

## Announcements for Sunday, December 20, 2020

### Support Oxcart Pantry

*Today, December 20 is Penny Sunday*

December's Penny Sunday offering will go to purchase laundry detergent and cleaning supplies for Oxcart Pantry. *Make checks payable to North Olmsted United Methodist Church and write **December Penny Sunday** in the memo. Send checks to the church office, attention Ed Brewster, Financial Secretary.*

### Worship with Us Online on Christmas Eve!

You will be provided a link prior to December 24 which will allow you to experience Christmas Eve anytime that day or evening with lessons and carols, special music, slideshows of pictures and videos involving members of our church family, candlelight and, of course, the singing of *Silent Night!*

### Christmas Flowers

Thank you for your order of Christmas flowers and for supporting our Sunday School Africa University Mission Project! If you have not yet gotten the chance to pick up your flower, please email Wendy at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org) so we can arrange a pick-up time!

### Coloring Through Advent

You are invited to color two pages this week. The first page is "Love," and it represents God's great love for us. The second page is a nativity scene and can be colored on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Eve, we traditionally light the Christ candle, which is otherwise known as the candle of Purity (representing the purity and sinlessness of Christ) or the candle of Light (representing Jesus, who is the Light of the world.) When you are done coloring your pages, please be sure to get your masterpieces back to Wendy by either placing them in the box located outside the back door of the church or by emailing them to [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org). Photos of your coloring pages may be included in our online services.

### Advent and Christmas Worship Gets Creative!

*Submit your videos and photos by Monday, December 21*

You are invited 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*.

Email Rev. Alice at [alice@baywalsh.com](mailto:alice@baywalsh.com) for more details. Please send your offerings by December 21.

## Online Sunday School for the Season of Advent

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 is posted on the Facebook page, and links to activity sheets are posted in the comments. High School and Young Adults are welcome to click on a weekly devotion with thoughts and questions to ponder. Our lessons and devotions are currently focusing on the Advent season and the birth of Jesus Christ! Weekly lessons are posted by Saturday evening on our [Friends of NOUMC Facebook page!](#)

## A Note from Ed Brewster, Financial Secretary

Thank you all for your continued support of our mission of NOUMC. As we close out the 2020 year, if you need to know your current giving record, you may email or call my cell and leave a message. For those that would like to see about making a donation through your bank bill pay service, send me an email, and I will assist you with setting that up. Most banks provide this for free. For those that already have done this, please ensure that you use your church number (1-100) for the account line in the bill pay section. This helps me with accounting and keeping track of all donations. You may also send one or two checks for multiple donations. Just add a sticky note or little note and let me know how you want the donation divided. I will be sending out an email soon, asking for the number of envelopes you would like for 2021. Some of you already received envelopes. You can ask for additional ones at any time. Given the current circumstances, you may just mail a check or use a current or old envelope to send in a donation. As always, if you have a cash donation, please indicate who it is from for my records.

Thank you, God bless, and stay safe. Ed Brewster 440-785-7319 or [ebrews@gmail.com](mailto:ebrews@gmail.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**

