

Presbytery Prayer Partners

July 2023

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. Items listed below have been sent to us from the churches and organizations on our prayer list for the weeks shown. Sharing prayers with each other works!

Week of July 2nd

Churches searching for Pastoral Leadership

At any given time in our presbytery, several congregations are in search of installed pastoral leadership through the work of a PNC (pastor nominating committee). Other sessions are searching for part-time stated supply pastors. Still others are exploring the type of pastoral leadership that will best help them be in ministry to one another and their communities. Please pray for discernment for all involved in the search for pastoral leadership, for those pastors searching for a new call, and for the committee on ministry and presbytery staff that help guide congregations and pastors through times of transition.

Week of July 9th

United Presbyterian Church, Scipio

Rev. Amy Artis

For 191 years the Scipio Presbyterian Church has faithfully served as a physical landmark in the community with its red brick building on the hill. Even as the church struggles with declining membership and resources, she continues to also be a spiritual landmark for the community. Monthly mission projects, prayer walks around the community and school as well as participating in the community Trunk or Treat are just a few ways the church serves as a spiritual landmark. We ask for prayers as we continue to strive to remain faithful to our mission to serve God and the community.

Week of July 16th

First Presbyterian Church, Scottsburg

Rev. Don Summerfield

First Presbyterian Church of Scottsburg continues to be a spiritually alive, missionally engaged and demographically challenged congregation of 40 members. Covid brought challenges we never anticipated, but also challenged us to more innovation in our worship by, among other things, our creating a Facebook live stream and broadcasting to the parking lot, both of which are used by members and friends of the church. Along with our ongoing mission work with our people outside and inside our walls, we are currently engaged with The Presbyterian Foundation in "Project Regeneration." The initial steps of which are studying our finances for them to review, assessing our buildings and campus, and

studying a book called Sailboat Church. This is, for us, a church wide read with a study group following worship lead by the Church Life Team for each of the 10 chapters. This will be followed by 40 days of prayer and discernment leading us to next steps. We would appreciate the Presbytery's prayers that God will continue to open the path toward a fruitful, inviting and sustainable ministry for us.

Week of July 23rd

First Presbyterian Church, Seymour

Rev. Scott Hookey

First Presbyterian is a congregation of approximately 110 members. We offer both a Sunday morning worship service in English and a Sunday afternoon Spanish language service. In the fall of 2022, we opened a diaper pantry which serves residents of Jackson County. We have an active children's ministry which includes participation in worship, mission projects, and fellowship. We continue to seek ways to serve God in Seymour and beyond.

Week of July 30th

Spencer Presbyterian Church, Spencer

Spencer Presbyterian Church, the little stone church with the big red doors, has been a part of this community since the 1870's. The current sanctuary is a Swiss-inspired design offered as a gift from Calvin Fletcher Jr., an early Spencer resident. Our members have a food pantry which reaches several hundred people each month, and a special outreach for needs to the three elementary schools. Our church and its buildings offer meeting places for various groups around Owen County. Our members volunteer their time for many projects, including spiritual (such as Emmaus walks), and meeting needs (SAWS, which offers housing access for those in need).