

MEMORIAL PRESS

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

Web: www.daytonpres.org

Church Secretary: secretary@daytonpres.org

DECEMBER 2020



Dayton Memorial Presbyterian Church with joyful anticipation welcomes the Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah as our new pastor. Pastor Gladys is passionate about worship, ministry, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, and loving all God's children. She is excited to come here, meet everyone and get to work! Pastor Gladys and her young son, Feso, will be moving from the Dallas, Texas area. Her four adult children and

their families will remain in Texas and continue to support their mother's Call to Ministry. The PNC and Session will be working together during this in-between time to assure a smooth transition. A new home search is underway and prayers for success in that endeavor are welcome! We are grateful for the Lord's faithfulness in this search and look forward to new beginnings!



Thank you, Church family, for your patience, prayers, input and support for the work of our committee. It is a huge responsibility to represent you in the search for a new pastor. We felt that commitment as we moved through the process. We, the PNC, learned the true meaning of God's calling as we observed and learned from Gladys. Finally, through trust, faithfulness, and continual prayer, our work is nearing a close. We know that God was with us and will continue to guide and bless our church as we move forward.

John, Susan, Clara, Molly, Muriel, Mike and Tammy



Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Sunday Services

Until we can once again gather at church, Bethany Presbyterian will be recording services and making them available through YouTube. You can access the services through the link below or by going to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLTy0Fi_1hSOHuX-WlhVFA?view_as=subscriber) 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

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DMPC December Events

November 29
1st Sunday of Advent



December 3, 10, 17, 31
(not open 12/24)
@ 9-11 a.m.
Food Pantry

December 6
2nd Sunday of Advent



Community Christmas
Tree Lighting



December 7
Pearl Harbor
Day



December 12
Jubilee
Christmas



December 13
3rd Sunday of Advent



December 20
4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Joy Offering
(see page ###)



December 21
First Day of
Winter
Poinsettia Orders
Due
(see page ###)



December 24
Christmas Eve



December 25
Christmas
Day



**** SESSION NOTES ****

Your Session met virtually, using the Zoom program, each one of us in our own home, on Tuesday evening, November 17, 2020, and during the meeting the Elders:

- Learned that the construction on the West Door project is very nearly completed. All that remains is the installation of some stone trim.
- Reported the wedding of Molly E. Bull and John C. Childers on November 7, 2020, at Ross Camp in West Lafayette by Natalie Kidd, Benton County Circuit Court Clerk.
- Received a card from Rev. Laura Penney Bade thanking us for our kind thoughts.
- Read a letter from Jennifer Burns Lewis, Visioning and Connecting Leader of the Presbytery, informing us of a possible FEMA grant for houses of worship to help faith-based organizations prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks.
- Learned that our Sanctuary Organ has been tuned and repaired.
- Learned that our Jubilee Christmas event is on-track, in modified form, and could use a few more volunteers.
- Received a letter from the Presbytery of Wabash Valley's Coordinating Council urging us to prayerfully consider suspending in-person worship and gathering at the church until the positive counts in our community are under 5% for at least two weeks.
- Elected, once again, to continue as we have been, without in-house/person-to-person worship, meetings, classes, and other activities (Food Pantry will continue on Thursday mornings, Kid's Closet will continue with a pre-order, carry-out program) until further notice. We will continue to evaluate this from month to month. As situations and circumstances change, we can and will re-evaluate this decision.

Michael E. Grimes, Clerk of Session

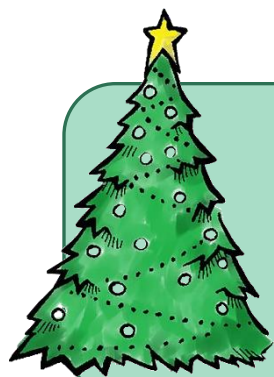
SUMMARY OF THE CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF 11/22/2020

Following the worship service on Sunday, November 22, which was conducted by the Reverend Dr. Gladys Nwabah, our congregation met in a Called Meeting, moderated by the Reverend Kevin Bowers, for the purpose of hearing the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and balloting on issuing a call to the Reverend Dr. Gladys Nwabah to fill our vacant pastorate.

