

## **Announcements for Sunday, November 29, 2020**

### **United Methodist Student Day**

*Today, 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.*

### **Adopt-a-Family**

*Please choose your gifts by December 1*

We still have some Christmas gifts left for purchase for our Adopt-a-Family folks from Oxcart Pantry. We have made a board filled with gift requests similar to what we have set up other years in Fellowship Hall. If you haven't already done so, you are invited to call the church until December 1 to see if anyone is in the office (please leave a message) and make arrangements to go over and choose your slips that way, or you can email Megan at [office@noumc.org](mailto: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 (choose the option: City of North Olmsted's Gift Registry Address). 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

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Andrews at [grandrews@roadrunner.com](mailto:grandrews@roadrunner.com) or 440.779.1157.

### **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](mailto:alice@baywalsh.com) for more details.

### **Coloring Through Advent**

Today is the First Sunday of Advent! Advent is the four-week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. This year, we 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 are available beginning today and can be picked up from a box at the church 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](mailto: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: Last Week to Order

*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](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org).*

## Online Sunday School: Advent Edition

Elementary and Middle Sunday School students, please join us each week on our Friends of NOUMC Facebook page as we continue to study God's Word! Each week, a video Bible lesson will be posted on the Facebook page, and links to activity sheets will be posted in the comments. High School and Young Adults are welcome to click on a weekly devotion with thoughts and questions to ponder. Beginning this Sunday, our lessons and devotions will focus on the Advent season and the birth of Jesus Christ! Weekly lessons are posted by Saturday evening on our [Friends of NOUMC Facebook page!](#)

Sunday School Teachers will be needed once we return to in-person classes; contact Wendy Cooper at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org) if you are interested.

## Holiday Free Community Meal: Carry-Out Only

*Thursday, December 3, 4:30 pm - 6 pm*

The Community Meal will be carry-out only again this month in an effort to protect the health of everyone. We will serve roasted pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, fruit, and dessert. If you would like to help or learn more, contact Barb Linton at [blintonofnr@aol.com](mailto:blintonofnr@aol.com).

### 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*

