

AGAPE **Greek for “love without limits”**

“Steadfast Love: A Lenten Playlist” Lent/Holy Week 2025 Worship Series

A playlist? For the season of Lent? A Lenten playlist? What an odd idea! Lent is often seen as a somber and even silent season. Certainly, there is space for contemplation, for embracing the quiet, and for being still in the presence of God. However, many of us identify with music as a helpful resource for contemplation. So, we will offer a playlist during Lent this year to enhance your worship experience. A contemporary song using our multi-media equipment will be part of each service from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. It is hoped that the playlist music will provide a blended and deeper experience along with traditional hymns and familiar patterns of worship as connections are made with your faith and the wider culture. My prayer is that you will be inspired in new and time-honored ways during Lent, into Holy Week, and culminating on Easter Sunday! —Pastor Hoyte

Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, March 5 at 7pm

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season of forty days (minus Sundays) during which we prepare ourselves for the events of Holy Week and Easter. We start the journey of Lent with confession, pardon, and the imposition of ashes, a reminder of our mortality. Though this can often feel like a serious service as Psalm 51:1 says, “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.” We will begin Lent with the reminder that God’s love is steadfast—it never fails. In words like those of Coldplay’s “Fix You,” God’s love is like a light that guides us home, ignites our bones, and fixes us, putting us back together for relationship with God and one another. —Pastor Hoyte

Listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4V3Mo61fJM>

Worship Opportunities

Worship With Us In-Person and Online on Sundays at 10:30 am

DATE	GREETER(S)	LITURGIST	USHER(S)
March 2	Jim and Ellie Yager	Chris Byrns	Barb and Ron Clough
March 9	Sarah Jackson	Ed Brewster	Judi Wagner
March 16	Barb Andrews	Bev Hixon	Sarah Jackson
March 23	Jean Scothon	John Wolter	Liz Lavelle
March 30	John and Char Vas	Greg Lavelle	Judi Wagner

March Oxcart:
Pantry Items

March Penny Sunday:
Oxcart Easter Baskets

HELP
FOR THE
HUNGRY



This month we will be collecting basic pantry items like flour, sugar, rice.....Please place them in the green box in Fellowship Hall.

Easter Basket Items

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ◇ 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 |



We are again collecting items for Easter baskets this year. They will be distributed to the clients of Oxcart Pantry. Please use the list below as you shop; items can be placed in the box in Fellowship Hall.

Your help is appreciated.

You can also let us do the shopping for you; March's Penny Sunday offering will go towards purchasing items for Easter Baskets. **Make checks payable to NOUMC and write Easter Baskets or March Penny Sunday in the memo.** Send checks to the church office, attention Financial Secretary. For those worshipping in person, an offering basket will be made available.

Adult Education Opportunities

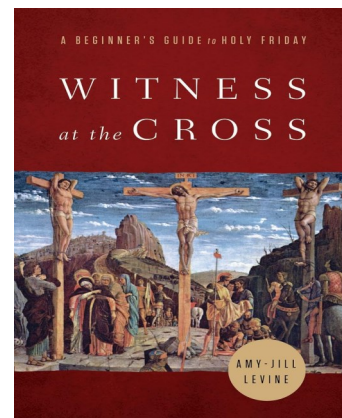
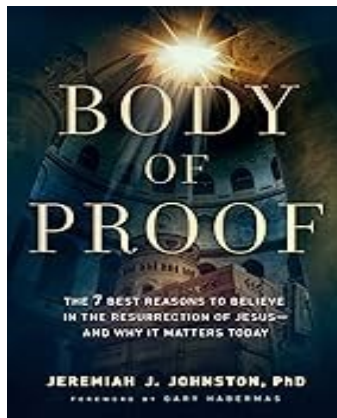
Adult Lenten Outing: Tetelestai-Cleveland's Own Passion Play

Join us on our latest adventure on Sunday March 30th at 2 PM as we travel to St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Catholic Church in Loran to see the Gospel presented in visual form by the Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries! Admission is free; however free will offerings are greatly appreciated. Meet us there or car-pool! Sign up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall on the sign-in table. Please see Wendy if you have any questions!

Lenten Bible Study

“Body of Proof: A Study on the Resurrection of Jesus”

Please join us as we closely examine the events of Easter weekend, and learn four reasons why we can trust in the resurrection of Jesus as a historical fact and place our hope in Him! Tuesday evening classes will be held at 7:30 from March 25th through April 15th, and Thursday morning classes will be held at 11 AM from March 27th through April 17th. Study booklets are free of charge unless you would like to make a free will donation to the church. A sign up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall on the sign-in table. Please see Wendy for further information!



