

White Lick Presbyterian *Church Chat*

2530 North 600 East, Avon, IN 46123

August 2023 in the year of our Lord, Jesus Christ



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Pastoral Ponderings:

by Ruth Moore

I have now been your pastor for twenty months. Wow, time flies when you are having fun! As you know, I came from a larger church in Indianapolis. Northminster was a church that was very pastor led when I was there. We had no lay leaders in worship, each team was basically led by a pastor liaison, and nothing much happened without the pastor driving the action. It was exhausting for the pastors, and not the way the church should be. We are all the body of Christ, and the "work" of the church is an invitation for all to participate and many to lead.

So when I got to White Lick I thought I would have to do the same kind of pastoring. It is also in my nature to microman-

age – although I am working on that. But you all have amazed me in the management, ministry, and mission that happens at our little church in the wildwood – most of it without any supervision from me. You the members, and the people on the various teams, and your elected officers – Deacons and Elders – are the leaders of this congregation.

Did you know that the son of the director at our mission partner, Chords of Love, died in June, and Deanna and the Mission Team organized and prepared a meal for family and friends for after the service? They provided food and took tables and chairs to Becca's house. Rev Alice helped with the Celebration of Life service. The Deacons helped too. I was on vacation and did not have any input on their generous outpouring of love to this family in need.

Did you know that the worship team has talked about using our outdoor worship space and yet the area is not sufficiently stable to hold any chairs on it? So two session members - Annetta and Ginny - went out and researched some options for stable ground cover, Bryan put it down, and now we are checking it out for the next few weeks. Those elders were not on the worship team, they just wanted us to be able to use a space that many had worked hard on to provide for us. I was not involved with that project.

Did you know that when the Parker family asked us to make desserts for Maddie's graduation party and Brook's celebration of life, 12 women in the congregation made 2-3 dozen goods for the party? It took one text from me and about 15 minutes before the volunteers signed up and the job was done a week later.

Did you know that Dave Fancher put in a new industrial faucet in the kitchen funded by the Presbyterian Women? Who doesn't want an efficient faucet when washing dirty dishes? Did you know that the floor in the sanctuary was dipping and that Dave and friends put in new flooring - a huge job since the floor itself is so uneven. I knew very little about those projects until they were done.

Did you know the Deacons try to be in contact with every member and friend of White Lick on a regular basis? They are the ones who keep me abreast of pastoral care concerns in our congregation. And how many of you have been the recipient of a ride to church, a note of welcome, a get well card, or a phone call from someone at church? I am constantly amazed at how lovingly you all try to care and support each other through life's ups and downs. To be in relationship with each other and God is what church is all about, and I see

it done brilliantly at WLPC.

When something needs to get done at White Lick it gets done. It does not need to be driven by my agenda - it just needs to happen if we are to love, break bread and worship together. I am so grateful I get to be a small part of the ministry and mission of this congregation. Thank you so much for inviting me along to pastor with you as we live out our faith.

Check out the opportunities for more fellowship, food, a movie viewing, an all church picnic, and a new bible study, all coming in August.

I will be away for study leave and vacation from July 29 - August 11, so stay well and take care of each other.

Pastor Ruth

**Bible on Training Wheels
Part 3 - Introduction to the
New Testament**

In our ongoing effort to feel more knowledgeable about the Bible, we have been using a curriculum called *Exploring the Bible*, by Rev. Anne Robertson.



We have done a basic introduction to the whole Bible, as well as a series on the Old Testament. Beginning in August we will complete the *Exploring the Bible* series with a 6 week study and introduction to the New Testament. Here is a review of the series:

Church Chat is published monthly by White Lick Presbyterian Church.

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.

*It would be hard to find a treatment of the New Testament that is fresher, more accessible, and more grounded in solid information than Anne Robertson's *Introducing the New Testament*. Every page reveals a lively and imaginative teacher who knows what students need to know and – just as important – knows how to communicate that knowledge in terms that students can grasp.*

I hope you will join us on Sundays at 9 am starting on August 20th, and on Wednesday nights at 7 pm beginning on August 23rd. There is always fresh brewed coffee ready on Sunday mornings since we start early! The series lasts 6 weeks, and is for all levels of biblical literacy. We will all learn lots of new things together. Each week is a distinct topic, so you can miss a week and not get behind.

