

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 53 Issue 9

November 2019

## Inside this issue:

Announcements, CPR Training	2
Pastor's Remarks	3
Christian Education	4
Opportunities to Give	5
Outreach, UMW	6
Youth News	7
Opportunities for Fellowship	8
November Calendar	9
Holiday Community Meal	10

## Church Staff

Pastor: Hoyte Wilhelm  
[hoytewilhelm@gmail.com](mailto:hoytewilhelm@gmail.com)  
440-779-6634, ext. 16

Administrative Assistant: Megan Howe  
[office@noumc.org](mailto:office@noumc.org)  
440-779-6634, ext. 10

Christian Education: Wendy Cooper  
[sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org)  
440-779-6634, ext. 13

Youth Director: Katie Chapman  
[youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org)  
440-779-6634, ext. 14

Organist: Marlene Dirksen  
[mkdpteach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mkdpteach@sbcglobal.net)

Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez  
[gabrielamarmar@aol.com](mailto:gabrielamarmar@aol.com)

Join us for a collaboration between  
North Olmsted UMC's United Methodist Men and Dover Players!

## Turkey Dinner *Parktown - A Historical Musical*

*Saturday, November 2*

*Dinner served 5 pm - 7 pm; Show at 8 pm*

*Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary*

Adults - \$17.00 (Dinner only - \$14.00)

Seniors - \$15.00 (Dinner Only - \$12.00)

Children ages 6 to 12 - \$8.00 (Dinner only - \$5.00)

Children ages 5 & under - Free

Tickets on sale following worship  
or by calling Ed Brewster 440-785-7319.

*For more information about the musical, see page 8.*

## Fall Rummage Sale

*Saturday, November 9, 9 am - 3 pm*

*North Olmsted United Methodist Church*

Clothing, household goods, books, toys, collectibles, and bargains galore!

Lunch and baked goods available, too!

Sponsored by United Methodist Women

*For more information, see page 6.*



## Announcements

### Informational Session on the Future of The United Methodist Church

*Sunday, November 17, 12 pm - 1 pm*

The United Methodist Church is at a crossroads. For forty-eight years United Methodists have been in conflict over the official position of the denomination regarding God's welcome of, and how the church will be in ministry with, LGBTQ persons. 2020 will be a defining year for The UMC as General Conference seeks to come to a resolution of the conflict. What will this mean for our church? For the future of United Methodism?

If you are interested in learning more, please plan to stay after worship (12:00 pm) on Sunday, November 17. During that hour, you will learn some of the historical context of this conflict, understand actions taken by several advocacy groups in the wake of 2019 General Conference, get an overview of the alternative plans being proposed for 2020 General Conference, and have a chance to ask questions. Please plan to join us.

### Staff Parish Relations Committee

#### SPRC - Not just gifts and parties!

During our October 13th meeting, one of the members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee mentioned that he thought that it's possible that the rest of the church doesn't know what exactly we've been doing...so we thought we'd share the important work we do in the life of our church!!

Over the last year or two:

- created a Youth Director position to reinvigorate our youth program, and one of our SPRC members has provided mentoring for our Youth Director
- worked on reinvigorating and physically updating our Nursery/Childcare program with the assistance of other wonderful church members
- planned and coordinated the transition of our retiring pastor and introduced our new pastor, including retirement & welcoming celebrations in conjunction with the UMW and UMM

More recently...

- recognition plans for Pastor Appreciation Month
- updating our Employee Handbook and staff job descriptions which haven't been done in a number of years
- updating and re-implementing annual performance evaluations of our 5 staff members
- meeting with the District Superintendent on October 13 to discuss our local church's annual information (LCPA) and long-term information (LCPL) - committee discussed, then completed required paperwork prior to meeting
- increasing our meetings from quarterly to monthly, for now, to accomplish our work
- creating a SPRC notebook to keep track of required duties & activities, to pass on to next Chair of committee

We've been busy!!!

### CPR/First Aid/AED Training

*Sunday, November 10, 12 pm - 2 pm, classroom 7*

Sandra Andrews is graciously offering another training class. It is free of charge, unless you would like certification from Red Cross, valid for 2 years; then the charge is \$30. Participants will need to start an online portion of training before they can begin the instructor-led class. The online class will take about 2.5 hours to complete. RSVP to Katie Chapman at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org) by November 5. Class space is limited to 10-12 people.

