

# December 2023

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# *Pastor's Article*

*"I wait for the Lord; my soul waits, and in God's word I hope" - Psalm 130:5*

*As I write this article, I have not yet officially started as your pastor. And yet, you've been in my heart for quite some time! We will begin our official time together as the new church year begins and we start our celebration of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting and a time of expectation. Often after a time of transition, there is a combined sense of relief, excitement, and weariness. And there are lots of other thoughts and feelings as well. I know I'm eager to begin. I'm eager to get to know each of you and to hear your stories. I'm eager to learn the rhythms of the church, to engage in the traditions, and to discern what new opportunities for mission, ministry, and fellowship are possible for us. I'm eager! And yet, this is also a time for us to be still, to acknowledge the exhaustion after some tumultuous years, and to engage in the mystery that Advent brings to us. So, let's enter into the season of Advent with hope, with excitement, and with space for connection and renewing. Let's savor the freshness of this time together. Let's prepare ourselves for the journey.*

*My prayer for us: Most Gracious Love, as we enter into new beginnings, fill us with wonder and curiosity. Open us to feel your presence, to anticipate your grace, and to live your love. May it be so.*

*Pastor Joyce Wealand*

# Thank You

I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone at Northwest for your love and support over the time I spent here as your Interim Pastor. I was truly blown away by the outpouring of cards and gestures of appreciation during the last two Sundays I worshipped with you. As I said in one of my messages, I came into ministry here unsure if I was still called to ministry, but I leave so loved and affirmed that I'm super excited for my next opportunity at First Christian Church in Wilson, NC.

I've really enjoyed working with Rebecca, Tim, Tracy and Faith at Northwest. I've loved working with the Search Committee, Elders, Administrative Council, and other committees. Most of all, I've loved getting to know so many of you, over lunches, coffee, tears, and laughter. I have so much faith in this church, your leaders, and your incoming pastor, that I know that bright years are ahead for Northwest. You occupy a warm place in my heart, and will continue on in my prayers—and I'll ask you to reciprocate!

Peace, Scott

# FAREWELL PASTOR SCOTT



THANK YOU, PASTOR SCOTT, FOR YOUR  
INSPIRING CHILDREN'S MESSAGES!



YOU WILL BE MISSED!



HAVING A WONDERFUL  
TIME AT THE CHURCH  
POTLUCK! OUR  
FELLOWSHIP HALL WAS  
OVERFLOWING WITH  
GOOD FOOD AND  
HAPPY PEOPLE!



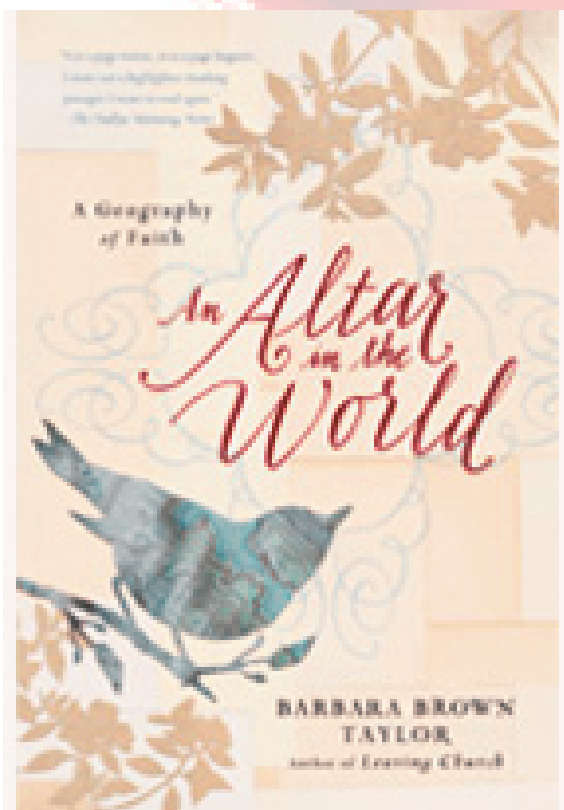




# HeartSisters

*Connecting...to God, to each other, to community*

**We are thankful for our NWCC Heart Sisters and wish you all a blessed Christmas. Our next gathering will be Monday, January 22, 2024 and we will be exploring passages from *An Altar in the World*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. In this book, Taylor shares how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life. The author shows us how to discover altars everywhere we go and in nearly everything we do as we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in. Sounds like a good resolution for the new year, doesn't it? Feel free to read this book on your own, or just come and enjoy the discussion. If you would like more information about Heart Sisters or have ideas for programs, please contact Debbie Stephan, Carolyn Abels, or Jane Russell.**





## **Have you purchased gifts for the NNEMAP Holiday Shoppe?**

**Once again, NWCC is helping to support the Holiday Shoppe at NNEMAP. This year, around 1600 children are registered to receive gifts through this wonderful program.**

**Gifts are needed for newborns - teenagers and will be collected through Sunday, December 10th .**

**Stop by the display in the Narthex to pick up a shopping list if you need gift ideas or consider donating a gift card to Target, Walmart, McDonalds, Wendy's, Dairy Queen, etc.**

**If you would like additional information about the Holiday Shoppe or volunteering at NNEMAP, please contact Debbie Stephan.**

**Welcome to 2024!  
Pancake Breakfast  
Sunday, January 7th  
from 9-10am**



**Mark your calendars and plan to welcome in the new year with a pancake breakfast on Sunday, January 7th from 9-10am in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a wonderful time visiting with each other after the busy holidays while we share in a delicious breakfast together. If you would like to help with the breakfast, please contact Debbie Stephan.**

## Habitat for Humanity-Mid Ohio Happenings:

### Our 2023-24 Partnership house begins!

We will be building a house this year with volunteers from seven other churches in the Northwest Adopt-A-House partnership for Habitat for Humanity. Construction days will be Thursday morning's & Saturday's until the house is complete in June. We will be building a three bedroom two story house for Zeinab Bahdi and her two children. Zeinab works at Macy's and is from Somalia.

