

Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 55 Issue 9

September 2021

UMM Rally Day BBQ Meal

(Carry-Out Only)

Pick up your order on Sunday, September 12, 11:45 am – 12:30 pm

Support the United Methodist Men by ordering a delicious, carry-out BBQ meal! For \$10, you will receive a pulled pork BBQ sandwich, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, and a cookie. *Make checks payable to NOUMC and write Rally Day meal in the memo.* Pre-order your meal on Sunday, September 5 before or after worship, or contact Ed Brewster. Leave a message, and Ed will return your call.



It's Time for Rally Day!

Join Us as We Kick Off the New School Year!

Sunday, September 12, 9 am

Join us as we kick off our new Sunday School year with a fun morning filled with games and food on September 12! *All children and youth are welcome, and they are invited to bring along a friend or two!*



Classes will begin the following week, on September 19.

This year, we are offering an **Elementary Class (Grades 1-4)**, a **Middle School Class (Grades 5-7)**, and a **High School/Young Adult Class (Grades 8-12+)**.

We will also offer an **Adult Class**, taught by Craig Mueller, that will meet at 9 am in the Choir Room, beginning on September 12. Craig's class will study the DVD series: *"Faithful and Inclusive"*. This study "allows participants to gain an understanding of how United Methodists can be both obedient to God's Word and fully welcoming to LGBTQ persons in the church." All are welcome to join in on the discussion each week. Hope to see you there!

Volunteer Teachers Needed and Welcomed!

Please consider volunteering to teach in our Sunday School classrooms. We are in need of teachers for every level. We like to have enough teachers so that the classes can be taught on rotation: you don't have to teach every week, and you can pick and choose the weeks that work best for you. If you have an interest and feel called to teach, please contact Wendy Cooper at noumc@noumc.org or ext. 13.

Worship With Us!

Worship With Us In-Person and Online

Sundays at 10:30 am

As an expression of love for our entire community, we require all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face masks throughout their time in the building.

If you are ill or experiencing symptoms, please stay home and worship with us online.

Visit <http://www.noumc.org/worship-remote-worship-resources/> for bulletins and worship links.

Date	Greeter(s)	Liturgist	Usher(s)
September 5	Sarah Jackson	Floyd Andrews	Beth Cruz
September 12	Charlene & John Vas	Bill Ransom	Barb & Ron Clough
September 19	Jean Scothon	Randall Sheets	Judi Wagner & Guylene Harold
September 26	Sally Coast	Alice Walsh	Sarah Jackson & Sydney Scothon

Join Us for East Ohio's Teach • Reach • Bless Saturation Sunday!

Sunday, September 19, 10:30 am, North Olmsted UMC

North Olmsted UMC has been faithful with their prayers and financial support for Africa University. Thank you, all! As the church continues to support Africa University, *please note that we will host a guest preacher, Josefa E. Bethea Wall, during worship at 10:30 am on Sunday, September 19.* It will be a special, informative, and celebrative time of worship on the 19th. Invite a friend to worship with us that day!

Please note the bio for Josefa and the following statement from the East Ohio Conference.

“Representatives of Africa University will preach in East Ohio Conference churches on Sunday, September 19 as part of Saturation Sunday to promote the University and our Teach • Reach • Bless campaign to build a new dorm for female students on the AU campus. The dorm will enable more female students to live on campus, meaning they will not need to find off-campus housing and commute to class – situations that make them vulnerable to untenable situations.

TEACH
REACH
BLESS

The East Ohio Conference Teach • Reach • Bless campaign needs to collect \$442,349 to reach our goal of collecting the \$1.5 million dollars needed to build and furnish the dormitory. A challenge gift from Rev. Bill & Marty McFadden will add \$1 to every \$3 collected in 2021. This means that if the campaign collects \$331,762, the resulting challenge gift from that amount of \$110,587 will put us at our goal of collecting \$1.5 million.