## What Are You Thankful For in Life?

Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm



I recently celebrated 61 years of life on October 19. Time flies by from decade to decade! I am coaching myself with a positive mindset: “The 60’s are the new 40’s.” Well, maybe, I should be realistic and say: “the new 50’s!” However, I am thankful for having another year of life with the hopes of many more birthdays.

None of us know for sure how many years we will have on this earth but we are assured of the promise of eternal life as made known in great part with the scripture from John 3:16: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”* Those are hopeful and promising words that each of us can be thankful for and rely on in our walk as children of God.

What are you thankful for in life? That was the question my mother often asked of everyone seated around the table on Thanksgiving Day when she and my father hosted the family meal in their home. Three themes of thanksgiving often emerged in the time of sharing from my parents, siblings, in-laws, and the grandchildren: faith, family, and friends. We reminded one another not to take such things for granted as so many people yearn for and desire the same things.

In particular, as I write this article, I am also thankful for at least four other things: being blessed to have another day to live and share with others, having a birthday on the same day of the month that my son was born, serving in joy with people of North Olmsted UMC, and the fact that snowflakes in northeast Ohio are not flying around yet which means that I might have one or two more opportunities to get my boat out on the water!

One of the exercises I am practicing more in my daily life and encourage you to practice is to name three things that you are thankful for each day. What will you name each day that leads you to be thankful for what God is blessing you with in life?

In thankfulness for each one of you,

Pastor Hoyte

*“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.  
And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15*

## Annual Charge Conference

*Saturday, November 9, 9 am - 11 am, Rocky River UMC*

All are welcome to this North Coast District gathering, where Dr. Rev. Steve Bailey, District Superintendent, will lead us in a discussion about our ministries, vision, and leadership in 2020.

## 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.

*Our Faithful  
Journey*



## Christian Education

### Support the Youth Mission Project:

CANstruction is a global non-profit organization that has donated over 50 million pounds of food since it was founded in 1992. Their mission is to CANstruct a world without hunger. CANstruction is a competition between teams of architects, engineers, and other professionals who create sculptures out of cans of food. Each team comes up with a sculpture design, searches for cans of food that will make their sculpture come to life, and in the spring they build and display their sculpture. This school year, our youth are working to raise funds that will help our local CANstruction team, headed up by John Wolter, to create and build their latest sculpture, which will be on display in April 2020. After the competition, all of the canned food will be donated to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

#### Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The youth would like to thank all who purchased monkey bread last month! We raised \$110. This was our first fundraiser of the year for the Sunday School CANstruction Mission Project. Thank you!

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in northeast Ohio. In 2018 alone, the Food Bank provided over 57 million meals to hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland, and Richland counties. Throughout this area, 1 in 6 people is food insecure, meaning they may not know where their next meal will come from. The Food Bank's mission is to ensure that everyone in these communities has the nutritious food they need.

### Justice and Witness Program

*Sunday, November 3, 9 am - 10 am, classroom 4*

You are invited to a Justice and Witness program with a focus on poverty (economic justice). Join us during the Sunday School hour as we do some activities that will help us gain understanding of some of the challenges facing those who do not have the monetary resources many of us enjoy.



### Annual Christmas Flower Sale

*November 17 - December 9*

The youth are currently taking orders for Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti that will be placed on the altar on Christmas Eve. Order forms for these flowers will be available in Fellowship Hall beginning November 17. Poinsettias come in red, white, pink, variegated, and burgundy. All plants are in 6" pots, and sell for \$10. Proceeds from the sale will benefit this year's Sunday School CANstruction Mission Project. Place orders in the purple box in Fellowship Hall, call the church office (ext. 13), or email orders to Wendy Cooper at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org).

### Adult Sunday School Class Advent Study: *Dinner by Candlelight*, by Kevin Schaner

*Sundays during Advent, 9 am, Chapel*

*Meet the Author on Sunday, December 1, 9 am*

The Adult Sunday school class will welcome Kevin Schaner, author of *Dinner by Candlelight*, a book that celebrates Advent, on Sunday, December 1. Kevin is the Global Missions Secretary of the East Ohio Conference and has been on many global missions. She is a member of Church of the Saviour and lives in Cleveland Heights. She will sign copies of her book, introduce it to us, and talk a bit about her work as a missionary and writer. Kevin will have copies of her book available for \$12. Claudia Taller found her to be inspiring when she first met her at a workshop and thinks you'll be inspired, too. During the remainder of Advent, the Adult Sunday school class will meet weekly to continue to reflect on and discuss the book.

