

## **PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS**

### **April through June 2009**

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley encourages all our congregations to pray for each other throughout the year. Over a two-year period, a week will be designated for each of our churches and other organizations. Each church is invited to tell us a little about itself and to share specific joys and concerns. Those listed below have been sent to us from the churches and organizations on our prayer list for the weeks shown below. Sharing prayers with each other works!

**Note: The person who prepares your worship bulletins and/or church newsletters may request this information in a Word document from [bbsnyder@bestonline.net](mailto:bbsnyder@bestonline.net).**

**Week of April 5**

**First, Princeton**

**Dr. Gene Gladney**

Please remember the congregation and session of First Church, Princeton and their temporary supply pastor, Dr. Gene Gladney, as they they work toward several important goals this year. Especially remember them as they prepare for a major emphasis this spring. This special emphasis will include a congregation-wide study of Glenn McDonald's book, The Disciple Making Church. It will culminate in a series of special worship services and fellowship events built around the themes of the book on six consecutive Sundays after Easter. Also, the church will be celebrating the renovation of their 15 rank Wickes organ, with a dedication service later in the spring.

**Week of April 12**

**Your Own Congregation**

**Week of April 19**

**Mt. Tabor, New Albany**

**Rev. Jack Cormack  
Andy Traister, CLP**

Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church was founded in January 1838 in the rural countryside of Floyd County. In 1958 the church moved across the street to its present location, and the present sanctuary was dedicated in 1978. Worship attendance continues to increase, and we rejoice that God continues to call people to worship. The Mount Tabor Church is experiencing a true time of transformation as we are being transformed from a small country to that of a suburban one. We humbly request your prayers as we faithfully seek to follow God's leading in this time of transformation.

**Week of April 26**

**Trinity, New Washington**

**Rev. Michelle Bartel**

Please join Trinity Presbyterian Church in offering thanksgiving for what God is already doing in our midst, and for the gratitude pastor and congregation are experiencing since God brought them together. We ask prayers for guidance for our way forward as we deepen our openness to God's leading and follow as Christ's disciples into the world and into the future. Please pray that we have continued strength and joy as we find ways to make this thriving congregation ever more vibrant and welcoming.

**Week of May 3**

**St. John United, New Albany**

**Rev. C. Allen Colwell**

Hellos and goodbyes. That's how we've started the year at St. John Presbyterian Church in New Albany. We continue to celebrate the life and ministry of Pastor Emeritus David Roth, even as we grieve his passing. Meanwhile, we have welcomed Rev. C. Allen Colwell with whom our witness in the community continues. As we enjoy the newness of this blossoming relationship, please pray that God opens our hearts and minds to new ideas, new ministries, new way of being church for our neighbors. Also, pray specifically for the fruit that can be borne through our Wednesday Night Live program, where we open our doors, arms, and hearts to the children of our neighborhood, nurturing and supporting them in mind, body, and spirit. And may God keep all of us healthy, happy, and humble.

**Week of May 10**

**Newburgh**

**Rev. Kathleen Fox**

Newburgh Presbyterian Church has a rich sense of our historical tie to the town of "Historic Newburgh." Our Town Hall was originally the Presbyterian Church, and next year we will celebrate the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church's life and mission. We have a beautiful setting amid lovely trees overlooking the Ohio River, yet we are at the southernmost spot and many perceive us as inaccessible. Overcoming that perception is one of our ongoing priorities. We are a congregation of 164 members, with an average worship attendance of about 105, and a well-attended Sunday School and midweek "Wonder\*ful Wednesday" fellowship dinner and study for all ages. The sense of family is strong at NPC, and all our children feel like family, welcome in our worship and our lives. Children enjoy our story box. They bring in items to put in the box each week that are a surprise to the pastor. She opens the box filled with their treasures and then talks about their treasures in light of God's presence and God's love in thier lives. We share in a great deal of our members' daily joys and concerns, and celebrate our children and youth's sports, school, and outside activities together. We continue to grow in our greatest strength: giving others the opportunity to see Christ in the way we concretely and purposefully love one another.

Please pray for us as we continue our ministry in this community.

