

# PARISH NOTES

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO

## OUTREACH AT ST. PAUL'S

Outreach is one of our core missions at St. Paul's and, while our building may be closed, our hearts are open and our outreach ministries are hard at work to help our community, country, and world. Read more updates from a few of our teams on page 7.

### Food Drive

This new ministry collected 888 pounds of food for the Cleveland Food Bank! Let's help families in need for Thanksgiving with our next one on Saturday, November 21st from 9 to 11 a.m.



### Our Busy Knitting Group

Connie Hanson, Betsy Hockey, and Lee Deininger have been busy knitting 145 warm, colorful hats for parishioners at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cleveland.

### Baby Bundles Off to Honduras

In October, members of Global Mission Action Group and the Eliza Backus Guild assembled two hundred Baby Bundles for new mothers in rural Honduras. Each new mom will receive a "Welcome Baby" gift of a lovely baby blanket, cloth diapers, tiny undershirts, washcloths, and a bar of Dove soap. The attached gift cards read in Spanish: "May God bless you and your new baby."



Poleda Moodie, Eliza Backus Guild Chair, joined the Rev. Jessie Dodson for the blessing of the Baby Bundles before Connie Hanson drove them to the Central American Medical Outreach warehouse for shipment to Honduras.

## Love LIVES ON

### November 22 is Commitment Sunday

Throughout this unusual year we have been witnesses to the essential role of the church and all that is enabled through the many ministries of St. Paul's — ministries that are only possible because of your generous offerings.

On Commitment Sunday we celebrate our collective gifts to the annual campaign which ensure that our worship, music, pastoral care, Christian education, and outreach ministries continue to make a difference in our community and the world.

While we are not able to gather in person this year, we invite you to celebrate with us during our worship service on November 22nd as we offer our gifts to God for the blessings of our lives and of our community.

### How to Offer your Support to St. Paul's

All are encouraged to make a pledge to the 2021 annual fund as they are able. All pledges are important and valued, regardless of the size.

Pledging is quite easy. Pledge forms have been mailed to all households. Alternatively, you can pledge online by signing in to our member portal, Realm (click on **SIGN IN** in the upper right corner of the St. Paul's website), and enter the email address you have shared with the church. From your profile, just click on **Giving** and from there you can create a new pledge, make a recurring or one-time online gift or check your giving history and past pledges. You can also pledge through the website by clicking on Give and then Pledge Now.

## WHO WE ARE

### St. Paul's

#### Episcopal Church

2747 Fairmount Boulevard,  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44106  
(216) 932-5815

[www.StPauls-Church.org](http://www.StPauls-Church.org)

Jeanne Leinbach, Rector

[jleinbach@stpauls-church.org](mailto:jleinbach@stpauls-church.org)

Jessie Dodson, Asst. Rector

[jdodson@stpauls-church.org](mailto:jdodson@stpauls-church.org)

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### Our Mission

St. Paul's is a living, evolving community of Christian people who worship together according to the Anglican/Episcopal tradition. We seek to know God and God's will for us; to care for each other; and to support each other in the exercise of our ministries among our neighbors and in the wider world.

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### Parish Notes Deadline

The next issue of Parish Notes will be dated December 2020. Deadline for submissions is 11/9/2020. Items may be edited for space and/or clarity.

Nathaniel Powell

(216) 932-5815 ext. 214

[npowell@stpauls-church.org](mailto:npowell@stpauls-church.org)

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### Newcomers

We continue to welcome digital visitors to St. Paul's. Invite your friends to church by sharing our videos with them. It's an easy way to help spread the word and our story. Visitors can fill out a Welcome Card on our website to get more information about the Church by clicking "I'm New."

## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parish Family,

What a pleasure it was to have the Rev. Dr. Brian Wilbert with us for 14 months. Through worship, pastoral care, and formation, we benefitted from his many gifts for ministry. I'm so grateful for his loving, joyful demeanor, and his wisdom from 35 years in parish ministry! I knew this day would come...the Diocese needs him to lead another parish through an interim period. Brian has begun a new ministry as Interim Rector at Grace Episcopal Church in Sandusky. We celebrated Brian at Zoom Coffee Hour on October 25th and presented him with a crystal vase engraved with the St. Paul's tower and words of gratitude for his service. With thanksgiving, we say Godspeed.

