

2019 Annual Report

White Lick Presbyterian Church



Seasons of Life



See, I am doing a new thing? Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19

Annual Congregational Meeting
Annual Corporation Meeting
White Lick Presbyterian Church
January 26, 2020

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Galen Schwarz

Attendance: Call for a quorum

Clerk of Session: Ginny Sheets

Meetings of the Congregation

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Galen Schwarz

Purpose of the Congregational meeting

The session shall call an annual meeting of the congregation each year to receive reports of the past year's activities and for the transaction of any business to include but not limited to:

- a) Receive annual reports from the church's ministries (information only)
- b) Receive financial report for the preceding year (information only)
- c) Receive budget for the current year (information only)
- d) Grant permission for the corporation to sell cemetery plots during the ensuring year; and,
- e) Elect the Pastor Nominating Committee.

Purpose of the Corporation meeting

The White Lick Presbyterian Church corporation shall be maintained under the laws of the State of Indiana, to receive, hold, and transfer property and to facilitate the management of its temporal affairs on behalf of the congregation.

The Board of Directors, including its officers for the corporation shall be active ruling elders serving on session. The session shall elect officers for the corporation prior to the annual meeting of the congregation. The clerk of session shall serve as secretary for the corporation.

Board of Directors for 2020 as elected by the session on January 21, 2020 are. Erik Johnson President; Diane Buxton Vice President, Ginny Sheets Secretary, and Annetta Davis, Beth McGuire and Gerald George Directors.

2019 Annual Report

Moderator Galen Schwarz

Clerk Ginny Sheets

Copies of the annual report are available at the meeting and will be sent electronically to members and friends who have email addresses registered with the church office. Hard copies will be available at the church and mailed upon request.

Annual meeting agenda continued

2019 Financial Report

Treasurer Ron Hoke

2020 Annual Budget

Budget summaries are included in the Annual Report document of pages 4-5. The session has the responsibility for review of the financial status of the church and the approval of the annual budget. Details of final income and expenditures and the entire annual budget are available for review. Treasurer Ron Hoke shall make the presentation on behalf of the Finance Team.

Election of the Pastor Nominating Committee

Erik Johnson, Moderator for Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee is charged with the responsibility of conducting the search for a new pastor and bringing forth their recommendation to the congregation at a future congregational meeting. The Nominating Committee is recommending election of the following individuals to the Pastor Nominating Committee.

Amy Chambliss Annetta Davis Cara Miller Beth McGuire Bryan Ruppel
Sara Edwards and Cassie Brooks, Alternates

Recess the Congregational Meeting

Moderator Galen Schwarz

Convene the Business Meeting of the Corporation

President Erik Johnson

The congregational meeting is recessed to conduct the business meeting of the corporation as follows:

Sale of cemetery plots:

Cemetery Plots were sold to the following individuals during 2019:

- 2 plots: Carla Perkins
- 2 plots: Jerry and Dana Root

See Buildings and Grounds annual report for more details.

The congregation of White Lick Presbyterian Church grants permission to sell cemetery plots at White Lick Cemetery for the year 2020. Approval will enable the Building and Grounds Team, acting under the authority of the session to sell cemetery plots without calling a special meeting during the year. Notification of any sale shall be recorded with the Board of Directors of White Lick Presbyterian Church as well as Whitewater Valley Presbytery.

Receive the 2019 annual financial statement as recorded in the Annual Report.

Receive the 2020 annual budget.

Adjourn the Corporation Meeting.

Reconvening the Annual Congregational Meeting

Moderator Galen Schwarz

Adjourn the Annual Meeting with prayer.

Financial Report

December 31, 2019

INCOME:

Pledges	\$135,685.00	
Non-pledged	14,311.62	
Loose/plate offering	2,061.07	
Per Capita share	1,888.72	
Flowers (lily & poinsettia)	288.24	
Kitchen Fund	613.00	
Study books & materials	142.00	
Youth Group	603.00	
Miscellaneous income	207.72	
TOTAL INCOME		\$155,800.37

EXPENSES:

Pastoral staff	\$ 66,707.31	
Clerical support	3,306.00	
Professional contracted staff	8,100.00	
Employer payroll expenses	252.93	
Administrative	3,374.27	
Buildings and Grounds	61,598.46	
Worship/Bridge Pastor	4,312.55	
Education	581.23	
Outreach	5,322.67	
Hospitality/Deacons/Session	1,714.72	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$155,270.14

INCOME over expense \$ 530.23

Fund Balances

December 31, 2019

01 General	\$38,791.44		
02 Prepaid pledges	0.00	40 Music	\$ 152.58
05 Deacons	2,217.45	41 Weddings	889.77
10 Pastor Benevolence	780.74	50 Capital Projects	18.00
15 Pastor's 403B	2,000.00	70 Bldg Maintenance	4,910.49
20 Offerings (pass thru)	1,914.75	71 Landscaping	0.00
21 Denny Mission	8,085.59	73 Kitchen	138.24
28 Church Pentecost	414.00	75 Technology	100.81
29 Church Peacemaking	815.00	80 Memorial	7,428.08
30 Youth	656.92	81 Cemetery	3,116.32
35 Special Mission	430.14	85 Mortgage Reserve	18,000.39
36 Easter Sunrise	223.06		
39 Celebration Sunday	1,881.99	TOTAL	\$92,741.76

