

PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

April, 2018

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley encourages all our congregations to pray for each other throughout the year. Over a two-year period, a week will be designated for each of our churches and other organizations. Items listed below have been sent to us from the churches and organizations on our prayer list for the weeks shown. Sharing prayers with each other works! **Note: The person who prepares your worship bulletins and/or church newsletters may request this information in a Word document from bbsnyder22@gmail.com. It is also available on the POV website.**

Week of April 1 Your Own Congregation

Week of April 8 Grace, Clarksville Rev. Charles Pye

Grace is one of the smallest churches in the presbytery, with four members and a pastor who serves three hours a week. We no longer hold services and support one another with prayer and visiting. We also sponsor a monthly prayer lunch, held at First Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville, and usually have about five or six people from both churches.

Our primary outside ministry is support for the presbytery, Camp Pyoca, social service needs in and around our community and a program that helps children in Haiti, especially orphans, attend school beyond the 6th grade. We are grateful that we have the resources to give almost \$800/member and to pray for these ministries.

We know we will die as a church but feel that God has called us to die with dignity and in grace and to honor Jesus in all we do.

Week of April 15 Fairlawn, Columbus

Fairlawn Presbyterian Church was chartered in 1963 as a plant from First Presbyterian Church of Columbus. There currently are 92 members on our Active Roll. We are located in the northeast corner of Columbus in a residential area. We did celebrate our 50th anniversary a few years ago. We had old members come and a few of our previous pastors came to the celebration.

We completed a Capital Campaign in the last few years to make our Narthex more inviting and to make our Sanctuary more flexible. No pews but we do have pew chairs that can be removed from the Sanctuary. The floor of the Sanctuary is also tiled. The Sanctuary can now be used 7 days a week and not just Sunday morning and it has been used by the Preschool several for large programs that they put on.

Our Preschool is long stranding mission of the church. The Preschool will be celebrating its 50th anniversary during the upcoming school year. There are approximately 120 children who attend annually. If a family has financial concerns we do provide scholarships to those families.

We are currently in an Interim time as we search for a new pastor. Our previous pastor left near the end of 2015. Our Session, at the same time, had also decided to proceed with Church Redevelopment and hired a redevelopment consultant. With our Interim Pastor working with the Redevelopment Consultant we have been defining a new vision for our congregation, which we call Our Future Story. It is an exciting Story but one that will require changes in thought which

can be the hardest thing to change. We are getting outside our walls and into our community. We have a long way to go but the beginning has been exciting.

We would like to request Prayers for the congregation as we continue to search for a new pastor and to continue down the path of redevelopment, and for our PNC as they start their second year. Keep them strong in faith and spirit.

Week of April 22

First, Columbus

Rev. Felipe Martinez

First Presbyterian Church in Columbus Indiana is a congregation with a long history. Chartered in 1824, we worship in a building dating back to 1874. Under the leadership of pastors like Dr. Bill Laws, the church has spoken out against social injustice, like when Dr. Laws joined with Cummins CEO J. Irwin Miller in the early 1970s to decry housing discrimination against African Americans in Columbus. The church continues to work for social justice, including locally supporting LGBT people, immigrants and refugees. Internationally, we partner with ministries in Palestine and Zambia, for example. We average 130 people in Sunday worship. We are blessed with a wonderful adult choir, and recently we have added two bell choirs. The youth and children of the church take turns every month to help lead in worship.

A recent joy is that we were selected by the Center for Congregations as one of 36 churches in Indiana to enter the Engage Young Adult Initiative, a three-year program which will help us learn from and with young adults in their journey of faith. Please pray for us as we deepen relationships with one another within the church and with neighbors in the community around the congregation.

Week of April 29

Corydon

Rev. Phillip Dennis