

Agape

Greek for "Love without Limits"

North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Vol. 56 Issue 5

May 2022

The NOUMC Racial Justice Group – A Mission Trip and a Challenge

Regular meetings on Mondays, 12 pm - 1 pm, on Zoom

Next mission trip on Tuesday, June 7, 1 pm - 3 pm

21 Day Social Justice Challenge begins June 12

One of our United Methodist Social Principles affirms all persons as equally valuable in God's sight and states that we reject discrimination and assert the rights of minority groups to equal opportunities. How can we live out that principle? The NOUMC Racial Justice Group continues to explore that question. We meet via Zoom at noon on most Mondays and all are welcome to join us (contact Janis for a Zoom link.)

One action step we have taken is our support of the **Cleveland Kids' Book Bank**. The Cleveland area has an extremely high rate of child poverty, and two out of three low-income kids don't own a single book! Books lead to literacy and educational success. The Kids' Book Bank distributes free books to children in need through collaboration with community partners. Here are some ways you can help:

- Join us for our next mission trip to the Kids' Book Bank on Tuesday, June 7 from 1 to 3 pm. Volunteers must be 13 or older and ages 13-15 must be accompanied by an adult. We will carpool from NOUMC. See Janis Jarvis if you are interested.
- Donate new or gently used children's books. Books should be in good condition and with a copyright no earlier than 2000. We cannot accept textbooks, dictionaries, encyclopedias, or similar books.
- Visit www.kidsbookbank.org for more ways to help. They also have a wish list on Amazon.
- Consider helping with our NOUMC book drive. We need people to roll our book cart out before worship on Sundays. See Janis for details.

Our group is exploring another opportunity to widen our understanding of Racial Justice. We are working with Pastor Hoyte in the planning of a **21 Day Social Justice Challenge**. The challenge will be open to all so invite a friend. We will gather once a week for a Zoom discussion led by Pastor Hoyte. We plan to kick this off the week of June 12. Look for details in the May Bulletins and June Agape. Contact Pastor Hoyte at noumc@noumc.org or Sharon Werner for more information.



Support Kids' Book Bank

Penny Sunday is May 15

The May Penny Sunday Offering will go to support Kids' Book Bank and their mission to distribute free books to children through collaboration with community partners.

*Make checks payable to NOUMC and write **May Penny Sunday** in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary. For those worshipping in-person, an offering plate will be designated for Penny Sunday.*

Worship Opportunities

Worship With Us In-Person and Online

Sundays at 10:30 am

Masks continue to be optional.

However, please be sensitive to and respectful of those who choose to wear masks.

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)
May 1	Claudia & Paul Taller	John Wolter	Barb & Ron Clough
May 8	Ellie & Jim Yager	Alice Walsh	Judi Wagner & Guylene Harold
May 15	Jean Scothon	Marilyn Ransom	Sarah Jackson
May 22	Sarah Jackson	Chris Byrns	Beth Cruz
May 29	Barb & Floyd Andrews	Joel Chermonte	Barb & Ron Clough



Support the work of Native American United Methodist Ministries

Native American Ministries Sunday is May 1

On Native American Ministries Sunday, we partner with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support United Methodist ministries of Native Americans. One of the denomination's six special offerings, Native American Ministries Sunday helps to equip and ensure Native American leaders to authentically celebrate their voice in The United Methodist Church. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in this annual conference and half support the work of ministries nationally.

*Make checks payable to NOUMC and write **Native American Ministries Sunday** in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary.*

Opportunities for Fellowship and to Serve

United Methodist Men Ham Dinner Fundraiser (Carry-Out Only)

Sunday, May 15, 12 pm – 2 pm; Last day to order is Tuesday, May 10

The United Methodist Men's group is having a ham dinner fundraiser on Sunday, May 15. The dinner will include sliced ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, and cookies. The dinner will be carry-out only and will be packaged in containers for you to take home. Cost will be \$10. A sign-up sheet is available before and after worship on Sundays or by contacting Ed Brewster.