I am pleased to announce that we have found a new Assistant Rector. The Rev. Brandon Ashcraft will join us on January 1st. Brandon graduated from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale (Jessie's alma mater) in May, 2018. Previously, he worked in corporate communications. Brandon is completing a curacy at Good Shepherd in Austin, TX. More to come, but I wanted to get the good news to you before the November Parish Notes went to print. My thanks to the Search Committee for their time interviewing candidates and finding the right fit for St. Paul's: Susan Armstrong, Beth Clough, Jonathan Hren, Tom Nobbe, Pete Scrivens, and Carla Williams.

### Looking ahead to Advent and Christmas

Unfortunately, with COVID-19 cases rising and the seasonal flu close behind, we realize we simply can't safely accommodate in the Nave all who attend our special Advent and Christmas services. So, we're planning now for how we can celebrate these special occasions with beauty and holiness. In addition to our weekly Sunday services, we are developing three recorded services: Advent Lessons and Carols, Christmas Holy Eucharist, and Christmas Lessons and Carols. We have learned much over the past seven months about how to create holy worship through recordings. I hope our offerings, along with a quieter holiday season, will open hearts to the gifts of the season. We're also planning some fun activities for our children and youth. More to come!

As always, you are in my heart and prayers,



Jeanne+

## NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

### November Guest Preacher

This month we'll be joined by the Rev. Nathan Kirkpatrick as a guest preacher on Sunday, November 8th. Nathan Kirkpatrick is the managing director of Alban at Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C. In this role, he designs educational programs, manages leadership development opportunities for clergy, denominational and institutional leaders, works with publisher Rowman & Littlefield to publish Alban books, and consults with senior church leaders around the United States and abroad. The St. Paul's staff has worked with Nathan through the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP). We hope you'll join us for worship and share in the blessing of Nathan's preaching!

### Compline: Special Thanksgiving Edition

We hope you'll join us on Wednesday, November 25 for a special Thanksgiving-Eve Compline at 8 p.m. on Zoom. Step away from your meal preparations for a brief and peaceful service. You can register for the service at [tinyurl.com/SPCompline](https://tinyurl.com/SPCompline). Stick around for a few minutes after the service to catch-up with each other and share your Thanksgiving plans.

### Guest Carillonneur

The Sunday carillon concerts are coming back! Our 30-year veteran carillonneur, David Osburn, must give the ascent a rest as he recovers from surgery. He invited award-winning Keiran Cantilina to fill in for a while starting November 1st. Cantilina is a Senior Research Engineer at Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute and studied carillon in Belgium.

### Celebrating Our Rector!

You're cordially invited to a celebratory Coffee Hour on November 15th from 10 to 11 a.m. in honor of our Rector, Jeanne. Please join us as we celebrate Jeanne's 60th birthday (on November 9th) and give thanks for the fifth anniversary of her Rectorship of St. Paul's. We'll be using our regular coffee hour link, so, if you've attended those, you are already registered. If not, go to [tinyurl.com/SPCoffeeHour](https://tinyurl.com/SPCoffeeHour)

### Vestry Nominations Are Accepted

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 24, 2021, we will elect four Vestry members.

Following our parish bylaws, the Rector appoints a Nominating Committee, which delivers to the Rector, by the December Vestry Meeting a list "setting forth the names of as many qualified members of the Parish as needed to fill the positions in the Vestry to be voted upon at the succeeding annual meeting of the Parish."

This year's Nominating Committee consists of Debra Mitchell, Chair, Carl Carter, EB Donley, Bill Powel, and Chris Smythe. They welcome nominations from the Parish. A form for nominations is available on our website along with a Vestry Position Description. [stpauls-church.org/about/vestry/](https://stpauls-church.org/about/vestry/)

Address nominations to Committee Chair, Debra Mitchell, and delivered in a sealed envelope to the Parish Office, or sent by email to [info@stpauls-church.org](mailto:info@stpauls-church.org). All nominations should be received no later than **November 20, 2020**.

