## Chiming In

NEWS AND EVENTS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All www.churchofthechimes.org-www.Facebook.com/ChurchofChimes


## FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

## Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

## FAITHFULLY YOURS

As we enter the new year I don't think our dreams and hopes for 2023 could be better expressed that in a poem written by Alfred Lord Tennyson 172 years ago:
Ring Out, Wild Bells...

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light: The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.
Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true. Ring out the grief that saps the mind For those that here we see no more; Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind.
Ring out a slowly dying cause, And ancient forms of party strife; Ring in the nobler modes of life, With sweeter manners, purer laws.
Ring out the want, the care, the sin, The faithless coldness of the times; Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes But ring the fuller minstrel in.
Ring out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good.
Ring out old shapes offoul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.
Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand; Ring out the darkness of the land, Ring in the Christ that is to be.

With Deep Affection, Beth

## JANUARY 2023 HAPPENINGS

$\Rightarrow$ RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSION GROUP: SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 ${ }^{\text {TH }}$ at 11:45AM: This Group Discussion is a place where all views are welcomed as we learn from one another. Final planning for the first annual Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day Event where we will explore and learn from all the different cultures within our local community. Contact the Diane Delaney or Dr. Bingham if more information is desired.
$\Rightarrow$ COUNCIL MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 6:30pm via ZOOM.
$\Rightarrow$ BOUQUET CIRCLE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 ${ }^{\text {TH }}$, 12:00Noon-1:30pm: All women are welcome to join this group who enlighten one another on a variety of topics of interest typically on the first Wednesday of every month. Bring your own light lunch for the last part of the meeting. Snacks, dessert, and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to Barbara Downs at btdowns@gmail.com or call the church office.
$\Rightarrow$ "A SEAT AT THE TABLE": SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 4pm-6pm in Bower Hall: COTC's 1st Annual MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY Event. This is part of our ongoing mission to be a diverse and loving community, accepting of all. For more information there is an overview in this edition of Chiming In.
$\Rightarrow$ TRUSTEES MEETING: JANUARY 17 ${ }^{\text {TH }}-7: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ in Dreier Hall.
$\Rightarrow$ VESPERS: THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 ${ }^{\text {TH }}$ at $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ : All women of the church are invited to gather for dinner and conversation at a local eating establishment typically on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Please contact Natalie (nataliefkarp@mac.com) if you would like to join in.
$\Rightarrow$ NEW CRAFT CREATIONS: MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 9:30am in Dreier Hall.
$\Rightarrow$ BROWN BAG BIBLE: MEETS MOST TUESDAYs at 12noon in Dreier Hall: This is 45 minutes of lively discussion of the scripture passage for the coming Sunday. They munch their lunch, get background \& context for the lesson, and talk about what it means. Next meeting will be January 3rd.
$\Rightarrow$ ZOOM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYS at 7pm: All women of any faith are invited to our virtual gathering of caring, sharing \& loving women on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm via zoom (e-mail jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net for the link.) We are studying "Undistracted" by Bob Goff. Hope to see you then.
$\Rightarrow$ SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: The Men's Group is hosting a Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month (i.e., January 8th and 22nd) in Dreier Hall from 9:30 to 10:15am. We are currently studying the Book of Proverbs. Please feel free to join in at anytime for lively and interesting discussions.
$\Rightarrow$ NORTH HOLLYWOOD INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY: NHIFP continues to help the food insecure in our community during the hard times we are in. Contributions of cans of fruit and diapers for babies and adults are needed. Contact NHIFP.org for other specific needs as well as for volunteer opportunities. Thank you for your continuing support of our community food bank.

## TRUSTEE NEWS

## It's time to Reach in to Reach Out

 Our Stewardship Campaign begins NOW!!!As the New Year begins it is the right time for all of us to consider what we will be able to give to support our church in the coming year. Your "estimates of giving", allow us to prepare a budget for 2023, and further, allow all of us to respond in gratitude for God's presence in our lives and for this church.