New Covenant Mutual Funds \$ 1,192.66 (December 31, 2019)

PILP Mortgage Balance \$ 72,658.48 (interest rate 3.5%, payoff July of 2022)

2020 Budget

INCOME:

Pledges	\$114,910	
Non-pledged	23,559	
Loose/plate offering	2,000	
Per Capita share	2,000	
Flowers (lily & poinsettia)	300	
Kitchen Fund	600	
Study books & materials	150	
Youth Group	1,500	
Stewardship envelopes	150	
Miscellaneous	100	
Mortgage Reserve	18,000	
TOTAL INCOME		\$163,269

EXPENSES:

Pastoral staff	\$ 77,596	
Clerical support	4,244	
Professional contracted staff	8,400	
Employer TAX	325	
Administrative	5,600	
Buildings and Grounds	56,331	
Worship	1,350	
Education	1,700	
Outreach	6,073	
Hospitality/Deacons/Session	1,650	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$163,269

Finance Team: Annetta Davis, Shirley Halterman, Erik Johnson, Ron Hoke, Treasurer

No Terms of Call:

The congregation will not be asked to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call. The Interim Pastor is hired on contract approved by Session. The Interim Pastor is being paid under the financial terms of call as established by the Whitewater Valley Presbytery as shown in the budget.

2019 Officers

Deacons

<u>Class of 2019</u>	Mary Eversman Evelyn McKee Ron Hoke
<u>Class of 2020</u>	vacant
<u>Class of 2021</u>	Mary Ann Hoke Diana Temple Jeanette Blackstone

Elders

<u>Class of 2019</u>	Mary Mitchell Erik Johnson
<u>Class of 2020</u>	Diane Buxton Virginia Sheets
<u>Class of 2021</u>	Annetta Davis vacant

Nominating Committee - 2019

Erik Johnson, Moderator
Mary Eversman, (deacons) (replaced by Mary Ann Hoke due to illness)
Carol Johnson, (PW)
Ginny Sheets (member-at-large)
Amy Chambliss (inactive ruling elder)

2019 Corporation Officers

Erik Johnson, President
Diane Buxton, Vice President
Virginia Sheets, Secretary
Session members

2019 Membership Report

prepared by Shirley Halterman, Clerk of Session emeritus

Active Membership as of 12/31/2016		104
Active Membership as of 12/31/2017		93
Active Membership as of 12/31/2018		87
Active Membership as of 12/31/2019		85
Gains:		6
01-Beth McGuire (reinstated) 02-Cara Miller 03-Darlene Robbins 04-Deanna Ruppel 05-Bryan Ruppel 06-Sherry Wenger		
Losses:		8
Deaths: 01-Rhea Fischer, January 7, 2019 02-Devon Jackson, March 15,2019 03-William Fischer, May 30,2019 Removed from the rolls: 03-Leslie Buhrmester 04-Krisanna Johnson 05-Ryan Johnson 06-Dotti Laas 07-Terry Laas Members transferred: 0		
Active Membership as of 12/31/2019 2021 per capita is based on this number		85

Shirley and Michael Berry became associate members while retaining their membership in their Florida church



Session Report

Remembering Saints who passed in 2019:

Passing of Rhea Fischer on January 7, 2019. The Celebration service for Rhea was held at the church on Saturday, January 12 with a luncheon following.

Death of Ruling Elder Devon Jackson on March 15, 2019. Funeral held at Hall Mortuary in Pittsboro on March 19, 2019.

Ruling Elder Bill Fischer passed away on May 30, 2019. A memorial service was held on June 13, 2019 at noon with a luncheon following

New Beginnings Assessment began February 19, 2019

As part of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery Mathew 25 Building Vital Congregations Initiative, White Lick was given the opportunity to receive a grant to have a consultant provide socio-economic information that introduced our year-long visioning process.

This process began on February 19 as Pastor Daren Hofmann, Clerk Ginny Sheets, and Treasurer Ron Hoke met with Steve DeFields-Gambrel, the consultant from Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation. The consultant collected general information on the church, the facility, financial data, and was given a driving tour of the area. At 7:00 pm church leaders met for the Appreciative Inquiry led by Executive Presbyter Alan Thames. The Appreciative Inquiry was the first step in collecting information from the congregation on their vision of the future.

On Saturday, May 4th, designated discussion leaders Erik Johnson, Mary Mitchell, Annetta Davis, Diane Buxton, Ginny Sheets, and Beth McGuire met with Liz Kaznak-Hall and Deb Mitchell to receive facilitation training for the meetings to be held on three Sundays during lunch. Information from the three small group discussions was compiled and reviewed by session for content and accuracy. Throughout the summer and early Fall, the session continued to work on the content received culminating in a meeting of Elders and Deacons on November 2 with Deb Mitchell facilitating. The five themes were narrowed to three: Singles and Seniors, Families, and School Children. Again, the Elders and Deacons met the evening of November 19 to finalize the potential actions surrounding the three themes. The Vision statement: *Living into Christ's Call for Us and our Neighbors* was approved at the session meeting on the 19th. The Vision Plan is included at the end of this Annual Report.