### Looking Ahead

12/6 at 5 p.m. - Advent Lessons and Carols premieres on YouTube

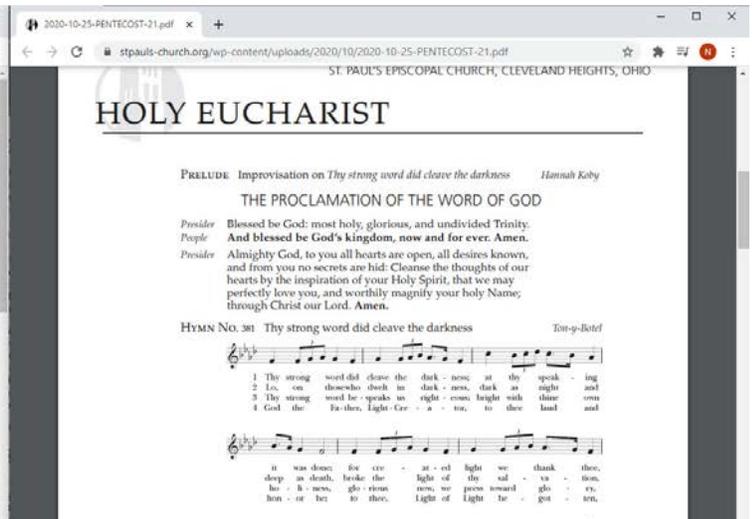
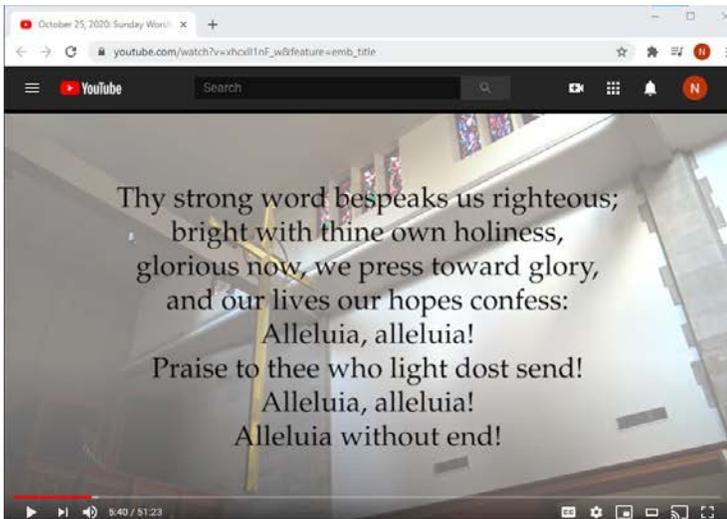
12/24 at 4 p.m. - Christmas Reading premieres on YouTube

12/24 at 8 p.m. - Christmas Holy Eucharist premieres on YouTube

12/27 at 7 a.m. - Christmas Lessons and Carols available on YouTube and Facebook

Join your Adult Formation Committee for a series of Adult Forums featuring small group conversations about what the season of Advent means to us this year. We'll meet over Zoom on Sundays 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20 from 10 to 11 a.m..

Register for the series at [tinyurl.com/AdventForum](https://tinyurl.com/AdventForum).



Ever want to see our YouTube services and the bulletin at the same time? Then here's a helpful trick if you are on a desktop computer. This will not work if you use a phone, tablet, or TV to watch our services.

- Start by going to our service (on our website, YouTube or Facebook Channel);
- Right Click the link for the service bulletin;
- Click "Open in New Window"
- Position this new window with the bulletin wherever you like.

Follow the next steps for more accurate positioning to make your screen look like the picture below.

If you have a Windows computer:

- Press the Windows key and press either the Right or Left arrow, moving the bulletin to either the screen's left or right.
- Then click top bar of the window with the service open and repeat the previous step. When using the Windows key for this step, use the opposite (right or left) arrow button that you used in step one.

If you have a Mac Computer:

- Click and hold the full-screen button in the upper-left corner of a window.
- As you hold the button, the window shrinks and you can drag it to the left or right side of the screen.
- Repeat for the other window!