If you would like to participate with us on Zoom on Wednesday nights, but don't know how to get started with Zoom meetings, our Tech Team can help. Please see Ginny Sheets, Annetta Davis, or Shirley Halterman on Sunday morning and they can come to your house and get you

started. Or you can email them at chief1946vas@att.net, adavis76@indy.rr.com, or Shirley.halterman@outlook.com

It does help to have the student text to participate. Pastor Ruth will order advanced copies and they will be available in the church office for \$15.00. Even if you don't participate in the discussions you will find this student guide easy to use on your own. Please join us for a fun way to learn more about the New Testament!

PAL — Parents of Addicted Loved Ones

PAL- Parents of Addicted Loved Ones provides hope, through education and support, to parents and families of adult loved ones with SUD-- substance use disorder. We are faith based and believe in the power of prayer.



We celebrated 10 years meeting at White Lick since October 2013! Because of the Elders 10 years ago agreeing to start a PAL group here at White Lick, we were the first PAL group out of the state of Arizona.

- We are in 38 states with 170 meetings, 15 in Indiana, 4-on-line meetings, 1 in Spanish and just went international with an on-line meeting in the U.K.
- We continue to attend events throughout the state, speaking to organizations/churches and attend state events spreading the word about PAL.

With God's help we will continue to give hope, support, and education to 10-30 members every Thursday night.

**January - June 2023
Financial Information**

Income	Expenses
\$85,624.04	\$79,505.15

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.

Fellowship Lunch Schedule

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

- 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.) 😊



August Birthdays

- 7 Donna Jones
- 7 Israel Rosales
- 9 Mary Ann Hoke
- 13 Beth McGuire
- 16 Mo Boulanger
- 22 Jeanette Blackstone
- 22 Nan Johnson
- 24 Annetta Davis
- 24 Gary Line
- 28 Zachary Parker
- 31 Carol McGowan

If your birthday is missing from this list or from any other month’s listing, please email your name & birthday to wlpres@indy.rr.com We want to include you, too.

Conversations That Challenge Christians



During the summer, everyone has been invited to read the book “The Glass Castle” by Jeannette Walls. The author tells her story of the

four Walls children growing up in poverty; fending for themselves while their parents live in their own world of disappointment and unfulfilled dreams. The four siblings helped each other to go to New York City where they began their adult lives and successful careers. Their parents follow them and end up homeless. The book was a big success and made into a movie which we will watch on Saturday. Join us for the weekend events as we begin to look at the impacts of poverty.

Saturday: August 26th. 4:00-6:00 pm the movie “The Glass Castle” followed by pizza and discussion. We should be done no later than 7:00 pm. RSVP to Ginny so we can have plenty of pizza and drinks. Movie is geared toward older youth and adults but all are welcome. Rated PG-13

Sunday: August 27th 11:30 Conversations that Challenge Christians

Pastor Aby Bauzo will be wearing his family therapist hat and talking to us about the physical, mental, and emotional issues that confront children who grow up in poverty-stricken, often dysfunctional families.

You do not need to have read the book to participate in either Saturday or Sunday discussions.



Picnic at the Farm

Please join us on Saturday, August 12, 4 pm, at Mark and Sue Lawson’s Farm for a Church Picnic in their barn. Tables and chairs will be available. The Deacons will furnish the meat, drinks and table service. You can bring a salad, vegetable and/or dessert to share. A sign up sheet will be available for you to indicate the food items that you will bring. We will enjoy a meal and fellowship with members of our church family “down on the farm”. To make reservations please contact Mary Ann Holk c at 317-752-5246 and let her know who you will bring.



August Calendar



Sunday worship 10:30 am online link:
 YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_X2uIQX3x0vECTI2SDT-w

Thursday, August 3
 6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 5
 10:00 am Whitewater Valley Presbytery Meeting:

Sunday, August 6 – Hymn Sing Sunday
 10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube

11:30 Fellowship Lunch – Worship Team – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 9
 6:30 Deacon’s Meeting – Brownsburg Library

Thursday, August 10
 6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 12
 4:00 All Church Picnic at Lawson’s Barn, Danville

Sunday, August 13
 10:30 Worship with Communion in Sanctuary & on YouTube

Tuesday, August 15
 7:00 pm Session Meeting – Zoom

Thursday, August 17
 6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 20
 9:00 Introduction to New Testament Series
 10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube

Monday, August 21
 6:00 PW Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday August 23
 7:00 pm Introduction to New Testament Series – Zoom

Thursday, August 24
 6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 26
 4:00 p.m. Glass Castle Movie, Discussion and Dinner in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 27
 9:00 Introduction to New Testament Series
 10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube

11:30 Conversations that Challenge Christians – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday August 30
 7:00 pm Introduction to New Testament Series – Zoom

Thursday, August 31
 6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall



Editor’s Column:
By Jerry Bennett
 I have always thought of the scriptures as holy. In so doing I have given the characters described in the scriptures possibly undue deference. Somewhere along the line I have heard that “The scriptures are the

way God speaks to us." With that kind of mindset I have taken the people described in the scriptures as special, perhaps even exalted.

