As I reflect upon my first several months as the resident bishop of the Indiana Area, I can’t help but feel a deep gratitude towards the warm welcome that you have offered my family and me, as well as the Kingdom work we have witnessed thus far during our time in Indiana.

One of the many attributes of the Indiana Conference that I have come to admire is the rich history and commitment to mobilizing God’s generosity and grace through missions, one of those being the Indiana Conference Bishop’s Christmas Offering for Children. This offering was created to help meet the unique needs of children through ministries geared towards transforming communities.

My wife and I believe that children were not born to sit still but point us to the glory of God who echoes love throughout the ages as Jesus Christ invites the children to come near and not be hindered. Each child is a person of worth and should be offered the opportunity to come near to Jesus.

Funds received through the Bishop’s Christmas Offering will be allocated by percentages and sent to missions and ministries that support the needs of children throughout Indiana and around the world.
A breakdown is as follows:

- 20% to Indiana Conference Outdoor Ministries through IMPACT 2818 for scholarships to first-time campers and children in need;
- 20% to the three Indiana United Methodist-related children and youth homes;
- 20% to local outreach projects;
- 20% to United Methodist Advance Projects (national and global);
- 20% to the Bishop’s fund for emergency children’s projects.

Programs supported by this offering are selected by the Indiana Conference Special Offerings Committee.

These programs are among those endorsed by our United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries or by the Indiana Conference Advance Specials. For more information about this offering, please visit inumc.org/christmasoffering.

Sincerely,

Julius C. Trimble
Resident Bishop

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