MEMORIAL PRESS

731 Walnut Street - P.O. Box 70 - Dayton, Indiana – 47941 (765) 296-3199)

> Web: www.daytonpres.org Church Secretary: secretary@daytonpres.org

APRIL 2021

Pastor's Epistle – Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah

Have you considered how life may look like when quarantine restrictions are lifted and life returns to "normal"? Did I just say return to "normal"? Will life ever be normal again? Not sure! I strongly believe that what we called our normal life may never be quite the same. It may be a "new" normal life. If that is the case, one then wonders how this new normal life will look. Will it be far detached from the life we were leading before we had the COVID, or will it be just somewhat different? If this new life is far different, how do we plan to transition into it? How do we plan to get back into the "world" we were used to and enjoy it again? These questions are important to think about. And with these questions in mind, we must consider a game plan on how best to not only step into the "new" normal life, but to also navigate the "new" normal life with success.

A resolute effort to enjoy our new normal life after months and months of the COVID menace in the family, church, workplace, and society must be put in place. To tell you that I have the answer to how best to do this would be lying to you. But one thing I know is this, God is able to help us do far more than we can imagine. He has promised to bring us to the "promised land" of joy and gladness. Only God knows the ways and means to turn our after-pandemic life back to a real normal in the "promised land." I believe that for a wholesome well-being, we must focus efforts starting with our spiritual well-being, working from inside to outside. When we are spiritually stable, we tend to be physically, emotionally, socially, and psychologically balanced.

(cont. on page 3)



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-WlhVFA?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.

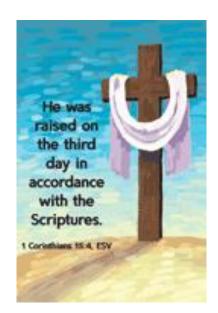


The Church is who we are."

-anonymous

In This Issue

In Celebration of Christ 2
Session Notes 2
Holy Week Celebrations 2
Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday 3
Good Shepherd Sunday4
One Great Hour of Sharing4
Office Hours 4
Kids' Closet & Food Pantry 5
April Events 5
2021 Graduates 6
Young Adults 6
Bible Study Change 6
Return to In-Person
Services 6
VBS 20216
Joys & Concerns7
In Our Thoughts & Prayers7
Our Church Family 8
April Calendar9



HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Holy Week Services continue to be virtual at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLTy0Fi_1hSOHuX-WlhVFA?view_as=subscriber. Services will be available on the morning of each day.

March 28
Palm Sunday



April 1 Thursday
Maundy Thursday

April 2 Good Friday



April 4
Easter Sunday

IN CELEBRATION OF CHRIST

Easter Sunday, April 4; Linen Cloth

was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

John 20:1-8: ¹Early on the first day of the week, while it

A simple linen cloth. And yet so profound. For when the disciples entered the tomb of Jesus, they expected to find the body of their slain master. But all they found were the linen wrappings which had wrapped his body. The cloth was there, but Jesus was not. Jesus had thrown off the shrouds of death and returned to life! The empty linen cloth meant that victory over the ancient enemy, death, had finally been won!

** * SESSION NOTES * * *

Your Session met virtually, using the Zoom program, each one of us in our own home, on Tuesday evening, March 16, 2021; and during the meeting the Elders:

- Elected to return to in-person worship on May 23, 2021, Pentecost Sunday, with strict safety proposals in place, not unlike those utilized at both our November worship services.
- Learned that no less than 80% of the congregations in our Presbytery have worshiping virtually, online.
- Approved using SundaySchoolTeacher.com as curriculum.
- Approved purchasing and using the book *Children of God, a Storybook Bible* by Desmond Tutu.
- Approved conducting outdoor Vacation Bible School the third week of June, perhaps in the evening, perhaps with an adult (parent) class.
- Received letters of thanks from the Presbyterian Mission support for our contribution, as well as from the Special Offerings Division, the Joy Offering, and the Lafayette Urban Ministry General Fund.
- Received a donation of \$150.00 to the Mission Fund from Dayton Lodge #828, Knights of Pythias, to be matched by the Grand Lodge of Indiana K.of P.
- Learned that our new Wednesday evening Bible Study, using Zoom is going very well and that many more students are welcome.

