### **MEMORIAL PRESS**

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

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

### JANUARY 2021

### Pastor's Epistle – Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah

### Greetings

May grace, peace, and joy be multiplied to you all!

It is with great appreciation to you for your warm welcome, and gratitude to God for leading me to begin a journey here at Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC) serving as your Pastor, that I bring this Epistle note to you. I am excited about God's choice! The joy with which you accepted me confirmed the hand of God in this my Godchoice mission.

I count it a distinct privilege and honor to serve at Memorial P.C. I am thankful that God has made the boundary lines "fall for me in pleasant places" (Psalm 16:6). Thank you for accepting me here as part of your church family. I trust that the Lord has lots of things in store for our church, and I am committed to working with you and for the Lord to accomplish them all. I look forward to a jubilant and fruitful ministry in the years ahead.

I solicit your prayers as I also pray for you.

Your passion for the Lord, your generosity, your love for one another, and your willingness to serve have inspired me. I can see what God is doing in our community through you. The church's mission to the world is of uttermost importance and I pray we continue to uphold it. God, who is our source of strength, will continue to help us do that. We must also continue to pay attention to our personal devotion and spiritual growth through personal study of God's word, group bible study, personal and communal prayers, and fellowship with one another. Obedience to God's word is the very best way to show our devotion to God. Let us continue to obey God's word and to invite neighbors, friends, and relatives to enjoy a walk with God.

(cont. on page 2)

# Worship with us from

#### 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: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLTy0Fi">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLTy0Fi</a> 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 January Events

Week of January 4
OFFICE CLOSED

January 5 Trustees Mtg @ 7:15 p.m.

January 6
Epiphany



January 7, 14, 21, 28 Food Pantry Drop In @ 9-11 a.m. Pre-Order @ 3-5 p.m. (see page 3)

January 10
Baptism of the Lord



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

January 19 Session mtg @ 7 p.m.

Annual Congregational
Meeting
Date and specifics yet to
be determined



### \*\* \* SESSION NOTES \* \* \*

Your Session met virtually, using the Zoom program, each one of us in our own home, on Tuesday evening, December 15, 2020, and during the meeting the Elders:

- Welcomed Pastor Gladys Nwabah to our zoom meeting and learned of her joy in meeting with our Session.
- Learned that the construction on the West Door project is now completed, and it looks great!
- Received a letter from Geneva Center, outlining their difficulties and successes during this trying year.
- Read a letter from James Kirk, Associate for Disaster Response for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, notifying us that training is scheduled on the FEMA grant for houses of worship to help faith-based organizations prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks.
- Learned that there will be a Christmas Eve virtual service, recorded in our Sanctuary, and the Sanctuaries of Bethany and Elston churches, ready for viewing at 5:00 p.m. on December 24.
- Learned that our Jubilee Christmas event went very well. Thanks to Cindy and Molly and all the volunteers for their service with this modified event.
- Noted that our Community Christmas Tree looks wonderful, thanks to Ken and Will Stanford.
- Elected Wes Shaw as Church Treasurer for 2021
- Elected Mike Grimes as Clerk of Session and Marilyn Yoder as Assistant Clerk of Session for 202
- Elected Paul Houser as Commissioner to Presbytery for 2021
- Agreed to set aside decisions on Officer Installation and Ordination as well as our Annual Congregational Meeting until all questions are resolved with consultation from Presbytery.

Michael E. Grimes, Clerk of Session



#### What Is Your Hope for 2021?

(Pastor's Epistle, cont. from page 1)

The year 2020 presented us with lots of challenges - the worldwide pandemic, illnesses, fear, death, incessant political and racial tensions, separation from one another, etc. We experienced pains and heartaches at one point or another throughout 2020. In Revelations 21:4a, God promised that He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Do you believe this for 2021? God will not stop at wiping our tears, He says He has plans for us, plans for good things and not for evil; plans to give us a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11). Much as I will not ask you to completely forget your 2020 experiences, I will dare ask you to look forward and let the "God of hope fill you with all joy and peace ... so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" Romans 15:13; the hope of believing that your 2020 experience will work out greater good for you. This is captured in the Scriptures – "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation" Romans 5:3-4.

So, in 2021, who do you want to be? What do you want to achieve? How do you want to live? Where do you want to go? How and where do you want to use your God-given gifts and talents? I suggest that you prayerfully consider your vision for 2021 and listen to God's direction for your life. Be open to how God would lead you to serve Him and our church community.

