MEMORIAL PRESS

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FEBRUARY 2021

Pastor's Epistle – Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah

A Flashback of Christmas—God With Us

COVID-19 has redefined what we used to know and how we face life in 2021. Thus, it is necessary for us to re-visit and re-experience the excitement of Christmas once again. Thankfully, our 2020 COVID-19 experiences of sickness, anxiety, uncertainties, financial burdens, and separation from families did not stop many of us from celebrating Christmas.

I have had some COVID survival conversations with people this 2021, and many of them are happy that they are still alive today amidst the devastation of the pandemic. Some of the people I talked to stated, "I am thankful that my family and I are lucky to survive COVID in 2020, and we have made it to 2021." I rejoiced with them. I am equally thankful to God that my family and I are still here. However, I pondered over the word "lucky." The people may have meant that they are alive by some luck and not because of their own abilities or goodness. However, we must be careful not to think that the word "lucky" means a survival by chance because our survival is orchestrated by God. God's promise of bringing his son into the world was a promise of his presence! The Word of God states in **Matthew 1:23:** "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" The miracle of God himself becoming flesh and making his home among us gave us protection and safety, and this is what we celebrated at Christmas.

(cont. on page 2)



1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

Bethany Presbyterian will continue recording services and making them available through YouTube. Locations for Sunday services rotates among Bethany, Elston, and Memorial Churches. You can access the services through

the link below or by going to **youtube.com** and searching **Bethany Presbyterian Church**.

Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLTy0Fi 1hSOHuX-WIhVFA?view as=subscriber

Those who wish to make their regular offerings to Memorial can send them to the Church: **Memorial Presbyterian; P.O. Box 70; Dayton, IN 47941**

"Church isn't just a place we go."



The Church is who we are.'

-anonymous

In This Issue

Session Notes2
February Events2
Souper Bowl of Caring.3
Scout Sunday3
Bible Studies & Prayer Fellowship3
Lenten & Easter Celebrations4
Kids' Closet5
Young Adults5
Lenten Devotionals5
Food Pantry6
Church Officers 20217
Ordination & Installation7
Annual Congregational Meeting7
Office Hours7
Joys & Concerns 8
In Our Thoughts & Prayers 8
2020 Church Officers5
Our Church Family 10
February Calendar11

DMPC February Events

February 2 Trustees Mtg @ 7:15 p.m.

February 4, 11, 18, 25 Food Pantry Drop In @ 9-11 a.m. Pre-Order @ 3-5 p.m. (see page 3)

February 6
Lineback Wedding

February 7 Souper Bowl Sunday



February 14



Ordination & Installation of Officers Scout Sunday



Reminder! Keep collecting your coins for Change for Change!!

February 15
Presidents' Day

February 16 Session Mtg. @ 7 p.m.

February 17
Ash
Wednesday
Beginning of the Lenten
Season

February 21
Annual Congregational
Meeting at 11 a.m.
via Zoom

** * SESSION NOTES * * *

Your Session met virtually, using the Zoom program, each one of us in our own home, on Tuesday evening, January 19, and during the meeting the Elders:

- Welcomed Pastor Gladys Nwabah to our Zoom meeting as Moderator.
- Examined and instructed new Elders and Deacons for 2021.
- Approved the ordination and installation of Muriel Grimes to the office of Active Ruling Elder, the installation of Candace Fitzgerald, Paul Houser, and Fred Reichart to the office of Active Ruling Elder; the ordination and installation of Charlotte Avery to the office of Active Deacon, and the installation of Molly Childers, Michele Darnell, Malinda Hannah, and Kathy Shaw to the office of Active Deacon, to occur during the virtual worship service scheduled for our Sanctuary on February 14
- Set a date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation to be held, virtually by Zoom, on Sunday, February 21, at 11:00 a.m.
- Appointed Muriel Grimes as Chair of the Christian Education Committee; all other committee Chairs remain the same as in 2020.
- Approved the 2019 Church Statistical Report for Presbytery and General Assembly.
- Received letters of thanks from The Lafayette Urban Ministry for our donation and for hosting the Jubilee Christmas event, and from Lafayette Habitat for Humanity for our donation to their projects.
- Learned that the Trustees have approved an estimate from Exterior View for lawn care.

