

Announcements for Sunday, November 22, 2020

Adopt-a-Family

Choose in person this weekend the items you want to purchase:

Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22; Noon – 2 pm both days

We finally have our Adopt-a-Family requests from Oxcart Pantry. We have made a board filled with gift requests similar to what we have set up other years in Fellowship Hall. You are invited to stop at the church this weekend during the times indicated above to choose the items from the board that you would like to buy. An Outreach Committee member will be there to assist you. All Christmas presents will go to benefit families through Oxcart Pantry.

If the times above don't work for you, starting on Monday, November 23, you can also call the church to see if anyone is in the office and make arrangements to go over and choose your slips that way, or you can email Megan at office@noumc.org to make arrangements. Please choose your gifts from the board by December 1.

Once you have chosen the gifts you want to purchase, you can visit the list of what Oxcart has selected from Amazon as possible items to satisfy the requests:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/13WDOTUD015Z8/guest-view>.

We felt that most of the selections on Amazon were more expensive than what you could purchase on your own, however, so you at that point have two options. If you like the choice Oxcart Pantry made, you can order it on Amazon by clicking the link above and mailing the item from Amazon directly to Oxcart Pantry (26272 Butternut Ridge Road, North Olmsted, OH 44070). The advantage to this option is that you don't have to leave home, and volunteers at Oxcart Pantry will do the wrapping and sorting for you.

Option 2 is that you can purchase your items on your own, wrap them, put the paper slip on the package, and take them to the church at one of the following times, when we will have an Outreach member there to accept them. (Please note: donations for the Hats and Mittens Collection will also be collected at these times.)

Saturday, December 12, Noon – 2 pm;

Sunday, December 13, Noon – 2 pm

Wednesday, December 16, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

We realize this is quite confusing, and we apologize, but this has been a confusing year in more ways than one, and we are confident that you will come through as you have every other year to make this a happier Christmas for some of our neighbors who have had an even harder year than we have had.

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Andrews at grandrews@roadrunner.com or 440.779.1157.

UMW Give-Away Meeting

Wednesday, December 2, 10 am; Donations due by November 25

Considering UMW has only had two money-raising activities this year, we are happy to say we met our budget for the year and have a little left over. We certainly couldn't have done it without your help. We are planning to meet on December 2 to give money to some of our favorite charities. We probably will give

most of our money to local charities such as the Oxcart Pantry, the Free Community Meal ministry, and Laura's Home, branching out only if we have more money. That's where we'd like to ask for your help. *If you would like to donate to one of these charities, you can send a check **made payable to NOUMW** and mark your favorite charity in the memo. Send checks to Darlene Owings (address is in the church directory). If you would prefer to send your check to the church, please mark on the envelope attention: Darlene Owings.* Donations are due by November 25. We know there has been talk in the past that some of you would prefer to make a donation instead of working at the rummage sale, so here's your chance.

United Methodist Student Day

Next Sunday, November 29

One of six special offering Sundays in the life of The United Methodist Church, United Methodist Student Day calls the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. The special offering provides scholarships for qualified United Methodist applicants.

Make checks payable to NOUMC and write UM Student Day in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Ed Brewster, Financial Secretary.

Advent Worship Gets Creative!

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ this Advent season, we need your help! Because of the rising COVID numbers we will not be able to worship in person, in our church building, throughout the coming Advent/Christmas season. So, we would like to invite you to share worship with us in creative ways! Here are a few ideas:

1. Create your own Advent wreath at home and **Take a Photo** to share in our worship service.
2. Unpack the Nativity scene from your attic or basement and set it up in a prominent place in your home. **Take a Photo** of it to share in our worship services!
3. Do your own "Hanging of the Greens" event in your home, complete with trees, garlands, nativities, and candles. **Take a Photo** to share.
4. Stand in front of your newly decorated tree and **Share a Short Video** of "What Christmas Means to Me this Year". These short video clips will personalize our worship as we "see" the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of Christ in the Advent season in our church family's faces!
5. And finally...for the Grand Finale!!! Grab a candle, stand in front of your tree, nativity, fireplace, etc. and **Make a Video** of your family sharing the lighting of the candles (much as we do at the church on Christmas Eve). These videos will be put together in a slide show to be shared at our Christmas Eve service during the singing of *Silent Night*.

If you are interested in participating in any of these events (and I pray you are!), please email Rev. Alice at alice@baywalsh.com for more details.

Coloring Through Advent

Advent is the four-week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. This year, we will have coloring pages available for you to color, one for each week of Advent

and one for Christmas Eve, each representing the weekly focus of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and Christ. Packets of coloring pages will be available beginning on November 29 and will be available for pick up from a box near the office entrance door. They will also be available in the weekly e-newsletters and announcements for you to print at home. Coloring pages should be completed in the traditional Advent order but can be colored in any way and with any medium. Coloring pages can be returned to the box at church when complete, and photos of them may be included in our online worship services during this season.

Adult Council Game Night

Friday, December 4, 6:30 pm, on Zoom

You are invited to a virtual game night featuring holiday trivia, a virtual scavenger hunt, and name that tune. We'll laugh and relax! Look for the scavenger hunt on our Friends of NOUMC Facebook page the week before! RSVP to Claudia at claudia.taller@yahoo.com.

Hats and Mittens Collection

Drop-off dates and times for donations are the same as the Adopt-a-Family Dates

We are collecting hats and mittens for youth and adults again this year. Instead of decorating the Hat and Mitten Tree in Fellowship Hall, the Outreach Committee invites you to drop off donations during the dates indicated in the Adopt-a-Family announcement. Last year the items went to Front Steps (previously called Transitional Housing), Laura's Home, and the North Olmsted Food Pantry.

Christmas Flower Sale

Orders due December 7

The youth are accepting orders for **Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti** that will be placed on the altar and photographed and integrated into our virtual Christmas Eve service. Arrangements will be made for you to pick up your flowers early so that you can enjoy them in your home on Christmas. Pick-up dates and times will be posted later when that information is available. The order form can be found on the website. *Send the form with your check to the church office, attention Wendy Cooper or email Wendy at sundayschool@noumc.org.*

Online Sunday School

Weekly lessons are posted by Saturday evening on our [Friends of NOUMC Facebook page](#)!

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***