New Member Classes

Amy Chambliss led the membership classes. Cara Miller, Darlene Robbins, Deanna Ruppel, Bryan Ruppel, and Sherry Wenger were welcomed as new members in 2019. Shirley and Michael Berry joined as affiliate members as their home church is in Ft. Myers, FL.

August 18 Homecoming Celebration

In researching the old minutes, it was discovered that the first service in first church building was held on August 18, 1857. As August 18th happened to fall on Sunday this year, a special service and reception was held. Many former members of the church returned to share stories and enjoyed fellowship. The Foudray family donated a church bell as part of the festivities. (See Buildings and Grounds Report).

Resignation of Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann

A congregational meeting was called November 17, 2019 to approve the resignation of Daren Hofmann who served as our pastor for seven years. Pastor Hofmann accepted a position to First Presbyterian Church in Muncie, IN. Rev. Dr. Galen Schwarz served as Bridge Pastor for the remainder of 2019 as session began the search for an interim pastor. The Nominating Committee began work immediately to recruit members for the Pastor Nominating Committee who will interview and recommend the new full-time pastor.

Other Church Business

Auditors Matt Bryant and Dotti Laas completed the 2019 financial audit. The audit was clear with one recommendation that a policy be developed regarding issuance and monitoring of credit cards.

The annual records review conducted by the Whitewater Valley Presbytery was completed in April with no outstanding issues.



October membership class: (l-r) Michael and Shirley Berry (associate membership) Sherry Wenger, Deanna Ruppel, Darlene Robbins, and Bryan Ruppel. Cara Miller joined earlier in the Spring.



BOARD OF DEACONS

"The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress."

Presbyterian Book of Order G-2.0201

2019 Deacons: Mary Ann Hoke (Moderator), Jeanette Blackstone, Mary Eversman, Evelyn McKee, Diana Temple, and Ron Hoke (Secretary).

CARE GROUPS

- Assigned all 65 church families to a care group
- Introduced each deacon to their care group through a special mailing
- Invited congregation to have lunch with their deacon in January
- Discussed care group joys and concerns at each monthly deacon meeting
- Focused on building relationships with care group members throughout the year
- Provided personal contacts with care group members each Sunday and by telephone, emails and texts
- Sent greeting cards on special occasions (birthday, anniversary, Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.)
- Addressed special needs of care group members throughout the year

COMMUNION

- Scheduled deacons and/or elders to serve communion each month
- Purchased and prepared communion elements

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

- Prepared and served funeral luncheons for the families of Rhea Fischer, Devon Jackson and Bill Fischer

MEMORIAL GIFTS

- Made memorial gifts in memory of Linda Pyles, Joanne Williams, Rhea Fischer, Devon Jackson and Bill Fischer

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Organized a Family Game Night for 35 people in February
 - provided games, activities, refreshments, gift cards for door prizes
- Sponsored a performance of the Mission Quartet for the 10:30 am worship service in June
- Conducted the Women's Retreat in August for 24 people
 - served a light breakfast and lunch; Sarah Hoffman was the program leader
- Planned a Masquerade Party for 25 people on the last Saturday in October
 - participants encouraged to wear a costume, decorate a pumpkin, play games
 - provided refreshments for the event and prizes for the games
- Provided a special cake and a gift card for Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- Collected and sold aluminum cans to fund deacon projects and activities

Buildings and Grounds

prepared by Ginny Sheets

Thanks to all who have helped with Buildings and Grounds projects this year with special thanks to Eric Brooks and Bryan Ruppel who have taken over the mowing responsibilities; Jan Farnsley, Sara Edwards, Jackie Rosales, Jeanette Blackstone, Annetta Davis, and Sandy Sunier who worked on the flower beds.

Cemetery

Two cemetery plots were sold to Carla Perkins for her daughters Amy Mclain and Jerry Ebert adjacent to the plots for David (interred) and herself. Amy Mclain passed away on November 6 and was buried on November 11.

Two cemetery plots were sold to Dana and Jerry Root. Mr. Root passed away on December 8; burial was December 12.

Burial of David Bowman. Deceased 12/27/2019; Interment 01/02/2020. Mr. Bowman was a decorated WWII veteran. Burial plots had been purchased in 2011.

Building and Grounds

- Two stoves purchased from Lowes to replace the kitchen stoves.
- A water cooler was purchased for bottled water for the kitchen.
- The wall in the Welcome Center was painted.
- A new septic pump and repairs to the lid over the well to the pump were done in late Fall.
- Three of the four furnaces have now been replaced due to system failures.
- A used mower and a new weed trimmer were purchased from Busenbark Lawn Equipment to replace the stolen equipment. A leaf blower was donated to the church.

