

Presbytery of Whitewater Valley

Saturday, February 6, 2021

*Please submit requests for new business via Chat to Stated Clerk Terry Epling by 10:30*

10:00 A.M.

Convene and Call to Order	Ruling Elder Mike Whitfield, Moderator
Opening Prayer	Ruling Elder Mike Whitfield, Moderator
Approval of Docket	Ruling Elder Mike Whitfield, Moderator
Consent Agenda (approval of minutes)	Ruling Elder Mike Whitfield, Moderator
Stated Clerk's Report	Rev. Terry Epling, Stated Clerk
ACTION: Seating of Corresponding Members	Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter
New and Transitioning Teaching Elders	Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter

Receipt of Final Reports from Administrative Commissions of the Presbytery

- Administrative Commission for Nueva Creacion New Worshiping Community (Ruling Elder Bernice Cole, Ruling Elder Ron Fisher, Teaching Elder Bob Heimach, Teaching Elder Eric Lohe)  
ACTION: Adopt Recommendations and Dismiss Administrative Commission with gratitude
- Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Greenfield (Ruling Elder Dan Riley, Ruling Elder Linda Rinker, Teaching Elder Dena Vittorio, Ruling Elder Bill Wheeler, Teaching Elder Shelly Wood)  
ACTION: Adopt Recommendations and Dismiss Administrative Commission with gratitude
- Administrative Commission for Ebenezer Presbyterian Church of Lewisville (Ruling Elder Dan Riley, Ruling Elder Linda Rinker, Teaching Elder Dena Vittorio, Ruling Elder Bill Wheeler, Teaching Elder Shelly Wood)  
ACTION: Adopt Recommendations and Dismiss Administrative Commission with gratitude

## **Prayer of Blessing**

Eternal God, whom the highest heaven cannot contain, much less a building made by hands, hear our prayer. For the Church universal, of which the congregations of First Presbyterian Church of Greenfield and Ebenezer Presbyterian Church have been a symbol, we give you thanks. For all the saints who, in times past, formed these congregations and offered their prayers and praise to you, we give you thanks. For those who have been made your children by adoption and grace, who in this place were cleansed of sin, buried with Christ in the waters of baptism, and raised to new and eternal life, we give you thanks. For your presence whenever your Word was proclaimed and your sacramental gifts of bread and wine and water were received, we give you thanks. For all came to ask your blessing in marriage, seeking to love with your love, we give you thanks. For all who gathered in these congregations, having lived this life in faith, and who now live eternally with you, we give you thanks. For the knowledge that your church will continue today, tomorrow, and forever, we praise you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, I declare that the congregations of First Presbyterian Church of Greenfield and Ebenezer Presbyterian Church are now dissolved.

## **From the Coordinating Council Commission**

- **Report of the Committee on Representation**  
**ACTION: Election of Ruling Elder Martha McDonald to the Commission on Ministry, Class of 2022 and of Ruling Elder Jason Knapp to serve as a Commissioner to the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Class of 2023**
- **Nominee for the Committee on Representation (Ruling Elder Bill Werling of Grace Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne)**  
**ACTION: Election of individual presented by Coordinating Council**

## **From the Commission on Ministry**

- **ACTION: Election of Administrative Commission for the Dissolution of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis with the powers, authority and responsibility for pastoral care for the congregation, and in consultation with the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery and/or the Presbytery's legal representative, to file Articles of Dissolution and other appropriate documents with the state of Indiana, to secure legal rights to the property and see to its disposition, and to secure and complete Session and financial records.**
  - **Teaching Elder Shawn Coons, Fairview Presbyterian**
  - **Ruling Elder Terrie Cross Gray, Witherspoon Presbyterian**
  - **Ruling Elder Mae Leech, Northminster Presbyterian**
  - **Ruling Elder Patty McKinnon, John Knox Presbyterian**
  - **Teaching Elder Deb Mitchell, at-large**

**From the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and the Commission on Ministry**

- **Ordination Examination of Jillian Flynn, candidate under care of Whitewater Valley Presbytery and the Session of John Knox Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis**  
**ACTION: Sustain the Examination and Approve for Ordination**

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

**LAMENT AND HOPE**

The past months have been filled with stress, anxiety, and grief. What are the laments you have been carrying?

The future months offer challenges, opportunities, and possibilities. What are the hopes that have been carrying you?