Pastor's Epistle (cont. from page 1)

Pandemic and Our Spiritual and Social Well-being

Our general well-being changed significantly as a result of the pandemic. Yet, life must continue after the pandemic. But it is important to consider especially how COVID quarantine and distancing affected our relationships and interactions with God and with other people and how we can restore these relationships. One way to restore our relationship with God and with people is to overhaul our old ways of handling these relationships and developing a new way of doing things. First, we must get back to the heart of God and of people. Another is that we must go beyond a casual relationship with God to a deeper relationship. Our deeper relationship with God draws people to us and makes it easier for us to enjoy relationships with people.

Churching and Spiritual Healing After the Pandemic

We have been away from the church buildings for a long time because of the COVID. Have you thought about, among other things, how to come back to church? How did you do without physically going to church for worship services and other church activities? How did this impact you? Have you been doing okay spiritually without participation in the church worship and the other church activities? Will you thrive spiritually without going back to church? Why and why not?

David said in **Psalm 122:1-2**, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.' Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!" Psalm 122 is one of David's Songs of Ascents. Jewish pilgrims sang this song as they made their way to the Temple in Jerusalem to worship Yahweh. It is a song of joy about the coming together of God's people for worship and fellowship. Memorial P.C. congregation and other people of God meet, among other days, on Sundays in God's house. Permit me, then, to consider Memorial Presbyterian Church at Walnut Street our physical Temple in "Jerusalem." Each week we meet in the house of the Lord not only to meet with our Lord but also to have fellowship with God's other people! Does this excite you?

The Psalmist said, I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Will this joy and gladness be your experience coming back to church after the COVID quarantine is over? How do you feel whenever you think about coming back into God's house to worship with other people? Are you excited when you wake up and it is Sunday morning? Do you feel excited that it is a day "to go into the house of the Lord?" Is going to church to worship God one of your favorite things to do in the week? Is it at the top of the list you make for the week? Do you feel obligated to attend a worship service or do you look forward to it? Is it delightful or unpleasant to you to attend a worship service? Is it enjoyable or boring to stay through worship services?

David gave reasons why he loved to go to the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, **Psalm 122:3-9**. Is that your experience too? Do you share in David's reasons to go to the house of the Lord? Check your feelings when it's time to go to the house of the Lord. Do you look forward to being in God's presence? And when eventually you come into the sanctuary of the Lord with other people of God, do you feel like you are in God's family? Do you feel delight about worshipping the Lord, fellowshipping with your brothers and sisters from the same family of God?

News Flash! Have you heard that Memorial Presbyterian Church plans to start in-person worship on Sunday, May 23? How do you feel about this news? Do you feel excited that you are coming back into the house of Lord on 731 Walnut Street?

One of David's reasons for being joyful at the news of going to worship at the tabernacle was because of who he would meet there – God and God's people. Do you love God enough that you can't wait to meet him and hang out with Him at the church? Do you love God's people well enough to spend time with them before the Lord?

(cont. on p. 4)

Palm Sunday

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord." Luke 19:38



Welcome, one and all!!

You are invited to help celebrate Palm Sunday! Palms will be available to place on the cross in the front yard of the Church this coming Sunday, March 28, starting at 10:30 a.m. After placing a palm on the cross, feel free to take one with you and to wave it on your way home as we reflect on the coming Easter week. Share the Good News!!

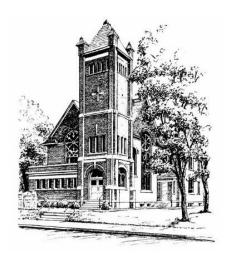
Glory be to God!



Easter Sunday

You are also invited on Easter Sunday, April 4,

to come by the Church and place a flower within the palms on the cross in the front yard. Flowers will also be available on site.





The Church office is open for in-person 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 ENTRANCE IS NOW AT THE USUAL LOCATION ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE CHURCH!!!

Pastor's Epistle (cont. from p. 3)

If God has touched your life and if Jesus occupies your heart, going to church should gladden your heart. You come to worship because you love God, and you because you love God's people. You come to worship because the Bible encourages us to do so in **Hebrews 10:25,** "And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." I encourage you to discover the joy of Christian worship and make your experience worship real authentic! You will be blessed!

While you plan to come, who do you plan to bring with you to enjoy the Lord with you? Please invite your friends and neighbors. They are waiting for you to invite them. They need God, too! And someday they may join you and David to say, "I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

I can't wait to see you on May 23, 2021!

Love you.

The Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah

Good Shepherd Sunday 4th Sunday of Easter, April 25

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:11, 14-15



In celebration of Good Shepherd Sunday, we are making available devotionals entitled "The Lord is My Shepherd" that can be picked up at the Church during the usual office hours. Also available are prayer cards of Psalm 23. (See inset at left for office hours.)