The first Spring workday was held on April 13 with follow up work on April 17 to work on the flower beds. Additional days were planned but weather conditions interrupted the work. The Fall work days focused on leaf pickup and cleaning off the flower beds.

Due to inclement weather, the outdoor worship center was not used this summer.

The Church Bell / Dinner Bell

In the late 50's early 60's the White Lick Presbyterian Church Sanctuary was reconfigured with the Pulpit and riser on the south side of the building and the outer vestibule behind the pulpit was closed and used for storage. A good number of articles accumulated in the vestibule over the years. My father (Edgar Foudray Jr. ; aka "Bud" Foudray) returned home from a work session at the church one summer night with his pickup truck full of things which the men at the work session had decided to throw away to clean up the vestibule. Among the items were 2 church bells. One was a large bell which was totally cracked and only made a dull thud when struck. This bell went to the scrap metal pile. My father kept a smaller #3 bell, took it to a welding shop to have a yoke built and mounted the bell on a post next to the back porch of his home 4 miles east of the church.

For 30+ years my mother (Kathryn Courtney Foudray) would ring the “dinner bell” to call my father in for dinner, supper or an important phone call. After my parents passed, my sister (Gayle Foudray Bowman) and I sold their house and I moved the dinner bell to my Crawfordsville farm.

In 2015 my late neighbor, Rick Bridwell, restored the bell having it sand blasted and meticulously painted it with shiny copper paint and then helped me mount it at the top of an old telephone pole.

On Sunday Aug 11, while listening to Pastor Daren Hofman discuss the August 18 celebration of White Lick’s first service in 1857; suggesting we bring pictures or other vintage items to the service. I was struggling to think of a vintage item I could bring. Then a bell rang in my ear, and I realized the dinner bell taken from the church 60+ years ago was the perfect thing.

So my sister and I are returning the bell for our father to its original home and original purpose for the August 18 celebration. We don’t know how old the bell is but believe it was made by the C.S. Bell Company of Hillsboro Ohio which was founded in 1856.

We hope the congregation will find a good use and place to install the bell. We are sure that if it installed where the children can reach it that it will be rung frequently.

Greg Foudray and Gayle Foudray Bowman
Aug 14, 2019



(left to right) Dave Blanford, Lucy Gray Blanford, Greg Foudray, Dorothy Cummings Boersma, Gayle Foudray Bowman. Lucy and Dorothy are both granddaughters of Edgar and Louise Foudray.

August 18, 2019

Christian Education and Discipleship

prepared by Mary Mitchell

Leadership: Mary Mitchell, Lynn Turner, Ginny Sheets, Sara Hofmann and Beth McGuire

Children and Youth:

Sunday school for elementary ages is held nearly every Sunday during 10:30 worship, taught by Sara Hofmann and Mary Mitchell.

The annual Pancake Supper, a fundraiser that supports White Lick youth attendance at Montreat youth conference, was held on March 5th.

An Easter egg hunt was held on Sun. April 14th. Lynn Turner and Sara Hofmann prepared and hid the Easter eggs and several children enjoyed finding eggs. This year, due to weather, the hunt was held in the Fellowship Hall.

Montreat: In 2019 Lynn Turner and Becca Turner attended Week 3 of Montreat Youth Conference. Mary Mitchell served as a small group leader the same week. Lynn, Becca and Mary all led worship on Youth Sunday July 28th.

Christmas Pageant was held on Dec 8th. Mary Mitchell wrote the script and we had 6 children participate.



Ginger bread house decorating was held on the evening of Dec 6th; attended by 17 youth, children and adults. Beth McGuire supplied the gingerbread house kits. Several participants brought candies and decorations.

Adults:

Monday study group led by Ginny Sheets and Pastor Daren Hofmann met at Crestwood Village. Eight serious students of the Bible compose the core group.

Family: White Lick Presbyterian participated in several community events this year. Several families participated in the 4th of July parade in Brownsburg. Walkers passed out flyers to parade attendees and families riding on the wagon tossed candy to children in the crowd.

We also participated in National Night Out in Avon on Aug. 6th. Two backpacks packed with school supplies were provided as prizes for a drawing. We also handed out keychains and had a beanbag toss game.

Team: The Christian Education team also helped provide lunch on Sundays throughout the year. And met several times through the year to plan events. The team began actively planning program ideas for the 2020 Seasons of Life initiative.

Hospitality

Prepared by Sara Edwards

MISSION: *To serve God by encouraging our faith community and welcoming everyone with love, friendship and care. This includes working with other teams to create a welcoming atmosphere in and around the Church.*

MEMBERSHIP: Sara Edwards, Jeannine Fancher and others who pitch in to help with food and cleanup. There are several people who don't want to be listed as members; yet go out of their way to help when needed. Many thanks to you.

FOCUS: Our main responsibility revolves around the Fellowship Lunches, which are provided to the congregation on most Sundays, after 10:30 service. We schedule them quarterly with the various mission teams who take turns preparing and serving the meals, as well as assist those teams that need help. The Hospitality team, itself, is scheduled to provide lunch about six times a year. Among the other responsibilities for this team are:

- Keeping the kitchen stocked with paper goods, coffee, lemonade and condiments, for use by anyone in the Church.
- Because the first Sunday of each month is Pitch-In, everyone brings a dish to share. On those days, we make drinks, facilitate the food line and do whatever.



