

White Lick Presbyterian Church
2530 North 600 East
Avon, IN 46123

White Lick Presbyterian

Church Chat

January, 2016 in the year of our Lord, Jesus Christ

In this issue:

- 1 Glimpses of Grace
- 2 Skating Event
- 2 Ordination/Installation Service for new officers
- 2 Annual Congregational Meeting
- 3 Outreach Opportunity: Save the Date
- 3 Deacons Cash for Cans
- 3 Weekly Prayer List
- 3 Dorcas Basket Project - Collecting Supplies
- 4 Building and Grounds: January is Church Cleaning Month
- 5 Adult Discipleship MT: Adult Bible Studies
- 5 Editor's Column
- 6 December Calendar



Pastor's Note:

January, 2016

It is not simple to put yourself in the shoes of someone who lives in ways that are very different than yourself. I have never had a moment where I didn't have a place to lay my head that wasn't my own. I

Glimpse
of
Grace

have always had a place to call home and food to eat and family who were able to be there when I needed help. I have never had to wonder where my next meal would be, where I was going to lay my head at night, or if my children would get gifts at Christmas. But for so many in our world, this is the everyday anxiety of life. For those who are below the poverty line, who are homeless, who struggle with disabilities that prevent them from functioning with the rest of society.

For one week in December I spent six nights with families in the Hendrick's

Family Promise program. Each of these three families were homeless outside of this program. Each of them trying hard to raise their children and provide for their family. Each parent worked at least one job, many worked two or more. One had a car, but the other two were reliant on others to drive them or mass transit. Each of these families were struggling with the most basic of needs; safety, food, shelter, work, education, health.

But during our time together I saw God at work in the families lives and the program that was working tirelessly to assist each family to get their feet back on solid ground. The first glimpse of grace I saw was in the kids. Even with all the stress and anxiety that the parents were working through, the kids were just kids. They wanted to play and laugh, to run and read.

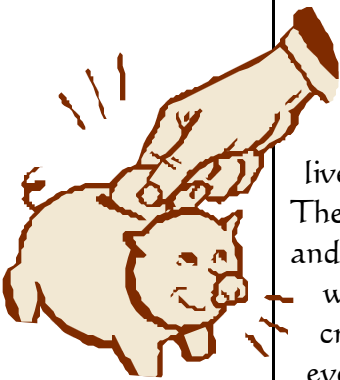
(Continued on page 2)

We played board games at night and watched movies or played X-Box. They brushed their teeth and got ready to bed right at 8pm and they got up early to get ready for school. They went through fits and frustrations, but also laughter and helping each other at dinner. Children are amazing because of their ability to be just that, children.

The second glimpse I saw was in the love that each of the Family Promise workers shared with the families during the week. They had patients and worked with each parent to look to the future, to see that they could work toward having an apartment for their family to live in and work that would sustain them. They worked with the parents on budgets and on planning for the future so that they would be less likely to fall through the cracks and back into homelessness. They even worked with those who were struggling with addiction, a common challenge for people trying to cope with the stress these families were under. Though, when identified, a family could no longer be in the program if they were actively using drugs, the volunteers didn't simply say, "You failed" and throw their belongings on the curb. Instead they sat and talked with the adults about the situation and offered some possible ways forward, out of the addiction and into a more stable life.

The final glimpse I saw as the volunteers from Clayton, Hope, and White Lick Presbyterian. Those families and individuals who supported the week with their financial giving, their time and energy, their prayers, their sharing of food for breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Thank you for your time and faith in a God who loves every person and calls us to serve those on the margin within our community and world.

—DH



Skating Event

When: Saturday, Jan 2nd from 3:30-6PM

Where: Hot Skates, 241 Casco Dr, Avon IN 46123

Who: Youth, Children, Parents, Adults, Friends, You

Cost: \$6.50 for admission and rental, additional \$\$ for snacks

Just let them know at the door that you are with White Lick Presbyterian



Ordination/Installation Service for new officers

On Sunday, January 10th, we will have a service of ordination/installation for new ruling elders and deacons during 10:30 worship. This is an opportunity for all members of White Lick Presbyterian to share our prayers and support for those God has called to continue to lead us into this new year and beyond.

Annual Congregational Meeting

On January 31st we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting directly following our 10:30 service. This meeting allows all members to review the Annual Report that reviews the ministry and work that happened in 2015. We will also review the budget for 2016 and approve the terms of call for the pastor for the new year as well. We will approve the trustees and the sale of cemetery plots for 2016. Please make

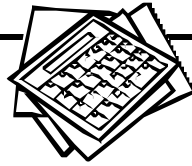
Church Chat is published monthly by White Lick Presbyterian Church.

Submissions of personal testimony or general interest items can be emailed to Jerry Bennett jerryandwinona@att.net 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 Brenda Blue brendab@indy.rr.com.

plans for participating in this important meeting.

Outreach Opportunity:



Save the Date

We are hard at work finalizing our first outreach event in 2016. We are finalizing the time and location, but we are settled on Saturday, January 23rd as the date. If you could save the date, we will be sharing detail plans early in the new year.

