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## **First UMC / Email Blast**

**This Weekend in Worship** – *We are called to Prepare the Way for Jesus in this season. Just like the time we spend to prepare our homes, we need to prepare our hearts!*

**Sat @ 6 PM (OC) and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM (Church)** – As we continue in the Advent season, “**Prepare the Way**” with a focus on *Love* and what it means to *Welcome* from Micah 5:2-5a and Luke 1:39-55.

**Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM (OC)** – This weekend join @ Ignite as we celebrate ‘Christmas Eve’ Eve, through “**Advent Conspiracy**” and focus on *Love All* with Isaiah 9:2-7 and Psalm 96:1-13. **Remember to stay for refreshments provided by the Krepel & Stewart Families.**

**PBJ4JC / Peanut Butter and Jelly for Jesus Christ Holiday Giving Drive for the Food Pantry and Backpack Program.** As a way to honor Baby Jesus, the Lamb of God, we are extending an invitation to our Sunday School children, youth, and entire congregation to help feed the hungry children in our community by bringing offerings of Peanut Butter and Jelly as gifts to Baby Jesus during this Holiday Season. These gifts will be shared with the Backpack Program and Food Pantry. (There will be gift boxes or bags in Sunday School rooms or near the Sanctuary) **FYI: The Backpack program requires plastic jars.** *Jesus commanded us to feed his lambs; and He also informed us that whenever we give to those in need, we have given to Him.*

**Christmas Eve Services** / Join us for our Special Christmas Eve Services held on **Monday, December 24** at the Church:

❖ **5 PM, Children & Family Service** – featuring a special Children’s Time & Treats & special music (with child-friendly “candles”)

❖ **7 PM, Carols & Candles Service** – featuring special music with lessons & carols as well as candle lighting

❖ **11 PM, Carols, Candles & Communion** – featuring special music selections, message, communion & candle lighting

**REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR CIRCUIT RIDER IN THE CHAPEL PARLOR**

**December “Star” Campaign for Mission Shares** / We are excited to announce that there are **22 Stars** shining brightly in the sanctuary. We need **26 additional stars** to meet our Mission Share obligations. These Mission Shares support the mission & ministry of the Great Plains Annual Conference. *Please remit all donations by December 31; thank you!*

**Nebraska Wesleyan Choir: January 3** / On **Thursday, January 3**, we will be welcoming the Nebraska Wesleyan Choir to First UMC for a concert at **7 PM** in the church sanctuary. Please plan to attend as we ring in the New Year!

**CALENDAR:** <https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/74025457/month/2018-12-01>

### **Mark Your Calendars:**

**December 23** – *Columbus Christmas Tuba Concert @ 4 PM (Sanctuary)* / **‘Christmas Eve’ Eve Celebration at Ignite Service @ 6 PM**

**December 24** – *Church Office Closes @ Noon* / **Christmas Eve Worship Services at Church: 5 PM, 7 PM & 11 PM**

**December 30** – *Fifth Sunday Donuts* (Gathering Area)

**January 2** – *Children & Youth MOVIE Night @ 6:30 PM at Outreach Center*

**January 3** – *NE Wesleyan Choir performance @ 7 PM in the Sanctuary*

**January 6 – Epiphany / Holy Communion / Borgman’s Experiences from Holy Land / First Sunday Potluck / General Conference Delegate Lisa Maupin @ Potluck!**

**Community Connection!** – Please check-out the Community Bulletin Board located outside of the Church Office! Click on the hyperlinks to go to learn more about the events listed below.

- [Gallery Gift Gala](#) – Nov. 26 – Jan. 4

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