

On Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:01 PM, Program Coordinator
<ProgramCoordinator@columbusfumc.com> wrote:

First UMC / Email Blast

This Weekend in Worship...celebrate the season of Advent!

Sat @ 6 PM, Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM – This weekend, the Advent sermon series “More” begins with “more hope” from Isaiah 64:1-9. Where do we find hope in the world today?

Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM – As Advent begins, join Rev. Seong with the sermon series, “Return of the King” with a focus on Mark 13:24-37. Remember to stay afterward for snacks & fellowship! NOTE: Prior to the Ignite Service, volunteers are welcome to come & to help as we continue to decorate the Outreach Center!

*****THIS FRIDAY! Call for Volunteers for NEW Fellowship Hall Chairs***** - The church has ordered new chairs for fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed on Friday, December 1 @ 10 AM to remove chairs from boxes & to recycle cardboard as well as to organize the old chairs.

*****THIS FRIDAY! Call for COOKIES for Daniel Christian Concert ***** - Award-winning singer-songwriter Daniel Christian will be in Concert on **Friday, December 1**, beginning at **7 PM** at our Outreach Center. Please plan to attend as he weaves humor, testimony, song for the season. Free will offering. *We need some cookie volunteers – please contact the Church Office if you are able to help!*

*****THIS SATURDAY! UMW Annual Christmas**

Brunch*** - United Methodist Women will be having their annual Christmas Brunch on **Saturday, December 2 @ 9:30 AM** in Fellowship Hall. Besides fellowship and feasting together, we will plan to have a special music group and Tammy from Accent Floral will also teach us how to make a wreath. Tickets are \$3 for Adults, \$5 for Family, and Kids are free. Please join us! All are welcome! *Tickets can be purchased at the door or in the office.*

*****THIS COMING SUNDAY! First Sunday Potluck & Make Your Own Advent Wreath***** – On Sunday, December 3, at 11:45 AM, enjoy potluck lunch with church family members & friends! Around 12:30 PM, make an Advent wreath with your family – please RSVP to church office at 402-564-8463 (only cost is \$5.00 for a holder).

Special Advent Studies & Activities:

Mondays, Bible & Bag: Women's Bible Study (*Pauses for Advent*) from 12 to 1 PM.

Tuesday Mornings, Bible Study (*Christmas Gifts That Won't Break*) at 9:30 AM.

Tuesday Nights, Serendipity Group – all are welcome (*Because of Bethlehem*) @ 7 PM.

Starting **Wed. Dec. 6**, Wednesday Evening Line-Up at Outreach Center (*Christmas Gifts That Won't Break* – three-week version) @ 7:15 PM.

Starting in **Sunday School Classes**, *please check with your class leaders!*

Hearts & Stars for Missions – Pick-up your **Hearts & Stars** for Missions on the Christmas Tree located downtown in the Gathering Area and/or at our Outreach Center in the back of the Wesley Room. You are also invited to bring all sizes & colors of mittens to place on the trees! Thank you! **Stars** need to be returned by Dec. 3 / **Hearts** need to be returned by Dec. 10. / **Mittens** need to be returned by Dec. 14.

Nativity Pieces/Scenes – Children, nativity pieces will be handed out at each worship service during the month of December! *Previous years'* Nativity Scenes are available in the office for a small donation. Complete your sets!

Connections Trip to Omaha – Connections is sponsoring a trip to Omaha on **Friday, December 8**. They will be leaving the church parking lot at 8:30 am and returning by 5 pm. The trip will include the Poinsettia Tree at Lauritzen Gardens, Christmas at Union Station, lunch at Spaghetti works in the Old Market with a stop at Cheesecake Factory on the way home. For more

information or to make a reservation contact Marilyn Zehring at 402-564-0756 or mbzehri@megavision.com.

Couples Christmas Party – “Couples” of all ages (engaged and/or married and/or just together) are invited to come celebrate the Christmas season on **Friday, December 8** from **7 to 9 PM** at the Outreach Center. Please wear festive sweaters and bring a snack to share!