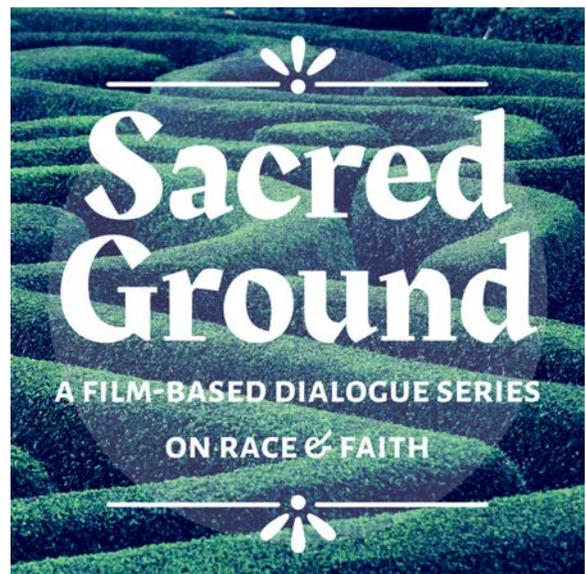
## SACRED GROUND IS UNDERWAY

Our anti-racism small group series Sacred Ground began last month and is already off to a great start. About forty parishioners are meeting in four small groups every other week.

Each participant is asked to read or watch about 90 minutes of content in advance of each session. The discussions are multi-themed, ranging from learning core concepts of racism to unlearning and relearning history through new lenses of understanding. All along our conversations are infused with reflections on Scripture and prayer to help guide our work. Please pray for your fellow parishioners as they continue to embark on this journey together.

Read more about the program at:

[episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground](http://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground)





Dear Parish Family,

As the calendar turns to a new month, I feel the weight and import of all we have in store for us in these next thirty days. November 2020: It's a consequential month for us as Americans. By the time you read this, many of you will have already voted in the Presidential Election. No matter what happens on November 3rd, all our lives will be affected. Beyond the election, this is also a momentous month because it marks the beginning of a Holiday Season in the time of COVID-19. I can't quite wrap my mind around the fact that Thanksgiving and Christmas will look nothing like they have in the past. So few of our traditions and comforts will be available to us. We're left wondering how we'll mark these days of community and celebration while we're forced to be physically apart.

There is so much in flux in our collective life right now. In response to all these "changes and chances," I find myself rooting down into the rhythms and routines that the liturgical year offers. We begin this month by celebrating the Feast of All Saints. On this day, one of the seven main celebrations of our church year, we recall the stories of all the saints of God, known and unknown. This celebration is more poignant this year as so many souls have been added to the heights of heaven in the wake of this pandemic. Then we'll end the month with the beginning of a new liturgical year and the first Sunday of Advent on the 29th. With that day we'll enter a season of quiet reflection and preparation for Jesus' birth on Christmas. Even though the world looks and feels so vastly different, we still have the observances of our religious calendar to keep us steady and grounded in our faith.

These holy days will bookmark our passage through this significant month. We will make the journey through these days together, at least in our spirits. But we will also make this journey with all the wisdom of the ancestors who have gone before us, and with hope in our hearts for the generations yet to come. Most importantly, we will make this journey with God, who is always and forever with us, no matter what has been, is now, or will be in the future. Because God is with us, we can face the days to come with a sure and certain hope. I think of the well-beloved hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory." May the words ring true in your hearts each day of this momentous month:

From the fears that long have bound us  
 free our hearts to faith and praise.  
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
 for the living of these days.

The Rev. Jessie Gutsell Dodson

## WHAT MAKES A CHOIR A "CHOIR?"

With the pause of singing in church, many choirs can neither sing nor gather together in service or rehearsal. We are forced to ruminate with that question, to ponder what it means to be a choir when not singing together. In the pondering, I think, comes a new awareness of the ways in which the musical activities of choirs proceed from bonds of togetherness; the musical harmony is, in a sense, a manifestation of a social one, and both nurture the other. And so, while for the present the Senior Choir is no longer gathering in the choir room and church to sing together, we are still nurturing the togetherness that is part of our identity as a choir.