Deacons Cash for Cans



Just a reminder for those of you who know (oldies) and an FYI for anyone who may not know (newbies): Your deacons collect clean aluminum cans...365 days of the year! This is their one and only fund raising activity throughout the year and makes it possible to help more people in times of need. So, please rinse and save all your aluminum cans (soda or beer... no judging!), bag them up and put them in the receptacle outside in the fenced in trash area. If you can save the cans but can't get them to church, please contact Jeannine Fancher and she will make arrangements for someone to pick them up. Thank you!

Weekly Prayer List



Every week, Eileen Williamson takes the Sunday prayer cards and inserts them into a prayer list that is distributed to anyone who would like to pray for our congregation. Names on the list periodically are deleted and it is time to do that again. So during January, please fill out a yellow prayer card or let Eileen know of a joy or

concern that needs to be put back on the list. That way we can keep the list current and not miss anyone.

If you would like to become a White Lick prayer warrior let Eileen know on Sunday or send her an email. Her address is: williamson6876@att.net. Eileen also sends out a limited number of hard copies to our shut ins. Besides the prayer list, Eileen sends out the most recent week's sermon.

Dorcas Basket Project

Collecting Supplies

White Lick is again participating in the Dorcas Basket project which will provide Vacation Bible School supplies to a church



in the southwest corner of the Dominican Republic near the border with Haiti. It is a very poor and remote region with few services.

Even the capitol of the country does not have a WalMart so scissors, crayons, and markers are a much needed commodity.

(Pictured: Bill Sando from the Whitewater

Valley Hispanic Ministry Team presents a Dorcas basket to Pastor Wilson Jul from the San Juan de la Maguana Church.)

During January we will be collecting materials to assemble and make sample crafts the first Saturday in February (6th). The

Dorcas basket will go to the presbytery meeting later in February and transported by the Muncie First Presbyterian Church to the DR during spring break in March.

The following supplies are needed for approximately 75 children: →

- A piece of luggage to hold all the supplies to be carried onboard the airplane;
- 75 pieces of 9" x 6" corrugated cardboard for dioramas (one side clean)
- Multiple packages of markers
- Multiple packages of crayons
- 3 - one hole punches
- 5 bottles of Elmer's glue (no glue sticks)
- 5 rolls of scotch tape
- 75 children's scissors and 3 adult scissors
- 75 - 9" sturdy paper plates (for mobiles)
- 3 packages of multicolored craft tissue paper (25 sheets/pkg)
- 4 skeins of lightweight yarn (bright colors)
- 38 brown paper lunch bags
- 3 rolls light blue crepe paper
- 75 12-18" sticks (dowel rods, balloon sticks, cardboard dry cleaner tubes for puppets)
- 75 commercial size coffee filters (21" diameter)
- 75 2" long chenille stems
- Roll of masking tape
- Flower or butterfly and fish or sea life stickers
- 75 24" x 24" square netting material for fisherman's net
- Glitter, sequins or foam shapes for decorating fish

Sunday School classes, Bible study groups, ministry teams, and individuals are encouraged to help assemble this large list of supplies. There will be a collection box and check off sheet in the hallway during January. Mark your calendar to come help on Saturday morning February 6th to make copies of handouts, make sample crafts and assemble all the materials into our Dorcas basket.

The banner in our church hallway was made by one of the DR churches as a thank you for its basket last year.

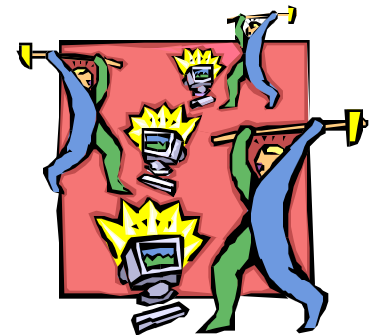
Building and Grounds:

January is Church Cleaning Month

January is a great month to clean closets, files, dresser drawers at home; and, it is a good month to do some much needed cleaning of the clutter around the church. Come help us tidy up White Lick on one of the following Saturdays. We will start around 9:30 am and hope to finish by noon.

January 9th: More help will be needed this Saturday as we pack up holiday decorations and store them in the basement. We will also do some much needed pitching and organizing in the basement.

January 16th: Just a few tech savvy people are needed as Daren will lead the group in making decisions on our outdated computer equipment and send it to recycling. A special detail will concentrate on cleaning out old, unused library materials and send it to recycling.



January 30th: Fellowship Hall is the primary focus. We will make decisions on Sunday School materials that seem to be unused; clean the store room and other nooks and crannies where junk has been stuck.

If, there are materials you feel we really need to keep and you cannot come help, please let Mary Mitchell know (discipleship), Sara Edwards (hospitality), or Dave Halterman (buildings and grounds). If something hasn't been used for the last year or two, it will probably be pitched.