Throughout the month you will hear who we are and what we are doing to make God's presence real here, in our community, and even in our nation and around the world. We ask that you prayerfully consider what you can share with the Church of the Chimes. We will be sending "Estimate of Giving" cards and we will have a special time in our worship service to receive and consecrate them. Thank you always for your generous hearts as we enter joyfully into the new year!

## DEACON NEWS

Greg Abbott, Chair
Happy New Year all. First off, thank you all for your generosity for the Christmas Families program. Enough was raised so that each of the 12 families at Casa De Vida received a $\$ 200$ Walmart gift card. A special thanks to Sylvia McCormick who orchestrated the whole thing. Next year's Board of Deacons will need to decide whether we continue to work with Hope of the Valley or return to working with the Los Angeles Children's Bureau. Again, thank you all. In other news, the Deacons' Angel Fund, after a period of low demand, has been put to use a lot lately. As a result the fund, which had over $\$ 4,000$ in it this fall, is now down to under $\$ 1,000$. We will continue to provide special envelopes on Communion Sundays, and any contribution at any time will be highly appreciated. Have a happy and prosperous New Year. Greg

## COMMUNITY \& WORLD SERVICE NEWS Robert Dunn, Chair

Mongolia?! As you will recall CWS sold 100 beautifully well-packed shoeboxes, each with a GPS sticker so we can track each box. I just received word that some of our boxes were received by children in Mongolia. How exciting that we have been used as a resource of our Lord to spread His Love to His Children around the world. Thank you all for helping to spread His LOVE.

SERMON TOPICS FOR JANUARY
JANUARY 1:
~~Communion Sunday~~
Does Anybody know what time it is? (Ecclesiastes 3:1-13, John 1:1-5)
JANUARY 8: Long Day's Journey into Light (Matthew 1: 1-12)
JANUARY 15: He had a Dream (Amos 5:24; Galatians 3: 28)
JANUARY 22: Follow Me (Matthew 4:12-23)
JANUARY 29: Blessed are... (Matthew 5: 1-12)

## FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER

YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR
"God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection. For who is God except the LORD? Who but our God is a solid rock? You have given me your shield of victory. Your right hand supports me; your help has made me great. Psalm 18:30-31,35
The Lord told Paul (Saul at the time) that "it is useless to fight against my (God's) Will." You will never change God's mind concerning you. He loves you."

Numbers 23:19
God desires a right relationship with you and nothing will ever change that. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to allow us each a position of righteousness once again. There is nothing we can do other than put our faith and trust in the Lord to receive justice and be made right with God again. Nothing.

God is intent on perfecting that which concerns us. (Psalm 138:8) He is making every detail turn out for good (Read Romans 8:28) according to His Perfect Plan that contains a future and hope. (Read Jeremiah 29:11)

Every single promise God has made to you has potential and the power to become a reality in your life. The outcome is not based on one's ability to remain righteous standing on their own two feet, but rather one's ability to put all their faith in the Lord and trust Him completely waiting for His outcome rather than settling for less than God's Best.

He has given you a shield of protection that is marked with victory. You are going to win if you do not give up on the Lord. Faith and confident hope produce victory after victory from glory to glory in the life of a believer. This is God's Perfect Plan for your life. He has written every detail with a positive outcome no matter how things look today.

If you believe it, you will receive it. But all too often we are like the Israelites wandering in the wilderness who continually forgot all that the Lord did for them when He brought them safely out of Egypt.

Some cried to go back into bondage fearing they would die on the journey. I must admit there are some days I try to remember what life was like before everything changed. To live carefree in the moment rather than with this burden on our heart. Some days I yearn to go back, but God reminds me to press on. God is with us. He is going to bless us with overwhelming victory if we will just cling to our faith-refusing to settle for anything less than God's Absolute Best.

The Lord is on this life journey with you! He will fight against your enemies! He will give you victory! (Deuteronomy 20:1-4) The Lord is fighting for us! (Read Exodus14:13-14) It is His battle for our heart, and know this: YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR...

