

## **PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS**

### **August 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](mailto:bbsnyder22@gmail.com). It is also available on the POV website.**

**Sunday, August 1**

**Spencer, Spencer**

**Rev. David Lee**

Gracious Lord, shepherd and judge, and maker and lover of all creation: we come today knowing you are always with us. As we think about life's simple things, we give thanks for the generous hands which opened to offer in our steeple restoration, and we pray for those who prepare the materials and do the work. As a part of a larger group, we think of those hands which opened and helped as well the over 800 of those which opened and received a part of the tons of food, clothing, and furniture at a first-time event. When life overwhelms us, remind us of the basic aspects of life and our relationship with you being so approachable. We thank those who went before us who left us a stewardship of property, and that it will now be listed among other historic structures and places on the National Register of Historic Places. We, the faithful here - help us to know that you hear us always, and that we need to also be listening, and to respond according to your will... we pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Sunday, August 8**

**Sullivan, First**

**Rev. Dawn Black**

Our First Presbyterian Church is a hometown church just off the city square in the small town of Sullivan, Indiana. Though our membership has fallen through the years, children and even grandchildren come back to worship when they are in town visiting, as do former members who have moved to other areas of the country. Many keep up with what is going on here through our monthly newsletter.

One of our programs is the Community Kitchen, where we serve a free meal to the community every Thursday night. The church has been doing this for the past 21 years, with just a small break last year during the Covid pandemic. We've found that many come to supper here not just for the meal, but also for the fellowship the night offers.

Another program, sponsored by the deacons, is the "Christmas Basket" program. We provide needy families with groceries as well as toys for the children and also donate lots of scarves and mittens to the elementary school to give to kids who don't have them.

The church is small enough that we all know one another and what is going on in each other's lives. When needed, we help each other out - like when that tree falls down in a yard and needs to be removed. We are truly a "church family".

**Sunday, August 15**

**Terre Haute, Central**

**Rev. Michael Riggins**

Central Presbyterian of Terre Haute retains its downtown presence in the city through active mission work and connections with other entities on "Church Row": Episcopalian and Methodist congregations, and United Campus Ministries. We resumed in-person worship (with precautions) in the early spring. A gradual relaxing of those restrictions has made our traditional worship gradually more satisfying. We hope to resume choir and Sunday school in the fall.

We ask the Presbytery to pray for our new Director of Christian education, Ellie Templeton, and for a fruitful outcome of our attempts to achieve five strategic goals set by the session. Among these: expanding our demographic to a broader range of ages, ethnicities and income levels; and increasing our local, hands-on mission work. We recently became a Matthew 25 congregation and desire guidance for where and how the Spirit would move us in this area.

**Sunday, August 22**

**Terre Haute, Unity**

**Rev. Andrew Black**

**Sunday, August 29**

**Vernon, Vernon**

**Rev. Michael Bean**

Vernon Presbyterian Church is located in Jennings County, IN. Vernon is a small town and the county seat. Vernon Presbyterian was founded in 1825 and the Greek Style architecture building was constructed in the early 1830's. We are a small and vibrant congregation that continues to worship in the original building. We average 6-14 Sunday attendance.

The Old Vernon Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily in our Church basement. We also have made a room available for a homeless gentleman who lives here and helps care for the grounds. We actively support the Good Samaritan Food Pantry with food and cash donations. Members also volunteer with various groups in our community such as Hospice, St. Vincent Guild, Special Olympics, Wayside Inn homeless shelter, ARC and the Jennings County Senior Center.

Our congregation resumed in-person Worship on June 14, 2020. We continue to hold a traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion service at 11 PM and we sponsor Christmas gifts for 12 needy children and their families every year. Worship leads us in our mission, and mission draws us back to worship. We ask prayer for our congregation and members, our Elders and Pastor, our shut-ins and our community. Pray for enthusiasm and energy in mission, spiritual revival in worship, and faithful discipleship in service. God continues to bless us and lead us into our community to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ with all God's people. Amen.