Elder Susan Gibson, Co-Chair of the PNC, presented the report of the Committee, placing Rev. Dr. Nwabah in nomination. She then introduced the members of the PNC, recognizing them for their hard work and dedication to duty. Elder Gibson then introduced the Rev. Dr. Nwabah to the congregation to answer questions that any might have for her. Susan then offered to field questions regarding the candidate and the processes used to select her.

The congregation then balloted on offering a call to Reverend Nwabah, using the previously presented terms of call. After being informed of the results of the ballot, the Reverend Dr. Gladys Nwabah opted to accept the call.

Mike Grimes, Clerk of Session



Community Christmas Tree lightening 5:30 on December 6 th.

We are not having a gathering event,
yet feel free to walk or drive by to start the Christmas
season!

Thank you to everyone who has already
submitted their Estimate of Giving Card for 2021.
Your commitment to furthering God's kingdom
through Memorial Presbyterian Church is greatly
appreciated!



As of the middle of November, we have received 29 pledges totaling \$96,187 for 2021. For comparison, we had 35 pledges totaling \$116,654 for 2020 and 41 pledges totaling \$116,396 for 2019. As you can see, our commitments to date for 2021 are running around \$20,000 less than recent years.

While 2020 has been unlike anything anyone could have anticipated, we continue to pray for a return to normalcy as soon as God deems appropriate. The opportunity that 2021 (the first year in which we're budgeting a full-time pastor since 2014) holds is exciting, to say the least. We look forward to the possibilities that He has in store for Memorial Presbyterian Church in 2021 and beyond! We're confident that everyone giving all they've got through their one of a kind gifts will enable our "stone soup" to amply provide for our needs.

For those who haven't submitted their card yet, it's not too late! If you're unable to locate the card you received in the mail or the electronic card you received via email, please contact the church office. Mary will gladly send additional cards upon request. Everyone's "one of a kind" commitment will allow our church to continue serving God's Kingdom in 2021.



Blessings to all,
Your Stewardship Committee

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

2020 End-of-Year To Do List



**December
Rejoice!!**

Complete Church Annual Report



Elders & others: Please begin
preparing your committees' reports for
inclusion in this year's Church Annual
Report. Reports are due in the office by
Thursday, January 14.

An email listing items needed as well as
the due date was sent at the end of
October. If you'd like another copy
forwarded to you, please let Mary know.

January Celebrate!



"ISN'T [IT] LOVELY? ISN'T [IT] WONDERFUL??"

With MUCH appreciation to the
trustees who oversaw and
coordinated the completion of your
new west entrance! And Thank
You to the crews whose skills and
expertise made it possible!





**Office
Hours**

CHANGES FOR CHURCH OFFICE

The Church Office continues to be open **ONLY on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** However, the secretary will continue to be working from home on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please feel free to email the secretary at any time or call (765) 491-8047 during the usual Tuesday/Wednesday office hours of 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please leave a message if you don't immediately get an answer.

**OFFICE ENTRANCE IS
NOW BACK TO THE WEST
SIDE OF THE CHURCH!!!**

(see page 3!!)

Presbyterian Giving Catalog CHANGE for CHANGE

Let's Keep it Going!

Please continue to remember our Change for Change program. If you haven't yet created your own C4C collection pail, the label and instructions are below.

We collected \$40.27 from contributions brought in during the past two Sundays.

Thank you –

Thank you, one and all!!



- 1) Cutout! Tape the label below to a collection container and throw in your loose CHANGE.
- 2) Bring collected CHANGE to Church when we reopen.
- 3) Pour CHANGE into the bucket located in the parlor.
- 4) Watch it grow! CHANGE the lives of our neighbors—here, there, and everywhere—with your CHANGE!

