

# Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

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March 2020

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## Youth Work Mission Announces Destination

**July 12-18**

*Next meeting is Sunday, March 29, 5:30 pm, Westlake UMC*

Once again, the youth (and adults) of NOUMC are making plans to go out into the world and help those in need. This year we are headed to Epworth UMC in Bethesda, Ohio to do some construction work. As last year, we will partner with Westlake UMC. We will spend a week working and meeting the people of the rural community of Bethesda. North Olmsted UMC has always been enthusiastically supportive of our mission, and we thank you!

*If you are interested in joining the team or would like more information, join us at our next meeting. You can also contact John Wolter for more information.*



## Chili Cook-Off to Benefit Youth Work Mission

*Sunday, March 22, 11:30 am, Fellowship Hall*

Please plan to stay after worship on March 22 for our annual Youth Work Mission Chili Cook-Off. We will have a variety of chili and soups for you to sample, and you'll have the opportunity to vote for your favorites! Everyone is invited to participate. If you would like to enter your recipe, please email Tammy Moore or Katie Chapman at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org). A free will offering will be collected to benefit this summer's Youth Work Mission Trip.



## The United Methodist Lent Quiz\*

**What does the term 'Lent,' which comes from 'lencten,' mean?**

☐ Sacrifice ☐ Time ☐ Spring ☐ March Madness

**How were ashes imposed in the early church?**

☐ The shape of a cross was drawn on the forehead.

☐ Ashes were smeared across closed eyelids.

☐ Ashes were poured or sprinkled over the head.

**Why do people give things up for Lent?**

☐ To follow the example of Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness.

☐ To help us focus on prayer and devotions.

☐ To give the acquired savings to the poor.

☐ All of the above.

**What snack food has significance during Lent?**

☐ Chocolate ☐ Pretzels ☐ Popcorn ☐ All of the above.

**Many people fast during Lent. How often did John Wesley fast?**

☐ Twice a week ☐ Twice a month ☐ Twice a year ☐ Rarely ☐ He did not fast.

**Why does Lent last 40 days?**

☐ To represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by Satan.

☐ To recall the 40 days and nights the earth was flooded in the Old Testament.

☐ To remind us of the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert.

**What do some United Methodists not sing at Lent?**

☐ Doxologies ☐ Alleluia ☐ "In the Garden" ☐ The communion liturgy

**Which hymn, based on St. Patrick's prayer, would be a good Lenten devotion?**

☐ "Jesus Walked This Lonely Valley"

☐ "Christ Beside Me"

☐ "O Happy Day, That Fixed My Choice"

☐ "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

**True or false? Sundays are not counted in the 40 days of Lent.**

☐ True ☐ False

**When early Methodists in America sat in a church on a mourner's bench, they would:**

☐ Repent their sins ☐ Experience a new birth ☐ Rededicate themselves to Jesus ☐ All of the above



### Answers:

1. What does the term 'Lent,' which comes from 'lencten,' mean? The correct answer is spring.
2. How were ashes imposed in the early church? The correct answer is ashes were poured or sprinkled over the head.
3. Why do people give things up for Lent? The correct answer is all of the above.
4. What snack food has significance during Lent? The correct answer is pretzels.
5. Many people fast during Lent. How often did John Wesley fast? The correct answer is twice a week.
6. Why does Lent last 40 days? The correct answer is to represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by Satan.
7. What do some United Methodists not sing at Lent? The correct answer is Alleluia.
8. Which hymn, based on St. Patrick's prayer, would be a good Lenten devotion? The correct answer is "Christ Beside Me."
9. True or false? Sundays are not counted in the 40 days of Lent. The correct answer is True.
10. When early Methodists in America sat in a church on a mourner's bench, they would: The correct answer is all of the above.

\*The United Methodist Church: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-united-methodist-lent-quiz>

## Opportunities for Fellowship

### Chicken Dinner, sponsored by United Methodist Men, and *The Boyfriend*, a Dover Players Production

*Special Dinner and Play Performance **Only** on Saturday, March 14*

*Dinner from 5 pm – 7 pm; Performance at 8 pm*

Adults - \$13.00 (Dinner only - \$10.00)

Seniors - \$12.00 (Dinner Only - \$9.00)

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

Children ages 5 & under - Free



Call Ed Brewster at 440-785-7319 for reservations for the *dinner only* and *dinner & show* combination package.  
(*Play* performance only, call Dover Players at 440-782-0095.)