Adult Sunday School Lenten Bible Study March 9th—Palm Sunday

In “Witness at the Cross,” Amy-Jill Levine shows how the people at the cross each have distinct roles to play in the Gospels. For each, Jesus has a particular meaning and message, and from each, we learn how those meanings and messages cross the centuries to any who would come to the cross today.

Experience Holy Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die: Mary his mother; the Beloved Disciple from the Gospel of John; Mary Magdalene and the other women from Galilee; the two men, usually identified as thieves, crucified with Jesus; the centurion and the soldiers; Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Jews and Romans, friends and strangers, the powerful and the powerless, the hopeful and the despairing.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Condolences to the family of Bill Cauley, on his passing	Condolences to the family of Joan Phillips, on her passing	Jan Cauley's nephew
Condolences to the family of Bob Wise, Alice Walsh's uncle, on his	Condolences to the family of Jim Sainsbury, on his passing	Nadine Walsh, mother-in-law of Jeremy and mother of Danielle
Chris Byrn's brother, Curtis	Jean Scothon's sister, Holly	Janis Jarvis' brother, Kirk
Susan Wolter	Barbara Bilas	Bunny, cousin of Liz Lavelle



1	Sally Coast	12	Nicole Blosser	25	Marilyn Ransom
1	Javier Gonzalez	17	Kristin Hipple	27	Gabriela Martinez and
2	Gwen Hinckley	19	Liam Benko		Javier Gonzalez
5	Sharon Werner	20	Deb Chermonte	28	Ed & Barb Brewster
5	Kirsten Ressel	21	Wendy Cooper	30	Dick Mercer
7	Mark Steiger	24	Iris Stroup	31	Diane Plogger
12	De Niro Bernard				



The Worship Team is in need of one or two volunteers to assist with preparing Communion on the first Sunday of each month. If Holy Communion holds significance for you, please consider offering your help for this essential ministry. For more information, please reach out to Alice Walsh or call the church office.

UWF News—From Barb Andrews

The UWF is back at work. We have a couple of fund raisers coming soon. The first comes on March 19. You know you have to eat on that day, and if you take along one of the certificates in the Agape or pick up extras from the sign-up table in Fellowship Hall and have lunch or dinner or both at Applebees, they will give a portion of your bill to the UWF. This is a fun and easy way to support the UWF, and you know the money we get goes to UMC or local charities, as well as back to the church for projects that could use some funding. Pass one or more of the certificates to your friends.

Our second fund raiser is our annual Dean's plant sale. You can find order blanks in the Agape or on the usual location--the sign-up table. Orders are due by April 13 with plant delivery on May 10. We would like it if you would take some extra order blanks for your friends, family or neighbors. You know how good the plants, baskets, and vegetables are. You should also know that the UWF does increase the price that we pay to Dean's to also go to the charities mentioned above, but if you go to Dean's to buy the same plants you could order, the price you pay to the UWF is still less than you would pay if you went to Dean's on your own, so it's a win-win all around. If there's something you'd like that isn't on the order blank, you can get a gift card, and we get a portion of that. And if you do go to Dean's with or without a gift card between May 1 and June 30 and mention NOUMC, we will also get a portion of your purchase payment. There are many ways to get the beauty of the spring we are sure is coming even though I'm writing this during a snow storm, so please help.

Mission News—From Barb Andrews

The green bin was overflowing with cereal last month. Fifty-one, mainly large size boxes were sent over. Next month the Pantry needs pantry supplies like flour, sugar, rice, etc. Hearing about all the cuts that have been proposed or actually being carried out, the need for the items continues to be more necessary than ever.

It seems we just put away the extra box next to the green bin that held items for the Christmas stockings, and it's about to appear once more. This time we need Easter baskets and the usual toiletries, toys, and small gifts. A list of suggestions can be found in the Agape. A big thank you for all you do to help our neighbors. If you'd rather we did the shopping for you, the Easter baskets are our Penny Sunday charity this month.

“Thank You!” from the Lintons

Dave and I were so surprised for the outpouring of thanks for our leading the community meal. The roses, gift and thoughtful cards were really too much. There are so many others to thank, too many to name, but know your help was much appreciated. We are so grateful to be part of our church family, Feeling Blessed!