- General cleanup of the kitchen to keep it looking neat and tidy.
- We also try to greet visitors and encourage all to join us for lunch.
- We decorate the Welcome Center and Wildwood Café as seasons change.
- Participate in Hanging of the Greens as well as taking down after Epiphany.
- We are available to facilitate picnics, dinners and other projects, as needed.



Mission and Outreach Team

prepared by Annetta Davis

Members: Diane Buxton, Gerald George, Terry George, Dave Halterman, Shirley Halterman, Lynn Turner.

Accomplishments for 2019:

- Purchased gas cards for anyone in need.
- Purchased gift cards from Kroger for (2) families from Avon Intermediate East for Thanksgiving.
- Members of the Mission Team and the congregation donated food items for the two Avon Int. East families and donated toys and clothes for these families through the Giving Tree
- Supported the Cornerstone Food Pantry collecting donations the second Sunday of each month (January- September).
- Participated with serving lunch at Good News Mission.
- Donated to Sheltering Wings with \$250 for items needed.
- Donated \$250 to PAL.
- Donated funds to Get Real.
- Pet Ministry- Mo Boulanger shares her Sheltie therapy dogs with patients at Eskenazi Hospital on Wednesdays.
- Participation in Avon Police Department's National Night Out where backpack tags were given out and a drawing held for two backpacks stuffed with school supplies.
- The Hendricks County Health Partnership Interfaith Coalition and the Hendricks County Community Foundation are connecting us with agencies who are helping the underserved in our county.

A closer look at some of our Outreach Activities

Indy Love Train



An outreach that started 13 years ago in downtown Indy. We serve to feed and clothe our brothers and sisters of the homeless/poor community. White Lick has been a part of Indy Love Train all 13 years. Location is Unity church on Delaware St, Indy. Many donations have come from our congregation including clothing (weather appropriate), hygiene items, blankets, sleeping bags, canned food etc. which are always needed. A meal is cooked and served by the volunteers every month. Volunteers consists of all

denominations who have a heart to serve the least of God's children. You can be the hands and feet of Christ and receive more than you give. Indy love Train has a Facebook page, just type, Indy Love Train, on Search.

Good News Mission

White Lick Presbyterian has maintained a long-term relationship with Good News mission in downtown Indianapolis where we have helped served the Saturday noon meal once a month. There is a need for additional White Lick volunteers to serve a few months of the year to maintain this personal relationship with Good News Mission. In addition White Lick has provided donations of non-perishable food items, clothing, and monetary donations which assisted in repairs after a fire. Contact Lynn Turner for additional information.

Thanks to your Generosity



Food donations supported families at Thanksgiving, children during Christmas break, and local food pantries.



Gifts for children at Christmas



A Dorcas Basket stuffed with Vacation Bible School supplies that went to a church in the SW region of the Dominican Republic.

Candy for the Brownsburg Fourth of July parade.



P A L - Parents of Addicted Loved Ones

prepared by Diane Buxton

MISSION: PAL provides hope, through education and support, to parents of addicted loved ones. Last year we couldn't believe we passed seven years at the end of October holding a PAL meeting at White Lick. 😊 A lot of growth not only nationally but here in Indiana continues to happen.

Nationally we now have 161 meetings in 39 states versus last year 132 meetings and 33 states. Here in Indiana there are 13 meetings, and more inquiries continue to come.

PAL at White Lick

- With God's help we continue to give hope to 10-30 members every Thursday night
- We have spoken at churches, organizations in Hendricks county and surrounding counties
- Mentor new facilitators
- Attend events with a PAL table to educate
- Continue to see and hear the hope in our Pal's
- Take phone calls for those that need support
- Support training and distribution of Narcan to first responders and others who have regular contact with addicted persons.

Opioid and fentanyl addiction remain a huge challenge. Not only is the addicted person affected but the entire family and the entire community. Churches remain a key gathering place where support groups can meet and information distributed. Pray for those who are faced with this awful disease addicted to alcohol, narcotics, and drugs whether legally prescribed or illegally obtained.



The Longest Night Service held on the evening of December 22 provided a quiet time to remember and grieve for those who passed away during 2019 whether by drugs, illness, or age-related conditions. This solemn service was led by Mary Mitchell, Amy Chambliss, and Rev. Dr. Galen Schwarz (pictured).



White Lick Presbyterian Women (PW)

PW – Our Purpose (source PCUSA.org)

Everything we do as an organization and as a community is guided by our PW Purpose, and that includes ministry, resources and relationships.

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

All women are invited to participate in White Lick Presbyterian Women. We meet the third Monday of the month, at 7:00 pm, at the Church. We gather at 5:15 pm at Charbono's restaurant, in Avon, for fellowship and a meal before our meetings.

