

White Lick Presbyterian *Church Chat*

2530 North 600 East, Avon, IN 46123

May 2023 in the year of our Lord, Jesus Christ

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Remarks from Ruth:

by Ruth Moore

As Spring continues to enfold, and we continue to celebrate the risen Christ among us, I share this prayer with you by Arianne Braithwaite Lehn, a Presbyterian minister. There is a lot going on at the church this month. I hope you can join us.

For Springtime

Loving, Creator God,
Spring reminds me it's never too late to start over.

That there's been quiet growth over the long months of winter when I saw nothing.

When I was called to believe there was growth happening beneath hard, cold soil.

And now? Glory!

I celebrate the loveliness of all you've made. The newness, Lord, the freshness – it inspires my soul!

Tulips in the front yard, buds on the trees, the voices of birds, the cleansing of rain, the comfort of sunshine...

Each gift renews me, speaking of the promise within all those months of dormancy and preparation

As spring awakens my physical senses, I ask, God, for you to awaken my inner senses.

May my mind open and blossom to the longings you've placed within me... to the steps and paths that will satisfy the desires of my heart...to the hopes and passions you've planted in every one of your children.

May I seek what will truly fulfill them.
May I journey toward their Source.

May I be guided by your gentle and wise Spirit. It is never too late to be what you call me to be.

Even as it takes greatest courage and deepest humility.

With your help, I will open myself to what I never expected before, and never thought possible.

Amen.

Church Clean-Up Day — May 13th Beginning at 9:30

Come any time you can and stay as long as you can as we do an all church spring clean-up. There is lots of outside work to do – clean up leaves and flower beds, inspect the benches in our outside space and repair/stain them, plus some good old fashioned power washing. And for all of you who like to do windows, there are plenty to clean – in and outside. Bring your yard tools and cleaning supplies and join us. There is a sign up sheet at church so Building Team chair Bryan Ruppel knows who to expect. You can also email him to ask questions or let him know you are coming. bruppel@rocketmail.com

Bible on Training Wheels, 2

BTW Part 2 – Introducing the Old Testament: Beginning May 7 for 6 weeks. Led by Pastor Ruth

Here is a review for this study: “Introducing the Old Testament gives a bird’s eye view of the different documents that comprise the Old Testament and does so with a great penchant for synthesis and lots of good humor. References to modern-day realities connect the biblical text with situations that the reader can relate to, thus making the reading of the book highly

entertaining without sacrificing depth or insight.

We will meet in person at 9 am on Sunday mornings from May 7 – June 11. We will also meet on Zoom at 7 pm on Wednesdays from May 10 – June 14. Pastor Ruth will be using a leader guide and student guide developed by Rev. Anne Robertson to facilitate discussion. Pastor Ruth has a few extra copies of the student guide if you would like to purchase one, but you do not have to have the guide to participate. Each week is a separate lesson, so join us if and when you can during the six week study.

Sermon Suggestions

Is there a topic or scripture passage you would like to hear preached this Summer? Pastor Ruth is open to preaching ideas, and this is your chance to help her plan her summer sermons. Contact her at pastor-ruth@indy.rr.com or call/text 317-753-3164. Nothing is off limits – well almost nothing!

Looking ahead: Curious Conversations – June 4 and 11 at 11:30

Curious about White Lick and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)? Want to learn more about church membership and what that entails? Then join Pastor Ruth on these two Sundays in June. More info in the June *Church Chat*.

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 chieft046vas@att.net.



I scream, you scream...

We all SCREAM4 ice cream!



Here's the scoop:

The Mission Team is hosting a
FREE Ice Cream Social.

Please come and join us for
fun and games.

Saturday
June 17th
From 1pm – 4pm

**January - March 2023
Financial Information**

Income	Expenses
\$39,491.16	\$38,435.57

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.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jeane Stellmack
- 16 Erik Johnson
- 23 Linda Perkins
- 26 Ellen Pearcy

If your birthday is missing from
this list please add your name.

We want to include you, too.

**Pentecost Offering
April 30th — May 28th**



Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support

its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Pentecost offering envelopes are in the pews or you may write Pentecost on your check. Thank you in advance for your support of this special offering!