On Saturation Sunday, September 19, pastors, congregations, and faith communities of the East Ohio Conference are asked to share the story of Africa University and the Teach • Reach • Bless campaign. In supporting Saturation Sunday and the campaign we are showing our commitment to improving the education and wellness of women today for a better Africa tomorrow.”

Bio of Josefa E. Bethea Wall,

Guest Preacher on Teach • Reach • Bless Saturation Sunday

Josefa E. Bethea Wall, a lifelong Methodist, is a native of North Carolina. She is the daughter of the late Bishop Joseph B. and Shirley C. Bethea. Motivated to be a servant leader, she has served the United Methodist Church in a variety of capacities. Currently, she is Director of Planned Giving for Africa University. She has served on the Advisory Development Committee for the university for over 20 years. She served as the secretary for the Board of Directors for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and was a member of the Loans & Scholarship Committee for one quadrennium. She continues to support the UM-related Black College Fund, for which she served as an ambassador in 1984 and 1985. Josefa has been a delegate to the World Methodist Conferences held in Waikiki, Hawaii; Nairobi, Kenya; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Brighton, England; and Durban, South Africa. In 2011, she was named a member of the World Methodist Council. She has also served the church in her role as a freelance writer for United Methodist Communications.



Mrs. Bethea Wall has over 30 years of experience in community-building, grants management, and higher education. She has worked as Community Fund Grants Manager for United Way of Central New Mexico, State Coordinator for Citizen Schools - New Mexico, Director for the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Community School Partnership, Program Officer for the Moses Cone - Wesley Long Community Health Foundation, and Community Initiatives Specialist for United Way of Greater Greensboro. In each of her roles, she has focused on advancing sustainable community development by cultivating strategic partnerships, guiding the mobilization of nonprofit organizations toward collective impact, and engaging stakeholders in efforts to improve the quality of life for all.

Mrs. Bethea Wall received her baccalaureate from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, one of eleven historically black colleges supported by the United Methodist Church.

She has a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in Nonprofit Management from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; a Nonprofit Management Certificate from Duke University; Process Management and Nonprofit Management certificates from the University of New Mexico, and an Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from Lake Institute. Josefa is married to her childhood sweetheart, Bryon Wall. Currently, Bryon is General Manager with Brookfield Properties.

Our September Penny Sunday Offering will go to support Africa University

September 19

Our September Penny Sunday offering will go to benefit the East Ohio Teach • Reach • Bless campaign to build a women's dorm at Africa University. Please give generously.

Make checks payable to NOUMC and write September Penny Sunday in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary. For those worshipping in-person, a basket will be designated for Penny Sunday.

August Penny Sunday Trivia: Last month, a trivia question was offered: How long have we generously provided food and companionship through the Free Community Meal ministry? The answer: 12 and a half years! Our first free community meal was held on March 26, 2009! Praise be to God for the faithfulness of this congregation! Join us for our next carry-out meal on September 30.

Opportunities to Give

Donate to Oxcart Pantry

*Collecting peanut butter and jelly
until Sunday, September 26*

Donations of peanut butter and jelly can be put in the Oxcart Pantry box in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your donations of backpacks and school supplies in July—we delivered a trunk-full of supplies, mostly backpacks, the most-needed item, to Oxcart Pantry for North Olmsted students.

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 Mission bulletin board by the nursery.

Opportunities for Fellowship

United Methodist Women

Next business meeting is Wednesday, September 1, 10 am, Classroom 7

It looks like our summer of lunches without working is about over. We will have our first business meeting on September 1 at 10 am. We are still taking things carefully, so we will decide our work schedule as time goes on. We are planning to hold the craft show on October 16, so plan on stopping by. And, of course, we will still be sneaking in lunch on Wednesdays whenever we can.

UMW Craft Show

Saturday, October 16, 9 am – 3 pm

The United Methodist Women are currently making plans for our upcoming craft show. We still have tables for rent; if you know a crafter, invite them to call Darlene Owings for more information.

