

White Lick Presbyterian *Church Chat*

2530 North 600 East, Avon, IN 46123

April 2023 in the year of our Lord, Jesus Christ



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Remarks from Ruth:

by Ruth Moore

I write these remarks on the first day of Spring when the temperature is still below freezing! But the sun is out, and as hopeful Easter people who believe in resurrection, I know that new life in God's creation is just around the corner.

We have spent the Lenten season *Entering the Passion of Jesus* in both study and worship. We have paraded with Jesus into Jerusalem, gone into the Temple, been at a dinner party and the Last Supper, and then into the Garden of Gethsemane with him. It has been quite the journey. We will remember that Last Supper with communion, and his last day with us on Good Friday with a worship service at 7 pm. Then we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection on

Easter with services at 7 am and 10:30 am with sweets treats and coffee in between. The last week of Jesus' life and then the miracle of resurrection are the most sacred days of the Christian year. See the schedule below so you and your family and friends can join us. People come to church because they are invited. Easter Sunday is a joyous day to invite others to worship with us.

We will also have a cross outside for you to help decorate on Easter Sunday, so bring flowers from home or from your favorite flower vendor to help us decorate and share with others the joy of Easter.

I hope to see you in church on Easter (or on line!) and all throughout the month of April as we continue to celebrate the risen Christ.

Easter Blessings, Pastor Ruth

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK



April 2 at 10:30 am – Palm Sunday parade and worship.

April 7 at 7 pm – Good Friday service with Communion.

April 9 at 7 am – Sunrise Service: Gather on the steps of the East entrance of the church, and we will travel to the cemetery as the sun rises and we learn that the tomb is empty. Then we will walk back and continue this service with communion and singing in the sanctuary.

From 8 am – 10 am – Doughnuts, coffee and fellowship in Fellowship Hall.

10:30 am – Regular Easter service of communion, singing and sermon.

All morning – come early and bring flowers to decorate the cross outside the church. Take an Easter picture to post to social media or to family and friends.

Mission Team



CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS

The April Mission Spotlight highlights Susie's Place. Susie's Place, also known as The Hendricks County Child Advocacy Center, is a nonprofit organization with centers in Avon, Bloomington, and Terre

Haute. Their mission is the prevention, justice, and healing of child victims of abuse and violence while maintaining the comfort and the safety of the child as their first priority. Susie's Place provides a forensic interview for children in a child-friendly environment involved in reported instances of maltreatment. Since opening their doors in 2009 well over 11,000 interviews have been conducted with 70 different law enforcement agencies and 38 county Department of Child Services offices. Additionally, Susie's Place has coordinated cases with child abuse investigators in 13 other states, the FBI and Homeland Security. This year 5,000 adults will be trained to spot the signs of abuse with The Stewards of Children training instructed by Susie's Place staff. The training is free and available regularly in communities around Indiana. With our help, Susie's Place will create new programs for reported child victims of abuse, increase prevention education in area schools, and more. To learn more about Susie's Place and their mission or how you may help go to Susiesplace.org.

Letters Home

Dear White Lick Family,

I've got a tough class load this semester. I'm really excited to be taking Hebrew, along with Ethics, History and Gospel & Acts. Learning Hebrew is turning out to be really challenging, which is occupying much of my time. I am making it to chapel weekly and have brown bag lunches with

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Submissions of personal testimony or general interest items can be emailed to Jerry Bennett jerry.bennett721@gmail.com or left for Jerry in the Church Office.

If you would like to receive Church Chat by email send a request to Jerry Bennett or Ginny Sheets chief1046vas@att.net.



friends. I am also working in the library on campus. I've always wanted to work in a library, and I am enjoying it quite a bit. It allows me to get familiar with the library resources, assist patrons and admittedly sometimes I just wander through the bookshelves. Overall my spring semester is going well. I always look forward to being home, and visiting when I can.

Sincerely,
Mary Mitchell

Conversations That Challenge Christians

Follow the Money: April 30th

Follow the Money is the topic for *Conversations that Challenge Christians* on April 30th after worship. In one hour, the computer geek hero on the TV show is able to trace the money through nefarious channels back to the bad guys who are arrested and held accountable for their crime. In real life "dark money" is more difficult to trace back to its source and not illegal due to law changes by Congress; however, the



end result impacts all sectors of our democracy.