### *The Boyfriend*

#### Solve the “*Twistery*”

*Who is the boyfriend - that charming, but strange young man with no past? Is he a psychopathic serial killer, a victim of a paranoid father's vivid imagination, or something different altogether?*

*March 13-15, March 20-22, and March 27-29*

*Friday/Saturday at 8 pm Sunday at 3 pm*

Contact Dover Players (Linda Little) at 440-782-0095 or [doverplayers@gmail.com](mailto:doverplayers@gmail.com)  
for reservations available for \$5.00 per seat.



*Special Dollar Dog Offer for all Performances:* Spend a dollar, get a hotdog during intermission.

*All concession proceeds and a portion of the ticket price benefits the church.*

### Lunch with Friends

*Thursday, March 19, 11:30 am*

Our group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. Watch the bulletin for the location. Join us for a couple of hours of food and fellowship. To RSVP, call and leave a message with Carole Bettinger.

### 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

Wendy Cooper, Director of Christian Education

### Easter Flowers

*Order forms available beginning on March 8 and due by March 29*

The youth are selling Easter Lillies, Hyacinths, Martha Washington Geraniums, and Tulips to decorate the altar on Easter Sunday. Order forms will be available in Fellowship Hall. Please fold your money into the form and place your orders in the purple box. You may also contact Wendy Cooper at ext. 13 or at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org) to place your order. Proceeds will benefit the Sunday School CANstruction Mission Project.



### Sunday School Mission Project: CANstruction and the Greater Cleveland Food Bank

I was excited to get an update from John Wolter and our local CANstruction team! The theme of this year's competition is: *It CAN Be Fun to Do the Impossible*. The team has come up with a concept for their structure: playing off the popular video game, they will build a *Portal To The Moon*! John says, "Imagine if there was a gateway you could just step through and you're on the moon!" The team will build their structure at Southpark Mall, and it will be on display in April (specific dates to be announced soon). All of the money raised by our youth this year will be given to John and his team so they can purchase the canned food and other items they will need to build their structure. When the structure is disassembled, all of the canned food will be donated to the Cleveland Food Bank!

#### Souper Bowl of Caring Thank You

The youth would also like to thank the congregation for your generous donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser. A total of \$127.65 was received, and 100% of that will be sent directly to the North Olmsted Oxcart Food Pantry.

#### Sub Sale Thank You

Thank you for purchasing subs at our sub sale! We raised \$214 for the Sunday School CANstruction Mission Project. Thank you also to Jean Scothon, Sarah Jackson, Marilyn Ransom, and Katie Chapman for helping to make the subs! We hope you enjoyed eating them as much as we enjoyed making them for you!

### Join Our Sunday School Program: Teachers Needed!

We currently do not have enough teachers for our Sunday School classes. We really need a few more people to volunteer to teach one or two Sundays a month. **YOU** would be perfect for the job! Teaching would only require an hour or two of preparation time and an hour of teaching time on Sunday mornings. Please consider volunteering; teaching our youth is a great blessing! Please see Wendy Cooper if you have questions or would like to sign up!



### United Methodist Camp Information Is Here!

*Please see Wendy Cooper or Katie Chapman for the informational brochure.*

## Youth News

Katie Chapman, Youth Leader

### **Bowling: All the cool kids are doing it!**

*Sunday, March 8, 1 pm, Buckeye Lanes*

Join us at Buckeye Lanes for an exciting afternoon of bowling. Adults and youth are encouraged to attend this event. The last few years we have had a great time. The cost of bowling and shoes will be covered for all youth. The cost for adults is \$3.75/game and \$2.85 for shoe rental. Please RSVP to Katie at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org).



### **Breakfast with The Bunny**

*Saturday, April 4, Fellowship Hall*

*Seatings at 9 am and 10:15 am*

Save the date for our 2nd Annual Breakfast with The Bunny. Join us for breakfast, an egg hunt, photos with the Easter Bunny, and more! He will be hopping in on April 4 from 9 am - 11:30 am. Seatings will be 9 am - 10:15 am and 10:15 am - 11:30 am. Please spread the word, invite your friends to this free event, and RSVP to Katie Chapman at [youth@noumc.org](mailto:youth@noumc.org) with the number in your party and your preferred seating time.

### **A BIG THANK YOU!!!**

The youth would like to give a big shout out and "Thank You" to Viola Crow for her generous donation to our youth program. We appreciate your support and miss seeing your smiling face in church. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. :)

## United Methodist Women

### **UMW Spring Clothing Drive**

*Coming Soon!*

Start saving your used clothing, shoes, towels, sheets, and accessories. We will be filling a truck with your bagged donations. Full details to be announced soon! *(No rummage in the attic, please!)*

### **UMW Plant Sale**

*May 9*

It's almost time for our annual spring plant sale! Order forms will be available in April.