Additionally, those in our Sunday school program will be receiving activities related to Good Shepherd Sunday in their May packets: "Behold the Lamb" and "Feed My Lambs; Tend My Sheep."



One Great Hour of Sharing is the largest way Presbyterians come together to do mission and ministry with those whom we see are in need. Through these gifts, we declare that the Church belongs with people whom we see suffering from the terrors of howling winds and natural disasters; those from whom we see COVID-19 took futures and livelihoods, and the whole cultures threatened as a result. The Church finds itself with those whom we see are thirsty because of too few water wells, and with those who are thirsty because of a lack of political will and the failure of powers and principalties to act in order to secure safe water for everyone. The Church belongs always, and forever, with those struggling for justice, righteousness and peace.

We give to One Great Hour of Sharing because of where the Church belongs, of who the Church is. Please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing so that our Church will continue to become, as Isaiah said, "repairers of the breach" alongside those experiencing great need. For when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

TWO WAYS YOU CAN GIVE

Text OGHS to 91999 to give Online at presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs



Pentecost Offering will be Sunday, May 23

Who refreshes others will be refreshed. -Proverbs 11:25



KIDS' CLOSET— NEW SYSTEM RUNNING SMOOTHLY!!!

With the approach of warmer weather, Kids' Closet will be needing lighter-weight and summertime clothing. New or gently used donations are accepted during office hours—Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We are asking that the donations are clean, placed in clean containers, and the containers/bags are dated. We are making a special request for **children's underclothing** (new, please) which are frequently needed by our families.

Our new system (orders being submitted by families, shopping being done by our Kids' Closet volunteers, and families picking up items at a scheduled time) continues to operate smoothly. KC order forms are available through Facebook, our website, and in the Church office during Thursday office hours—9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please keep a watch in our newsletters, on our Facebook page and Church website for any further updates or changes.

For questions, please contact Julie Boles or Muriel Grimes.



Food Pantry

The new 3-5 p.m. pick up time on Thursdays was a success in March, with 4 families, representing 17 individuals. The new option operates it in a way similar to the current Kids' Closet process. We are asking 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 are available through the Church's Facebook pages and website, as well as on the Dayton and Mulberry town Facebook pages.

We continue to welcome drop in's at our Food Pantry on Thursdays from 9 to 11 am. 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 certainly be helpful. 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

DMPC April Events

April 1



April 4



April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Food Pantry

Drop In @ 9-11 a.m. Pre-Order @ 3-5 p.m. (see page 4)

April 7, 14, 21, 28 Wednesday Bible Study

> @ 8-7 p.m. Via Zoom (see page 6)

April 6
Trustees Mtg @ 7:15 p.m.

April 11
Reminder! Keep
collecting your coins for
Change for Change!!

April 20 Session Mtg @ 7 p.m.

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



REQUEST FOR NAMES OF GRADUATES



We are looking for graduates from our church to recognize during service on Sunday, May 23. If

you know of someone who is graduating from High School, College, or Trade School, let us know so he or she can be recognized.

Please submit names, school from which they're graduating, and what they will be doing upon graduation by May 1 or before by calling the office (765) 296-3199 or emailing our secretary (secretary@daytonpres.org).

We are waiting to hear from you!! Your C.E. Committee

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.

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

Memorial Presbyterian Church P.O. Box 70 Dayton, IN 47941 Telephone: 765.296.3199

Email: secretary@daytonpres.org

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!



Weekly Wednesday Bible Study

The weekly Bible study with Pastor Gladys is going strong. The time has been changed, however, to 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the benefit of those attending. If this fits better into your schedule, please join in—even if you've not been able to attend before!



Weekday Bible Studies

Face-to-Face!

It is with great joy that we announce the return to in-person services on Pentecost Sunday, May 23!!

There will be strict safety proposals in place, not unlike those utilized at both our November worship services. Details will be in the May newsletter. If you have questions, please contact the Church office (see page 4).



VBS 2021 Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

As we open to in-person services as of May 23, we also are making plans for our annual VBS program. VBS will be held the third week of June, and the theme will be "Rocky Railway."

Many more details are to come in May when we will be making available online registration for both participants and volunteers. Soooooo very excited to be able to offer this program again!



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

Thankful for Troy Hicks' successful knee surgery. He's done very well in recovery and is about to return to work.

