

# Welcome to North Olmsted United Methodist Church!

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024**

## **Christmas At First: A Christmas Drama**

All are welcome to join us on another adventure as we travel to First Baptist of Elyria and experience the wonder of the Christmas season with an evening of music, drama! Christmas At First is a free indoor performance of the Christmas story featuring a live nativity. Please plan on joining us at this family-friendly event which will include cookies and crafts for the kids. Let's meet as a group at First Baptist of Elyria on Saturday, December 14th at 6 PM! Please see Wendy for more information, or email her at [sundayschool@noumc.org](mailto:sundayschool@noumc.org). Signup sheets will be available in Fellowship Hall.

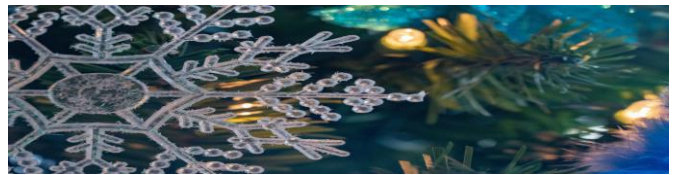
## **Adult Bible Study: Better – A Study of Hebrews by Jen Wilkin**

Join us as we start off the new year with a new Bible Study! We will be doing a verse-by-verse study of the book of Hebrews. We will explore how God provided "something better" for us than our rituals and practices: His Son, Jesus Christ...who came to fulfill all of God's promises. In Christ alone we can place our hope and trust, and in Him alone we can find salvation. Tuesday Evening classes begin on January 7th at 7:30 PM, and Thursday Morning classes will begin on January 9th at 11:00 AM.

This is a 10-week study, and the cost of the study booklet is \$20. A signup sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall. Please see Wendy for questions!

## **Community Meal Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers to cook for our monthly community meal. If you or your group would like to provide a wholesome meal for our neighbors in need, please consider volunteering to cook one meal. The meal is served the last Thursday of each month (except December) to approximately 50 guests. The church provides a budget of \$150 in support of the meal. Several volunteers aid in set up, serving, and cleanup the day of the meal. A document will be provided to help you plan and shop for the meal including some sample menus. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact Chris Byrns at (440) 732-5431, Barb Linton or Joel Chermonte.



## **Blue Christmas Invite from Rev. Alice Walsh December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**

There are seasons in our lives when the Days before us look differently than we had hoped...or had expected... When uncertainty abounds. These seasons of grief creep around the corner and grip us in the deepest parts of our humanity, sometimes surprising us, sometimes feeling like our worst fears are coming to reality. I believe that is why the Christian church has given us the gift of Advent. In these seasons of life we need a time to remember and reflect on Jesus as our HOPE, our PEACE, our JOY, our LOVE, and our LIGHT.

If you, or someone you know, are remembering a loss or going through a season of pain, I invite you to join us in-person or online at [www.noumc.org](http://www.noumc.org) for a service of comfort and hope.



### Stocking Stuffers Needed for Oxcart:

Small Coloring Books and Crayons  
 Skin Cream/Lotion and Soap and Razors  
 Puzzle Books and Pens/Pencils  
 Lip Balm and Cosmetics/Razors  
 Toy Cars/Trucks/Small Stuffed Animals  
 Small Dolls/Jewelry

Wrapped Candy  
 Shampoo and Conditioner  
 Toothpaste and Toothbrushes  
 Deodorant and Razors  
 Nail Clippers and Files

### Spirit of Giving



### SUITCASES FOR NEHEMIAH MISSION

Several months ago our church family filled a suitcase with socks to help needy families served by Nehemiah Mission in Cleveland. We have discovered that suitcases are one of the most prized items to those who are homeless.

As the Christmas season approaches, The Mission Ministry Team plans to deliver gently used suitcases or large duffle bags (especially those with wheels) to Nehemiah Mission. If you have a suitcase or duffle bag to donate, please bring it to the church and place it in the Conversation Café by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

We also plan to fill a suitcase with new winter hats, scarves, gloves/mittens and socks to donate to Nehemiah Mission. A suitcase will be placed in Fellowship Hall to collect your contributions. Thank you for help with this vital ministry.



### Fa la la la la

Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol that you would like to have sung

during the Season of Advent and Christmas Eve? Submit your request (first-come-first served) to Pastor Hoyte at hoytewilhelm@gmail.com Fun!

### Christmas Cookie Sunday!

The Nurture Team is coordinating a Christmas cookie gathering on Sunday, December 8th. Instead of donuts, we'll have cookies available before and after church. We would like eight volunteer bakers-- there's a signup sheet in Fellowship Hall. Happy baking, happy munching!

### This Week's Happenings

Nehemiah Meal: Tuesday, December 3, 12-4:30 pm, Nehemiah Mission

UWF: Wednesday, December 4, 10 am, Fellowship Hall

Community Meal: Thursday, December 5, 4:30-5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Bells: Thursday, December 5, 6 pm, Choir Room

Chancel Choir: Thursday, December 5, 7:00 pm, Choir Room

Sunday School: Sunday, December 8, 9 am, Choir Room

Second Sunday of Advent Worship: Sunday, December 8, 10:30 am, Sanctuary