In addition to presbytery business in the morning, a panel consisting of Rev. Sara Dingman, Executive of the Synod of Lincoln Trails; Rev. David Chaddock, Executive Director of Center Point Counseling Center; and Rev. Glen Bell, Vice President of the Presbyterian Foundation will address issues related to planning for the months ahead by addressing the challenges, opportunities, and possibilities of leadership, self-care, and finance. The panel presentation will be followed by virtual break-out groups in Zoom.

- Leadership opportunities with Rev. Sara Dingman
- Self-care strategies with Rev. David Chaddock
- Financial plans with Rev. Glen Bell

Presbytery worship will be a virtual expression of both lament and hope. A link for the worship service will be made available separately.

**The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley's Administrative Commission for the New Worshiping Community Nueva Creacion of Indianapolis met virtually on Tuesday, December 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Alan Thames opened with prayer**

**Commission members present included: Ruling Elder Bernice Cole, Ruling Elder Ron Fisher, Teaching Elder Bob Heimach, Teaching Elder Eric Lohe  
Present to represent the Presbytery were Ruling Elder Barry Sumner from the Hispanic Ministries Lead Team and Executive Presbyter Alan Thames.**

**The Commission last met in December 2018 as Rev. Hector Hernandez was concluding his ministry with Nueva Creacion and preparations were made to integrate the worshiping community of Nueva Creacion with a neighboring Disciples of Christ congregation, Iglesia Hermandad Cristiana. At that time, the Commission took action to provide funding to Iglesia Hermandad of \$2000 per month for a period of two years, at which time the Commission would evaluate how best to disburse any remaining funds.**

**Financial Consultant for the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, Eric Herzog, reported through Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter, that about \$38,000 remained in funds originally designated for Nueva Creacion.**

**Bob Heimach moved and Eric Lohe seconded the following:**

- **Iglesia Hermandad would receive a total of \$18,000 in 2021, payable as follows: \$2000 per month (January – June) and \$1000 per month (July – December)**
- **Remaining funds would be divided equally and given**
  1. **as a gift to Amistad Cristiana, Fort Wayne**
  2. **as an investment in other new worshiping communities of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley through the Promise of Tomorrow fund administered by the Coordinating Council of the Presbytery**

**MOTION PASSED.**

**With this final resolution of funds, the Administrative Commission for Nueva Creacion asks that it be dissolved by action of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. and Ron Fisher closed the meeting with prayer.**

**Report of the Administrative Commission  
First Presbyterian Church, Greenfield, Indiana  
Whitewater Valley Presbytery**

For the purpose of dissolving the First Presbyterian Church, Greenfield, Indiana, the Whitewater Valley Presbytery appointed an Administrative Commission to act on Presbytery's behalf, effective February 8, 2020 with the following powers and functions for the purpose of dissolving the congregation in a timeframe required to complete the work:

- Meet and consult with the Session to facilitate the work of the Commission;
- to arrange for the pastoral care of the members;
- to publicize the dissolution of the congregation;
- to ascertain the financial status and outstanding financial obligations of the congregation, secure the Session records and, as determined by the commission, secure the legal rights to all property (real or personal) held by or for the benefit of the congregation;
- to dispose of the moveable personal property of the congregation, secure the building and property, attend to matters of insurance, dispose of the building and grounds, or convey the building and grounds to The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, Inc.;
- to recommend to the Presbytery the use of the assets of the congregation;
- to assure that a Service of Witness is conducted and to participate in that service and to determine the date of dissolution;
- to secure the assistance of other individuals as appropriate to assist with its work, and generally to do such things and take such actions in the name of and on behalf of Whitewater Valley Presbytery, as shall be reasonably necessary to accomplish the general purpose of this resolution; all other business and actions related to the dissolution of the congregation;
- at the conclusion of its work, a written report and actions of the Administrative Commission will be presented to the Presbytery Assembly and the Administrative Commission will be dismissed.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Greenfield acted to recommend the dissolution of the congregation November 3, 2019 and, at a congregational meeting December 8, 2019 the congregation approved an action to move forward with the dissolution.

The following is a summary of our work:

Due to the nature of 2020 and the Covid-19 virus pandemic the majority of the committee work was conducted using zoom, e-mail, and telephone. The committee was unable to gather together in person after February and was unsure how to proceed during March.