Michael E. Grimes, Clerk of Session

Pastor's Epistle, cont. from page 1

God continues to offer his presence to us in 2021! "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go," Joshua 1:9. God's promise to be with us goes even further to include being with us wherever we go. God's presence shows another dimension, a strong promise never to leave us or forsake us in spite of anything as we see in **Deuteronomy 31:6**, "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

In 2021, we must walk with our heads up knowing that the "God with us" is everywhere we are and will never leave us. We must shun fear and discouragement and enjoy the journey of life with Jesus. I know we sometimes feel incapable, weak, powerless, incompetent, but God knew our weaknesses when he said to us, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand," Isaiah 41:10. God will always be with us to the end of the age. Remember then that it is a promise from the Lord, and He always keeps his promises!

So, be assured that God has our back in 2021! Be joyful and of good cheer as you navigate your day-to-day activities in 2021. However, remember that for you to fully enjoy God's presence in and within you, you must first develop a strong and close relationship with Him. God loves you and me indescribably!

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING* KICK-OFF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Join the Big Game: feeding God's children!

During the month of February, our youth will be collecting canned food (only) in a container at the

south basement entrance of the Church. A list of canned items used at our food pantry is shown on page 6. Monetary donations can be dropped at the Church on Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., or mailed to the Church at your convenience. All donated items and monies support our own Dayton Food Pantry. **Thank you!!**

Watch our Church's Facebook pages for ongoing details, including times for drop off of canned goods!

*NOTE: The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of young people working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game. Youth give 100% of their donation directly to the local hunger-relief charity of their choice, which for us will be our own Dayton Food Pantry.

Proposals for 202—Bible Studies and Prayer Fellowship From Pastor Gladys

Scout Sunday 2021! Sunday, February 7



While we will not be having our usual Scout Sunday activities this year, we want to recognize the

members and leadership of our Boy Scout Troop #316 and our Cub Scout Pack #3316 as they continue to make both individual and group accomplishments.



Beginning Wednesday, February 24, I plan to have a weekly Pastor's Bible Study on from 6 to 7:30 p.m. We will start off virtually, assuming the COVID-safety requirement is still in place, and thereafter have it every Wednesday from 6-7:30 p.m. When we can finally conduct Bible study programs in person, I plan to meet with groups at the Church on Wednesdays both in the mornings from 10:00-11:30 a.m. and then in the evenings, 6-7:30 p.m. (for working people), giving individuals a chance to attend one or the other. The Study Series' Theme is "Lessons from the man after God's own heart." Notices about the start of the weekly Bible studies and links to the Zoom sessions will be sent to all who receive our Church newsletter. While the sessions are being conducted virtually, we hope even those of you not in the Dayton/Lafayette area will join us!

Let us grow together spiritually! I also plan to organize a monthly home Bible study to take place in the three catchment areas of our church—Dayton, Lafayette, and West Lafayette. The purpose of the home study groups would be to:

- Bring generations together—all ages are invited to the same sessions;
- Promote growth among members who live close to each other; and
- Reach out to neighbors and friends.

The home Bible study will be held in a member's home and will rotate every four months. My thought is that it will be held one evening each month at each location (example: the first Friday on the month in Dayton; second Friday, Lafayette; third Friday, West Lafayette). There would be two home Bible study sessions each year, running February through May and August through November. Please be thinking of and praying about which evenings might work best and if you would be willing to be one of our first hosts starting this August. Please send me your thoughts and contact me if you have questions! (PastorGladys@daytonpres.org)

I hope we can also develop activities geared towards our neighboring schools and colleges. I believe that a well-planned campus ministry program could give us an access to Purdue University, for example. I want to start a prayer fellowship that may be meeting following our worship service once we can return to in-person services. We all need prayers and I'm sure we have people whom God has called to be part of a prayer ministry. All these programs will help add to our visibility in the community and will bring us together as a close-knit community of believers.

LENT AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Feb. 17 Wednesday
Ash Wednesday
Service

Available on YouTube at 7 a.m. Imposition of ashes, 5-6:30 p.m.

March 28 Palm Sunday

April 1 Maundy Thursday

April 1 Good Friday



April 3 Holy Saturday





Ash Wednesday—Wednedsay, February 17



Our Lenten Journey begins on February 17th this year. As is the case every year, our Lenten observance begins with the ancient sign and symbol of ashes and the opportunity to worship together. Worship and the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes will look and feel different this Ash Wednesday.