**Partner Church's:-** This is our 30th house with the partnership. Together we share construction and financial responsibility for this house with Habitat for Humanity- MidOhio and these partner churches:

Covenant Presbyterian

Riverside Church

St Agatha Catholic

Holy Trinity Lutheran

St. Mark's Episcopal

First Community

Atonement Lutheran

**Location:** This year's house is at 1496 Arlington Ave. in Linden. We have participated in building several houses in this area. These houses are part of an initiative with the city of Columbus to help revitalize the Linden neighborhood.

**Wall Raising Ceremony:** Come out see the site, meet the family and celebrate the start of our house on Saturday December 2 at 9:00 am

**Volunteers needed:** - It requires over 2,500 volunteer hours to build a house. Most work is performed on Saturday's and Thursday mornings. Saturday workdays typically run from 8:30 am to mid afternoon and lunch is provided. Volunteers can come and go as their schedule permits. No experience is necessary. Please consider volunteering! To volunteer or to receive emailed progress updates, please complete the volunteer form or contact John Beals at 614-928-8151 or email [johnebeals@yahoo.com](mailto:johnebeals@yahoo.com).

### Habitat for Humanity Interested Volunteer signup

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Lunches - prepare and deliver lunch for Saturday work crew

\_\_\_ Construction - No experience needed. Come on out, instruction is provided





*Spread Joy with Heartwarming Christmas  
Messages For our Special Care List*

**Bill Holroyd**  
5910 Farrington Rd #407  
Chapel hill, NC 27517

**Mary Lu Wilcox**  
2401 Bristol Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43221

**Chris and Barb Proicou**  
2453McCoy Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43220

**Don and Carolyn Guss**  
5626 Montridge Lane  
Dublin, OH 43016

**Jan Thorley**  
558 Westbury Woods St.  
Westerville, OH 43081

**Don and Vera Alexander**  
4625 Knightsbridge Blvd  
Apt. 1016  
Columbus, OH 43214

**Ken and Margi Evans**  
5800 Forest Hills Blvd. #B214  
Columbus, OH 43231

**Barbara Young**  
309 Walhalla Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43202

**Dennis and Patricia Finegan**  
3093 Splitrock Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43221





*Northwest Christian Church  
Music Program presents*

# SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

*featuring the Chalice Choir, Chalice  
Bells, Joyful Noise, brass and other  
musicians*

Sunday, December 17, 2023

3:00 pm

1340 Fishinger Road

Upper Arlington, OH 43221

*Invite  
Friends & Family!*

Northwest Christian Church  
Festive Christmas Dinner  
Chalice Arts Program  
Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 17, 5:00pm

# *Christmas* Dinner

An Italian Dinner

provided by "Catering by Scott"

Meat or Vegetable Lasagna, or Chicken Parmesan (gluten-free)

Field Greens Salad with assorted dressings

Roasted Redskin Potatoes

Fresh Green Bean Amandine

Fresh Baked Breads

Dessert Bar – by NWCC bakers

**Reservations Required by Dec. 6!**

Purchase your tickets in the Narthex,

or contact the church office by

Dec. 6 to make your reservation

\$15 per adult, \$10 per child, \$45 max per family

Questions?

Call Rebecca in the church office, 614-457-6290

[office@northwestchristian.org](mailto:office@northwestchristian.org) or call Lori Beals

614-439-4342, [lnbeals@yahoo.com](mailto:lnbeals@yahoo.com)



12/3 Doug and Kristen Everman  
12/17 Glenn and Melissa Allen  
12/24 Steve and Cheryl Jennings

12/1 Robert Argo  
12/5 Cindy Adcock  
12/5 Lynda Wright  
12/6 Keith Rose  
12/10 Laura Rings  
12/11 Lina Taylor  
12/20 Jeanie Lisak  
12/20 Carole Strawn  
12/21 Kelsey Velazquez  
12/23 Doug Everman  
12/31 Leslie Gore  
12/31 Barbara Proicou



We have recently learned of the passing of two members of our church family. Mary Lou McConaghy passed away September 13th. Please keep her daughter, Julie George, in your prayers.



Jim Moore passed away October 21 st . Please keep his sons Steven and Scott and daughter Debra O'Brien in your prayers.



**Should you have any pastoral needs or concerns, please let our Pastor know.**

**Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister: [pastor@northwestchristian.org](mailto:pastor@northwestchristian.org)**

**Dr. Tim Sarsany, Minister of Music: [tsarsany@gmail.com](mailto:tsarsany@gmail.com)**

**Tracy Qian, Accompanist / Organist**

**Rebecca Bean, Secretary: [office@northwestchristian.org](mailto:office@northwestchristian.org)**

**Madison Buty, Child Caregiver**

**Karly Dearth, Child Caregiver**

**Disciples  
LGBTQ+  
Alliance**