Many years ago Winona and I moved to Perry Township because of better schools than we had previously. There was an old couple living across the street. They would sit out on their back porch every evening watching their garden grow. They usually had rows of corn; tomato plants and other garden vegetables. As I say they were an older couple, I never really thought about their circumstance that much; they were just there. One day he died and several days later his brother came with the sheriff to evict the lady who was living there. I was shocked. I had never given it any thought but these people weren't married and she had no standing. The brother wanted the house for his daughter and got rid of the wife of his brother.

In our Bible study "Introduction to the Old Testament" and the recent sermon series on Women of the Bible Pastor Ruth has brought some of the Old Testament characters into modern day focus. Moses when he encountered the burning Bush was tending his father in law's sheep. Working for your wife's father does not indicate that you are a high achiever at least in modern day society. You might hear the words or at least the idea keep my daughter happy or we'll have words at work. My view of Moses was as portrayed in the movie *The Ten Commandments*, Charlton Heston was not the kind of guy to be working for his father in law. And yet the character he was playing in the movie was doing just that.

My next door neighbor who removed his brother's common law wife from the house had a reason for doing that. He had a daughter who, how do I put this gently,

was a disappointment to the family. She was an adult and had a job but, you know, one of those with a room temperature IQ. Don't judge me; I have a friend who's son is autistic and I understand just what a special challenge it is raising someone with that kind of disability. Our son Matthew was dyslexic and yet, when he was killed in a traffic accident, he was at the top of his class in a Navy school that represented the top 10% of the Navy. That school was the cryptology technician training school. Matthew had learned to cope with his disability and I am in awe of others that I see with children with disabilities and how they handle the special responsibility they have been given.

In the July 23rd sermon on Kings chapter one about the succession of King Solomon from King David, Bathsheba, mother of Solomon and woman of interest in the chapter plays an active role. King David is in his declining years. Pastor Ruth spoke of his condition in a most revealing fashion. My previous deference to the characters portrayed in the Old Testament by this time had been shattered. King David was no longer a character as portrayed by Hollywood but was a person in real life. He had the frailty of someone in advanced age. The ripping aside of the veil of holiness that I had surrounded all of the characters in the Old Testament with is revealing. These are real people with feet of clay just like the rest of us. Under the Pastor's instruction the Bible has come alive to me.

As to my next door neighbor, the one who evicted his brother's common-law wife, I understand he was doing what was best for his daughter's independence. There comes a time the parent has to kick the baby bird out of the nest. Launching your kids can sometimes be traumatic.

—JB



Special Event: Aug 26th (Saturday) 4:00 pm Movie “The Glass Castle” followed by pizza supper @ 6:00 and discussion. Many have read the book over the summer and will add to our discussion of the movie. We should be finished by 7:00 pm. [RSVP Ginny](#) so we can order pizza.

Aug 27th “The Glass Castle continues” Challenges of growing up in a loving but dysfunctional family. Rev. Aby Bauzo will put on his family therapist hat and lead the discussion about the long-term impacts on children who grow up in an insecure environment.

Sept. 24th “Charter Schools” led by Cody Sparks. Recent legislation in Indiana as well as other states are enabling more tax financial support to schools that are blatantly religious-based while operating within the public sector.

Oct. 29 “Guns and Laws” led by Mark Moore. Mark will cover the 2nd amendment and impacts on the gun industry. What are our constitutional rights to carry a weapon? Is this the right the founding fathers had in mind? How do current laws support gun ownership?

Nov. 19 “Working Hungry”. The Thanksgiving-Christmas season is a time of food collection in many churches including White Lick. For too many families, the paycheck just does not spread far enough. We will take a look at hunger in Indiana through a documentary; a speaker from Family Promise; and, a representative of our Mission Team who will talk about our church’s efforts during the holidays.

Dec. 17 “Need a Christmas Present? How about a banned book?”. Looking for a gift for that friend/relative who has everything? We will take a look at the issues surrounding banned books; compare notes on who has read which ones; and have some fun with book recommendations we think others would enjoy. Bring a book you have read to swap with someone else; extras will be donated to one of our Mission Partners who has a library. Diane Akers, Alice McDowell and Ginny Sheets are working on the planning.