2019 PW Activities and Projects:

- Collected and delivered Mother's Day gift bags to the women of Sheltering Wings.
- Sponsored the annual Women's Banquet on May 20th which was enjoyed by all!
- Organized the annual Dessert Fest /Bake Sale on July 20th.
- Organized the annual Chili Supper/Bake Sale (a great success!) on November 8th.
- Assembled and delivered Christmas Cheer Baskets on December 15th.
- Prepared and served quarterly Fellowship Lunches.

2019 PW Donations:

Get Real Ministries (\$400)

Good News Mission (\$800)

Sheltering Wings (\$400)

Montreat Youth Trip (\$500)

PAL Donation (\$100)

Pittsboro Church Food Pantry (\$200)

Missions-Kroger Gift Cards (\$200)

Least Coin Offering (\$109)

2019 PW Officers:

Jeannine Fancher, Moderator

Sara Edwards, Secretary

Lynn Turner, Treasurer



Evelyn McKee, Sara Edwards, Jeannine Fancher admire Mother's Day Gift Bags for Sheltering Wings

Worship Team Annual Report

Prepared by Amy Chambliss

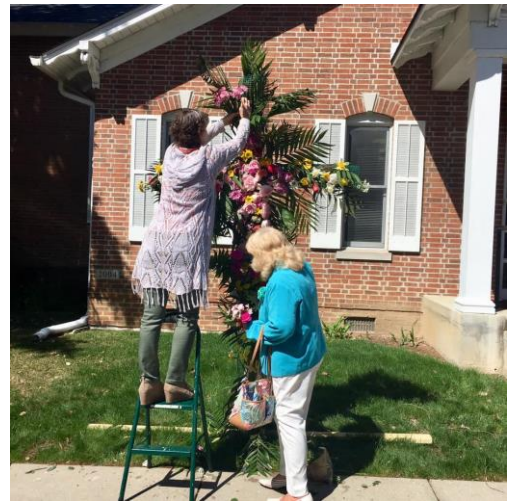
Hebrews 12: 28

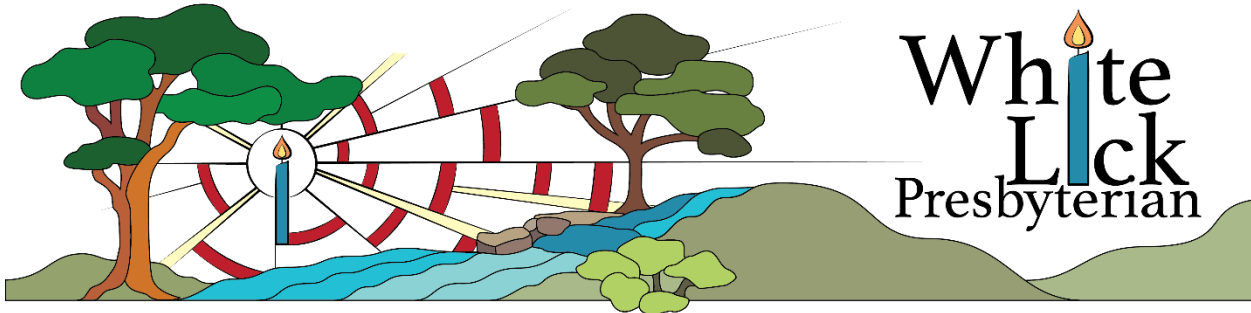
“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, and offer to God pleasing service and acceptable worship with reverence and awe”.

Worship Team - Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann, Mary Mitchell, Amy Chambliss, Diane Buxton, and Rev. Dr. Galen Schwarz

2019 Worship Team Highlights

- Ash Wednesday service March 6. The team decided to have the service remain a vesper service and common table which was well received the previous year.
- Lenten Study “The Prodigal Prophet” began March 10. Study groups met at different times during the week, and continued during Holy Week.
- The Maundy Thursday service took place on April 18. The service was a dramatization of the betrayal of Christ. People were deeply moved by the service, as it made them think about the love Christ has for us, and the sacrifice he made for us.
- The Palm Sunday service was well attended, and the children processed into the sanctuary waving palms.
- The sunrise service, breakfast, and the 10:30 service were well attended. The congregation was asked to bring flowers to decorate a cross set up outside.
- Mary Mitchell, Lynn and Becca Turner attended the Montreat Youth Conference. Upon their return, the three ladies taught us the morning energizer songs including moving to the music. The three ladies planned, and implemented the entire service. Mary presented a song “Da Kuo Naa Mo Mi” (I see you, I respect you) with hand motions, and taught the congregation the song. She also taught the song along with hand motions for “In This body no fear. In this body safety. In this body greatest happiness. In this body deep peace”.
- Sunday August 18 was the 162nd anniversary of the first service at White Lick Presbyterian Church. The service was well attended with many old timers returning.
- Daren presented a sermon series September and October with selections from the book of Jeremiah.
- Rev. Galen Schwarz began his service to White Lick as our Bridge Pastor on Sunday November 24. The Worship Team has assisted him in navigating through the services and White Lick traditions.
- The Children’s Pageant was presented on Sunday December 15, under the wonderful direction of Mary Mitchell. The pageant was a perspective of the birth of Christ as seen by the men in the story. The pageant was well done, and well received by the congregation.
- The Longest Night Service took place on Sunday December 22 at 6:00 pm. It was a contemplative and thoughtful service for people dealing with grief and loss during the busy holiday season. Mary Mitchell and Amy Chambliss presented readings during the service led by Rev. Galen Schwarz.
- The Christmas Eve Service retained the traditional lessons and carols depicting the birth of Jesus; ending in candlelight and the singing of “Silent Night”. The service was led by Rev. Alice McDowell. The individual readers were asked to read the scripture passages from their favorite Bible translation. The service was well attended.





