

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"



North Olmsted United Methodist Church Vol. 52 Issue 10 December 2018 & January 2019

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## Church Staff

Reverend Mark L. Steiger  
msteiger@noumc.org  
440-779-6634, ext. 16

Administrative Assistant: Megan Howe  
office@noumc.org  
440-779-6634, ext. 10

Christian Education: Wendy Cooper  
sundayschool@noumc.org  
440-779-6634, ext. 13

Youth Director: Katie Chapman  
youth@noumc.org  
440-779-6634, ext. 14

Organist: Marlene Dirksen  
mkdpdteach@sbcglobal.net

Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez  
gabrielamarmar@aol.com

## Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 15

9 - 11:30 am

Fellowship Hall



Serving a holiday breakfast of  
pancakes, french toast, and sausage

Join us for games, crafts, and a photo with St. Nick.

RSVP by emailing Katie at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org)  
or by calling the church office.

## Christmas Worship Schedule

Tuesday, December 18, at 7 pm

Blue Christmas: A Service of Comfort & Hope

**Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24**

7 pm - Candlelight Service with Hand Bell Choir and  
the Sacrament of Holy Communion

9:30 pm - Candlelight Service with Chancel Choir and  
the Sacrament of Holy Communion

**1st Sunday after Christmas Day, December 30**

10:30 am - Traditional Worship with Carol Sing

11:30 am - Fellowship



## The Season of Advent



### Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 2



On Sunday, December 2, we will usher in the holidays with an after-church luncheon and the decorating of the building. There will be children's activities, plenty for adults to do, and time for a few Advent carols. Please join us for lunch and a fun afternoon!

All children are welcome to join Wendy for an Advent craft or two after worship on December 2 in Fellowship Hall while their parents are enjoying the lunch provided by UMM or helping with the Hanging of the Greens!

### Advent Adult Sunday School Class: Unwrapping the Names of Jesus

Sundays in December at 9 am in the Prayer Room

*"What if you could spend this Christmas season delighting in your Savior instead of trying to create a picture-perfect holiday?"*

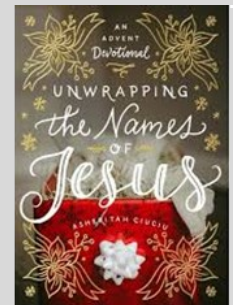
*"In Unwrapping the Names of Jesus, Asheritah Ciuciu invites you to prepare your heart so you can worship Jesus as never before. Each daily reflection will lead you to meditate on a different name of Jesus from Scripture."*

- from the back cover

Join Rev. Alice each Sunday morning during the Advent season as we read this short Advent devotional together. We will meet in the Prayer Room at 9 am each of the following Sundays:

December 2: **HOPE**  
December 9: **PREPARATION**  
December 16: **JOY**  
December 23: **LOVE**

Please sign up on the office door to reserve your book. See you in Advent!



### Blue Christmas: A Service of Comfort & Hope

Tuesday, December 18, at 7 pm

*"This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive."*

—TFWS 2095

Advent is a time of waiting...a time of hope-filled expectation for the coming of our Savior, Jesus. Yet sometimes waiting feels heavy, especially with the changing world around us, and even our own personal changes. This year we will pray specifically for all who are vulnerable in our world...those for whom Christmas is not a "Silent Night."

This service offers a safe place for persons desiring a special touch from God during the holidays. It promises to be a gentle, quiet service...filled with peace, hope, prayer, music, and candlelight.

I know that my own soul is hungry for this service this year. I believe God wants to renew our lives this Christmas, bringing hope to us in the areas of our deepest need, bringing peace to us in the midst of our darkest confusion. If you or someone you know is remembering a loss or going through a season of pain, I invite you to join me this Christmas for a time of comfort and rest.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel... May we journey together.

Blessings,  
Rev. Alice

\* This ministry is sponsored by your Stephen Ministers. Light refreshments also will be provided so that we may be in community and fellowship during this holy season.

## Are We Listening?

Rev. Mark Steiger

I'm writing this article just a week after our Mid-Term Election. During the campaigning and the election process, it was abundantly clear that we are a country divided. It's not as simple as some of us are Republicans and some of us are Democrats. We are deeply divided on issues of immigration, gun control, states' rights, abortion, health care, taxation, civil rights and liberty, and the list goes on. Still, as I try to listen to proponents on both sides of these issues with an open mind, I am very aware that those on both sides deeply love their country and feel their position is in the best interest of the country.