Lunch with Friends

Meets on the third Thursday of each month, 11:30 am

For those of us who enjoy a good restaurant but don't want to eat alone, this is the group for you! We meet at different restaurants for food and fellowship. To find out where we will dine each month, read the church announcements or call Carole Bettinger. All are welcome!



Christian Education

Introducing Our New Sunday School Mission Project:

North Olmsted Oxcart Food Pantry



Jesus told us to "love God, love ourselves, and to love our neighbors." This year, our Sunday School theme is "love our neighbors." After a long, hard year of COVID, many of our neighbors are left without jobs and are unable to provide the basics for their families. The North Olmsted Oxcart Food Pantry is available to provide food assistance to North Olmsted families in need. During this Sunday School year, our youth will work to raise funds that will help the food pantry and our neighbors. Throughout the year, we are going to love our neighbors by holding fundraisers and donating all of the money we raise to Oxcart Pantry. We would appreciate it if you would help us to love our neighbors by supporting our mission project, and we ask that you keep our mission project in your prayers! Be on the lookout for information about our first fundraiser!

Thank You

The Wolter family would like to express our gratitude for the altar flowers from the August 15th service. Supporting worship has been a labor of love for our family. This and many other expressions of support from the congregation are very much appreciated.

I want to thank you for the graduation recognition as well as the graduation gift bag! It was all very sweet and much appreciated!

Thank you,
Jessica Plogger

Thank you so much for the graduation card and gift card. It was very nice of you to think of me.

Love,
Amy Cooper

We want to thank you very much for the graduation recognition in the church service. It was wonderful. After church, we felt like we were at a graduation party. Thank you for the gifts as well. It was so nice to have a reunion with members. It was like a homecoming with the refreshments and the balloons-with each color corresponding to schools they graduated from.

It was a great celebration, very nicely done. We really appreciate being involved, and we'll always remember the welcome we received. Thank you very much for your kindness.

Tasia and Jeanne

Thank you so much for the beautiful black-eyed susan plant and box of chocolates that you gave me for my anniversary as Administrative Assistant. I am grateful to have the opportunity to be in ministry with you all!

Megan Howe

Thank You for the Summer Fun!



A huge thank you to our Adult Fellowship team for our fabulous Luau! It was so great to meet safely with friends and enjoy Hawaiian traditions and treats. We are beyond grateful for the entire Krueger family sharing their talents --from Joanne's traditional Luau menu to Emily's amazing hula dancing. It made for a relaxing and beautiful summer evening. It was great to see everyone dressed in their tropical attire. Congrats to Marilyn and Bill Ransom who were voted our "Best Dressed" tourists! A special thank you for all who helped with clean-up and especially to our crafters—Carolyn Owings, Char Vas, Claudia Taller, Judi Wagner, Marilyn Ransom, Nancy Driftmyer, Sally Coast, and Sarah Jackson. Aloha!



Thank you to all who participated in our youth Summer Fest! We dodged the raindrops and the construction on Dover Center, but still had a great event. There was an obstacle course, squirt gun races, a parachute, putt-putt, popsicle crafts, balloon art, and bubbles galore! We met so many wonderful youth and their families. A special thank you to our helpers including Pastor Hoyte, Barb and Ron Clough, Carolyn Bernard, Jean Scothon, Judi Wagner, Sally Coast, and Sarah Jackson.

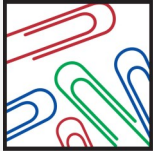


Church Office and Building Updates

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

On Tuesday, Megan will work from home and will continue to check her email and voicemail during office hours (10 am - 2 pm).



Office Hours

Pastoral Care

Please reach out to Pastor Hoyte by using his cell phone or email address at noumc@noumc.org if you have any questions or want to schedule an individual time to talk.

Pastor Hoyte continues to keep you in his thoughts and prayers. God IS with us!

