curriculum that is engaging for the students but easy for the teacher to prepare. We will have discussion days, but we will also have several service days and "fun" days scattered throughout the schedule. Sarah Jackson will be teaching the Elementary class, but this year would like to partner with another teacher or two. 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!

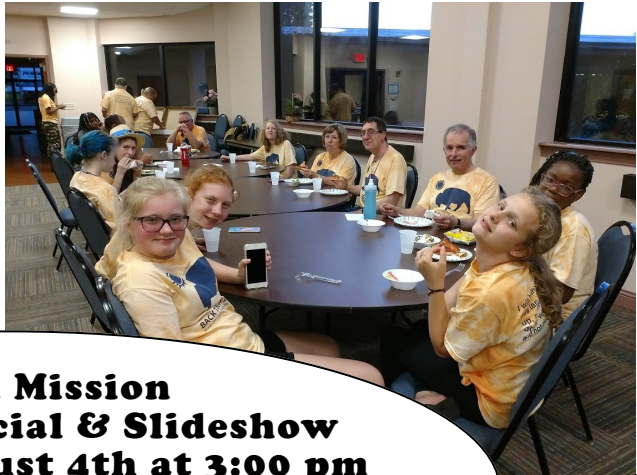
Youth News

by Katie Chapman



Kids Club End of Summer Party!
Tuesday, August 21 5:30 to 8:00 pm

RSVP to Katie or call 440-779-6634, ext. 14



Work Mission Ice Cream Social & Slideshow Saturday, August 4th at 3:00 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. All are welcome!



Rebuilding a Church...

This past week I have felt like Nehemiah. You may remember that Nehemiah was called to return from Babylon to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. This past week, our church roofing project has turned into a major rebuilding project. After stripping the old shingles, our roofer found a myriad of problems – wood that was rotten due to many years of leaking and in some cases poor installation of the original roof. And so, as the saying goes, I have good news and bad news.

The bad news is that the roof is costing significantly more than originally estimated as the sheathing on the entire roof, with the exception of the newest addition, has needed to be replaced. The good news is that our roofer is truly doing an outstanding job, paying attention to all the little details and warranting the roof for 25 years. The other good news is that this church is blessed with some investment funds that can be used to pay for this project, so we will not need to ask for money from our congregation.

Special thanks to Ray Plogger, our Trustee Chair, for his oversight of this project. Ray has been on site every day, several times a day, to speak with the foreman, to fully understand the issues and the costs, and see to it that our roof is of top quality. Finally, thanks to you, the congregation for your support in assuring that our church will be in good condition for generations to come.

Outreach Committee

by Barb Andrews

OXCART PANTRY



| Item | Due |
|-------|---------|
| Beans | Aug. 12 |
| Soup | Sept. 9 |

Well, we squeaked through with 80 jars of peanut butter for the month of July. We're now collecting beans, which are due on the 12th. Pork and beans or vegetarian beans are the most preferred, and Pantry Director, Georgia Wilder said that most of the clients do not like the dry beans, but all types are accepted. The following week we start collecting soup for September delivery.

Georgia was really happy to hear the food pantry would be getting a check for \$186.50 to be used for school supplies (from Penny Sunday). Then I told her we would bring some actual supplies over, as well. Many of your neighbors and their children will be much happier going back to school with the supplies you have helped to provide.

Military Coupons... We are still collecting coupons for military families to use at the PX. These coupons help them stretch their budget and are greatly appreciated! **Please clip the coupons before bringing them in but it is not necessary to sort them.** Place them in the envelope under the Outreach bulletin board (by the nursery). Thanks for your help with this mission project.

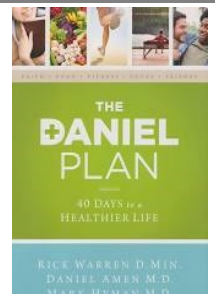
Penny Sunday – August 19, 2018 – Westside Community House

Our April Penny Sunday will help support Westside Community House. Founded in 1890 as the Methodist Deaconess Home, Westside Community House is a social service organization serving children, families and older adults on Cleveland's Westside. They provide: summer and after school care and activities for youth; crisis intervention and support for families; and meals, activities, health support, and transportation for older adults that allows them to continue living independently with support nearby. Westside Community House is an independent, non-profit, non-sectarian organization that is associated with and supported by the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. Thanks for your help in support of their valuable work.