AAA December Gathering - AAA (actively aging adults) will be celebrating the holiday season: **Sunday December 10 at 7pm** at Cecil & Janet Jones home – 3179 39th Ave. Please bring a snack to share. Retired or ” close to it” adults are encouraged to come and enjoy the fellowship, food, and Christmas Carols. Please RSVP to Janet and Cecil at 402-564-4280 or Martha Davidson at 402-910-8580.

Blue Christmas Service – For some, the holiday season is a lonely time for those who are alone and/or grieving the losses they have experienced in their lives. There will be a **Blue Christmas Service** held on **Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 PM** at Federated Church. This service is being sponsored by Federated, First UMC, Grace Episcopal & St. Luke’s UCC.

Youth Bake Sale – On **December 16 & 17** the youth will be doing a bake sale in chapel parlor after each service. The money raised goes to the holiday spirit co-op to help purchase gifts for children this holiday season.

CALENDAR:

December 1 / 10 AM Unpack New Chairs in Fellowship Hall / 7 PM Daniel Christian Concert @ OC

December 2 / 9:30 AM UMW Bruch / 6 PM Worship Service with Communion

December 3 / 8 & 10:30 AM Services with Communion / 1st Sunday of Advent / 9 AM Sunday School / 9 AM Beginning & Belonging (GA) / 10 AM Fellowship Time / 11:45 AM First Sunday Potluck / 6 PM Ignite! / 6 PM Children’s Church

December 4 / 12 PM Bible & Bag / 1 PM Home Communion

December 5 / 9:30 AM Bible Study / 11:30 Memorial Committee Meeting (Picket Fence) / 1 PM Home Communion / 1:30 Prayer Shawl / 6:30 PM Serendipity Group (RM 207)

December 6 / 5 PM Wednesday Night Meal / 6:30 Grow Men / 7:15 Youth Groups / 7:15 Christmas Gifts that Won't Break (OC-MR)

December 7 / 7 PM Serendipity Group (Zehring House)

December 8 / 8:30 AM Connection's Christmas Trip to Omaha / 7 PM Couples Christmas Party (OC-CMR)

December 9 / 6 PM Worship / *Blood Pressure Checks*

Mark Your Calendars:

December 1 – Daniel Christian Concert @ OC

December 2 – UMW Christmas Brunch

December 3 – First Sunday Potluck & Make your own Advent Wreath

December 8 – Couples Christmas Party @ OC

December 14 – Blue Christmas Service @ Federated Church

December 17 – Sunday School Christmas Program @ 10:30 Service / Pastor's Open House 4 PM @ OC

More Announcements

Bruce Gilmore's 90th Birthday! Bruce Gilmore is turning "90" and there will be an Open House on **Sat. Dec. 2** from **2 to 3:30 PM** in Fellowship Hall. The family invites church leaders & friends to attend. PLEASE RSVP to the Church Office so that we can get a number to the family.

Harold Ritter's 90th Birthday! The family of **Harold Ritter** would like to invite members and friends of the Columbus First United Methodist Church to celebrate his 90th Birthday on **Saturday, December 9**, from **2 to 4 PM** in First United Methodist Church's Fellowship Hall! No gifts, please!

“Piece by Piece” Capital Campaign – The Capital Campaign Team wants to challenge the church family members to **PRAY @ 3:12 PM/AM** each day for the Church and the Campaign. The time is from 2 Corinthians 3:12, *Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.* Please pray for hope, courage, boldness and faith! For more information about being a part of the “Piece by Piece” Prayer Team, talk to Lois Smith and/or Rev. Cindi Stewart.