VISION PLAN—2019-2021

*To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven
Ecclesiastes 3:1*



Seasons of Life

New Vision for White Lick Living into Christ's call for us and our neighbors.

Ephesians 3:16-18 (NIV)

¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

Our New Beginnings discussions during 2019 led us into a new vision. The input of the congregation throughout the process was essential to keeping focus on those issues that mean most to our faith community while expanding to deepen our commitment and service to our neighbors in Hendricks County and beyond.

Guiding Scripture for our Leaders:

Luke 5:1-11 (NIV) Jesus Calls His First Disciples

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Guiding Scripture for Implementation of the Vision

John 21:15-17 (NRSV)

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

Celebrating our Servanthood Why and Who we serve as a Faith Community

James 2:14-17 Life Application Study Bible

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your action? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you said, "Good-bye, stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

We exist to serve

"Why"? White Lick has had a viable presence on the corner of 575 and 600 for almost 170 years. Those who have worshipped at our church have come to love it; those who pass by recognize us as that church in the wildwood. Why are we still here today?

- We exist to honor and praise God, our Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer.
 - We exist to be the hands and feet of Jesus; to be the "salt and light" in a troubled world; to spread the Good News and minister to all who need spiritual connection and life-giving support. At work, at play, at school, at home—our mission is to serve Christ where God has placed us.
 - We exist to be a "sanctuary" where everyone can feel the love and acceptance of a caring community of disciples of Jesus.
- We exist to gather with friends to worship, refresh, renew, reenergize and deepen our relationships with one another.
 - We exist to be the voice of Christ for those who are hungry, thirsty, the stranger, the sick, the prisoner, the least of God's kingdom. (Matthew 25: 37-45)
 - We exist to instruct others in ways to change their lenses in how they view and react to the world.

Celebrating White Lick Strengths Who we are as a Faith Community

These values represent who we are at White Lick and what we want to be in the future. The list was compiled from discussions held during the spring and summer of 2019 as part of the New Beginnings Initiative. Scriptures used in this plan were contributed by the session elders.

Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV) Salt and Light

¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Faith-filled Disciples: God has a purpose where He has placed us. We are Spirit-driven disciples who walk with Christ into the world to glorify God. We value opportunities to go deep and wide in the Word through Sunday morning worship, children’s church, and Bible study. Worship is not a production at White Lick but an invitation to enter into a time with God. Thoughtful learning and spiritual growth are encouraged. Members are challenged not to blindly accept dogmatic doctrine but to learn how to read scripture, interpret its contextual meaning and apply to daily life. Scripture is used to clarify and broaden our understanding of what it means to be Christ’s disciples; not to be narrowing and selectively exclusive.

Traditional and Historical Nature of the Church Facility

White Lick is a tradition on the corner of Hendricks county roads 575 and 600 where it has stood since the first structure was built in 1857. To the casual passer by, the church has a quaint, rural look. Simplicity of the sanctuary lends to peaceful contemplation. The outdoor worship center is appealing to those seeking a quiet place in a natural setting. The rural setting in the midst of the growing Indianapolis metro area lends well to its name of “the Church in the Wildwood”. Recognizing its traditions, we strive to honor the past while remembering the Presbyterian history of being *reformed but always reforming* to adapt to current conditions and needs of our surrounding communities.

Hospitality: We welcome the stranger whose name is remembered and feels comfortable within the church. Genuine in treatment of others; what you hope to find in a loving church. Our faith presence in Hendricks county enables us to extend the hand of hospitality and friendship; guiding and encouraging others in their discipleship journeys.

Fellowship: Warm, secure, stable, acceptance with a no judgement; family feel. Sunday meals provide time to get to know newcomers and catch up with old friends. Inclusiveness—there are no factions vying for power or attention to their own personal agendas.