Corporate worship for the 17th, as has been the case with all corporate worship for nearly a year, will be offered through video on our YouTube channel. The unique element of this video worship experience is that it will be available to view beginning at 7:00 a.m. The imposition of ashes will be offered from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in a drive-through arrangement at Bethany, Elston, and Dayton Memorial Presbyterian Churches. A pastor, wearing a mask and face shield, will be present at each location to apply ashes with a single use cotton swab. You are invited to remain in your car and may go to any of the three locations to receive ashes regardless of church membership.

IN CELEBRATION OF LENT

First Sunday of Lent, February 21; The Cross



John 19:17-22: ¹⁷Carrying the cross by himself, [Jesus] went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of

the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have wirtten."

The cross was a sign of disgrace. According to Roman law, only persons who were not Roman citizens could be crucified. And they had to be guilty of robbery, sedition, or murder. Jesus carried his cross to the place called Golgotha. There he underwent the greatest torture the Roman Empire could inflict. For Christians, however, the cross of Christ is not a sign of disgrace, but of freedom from sin and its consequences.

Second Sunday of Lent, February 28; The Bread and Wine



Matthew 26:26-28: ²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

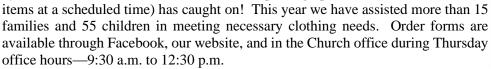
Bread and wine. Such common, everyday things. Yet, filled with sacred significance. The body and blood of Jesus. For as surely as we eat the bread of the Lord's supper and drink the cup, we receive Christ and are spirtually fed by him. All those who eat this bread and drink this cup proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. The bread and wine are sign and seals of the sacrifice of Chist which set us free and inaugurated a new understanding of God's eternal covenant with us.

Who refreshes others will be refreshed.

-Proverbs 11:25

KIDS' CLOSET— NEW "SYSTEM" CATCHING ON!!!

While our usual monthly Kids' Closet continues to be closed due to the COVID19 pandemic, our new system (orders being submitted by families, shopping being done by our Kids' Closet volunteers, and families picking up



We also continue to accept new or gently used donations and are asking that the donations are clean, placed in clean containers, and the containers/bags are dated. Donations are accepted during office hours—Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. And **SOCKS** continue to be an item families are REALLY in need of!

Please keep a watch in our newsletters, Facebook page, and Church website for any further updates or changes.

For questions, please contact Julie Boles or Muriel Grimes.







Preparing for Easter

LENTEN **DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE**

A PDF of a Lenten Devotional is attached to the emails being sent out along with this newsletter. It is entitled Beloved "Becoming a Community" and is offered through Presbyterians Today.

A selection of printed Lenten devotionals is also available at the Church. The booklets can be found on a table at the end of the hall from the west entrance (near the office). If you do not have a key to the Church, please come by between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays to pick up a booklet.



YOUNG ADULT CONTACT INFORMATION

We Need Your Help



To keep everyone better informed, we are updating our membership contact information. It seems that we are missing some of this for our young adults (post high school and beyond). We would appreciate your help with providing that information. If you know any young adults who could be added or updated, please forward, or have them forward, their current contact information. Thank you!

Send name, phone number, email, and mailing address to:

Dayton Memorial Presbyterian Church P.O. Box 70 Dayton, IN 47941 Telephone: 765.296.3199 Email: secretary@daytonpres.org

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!!

Thank You. Nancy Grimes, for being

the sole Sunday School Backpack Packer for December!!

--and--

A special

Thanks to Kayla

for the cool bird feedre kits for January backpacks!