The evening of the election I attended the East Ohio Conference "Listening Post." In February 2019, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church will be meeting in St. Louis, Missouri with the expressed goal of attempting to unify the church. For the past several decades our denomination has been deeply divided on the issue of human sexuality. Our Book of Discipline forbids same-sex marriages and the ordination of practicing homosexuals. It explicitly states that homosexuality is "contrary to Christian teachings." Some within our denomination find this stand biblical and thus seek to hold firm. Others find it exclusionary, unloving, and therefore unchristian. So, our Annual Conference has held "Listening Posts" as a time when our delegates to General Conference might hear the views and feelings of those they represent.

As I sat in the "Listening Post" on the evening of the election, it became increasingly clear that we are a denomination divided. I heard a lesbian speak of how she feels a call to ordination but cannot be ordained in the church she loves. I heard a minister speak of how heartbroken she was because she could not conduct the same-sex marriage of her brother. I heard several parents

of gays and transsexuals speak of the heartbreak of knowing that their children are not accepted as full members in The United Methodist Church with *all* the privileges thereof. And I heard others speak of the immutable Word of God and how passages in the Hebrew Bible and the writings of Paul explicitly condemn homosexuality. As I listened, I was increasingly aware of the division, and I was fully aware that both sides truly love their church; but I'm not convinced that either side was hearing the other. I'm not sure either side truly understands how much the other side loves the church. I fear that we, the membership of the church, are building more walls than bridges.



As your pastor, I have been quite open about my stand on this issue. I fully support LGBTQ rights in society and in the church; and, after decades of study, I am fully able to reconcile these views with the authority of scripture. (I'll say more about that in future columns.) That being said, I really do try to listen and understand all sides of every argument. It's only through listening and understanding that we can build bridges across the gulf that divides us.

And so, I ask that you pray for our country and our leaders, pray for our church and its leaders, and pray for the February General Conference, that they might truly, actively listen to each other; and through the listening that they might build more bridges and fewer walls.

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.



## Christmas Flowers

### Christmas Flower Sale: Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti

Orders due by Monday, December 3

The youth are taking orders for Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti that will be placed on the altar for our Christmas Eve services. Poinsettias are available in Red, White, Pink, Variegated, or Burgundy. All plants are in 6" pots and sell for \$10. Proceeds from the sale will go towards this year's Sunday School 4 Paws for Ability Mission Project. Order forms are available in Fellowship Hall (please put your orders in the purple box), call the church office, or email Wendy at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org) to place your order.

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 3

On February 3, our Youth, with your help, will help fight hunger and poverty. We will join a national effort to refocus Super Bowl weekend into a weekend of sharing God's love with our neighbors in need by participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. This effort helps us to be mindful of those who are without even a bowl of soup to eat as we enjoy our Super Bowl celebrations. Our Youth will be stationed at the Sanctuary exits after worship to collect your donations, which will be given to the North Olmsted Food Pantry. Thank you for making a difference in our community!

### Youth Sub Sandwich Sale

Orders due by January 27

Also on February 3, our Youth will be making sub sandwiches that will be available for purchase after worship. Money collected will go to the Sunday School 4 Paws for Ability Mission Project. There will be a choice of fine luncheon meats, cheeses, condiments, and toppings. The subs cost \$6 each, or \$20 for 4. Order forms will be available on the round table in Fellowship Hall and are due by January 27. Sub sandwiches make a quick and easy treat to eat while watching the Super Bowl game, and your donations will help a child receive the hope and help that a service dog can provide!

## 4 Paws for Ability, Sunday School Mission Project

### D-O-G Spells Hope!

Children and their families who struggle daily with challenges like autism, Down's Syndrome, seizure disorder, ADHD, or mobility/visual/hearing impairment might not feel like they have much to be hopeful about. How marvelous that the God of all hope chose dogs as a way to convey hope and to make His love and care more real!

### Thank You!

The youth would like to thank all who supported their Sunday School 4 Paws for Ability Mission Project by purchasing monkey bread!  
The youth made a profit of \$192.00!

*"Dogs are a marvelous healing influence. They give hope by doing what humans can't, and they delight to serve. Dogs are a help and a lifeline for those with special needs. Dogs open bridges of communication to people stunned and numbed by crisis. Dogs coax responses from the sick and aged that at times are nothing short of miraculous. Dogs walk with us through our hurt and pain, soothe our stress and anxiety, and offer a balm to those crushed by depression. And they do it all with gentleness and love." -Doctor Dog by M.R. Wells*

Hope is what you will be helping to give a child and their family when you donate to our youth and their Sunday School 4 Paws for Ability Mission Project! We thank you for your support!