## Opportunities to Give

### United Methodist Student Day

*Sunday, November 24*

United Methodist Student Day is one of six Special Sundays when we receive an offering for a particular ministry through the denomination. On the last Sunday in November, your gifts through this offering benefit students as they pursue opportunities in higher education. Your contribution will be joined with those of millions of other United Methodists to provide scholarships to deserving recipients. This offering has raised more than \$400,000 and helps more than 300 students a year.

Student Day was first celebrated in 1940 when a college education could be attained for \$450 annually. Today, that same education costs an average of \$23,000 each year. We are invited to invest in young leaders by giving generously on United Methodist Student Day as part of our offering on November 24. Make checks payable to NOUMC and write *United Methodist Student Day* on the memo line. Please give generously.



### Oxcart Pantry Collection

*Collecting mashed potatoes and gravy for Thanksgiving baskets until November 10*

*Collecting cleaning supplies, especially laundry detergent, until December 8*

Last month, the cart to get our item-of-the-month collection to the car was groaning due to the peanut butter and all the additional items given. We're now collecting mashed potatoes and gravy, due November 10. These will go into the Thanksgiving baskets, given to about 200 families. After that, we will begin collecting cleaning products, with an emphasis on laundry detergent, an especially needed item. All of these collections will help to make your neighbors' holidays a little brighter. Stay tuned for Christmas Adopt-a-Family information in future bulletins.



### Support Oxcart Pantry for Christmas

*November 17 is Penny Sunday*



We are collecting stocking stuffers to provide little extras for folks receiving help at Oxcart Pantry this Christmas. You can find a list of suggestions below, but you are welcome to use your imagination. Keep in mind, we make up stockings for men, women, boys, and girls. The stockings provide little gifts and candy, but more importantly, toiletry articles that can be shared with anyone in the household. Please know that these gifts are appreciated; some of the clients have asked if there would be stockings this year. Place items in the green box in Fellowship Hall. The November Penny Sunday offering will go towards purchasing stocking stuffers. If you would rather we do the shopping, give a little extra that day.



### Oxcart Pantry Christmas Stocking Shopping List

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



## Opportunities to Serve and to Give

### Military Coupon Collection

*The military can use coupons up to 6 months after the expiration date.*

We continue to collect coupons for military families to use at the PX. These coupons help families to stretch their budgets and are greatly appreciated. *Please be sure to clip the coupons before bringing them*; however, it is not necessary to sort them. Place them in the envelope under the Outreach bulletin board by the nursery.

### Calendar Collection

We are collecting extra 2020 calendars that you may receive in the mail. They will be donated to City Mission and the Cuyahoga County Jail. Look for the collection box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your donations.

### Holiday Free Community Meal

*Thursday, December 5, 4:30 pm - 6 pm*

*North Olmsted UMC Fellowship Hall*

We are serving pork loin, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, salad, dessert, and beverages. If you can help to serve in this ministry to the community, please sign up on the Outreach Board in Fellowship Hall. For more information, please see Barb Linton.



## United Methodist Women

### Fall Rummage Sale

*Saturday, November 9, 9 am - 3 pm*

We are in need of your help once more. This looks like it will be a big rummage sale if the amount of items in the church attic is any indication. We will need lots of help on Thursday and Friday, the 7th and 8th, sorting and pricing, starting at 9 am and working until things get done. We will have a bake sale table again, so we can use donations of baked goods. On the day of the sale (the 9th) we can use some help from you even if you can only help out for an hour or two to give our regulars a well-deserved break. Once again we will pay members of the work mission team who help with the cleanup at 3 pm, but others are certainly welcome, because by 3 pm on that third day, we are really tired. We appreciate those of you who have kept your rummage at home until the week of the sale because of the overflow in the attic. We also appreciate those who have helped to stock the attic during the year. We couldn't do this without your help.