Oxcart Pantry Collection

Collecting condiments until May 29

In May, we are asking for donations of condiments, such as mayo, mustard, ketchup, pickles, relish, and barbecue sauce, because picnic season is coming soon. Thank you for helping to make the warm weather (it will come) even more enjoyable for your neighbors.

We sent over 100 salad dressings and salad toppings last month. Thank you for your generosity!

United Women in Faith Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 7; Plants delivered at 9 am; Pick up plant orders 12 pm – 2 pm

The truck is scheduled to arrive at 9 am, and we could use help unloading, counting the plants before paying, and sorting the orders. While we appreciate anyone's help, we especially could use help from people who are familiar with plants. Plant orders can be picked up from noon until 2 pm that day.

Regular meetings on Wednesdays

We continue to meet on Wednesdays with a business meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am as well as any Wednesday that we have a project to work on. Otherwise, we meet for lunch at a restaurant we choose. All are welcome! Check the chosen restaurant information with any UWF member, or contact Barb Andrews.

Spring Hike

Sunday, May 22, 1 pm (after worship)

Sandy Ridge Reservation (6195 Otten Road, North Ridgeville)

This beautiful place is a scenic wetlands area for bird-watching. The path is flat, and we will see lots of new offspring, including eagles. We are hoping to see Kevin, a sandhill crane who walks along the path. Bring binoculars if you have them. Sorry, no pets allowed on this path.

If you are joining us for worship in the morning, you are welcome to dress casual (comfortable hiking clothes and shoes) so that you are ready to go for the hike after worship. Bring a lunch bag as we will eat lunch before we depart on the hike. Contact Beth Cruz for more information.



Christian Education and Youth



Softball Outing

Monday, May 2, Game begins at 4:45 pm

A group of us will be traveling to **Olmsted Falls High School** to watch our Confirmand, Sydney Busser, as she and the Olmsted Falls Bulldogs softball team take on the Shoremen (Shorewomen?). The game starts at 4:45 pm. All are welcome to join us as we support Sydney! Carpool available. Contact Wendy Cooper for more information.

Kids Craft Day: Mother's Day Balloon Centerpiece

Saturday, May 7, 12 pm – 2 pm, Classroom 7

Kids are invited to join us and our resident balloon expert, Sarah Jackson, to create a balloon centerpiece to give to Mom for Mother's Day. Contact Wendy to register.

Attention Graduates

We will honor our graduates during worship on Sunday, June 12. If you are a recent graduate (high school, college, technical school, online degree, etc.) please send all of your details to Wendy Cooper by the end of May. She will need your name, school, degree, and what you plan to do next.

Egg Hunt Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make our community egg hunt an "eggcellent" success! We welcomed more than 70 children and their families to hunt eggs in our front yard. All children left with a bag full of candy, sticker pages, and goodies! Many parents thanked us for this wonderful event! This free event could not have been possible without those of you who donated candy, helped fill eggs, and volunteered at the event to set up before or clean up after. Thanks also to Sarah Jackson, who was our Easter Bunny, to Pastor Hoyte, who was our MC, and to Girl Scout Troop 71067, who helped us hide the eggs.

Wendy Cooper and Tammy Moore



Teach-Reach-Bless Campaign: Africa University Update

You may remember that our youth raised money last year for the East Ohio Conference Teach-Reach-Bless Campaign which challenged each EOC congregation to raise money to donate towards building a new, safe women's dorm at Africa University. The Conference has met our goal, raising the funds for this dorm in the first two years of the three-year campaign! The ground for this new residence hall was broken on April 12! Once again, thank you for supporting our youth and helping them to make a difference in our own city as well as across the world!

Church Office and Council 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).

Church Council and Council on Ministries Minutes

If you are interested in reading the details of all business and issues discussed at the Church Council or Council on Ministries meetings, please contact one of the following persons to obtain the link for direct access to the postings of the minutes of their meetings.

John Vas, Becky Riddlebaugh, or Megan Howe at noumc@noumc.org

At the current time, the meetings are held on alternating months. Council on Ministries was in April and Church Council is scheduled for May.

June Agape Deadline

May 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 May 15.

