

# The Chimes

Published monthly by  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
301 W. Market Street  
Lima, Ohio 45801



*"In the heart of the city, sharing the heart of Christ."*

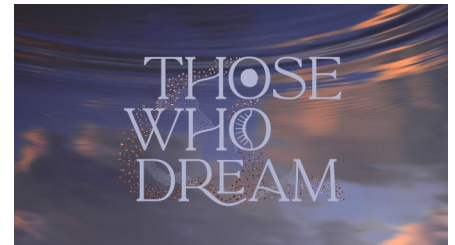
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*from Pastor Megan*

Dear Trinity Friends,

As I ponder the past year and look forward to 2021, I am constantly challenged by our Christmas Eve message "Tonight we are... Those Who Dream". There is no question that this year has been full of the unexpected, and much of it unwelcome. And yet, I cannot hear the words from Isaiah 9:2 "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned" without having hope- without dreaming- without seeing sparks of God's light shining in and through God's people. Just this week presents came in less than 24 hours after requesting gifts for teenagers in our community, more than 25 people ages 7 months to more than 70 years of age have been working on a powerful Christmas Eve worship service, several people will be involved in donating and delivering a hospital bed, several ministry partners will be sharing resources for our first ever drive-in caroling experience, and I was part of a discussion across race, gender and faith about the beginnings of a Center for Peace and reconciliation in our community... and it is only Tuesday. We certainly have much to grieve, and yet we celebrate this season as a reminder that God is with us.



I am incredibly grateful to our staff, our congregation and our community for the many ways that during a very difficult season we have continued to come together to continue to love God and love our neighbor and we have begun to live as "Those who dream" with the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ in our hearts. We hope that you will join us for a very special Christmas and into the New Year online knowing that no matter where we are, through Christ we are connected and look forward to resuming old ways of gathering while continuing to explore new ways of being community, of being church. At this point we will continue with virtual Worship. We will be watching Covid numbers and make our decision to come back in person based on them. Watch the January Chimes for more information.

God Bless You and Merry Christmas!

*Rev. Megan Croy*

### **Online Worship**

You might notice that we have made a few changes to our website viewing. We will continue to host our live services on Trinity UMC's Facebook page and we encourage you to follow our page for updates. In addition, we have heard that some people are not on Facebook and miss the community feel of being able to chat with one another and see who is online. So, we have connected a community viewing option to our website with the opportunity to talk to one another. The direct link is <https://limatrinityumc.online.church> and can also be found on our website under the "worship online" tab.

### **Christmas Eve Information**

This year's Christmas Eve service will be available on our website anytime after 4:00 p.m. We will also "premiere" it at 4 pm, 7pm and 11pm on Facebook and the website for more of a "community" experience.

### **Poinsettias**

Poinsettias may be picked up December 23 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

### **Turner Christmas Love Offering**

The Turner Love Christmas offering will go toward Freedom School, Habitat, KAIROS, Family Promise, Our Daily Bread, and Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Our goal for donations is \$7,500. An envelope was included in the last issue of *The Chimes*.

### **Office Holiday Hours**

The Church Office will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1. Holiday office hours December 28, 29 and 30 will be 8:00 a.m.—noon.

### **Breakfast Update/Sweatshirt Donations**

118 people were served breakfast Sunday. We are collecting new or gently used men's sweatshirts to hand out on January 3rd. There is a bin in the church entry that you can place your donations in.

### **2021 Commitment Cards**

There is still time to get in your pledge for 2021. If you would like a commitment card, please call the church office. Or, you may call your pledge into Beth in the church office. 2021 offering envelopes are available from the church office.

## *Trinity Family News & Notes . . .*

### *January Birthdays 90 +*

Paul Shin ~ January 3~ 90

### *Hospitalized since last Chimes*

No known hospitalizations

### *Trinity expresses our deepest sympathy to...*

To the family and friends of Mayme Bonnell. Mayme died on December 2.

To the family and friends of Karen Elmquist. Karen died on December 5.

### *Note of Thanks*

I would like to thank everyone for the thoughts, prayers and cards I have received.

*Clyde Neinas*

Megan,

As we reflect on the past year, we realize that there have been many challenges and adaptations because of Covid. On behalf of the board of Family Promise, I thank you for your continued support. You and your church have been generous in many ways and we appreciate all you do. Please let your congregation know they are valued.

Blessings,

*Charlotte*

Thanks so much for the flowers sent to me. I truly appreciate the thought.

God Bless,

*Shirley Wolford*