Adult Discipleship MT:

Adult Bible Studies

"Deep and Wide" Bible Study meets on Sunday mornings at 9:40 am. We use the scriptures that are read in worship, and use our time together to really go deeper in the word. Set aside 40 minutes on Sunday mornings to see what the scriptures are saying to you. Spend that time in thought and discussion with other thoughtful Christians. Taking time to study the word each week helps us gain a better understanding of scripture.

Editor's Column:

By Jerry Bennett

Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, I had just finished having lunch with a friend at Flapjacks on Madison near Thompson. As my friend and I were leaving I realized that there were two guys sitting at the table behind me wearing military ball caps much like mine.

Ben Reed was wearing a USMC hat and his friend, Clovis, was wearing a Navy hat. I told Clovis that Ben was in the Navy but probably didn't know it (It's an inside joke).

I guessed that Clovis was older than I and might be a Korean War Vet but soon

found that he, like Ben, was a Vietnam Vet and was only a year older than I. Clovis has cancer and obviously it is having an effect. Ben takes Clovis to the VA to get his treatments and takes him anywhere he needs to go. Ben has made all of Clovis' final arrangements for him. He has lined up the pallbearers and color guard. Clovis has no family, no direct next of kin. I invited him to The Fleet Reserve Association Christmas Party at 6:00 Saturday, Dec. 5th. Clovis asked what he should bring so I told them about the gift exchange. It's a member's only thing but I made an exception. Saturday night Clovis was going to have a lot of new brothers and sisters. I am so glad I stopped to talk to this old Veteran of the Vietnam War.

Clovis, Ben and his wife, had a good time at the Christmas party. Around nine p.m. Clovis told me he had to get back to the nursing home; he hadn't brought his meds with him. I stood up and announced that I thought it would be a good idea to have everyone gather around for a group picture with Clovis and Ben. Everyone apparently liked the idea and shipmate Hayes' wife took a picture with her phone.

Clovis is in the center in the orange jacket. Ben Reed is to his right with his arm resting on Clovis' wheelchair.

The following Monday at our regular monthly meeting I was a little surprised when neither of them showed up for the meeting. I called Ben and he said he had to work. Made perfect sense to me as I had observed that the Big Dog Flooring store was open as I came down Madison through Southport on the way to the meeting. I asked him if they were planning to come to Tuesday's breakfast and Ben said that, again, he had to work. I asked him if I could get Clovis to the breakfast if that is what Clovis wanted to do. Ben gave me



Clovis is in the orange jacket in the center. Ben is to his right.

the contact information for the Kindred Nursing Home in Greenfield. I called the nursing home and I was approved to take Clovis out on Tuesday morning. Clovis enjoyed the breakfast meeting and joined FRA at that time.

If you would like to send Clovis a Christmas greeting:

Clovis Burnhart
 % Greenfield Kindred Health Care
 200 Green Meadows Drive
 Greenfield, IN 16140

Clovis did serve in Korea before the armistice and in the Vietnam War. He was an Assault Boat Coxswain, a SEAL and a Chief Boatswain. After he got out of the Navy he joined the Army but, significantly, he wears a Navy ball cap. — JB



Sunday, December 27th, 2015

10:30 Worship Service Only
 12:00 pm No Fellowship Lunch

Thursday, December 31st, 2015

6:30 p.m. PAL Meeting

Saturday, January 2nd, 2016

3:30 – 6:00 pm All Church Skating Party

Sunday, January 3rd, 2016

8:30 am Worship (Communion)
 9:30 am Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 9:40 am Adult Study – “Deep & Wide Class”
 10:30 am Worship (Communion) 10:50 am Children/Youth Discipleship Classes
 12:00 pm Fellowship Lunch –

Thursday, January 7th, 2016

6:30 p.m. PAL Meeting

Sunday, January 10th, 2016

8:30 am Worship (Communion)
 9:30 am Choir Practice in Sanctuary

9:40 am Adult Study – “Deep & Wide Class”

10:30 am Worship (Communion) 10:50 am Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

12:00 pm Fellowship Lunch –

Tuesday, December 12th, 2015

7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Thursday, January 14th, 2016

6:30 p.m. PAL Meeting

Sunday, January 17th, 2016

8:30 am Worship (Communion)
 9:30 am Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 9:40 am Adult Study – “Deep & Wide Class”
 10:30 am Worship (Communion) 10:50 am Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

12:00 pm Fellowship Lunch –

Tuesday, January 19th, 2016

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Thursday, January 21st, 2016

6:30 p.m. PAL Meeting

Sunday, January 24th, 2016

8:30 am Worship (Communion)
 9:30 am Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 9:40 am Adult Study – “Deep & Wide Class”

10:30 am Worship (Communion)

Christmas Carol Sing

10:50 am Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

12:00 pm Fellowship Lunch –

Thursday, January 28th, 2016

6:30 p.m. PAL Meeting

Sunday, January 31st, 2016

8:30 am Worship (Communion)
 9:30 am Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 9:40 am Adult Study – “Deep & Wide Class”

10:30 am Worship (Communion)

10:50 am Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

12:00 pm Fellowship Lunch –