Dave and Barb

Fellowship



APPLEBEE'S WILL DONATE 15% OF YOUR CHECK TO:

**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
of NORTH OLMSTED UMC**

Date: 3/19/2025

Time: 11am- Close

**APPLEBEE'S
Great Northern
North Olmsted**

Present this flyer to your server at time of order

- OR -

Order online at [Applebees.com](https://applebees.com) or through our mobile app and:

- Select location listed above
- Choose your menu items
- At checkout, enter code: **DOINGOOD**
 - A penny will be deducted from your total to allow us to track your order
- Checkout and pickup order at designated time

Valid on dine-in and To Go orders, not valid on delivery. Valid at location listed above on scheduled date only. 15% donation excludes tax and gratuity.

Join Us for Card Making Day!

Saturday, April 5th, 10 am to 2 pm, Fellowship Hall; Sign

Sandra Andrews and Sharon Werner have designed a selection of hand made greeting cards for Spring and Summer that can be customized for a variety of occasions including Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day. Card kits cost \$2.00 each. Please call or email Sharon Werner for photos of the cards being offered and an order form.

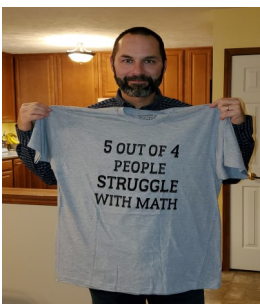


PI*/PIE DAY! SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH 11:30 am

*Pi Day is an annual celebration of the mathematical constant π (pi).

Pi Day is observed on March 14 since 3, 1, and 4 are the first three significant figures of π .

So, here at NOUMC it seemed like the perfect time for a potluck of Shepherd's Pie (or other main dish) for St. Patrick's Day and that math thing with pie for dessert! Sign up so we can all see which pies are coming.



Meet John and Char Vas' son, John! (From Char Vas)

"He is a math teacher and announces at girls basketball and we went to the game this afternoon. He said we won't recognize him. Students shaved his head yesterday for a donation to Leukemia and Lymphoma. A fund raising activity competition between many high schools. One of his students and long time family friend is a survivor of Lymphoma."

Easter Flowers

Worship Team is taking orders for Easter Lilies, Hyacinths, Daffodils, Tulips, Martha Washington Geraniums, and Pansies to decorate our altar on Easter morning. Flower orders will be due on March 23rd. Order forms are available in Fellowship Hall. Please fold your payment into the order form and place it into the purple box or send them to Wendy's attention at the church. You may also email your order to Wendy at sundayschool@noumc.org. Proceeds from the sale will support our Altar and Arts Team and be used to decorate our altar throughout the year. Flowers may be taken home after our Easter morning service!

Community Easter Egg Hunt

On Saturday, April 12th, we will be hosting a community Easter Egg Hunt on our front lawn! Families will have two hunt times to choose from...one at 1:00 and the second at 2:00. Please spread the word to any families with children that you know! Save the date cards that you can hand out will be available on the sign-in table in Fellowship Hall. Please see Wendy, Tammy, Sarah, Chris or Judi for further details!

Egg Hunt Volunteer Opportunities Available:

1. Plastic Egg and Candy Donations

We are accepting donations of plastic easter eggs and candy to fill those eggs with. Please be sure the candy is pre-packaged and small enough to fit into the eggs. Please drop off any candy donations in the basket provided in Fellowship Hall, in the Christian Education mailbox or at the office. Please donate by March 30th.

2. Egg Filling Day

On April 5th, we will gather at the church to fill our plastic eggs with candy and other goodies. Please look for times in future bulletins.

3. Volunteers on Hunt Day

We welcome anyone who would like to join us on April 12th for our Easter egg hunt! Volunteers will be asked to help families check in, help children with the hunt, and help re-egg the lawn in between hunts. Please see Wendy, Tammy, Sarah, Chris or Judi for further information or to volunteer!



News from the Northern Waters District

POVERTY SIMULATION

APRIL 26 | 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Mentor UMC, 8600 Mentor Ave, Mentor, OH 44060

Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) bridges that gap from misconception to understanding. CAPS is an interactive, immersive experience. It sensitizes community participants to the realities of poverty.

THIS IS A SIMULATION, NOT A GAME.

FREE, but you must register by Apr. 24 so we have an idea of how many to expect. We need at least 30 participants and 15 facilitators for this simulation. Ages 13 and up are welcome, a light lunch will be provided. Childcare for 12 and under available upon request.