Blessings, Muriel Grimes, C.E. Chair

Food Pantry Items Needed:

- green beans (14.5 oz can)*
- peas (14.5 oz can)*
- corn (14.5 oz can)*
- pork & beans (16 oz can)*
- fruit cocktail (14.5 oz can)*
- pineapple (20 oz can)*
- chicken noodle soup (10.5 oz can)*
- tomato soup (10.5 oz can)*
- Ramen chicken or beef soups
- saltines
- boxed mac & cheese (e.g., Kraft, 7.25 oz)*
- tuna (5 oz can)*
- peanut butter (18 oz jar)*
- toilet tissue

*approximate sizes





Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry continues to be open on Thursdays from 9 to 11 am. *Beginning this month*, in an effort to reach out to those for whom the 9-11 a.m. time period does not work, **we are adding a 3-5 p.m. pick up time on Thursdays** to be operated it in a way similar to the current Kids' Closet process. We will ask individuals to submit their names, phone numbers, addresses, and number of people in their families to let us know they would like to

use our pick up option. We will do our best to fill orders received by Friday to be ready for pick up on Thursday of the following week. However, we will also contact individuals by phone to confirm when their orders will be ready. *NOTE: All restrictions on geographic area served and number of times individuals can come in will continue to apply.*

Order forms will be available through the Church's Facebook pages and website.

We currently have no idea regarding how popular this time slot will or will not be. If it does significantly increase demand, we will possibly run into issues due to being limited in the number of items that can be purchased at Aldi's in a single trip. The donations that have been made of food items and grocery bags continue to be most greatly appreciated! Donations of any of the items in the list at the right would be greatly appreciated. Just drop them off at the office any Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. *Bring your receipt to the office, and you'll be reimbursed.*

The DMPC Food Pantry serves the geographical areas of Sheffield Township (which includes the town of Dayton, IN), Lauramie Township (which includes the towns of Clarks Hill and Stockwell, IN), and Clinton County. Families whose children attend Dayton Elementary may are also served by the DMPC Food. Each family/individual may come to the Food Pantry once every 30 days.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact: Paul Houser, (765) 404-3317



Your Church Officers For 2021



Nancy Edwards
Candy Fitzgerald
Michael Grimes,
Clerk of Session
Muriel Grimes
Steve Hancook
Paul Houser
Tammy Lineback
Fred Reichart
Deb Ward



Charlotte Avery Elizabeth Barger Jane Coleman Michele Darnell Malinda Hannah Todd Lineback Esther Miller Bernie Parmely Jane Phillips Kathy Shaw Cindy Stanford Lisa Stevenson



Ron Berry Donald Boles John Brand Todd Lineback Steve Norris Lynn Ryan



Local Church & Mission Treasurer Asst. Church & Mission Treasurer Church School Superintendent Asst. Church School Superintendent Cradle Roll Superintendent Church School Secretary Wes Shaw Nancy Edwards Cindy Stanford Jane Coleman Kayla Fields Phyllis Hill

Ordination and installation of our 2021 elders and deacons

will be held during the February 14 service. Please join us!

NOTICE!



Annual Congregational Meeting of Memorial Presbyterian

Sunday, February 21, at 11 a.m. via ZOOM

A set of guides for using Zoom and a copy of the 2020 Annual Report will be emailed to members only by February 14.



UPDATE ON THE CHURCH OFFICE

As of the week of February 1, the office will be open for inperson drop in on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please feel free to call 765.291.3199 or email secretary@daytonpres.org as needed.

OFFICE ENDRANCE IS NOW BACK TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE CHURCH!!!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. --Romans 12:12

JOYS

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

--Romans 15:13

- Prayers of joy and gratitude as we anticipate welcoming Pastor Gladys to the Lafayette community this month, and prayers for safe travels and smooth transitions for her and her son!
- Successful surgery and recovery for Ray Hicks!!!
- Prayers of thankfulness and joy for those in our Church and their friends who have recovered from COVID.

CONCERNS

⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

--1 Peter 5:7

- Please pray for Joellen Snoeberger, (best friend of Phyllis Hill), who is battling cancer. Also, prayers are needed for her and her family, after losing her mother, Janice Snoeberger.
- Prayers for Bill Edwards' nephew who is hospitalized and on a ventilator due to COVID.
- Prayers for strength and comfort of those in our Church and their friends who are dealing with and recuperating from COVID and for those who have lost family and friends.

Please send your Joys and Concerns to:

Telephone: 765.296.3199 Email: secretary@daytonpres.org

Office hours: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

What Have YOU Been Doin'??

Send a message to share with everyone in our next newsletter. A "Hi! How are you?" will do-we'd just love to hear from you!