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THOUGHTS TO PONDER

! make it HAPPEN"

KEEP MOVING FORWARD... If you cant fly THEN RUN THEN WALK YOU HAVE TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD. - Martin Suther reing. In Martin Luther King, Jr., original name Michael King, Jr
Martin Luther King, Jr., original name Michael King, Jr.,
(born January 15, 1929 , Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.-died April 4, 1968, (born January 15, 1929, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.-died April 4, 1968,
Memphis, TN), Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil Memphis, TN), Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil
rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his death by assassination

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

Natalie Karp, Chair
A fun evening at Barones for at the December Vesper dinner!

(l-r) Marlene Zucker, Natalie Karp, Pam Rhodes, Martha Smyser, Louisa Larez, Beth Bingham and Diane Delaney.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

## Ally Baker, Director

The Preschool program begins at 2 years and 7 months through 5 years. Enrollment for our 22-23 school year is on-going. The Parent and Me Program offers a class on Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am.

Our current Preschoolers return from winter break on Tuesday, January 3rd. It will be great to have them back on campus!

For more information on our Preschool or Parent \& Me Program, please contact preschool@churchofthechimes.org or call the church office.


Kids Gymnastics Class


I'm Hayley, the COTC Social Media Manager...(and I teach gymnastics too.) Thank you for continuing to follow COTC on Facebook \& Instagram. Please continue to LIKE, COMMENT \& SHARE on all of the COTC posts- and leaving encouraging or relevant comment and/or an emoji may be just the thing that someone needs...AND the more posts we do-the more we can share our message! COTC is a diverse and loving community accepting of all people... Together we can reach so many to make them aware of us...Let's do this!

I'M HERE FOR YOU; PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF I HELP WITH SETTING UP YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA: 818-789-7124

## JANE'S CORNER

Jane G. Poole, CE Director
During this past year, I would hear from the radio station what day it was. I'm not talking about the days of Monday, Tuesday etc. I'm talking about what I call the "silly days" of celebration aside from our traditional holidays. As I write this, I heard today is national chocolate candy day and national card playing day. There is also a national download day (really??), national short film day, cello day, national respect your cat day, (if you have a cat, isn't every day, a day to respect them?), call a friend day and even national gazpacho soup day.

Upon doing a little online research, I found the website nationaltoday.com, which promotes these unusual days of celebration. Their mission statement begins by saying, "Nothing beats a day of celebration, except for 365 of them." Their goal is to share national celebrations that bring us together.

As a new year begins, I won't espouse the concept of New Year's resolutions. I will however, call us to celebrate joy and be a beacon of hope. And may I also suggest to you: Raise your sights and see all the possibilities that lie in front of you, be creative, be a welcoming person, have optimism, serve in our community, and most importantly, celebrate and hold God's and our Lord Jesus' love in your heart EVERY DAY, and, share their love with all those you come in contact. Being faithful to all of these tenets brings us closer together for sure!
Blessings and love today and always, Jane ...and please take time to be with God.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Barbara Downs, Chair
This month the CE Board is launching a month long effort to collect items for the compilation of Blessing Bags. We haven't done this since 2019 and it's time to bring this outreach project back! There will be boxes in the Narthex, in front of the office door and around the campus beginning January $8^{\text {th }}$ for donations of the following: Pop-top cans of a meal option (e.g. tuna, spam, chili, ravioli), granola bars, 16 oz. water bottles, sporks, fruit chew packs, dessert options, crew socks, hand sanitizer, tooth brushes and toothpaste.

In the first part of February, the congregation is invited to compile the items into gallon ziplock bags and then take a bunch to hand out to those in need in our community; people at the end of highway off-ramps, outside grocery stores etc. We welcome all the items in addition to monetary contributions to make this community outreach happen!

We continue to have wonderful BE Bold youth group and Super Kid gatherings and adult Bible study groups. In February, we start our Chimes Café gatherings and other fun events. Join our team and have a blast!