Contact Melanie Thomas at mthomas@eocumc.com with any questions.

<https://www.eocumc.com/eventregistration/index.html>



GREEN CHURCH TRAINING

for clergy & laity

APRIL 23 IN ASHLAND, OH

Details & registration are online

<https://www.eocumc.com/eventregistration/index.html>



ALL IN community

A Ministry of the West Ohio Conference
and the East Ohio Conference of
the United Methodist Church

DINNER & DISCUSSION

Support in the Midst of Justice-involved Experiences
March 11, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Strongsville, OH

Do you have family or church members who are currently incarcerated or have come home following incarceration?

Many of us do.

Does your congregation have a desire to restore hope and support healing among this often-overlooked population through community ministries?

We hope so.

This All In Community Dinner & Discussion provides individuals an opportunity to understand better how to navigate Ohio's criminal justice system with loved ones, congregants, and neighbors. Family members, ministry servants, and pastors have an opportunity to learn how they can support people close to them who are incarcerated and returning. No family member or congregation can do it alone, so we will identify local resource partners that strengthen our supportive response as part of the reentry continuum of care. Through the All In Community ministry framework, participants will better understand both important direct tangible needs and spiritual, social, and emotional needs that restore hope and support healing during and following incarceration.

Guest Speaker



Dr. Mike Davis
Religious Services
Administrator, ODRC

Location: Strongsville UMC 13500 Royalton Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136
Free, but please register by March 6

<https://www.eocumc.com/eventregistration/index.html>



Questions: Contact Reba Collins at rebakco@gmail.com

Mission Team Wanted!! Join us at JUMC and Covered Bridge Ministries

We are looking for an amazing mission team to come and help us with this inclusive camp for children with special needs. We have accommodations for your team on-site.

Inclusive Adventure Day Camp

Join us for an unforgettable summer experience at **CAMP ALL IN**, a welcoming and inclusive day camp designed specifically for children with disabilities! Our program provides a safe, supportive, and fun environment where every child can explore, learn, and grow while making new friends.

Dates: June 23rd to June 27th 2025

Location: Jefferson United Methodist Church (125 E. Jefferson St Jefferson Ohio 44047)

Time: 9:00am to 2:30pm

What to Expect:

Adaptive Activities – Engaging games, arts and crafts, music, and outdoor adventures tailored to all abilities.

Social Connections – Opportunities to build friendships and teamwork through interactive play and group activities.

Experienced Staff – Caring professionals and trained volunteers dedicated to providing individualized support.

Safe & Fun Environment – A structured program that fosters confidence, independence, and creativity.

On-Site Nurse – A licensed nurse will be available to support medically fragile campers, including those requiring tube feedings and specialized care.

We welcome campers (ages 5 to 12) of all abilities and ensure each child receives the support they need to have an amazing experience!

Contact us at: 440-576-4561

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2pm Girl Scouts	3 8:30pm AA	4 1pm Council on Ministries 7pm Scouts 7:30pm BS	5 10am UWF 7pm Ash Wednesday Service 8pm AA	6 11am Bible Study 6pm Bells 7pm Choir	7	8 8:30am UMM Breakfast
9 9am SS 10:30am Worship 11:30 Pie/Pi Potluck	10 8:30pm AA	11 7pm Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study	12 8pm AA	13 11am Bible Study 6pm Bells 7pm Choir	14	15
16 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2pm Girl Scouts	17 8:30pm AA	18 1pm Book Bank 7pm Scouts	19 8pm AA	20 6pm Bells 7pm Choir	21	22
23 9am SS 10:30am Worship 11:30am Mission Team	24 8:30pm AA	25 7pm Scouts	26 8pm AA	27 4:30pm Community Meal 6pm Bells 7pm Choir	28	29
30	31					

For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.noumc.org.

Please contact the church office (office@noumc.org or 440.779.6634) to add your meeting or gathering, virtual or in-person, to the church calendar.

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



Return Address Requested

Our Guiding Principles

- We appreciate, invite and welcome people of all ages.
- 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 (In-Person Only)

Thursday, March 27, 2024

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Chicken with Pasta, Rolls, Salad, Drink and Dessert

The Free Community Meal is a mission of North Olmsted United Methodist Church. 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.*

A sign-up sheet for help with set-up, serving, and clean-up will be in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Chris Byrns at 440-732-5431.