Church Office: 440-779-6634

noumc@noumc.org

Pastor: Hoyte Wilhelm
ext.16

Christian Ed. & Youth Director:
Wendy Cooper
ext.13

Organist: Marlene Dirksen

Admin. Assistant: Megan Howe
ext.10

Social Media: Hanna Moore

Music Director: Gabriela Martinez

Financial Secretary: Ron Clough

Thank You

Dear NOUMC,

I'm so enjoying my Easter gift bag which was delivered by Tammy Moore and the Easter Bunny (Sarah Jackson)! Every item is useable or "eatable"—yum! How thoughtful! The cross made of palm leaves is so lovely—it will lay on my shelf year round. Blessings to all.

Jane Philpott



Church Family News

1	Sara B.
3	John G.
4	Cameron R.
4	Raymond S.
5	Sam V.
9	Carole A.
10	Susan W.
10	Leslie D.
12	Mike M.
13	Carolyn O.
13	Alice W.



13	Judi W.	22	Colin J.	10	Barb & Ron C.
14	Chris B.	22	Zoe B.	14	Deb & Joel C.
14	Oriana B.	23	Georgia A.	22	Liz & Greg L.
15	Ed B.	24	Josh W.	22	Janis & David J.
15	Anita B.	25	Mark B.	27	Natalie & Josh W.
17	Lisa D.	26	Benjamin D.	28	Tammy & Mike M.
17	Guylene H.	27	Louise A.	30	Kelly & Chris B.
21	Linda G.	30	Shane M.	31	Barbara & Frank M.

Prayer Concerns

First Responders
 Victims of natural
 disasters
 Those suffering from mental illness
 Those affected by gun violence
 Those who are homeless
 Our condolences to the loved ones
 of Zola W.
 Sally S.
 Joan L.
 Maggie, lifted by Chris B.
 Hannah, lifted by Louise A.
 Carol W.
 Ron W.

Lois D.
 Josh O.
 Viola C.
 Susan W.
 Donald R.
 Keith A.
 Barbara 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

Lunch with Friends:

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

To find out where we will dine
 each month, read the church
 announcements or call
 Carole Bettinger.



May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Native American Ministries Sunday</i> 10:30 am Worship 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	2 12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom) 4:45 pm Softball Game 8:30 pm AA (FH)	3 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 7 pm SPRC (FH)	4 10 am UWF (Classroom 7) 7 pm Church Council (Classroom 7)	5 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	6 12 pm - 2 pm UWF Plant Sale 12 pm - 2 pm Kids Crafting (Classroom 7)	7 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved 12 pm - 2 pm UWF Plant Sale 12 pm - 2 pm Kids Crafting (Classroom 7)
8 10:30 am Worship 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	9 12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	10 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved	11 7 pm Worship Ministry Team (Zoom)	12 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	13 	14 8:30 am UMM Breakfast (Canary's) 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved
15 <i>June Agape Deadline Penny Sunday</i> 10:30 am Worship 12 pm - 2 pm UMM Ham Dinner (Carry-Out Only) 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	16 12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	17 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved	18 	19 11:30 am Lunch with Friends 7 pm Choir (Choir Room)	20 	21 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
22 10:30 am Worship 1 pm Spring Hike (Sandy Ridge Reservation)	23 12 pm - 1 pm Racial Justice Group (Zoom) 8:30 pm AA (FH)	24 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved	25 	26 4:30 pm - 6 pm Free Community Meal (Carry-Out Only)	27 	28 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved for Organist
29 10:30 am Worship 3 pm - 5 pm Girl Scouts (Classroom 7)	30 <i>Memorial Day/ Office Closed</i> 8:30 pm AA (FH)	31 10 am - 2 pm Sanctuary Reserved	<p style="text-align: center;">For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.noumc.org.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please contact the church office to add your meeting or gathering, virtual or in-person, to the church calendar.</i></p>			

*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, May 26

4:30 pm - 6 pm

Carry-Out Menu:

*sloppy joes, potato salad,
a pickle, and dessert*

St. Richards is providing the meal.

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.*