“SPRING FLING”
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023
6:30 pm
 This annual Women’s Dinner
Sponsored by WLPC Presbyterian Women
 Is open to all women in the Church
 (and their guests)
NO CHARGE.... but RESERVATIONS
Are required for Box Lunches.
 (Sign-up in Welcome Center)
COME JOIN US!
(FUN....FOOD....FELLOWSHIP)

Conversations That Challenge Christians

State Prayer in Public Schools: May 21

State Prayer in Public Schools is the topic for Conversations that Challenge Christians after worship on May 21. The conversations will be held in the Fellowship Hall and guided by Mark Moore. All are welcome to participate.

It would seem to be settled law that “state officials may not compose an official state prayer and require that it be recited in

the public schools . . . at the beginning of each school day – even if the prayer is denominationally neutral and pupils who wish to do so may remain silent or be excused from the room while the prayer is being recited.” Syllabus, *Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421 (1962). However, the rise of Christian nationalism has put separation of church and state generally and state prayer in public schools specifically back in the spotlight.

In addition to the Supreme Court’s *Engel v. Vitale* decision, we will discuss the Supreme Court’s *Abington School District v. Schempp* decision (prohibiting state required readings of the Bible in the public schools), which provides additional insight into our common First Amendment history and the Supreme Court’s understanding of the constitutional separation of church and state. See Syllabus, *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963).

Fellowship Lunches

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

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.) 😊



May Calendar

Sunday worship 10:30 am online link:
YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_X2ullQX3x0vECTI2SDT-w

Wednesday, May 3

10:00 am Whitewater Valley Presbytery Meeting:

Thursday, May 4

6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 7 – Hymnsing Sunday

9:00 Intro to Old Testament Class
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube
11:30 Fellowship Lunch – Building and Grounds
11:40 Worship Team Meeting – Library

Tuesday, May 9

6:30 pm Mission Team

Wednesday, May 10

6:00 pm Deacons Meeting
7:00 pm Intro to Old Testament – Zoom

Thursday, May 11

6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 13

9:30 Church Clean Up Day

Sunday, May 14 – Mother’s Day

9:00 Intro to Old Testament
10:30 Worship with Communion in Sanctuary & on YouTube

Monday, May 15

6:30 PW Spring Fling dinner

Tuesday, May 16

7:00 Session Meeting

Wednesday, May 17

7:00 pm Intro to Old Testament – Zoom

Thursday, May 18

6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 21

9:00 Intro to Old Testament
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube
11:30 Conversations that Challenge Christians – Prayer in School

Tuesday, May 23

1:00 Fine Time for Lunch Time Gathering (place TBD)

Wednesday, May 24

7:00 pm Intro to Old Testament – Zoom

Thursday, May 25

6:30 pm PAL Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 28

9:00 Intro to Old Testament
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary & on YouTube

Monday, May 29 – Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 31

7:00 pm Intro to Old Testament – Zoom



Editor’s Column:

By Jerry Bennett

When I started down this road (my life) I thought I knew where it was going. I had my plans and I was in charge. Then Matthew was taken from us and Mark tested positive for AIDS. Why does that word look benevolent? It’s not. So I realized there are things that I did not choose but they happened. I found solace in a group of Dads who share this common experience. We don’t dwell on it but somehow it helps just knowing someone understands. When Winona passed on the Dads were there for me.

Memorial Day; the day set aside to dump all the grief of the World Wars. I won’t be visiting the Veteran’s Cemetery;

they're not there. I have it on good authority that they are happy. The One who is in charge of my life has filled my empty house, my empty life, with people who love me and need me.

When I first had eye trouble we were just starting the Screwtape Letters in our Wednesday Study Group. I was afraid I would not be able to keep up but Mary searched on line and found a pdf version to download that I could listen to. Adaptation has helped me continue to be your editor.

In his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, Rick Warren emphasizes the importance of having a goal, a purpose. I have a pile of papers on my desk. Some of them are important but which ones. I will get through that stack and then I have two manuscripts to publish. One for a very patient client and one, posthumously, for my brother. I guess he is really patient.

When I was a youth in the NYC area Archibald McLeish had a play on Broadway simply called *JB*. It was billed as the modern day retelling of the book of Job. That book of the Bible troubled me then but not now. My life; it is not the path that I thought it would be at the start but looking back. I wouldn't change a thing. My proudest moments are where I have served, unknowingly, to do God's will for others.