This summer several choir members came together to attend a series of lectures on church music that I gave online—a look at Gregorian chant, the Tudor “golden age,” spirituality in the music of J. S. Bach, and the oratorio tradition. And with the onset of the program year, we are now “zooming” together on the occasional Thursday nights, for choir “forums.”

Our first outing featured reflections on favorite hymns. Jessie Dodson, Molly Urban, Jason Chance, John Blackwell, and I spoke on the meaning and associations of particular hymns that are dear to us: “For All the Saints,” “Abide with me,” “Be thou my vision,” “Come down, O Love divine,” and “I bind unto myself today.” The hymns, of course, are one of the things that bind us together as a community, but so was the new sharing of them in this way.

You’ve, perhaps, grown accustomed to hearing and seeing us in our new virtual choir configuration. Each member of the choir, alone and separate, records his or her part, and sends the recordings to our brilliant engineer/producer, Brian Skoog, to blend them into a final product that gives an updated version of what it means to sing together. Like the older, more familiar version of togetherness, this too proceeds from the various bonds that tie us together - bonds of faith, of love of music, of proximity, of affection - even of habit: the “music” behind the music, so to say. Happily, now and then, we are still meeting at our accustomed Thursday night rehearsal time to be together - a very choral thing to be!

— Dr. Steven Plank

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP’S REVELATIONS

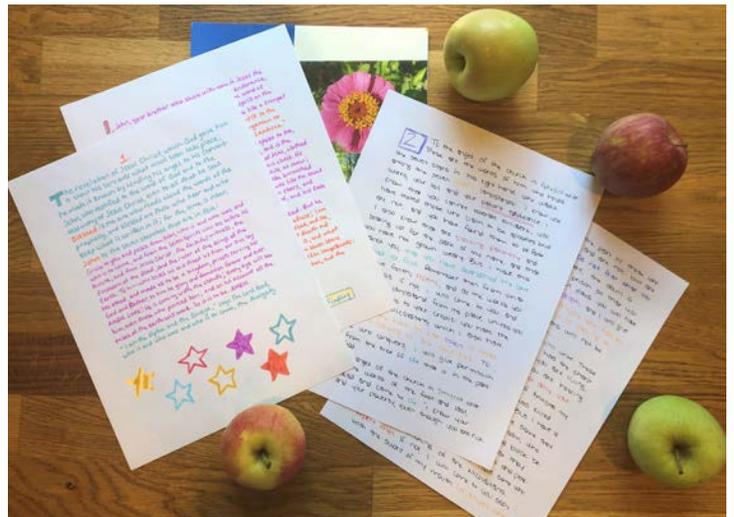
The St. Paul’s Young Adults Group (20s & 30s) has reimagined fellowship and formation in the time of COVID-19. They embarked on a creative project that is both ancient and brand-new. Beginning last month, members of the group began hand-copying the Book of Revelation.

A different person handwrites one chapter each week, “illuminating” the text with art or written reflections in response to the holy words. At the end of the week, the completed chapters are dropped off at the home of the next participant with a small token of kindness (you can see some of the local apples that were gifted one week in the accompanying photo). At the end of this 22-week long project, our very own Susan Peterson will hand-bind it all together into 24 separate books (one for each participant and two for the Diocesan offices!). These books will serve as a commemoration of these unforgettable days we are living through. The book-binding portion of our project is underwritten by an Episcopal Diocese of Ohio Young Adult Task Force.

Our Young Adults have never done something quite like this. Yet while it’s brand-new to us, the spiritual discipline of copying holy texts is centuries old. In monasteries, monks spent large parts of their days copying sacred scripture,

lettering the text, illuminating it with illustrations, and commenting on its meaning. Writers share that writing has had a healing, liberating, and centering effect. It connects us across time, and allows us to become part of a community.