### UMW Christmas Luncheon

*Wednesday, December 4, location TBA*

Our big give-away of money will occur on December 4. It's just another thing we couldn't do without you. Before that day, please let us know whether your group or you as an individual have a need for money for a project at church. You can put a note in the UMW box or send an email to Barb Andrews with the project and a dollar amount needed. We can't promise every request will be granted in full, but we do our best. We will meet at the church at 10 am and head out by noon for our Christmas luncheon. We have not picked a destination for lunch yet, but we would love to have you join us.

*Many thanks to everyone who baked, donated crafts, helped at the craft show itself or helped with clean up. Also, we appreciate all of you who came and bought crafts from our vendors or had lunch with us. There are still advertisements to pay for, but we should clear around \$700.*

### Thanksgiving Card-Making for Oxcart Food Pantry

*Friday, November 15, 6 pm - 7:30 pm, Fellowship Hall*

Join us as we make cards for the Food Pantry. These cards will be added to food Baskets given out for Thanksgiving. This is open to all ages—youth and adults. Please help us wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and remind them that God LOVES them and so do we.



*Work Mission Fundraiser is Sunday, November 17, 8:30 am - 10:30 am*

All are welcome to come out and support Youth Work Mission! A free-will offering will be collected. We encourage all youth to attend to help us cook and serve.

### Youth Work Mission Meeting

*Sunday, November 24, 5:30 pm*

*North Olmsted United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall*

Our next meeting is coming up at the end of the month. Dinner will be provided. Youth Work Mission is open to youth (6th grade and up) and adults. If you have never been on mission trip, we encourage you to come check us out and see what it's all about. We'd LOVE to have you. If you have been before, but it's been a few years, we will welcome you back with open arms.

### Here Comes Santa Claus, Here Comes Santa Claus

*Santa will join us on December 14, 9 am and 10:15 am seating times*

Mark your calendar for our 3rd Annual Breakfast with Santa. We encourage all to RSVP for your preferred seating time, 9 am or 10:15 am. We are in need of help at this free event, open to the community. If you can help with set up, cooking, working the event itself, or clean up, please contact Katie Chapman at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org). We will need all the help we can get!



### Youth Council Meeting

*Sunday, December 1, 12 pm, Youth Room*

Vision Statement:

"To provide a safe, welcoming, and accepting place for children and youth to share the love of Jesus Christ, while empowering and encouraging them on their Christian journey."

### Thank You

*Thank you to all who participated in Trunk or Treat! The community is blessed to have NOUMC provide so many amazing opportunities for them. A GINORMOUS thank you to United Methodist Men for providing donuts as a snack while the families were Trick or Treating.*

## Opportunities for Fellowship

### A Night at the Movies

*Friday, November 15, 7:30 pm, Stocker Arts Center*

Church members and friends are welcome to a night at the movies, sponsored by Adult Council. The movie *Bride Flight* is being shown at the LCCC film series. Tickets can be purchased for \$7 online or inside Stocker Arts Center. A couple rows of seats will be saved, so come out and find us in the Hoke Theater. *Bride Flight* tells a powerful story about the inextricable link between the past and the present. The premise of the film is the 1953 Air Race from London to Christchurch, New Zealand, which was won by a Dutch airline, KLM. Many Dutch people, some of whom were young women flying to meet their fiancées, took the leap of faith, or flight of faith, to an unknown land for a new start. The film is known as one of the most lavish and expensive Dutch-language features ever made.



### A Christmas Carol Outing

*Sunday, December 15, 3 pm, Ewing Theatre*

*Payment due by November 17*

Join Adult Council for a new adaptation of the beloved Charles Dickens' classic play at the Ewing Theater at French Creek Reservation in Sheffield Village. A small troupe of actors will tell the entire redemptive story of Ebenezer Scrooge through puppetry, song, and a lot of imagination. Fast paced and funny, this intimate production still honors the true spirit of the season. Tickets will be approximately \$15.00 depending on attendance. We will need a check in advance to purchase tickets. A sign-up sheet to determine interest will begin November 3. Payment is due to Charlene Vas by November 17.



### Dover Players Presents a Fall Musical!

#### *Parktown - A Historical Musical Comedy*

***Written by Keith Behrendt and Directed by Jeff Campbell***

*Nov. 1-3, 9-10, and 15-17 at NOUMC*

*Fri/Sat at 8 pm and Sun at 3 pm*

*Note: No performance on Friday, Nov. 8 due to the NOUMC Rummage Sale the following day*

Synopsis: Jim comes back to his childhood home of Parktown and suggests celebrating a Bicentennial; not everyone agrees it is a good idea, along with worries of what researching the town's history may reveal. History can be subjective. This musical play takes us through Jim's journey to research, build, and promote a celebration, while discovering his own family history in Parktown. Celebrate 200 years from something at The Bicentennial of Parktown.