Again, I am honored to serve as your pastor and look forward to a fruitful 2021!

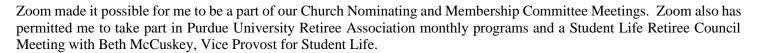
### What Has MARILYN YODER Been Doin'??

First, thanks to Harriett Berry for taking this picture and submitting it for use with our virtual church worship service with Bethany and Elston Presbyterian Churches. Then I sent it to Purdue to use with the Fan Cardboard Cutouts in Ross Ade Stadium and Mackey Arena since fans are not permitted at games this year. I've missed attending the Purdue football and women's and men's basketball games. Thankfully, most of them are on TV.

With not being able to see family and friends, I am thankful for my phones and my laptop computer. After calling several of my DeFreese (Mom's family) cousins, I sent an email to the family that we had decided to postpone the DeFreese Family Reunion from June 2020 to June 2021. Now we are hoping it will be safe to meet then.

It has been a blessing to have the technology making it possible for us to view our Sunday worship services by sharing with Bethany and Elston. Thanks to those who make those worship services possible. It is great to see Pastor Gladys now joining

them. Thanks, too, to those who were responsible for making sure it was safe for us to attend our two in-person worship services and congregational meetings in November. I think the Session made a good decision to go back to virtual services indefinitely again.



Also the Purdue Smalley Center Employee and Retiree Holiday Party and Service Recognition Luncheon was virtual on Zoom where I was able to see and visit with many of my former co-workers and "old" friends and meet some of the new current employees. For the luncheon portion of the event, box lunches were provided and were even delivered to us retirees. Barb Frazee, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Life, updated us on the innovative changes, etc., that her tremendous University Residences staff made to keep the students safe during the pandemic. They were able to keep the majority of the students on campus, which many of their peer institutions were not able to do!

I've been able to keep most of my medical appointments, including my usual six-month check with my primary care doctor, which was done virtually. My dentist appointment, which was scheduled for March, finally took place in June after being postponed twice. All dental offices were required to close for three weeks; then it took awhile for the required protective equipment to arrive for the dental staff.

I mowed my yard every one to two weeks, and probably bought gas more times for my mower than I did for my car since I wasn't going anywhere. I have occasionally gone to the grocery and pharmacy and taken advantage of curbside pickup and home delivery. I washed my windows, which hadn't been done for a couple years. I'm glad I had the windows replaced a few years ago with the type that open to the inside so I don't have to get up on a ladder outside.

With more time at home, I completed a couple projects. I received a Facebook friend request from a guy I had never heard of, so I deleted it. Then I received an email from my cousin in Texas; she had been contacted by this guy, who is our Grandma Yoder's great nephew. He was looking for old pictures of Grandma's family for a digital history for his kids. So I spent several days finding and sending him pictures that Dad had saved for us plus some more current pictures of my immediate family.

That project led me to sorting some old files. I then asked Eco Shred, a local company, to come to my house with their truck to shred several trash bags of confidential papers (taxes, etc.) and a hard drive from an old computer.

I'm looking forward to and praying that we will be able to receive the Covid vaccine soon and 2021 will be a much better year. Best wishes and Happy New Year to my church family. Stay safe!

--Marilyn Yoder

### 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



### Memorial Youth Sunday School Program

The Sunday School for Pre-K through 5th grade is operating a backpack program during this time of COVID. Muriel Grimes and Nancy Grimes have been putting items in backpacks and them using social sharing distancing. They are reaching out to eight children in PreK through 2nd grade and four children in 3rd through 5th grades. At Christmas, the children were provided with a variety of Sunday schoolthemed crafts and activities. Backpacks are to be returned to the Church on the first Thursday of each month, then picked up with a fresh batch of Sunday school activitiues and lessons a week later (i.e., the second



Thursday of the month). Plans are also in the works to possibly do Zoom story readings in the future.



### Our Labyrinth

The labyrinth recently painted on the back parking lot is available to all, in both the congregation and the community. In this time of COVID, please wear a mask and social



distance when walking the labyrinth. Please be courteous to others using the labyrinth.

Prayer experiences dating back to the time of the Old Testament and the early church have included a variety of postures including not only sitting but kneeling, lying down, and upright with arms extended upwards. Walking the sacred path of a labyrinth in prayer is another variation.

