



Little Bells...

... your weekly update to The Chimes

Church Re-Opening Delayed

For the safety our members and staff, Montgomery Presbyterian Church shall remain closed for in-person Worship, meetings, and other activities until such time that:

- The Public Health Emergency Level is 1 or 2 AND
- Non-Religious mass gatherings of 25 or more are permitted AND
- Session takes necessary action to reopen



While in-person Worship services are suspended, MPC will continue to record and post services on YouTube and the MPC Facebook page. The office remains open Tuesday-Thursday.

Elder and Deacon for December

The Elder for December is Pam Koester, 332-8810.
The Deacon for December is Sue Poulos, 376-1623.

Pastor Ben is Officially on the Job

MPC's new pastor, Rev. Ben Shaw will typically be in the office Mondays through Thursdays. He can be reached at the church office number or his cell, 740-972-1606, and his email address is mpc.pastor@mpchurch.net. Because we can still not hold services in person at this time, please send a note, email or call to introduce yourself and welcome Ben.

Holiday Mission

Angel and Mitten Trees Updates



Thank you for your generous donations to the Angel Tree drive this year. We collected almost \$5000 for Lighthouse Youth Services and One Way Farm. The Mission Committee also donated an additional \$350 to both of these organizations, as well as \$500 to go to The Caring Place. This has obviously been a hard year for so many families, and we thank you for giving so generously to bring some joy to deserving kids.

If you would still like to drop off hats, scarves and mittens for Bethany House, the Mitten Tree is up in the Gathering Room. Donations may be dropped off there or to Cathy in the office by **Monday, December 14.**



OGB Holiday Store

Thank you also to those who contributed to the OGB Holiday Store through purchasing gifts, filling Blessing Bags and serving as Prayer Partners.

December Office Hours and Holiday Closures

For the next two weeks, Cathy will work Mondays and Tuesdays (12/14 & 12/15 and then 12/21 & 12/22). After the 22nd, she will not be back in the office until **Tuesday, Jan. 5.**

Rev. Ben will be in the office through **Wednesday, December 23.**

The office will be **CLOSED** from Christmas Eve through the New Year, re-opening when Ben returns **Monday January 4.**



Stewardship

2021 Pledge Envelopes

Thank you to all who submitted pledge cards for 2021 Stewardship and thanks to those who have picked up their pledge boxes. If you were not able to make it in to the office to pick up yours, your envelopes will be sent to you by mail before the end of the year. If you submit payments monthly, quarterly or annually, please note we will not send the whole box, but rather will pull out the envelopes you need and mail those to you.

Also, every household (except those who already picked up their boxes from the office) will be mailed envelopes for Per Capita, Initial Offering, Deacons Fund and Scholarship Fund, before the end of the year.

Per Capita for 2021

For 2021, the Per Capita assessment for the Presbytery of Cincinnati is \$35 per person. Multiply this amount by each church member of your household to determine your correct contribution. The suggested amount for the Initial Offering is **\$5.00.**

**Per Capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, so every Presbyterian is asked to share the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system. Congregations (through their sessions) pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their presbyteries. The annual per capita amount is a combined request from a congregation's presbytery, synod, and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets for the coming year.*

Deadline for 2019 Giving is December 28

With the end of the calendar year upon us, please note that the last donation deposit will be made **Monday, December 28.** If you plan to extend your giving or make a designated gift for 2019, it must be received at the church no later than this date. Donations received after the 28th will become offerings to 2021. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Pledge Offerings and Donations



Although in-person Worship services are temporarily suspended, the operations of the church continue. As an alternative to dropping pledges into the collection plate, you may still send contributions via mail or online via the church website. The office is still be open, and we continue making weekly bank deposits. Thank you.

Christmas Joy Offering

Christmas Joy offerings may be sent to the church in the month of December. Please make checks out to MPC, with "Christmas Joy" noted in the memo line. The Christmas Joy Offering supports church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God.



Book Club Meets Via Zoom this Monday



All are invited to MPC's next book discussion via Zoom at 7PM on **Monday December 14th.** We will read and discuss "Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do" by Jennifer L. Eberhardt. This book reveals the surprising findings of a social anthropologist both from her perceptive academic research and her unexpected personal stories. For information about how to join in the zoom call, contact Doug Rose.