In addition to writing and passing along the Scripture, we will meet for three virtual Bible Studies this month on November 5, 12, and 19 from 7 to 8 p.m. Hopefully together we can make sense of this wild and unpredictable book of the Bible! If you’re a young adult and you’d like to take part you can sign-up and read more at [tinyurl.com/SPYAG](https://tinyurl.com/SPYAG)





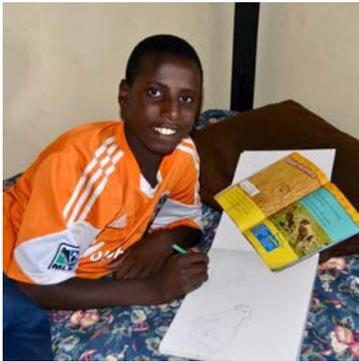
## Open Doors Academy

Open Doors Academy remote learning center started at St. Paul's with 17 students. Public schools are still closed and many parents face a difficult decision to quit their jobs or leave their children home

alone. These learning centers provide a safe, supervised setting with the necessary technology and tutoring help to ensure students keep up with their virtual schooling.

## Vicenti Juma

Global Mission Action Group received an update on Vicenti Juma, whom we sponsor at Rift Valley Children's Village in Tanzania:



Vicenti is in his final year at Gyetighi Primary School and is enjoying being the big fish in a small pond! He is studying hard each night for the National Exam, which he will take at the end of this year. His favorite subjects are English and Science, but Vicenti loves to

draw in his sketchbook. His favorite things to draw are safari animals, especially cheetahs. Each year, the organization "How to Draw a Lion" visits the village to teach our kids how to paint. Vicente and his two friends, Ally and Yohani, are always the stars of the show! We can't wait to see where Vicenti's artistic ability leads him.

## ACT II

ACT II has been quite active on its Facebook page. They are offering sales and regularly posting new items. Be sure to go and like their Facebook Page: [facebook.com/Act2Cle](https://www.facebook.com/Act2Cle)

They also offer safe shopping experiences by appointment. Just wear a mask and schedule your visit ahead by calling (216) 932-4221. Call us today!

ACT II does need volunteers to help process donations on Mondays from 10 to 12-noon. If you are interested, please call and leave a message for Kirsten: (216) 932-4221

## Calendars

We are collecting 2021 calendars for the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. Although the shelter is not open to the public, it still houses 180 homeless men. You can drop off calendars at the church during office hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Place them in the bin marked Men's Shelter in the foyer outside the office. (We are NOT collecting greeting cards currently.)

## ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE

Friends,

Help me raise money for an incredible cause. We would like to raise \$5,000 for the Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) 1,000 Days of Love campaign by the end of the year. ERD has three broad priorities: Women, Children, and Climate, and is primarily an international organization per its charter. Our church's Outreach Commission will match up to the \$5,000 goal, so YOUR IMPACT IS DOUBLED.

Join us and visit our campaign page (link below).

Research shows that the first 1,000 days for children are critical in setting a foundation that affects their ability to grow, learn, and thrive over their entire lives. Around the world, 155 million children under six are not reaching their full potential due to inadequate nutrition and health care. Episcopal Relief & Development works with communities to ensure that children have access to food, clean water, and quality health care. This campaign will allow us to expand our programs across multiple communities in several countries to reach even more children and their communities.

More about Episcopal Relief Development:

ERD works in twenty-nine countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Middle East. It is incredible. They have more data than a bevy or other better-known NGOs and they partner with the UN, Islamic, Jewish, Lutheran, Catholic, and other Anglican global aid organizations to better direct resources. Their team of 80,000 trained volunteers touch the lives of 3 million people annually.

— Pegah Zardoost

[my.episcopalrelief.org/fundraiser/2879345](https://my.episcopalrelief.org/fundraiser/2879345)



## PARISH NOTES

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
2747 Fairmount Boulevard  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106

TIME-VALUED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

### RETURNING THIS NOVEMBER

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Join us Sundays at 10 a.m. for our Zoom Coffee Hour. It is a great opportunity for fellowship, catching up, and discussion. We sign off at 10:45, just in time for those who live close enough to make their way to the church to listen to the carillon.

Carillon concerts are also returning November 1st at 11 a.m. So bring your blanket and a mask to hear our bells. Our guest carillonneur is Keiran Cantilina.

Read more about the carillon concerts and what to look forward to in November on page 5

**ZOOM  
COFFEE  
HOUR**



Sundays 10 to 10:45 a.m.

