



## Northminster Presbyterian Church

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### Daily Prayers

*Week of January 25-29, 2021*



God,

You once tore open the heavens and descended as a dove  
upon Jesus and a dirty river full of repentant people.

I don't want to tell you how to do your job, but now would be a good time  
to tear open the heaven and send down that dove again.

**Send your Holy Spirit to stir up repentance in your people:**

Who would rather double down than admit we were wrong  
Who fill with pride at being one of the few who “know the real truth”  
Who only manage to point to others and never ourselves

**Send your Holy Spirit to comfort your people:**

Who are grieving our dead  
Whose rightful rage might be corroding the edges of our hearts  
Who have had to break up with abusers or draw boundaries with unstable people  
Who have joyous news they feel they cannot share  
Who are trying to still love those who voted differently than themselves  
Who literally or figuratively find themselves sweeping up the detritus of others’  
racism, violence, and ignorance.

**Send down that dove, Lord, but help us look to the needs of our neighbor  
and not to the escape hatch of heaven to find her. Amen.**

*Excerpt from Baptism of Our Lord/Insurrection in the midst of a pandemic*

## ***Monday***

### **For the people of the congregation:**

Jay and Jill Hudson; Joni Hughes; Sharon Hunt; Jeff and Abby Hunter and Anne Weinheimer; Corinne Imboden and Raymond Keuhlthau

### **For those dealing with injury or illness:**

JoEllen Clark; Troy Hill; Brenda Reed; Lyle Williams, bother of Clarice Stegall; Nancy Hammes and Roy Griffith, sister and brother of Leona Melton; Erin Bristow; Matt Glant, son of Susan Glant

### **For those grieving the loss of:**

Richard Thompson, brother of Judy Thorpe;  
Mary Ann Boone, mother of Cheryl Plunkett

### **For our missions:**

Theological Education

### **For this local community:**

Oxbow Neighborhood Association

### **For the churches in our Presbytery – their leaders, members and mission:**

Rushville-Trinity

### **From the World Council of Churches ([oikoumene.org](http://oikoumene.org)):**

African Church of the Holy Spirit

### **Those who are helping with the health emergency:**

Doctors, nurses, therapists, all hospital personnel, nursing home caregivers, pharmacists, grocery store employees, social workers, EMTs, firefighters, and police officers.

### **Those who are struggling during the health emergency:**

Small business owners and employees, restaurant owners and employees, those suffering financially, the vulnerable elderly, the isolated, the anxious, and those whose medical treatment has been postponed, charitable organizations in Indiana and elsewhere who are closing fundraising events, students and teachers.

### **Our church staff and leadership:**

Dave Smazik; Tim McElroy, John Wright

## ***Tuesday***

### **For the people of the congregation:**

Janet and David Ingram; Cheryl Jacklin and John Buckley;  
Kent and Mari Ann Jackson; Margi Jahns; Nancy and Ray Jarrell

### **For those dealing with chronic illness or long-term treatment:**

Jack Mart; Cathryn Siegrist; Barb Jones; Sandy Frankovitz; Bill Siegrist; Ellen Williams;  
Teresa Siegrist; Chris Ellington; Jackie Schmidt; Terri Hubbard; Jim Mann; Bill Dynes;  
Major Rhodes; Kelly Stanley; Kim Leech; David Parsley; Jodi Sprague; Becka Snider;  
Yumi Perkins; Mary Tarbell; Scott Newman; Suzan Stoops;  
Greg Hardesty; Weimer Hicks

### **For our missions:**

Day of Caring

### **For this local community:**

Midtown Indianapolis Neighborhood Association

### **For the churches in our Presbytery – their leaders, members and mission:**

Shelbyville-First

### **From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook of Prayer:**

The COVID-19 pandemic is growing rapidly in Indonesia, which has one of the highest number of cases in Asia. Mission worker Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta teaches as Duta Wacana Christian University, helping prepare Christian leaders to serve the church in the world's largest Muslim country. She is the founder and director of the House of Authentic Sense, a community-based cooperative of village entrepreneurs from throughout the province of Yogyakarta. The co-op practices principles of economic justice—a place where community members help each other build businesses and save money. It brings together Muslims, Christians and people of diverse economic and educational backgrounds to collaborate in grassroots poverty elimination and advocacy for a just and peaceful society. Through the co-op, members learn skills and build businesses around food processing, batik making, goat milk processing, organic tea cultivation and more. Microenterprises provide women and men with livelihoods. HAS has been especially important during the pandemic. Just ask Suko Hadi. The co-op stepped in to buy his tea at a time when there were no buyers because long-distance transportation was shut down. The co-op also gave Hadi a small loan to keep his business afloat.

