Welcome to North Olmsted United Methodist Church!

Announcements for Sunday, December 4, 2022

Avoid phrases like: *"But I have a* Black friend! I can't be racist!"

Things That White People Can Do

(to be anti-racist and intentional in one's interactions with others) Never try and tell a person of color what is or isn't racist.

Offered by the Racial Justice Group of North Olmsted UMC

Remember the good words in prophecy and action from Zechariah 7:9-10 that can be readily applied in our time: "...show kindness and mercy to one another;...do not devise evil in your hearts against one another."

The Racial Justice Group will offer more **"things that white people can do"** over the next several weeks. It is our hope that conversations regarding these thoughts will take place in our faith community and create opportunities for change that move people one-person-at-a time to become anti-racist and more sensitive and kind in treatment of our Black brothers and sisters.

United Women in Faith Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 7, 11:45 am, Jo Jo Carloni's Italian Restaurant (627 W. Bagley Road, Berea)

We would love to have you join us for our Christmas luncheon at Jo Jo Carloni's in the Helwig Whistle Stop on Bagley Road in Berea. They would like us to arrive between 11:30 am and 11:45 am. To RSVP, contact Barb Andrews.

Blue Christmas Worship Service

Friday, December 9, 7 pm, Sanctuary & Online

The holiday season can be especially difficult for some of us, a painful reminder of what has been lost or of what has never been. God wants to renew our lives this Christmas season, bringing hope to us in the areas of our deepest need. All are invited to join us for a Blue Christmas worship service, a quiet service filled with peace, hope, prayer, music, and candlelight. For those worshiping from home, a link will be provided closer to the date. Invite others and join us as we re-affirm together our faith in God's presence, even in the darkest and loneliest seasons of our lives.

Adopt-a-Family this Christmas

Please place wrapped gifts around the tree in the Sanctuary by next Sunday, December 11

Visit the easel in Fellowship Hall to choose a gift from the Christmas wishes of families in our area. Please take a tag from the board and then purchase, wrap, and bring in the gift with the tag attached so it can be delivered.

Understand that when you complain about how terrible white people are, you are being that terrible white person.

Advent Wreath

Sundays of Advent and Christmas Eve

As we count down the Sundays leading up to Christmas, in worship we will light an additional candle each week on the Advent wreath. Families, individuals, friends, or any other groupings are welcome to take part in this tangible ritual.

For more information or to sign up to participate during any of the Sunday morning worship services of Advent or on Christmas Eve, please contact Pastor Hoyte at nounc.org or ext. 16.

Annual Christmas Flower Sale

Orders due today, December 4

The Christian Education and Youth Ministry Team is taking orders for Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti to be placed on the altar for our Christmas Eve service. Order forms can be found in Fellowship Hall. Please place your order and payment in the purple box in Fellowship Hall, or send them to the church office, attention Wendy Cooper. You may also call the church office, ext. 13 to place your order, or email Wendy.

A Christmas Cabaret: Dinner and Show

Saturday Matinee, December 10, 2 pm

Join us for A Christmas Cabaret musical show at LCCC's Cirigliano Studio Theatre. Call 440.366.4040 or go online at <u>www.stockerartscenter.com</u> to order your own tickets. Afterwards we can share a meal at one of the local restaurant choices. Sign up so we can carpool from the church. Contact Sarah Jackson if you have questions.

Adult Sunday School Advent Study

Sundays of Advent

Claudia Taller is leading us in the series: *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist,* by Adam Hamilton. We are exploring how John calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts for his coming. Join us!

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Saturday, December 24, 7 pm, Sanctuary and Online

Worship with us on Saturday, December 24 as we celebrate God's presence with us in Jesus Christ. The service will include beautiful music, a message of hope, and the traditional sharing of candlelight.

Oxcart Pantry Collection

Collecting cleaning supplies, especially laundry detergent, until January 1

Stocking Stuffers for Oxcart Pantry

Today is the last day to donate stocking stuffers. Thank you for your generosity!

This Week's Gatherings and Small Groups

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: Monday, December 5, 5 pm, Choir Room

United Women in Faith Christmas Luncheon: Wednesday, December 7, 11:45 am, Jo Jo Carloni's Italian Restaurant

SPRC: Thursday, December 8, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall

Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, December 8, 7 pm, Choir Room

Blue Christmas Worship Service: Friday, December 9, 7 pm, Sanctuary and Online

United Methodist Men Breakfast: Saturday, December 10, 8:30 am, Canary's Restaurant

A Christmas Cabaret: Saturday, December 10, 2 pm, LCCC's Cirigliano Studio Theatre

Adult Sunday School: Sunday, December 11, 9 am, Classroom 4

Third Sunday of Advent: Sunday, December 11, 10:30 am, Sanctuary & Online

When people of color do have something to say about racism, listen.