Telephone: 765.296.3199 Email: secretary@daytonpres.org

Office hours: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Thursdays

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND **PRAYERS:**

Our military, our nation & its leaders. persecuted

Christians; people

locally & nationally in need victims of domestic violence: Russell Lucas: Jackie Ginther: Kevin Konrad; Terry Lynn Pfeiffer; Bob Yost; Kennedy Alkire; Betty Pfeiffer; Cindy DeGolyer; Tracey Harris; Mary Ellen Bowers; Sandi Stingley; Jason Trail, Sr., and his family; Zachary King; Terry McKillip; Sally Smith; Jeff Smith; Jon Grimes; Joan Shoemaker; Betty Barnett; Ron Berry; Thomas Snyder; LuAlice Huston; Margaret Grimes; Don & Joy Schwartz; Sarah Norris; Jean McGill; James Franks; Nancy Hammond; Zech Worley; Jessica Spray; Beth Barger; Joellen Snoeberger; the family of Janice Snoeberger; the family of JoAnn Roe (sister of Mark/Debbie Ward); the nephew of Bill Edwards; Pastor Gladys and her son as they travel and settle in to join us in February; and all who are dealing with the effects of COVID—health-related. financial challenges, separation from family and friends.

Updates to our prayer list will be posted each week on our PRIVATE Church Facebook page.



Please contact the Church office to add someone to the Church's prayer list. (See Joys/Concerns contact

info at left)



Muriel Grimes, Communion and Devotions FEBRUARY ELDERS:

FEBRUARY DEACONS: Lisa Stevenson, Captain; Malinda Hannah

1	Laura Houser		16	Emily Mundell
2	Alan Michael Spray		16	Quinton Alex Shaffer
5	Courtney Breanne Bie	ry	17	Stephanie Valenta
6	Nancy Edwards	2.0	18	Bethany Grimes
6	Muriel Grimes (3 6 5	18	AlexanderJones
6	Kelly Reid	@ @ Tillio	18	Kenny Stanford
10	Evan Fitzgerald Thi	S WANDER	19	Jíll Gard
14	Peggy Fields M	onth's 🔎	20	Marílyn Yoder
14	Ryan Fitzgerald	Birthdays	24	Ron Berry
14	Ryan Gard		26	Dylan Holsclaw
14	Evelyn Lemina			-







_						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Everyone who [practices] these words of mine is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. [Matthew 7:24]	Every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. [John 15:2]	3 Though it linger, wait for it. [Habakkuk 2:3]	4 Teach [these words of mine] to your children. [Deuteronomy 11:19]	5 I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand. [Isaiah 41:13]	6 Now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. [Ephesians 5:8]
7 But David found strength in the Lord his God. [1 Samuel 30:6]	8 Believe in the light so that you may become children of light. [John 12:36]	9 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. [Colossians 3:2]	10 Simeon was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. [Luke 2:25]	11 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. [Psalm 37:7]	The wedding of the Lamb has come. [Revelation 19:7]	13 See, I am doing a new thing! I am making streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]
14 I sought the Lord, and he answered me. [Psalm 34:4]	The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. [Colossians 1:15]	16 Do not conform to the pattern of this world. [Romans 12:2]]	17 You did not have regard for the One who planned it long ago. [Isaiah 22:11]	How good it is to sing praises to our God. [Psalm 147:1]	19 In the pride of your heart you say, "I am a god." [Ezekiel 28:2]	You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. [2 Timothy 2:1]
21 He has given us his very great and precious promises. [2 Peter 1:4] For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son. [Romans 8:29]		Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. [Matthew 5:16]	Two are better than one If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. [Ecclesiastes 4:9-10]	Jerusalem, Jerusalem how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. [Matthew 23:37]	26 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. [Psalm 56:3]	I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. [Galatians 2:20]
[God's] compassions never fail. They are new every morning. [Lamentations 3:22-23]			antry continues from 9 to 11 a.m Kids' Closet is p See page 5 d	n.; NEW: 3-5 p.	m. pick up. es curbside.	



NOTICE!

Annual Congregational Meeting of Memorial Presbyterian Sunday, February 21, at 11 a.m. via ZOOM Memorial Presbyterian Church 731 Walnut St. (State Road 38 E) P. O. Box 70 Dayton, IN 47941-0070

Sunday Schedule:

Access Sunday services by going to youtube.com and searching
Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Worship withus from home





March 2021 Newsletter DEADLINE Please have submissions sent in by Tuesday, February 23