The Commission met with members of the Session on May 5 via zoom. The meeting was moderated by the Rev. Gretchen Schneider, moderator of the First Presbyterian Session. The purpose was to ascertain the status of and to plan for the congregation's pending closure. Due to Covid the congregation was not regularly meeting.

- A final service on Sunday, June 28 and then dissolve the congregation.
- A letter to all the members of the congregation detailing the closure will be sent.
- The status of all members would be verified and documented. There are 29 members on the rolls.

- Disposition of the furnishings of the church and items given to the church as memorials are to be decided by the Session. High value items should be appraised.
- Financial obligations, reports, and documentation were clarified
- Membership will be held at Presbytery and transfers facilitated for one year following closure
- All session and congregational records not archived at Hanover would be turned over to Presbytery following the final service in July.
- Gretchen Schneider will provide pastoral services and moderate session through the closing.

Due to Covid many of these plans changed. The final service was Sunday, July 12.

### **Real and Personal Property**

Located at 116 W. South St., Greenfield

- The church property was appraised at \$140,000.
- The commission contacted two local realtors for credentials and potential listings.
- An adjacent business owned by Joyner Homes, a residential real estate developer and builder, expressed interest in the property. After touring the building, Joyner submitted a letter of interest on July 29
- On September 8, we received an offer of \$125,000. The commission voted to accept the offer on September 9.
- As part of the closing process an inspection was performed. This inspection presented several previously unknown issues. The buyer and the commission agreed to an amended offer of \$85,000 on October 23. The transaction closed on November 11.
- Several items were donated to Calvary Baptist Church, Boy Scout Troop 70, Love, Inc., Riley Friends Church, Greenfield Friends Church, Shiloh Christian Church, Kenneth Butler Soup Kitchen, Hancock County Historical Society, Christ Presbyterian Church, Bethel Baptist Church, Curry's Chapel UMC, and Goodwill Industries.
- Dishes and other miscellaneous items were consigned to Trusty Auction Service.
- Some office furnishings chairs and table remained with the building.
- Other items were disposed of by a trash service.

### **Records**

As various aspects of the Commission took place, the ongoing needs of record-keeping, bill-paying, and membership transfers continued to be addressed.

### **Members**

The First Presbyterian Church, Greenfield, reported in their 2018 Annual Statistical Report a membership of 29. At the time of their final worship service on June 28, 2020, it was reported that an average worship attendance was averaging approximately 12 members.

1. The records of the congregation will be permanently archived with the Presbyterian Historical Society.
2. The complete list of members in good standing have been received by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery and, at their request and for a period of year, their membership may be transferred to another congregation as provided by the Book of Order G-3.0301c

### **Finances**

All bills were paid and the checking and savings balance of \$512.29 were transferred to Presbytery in October. The proceeds of the sale of the \$82,136.25 net of expense have been received by Presbytery.

**It is now recommended that the funds be disbursed as follows:**

The remaining balance of \$82,648.54 should be used by the Presbytery for its various purposes with approval by the Coordinating Council Commission of the Presbytery.

We wish to thank Executive Alan Thames, Stated Clerk Kristy Quinn, Eric Herzog, and First Clerk of Session for their assistance to the commission. We are honored to have served as members of the administrative commission of Whitewater Valley Presbytery and pray that we have done His will in our process.

Daniel Riley, Moderator  
Dr. William Wheeler, Clerk  
Linda Rinker  
Rev. Shelly Wood.  
Rev. Dena Vittorio

On behalf of the entire First Presbyterian Church, Greenfield, Administrative Commission.

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Daniel Riley, Moderator

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Dr. William Wheeler, Clerk

**Report of the Administrative Commission  
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Lewisville, Indiana  
Whitewater Valley Presbytery**

For the purpose of dissolving the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Lewisville, Indiana, the Whitewater Valley Presbytery appointed an Administrative Commission to act on Presbytery's behalf, effective February 8, 2020 with the following powers and functions for the purpose of dissolving the congregation in a timeframe required to complete the work:

- Meet and consult with the Session to facilitate the work of the Commission;
- to arrange for the pastoral care of the members;
- to publicize the dissolution of the congregation;
- to ascertain the financial status and outstanding financial obligations of the congregation, secure the Session records and, as determined by the commission, secure the legal rights to all property (real or personal) held by or for the benefit of the congregation;
- to dispose of the moveable personal property of the congregation, secure the building and property, attend to matters of insurance, dispose of the building and grounds, or convey the building and grounds to The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, Inc.;
- to recommend to the Presbytery the use of the assets of the congregation;
- to assure that a Service of Witness is conducted and to participate in that service and to determine the date of dissolution;
- to secure the assistance of other individuals as appropriate to assist with its work, and generally to do such things and take such actions in the name of and on behalf of Whitewater Valley Presbytery, as shall be reasonably necessary to accomplish the general purpose of this resolution; all other business and actions related to the dissolution of the congregation;
- at the conclusion of its work, a written report and actions of the Administrative Commission will be presented to the Presbytery Assembly and the Administrative Commission will be dismissed.

