

Presbytery Prayer Partners

August 2025

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 August 3rd

Spencer Presbyterian Church, Spencer

Elder Ron Strohe

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).

Week of August 10th

First Presbyterian Church, Sullivan

Our First Presbyterian Church is a hometown church just off the city square in the small town of Sullivan, Indiana. We continue to serve our weekly meal at Community Kitchen which is needed now more than ever. The church has been doing this for the past 25 years, with just a small break during the Covid pandemic. First Presbyterian is small enough that we all know one another and what is going on in each other's lives. When needed, we help each other out. Our membership is small, mighty, and always present in the community.

Week of August 17th

Central Presbyterian Church, Terre Haute

Central Presbyterian of Terre Haute retains its downtown presence as we support local mission through Manna from Seven, multiple community shelters, and a mission team to minister to those who come to our doors. In this time of pastoral transition, our dedicated staff and volunteers share the love of Christ in the congregation and the community through continuing our worship service YouTube broadcasts, educational, musical, and fellowship activities, youth programs, and outreach. We are grateful to those who have and will visit our pulpit and we look forward to celebrating our 200th birthday in 2028.

Week of August 24th

Unity Presbyterian Church, Terre Haute

Rev. Alan Finnan

Unity Presbyterian Church is in the midst of a renaissance and we welcome the prayers and support of the Presbytery and its congregations as we seek to clearly discern the vision God intends for us. Nearing the end of our strategic plan, our Session, with the help of congregation members, is beginning the process of revising and reimagining the goals of our plan to carry us further toward our mission of nurturing a caring environment that encourages spiritual exploration and personal growth. Over the past five years, God has blessed us to be able to do the following:

- Create an outdoor sanctuary on our spacious property through the clearing of invasive species that overtook our campus
- Build an outdoor pavilion for church and community use
- Plant a 40-tree orchard to help provide fresh apples and pears for our food pantry families and our community
- Construct a playground that is handicap accessible
- Install a new digital sign to help advertise the amazing things God has done for us
- Refine and document the best practices we use to effectively manage the various ministries of our church

Having completed a great deal of internal improvements, Unity has not forgotten to engage with our community. Participating in numerous community activities, we are working to make our name known so everyone we interact with can see we are dedicated to cultivating a truly welcoming, equitable, and inclusive body of believers within our church. We are currently in a period of transition, looking for a new Pastor. God has blessed us with excellent bridge leadership to help us with this process. Our congregation is dreaming big about our future and we welcome prayers of encouragement and support from the Presbytery of the Ohio Valley and its congregations as we continue to follow where the Holy Spirit is leading.

Week of August 31st

Presbyterian Seminaries

O God, you are the giver of life and new life.

Each of us longs to draw close to you, and to see our lives transformed in the image of Jesus Christ; come and make all things new.

Our seminaries need your presence to become wise, able to discern your vision for ministry in this changing world; come and make all things new.

Renew your churches with servants and leaders, that all may participate in your great purposes in the world you so love; come and make all things new.

Amen.

*Prayer by Dr. Gary Hansen, author of **Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers***