

PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

September 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.**

Sunday, September 5 **Trinity Parish** **Rev. Cheryl Montgomery**

*God's purpose for us is to be a family of faith growing in mission,
sharing resources, love, wisdom and encouragement.*

This is the mission statement for Trinity Parish, which consists of the Presbyterian churches of Clinton, Montezuma and Rockville (see following). Trinity Parish, the first parish in the Presbytery, was founded in 2010 out of a deep desire in all three churches to continue to worship and serve Jesus Christ in the changing communities they call home. In 2011 the Reverends Mark and Wendy Olson were called as the founding pastors of the parish. In the 7 years since its founding the parish has grown into a beautiful embodiment of the mission statement. As you pray for the parish and the 3 churches, pray that they will continue to grow and mature in Christ.

Sunday, September 12 **Clinton, United** **Rev. Cheryl Montgomery**

The United PC of Clinton, IN started in 1956 with the merger of the First PC and Hillcrest Mission of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley to help the number of immigrants to learn English, cook, sew, fellowship, recreation and find employment in the numerous coal mines in the area of west central Indiana. But going back, the First PC of Clinton started in the late 1800s and eventually, in 1896, built the brick structure United currently worships in. In 1915 the building was added on to and a Moller Pipe Organ was installed, which we still use today. We are especially proud of our stained glass windows.

One of our major missions is the Vermillion County Food Bank. Volunteers serve over 400 families a month, including 800 individuals, in our former Manse. We are growing in the mission and have a need to expand to a larger building. The local schools have over a 50% free and reduced lunch rate. We get food from Catholic Charities, area churches, individuals, businesses and organizations.

Our volunteers also served a free weekly warm meal to over 120 individuals each month. We started this mission over 10 years ago with some seed money. We have been serving meals through this Community Kitchen by donations only from other churches, individuals, businesses and organizations. To the regret of the community, this mission has been on hold over the past many months.

Our congregation has a weekly attendance of 12 to 20 people. We helped to start the Trinity Parish consisting of the PC's of Clinton, Montezuma, and Rockville in 2011 and are thriving today because of joining together.

We just called a new Pastor, the Reverend Cheryl Montgomery, who arrived just shortly before the pandemic. She has had to learn many new aspects of worship as we entered the world of online worship. We look forward to her guidance and grace with this new relationship for the Trinity Parish Congregations.

Sunday, September 19

Montezuma, First

Rev. Cheryl Montgomery

First Presbyterian Church of Montezuma is a faithful congregation, caring for the needs of its members and those in the community for over 160 years. Locally, we provide a weekly elementary school backpack program that supplies snacks to students on the weekends, we are involved in a Community Meal each month with other churches and volunteers, and we support the Parke County food pantry.

Our church joined with United Presbyterian Church of Clinton and Memorial Presbyterian Church of Rockville to successfully create Trinity Parish ten years ago. In this time the Parish has shared worship, Bible study, choirs, and fun activities involving food and fellowship. Trinity Parish recently called a new pastor, and we are hopeful and optimistic that we can continue to be active and also grow both within our church and the Parish. We ask for continued prayers for our church and new pastor for guidance and leadership within the Parish, while maintaining the unique identity and purpose of each of our churches.

Sunday, September 26

Memorial, Rockville

Rev. Cheryl Montgomery

Rockville Memorial Presbyterian Church in Rockville, IN is a gem in the hearts of its members and regular attendees. While we are a small group, 20-25 members, we cherish our history and our hopes for bringing the walk of Jesus into the hearts of each of us. Our church has taken on the Rockville Correctional Facility for Women as the focus of our mission work. We do an annual clothing drive for apparel in good repair so that the women who are returning to their homes are well-dressed for work and for participating in their community.

Our congregation, while snowy of head, continues to keep our hearts and souls energized through the support of Trinity Parish. Elders have stepped forward to pray, prepare lessons, lead music and to help one another through personal troubles as we have searched for a minister - happily completed with Reverend Cheryl Montgomery coming to us in mid-September.