Another Daniel Plan Group at NOUMC...

Rev. Mark

By now, most of you have heard a lot about The Daniel Plan. The Daniel Plan is a special project of Rick Warren, Pastor of Saddleback Church and Author of *The Purpose Driven Life*, who teamed up with Dr. Daniel Amen, the "Brain Doctor" of PBS fame, and Dr. Mark Hyman, the Chair of the Cleveland Clinic Functional Medicine Department. (The program takes its name from Daniel 1:8-15.) This is a six week program that concentrates on the five essentials of healthy living: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus, and Friends.



Last Spring we had a very successful Daniel Plan Group meeting on Saturday mornings. However, Saturdays were not an ideal time from some people. Others have developed interest after speaking with the Spring group. As a result, I will be facilitating another Daniel Plan Group on Tuesday evenings beginning September 11th at 7:00 p.m. Our regular meeting will run for six weeks (September 11th through October 16th). All are welcome to join this group, including those who were in the Spring group and would like to repeat. Please sign up on the office door.

The cost for The Daniel Plan Study Guide is \$8.00. I will order a Study Guide for everyone who signs up for The Daniel Plan. It is also highly recommended that you read *The Daniel Plan: 40 Days to a Healthier Life* book as we spend our six weeks together. If you check "Order a Book" on the signup sheet, I will order a book for you in addition to the Study Guide – Cost for the Book is \$15.00. You can also order the book on amazon.com; and, it is available for Kindle. (Note: The Study Guide is also available on Kindle; but you really need the Study Guide in hard-copy because there are sections to be filled-in during sessions and between sessions.)

Stephen Ministry

by Sarah Jackson

One of the things I am asked the most about being a Stephen Minister is how do I “put up with” listening to the same complaint or problems repeatedly.

My answer is that I parrot back the thoughts to see if I understand the issue. If I am hearing it repeatedly nothing is being done to alter the feelings of the person.

Module 3 discusses the “art of listening”.

- be present in the moment
- patience
- really listen. Don't be thinking of your response. Silence is ok while you drink in the information and feelings

Module 3 also explains how to reflect back and how to ask for clarification without expressing judgment.

So my answer would be that I am concentrating on trying to really hear the feelings behind the story. Each time I hope to get more insight.

Stephen Ministry applications need to be submitted by August 12th, please. We need time to order materials for the course. Thank you.



A New Stephen Ministry Class is Forming Now!

We are partnering with John Knox Presbyterian Church and classes will start on Friday, Sept 7th and will continue on Saturdays thereafter. They will be held alternately at NOUMC and John Knox.

Stephen Ministry changes lives for both the care giver & the care receiver for the better. Become a Stephen Minister...you can change a life and change your own!

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

Our group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30. Watch the bulletin for location. Please join us for a couple hours of talk, food. talk. food and more. Enjoy! It really helps if we know how many are coming so we can have enough chairs. (If you forgot to call, come anyway!). You can leave a message with Carole Bettinger 440-234-3611.



Thank You to:



- Ray Schurr for installing handrails on the attic steps! Sure makes it easier for some of us orthopedically challenged folks!
- Carole Betting & Judi Wagner for cleaning the food mission room.
- Carole Bettinger for the beautiful cake and table decorations for Helen Carter's memorial service.
- Bill Cooper & Ray Plogger for spear-heading the roof project.
- Ken Delfing and Jessa for doing the Children's sermon on July 8th.
- Rev. Alice Walsh for leading us in worship on July 22.
- Tammy & Katie for cleaning/redecorating the youth room.