***Our CHANGE
CHANGES all of us!***



Each year members of the congregation provide Christmas Poinsettias to help decorate the church. While decorating the Church will not be in the mix this year, the Flower Committee has made arrangements for these plants to be taken by the Deacons to shut-ins and others in the congregation during Christmas week. Dedications will also be recognized in the January newsletter.

If you would like to help, fill out the coupon below and send it to the Church Office (P.O. Box 70, Dayton, IN 47941-0070). The cost of a Poinsettia this year is \$10.00. Please make checks payable to MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (place "poinsettia" in the memo).

IN MEMORY OF (deceased): _____

IN HONOR OF (living): _____

GIVEN BY: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ (\$10.00 per Poinsettia)

DEADLINE FOR FORMS: DECEMBER 21st



Who refreshes others will be refreshed.

—Proverbs 11:25

KIDS' CLOSET— NEW “SYSTEM” CATCHING ON!!!

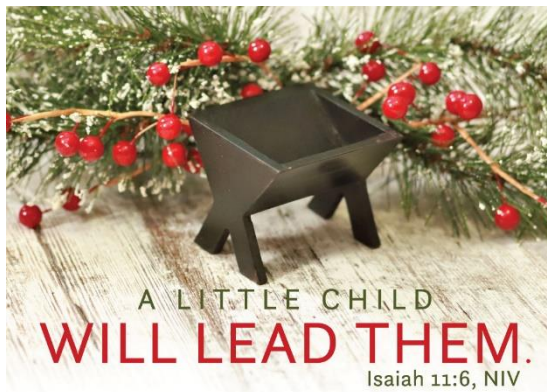
Our usual monthly Kids' Closet continues to be closed due to the COVID19 pandemic, but we are operating in a new way to address the needs of families in our community. Our new system seems to be working; we are generally helping 2 to 4 families each month.

We are currently taking clothing orders from families in need and using curbside pickup to get those orders delivered to our shoppers in the safest manner we can. KC shoppers complete order forms that are available through Facebook, our website (once the site has been updated), and in the Church office during Thursday office hours—9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

We are also accepting new or gently used donations and are asking that the donations are clean, placed in clean containers, and the containers/bags dated. Donations are accepted during office hours—Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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.



The families who are coming to Kids' Closet are very much in need of socks! Please bring donations to the Church on any Thursday between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm. All sizes from infant through adult (for older kids) are needed.



Food Pantry



Our Food Pantry has continued to be open on Thursdays from 9 to 11 am throughout the COVID

crisis. We very much appreciate the donations of grocery bags from individuals over the past couple of months. And we want to thank Deb Vyse and her nephew for coordinating a donation of bags from Payless on Maple Point Drive.

As we continue to be limited in the number of items that can be purchased at Aldi's in a single trip, donations of any of the items in the list below 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.**

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact:

Paul Houser



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

GUIDED PRAYER LABYRINTH



Guess what's new at church? A "Guided Prayer Labyrinth"! Our youth group, consisting of 6 teens and 3 adults, put together a labyrinth on our church parking lot for all to enjoy! This is open to our church members and the general public, to be used as a way to pray or meditate . . . to connect closer to God and find peace and purpose. We pray it brings calmness in the chaos of these challenging days. We encourage you to visit it as often as you'd like!

Information about the prayer labyrinth and a suggestion for its use are available at the site.



♥ Peace be with you!!! ♥

GUIDED PRAYER LABYRINTH

WELCOME EVERYONE!

An Optional Guide is Offered Below

↓

The Labyrinth is an ancient tool for prayer and meditation.

- ① Walking In . . . Pray for a release of your fears and distractions "Let Go and Let God".
- ② AT CENTER . . . Pray for illumination, pray for the Holy Spirit to fill you with life anew.
- ③ Walking out . . . Pray for intention. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in living out God's will. Love on another.