The labyrinth is an ancient tool for prayer and meditation, consisting of a winding path that begins at the periphery and leads to a central space, and then out again by the same path. A winding path walked in prayer and meditation dates back to 12th century European cathedrals, particularly in France and Italy. It has nothing to do with magic. Many feel that the labyrinth allowed for miniature pilgrimages in substitution for the long journeys to Jerusalem expected of penitents. The labyrinth is viewed by some as leading to a holy place in silent prayer in motion, uniting mind, body, and heart.

The rhythm of walking is conducive to prayerful contemplation. It serves to quiet our thoughts, allowing space for God amid the usually jam-packed confines of our minds. The labyrinth's twists and turns help us to relinquish our need to feel "in control" and to acknowledge our dependence upon God. The certainty of reaching the center inspires us to trust in God's providence.

### How to walk the labyrinth:

- The rhythms and movements of walking the labyrinth are calming. Be yourself on the path.
   Walk it naturally. The time it takes to journey to the center and back again depends on your pace. There is no "wrong" way to walk the labyrinth.
- Pause at the entry to the labyrinth. Allow what comes naturally to guide you.
- Walking in, pray for release of fears and distractions.
- At the center, pray for illumination and renewal.
- Walking out, pray for guidance in living out God's will.

### With gratitude to all:

With the help of Julie Boles, Eli Boles, Micah Parmely and their friends as well as Maddox Bramer, Muriel Grimes, Lily Boles and Jane Phillips, we have a place to re-fuel, to reflect, to pray, to meditate, TO LET GO AND LET GOD!



### 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

items at a scheduled time) has caught on! This year we have assisted more than 15 families and 55 children in meeting necessary clothing needs. 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.

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.





DID YOU NOTICE???

Both Kids' Closet and Dayton Food Pantry have new logos! Both were creatively designed by Clara Boles.

Thank you so very much, Clara!!!



### 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

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



### 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



A view of the completed west entry. It should give us a more functional entry. Now all we need is for the church to be opened again so we can use this new entry for Sunday services.

Merry Christmas from your Trustee Committee!



### UPDATE ON THE CHURCH OFFICE

The Church office will be CLOSED during the week of January 4.

As of the week of January 11, the office will continue to be open for in-person drop in ONLY on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. However, the secretary will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays as well during those same hours. 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!!!

## POINSETTIA 2020

Given by:	In Memory of:	In Honor of:
Margaret Grimes	Leo, Nellie, Mary Ann, & Donald Grimes; Cecil & Olive Woodard	
Ray & Patty Hicks		Terry Lynn Pfeiffer
Marilyn Yoder	Marvin, Lucy, Morris, & Marlene Yoder	
Kelly, Kim, Kaylee, & Kameron Little	Barb & Gene Smith; Dick & Irene Little	
The Don Connelly Family	Debbie Wiggins; J. Kenneth & Elma Biery; Bonita Jo Wiggins; Virginia Flora	Max & Marsha Biery
Esther Miller	Ron Miller	
Carol Frantz	David & Greg Frantz	
Mary Margaret Mullins Sugar	Virgil & Margaret Mullins, William & Robeson Bull, Lewis Beeler	Stanley Bull, Harriett Berry
Michael & Jon Grimes	Robert & Janet, Rob & David Walters, Louise Zahn, Donald Grimes	Margaret Grimes
Paul & Mary Houser & family	Ken & Norma Houser; Frank & Virginia Makovitch	A
M/M Gary Vyse Family, M/M Roger Gregory Family, M/M Steve Massey Family, M/M Randy Smith Family, M/M Nickolas Smith Family	Eugene B. Smith, Barbara L. Smith, and Ricky E. Smith	
Sharon Wills, Sally Maroska, Deb Watkins, & Susan Gibson	Floyd (Frog) & Lola May Dixon	
Their Grandchildren & Greatgrandchildren	Jim & Mae Whitlock	
Their Children: Ron, Cheryl, and Jill	Fauniel S. & Robert D. Gard	
Susan Clawson	Kenneth & Julia (Widmer) Yost	. 4

### 2021 Offering Envelopes and Per Capita

Weekly offering envelopes are available at the Church office. If you did not initially request a set but would like one, please call the office at 765.291.3199 to arrange to pick them up.

The per capita for 2021 is \$42.00.

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

<sup>12</sup> 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

- What a wonderful 2021 Jubilee Christmas we had!! Thanks to Molly Childers and Cindy Suter for once again coordinating an unusal but highly successful Jubilee Christmas! A heartfelt thank you, too, to those who donated and those who delivered Christmas joy to 39 children in 15 families!
- Prayers of thankfulness and joy for those in our Church and their friends who have recovered from COVID.
- P Congratulations to Will Stanford on achieving recognition as the newest Eagle Scout of Boy Scout Troop 316! Well done, Will!!!



### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND **PRAYERS:**

Our military,

our nation & its leaders persecuted Christians; people our productions locally & nationally in need; victims of domestic violence: Russell Lucas: Jackie Ginther; Kevin Konrad; Terry Lynn Pfeiffer; Bob Yost; Kennedy Alkire; Betty Pfeiffer; Cindy DeGolver; Tracey Harris; Mary Ellen Bowers; Sandi Stingley; Dougie Harden: 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; Ray Hicks; Sarah Norris; Jean McGill; Fred Reichart; the family of Margaret Stonecipher; the family of Tammy Crowell; Gloria Stuckey and the family of Dennis Stuckey; James Franks.

### **CONCERNS**

<sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

--1 Peter 5:7

- James Franks, friend of Travis Lineback, who was recently diagnosed with cancer and is currently undergoing treatment.
- 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.



# Our Church Family



JANUARY ELDERS: Nancy Edwards, Communion and Devotions

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY DEACONS: Beth Barger, Captain; Cindy Stanford

- 2 Russell Grimes
- 6 David Grimes
- 8 Rachel Gard
- 9 Susan Parmely
- 9 David McQueen
- 9 Rebecca Edwards
- 10 Steve Norris
- 10 Jill Edwards
- 10 Robert Jay Reichart
- 12 Gideon Basden
- 13 Susan Clawson
- 13 Beckí Sprague
- 16 Melody Valenta
- 19 Harriett Berry

- 20 Cindy Bull
- 20 Jonah Grimes
- 22 Michael Edwards
- 23 Dennis Fields
- 23 Nolan Mitchell Yoder
- 23 Tom Yost
- 25 James Murray
- 28 Tim Fogarty
- 28 Linda Miller
- 28 Deb vyse
- 29 Bríanna Snyder
- 31 Danielle Parmely
- 31 Elí Boles
- 31 Roland Jacob Neito



- 1 Bernard & Susan Parmely
- 3 Gary & Deb Vyse
- 14 Jack & Sarah Norris
- 22 Don & Joy Schwartz



## January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
from 9 <i>Kids</i> ' (	to 11 a.m.; NE	open at this time: W: 3-5 p.m. picling services curb letails on both.	k up.	December 31	1 New Year's Day When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. [Isaiah 43:2]	The one who hears my words and doess not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on
	<i>n Office</i> will be C week of January <sup>2</sup>				New Year's Day	the ground without a foundation. [Luke 6:49]
"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died." [John 11:21]	Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. [Psalm 100:2]	When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight.  [Jeremiah 15:16]	6 Epiphany See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! [1 John 3:1]	At your times of rejoicing—your appointed festivals and New Moon feasts—you are to sound the trumpets. [Numbers 10:10]	God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people. [Hebrews 6:10]	9 Get rid of all bitterness. [Ephesians 4:31]
10 Baptism of the Lord The Lord's people will judge the world. [1 Corinthians 6:2]	My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. [Psalm 121:2]	If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! [2 Corinthians 5:17]	So Moses wrote down this song that day and taught it to the Israelites. [Deuteronomy 31:22]	You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes. [Psalm 138:7]	Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life." [John 14:6]	16 [Goliath] looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy. [1 Samuel 17:42]
There before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. [Revelations 4:2]	Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. [Romans 15:7]	You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. [Isaiah 26:3]	20 How many are your works. Lord! [Psalm 104:24]	21 Come, follow me. [Matthew 19:21]	So the women ran to tell his disciples. [Matthew 28:8]	23 I am worn out from my groaning. [Psalm 6:6]
24 Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!" [Mark 10:28]	Because the hand of the Lord my God was on me, I took courage and gathered leaders from Israel to go up with me. [Ezra 7:28]	Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven! [Matthew 21:9]	If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. [John 8:36]	But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! [Amos 5:24]	Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. [Deuteronomy 5:13-14]	30 If I am a man of God, may fire come down from heaven. [2 Kings 1:10]
31 Do not be over come by evil, but overcome evil with good. [Romans 12:21]	Nοτιce!  Date and specifics for the  Annual Congregational Meeting of Memorial Presbyterian  CONGREGATIONAL are yet to be determined. Information will be sent out separately.					

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 inthus

Grownhome



February 2021 Newsletter DEADLINE Please have submissions sent in by Tuesday, January 26