*The UMW thanks you for your many years of support in all our endeavors, and we count on your continuing help as we try to come up with new fundraisers.*

## Opportunities to Give and to Serve

### Oxcart Pantry Collection

*Collecting canned vegetables until March 8*

*Collecting canned fruit until April 12*

We donated 121 cans of soup to Oxcart Pantry in February. Thank you for doing your part to help your neighbors.

### Free Community Meal

*Thursday, March 26, 4:30 pm - 6 pm*

Join us for pork roast, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, salad, bread, and dessert. We especially need help with set-up at 3 pm; please sign up on the Outreach Board in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Barb Linton.

### Support UMCOR

*UMCOR Sunday is March 22*

We read or watch on the news and see communities overwhelmed by natural disaster. We hear about humanitarian crises arising from civil unrest and war. We know that famine and drought are caused by climate change and see in our own community signs of food insecurity. And, of course, when we are also in the midst of our own suffering, it is hard to see beyond our own needs to help someone else.

Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), we can make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upended by storms, wars, climate change, and displacement. Through UMCOR, we see the impact of extravagant grace through the generosity of United Methodists.

UMCOR Sunday is one of the six special offering Sundays in the life of The United Methodist Church. Gifts given on this day go to cover the administrative costs of the United Methodist Committee on Relief so that gifts given to UMCOR the rest of the year can go where they are needed most.

Checks can be made payable to *North Olmsted United Methodist Church*. Write *UMCOR Sunday* on the memo line.

### March Penny Sunday: Easter Basket Items for Oxcart Pantry

*Penny Sunday is March 15*

*Easter Basket Items due March 29*

We are collecting items again for Easter Baskets to be given out at Oxcart Pantry. A list of needed items can be found below. Place items in the green box in Fellowship Hall. If you would rather we did the shopping for you, March's Penny Sunday Offering will go towards that purchase. We realize hotels are not giving out many of the small toiletries any more, so we have a greater need for those items. It should be noted that some of the clients of the food pantry actually ask if there will be baskets given out, so please know they are appreciated.



#### Oxcart Pantry Easter Basket Shopping List

- |                            |                         |                     |                        |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ◇ Easter baskets           | ◇ 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            |

# March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Nurture	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Dover Players Rehearsal 8:30 pm AA	<b>3</b> 11 am AA	<b>4</b> 10 am UMW 7 pm Dover Players Rehearsal 8:30 pm AA	<b>5</b> 7 pm Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30 am UMM Breakfast at Canary's Restaurant 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved 1 pm - 4 pm FH Rental
<b>8</b> <i>Daylight Saving Time begins: Spring Forward!</i> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 1 pm Bowling 2 pm Dover Players Rehearsal 6 pm Scouts	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Dover Players Rehearsal 8:30 pm AA	<b>10</b> 11 am AA	<b>11</b> 10 am UMW 7 pm Dover Players Rehearsal 8:30 pm AA	<b>12</b> 6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm Choir	<b>13</b> 8 pm Dover Players Production	<b>14</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved 5 pm - 7 pm UMM Chicken Dinner 8 pm Dover Players Production
<b>15</b> <i>April Agape Deadline Penny Sunday</i> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Outreach 3 pm Dover Players Production	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>17</b> 11 am AA 6:30 pm Stephen Ministers	<b>18</b> 10 am UMW 8:30 pm AA	<b>19</b> 11:30 am Lunch with Friends 7 pm Choir	<b>20</b> 8 pm Dover Players Production	<b>21</b> 9 am - 12 am Scrapbook Club 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved 8 pm Dover Players Production
<b>22</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Chili Cook-Off 3 pm Dover Players Production 6 pm Scouts	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>24</b> 11 am AA	<b>25</b> 10 am UMW 8:30 pm AA	<b>26</b> 4:30 pm - 6 pm Free Community Meal 7 pm Choir	<b>27</b> 8 pm Dover Players Production	<b>28</b> 10 am - 1 pm Sanctuary Reserved 8 pm Dover Players Production
<b>29</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 12 pm Ad. Board 3 pm Dover Players Production 5:30 pm Youth Work Mission Meeting-WUMC	<b>30</b> 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Bell Choir 8:30 pm AA	<b>31</b> 11 am AA	<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			



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

## Agape Newsletter



# March Free Community Meal



*Thursday, March 26*

*4:30 pm - 6 pm*

We are serving pork roast,  
scalloped potatoes, vegetables, salad,  
bread, and dessert

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.*