There is no one right way of praying that is fruitful for everybody all the time. The labyrinth is offered to you as a spiritual opportunity. Walking the sacred path of a labyrinth serves to still our thoughts, allowing space for God amid the usually jam-packed confines of our minds.

GO IN PEACE



CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

We have always been together in spirit, and in faith. But we missed seeing each other. We missed seeing faces we love — up close and personal. But that doesn't mean we haven't been together. And we definitely have not been alone.

The Christmas Joy Offering is one way we join together as Presbyterians from around the country. We do this to meet the needs of vulnerable people we might not be able to meet as individuals or as single congregations. We might not be able to meet face to face with those who need the support that our gifts provide, but we are very much still together.

The gifts we share connect us. They also change lives. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we support church workers and their families who experience critical financial needs through help from the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. We connect with the young people attending Stillman College, Presbyterian Pan American School, and the Menaul School, supporting the education and leadership development for students of color, who will soon be leaders in our Church and in the world.

"God is with us." All the time. During this season of Advent, as we approach Christmas, I can't think of a more perfect gift than that. Thank you for sharing those lessons and those truths, through your gift to the Christmas Joy Offering.

Please give generously, for "if we all do a little — together — it adds up to a lot."

Cut out this picture and create your own mini Christmas stained glass window!



During these past months, many of us weren't able to be together in person.

WAYS TO GIVE

Through your congregation

Text JOY to 56512 to learn more or donate

Online at pcusa.org/christmasjoy



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Illustrated Ministry LLC

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

- ✚ Welcome, Savannah Dean Spray!!! Congratulations to new parents Brad & Jessica Spray, grandmother Michele Spray, and great grandparents Jon & Mike Grimes, and great-great grandparent Margaret Grimes!!!
- ✚ As we approach another big family celebration, let us be thankful for having family members to stay isolated from (Church family included), for ways to continue to stay in touch, and ask for blessings on those who may not have as much as we. This is most certainly a time to focus on the blessings we have and not other things we want for ourselves.

CONCERNS

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

--1 Peter 5:7

- ✚ Judy M. Ryan—as she recovers from hip surgery.
- ✚ Gary Craig in the loss of his 100-year-old father.
- ✚ Please offer prayers for those throughout the world who are dealing with illness and economic troubles—due to COVID or other circumstances, or who must be apart from family members while they are recovering from illness.



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.

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 (Niece/ J.Schwartz); Kevin Konrad; Margaret Stonecipher (friend of C. Stanford); Terry Lynn Pfeiffer; Bob Yost; Kennedy Alkire; Betty Pfeiffer; Cindy DeGolyer; Tracey Harris; Mary Ellen Bowers; Sandi Stingley; Ward Suter (father-in-law of Cindy Bull Suter); Dougie Harden; Jason Trail, Sr., and his family; Zachary King; Terry McKillip; Fred Reichart; Sally Smith; Jeff Smith (son of Marge Smith); Jon Grimes; Laszlo & Joanne Kovacs; Joan Shoemaker (mother of Nancy Grimes); Betty Barnett; Ron Berry; Thomas Snyder (uncle of Teresa Mundell); LuAlice Huston; the family of Brenda Watts; Margaret Grimes; Don & Joy Schwartz; the residents and staff of St. Elizabeth Healthcare Campus in Delphi as they cope with the COVID-19 outbreak St. Elizabeth Healthcare Campus in Delphi and of Mulberry Health & Rehabilitation Center as they cope with the COVID-19 outbreak; Joe Grimes; Ray Hicks; Sarah Norris; the family of Eric Smeltzer; Jean McGill; Phyllis C. Smith Brooks & Family; Judy M. Ryan, Gary Craig & family.