The following is a summary of our work:

Due to the nature of 2020 and the Covid-19 virus pandemic the majority of the committee work was conducted using zoom, e-mail, and telephone. The committee was unable to gather together in person after February and was unsure how to proceed during March.

The congregation of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church met on Sunday December 15, 2019 to discuss the potential closing of the church. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Alan McCraine. After discussion the congregation voted to continue meeting until June 20, 2020 and then close.

The Commission met with members of the Ebenezer Session on April 14 via zoom. The purpose was to ascertain the status of the congregation's pending closure. Due to Covid the congregation was not regularly meeting.

- A final service on Sunday, July 5 and celebrate the history of church with a dinner following the service.
- A letter to all the members of the congregation detailing the closure will be sent.
- The status of all members would be verified and documented.
- Documentation of the separation of church property from the adjacent cemetery would be provided

- Financial obligations, reports, and documentation were clarified
- Membership will be held at Presbytery and transfers facilitated for one year following closure
- Members or families who purchased memorial gifts will be offered an opportunity to receive them. A Clairanova (electronic piano) will be given to Lewisville Presbyterian Church.
- All session and congregational records not archived at Hanover would be turned over to Presbytery following the final service in July.
- Alan McCrain will provide pastoral services through the closing.

Due to Covid many of these plans changed. The final service was Sunday, June 28, 2020.

### **Real and Personal Property**

Bentonville Christian Church lost their building in a windstorm and was contemplating rebuilding their church when they learned that Ebenezer was closing. Gary Cole, Ebenezer Clerk of Session, discussed the possibility with the Commission. Bentonville held a service in June at Ebenezer.

A written offer was presented on June 29.

- The purchase offer was at the appraisal price of \$60,000.
- The building would be used for Christian worship.
- Bentonville would be allowed to hold worship services at the building until the closing.
- No other offers were anticipated.
- All furnishings of Ebenezer with the exception of the Clarinova and a drawing were given to Bentonville by Ebenezer's congregation.

The Commission and Presbytery clarified language in the offer and it was accepted by Bentonville.

The property closed on September 23, 2020.

### **Records**

As various aspects of the Commission took place, the ongoing needs of record-keeping, bill-paying, and membership transfers continued to be addressed.

### **Members**

The Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Lewisville, reported in their 2018 Annual Statistical Report a membership of **16**. At the time of their final worship service on June 28, 2020, it was reported that an average worship attendance was averaging approximately 8 members.

1. The records of the congregation will be permanently archived with the Presbyterian Historical Society.
2. The complete list of members in good standing have been received by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery and, at their request and for a period of year, their membership may be transferred to another congregation as provided by the Book of Order G-3.0301c

### **Finances**

All bills were paid and the checking and savings balance of \$21,059.69 were transferred to Presbytery in October. The proceeds of the sale of the \$59,590 net of expense have been received by Presbytery. The Session of Ebenezer recommended several charities to the Commission.

**It is now recommended that the funds be dispersed as follows:**

Olivia Rebecca Waggoner Memorial	\$2,000
The Guest House - Men's Homeless Shelter	\$8,000
Manna World Wide	\$2,000
Ebenezer Cemetery Association	\$8,000
Henry Co pregnancy Care	\$ 500
Safe at Home	\$ 500
Brianna's Hope	\$ 500
Knightstown Food Pantry/ United Methodist Church	\$ 500
Salvation Army	\$ 500
Westminster Committee Center	\$ 500
Rock Steady Boxing	\$ 500
Mike Warner Scholarship Fund	\$ 500
Wilbur Wright Elementary School	<u>\$ 500</u>
Total	\$24,500

The remaining balance of \$56,149.69 should be used by the Presbytery for its various purposes.

We wish to thank Executive Alan Thames, Stated Clerk Kristy Quinn, Eric Herzog, and Ebenezer Clerk of Session for their assistance to the commission. We are honored to have served as members of the administrative commission of Whitewater Valley Presbytery and pray that we have done His will in our process.