"Dark Money" is normally associated with the funds collected by nonprofit organizations for the purposes of influencing elections. Dark money has a dark history long before political action committees were organized. This money not only infiltrates our election systems but also our educational, judicial, environmental and business structures. It has been a long term, intentional and well thought out process primarily by the ultra conservatives to spread their power and wealth purposes---and it has worked amazingly well. The names behind the money are not necessarily well-known people but their impacts on decision making in all sectors is sobering.

We will take a broad overview of the influence of Dark Money in this country on April 30th. If the subject intrigues you and you want to do some research in advance you might want to read *Dark Money* by Jane Mayer or *The Power Worshippers* by Katherine Stewart. Mayer investigates the business influencers of dark money while Stewart looks at the dark money influence of the religious right. If you are more interested in political influences, PBS put out a documentary called *Dark Money* in 2018 that is highly acclaimed and widely available through PBS, Amazon Prime, Netflix or on the web.

**January - February 2023
Financial Information**

Income	Expenses
\$27,570.62	\$24,924.73

Please keep your giving up to date.
Place your offering in the plate at Church.
Mail your gift to the Church office:

**2530 N County Road 600 E
Avon, IN 46123**

Use the "bill pay" feature at your bank.
Use the "give now" link on Church website:

whitelickpcusa.org

THANK YOU for your financial support.

Mission Team Update

First, we want to thank you for your contributions to all of the projects the Mission Team does on your behalf.

You always come through and our Mission Partners truly appreciate White Lick. Many of these opportunities, recently, have been on short notice. Thank you for the

paper products for WayMaker and the Easter Basket goodies for our kiddos at Chords of Love.

The Mission Team has several projects in the works. We wanted to give you a heads up and a few dates to put on your calendars. There are a lot of opportunities ahead. Hopefully, this will give you the highlights to allow you some time to select the ones that interest you the most. As always, please don't hesitate to talk with any of the Mission Team Members for more details; Deanna, Trina, Sue, Nan, Jean, Diane or Shirley.

Brownsburg Clean and Green Earth Day– April 22nd 9:00-1:00 – Shirley

This Earth Day, bring the whole family for a community clean up! Volunteer to remove trash throughout Brownsburg or remove invasive plants from Williams Park. After cleaning local parks, trails, and Town areas, we'll celebrate by creating a mural with recycled items found during clean up. Trash bags and pickers will be provided. We must register our team by April 17th. A sign-up sheet will be available at the church.

Dorcus Baskets – May 3 (Presbytery Meeting) – Nan

Many of you may remember when pre-Covid, we used to send items via Presbytery to support the Dorcas Basket mission in the Dominican Republic. The past few years White Lick has supported this project via a cash donation, but this year the list of supplies is back! We will provide a rolling suitcase filled with needed VBS materials.

It has become clear that the Dorcas Baskets are more than just craft supplies for VBS. They are a clear sign of our connec-

tion of support, which gives great hope for fellow disciples in the Iglesia Evangelica-Dominicana (IED Church). This is greatly needed especially as Covid-19 left many areas financially struggling. Inflation is all around the world! If this project touches your heart, Nan Johnson has an email with all the details. (Crayons, markers, craft sticks, etc.)

Ice Cream Social – Saturday, June 17th 1:00 – 4:00 pm – Deanna, Sue, Trina

This will be a free indoor event open to everyone. A few helpers are needed to set up tables, scoop ice cream, clear tables and then help with clean up.

National Night Out – Tuesday, August 1st 4:00 – 8:00 pm– Shirley

Fun community event. We welcome anyone who can take a shift to “man” our booth.

