**Bearing Fruit – January 17, 2021**

**Prayers for the Nation**

A large part of Presbyterian spiritualty is engagement with the concerns of this world. Faith is not a place of hiding behind the walls of the church, but rather a place to refuel and serve our Lord as part of the Church worldwide. We do not back away from challenges, rather after prayer and reflection we seek to bring forth the Kingdom of God. We see ourselves as salt and light in a bland and dark world. The disruption in Washington D.C. on January 6th was not only unsettling, but it also led some to fear for our nation on Inauguration Day, January 20. An important way forward for us is to engage through prayers. Our gathering music slide show is a collection of government buildings and monuments from the nation’s capital, across the nation, to the local municipalities of our church members and for the state of Illinois. The hope is that it will inspire us to pray for the good of the nation and her people. This is one way to bear the fruit of God’s love.

Another way to bear the fruit of God’s love is to join in prayer with others from our community. As you may know, for the last several years our pastor has been active with the Glen Ellyn Interfaith Prayer Breakfast. That group, led by Mike Formento, a long time civic leader in Glen Ellyn, gathered after the events of January 6 to pray for the nation. As a result of that meeting, you are invited to a zoom service of prayer and reflection this Sunday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. The service will be about 30 minutes.

**We Still Have a Dream:**

***A gathering of the Glen Ellyn area religious communities
in observance of Martin Luther King Day.***

Participants will include Rev. Dr. James Shannon (People’s Community Church), Rabbi Steven Bob (Congregation Etz Chaim), Pastor Wendy Boden (Southminster Presbyterian Church), Imam Mohammed Zafarullah (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community), and Pastor Charles Plummer (St. Luke Lutheran).

Here is the Zoom link to share:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84316399140