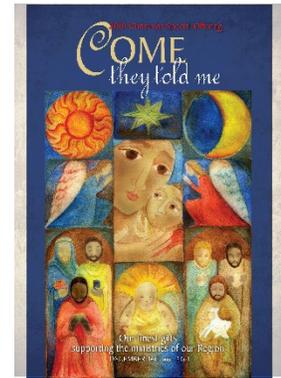


Moment for Mission from Indiana region

By Rev. Maggie Archibald

Growing up, and even today, one of my favorite Christmas stories was that of “The Little Drummer Boy.” I know, it should probably be a scripture or something a little more Biblical, but I just can’t help it. I *love* this story! I still cry every time I watch the movie and the song is one of my favorite Christmas songs. The idea that this little boy who has nothing tangible to give to Jesus is still welcomed, still embraced, still celebrated is overwhelming to me. Because that is true for each of us.



When Rev. Carolyn Reed first invited me to be part of a new ministry cohort she was starting, I was a little unsure. What gifts could I possibly bring to this group of truly wonderful colleagues and ministers? Despite my hesitations, I joined the group and I am so grateful that I did because this group has been both life-changing and life-giving. Having a group of colleagues whom I could walk with during these first few years of ministry has impacted my ministry in ways I could not have begun to imagine. Our time together always consists of listening, worship, laughter, and love.

Just like the little drummer boy, each of us brings “our finest gifts” to this group and to our ministry. Each of these gifts is unique and beautiful. Because of this group, I have had the great joy of seeing and experiencing these great gifts from my seven colleagues. They are a living, tangible reminder to me that no matter what gift it is we each may bring we are all still welcomed, still embraced, still celebrated by each other and by Jesus. I am so grateful to the Region and to Rev. Reed for creating this group, for allowing me to be part of it, and for supporting new ministers in the region.