Daniel Riley, Moderator  
Dr. William Wheeler, Clerk  
Linda Rinker  
Rev. Shelly Wood.  
Rev. Dena Vittorio

On behalf of the entire Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Lewisville, Administrative Commission.

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Daniel Riley, Moderator

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Dr. William Wheeler, Clerk

**From the Committee on Representation**

**Commissioner to the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Class of 2023**

- **Ruling Elder Jason Knapp (First Presbyterian Church of Anderson)**

**Commission on Ministry, vacancy in Class of 2022**

- **Ruling Elder Martha McDonald (Irvington Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis)**

**From the Coordinating Council Commission**

**Member of the Committee on Representation, Class of 2026**

- **Ruling Elder Bill Werling (Grace Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne)**

I believe in one God existing beyond humanity in three forms: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In this way, God exemplifies perfection in relationships. I believe that though God grows and changes, suffers and rejoices with God's people, God's character and essence remains immutable and unchangeable.

I believe in the all-knowing and omnipresent Father who creates. In this creation, God made humanity co-creators on earth. God the creator can bring forth joy out of chaos when evil enters, but God does not bring the evil forth. God does not force Godself on people, but instead invites them into communion with Godself. I believe God saves people through unexplainable grace. I believe God gave His one and only Son so that our sins can be forgiven and we can have eternal life with Him. I believe God was, God is, and God forever will be. I believe God lives through all of us.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the Virgin Mary. I believe Jesus came to earth to save creation by reminding people of the call to love. Jesus was fully human and fully God. Jesus redeemed humanity through birth, by teaching, serving, dying, and rising again. He walked this earth and shared a message of grace intended for all people. He was perfect, the tangible God for all to see and grow in faith, expressing human emotions. I believe Jesus suffered for us and his grace was sufficient for all sin, past and present. I believe he died on the cross and then conquered death through his resurrection.

I believe the Holy Spirit is God living within all of us, serving as the giver of life. I believe the Holy Spirit is God present in our lives, at all times, equal with the Father and Son. The Holy Spirit exists as the inspiration for faith, a feeling of God's grace within us, which enlightens our path and sets us apart from other creatures. The Holy Spirit serves as the foundation for the community of believers.

I believe in the Church universal which connects believers through God's Spirit. The Church exists beyond the bounds of a building, so that it can serve not just itself, but the community as a whole. In this way, the Church is a holy place, intended to share the message of grace with any person, and the Church serves as the hands of God here on earth. I believe scripture is God's teaching to be read aloud and also in private to help guide us and renew our faith. The scriptures are lessons from our ancestors, accounts of the revelations they had with God.

The sacraments are visible examples of God's continued work in and with humanity. In communion, God renews the Church as a community, uniting all believers. The bread and wine are metaphors for the spiritual nourishment one receives from Christ through grace. I believe baptism is an intentional acknowledgement of the claim God has on all people, and the promise for others to support and guide one another in faith. Baptism is a resurrection for sinners as they accept God's invitation for an everlasting relationship.

I believe in a God who forgives, not condemns. God is a God of compassion and love. I believe God builds us up, and it is my calling to show God's love to others, since God has first loved me. I believe I am here to serve and not to judge, and should do my best to walk as Jesus did, working for justice, peace, and reconciliation in the world.

## Presbytery Worship

February 6, 2021

### A Service of Lament and Hope

**This Taize' style service is marked by moments of silence to reflect and pray.**

**LAMENT** -- (a definition): n. a passionate expression of sorrow or grief; a song, hymn or poem of mourning v. to express sorrow, mourning, or regret aloud; to regret strongly

**Opening Hymn** O Christ, the Healer, v.1-2

Glory to God 793

O Christ, the healer, we have come  
to pray for health, to plead for friends.  
How can we fail to be restored  
when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures  
our bodies clamor to be freed;  
yet in our hearts we would confess  
that wholeness is our deepest need.

### Opening Word/Call to Worship

#### Welcome

Welcome to this service of lament, a time to express sorrow and grief,  
given to us in our faith tradition through the ages.

As Sarah lamented barrenness,

As Hagar lamented being cast out,

As Moses lamented for his people's oppression,

As Amos lamented the fall of his people from God's covenant,

As Jesus lamented over broken systems of religion and government,

We too cry, as we experience communal trauma

and share in our sorrow for God's people and all of creation.