### Reunion Sunday

January 6 at 9 am in the Youth Room

Join our young adult Sunday School class as we invite some of our recent high school and college grads to talk about their experiences. How did they pick their schools, majors, etc.? What did they wish they would have known while in high school? All youth are invited to this event. Even if you don't regularly attend Sunday School, please come to this fun, informative gathering. We will meet in the Youth Room beginning at 9 am and will enjoy a gourmet coffee and hot chocolate bar. See Tammy Moore or Wendy Cooper for more details.

## Our Faithful Journey

Dear NOUMC Family,

Our financial secretary, Ed Brewster, has informed Rev. Mark and me that, as of this week, the church has received more than 92% of the estimate-of-giving cards that we expected and that the total amount pledged is about 5% above last year.

If you are one of the few who have not yet had a chance to submit your estimate-of-giving card, please place it in the offering plate at church (in its sealed envelope), mail it, or drop it off at the church office at your earliest convenience.



Rev. Mark and I also thank you for all of your support!!! However, I don't feel that a thank you from only the two of us is enough. Rev. Mark and I are not the only beneficiaries of the friendship, support, caring, and loving that is going on because of the existence of NOUMC. I believe we are saying thank you to each other every time there is an act of LOVE.

It is my belief that there is a piece of God in all of us. From what we read in Genesis 1:27, "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them;" and also from what Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" From the people beside you, to those in front or behind you, the people we know, as well as the people we don't know who will be touched by your friendship, support, caring, and LOVE: **THANK YOU!!!!**

Craig Mueller  
Stewardship Chair

### Our Faithful Journey Continues: All Church Meeting

Sunday, January 27, following worship

Please plan to join us for an all-church meeting after worship on January 27, 2019 at 12 pm to discuss *Our Faithful Journey*, our long-range strategic plan. We will review our progress on the plan in 2018 and would like to hear your thoughts regarding our priorities for 2019 and beyond. Your feedback is important, so please plan to attend as together we make plans for a faithful and joyous future for our church.

## Upcoming Study Opportunities

### Confirmation Class 7th Grade and up

Beginning Tuesday, January 8, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm

Confirmation is a time when youth accept for themselves the vows that were made on their behalf at their baptism. Confirmation classes cover church history, doctrine, and government. More importantly, confirmation classes provide an opportunity for youth to explore and grow in their faith as they become full members of The United Methodist Church. Our 2019 Confirmation Class will be starting on Tuesday, January 8 at 4:30 pm. Class will meet every Tuesday until June. If you know a youth, 7<sup>th</sup> grade or above, who is interested in confirmation, please see Rev. Mark.

### Bible Study The Gospel of Mark

Beginning Tuesday, January 15, from 7 - 8:30 pm

Rev. Mark will be conducting a five-week Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark on Tuesday evenings, January 15 through February 12. Classes will begin at 7 pm and end by 8:30 pm. All are welcome and there is no cost for the class, but please sign up on the office door before January 13 so we are sure to have enough materials for all.



New  
Bible Study



## Outreach Committee

**OXCART  
PANTRY**


### Oxcart Pantry Collection

Item	Due
Laundry Detergent	Dec. 9
Canned Vegetables	Jan. 13
Spaghetti Sauce	Feb. 10

In November and December, there are usually almost 200 families that receive groceries from Oxcart Pantry. In November, you came through with 122 items for the Oxcart Pantry. Your stuffing and sweet potatoes will help fill many Thanksgiving bags for your neighbors. We are now collecting cleaning supplies, with an emphasis on laundry detergent, until December 9. Laundry detergent is one of the most requested items at Oxcart Pantry. Looking ahead, we will collect canned vegetables, due on January 13, and spaghetti sauce, due on February 10.

### Christmas Stockings for Oxcart Pantry

Assembling on December 9, 9 –10 am

After a brief check of items we have on hand, we have a better idea of the items we most need. These include men's and women's deodorant, body lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, candy, combs, and pens. You don't have to limit your purchases to these items, but we thought you might like a little guidance. We will assemble the stockings on December 9 between 9 - 10 am, so earlier arrival of these items is better. This is an extra gift for people of North Olmsted that provides some basic needs along with some small gifts to make their season brighter.