Our Church Family



ELDERS: FRED REICHART, COMMUNION
MICHAEL GRIMES, DEVOTIONS

DEACONS: TODD LINEBACK, CAPTAIN

2 Roy Reid
3 Wes Shaw
4 Nathan Franklin
6 Nick Bush
7 Hannah Boles
12 Joy Schwartz
15 David Stene



Birthdays

16 Wyatt Goff
17 Aiden Grimes
17 Kristen Webber
22 Lois Campbell
22 Caitlin Lineback
26 Bobby Deckard
30 Lerry Holladay



Anniversaries


12 David & Heather Stene
17 Michael & Tracey Harris
23 Tim & Suzanne Fogarty
28 Cindy & Robert Suter
30 Rob & Nancy Grimes
31 Matthew & Marissa (Hill) Dupre

Omissions and/or Errors

If you notice any omissions or incorrect entries in the birthdates and anniversaries each month, please contact Mary Houser at secretary@daytonpres.org or call the Church office at 296-3199.



2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov. 29  FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Nov. 30	1 <i>They sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights.</i> <i>[Job 2:13]</i>	2 <i>The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son.</i> <i>[Isaiah 7:14]</i>	3 <i>Give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, statutes and decrees.</i> <i>[1 Chronicles 29:19]</i>	4 <i>Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.</i> <i>[1 John 3:18]</i>	5 <i>Godliness with contentment is great gain.</i> <i>[1 Timothy 6:6]</i>
6 <i>This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.</i> <i>[1 John 5:2]</i>	7 <i>Help me, Lord my God.</i> <i>[Psalm 109:26]</i>	8 <i>Encourage one another and build each other up.</i> <i>[1 Thessalonians 5:11]</i>	9 <i>Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers.</i> <i>[Psalm 1:1]</i>	10 <i>Being found in appearance as a man, [Jesus] humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!</i> <i>[Philippians 2:8]</i>	11 <i>I have swept away your offenses . . . like the morning mist.</i> <i>[Isaiah 44:22]</i>	12 <i>Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.</i> <i>[Genesis 32:24]</i>
13 <i>His mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God.</i> <i>[Luke 1:64]</i>	14 <i>What is mankind that you are mindful of them?</i> <i>[Psalm 8:4]</i>	15 <i>The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome.</i> <i>[2 Timothy 2:24]</i>	16 <i>Let all God's angels worship him.</i> <i>[Hebrews 1:6]</i>	17 <i>Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you.</i> <i>[Leviticus 23:22]</i>	18 <i>God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.</i> <i>[Romans 5:8]</i>	19 <i>I have taken away your sin, and I will put fine garments on you.</i> <i>[Zechariah 3:4]</i>
20 <i>The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.</i> <i>[Psalm 23:1]</i>	21 <i>The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.</i> <i>[Isaiah 7:14]</i>	22 <i>All Scripture is God-breathed.</i> <i>[2 Timothy 3:16]</i>	23 <i>Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.</i> <i>[Psalm 63:3]</i>	24 Christmas Eve Peace to those on whom his favor rests. <i>[Luke 2:14]</i> 	25 Christmas Day <i>God so loved the world.</i> <i>[John 3:16]</i>	26 <i>When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram.</i> <i>[1 Kings 19:15]</i>
27 <i>The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.</i> <i>[Psalm 103:38]</i>	28 <i>Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor.</i> <i>[Jeremiah 33:9]</i>	29 <i>Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but . . . against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.</i> <i>[Ephesians 6:12]</i>	30 <i>The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.</i> <i>[Exodus 34:6]</i>	31 <i>He himself is our peace.</i> <i>[Ephesians 2:14]</i>		

Food Pantry continues to be open at this time: Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m.
Kids' Closet is providing services curbside. See page 5 for specifics.

The **Church Office** will be open only on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
 (for more details, see page 4)

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

Sunday Schedule:

8:45 am Carols *9:00 am Brkfst*

***Services Temporarily
Cancelled***

Mental Brkfst

10:00 am Worship



December

**January 2021 Newsletter
DEADLINE**

**Please have submissions sent
in by Monday, December 21**