Submitted by Jane Poole


## A Seat at the Table

MLK Colebration of Diversity
in Sherman ooks in Sherman oaks
FOOD.MUSIC•ART Jan 15th
at church of the chimes
"A SEAT AT THE TABLE"
CHURCH OF THE CHIMES' FIRST ANNUAL EVENT CELEBRATING
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY Sunday, January 15, 2023 $4 \mathrm{pm}-6 \mathrm{pm}$
14115 Magnolia Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 Bower Hall

Congregational Church of the Chimes will be hosting our first annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event, inviting the entire community to take "A Seat at the Table" - a celebration of Dr. King's work, life and message. The event will include music, food, art, and is part of Church of the Chime's ongoing mission to be a diverse and loving community, accepting of all.

The event is intended to be both a celebration and continuation of Dr. King's work, life and message. The event will feature live music and art as well as, most notably, discussion tables where people can take their "seat at the table," consuming delicious BBQ (free to all) and engaging with other members of their own community on topics of their choice. Several local elected officials have expressed interest in coming to the event, allowing guests to discuss matters of concern with them. Most importantly, the event will be a chance for people of all races and ethnicities to interact in a festive and meaningful way.

Dating back the 1950's, Congregational Church of the Chimes has been an active member of the San Fernando Valley community for decades. More recently, as scenes of racial tension became ubiquitous across the country, the Church formed a Racial Equity Committee in the spirit of exploring what could be done locally to increase dialogue on this important issue. Realizing that there was little in the way of neighborhood celebrations of the national holiday dedicated to one of America's most influential civil rights leaders, the Committee has decided to host the first of what it hopes will be an annual event celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and engendering constructive conversations on the subject of equity for all. The Committee and Church hope to expand upon this project with panel discussions and other events throughout the year.

Let us not become weary in doing GOOD for we will reap a harvest of BLESSING in due season
if we DO NOT Give Up.
Galatians 6:9 Missions

14: "Spread of
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS cont.


1: "Robert Browne"


4: "Mayflower Sails"


7: "The First Thanksgiving"


10: "Anti Slavery"

13: "Kawaiahao Church"



2: "The Faithful are Imprisoned."


5: "Plymouth Landing"


8: "Establishment of Colleges"


11: "Westward Movement"

Submitted by Joi Staves


3: "Pilgrims in Holland"


6: "Mayflower Compact Adopted"


9: "Haystack Meeting"


12: "Gold Rush Churches"

## STAVES CHAPEL ~ STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The Chapel was dedicated on February 1952; at that time, the windows were of plain glass. The stained glass windows depicting the history of Congregationalism from our roots in England to the founding of Church of the Chimes replaced the plain glass over the years through designated memorial gifts.

Below is the 17th of the Chapel's eighteen stained glass windows with an overview of its significance. On the opposite page are the previous sixteen windows that were featured in earlier editions of Chiming In.


## 17: LITTLE CHILDREN

The Congregational Church, along with most other churches, give special care and love to their children. What was once the barn was renovated for use as Sunday school and general utility rooms and eventually living quarters for a caretaker were constructed above it. The structure was named Dreier Hall, honoring Dr. Nelson C. Dreier, Superintendent of the Conference, who helped with the organization of the new church. The August 1957 edition of Ladies Home Journal magazine featured an article titled "Children Crowd this Sunday School."
18: "Church of the Chimes:" will be featured in the February 2023 edition of Chiming In.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Michele Marot, Co-Editor

## Cindi Olsen

Born in Riverside, CA, Cindi grew up in Newport Beach and attended Corona Del Mar High School. Before becoming an X-ray tech, Cindi had a few beach resort-type jobs: taking orders for custom bikinis, lifeguarding at a resort, and it is rumored that she was in entertainment - as a Tahitian Dancer!

Cindi enjoys being a deacon at COTC and also re-started our Tuesday Craft Group after the COVID lockdown. Being a crafting enthusiast, she likes to help Joi with church functions such as weddings and funerals.