We too gather, in light of uncertainty and fear caused by a global pandemic,  
we gather to lament.

*(time of silence)*

### **Lamentations 3:19-24. (NIV)**

I remember my affliction and my wandering,  
the bitterness and the gall.  
I well remember them,  
and my soul is downcast within me.  
Yet this I call to mind  
and therefore, I have hope:  
Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.  
They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;  
therefore I will wait for God."  
*(time of silence)*

**Hymn** O Lord, Hear My Prayer (3 Stanzas)

Glory to God 471

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,  
When I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,  
Come and listen to me.

### **Poem (by Rainer Maria Rilke)**

I love you, gentlest of Ways,  
Who ripened us as we wrestled with you.  
You, the great homesickness we could never shake off;  
You, the forest that always surrounded us;  
You, the song we sang in every silence;  
You, dark net threading through us.  
On the day you made us,  
You created yourself,  
And we grew sturdy in your sunlight.  
Let your hand rest on the rim of Heaven now  
And mutely bear the darkness we bring over you.  
*(time of silence)*

**Hymn** O Lord, Hear My Prayer (2 Stanzas)

**Psalm 4 Paraphrase** (by Stephen Mitchell)

Even in the midst of great pain, Lord,  
I praise you for that which is.  
I will not refuse this grief  
Or close myself to this anguish.  
Let shallow men pray for ease;  
'Comfort us; shield us from sorrow.'  
I pray for whatever you send me,  
And I ask to receive it as your gift.  
You have put a joy in my heart  
Greater than all the world's riches.  
I lie down trusting the darkness,  
For I know that even now,  
You are here.  
(time of silence)

**Hymn** O Lord, Hear My Prayer (2 Stanzas)

**Reflection on Labyrinth** Rev. Carol McDonald

Voices of lament and hope as we travel the labyrinth

**Hymn** O Christ, the Healer, v.4-5

Glory to God 793

In conflicts that destroy our health  
we recognize the world's disease;  
our common life declares our ills.  
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith,  
in your community may find  
the wholeness that, enriching us,  
shall reach the whole of humankind.

## **Closing Prayer**

God of life,  
there are days when the burdens we carry  
are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down,  
when the road seems dreary and endless,  
the skies gray and threatening,  
when our lives have no music in them,  
and our hearts are lonely,  
and our souls have lost their courage.

O God,  
Flood the path with light,  
turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise;  
tune our hearts to brave music;  
give us the sense of comradeship  
with heroes and saints of every age;  
and so quicken our spirits  
that we may be able to encourage  
the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life,  
to your honor and glory. **Amen.**

—Attributed to Augustine of Hippo (354–430)

## **Blessing: Numbers 6:24-26**

The Lord bless you and keep you:  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

**Closing Hymn** Wait for the Lord

Glory to God 90

Wait for the Lord,  
Whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord,  
Be strong; take heart.

**Thanks to the following participants in this worship:**

Mike Whitfield, Moderator WVP, First Presbyterian, Shelbyville  
Rev. Brian Shivers, Vice Moderator WVP, Second Presbyterian, Indianapolis  
Carla Beard, Ruling Elder & Commissioner to GA, First Presbyterian, Connersville  
Rev. Maureen Wilson, Associate Pastor, Irvington Presbyterian, Indianapolis  
Rev. Carol McDonald, Honorably Retired, Indianapolis  
Pat Payne, Ruling Elder, Witherspoon Presbyterian, Indianapolis  
Paula Means, Ruling Elder, Tabernacle Presbyterian, Indianapolis  
Rev. Kirk Johnston, Member at Large, Muncie  
LydiaGrace Espiritu-Gray, Candidate for Ordination, New Castle  
Rev. Debbie Mansell, Chaplain, IU Hospital West, Indianapolis

**Thanks to our musicians:**

Vocalist, David Fisher, Elder Commissioner, First Presbyterian, Shelbyville  
Pianist, Cynthia Morningstar, Music Director, First Presbyterian, Shelbyville  
Violin, Rev. Wally Wilson, Interim Pastor, First Presbyterian, Rushville

**Special Thanks:**

Craig Shaw, Technology & Communications, Whitewater Valley Presbytery  
Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter, Whitewater Valley Presbytery  
Dawn West, Administrative Assistant, Whitewater Valley Presbytery