### Adopt-A-Family

Wrapped presents due by Sunday, December 16

Another thing to keep an eye out for is the easel in Fellowship Hall. It will soon be filled with small slips of paper with gifts listed on them. If you have never shared in Adopt-A-Family, this is briefly how it works. Some of the clients at the Oxcart Pantry are chosen to make a wish list of things they would like for Christmas. They give some details including sizes, and we put this information on slips of paper, which include the item, size (if needed), a family number, and age and sex of the person. You can take one or more of these slips from the easel, purchase the item(s), wrap them, and put them under the tree in the Sanctuary. The due date for these items is December 16. Those receiving gifts pick them up, along with their groceries, in time for Christmas. It is impossible to tell you what looks of joy accompany those gifts on their way out of the Pantry.

### Upcoming Penny Sundays

Sunday, December 16

The December Penny Sunday collection will support Flat Rock Homes. Founded in 1866 as a home for children orphaned by the Civil War, Flat Rock is now a state-of-the-art facility for the treatment of children with profound intellectual, developmental, and behavioral challenges. In addition to the individuals served on the main campus, Flat Rock serves residents of 13 additional homes for adults in need of healthy community group living. It is Flat Rock's mission to serve mentally and developmentally challenged individuals at every stage of life.

Sunday, January 20

We all are aware of the devastation and pain the wildfires have caused the people of California. Therefore, January's Penny Sunday Collection will be for UMCOR and designated for California's Fire Relief Effort. For those who may not know, UMCOR stands for the United Methodist Committee on Relief and is the humanitarian relief and development arm of the United Methodist Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### Harvest Partners Volunteer Needed

We are looking for a volunteer to pick up Harvest Partner donations at the North Olmsted Bob Evans on Monday afternoons. You can call ahead each week to see if they have a donation as often they do not. The bags or boxes are not heavy to carry. For more information, contact Sue Shellhouse, Outreach Committee Chair.



## Stephen Ministry

### The Art of Listening

Alan Alda thinks we could all be better listeners. In his series of spirited conversations with people who know how hard it is, and yet how good it feels, to really connect with other people, he makes a case for listening. Because if you listen, you are able to see into the soul, to hear the problems, to feel what's going on in the heart, and how the mind can interfere. And when you're listening, you can bring God into the conversation.

#### Commissioning of New Stephen Ministers

Sunday, December 9

On Sunday, December 9, Wayne Pullman, Guylene Harold, and Josh O'Shaughnessy will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers ready to serve you, me, and anyone they meet. Join us in worship as we welcome these newly-trained Christian caregivers.

Bringing God into the conversation is what Stephen Ministers try to do. We aren't professional therapists, but some of us are ordained ministers, and we all know how important it is to listen. And not tell people what to do. Or tell our own stories. We are present in the current situation, because each one's different. We have great listening skills, but we also invite God in by praying prior to care meetings and being present during conversation.

Visit <https://art19.com/shows/clear-vivid-with-alan-alda> to hear Alan Alda's new podcast called "Clear+Vivid." If everyone would work on listening and responding from the heart and add God into the equation, what a beautiful world this would be.

## Opportunities for Fellowship

#### Adult Council

##### *A Festive Christmas*

Saturday, December 8, meet at 5:30 pm

The Hoke Theatre at Lorain Community College is presenting *A Festive Christmas* concert, featuring the Patriots Symphonic Band, at 7:30 pm on December 8. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$11 for seniors and can be purchased online at [lorainccc.edu/stocker/lccc\\_events/](http://lorainccc.edu/stocker/lccc_events/) or by calling 440-366-4040.

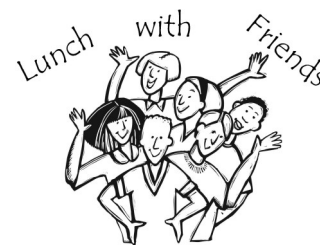
We will meet at the home of Dave and Barb Linton at 5:30 pm. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. For directions or questions, contact Barb Linton.

#### Lunch with Friends

Thursday, December 20, at 11:30 am

Thursday, January 18, at 11:30 am

Our group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. Watch the bulletin for the location. Please join us for a couple of hours of food and fellowship. It really helps if we know how many are coming so we can have enough chairs. To reserve your seat, call and leave a message with Carole Bettinger. (If you forget to call, come anyway!)