CONCERNS

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

--<u>1 Peter 5:7</u>

- Prayers for Jay Schwartz, son of Don Schwartz, who is now at home recovering from a stroke.
- Prayers for Bonnie Robinson, friend of Malinda Hannah, who is dealing with cancer.
- 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.

Prayer\ Requests

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'??

How exciting that we will resume in-person services as of May 23!

And while this begins a process of returning to connecting with each other on Sunday morning, there may continue to be some of us who are not yet comfortable with being in large groups. Even the Sunday service itself will not immediately allow us the time to

socialize as we had done previously. So ... *please* ... COVID or no COVID, please feel free to use your newsletter as a way to keep in touch with your Church family. Send us an update on "Whatcha been doin" or greetings you'd like to send out. Share with us your joys and concerns, just as you always did at the beginning of worship.

Telephone: 765.296.3199 Email: secretary@daytonpres.org

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

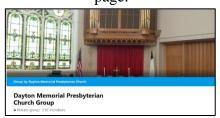
IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS:

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 & Jov Schwartz: Sarah Norris; Jean McGill; Fred Reichart; James Franks; Mary Dillman; Levi Chisholm; Jay Schwartz: Bonnie Robinson: Adina Hicks; the family of Max "Keith" Biery; Rick Stark (friend of Malinda Hannah); 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)



APRIL ELDERS: Steve Hancook, Devotions

APRIL DEACONS: Esther Miller, Captain; Michele Darnell

- Kennedy Alkire
- **Mark Grimes** 1
- 3 Tanner Cassady
- 3 Emelie Coleman
- 3 Sarah (Kemmer) Goff
- 4 Teresa Mundell
- 6 Jennifer Murray
- 8 John Campbell
- 8 Jonathan Clawson
- 9 **Bob Yost**
- Andrew Fitzgerald
- 12 Cindy DeGolyer
- 12 Brianna Stene



Birthdays

20 Roger Smith 21 Bryce Millikan

21 Kaitlin Webber

Helen Jackson

Kelly (Houser) Miller

- 23 Julie Boles
- 25 Kyle Ryan
- 28 **Todd Lineback**
- 28 Nancy Oswalt
- **I**ason Rodarmel 30



- Doug & Stephanie Biery
- 22 Jeff & Laura Holladay
- 27 Steven & Sarah (Kemmer) Goff
- 28 Roy & Kelly Reid





	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Food Pantry continues to be open at this time: Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m.; NEW: 3-5 p.m. píck up on Thursdays Kids' Closet is providing services curbside. See page 5 for details on both.				1 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. [Romans 12:13]	When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. [John 19:30]	3 Who is like you, Lord God Almighty? You, Lord, are mighty and your faithfulness surrounds you. [Psalm 89:8]
Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" [John 20:18]		5 I will drive him like a peg into a firm place. [Isaiah 22:23]	6 I thank my God every time Iremember you. [Philippians 1:3]	7 The cloud of the Lord was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels. [Exodus 40:38]	8 It is better not to do anything that will cause your brother or sister to fall. [Romans 14:21]	9 Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. [Psalm 57:1]	10 Yet I will rejoice in the Lord. [Habakkuk 3:18]
Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. [Proverbs 19:21]		The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." [Matthew 25:40]	I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. [2 Timothy 1:5]	The fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth. [Ephesians 5:9]	Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. [Leviticus 19:34]	If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. [Luke 17:3]	17 You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace. [Isaiah 55:12]
18 Praise be to the Lord. [Ruth 4:14]		19 Seek his skingdom. [Luke 12:31]	20 He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever. [John 14:16]	A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. [Proverbs 15:1]	[God] comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble. [2 Corinthians 1:4]	[Don't look] to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. [Philippans 2:4]	24 Wisdom and power are his. [Daniel 2:20]
from the comma	rou eaten le tree that I anded you eat from? sis 3:11]	Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. [Ephesians 4:2]	The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool to the left. Even as fools walk along the road, they lack sense. [Ecclesiastes 10:2-3]	Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you. [Psalm 116:7]	If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied. [Exodus 18:23]	30 Solid food is for the matrue. [Hebrews 5:14]	**Daily verses from OUR DAILY BREAD for March/April/ May 2021.

Memorial Presbyterian Church 731 Walnut St. (State Road 38 E) P. O. Box 70 Dayton, IN 47941-0070

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

Worship Gromhome



⁸Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

[1 Peter 3:8]



May 2021 Newsletter DEADLINE Please have submissions sent in by Tuesday, April 20