Here is a quick story, in Cindi's own words, about networking and how it helped her not only in her career, but also with her shyness: "As an X-ray Technologist attending conferences, I would occasionally be given a pin by someone to wear. It was an honor to receive a pin by a speaker or a 'member of the Board.' So imagine my amazement when I received my first pin, and then another, and another!" Cindi learned that the key to getting a pin was just to notice and to make a compliment on the pin, and the person wearing it was obligated to pin it on you!

After that Cindi not only started a treasured Radiologic Pin collection, but more importantly she met new people and made friends with many who could help her in her career! As a result of this networking, Cindi became the president of the Orange District Society of Radiologic Technologists, and eventually the Secretary/ Treasurer for the State Society of Radiologic Technology. Well done, Cindi!

Besides leading the Tuesday Craft Group, Cindi volunteers at the Adventist Health Glendale Medical Center in the Volunteer Service Department two to three days a week. The Tuesday Craft Ladies have an on-going project of making baby blankets and baby caps for the newborn unit there, and we hope to officially make this a part of our church's CWS at their January 8th Meeting.


|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR COMMUNION SUNDAY <br> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc | $\begin{aligned} & \underline{2} \frac{\text { OFFICE CLOSED \& }}{\text { NO PRESCHOOL }} \\ & \text { 10:00am } 10 \text { at } 10 \end{aligned}$ | 3 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:30am Crafting <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible | 4 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts-Bower Hal | 5 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~Bower | $\underline{6}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower <br> 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group | $\underline{7}$ <br> 9:00am LM\&S <br> 9:55am LM\&S |
| 8 CWS MEETING ~ 12 Noon <br> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc <br> 10:45am Super Kids <br> 11:45am Racial Equity Mtg <br> 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc | $\begin{aligned} & \underline{\mathbf{9}} \\ & \text { 9:00am Preschool } \\ & \text { 10:00am 10 at 10 } \\ & \text { 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Music } \\ & \text { 7:00pm Sea Scouts } \end{aligned}$ | 10 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:30am Crafting <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower | 11 BOUQUET CIRCLE <br> 11:30AM -1:30PM <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall | 12 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower | 13 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower <br> 5:30pm Be Bold Gathering- HH <br> 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group | 14 <br> 9:00am LM\&S <br> 9:55am LM\&S |
| 15 MLKJR. Celebration <br> "A Seat at the Table" <br> Bower Hall ~ 4pm-6pm <br> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc <br> 10:45am Super Kids <br> 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc | 16 MLKJR DAY OFFICE CLOSED NO PRESCHOOL <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Music <br> 7:00pm Sea Scouts | $\underline{17}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:30am Crafting <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower | 18 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall | 19 VESPERS ~6:30pm* <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~Bower <br> 7:00pm Cub Scouts <br> *Subject to change... | $\underline{20}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower <br> 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group | 21 WA BOARD MEETING <br> Dreier Hall ~ 10am <br> 9:00am LM\&S <br> 9:55am LM\&S |
| $\underline{22}$ <br> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc <br> 10:45am Super Kids <br> 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc | $\underline{23}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Music <br> 7:00pm Sea Scouts | $\underline{24}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:30am Crafting <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower | $\underline{25}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts ~ Bower Hall | $\underline{26}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower | $\underline{27}$ <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:45am Zumba-Upper CE <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower <br> 5:30pm Be Bold Gathering ~HH <br> 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group | $\underline{28}$ <br> 9:00am LM\&S <br> 9:55am LM\&S |
| 29 CE MEETING ~ 12 Noon Bower Hall Patio <br> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc | 30 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Music <br> 7:00pm Sea Scouts | 31 <br> 9:00am Preschool <br> 9:30am Crafting <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ Bower |  |  |  |  |


[^0]:    Believe it! Curtis
    Revisiting Curtis' article from the January 2021 Chiming In.

