

APRIL

# AGAPE... *Greek for "love without limits"*

April 2026



- 2 - Maundy Thursday Meager Meal - Rockport UMC, 5:30pm
- 2 - Maundy Thursday Service, 7pm, Rockport UMC
- 3 - Good Friday Service, 7pm, Fellowship Hall
- 5 - Easter Service, 11am, Sanctuary
- 7 - Bread on Bridge, 12pm, Nehemiah Mission
- 11 - UMM Breakfast, 8:30am, Canary's Restaurant
- 19 - Penny Sunday
- 26 - "Dining Around the World - Brazil", 12pm, Fellowship Hall
- 30 - Community Meal, 4:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## PRAYER LIST

Condolences to the family of Curtis Jones, brother of Chris Byrns and Reba Galvin on his passing.

Susan W.

Janet, Wendy C.'s friend

Billy E., brother of Sarah J.

Bill and Marilyn R.

Barb B.

Frank O.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Bill & Wendy Cooper
- 2 - Kara Quan
- 4 - Andrew Peralta
- 4 - Ray & Diane Plogger
- 5 - Kimberly Busser
- 12 - Zurich Bernard
- 19 - Claudia Taller
- 20 - Amye Sabin
- 20 - Char Vas
- 22 - Carol Nupp
- 22 - Jim Yager
- 23 - Amy Fennell
- 23 - Becky Riddlebaugh
- 25 - Daniel Brewster
- 26 - Carole Bettinger
- 30 - Judy Solt
- 30 - Virginia Steiger

## OX CART DONATIONS FOR APRIL



This month's Oxcart request is for peanut butter and jelly. Please place your donations in the green box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for giving!

## APRIL PENNY SUNDAY

April's Penny Sunday is offering support to the West Side Community House at 9300 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland. WSCH programs are designed to wrap around youth, families, and seniors. It gives them information and links that provide services available to help them become strong and resilient. They target those that are most vulnerable, at risk, and impoverished, especially children, teens and seniors. They have a long history of connection to the United Methodist Church. Please give generously to support their valuable missions.



## BIRTHDAY LUNCH BUNCH

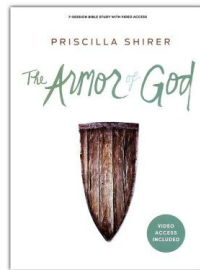
As an added part of the church's outreach, we would like to start a fellowship group to celebrate the monthly birthdays! Each month we will gather at a local restaurant to celebrate the birthdays for the month. For April, we will meet at Olive Garden at 1pm. Please RSVP if you would like to attend to Jennifer Gaydos at [jenniferhalasgaydos@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferhalasgaydos@gmail.com) or phone 216-357-9985. Can't wait to see you all!

## EDUCATIONAL NEWS

### Attention Graduates:

If you are a recent graduate (high school, college, technical school, online degree...etc.), we need your information by May 15th so we can honor you during worship! We will need your name, school, degree, and what you will be doing next. Please send all of your details to Wendy at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org). We will be recognizing your achievements during worship in June!

## SPRING ADULT BIBLE STUDY



### Armor of God: Priscilla Schirer

Join us this spring for a 7-week hybrid (join us in-person or on Zoom) Bible study based on Ephesians 6:10-18! We will be learning how to use prayer and the spiritual armor that God has provided for us to fight invisible battles from the enemy that wreak havoc on our hearts and minds. We will begin our Tuesday class at 7:30 on April 14th, and our Thursday morning class at 11:00 on April 16th. Study booklets are free (you are welcome to leave a free will offering in the plate) and a sign-up sheet is located on the sign-in table in Fellowship Hall.

## WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

DATE	GREETER(S)	LITURGIST	USHER(S)
April 5	The Yagers	Alice Walsh	Liz Lavelle
April 12	Barb Andrews	Michelle Wolter	The Cloughs
April 19	Sarah Jackson	Chris Byrns	Judi Wagner
April 26	Jean Scothon	Chris Byrns	Sarah Jackson



# The War That Never Ended: A Confession and Prayer for Peace - Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

I was raised among the shadows of war.

In my childhood village, many of the older boys grew up without fathers. Some had gone to war and never returned. Others simply disappeared into history's silence. Their absence shaped our lives. It was not just loss – it was a quiet, enduring grief that never found closure.

The Korean War, often described as ending in 1953, never truly ended. It paused. The armistice stopped the fighting, but it did not bring peace. Even today, millions of families remain separated, not knowing whether their loved ones are alive or dead.