Fellowship Lunches

Here is the schedule for Fellowship Lunches. Each team will take a turn at presenting Lunch, as shown below:

April	2	Deacons
May	7	Building & Grounds
June	4	Mission
July	2	Holiday — No Lunch
August	6	Worship
September	3	Holiday — No Lunch
October	1	Hospitality
November	5	Tech Team
December	3	Finance

(These are not general pitch-ins; however, you are always welcome to bring a food donation or help clean up.) 😊



BURTHDAYS

- 6 **Melissa Crittenden**
- 10 **Amy Chambliss**
- 14 **Greg Foudray**
- 15 **Roy Vanlandingham**
Jan Farnsley
- 16 **Rebecca Turner**
- 17 **Ken Krohne**
- 19 **Ron Hoke**
Bryan Ruppel
- 25 **Jerry Bennett**

If we missed your date, let us know.

April Calendar

Sunday worship 10:30 am online link:
YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_X2uIIQX3x0vECTI2SDT-w

- Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday**
9:00 *Entering the Passion of Jesus*
10:30 Worship – Palm Sunday Parade, in
Sanctuary & on YouTube
11:30 Fellowship Lunch – Deacons
- Thursday, April 6**
6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall
- Friday, April 7 – Good Friday**
7:00 pm Good Friday Service with
Communion

- Sunday, April 9 – Easter**
7:00 Sunrise Service
8:00 - 10:00 Continental Breakfast
10:30 Worship with Communion in
Sanctuary & on YouTube
- Tuesday, April 11**
6:30 pm Mission Team
- Wednesday, April 12**
6:00 pm Deacons Meeting
- Thursday, April 13**
6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 16**
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on
YouTube
- Monday, April 17**
6:00 PW Meeting in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, April 18**
1:00 Fine Time for Lunch Time (that
will be what it is
called going forward) and the
location is The Locale on E Main
St, Brownsburg
7:00 Session Meeting
- Thursday, April 20**
6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, April 22**
9:00 - 11:30 am Earth Day Clean-Up @
Williams Park, Brownsburg
- Sunday, April 23**
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on
YouTube
- Thursday, April 27**
6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 30**
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on
YouTube





Editor's Column:

By Jerry Bennett

In the Lenten series, both in the study groups and in the worship service, Pastor Ruth has asked us to focus on a picture each day. Today I want you to focus on a scene not depicted in the Bible. In fact it is skipped right over in the Apostle's Creed. There is no testimony because there were no witnesses. This is why I wrote a piece of speculative fiction called "...and on the third day, rose."

When I was a young man and new to the church, I questioned everything. One thing that really seemed incomplete was in the Apostles Creed. Christ was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he arose from the dead and ascended into heaven. What happened that Saturday in Hell? I will attempt to fill in that gap.

The Devil is devious. He doesn't have to tell the truth. He lies, he cheats, he steals; he has all the tools at his disposal to lead us astray. God, on the other hand, plays it straight forward. His word is truth. And so in a contest, a debate, between God and the Devil it would seem the Devil has the advantage. Not necessarily so. Consider: Love is stronger than hate; truth trumps lies.

For forty days Christ was tempted by the Devil in the wilderness. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus was reluctant to accept what was coming. He was afraid. If Jesus was confident of his divinity it would be like a monopoly player holding a get out of jail free card. What kind of sacrifice is that? If the outcome is predetermined there is no risk. It's as genuine as a wrestling match; It's all for show. God is not all for show. The drama of Good Friday is not all

for show. In Christ, God was putting it all on the line so the outcome had to be uncertain. In this context Jesus died. Let us focus on the scene opening in hell: A subterranean cavern where the corridors are closed off by iron gates so no one can escape. The Devil is in his glory here. The jailer brings in Christ in chains. The Devil is planning on delivering a message to God that he has his son hostage! Let's renegotiate this heaven/hell paradigm. The Devil is strutting up and down proudly in front of the captive Jesus. Mockingly he asks Jesus, "Just who do you think you are?" Christ in typical Christ like fashion answers the question with a question. "Who do you say I am?" Before he can think the Devil blurts it out. "You are the Christ, the son of the living God." No sooner are the words out of his mouth than his expression changes from gloating to stark terror. He realizes his own words have sealed his fate. He has told the truth. Jesus seizes the moment and says "You have spoken the truth." The shackles fall from his wrists. The iron bars within hell become loose and clatter to the floor. "Your death grip of hell is broken." Jesus leaves hell bringing with him all of the Saints who were enslaved there, released up to heaven. —JB