### Oberammergau Passion Play

September 2020

Rev. Mark and Ginny are headed back to Germany September 21-29, 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 "Alpine Odyssey" 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 to Switzerland or Italy 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.

## United Methodist Women

by Barb Andrews

Wow!! We asked for help after the rummage sale, and you certainly came through. We also had a great number of helpers when we were getting items sorted and priced. We can't thank you enough. The gentleman who picks up our leftovers appreciated the help, too. He said it's always great to come to our sales because of the help we always provide. So far we have made almost \$2500 from the sale, which is one of our best results.



From our two rummage sales, the craft show, plant and craft cart proceeds, we had about \$5000 to give away at our final meeting of the year. We will let you know where this money, that you helped us earn, was given in the next Agape.

We are planning our Christmas dinner at Matteo's Italian Restaurant in Olmsted Falls on December 5 at noon. We always say, you're all honorary UMW members, and we'd love to have you join us there. Please let Barb Andrews know if you will be coming, so we can give the restaurant a more accurate number. Between now and Christmas, check out the craft cart to get some gift and decorating items or some hand-crafted cards at a good price. We will start back to our usual Wednesday meetings on January 2.

## Upcoming Community Meals

### December Free Community Meal

Thursday, December 6, from 4:30 to 6 pm

Joel Chermonte will cook the meal. The menu is: ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, salad, bread, and dessert. Volunteers are especially needed for set-up at 2:30 pm and to help in the kitchen. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall.

### January Free Community Meal

Thursday, January 31, from 4:30 to 6 pm

St. Clarence Catholic Parish will provide our January meal. Menu to be decided. A couple of people are needed to be in the building during the meal; if you would like to help, see Barb Linton.

## Worship Support

Date	Greeter	Reader	Usher(s)	Acolyte
Dec. 2		Anita Bridges	Peggy Cornell	Mikenzie Dennis
Dec. 9		Mary Lou Fitzgerald	Jennifer & Michael Gaydos	Makena Chapman
Dec. 16		John Wolter	Carol & John Weinert	Amy Cooper
Dec. 23		Chris Blosser	Beth Cruz	Morgan Chapman
Dec. 24 7:30 pm	<b>Greeters needed, please sign up</b>	Can you?	Can you?	Can you?
Dec. 24 9:30 pm		Can you?	Can you?	Can you?
Dec. 30		Joel Chermonte	Barb & Ron Clough	Sydney Busser
Jan. 6		Ed Brewster	David Jarvis	Mikenzie Dennis
Jan. 13		Janis Jarvis	Paul Taller	Makena Chapman
Jan. 20		Zoe Bridges	Sarah Jackson	Amy Cooper
Jan. 27		Greg Lavelle	Katie Chapman & Sydney Scothon	Morgan Chapman



# December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 8:30 am UMM at Canary's Family Restaurant
<b>2</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Hanging of the Greens  6 pm Scouts	<b>3</b> 6 pm Connections Team 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir  8:30 pm AA	<b>4</b> 11 am AA  7pm Girl Scouts of North Olmsted	<b>5</b> 12 pm UMW Lunch at Matteo's Italian Restaurant  8:30 pm AA	<b>6</b> 4:30 - 6 pm Community Meal  7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist  1 - 4 pm Youth Gathering: Cookie Baking and Movie  5:30 pm Adult Council "A Festive Christmas"
<b>9</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Youth Council Meeting (Youth Room)	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm Bell Choir  8:30 pm AA	<b>11</b> 11 am AA	<b>12</b>   8:30 pm AA	<b>13</b>   7 pm Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9 am - 11:30 am Breakfast with Santa  10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>16</b> <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 6 pm Scouts	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm Bell choir  8:30 pm AA	<b>18</b> 11 am AA  7 pm Blue Christmas Service	<b>19</b>   8:30 pm AA	<b>20</b> 11:30 am Lunch with Friends  7 pm Choir	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>23</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>24</b> 7 pm & 9:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  8:30 pm AA	<b>25</b> Christmas Day/ Office Closed  11 am AA	<b>26</b>   8:30 pm AA	<b>27</b>   7 pm Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>30</b> 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>31</b>   8:30 pm AA					