War leaves behind more than ruins. It leaves unanswered questions that echo across generations.

I carry deep gratitude for the young Americans who sacrificed their lives during that Korean war. Their courage forged a bond between Korea and the United States that remains strong. But gratitude does not erase the moral weight of what war does to humanity.

Because I have seen its consequences, I cannot accept violence as a solution to human conflict.

Jesus once said to His disciple, "No more of this," and took the sword from his hand. In that moment, He revealed a truth that still confronts us: violence cannot bring the peace we seek.

The conflicts we witness in the world today – especially war in the Middle East – should force us to ask difficult questions. What kind of future are we creating? Can security built on devastation truly be called peace?

I oppose terrorism. I oppose hatred. I oppose any form of violence that denies the dignity of human life. But I also believe this: indiscriminate destruction, even in the name of protection, cannot be justified.

War cannot be the final language of humanity.

We must choose a different path – one that is harder, slower, but ultimately more human: diplomacy, dialogue, restraint, and reconciliation. Peace is not weakness. It is courage.

As someone formed by the wounds of war, I cannot remain silent. I join with countless others in calling for an end to ongoing conflicts and for renewed commitment to peace – not only on the Korean Peninsula, but wherever violence persists.

My memories become prayer.

A prayer that wars may cease.

A prayer that violence may end.

A prayer that humanity may choose life over destruction.

It is not too late.

But the time is urgent. The time to choose peace is now.

May we stop the machinery of war before it consumes what remains of our shared future. May we dare to imagine peace – not as a distant hope, but as a present calling. And may we become, even now, those who write a new story, not of annihilation, but of reconciliation.

## DINNER AROUND THE WORLD - BRAZIL

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH, 12PM

Pick a recipe from Brazil provided on the table in Fellowship Hall or find your own! Choose anything as long as the recipe is Brazilian.

Rockport members are welcome to join the fun! A short informational slide show about Brazil will be shown between the meal and dessert.



## MISSIONS

The Missions Team had great success with their donations of soup for March, giving 65 cans/boxes to the Oxcart Food Pantry. This month they will be collecting peanut butter and jelly. Your neighbors at Oxcart appreciate all that you do for them!

## UWF

The UWF is having a flower sale featuring plants from Dean's Greenhouse. Color flyers displaying the different plants, baskets, etc., as well as forms to order are available on the table in Fellowship Hall. An additional form is in this Agape. Orders will be accepted until April 12. Pick-up day is May 16th. You can also purchase flowers by visiting Dean's and mentioning NOUMC when you check out. UWF will receive credit for these purchases until the end of June.

**North Olmsted United Methodist  
Women of Faith**



Order from us or shop at the greenhouse between 5/1 and 6/25 and we will earn a 20% rebate on your purchase.  
**At checkout tell the cashier you are supporting NOUMC!**

Shop with a gift card ordered from us!  
Dean's Gift Cards available in \$10, \$20 & \$50.

Orders due with payment by **Sunday, April 12, 2025.**  
**Pick-up at the church on Saturday, May 16, 12 to 2 pm.**

<b>BEDDING ANNUALS - 24 PER FLAT</b> \$8.00 HALF/\$15.00 WHOLE		
HALF	WHOLE	TYPE/COLOR
		Begonia - Green leaf/Pink
		Begonia - Green leaf/Scarlet
		Begonia -Green leaf/White
		Begonia - Bronze leaf/Scarlet
		Begonia - Bronze leaf/White
		Begonia -Bronze leaf /Pink
		Begonia-Bada Mix
		Impatiens - Lipstick Pink
		Impatiens - Mixed
		Impatiens - Red
		Impatiens - Salmon
		Impatiens - White
		Marigolds 9" mixed
		Marigolds 9" orange
		Marigolds 9" yellow
		Marigolds 12-14" yellow
		Marigolds 12-14" orange
		Petunias-sky blue
		Petunias-pink
		Petunias-deep purple
		Petunias-single mix
		Petunias-red
		Petunias-white
		Alyssum - white
		Alyssum - purple
		Coleus—mixed
		Dahlia - dwarf
		Dianthus - Mixed
		Dusty Miller
		Lobelia- blue
		Portulaca—mixed
		Salvia-Victoria blue
		Salvia—dwarf red
		Zinnia - Short Mix
Qty	Qty	\$ total

