

PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

March 2021

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. (When I updated my computer, my previous list was lost, so please send your request to me again.)

Week of March 7

St. John United, New Albany

Rev. Allen Colwell

Like many others, our congregation has adapted to the pandemic with hybrid services offered most weeks except when our county has been in the red. Meanwhile we were able to offer tax preparation services, showers to residents of our local youth shelter and our homeless neighbors, as well as supporting our local social service agencies as best as we can. This past Fall we signed on to a statement of Unity with other local churches renouncing racism in all its forms. As you pray for us, know that we are praying for all of you as well. These have been challenging times but, as I remind people, the church has weathered worse storms. Peace.

Week of March 14

POV Committees

Much of the work of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley happens in our committees and commissions: the Presbytery Council, Board of Trustees, Committee on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Personnel Committee, Nominating Committee, Stewardship Committee, Evangelism and Congregational Witness Committee, Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee, and the Permanent Judicial Commission. With pandemic restrictions beginning in March of 2020, these committees needed to shift the way they met and worked. We are grateful for all who have agreed to serve.

Week of March 21

Trinity, New Washington

Week of February 28

Graham, North Vernon

Rev. Michael Bean

Graham Presbyterian Church was founded in 1817 by pioneer families from the Carolinas, the Virginias, Tennessee and Kentucky. They decided they must have a place to worship and built a log church very near the spot the church now occupies on the banks of Graham Creek in Jennings County.

In 1851, a new white frame church was built for the sum of \$784.67. This church had two doors, one for men and one for women. Sadly, the church burned to the ground on 19 August 1935, the night before the annual Homecoming. Construction on a new church began almost immediately and, at the annual Homecoming on 25 September 1938, the church we worship in today was dedicated. Membership and attendance have fluctuated over the years and our current attendance averages around 24 congregants. Reverend Michael Bean has served as our pastor for nearly 23 years.

Churches are measured by the works they do, and though small, Graham Presbyterian continues to support God's works with time and money. We actively participate in management of the Wayside Inn, which is the Jennings County Homeless Shelter. Additionally, we support the Louisville Seminary Bookends Fund, One Great Hour of Sharing, the Good Samaritan Food

Pantry, Presbytery Shared Mission, and Muscatatuck Christian Ranch, a local camp offering a free week of camping and outdoor activities to economically disadvantaged youth in our community.

We are also part of the Rural Community Fellowship, a group of eight neighboring churches who gather once monthly at each other's church for shared worship and a goodwill offering to a local cause. These meetings have been suspended for the time being due to the Covid-19 situation. But since June, 2020, the Graham Church has been conducting in-person worship

The men and women who comprise our church are people of God who know we are blessed and strive daily to do His will.