## Office Hours:

Mondays - Wednesdays 10 am to 2 pm, Thursdays 1 to 5 pm

## Christian Education Office Hours:

Mondays 1 to 3 pm, Thursdays 12 to 3 pm

## Youth Director Office Hours:

Mondays & Thursdays 11 am to 2:30 pm

**North Olmsted UMC** 4600 Dover Center Rd. North Olmsted, OH 44070  
Phone 440-779-6634 + Fax 440-779-0903 + [office@noumc.org](mailto:office@noumc.org)

# January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 11 am AA  New Year's Day/Office Closed	<b>2</b> 10 am UMW	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:30 am UMM at Canary's Family Restaurant 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved
<b>6</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  6 pm Scouts	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>8</b> <i>Feb. Agape Deadline</i>  11 am AA 4:30 pm Confirmation 7pm Girl Scouts of North Olmsted	<b>9</b> 10 am UMW  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>10</b>  7 pm Choir Rehearsal  7 pm The Dover Players	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>13</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm Bell Choir  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>15</b> 11 am AA  4:30 pm Confirmation  7 pm Mark Study	<b>16</b> 10 am UMW  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>17</b> 11:30 am Lunch with Friends  7 pm The Dover Players  7 pm Choir	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>20</b> <i>Penny Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  6 pm Scouts	<b>21</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm Bell Choir  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>22</b> 11 am AA  4:30 pm Confirmation  7 pm Mark Study	<b>23</b> 10 am UMW  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>24</b>  7 pm The Dover Players  7 pm Choir	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
<b>27</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm All Church Meeting	<b>28</b> 6:30 pm Scouts  7 pm Bell Choir  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>29</b> 11 am AA  4:30 pm Confirmation  7 pm Mark Study	<b>30</b> 10 am UMW  7 pm The Dover Players  8:30 pm AA	<b>31</b> 4:30 - 6 pm Community Meal  7 pm Choir  7 pm The Dover Players		

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Mondays - Wednesdays 10 am to 2 pm, Thursdays 1 to 5 pm

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Mondays 1 to 3 pm, Thursdays 12 to 3 pm

## Youth Director Office Hours:

Mondays & Thursdays 11 am to 2:30 pm

**North Olmsted UMC** 4600 Dover Center Rd. North Olmsted, OH 44070

Phone 440-779-6634 + Fax 440-779-0903 + [office@noumc.org](mailto:office@noumc.org)

## Youth Updates



### Helpers Needed for Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 15, 9 - 11:30 am

Breakfast with Santa is rapidly approaching. This year's event is a free community event, so please invite everyone you know. We are still in need of a few volunteers:

3 people for games or crafts, a photographer, 2 people to serve food, and 1 more in the kitchen. This event has the potential to be large, and it cannot be successful without the help of our church family. Please see the sign-up sheet on Katie's office door or email her at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org).



### Youth Work Mission

Watch for more details!! Information about our first Work Mission meeting will be coming soon!

### Donations needed for Youth Gathering on December 8

We are in need of white frosting and Christmas sprinkles for our cookie baking gathering. If you can help, please leave donations in Katie Chapman's office. Thank you!



### Smaller Church Youth Cohort

North Olmsted UMC is blessed to be a part of the East Ohio Conference Smaller Church Youth Cohort. Five members from our church (Katie Chapman, Wendy Cooper, Tammy Moore, Jean Scothorn, and Rev. Mark) are spending four Saturdays in Canton with similar sized churches and a youth consultant, Stephanie Caro, from Ministry Architects discussing how to build a successful and lasting youth program in a smaller church. Between Saturday meetings we have monthly one hour conference calls with Stephanie to discuss progress. We also have homework: planning sessions, books to read, and documentation to do. All expenses, except minimal cost for the books, are paid by the conference. The cohort has been a real blessing as we continue to invest in our youth.

### Check out the Youth News insert, and pass it along!

Look for the Youth News insert in this issue of the Agape. Use the insert as a way to invite a young person in your life to join us at North Olmsted United Methodist Church! Contact Katie Chapman at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org) for more information.

## Thank You to...

- everyone who helped with the Fall Church Cleanup
- everyone who helped with Sharon's party
- UMM and UMW for purchasing new tables and chairs

**NORTH OLMSTED  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



4600 Dover Center Rd.  
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

**Agape Newsletter**

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## Free Holiday Community Meal



**Thursday, December 6**

**Serving 4:30 to 6 pm**

ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, salad,  
bread, dessert, and beverages

*Holiday Community Meal*

Held at North Olmsted United Methodist Church  
4600 Dover Center Road, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070  
440-779-6634 + [www.noumc.org](http://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. 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.*