Call to Action – Attention, Congregation! **Have you ever wanted to take action regarding issues but were unsure how to make your voice heard?** Or wondered if it does any good? Every voice counts and matters. The Christian Social Witness Team is compiling a list of people's email addresses that would like information on how to take Action. The **“Call to Action” list** will provide you with information on how to contact organizations, or law makers, to voice your opinion on topics. Emails will contain information regarding topics and explain, when, how and who to contact. If interested in receiving information and being part of the “Call to Action” list please contact Delanie Hudnall, djhudnall@columbushosp.org.

WANTED: Chancel Choir Accompanist – The Chancel Choir of the Church is looking for an accompanist to rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM, and to play for choir presentations on the first & third Sundays of the month. This is a paid position. For more information, please contact Rev. Cindi and/or Chancel Choir Director Sarah Cunningham. *Feel free to forward this information to others.*

Discipleship & Leadership Opportunities: – Want to **VOLUNTEER / SERVE** in the Church? Watch this ***newly added*** section for opportunities! Email Erin Landon for more info: ProgramCoordinator@columbusfumc.com

Care Team needs a few more Caring People to serve in a variety of ways: provide transportation to & from worship on the weekends and/or to medical appointments; make hospital visits and/or visits to homebound members; help to

coordinate health & wellness activities. Care 101, 202 & 303 trainings available as scheduled. Talk to Rev. Cindi, Dee Kinkaid and/or Martha Davidson for more info. Trainings are open to all church family members & friends who want to develop their caring skills. Sign-up in the Church Office with Rev. Cindi. Thank you!

Sound Techs serve in weekly worship services and/or special events as scheduled (funerals, weddings, etc). **Training available!** Expectation would be to serve once a month (if we have enough volunteers). Talk to Jim Hanna or Kevin Whited for more info!

Community Connection!

Masquerade Jewelry Sale – CCH Volunteers are having a Masquerade \$5 Jewelry Sale held on **Friday, December 1** at the Columbus Community Hospital on the third floor conference center from 9 am to 3 pm. Proceeds raised will fund medical equipment purchases for Columbus Community Hospital.

Digestive & Colon Health- How is your digestive and colon health? Is it as healthy as you think it is? Find out and join us on **Tuesday, December 5 from noon to 1pm** in the third floor conference room for a free Lunch & Learn educational seminar. Dr. Jeremy Albin of Columbus General Surgery will be discussing digestive and colon health, what preventative measures are needed to maintain digestive and colon health, what warning signs to look out for if problems start to arise and how to treat any digestive and colon health issues. Pre-registration requested by Friday, December 1. To register, contact 402-562-3380 or register online at www.columbushosp.org.

Center For Survivors- The center is now in its 27 year of serving our families and individuals in six counties. We have served over 1,000 individuals in 2016. One in four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime, and one in seven men will experience severe physical violence by their partner. Churches have been vital in providing our center resources for families and individuals impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault. We have many families and individuals on our Christmas wish lists that are in need of new winter clothing. If you would like to adopt a family, for our Christmas wish list program, please call 402-564-2155 or email outreach@centerforsurvivors.net. Our need list is in the office at First United Methodist Church. Some of the items include

garbage bags, laundry detergent, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, paper towels, shampoo, conditioner, cereal, soups, diapers, Ziploc bags, and gift cards.

Prairie Rivers District Mission Trip Opportunity – PLEASE

SIGN-UP ASAP!!! The Prairie Rivers District is forming a district wide missions team to go to Texas this coming January to help with the recovery work from Hurricane Harvey. Please join Pastors Russ Anderson and Martin Leeper **January 28 – February 3**. The exact location is yet to be determined. This mission opportunity is for laity and clergy alike. Call Pastor Russ at 308-382-1952, or Pastor Martin at 402-741-2362 for more information. The Prairie Rivers District will help with some of the expenses keeping the cost per person low. The expected cost per person is \$200 (housing, food budget, fuel cost sharing, ect.). Volunteer in Mission (VIM) team training events will be held throughout the district for those wishing to join the mission team. Please look for information on when and where they will be held. ***PLEASE SIGN-UP ASAP!!!***