Qty	<b>SPECIALTY ANNUALS</b> 4.5" Pot - \$4.50 each
	Wave Petunia —yellow
	Wave Petunia —pink passion
	Wave Petunia —sky blue
	Wave Petunia —red velour
	Wave Petunia —white
	Sunpatiens have replaced New Guineas. Sunpatiens thrive in sun and shade!
	Sunpatiens —orange
	Sunpatiens —pink
	Sunpatiens —purple
	Sunpatiens —red
	Sunpatiens —salmon
	Sunpatiens —white
	Tuberous Begonia—pink
	Tuberous Begonia—red
	Tuberous Begonia—orange
	Tuberous Begonia—yellow
	Tuberous Begonia—salmon
	Million Bells Magic Pink Lemonade
	Sweet Potato Vine—black
	Sweet Potato Vine—yellow
	Million Bells Dreamsicle
	Coleus Stained Glassworks Golden Gate
Qty.	\$ total

Hanging Baskets and Gift Cards are on the second page of the order form.



<b>GERANIUMS 8 - 4.5" POTS</b> \$14.50 HALF/\$24.00 WHOLE		
HALF	WHOLE	TYPE/COLOR
		Candy Pink
		Light Salmon
		Magenta
		Red
		White
Qty.	Qty.	\$ total

<b>HERBS &amp; ACCENT FOLIAGE</b> 3" Pot \$3.50 each	
	Basil
	Parsley
	Rosemary
	Oregano
	Thyme
	Spikes
	Vinca Vine
Total Qty	\$ total

<b>VEGETABLES</b> 3" Pot \$3.00	
	Green Bell Pepper
	Sweet Banana
	Jalapeno
	Hungarian Hot
	Yellow Bell Pepper
	Big Boy Tomato
	Early Girl Tomato
	Sweet 100's Tomato
	Beefsteak Tomato
Qty	\$ Total

Please put your name on this form in case pages are separated.  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**N.O. United Methodist Women of Faith 2026 Spring Plant Sale**

- Order plants and gift cards by Sunday, April 12th
- And/or shop the In-store Walk-in Fundraiser at Dean's greenhouse for plants, soil, pottery and other spring décor between May 1 and June 25. **Just tell the cashier you are with NOUMC at the beginning of your check out and Dean's will keep a tally of our members sales and send us a refund of 20% of the total purchases.**
- Do both - order a gift card from our fundraiser and shop the In-store Walk-in Fundraiser!

10" Hanging Baskets \$18.00 each	
	10" Boston Fern
	Fuchsia
	Hummingbird Falls Purples
	Dean's Sunshiny Day Red/yellow /purple <b>NEW</b>
	Cherry Kiss Red, light & dark pinks
	Daisy Dance Pink, coral & yellow
	Pink Lemonade Pink, yellow & white
	Night in Pompeii Pinks & purples
	Polar Peach Proven Winner, purple & yellow
	Tropical Sorbet Proven Winner, Pink and yellow <b>NEW</b>
	Above and Beyond Proven Winner Shades of Pink <b>NEW</b>
	Wave Petunia - Blue
	Wave Petunia - Red/White/Blue
	Wave Petunia - Pink Cosmo
	New Guinea Impatiens - pink
	New Guinea Impatiens - purple
	New Guinea Impatiens - red
	New Guinea Impatiens - salmon
Qty.	\$ _____ Total

Orders due with payment by **Sunday April 12th.**

Pick-up at the church on **Saturday, May 16th, 12 to 2 pm.**

Please make checks payable to *North Olmsted United Women of Faith (or NOUWF)*. Please place orders with payment in the **UWF mailbox** or mail to the church:

North Olmsted United Methodist Women in Faith  
4600 Dover Center Rd.  
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

All plants are provided by Dean's Greenhouse. Color photos of the plants are available on Dean's website [www.deansgreenhouse.com](http://www.deansgreenhouse.com) or we can mail you a copy of the color flyer.

Need a flyer or additional info? Contact Judi Wagner at 440-567-1056 or email her at [rjwags\\_fam@yahoo.com](mailto:rjwags_fam@yahoo.com)

Total Bedding Annuals	\$ _____
Total Specialty Annuals	\$ _____
Total Geraniums	\$ _____
Total Herbs/Accents	\$ _____
Total Vegetables	\$ _____
Total Hanging Baskets	\$ _____
Gift Card Total	\$ _____
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Dean's Gift Cards	
	\$10.00 Gift Card
	\$20.00 Gift Card
	\$50.00 Gift Card
Qty.	\$ _____ Total

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

North Olmsted United Methodist Church  
4600 Dover Center Road  
North Olmsted, OH 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, April 30, 2026

4:30-5:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Chicken Casserole, Salad, Dessert and Beverage

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.