



THE PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF DANVILLE

WEEKLY UPDATE  
December 24, 2025



Friends,

On Christmas Day two years ago, I woke early and made my way down the stairs of my in-laws' home in Greenville, Illinois, made myself a cup of tea, then sat in an old recliner and finished the book St Nicholas had left in one of my boots on his Day, December 6th. I am a great fan of the Roman Catholic writer, Brian Doyle, and Nicholas had left me yet another slim volume of his. I am enamored with his practice of impossibly long run-on sentences, and I'm always a little sad when I come to the end of one of his collections of short essays, and that was true on Christmas morning two years ago. I found myself reaching for my laptop, and began to compose a short meditation in his style and in his honor, as one of the saints who has gone before us. It has become one of the favorite pieces I've written over the years, and I think you might enjoy reading it this Christmastide, which is almost upon us. You can read the post [here](#). If you're unfamiliar with his writing, you can read a tribute [here](#).

If you're in town, I hope you'll join us in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm tonight for our Christmas Eve service, then return on Sunday at 10:00am for a traditional service of Lessons and Carols.

However you spend Christmas, and with whomever you spend it, may you experience some measure of the mystery and joy of the Story of the Word made flesh. And may there be plenty of brown food on your table!

The best is yet to come,

*Sean*

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## CONNECT

### NO MAH JONGG THIS FRIDAY



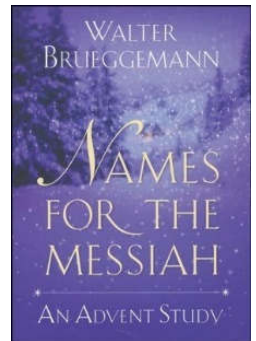
PresbyDan Mah Jongg players will not meet this Friday, December 26. We will resume on Friday, January 2 at 1:00pm in the Library.

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## LEARN

### BOOK STUDY CLASS

The adult Book Study Class will be reading *Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study*, by Walter Brueggemann, during the Advent season. Brueggemann focuses on the names given to the Messiah in Isaiah 9:6, with a short essay on each, asking what Jesus did—or did not—do to fulfill the expectations of the Old Testament writers. Our conversation begins with "Wonderful Counselor" on Sunday. The book is available from Amazon.



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## CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS



Did you know that most church committee meetings and the Stated meetings of the Session are open to members of the church? All are invited to come and see what the work of the Session and committees involves. Here is a list of upcoming scheduled meetings:

- Tuesday, January 6 - World Mission (7:00pm in the Library)
- Monday, January 12 - Facilities Committee (10:00am in the Library)
- Tuesday, January 13 - Budget and Finance Committee ( 7:00pm in the Library)
- Thursday, January 15 - Worship and Music Committee (7:00pm in the Library)
- Tuesday, January 20 – Stated Session Meeting (7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall)

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### Prayers requested for:

- John Erwin – recovering from surgery for a fractured arm
  - Mary K. Miller – discharged from Cardinal Hill following a serious car accident (stepmother of **Lydia DiMartino Ellis**)
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- Bre - experiencing very difficult circumstances (friend of **Marae Mallard**)
  - Jannice Bean - recently hospitalized with lung cancer (sister of Rev. Michael Bean, Transy Presbytery)
  - Carmel Bowman - health issues (friend of **Bo Smith**)
  - Isaac Brown (age 17) - recovering from heart transplant surgery (friend of **Casey Tibbles**)
  - Pat Carpenter - recovering from sixth colon surgery (friend of **Gayle Waddell** and **Phillip Jones**)
  - Christine DeWitt - recovering from surgery for a fractured vertebrae (mother of **Carrie Gilbert**)
  - Joanne Egge - recovering from a series of strokes (aunt of **Sara Egge**)
  - **Edward Ellis** - inconclusive medical report on an external lesion; observation only for now
  - **John Erwin** - at home recovering from chemo complications
  - Dave Evans - scheduled for hip replacement surgery (wife is Polly, friend of **AnnYager McCrosky**)
  - **Ezra Gash** - at home recovering following hospitalization with histoplasmosis
  - Lee Gladding - hospitalized with pneumonia and bacterial infection in both lungs (brother of **Sean**)
  - Police Chief, Tony Gray - scheduled for organ donor surgery
  - Ben Guerrant – taking treatment for liver cancer (friend of **Amanda England**)
  - Ann Hayes - in hospital, recently brought out of an induced coma (friends of **Jean and Eric Smith**)
  - Zack Ison - diagnosed with a brain tumor (brother of **Laura Russell**)
  - **Scott Johnson** - recovering at home after successful shoulder surgery
  - Wanda Johnson - recovering from a TIA and a fall (mother-in-law of **Scott Johnson**)
  - **Shan Kihlman** – taking rehab for back surgery at Cardinal Hill
  - Mary Koppel - in CCU at UK following a stroke (colleague of **Claire and Jeremy Johnson**)
  - Tom Lane - undergoing treatment for cancer (friend of **Jon Nicholson**)
  - **Flem Messer** - dealing with health challenges
  - Martin Pirrman - his father, Martin Pirrman, Sr. in hospice care
  - Mike Pointer - recovered from sepsis; starting radiation and chemotherapy for stage 3 lung cancer (brother of **Judith Pointer Keiser**)
  - **Jane Preston** – recovering from knee replacement surgery
  - **Sandy Reigelman** - recovering from back surgery
  - Chris Royalty – being treated for cancer (friend of **Shane** and **Amy Wilson**)
  - **Bunny Scutchfield** - recovering from surgery for a laceration suffered in a fall
  - Nathan Smith - recovering from double bypass open heart surgery (friend of **Bo Smith**)
  - Chris Waters - diagnosed with stage 3 carcinoma; beginning chemo & radiation (Husband of **Heather Hartner Waters**)

### Ongoing Concerns:

<b>Martha Boyd</b>	Lorraine Butterick	Mary Jo Craft	<b>John Gentry</b>
Hazel & Mel Gladding	<b>Laura Guerrant</b>	<b>Jean Harney</b>	<b>Leigh Jefferson</b>
Ike Lawrence	Susie Lawrence	Donna & Pat Leahy	<b>Bob Lewis</b>
<b>LeeAnne McCann</b>	Jean McGowan	Tim Noel	<b>Bob Orndorff</b>
Myra Robertson	Sheena Roller	<b>Mary Shepherd</b>	<b>Brad Smith</b>
Josh Will	Lori Williams	Mary Wilson	

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## CALENDAR

### **Wednesday, December 24**

8:00am Grace Café Food Prep  
10:00am AA Meeting  
7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

### **Thursday, December 25**

**Christmas Day – Church Office Closed**

### **Friday, December 26**

**Christmas Holiday – Church Office Closed**

10:00am AA Meeting

### **Saturday, December 27**

No Events Scheduled

### **Sunday, December 28**

10:00am Service for the Lord's Day  
11:00am Fellowship

### **Monday, December 29**

8:00am Grace Café Food Prep  
10:00am AA Meeting  
2:00pm Monday Prayer Group

### **Tuesday, December 30**

8:00am Grace Café Food Prep  
10:00am Recovery Café  
6:00pm Recovery Meeting

### **Wednesday, December 31**

8:00am Grace Café Food Prep  
10:00am AA Meeting