**Week of May 17**

**First, Paoli**

**Rev. Nancy Waters**

The Paoli Presbyterian Church opened the doors to a new building on the first Sunday of Advent, 2003. The congregation rebuilt the church on the site after a fire destroyed the 1925-built structure on December 18, 2000. The congregation continues to rejoice in getting used to a new home and making a difference in the community of Paoli and Orange County. Pray for us as we contribute to the local food pantry in a time of economic deprivation for many and contribute to the building of a new house through Habitat for Humanity. Give thanks with us as we have young children active in our worship services. Rejoice with us in the relationships that bind us together as God's people and pray that we will spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to all.

**Week of May 24**

**Pyoca Camp, Conference & Retreat Center**

**Rich Swartwood, Director**

Pyoca Camp, Conference & Retreat Center is gearing up for the 57th summer! There has been a tremendous amount of change and energy for this next summer. The theme is "The True Transformer!" Please keep the campers, volunteers and staff in your prayers throughout this summer that they are transformed into a closer relationship with Jesus! Additionally, we ask for prayers for the retreat guests and groups that use our facility throughout the year. We have a wide range of groups who use our facilities and each has their own special place and need while they are at Pyoca.

We also would covet prayers for the Pyoca's capital campaign, the incredible growth in facilities and programs. Also, please keep the Pyoca Advisory Council in your prayers as they are working hard to serve you!

**Week of May 31**

**Patoka**

**Rev. Veltri Taylor**

The Patoka Presbyterian Church is a small congregation in a town of approximately 800 people. Even though we are small, we have a very big heart for doing God's work in the wider community. We have adopted a Third World Child, operate a food pantry, assist with the Evansville State Hospital's annual personal items collection, Co-Sponsor the Community Vacation Bible School and Community Christmas Eve Program with the United Methodist Church, participate in the Gibson County Presbyterian Lenten and Pentecost Services, and provide financial support to our young adults doing mission as God leads them. Last year one of our young adults completed a project in Florida, and this year plans to serve in Africa. Since October, we have been blessed with the leadership of the Reverend Veltri Taylor, who is leading the congregation as we continue to serve thru Jesus Christ.

Our congregation is looking forward to future growth and service. We have begun a Vision Task Force to develop our Mission Statement, seek the needs of the Church and Community, and then do our best to address the needs as lead by God's Holy Spirit. We ask that you include us in your prayers for the new and freshness of what God is doing and will continue to do in our congregation.

**Week of June 7**

**POV Committees, Work Groups, and Teams**

Church Planting  
Church Transformation  
Coaching Team.  
Council  
Disaster Response Team  
Lay Pastor  
Leadership Institute  
Leadership Transition Team  
Ministry (COM)  
Mission Partnership

Nominating  
Permanent Judicial Commission  
Personnel  
Preparation for Ministry  
Representation  
Response  
Search Committee  
Stewardship  
Trustees

**Week of June 14**

**Union Bethel, Patoka**

**Rev. Ralph Walters**

Union Bethel is a small rural church on Highway 65, 9 miles northeast of Princeton. We are served by a retired Presbyterian minister who, at 92 years of age, still wants to serve further. We have about 15 members and have an average of 8-10 who attend each week. We are small but faithful.

**Week of June 21**

**Main Street, Petersburg**

**Rev. Boyd Heldring**

On January 11th, 2009, the Main Street Presbyterian Church in Petersburg held a Dedication Service and Reception, dedicating our newly renovated sanctuary and other gifts. We were privileged to have Lorna Kuyk, Executive Presbyter, participate in this service. Our pews have been refinished and padded. Last fall we purchased a new Steinway piano. Our sanctuary is beautiful and we are very humble for some generous gifts that have allowed us this privilege.

In May of 2007, Rev. Boyd Heldring, our new Pastor arrived. Our attendance has continued to climb and good things are happening. We now have a youth group on Tuesday nights with 25-30 youth of all ages attending. Some of our prior members have rejoined us, and we have new members. Eleven went on a mission trip to New Orleans last summer. This is a dream come true to have our church so active. We praise and thank God for our many blessings as we strive to do His work.

**Week of June 28**

**Brown County Fellowship, Nashville**

**Rev. Scott Seay**

(Prayer information for BCF will appear in the listing for the next quarter.)