### **From the World Council of Churches ([oikoumene.org](http://oikoumene.org)):**

Baptist Association of El Salvador

### **Our church staff and leadership:**

Ruth Moore, Denise Harrington, Nancy Sala

## ***Wednesday***

### **For the people of the congregation:**

Joe Jasiak; Karalea, Emmett and Penelope Jasiak;  
Amy, Sophie, Samuel and Benjamin Johnson; Emi Johnson; Pat Johnson

### **For our missions:**

Back-to-School Extravaganza

### **For this local community:**

Meridian Hills Neighborhood Association

### **For the churches in our Presbytery – their leaders, members and mission:**

Tipton-First

### **From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook of Prayer:**

As June turned to July, Immanuel Presbyterian Church in LA's Mid-Wilshire/Koreatown area, was running out of space to store food for its direct food service to people in need that had skyrocketed from 120 households a week to more than 2,000 a week. At one point they jerry-rigged cooling ducts in a hallway to create improvised, cold storage. The church leaders cast their eyes on its Westminster Chapel. Immanuel's Session approved removing the pews. By 4 o'clock that afternoon, half the pews were gone. Electrical outlets in the chapel were converted to accommodate the needs of refrigerator equipment, and other modifications were made to the facility so that it can help the community experiencing health and economic calamities. In an application for a Congregational Emergency Food Grant from the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the church detailed its direct food service going from one morning a week, serving around 120 families to six days a week, serving 1,700 in addition to regular clientele – primarily people who were homeless, low-income, immigrant and elderly—the church was seeing more people who were gainfully employed just a few weeks before the pandemic too hold. Most households being served were between four and nine people. "It's heartbreaking to serve people who have never stood in food lines before." Volunteers practice social distancing. The staff and volunteers know the risks, but they see this as an essential service. Immanuel partners with other churches in the Presbytery of the Pacific's Homelessness and Housing Task Force.

### **From the World Council of Churches(oikoumene.org):**

Christian Evangelical Church in Minahasa

### **Our church staff and leadership:**

Susan Glant, Melissa Hopkins, Lori Schlabach

## ***Thursday***

### **For the people of the congregation:**

Paul Johnson; Susie and Jerry Johnson; Jim Jordan;  
John and Susan Karpicke; Ivo and Mary Kask; Lynne Keene

### **For those who are especially homebound:**

Marge Ashby, Diantha DeGraw, Mary Garrett, Mary Kask

### **For our missions:**

Exodus Refugee Immigration

### **For this local community:**

Dawnbury-Keystone Neighborhood Association

### **For the churches in our Presbytery – their leaders, members and mission:**

Westfield-Crossroads

### **From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook of Prayer:**

When Stonewall Ministries, Palm Springs, California, decided to use money received from the Presbytery of Riverside to purchase radio ads on KGAY, the Pride of the Valley, Nathan Sobers, organizing pastor, had the idea he'd have a weekly show exploring spirituality and social justice. Sobers was simply trying to get the word out about Stonewall Ministries, one of the PC(USA)'s 1001 New Worshiping Communities. As the leadership team debated the value of buying radio ad time, younger members asked, "Who listens to radio anymore, anyway?" Sobers told them the majority of gay people in the area were in their 40s and 50s and older and that they did in fact still listen to the radio. "And about half the residents here over 55 identify as LGBTQ+," Sobers said. The radio ads led to the morning host at KGAY attending a service and beginning discussions on the radio about spirituality and now social justice and the gospel. "One of the most interesting and satisfying results is that I've become the unofficial chaplain to not only the staff at the radio station, but the local drag community," Sobers said. "Our mission at Stonewall is healing wounds. So many of us in the LGBTQ+ community were either kicked out of or left the church over sexual orientation or gender expression."

### **From the World Council of Churches ([oikoumene.org](http://oikoumene.org)):**

Evangelical Church of Anhalt

### **Our church staff and leadership:**

Carol McDonald, Marko Petričić, Jonathan Petersen

## ***Friday***

### **For the people of the congregation:**

Kate, Emily and Sarah Keesling and Michelle Knibbs;  
Kristin, Steve, Gabe and Caroline Keltner; Mick and Elle Keppler

### **For those going through a difficult time:**

Tom and Gail Fields family, friends of Robin Litel;  
Hartsalas family, friends of Lori Schlabach

### **For our missions:**

General Assembly Mission Programs

### **For this local community:**

North Kessler Park Neighborhood Association

### **For the churches in our Presbytery – their leaders, members and mission:**

Winchester-First

### **From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook of Prayer:**

Charles and Melissa Johnson serve as mission co-workers in Zambia. Now sheltering place in Atlanta at Mission Haven, short-term housing for mission co-workers, they are busy staying connected to partners, supporting churches and finding that sense of community in new places. The Johnsons serve in Zambia at the invitation of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian Zambia Synod, working to expand the Church's efforts in its holistic ministry of community development, food security and improved health. Charles serves as a development specialist and Melissa is a health education program facilitator. Charles has been working via WhatsApp in areas such as harvest of crops at Chasefu and construction of a storage facility. Melissa has helped with the rollout of a new strategy for Days for Girls, an international health and hygiene program. Melissa has also worked to craft a proposal to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help provide COVID-19 brochures and education, handwashing stations in some of the most vulnerable families and PPE and sanitation supplies for rural health centers. "We are still doing the work that is important to us," said Charles. "It's just a little more difficult right now."

### **From the World Council of Churches ([oikoumene.org](http://oikoumene.org)):**

Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga

### **Our Leadership:**

Session, Deacons, Trustees, Stephen Ministers, E -Team, Christian Ed Team, Mission Team, Personnel Committee, Congregational Life Team, Worship Team, Pipe Organ Task Force, Foundation, Support Team (Finance, Building & Grounds, Stewardship), Pastors, Support Staff, the congregation