Building Mask Policy

In light of the Delta Variant and current CDC guidelines and in respect for everyone's health, we will require all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face masks throughout their time in the building. Thank you for your understanding.

Financial Contributions to North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Please continue to be faithful with your financial gifts by sending your stewardship contributions to the church office to the attention of the Financial Secretary.

For those who worship with us in person, the ushers will have an offering plate available on Sunday.

October Agape Deadline

September 15

Please email articles and meeting dates to noumc@noumc.org, mail them to the church, attention Megan Howe, or put them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox outside the church office by September 15.

Church Staff: 440-779-6634

Pastor: Hoyte Wilhelm
ext.16

Director of Christian Education:
Wendy Cooper
ext.13

Organist: Marlene Dirksen

Admin. Assistant: Megan Howe
ext.10

Youth Director: Chris Byrns
ext. 14

Music Director: Gabriela Martinez

Social Media: Hanna Moore

Church Family News

1	Sandi O.
2	Jessica P.
9	Randall S.
10	Jason D.
11	John V.
11	Buford W.
12	Hadley B.
17	Chris B.
18	David J.
19	Gloria C.
20	Betty S.
22	Doris B.
22	Toni J.

SEPTEMBER



25	Judy F.	10	Becky & Jeff R.
25	Jim E.	10	Guylene H. & Josh O.
28	William G.	16	Barb & Dave L.
28	Beverly H.	19	Charlene & John V.
28	Ken D.	23	Rebecca & Kevin W.
30	Judie F.	26	Alice & Andy W.

Prayer Concerns

First Responders
 Victims of natural disasters
 Those suffering from mental illness
 Those affected by gun violence
 Those who are homeless
 Stephen Ministers, Care Receivers
 Our condolences to Judy K.
 following the passing of her
 friend, David
 Our condolences to Zola W.
 following the passing of her
 mother, Delma

Our condolences to Bill &
 Wendy C. following the passing
 of their brother-in-law, Larry
 Jan R.
 Scott, David L.'s brother
 Sherie, lifted by Brenda F.
 David R.
 Josh O.
 Carol W.
 Mary Lou L.
 Ron W.
 Barbara B.

Viola C.
 Susan W.
 Donald R.
 Keith A.
 Sterling B.
 Donna, sister of Carol N.
 Steve, son of Mary Ellen M.
 Selene, lifted by Carole A.
 Judy, lifted by Brenda F.
 Christopher Y., USAF
 Matthew F., USAF
 Lt. Col. Bill G., USMC

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.noumc.org.</p> <p><i>Please contact the church office to add your meeting or gathering, virtual or in-person, to the church calendar.</i></p>			1 10 am UMW (Classroom 7)	2 6 pm SPRC (FH)	3	4 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
5 10:30 am Worship	6 <i>Labor Day/ Office Closed</i> 8:30 pm AA (FH)	7 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 6:30 pm <i>Our Faithful Journey</i> (Zoom) 7 pm Scouts (FH)	8	9	10	11 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
12 Rally Day 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am UMM Rally Day BBQ Meal (Carry-Out Only) 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	13 8:30 pm AA (FH)	14 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	15 <i>October Agape Deadline</i>	16 11:30 am Lunch with Friends	17	18 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
19 Penny Sunday/ Teach Reach Bless Sunday 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	20 8:30 pm AA (FH)	21 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	22	23	24	25 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
26 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7) 5 pm Youth Group (UMCB)	27 8:30 pm AA (FH)	28 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm Scouts (FH)	29	30 4:30 pm - 6 pm Free Community Meal (Carry-out Only)		

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

4600 Dover Center Rd. North Olmsted, OH 44070
440-779-6634 + noumc@noumc.org + www.noumc.org

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

Agape Newsletter

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



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.

Free Community Meal Carry-Out Only

*Thursday, September 30,
4:30 pm - 6 pm*

Carry-Out Menu:

fish sticks, tater tots, coleslaw,
a roll, and dessert

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.*