Worship Support

| Date | Greeter | Reader | Usher | Acolyte |
|---------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aug. 5 | Greeters needed, please sign-up | Greg Lavelle | David Jarvis | Makena Chapman |
| Aug. 12 | | John Vas | Paul Taller | Morgan Chapman |
| Aug. 19 | | Ken Delfing | Sarah Jackson | Sydney Busser |
| Aug. 26 | | Michelle Wolter | Katie Chapman & Sydney Scothon | Mikenzie Dennis |
| Sept. 2 | | Anita Bridges | Wayne Pullman | Amy Cooper |
| Sept. 9 | | Mary Lou Fitzgerald | Judi Wagner & Guylene Harold | Makena Chapman |

| July Volunteer Hours | # of people | Total Hours |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Panera Food Pick-up | 2 | 46 |
| Food Donation Pick-up | 3 | 30 |
| Fragapanes Pick Up | 2 | 18 |
| Feeding Site Deliveries | 2 | 120 |
| Oxcart Food Pantry | 2 | 12 |
| Urban Meals | 8 | 24 |
| Community Meal | 20 | 45 |
| Total Volunteers & Hours | 39 | 295 |

Life Line Screening Sept. 22, 2018 at NOUMC

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at North Olmsted United Methodist Church. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for Cardiovascular disease include;

Carotid Artery (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm** (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), **Peripheral Arterial Disease** (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a **Heart Rhythm Screening** (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an **Osteoporosis Risk Assessment** for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early. **Register online TODAY at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle and receive your "Community Circle" discount and your Preferred Appointment!**

United Methodist Women By Barb Andrews, UMW President



Do you have any great ideas of how to solve the problems of the world? You should come and join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00. We have some great ideas. We do want to remind you of upcoming events, though. On Saturday, October 13, the Church Mouse Craft Show will be here once again. It's a great place to get Halloween and Christmas decorations, gifts, or something you just can't live without. On November 3rd our fall rummage sale comes around. You'll hear more about that later, too. For now, know that there is room in the attic for some rummage, but it is filling up. If you have room to store items at home until the week of the sale, it would be great. Meanwhile, enjoy your summer..... we are!



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



AUGUST 2018

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Office Hours: Mon.—Wed. 10 am - 2 pm
 Thursdays - 1 to 5:00 pm
Christian Ed Office Hours:
 Mon. - 1 to 3 pm, Thurs. - Noon to 3 pm
Youth Director—
 Mon. & Thurs. 11 to 2:30 pm

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, July 29 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship | 30 8:30 AA | 31 11:00 AA 1-3 Alz. Assoc. | 1 10 am UMW 8:30 AA | 2 | 3 | 4 8:30 UMM Breakfast 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Class 3 pm Work Mission Ice cream Social |
| Sunday, August 5 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship Noon - Daniel Plan Reunion | 6 8:30 AA | 7 11am AA 7 pm Dover Players Tryouts | 8 10 am - UMW 1 pm Romano Service 7 pm Dover Players Tryouts 8:30 AA | 9 | 10 | 11 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Class  11 am to 5 pm |
| Sunday, August 12 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship | 13 8:30 AA | 14 11am AA | 15 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA | 16 11:30 Lunch w. Friends | 17 | 18 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Class |
| Sunday, August 19 <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9:30 am Outreach Meeting 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship | 20 8:30 AA | 21 11am AA | 22 10 am-UMW 8:30 AA | Rev. Mark on vacation | | |
| Sunday, August 26 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship | 27 8:30 AA | 28 11:00 AA 1-3 Alz. Assoc. | 29 10 am UMW 8:30 AA | 30 4:30—6 pm Community Meal | 31  Indians Game | Sept. 1 8:30 am UMM Breakfast 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Class |
| Rev. Mark on vacation | | | | | | |
| Sunday, Sept. 2 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 10:00 am-Fellowship 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Fellowship | 3  Office Closed 8:30 AA | 4 11:00 AA 6-7 pm Scouts | 5 8:30 AA | 6 7 pm Choir | 7 | 8 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Class |

Rally Day is Sept. 9—Fall Schedule Resumes!

Sunday School at 9 am, Fellowship at 10, Worship at 10:30 am. UMM BBQ after worship!

**NORTH OLMSTED
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



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North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

Agape Newsletter

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Free Community Meals



Picnic Supper
Thursday, August 30
Serving 4:30 to 6 pm
Join Us!

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