Come support NOUMC players Anita Bridges, Bill Ransom, and Marilyn Ransom in Parktown!

Concession profits and a portion of ticket sales benefit the church.

Contact Dover Players (Linda Little) at [doverplayers@gmail.com](mailto:doverplayers@gmail.com) or at 440-782-0095 to purchase tickets.

There is a UMM sponsored Turkey Dinner and Parktown Musical option scheduled for Saturday, November 2.

See page 1 for more details about the Turkey Dinner and Musical option.



# November 2019

Page 9

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Office Hours:</b> Mondays - Wednesdays 10 am to 2 pm, Thursdays 1 pm to 5 pm <b>Director of Christian Education Office Hours:</b> Mondays 1 pm to 3 pm, Thursdays 12 pm to 3 pm <b>Youth Director Office Hours:</b> Mondays & Thursdays 11 am to 2:30 pm					<b>1</b> 10 am - 12 pm DDL 1 pm - 3 pm Sanctuary Reserved  8 pm Dover Players	<b>2</b> 8:30 am UMM at Canary's Restaurant  5 pm - 7 pm Turkey Dinner  8 pm Parktown - A Historical Musical
<b>3</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends: Fall Back All Saints Sunday 9 am Sunday School 9 am Justice and Witness 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Stephen Ministry Training 12 pm Outreach 12 pm Nurture 3 pm Dover Players	<b>4</b>  6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>5</b> 11 am AA	<b>6</b> 10 am UMW  8:30 pm AA	<b>7</b> 9 am - 2 pm Sort Rummage  1:30 pm Staff Meeting  6 pm Stephen Leaders 7 pm Choir	<b>8</b> 9 am - 2 pm Sort Rummage	<b>9</b> 9 am - 3 pm UMW Rummage Sale  9 am - 11 am Charge Conference at Rocky River UMC  6 pm Open Table at Church of the Redeemer 8 pm Dover Players
<b>10</b> Stewardship Sunday 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  12 pm CPR Training  3 pm Dover Players 6 pm Scouts	<b>11</b>  6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>12</b> 11 am AA	<b>13</b> 10 am UMW  8:30 pm AA	<b>14</b>  6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm Choir	<b>15</b> 10 am DDL 1 pm - 3 pm Sanctuary Reserved 6 pm Card- Making for Oxcart Pantry 7:30 pm Adult Council Outing 8 pm Dover Players	<b>16</b> 9 am - 12 am Scrapbook Club  9 am - 2:30 pm Fellowship Hall Rental 8 pm Dover Players
<b>17</b> Penny Sunday 8:30 am Work Mission Pancake Breakfast 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  12 pm Update on the Future of The UMC 3 pm Dover Players	<b>18</b>  6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>19</b> 11 am AA  6:30 pm Stephen Ministers	<b>20</b> 10 am UMW  8:30 pm AA	<b>21</b> 11:30 am Lunch with Friends  7 pm Choir	<b>22</b> 10 am - 12 pm DDL  1 pm - 3 pm Sanctuary Reserved	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> UM Student Day 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  12 pm SPRC  5:30 pm Work Mission 6 pm Scouts	<b>25</b>  6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>26</b> 11 am AA  1:30 pm Alzheimer's Association	<b>27</b> 10 am UMW  8:30 pm AA	<b>28</b> Thanksgiving Day/Office Closed	<b>29</b> 1 pm - 3 pm Sanctuary Reserved	<b>30</b>

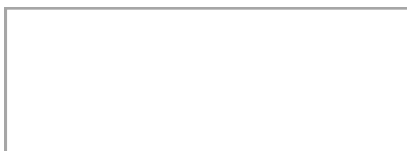


North Olmsted United Methodist Church  
4600 Dover Center Road  
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

### Agape Newsletter

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## Holiday Free Community Meal

*(no meal in November)*

*Holiday Community Meal*



*Thursday, December 5*

*4:30 pm - 6 pm*

pork loin, scalloped potatoes, salad,  
peas and carrots, dessert, and beverages

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.*