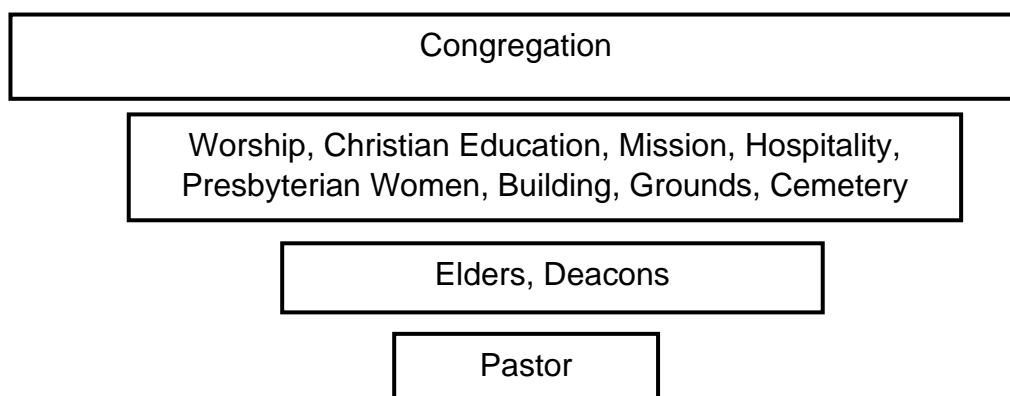
Compassion: We recognize that everyone is a unique beloved child of God. We exemplify compassion through praying and caring for each other; looking out for the welfare of each other and those served by the church. Willingness to contribute goods, supplies, and financial support for mission efforts such as food for school children during breaks, Christmas giving tree, and Sheltering Wings.

Shared Leadership: Shared voices between pastor and congregation; men and women share responsibilities and decision making is maintained within church functional units. Through its history, White Lick has had strong leadership that has kept the church viable even during times when pastoral leadership was minimal. Thus, the church has maintained its focus on Jesus as the church's ultimate leader, not the pastor. A true priesthood of all believers.

What are our best resources?

- People – caring and supportive; untapped spiritual gifts for ministry.
- Pastor—Grounded in God's Word. Committed to continuing Jesus' ministry. Vitality. Willingness to try new things. Go to attitude. Pastoral care.
- Building—Well kept in a natural setting. Traditional in image. Inviting.
- Financial sustainability—challenges which can be overcome.
- Spiritual—traditional worship; strong faith; prayer warriors.
- Technical—ability through website and Facebook (and potential of Twitter, Snapchat et. al.) to communicate with the greater community

Current leadership structure of White Lick Presbyterian Church



Instead of a top down structure with the pastor on top as identified in many management systems, this model represents the participatory leadership style of Jesus.

(Lead Like Jesus by Ken Blanchard)

History of White Lick Presbyterian Church

Established 1851

Genesis 12:1-2 (NRSV)

The Call of Abram

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.

² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

This "promised land" in Indiana for the settlers in the early 1800s was very different from their native countries of Germany, Ireland, England, and Scotland. Even those settlers who had early roots in the original thirteen colonies found the land a wilderness of few trails, swamps and dense woods where one could easily become lost.

When the first white men entered Indiana, they found a large band of Native Americans camping on the White Lick and Eel rivers. The Native Americans called White Lick River *Wape-ke-way* meaning *white salt*. The settlers learned to hunt and fish from these friendly native dwellers.

In 1828 Nathaniel L. Pierce received a land patent from the United States Government for 80 acres and gave a small portion for our cemetery in 1837. In 1833, Mr. Pierce received a land patent for an additional 320 acres and eventually donated the small corner where the first church would be built.

Mrs. Jane Barlow is credited with bringing together those early Presbyterians for worship. She was the wife of Enoch Barlow who settled along the banks of White Lick Creek in 1828. Although an official member of the Danville Presbyterian church she would find a minister to preach in her home, schoolhouses, or barns in the area. God had a plan for this small corner of Hendricks County when twelve neighbors of Scotch-Irish descent met in the kitchen of William and Juan (pronounced Joan) Patterson to organize White Lick Presbyterian. Just like the earliest Christians, this band of faithful Presbyterians met in a house church and called The Reverend B. F. Cole to be their first pastor in 1851.

As the congregation grew, a more permanent meeting house was needed. William Ragan built the first wood framed church in 1857. The church was dedicated on August 18, 1857 with a "gracious revival" that doubled the membership of the church. Rev. H.L. Dickerson became the pastor. Fondly called Uncle Henry, he traveled on foot from home to home, staying in whatever home he ended his day. Uncle Henry served many small Presbyterian churches in the area as well as Indianapolis. Rev. Dickerson served the congregation for over 40 years at which time he was elected Pastor Emeritus. Many of the founders of our church are buried in the cemetery including Rev. Dickerson.

Throughout most of its early history, the congregation was small but sustained itself with pastors who served multiple churches in the area. Worship was held at various times from Sunday morning to Sunday evening and even on Wednesdays depending on the availability of the preacher. Periodic week-long revivals increased the membership.

When a tragic fire destroyed the frame structure in the late 1870s, the congregation built the present brick sanctuary and dedicated it in 1881. The clay for the bricks came from the banks of White Lick Creek. In 1956 a fellowship hall and a kitchen were added with central heating and plumbing. And in 1968 Sunday school classrooms and an office were built and the sanctuary remodeled.

It was not until after World War II that our church began to “increase in numbers and prosper”. Pairs and Spares and the Booster Club were active adult church groups who helped with finances and cared for our church facility and cemetery. There were family camping trips to McCormick’s Creek and Turkey Run State Parks, Fall Festivals, an active youth group led by Carol McGowan, fish fries, chili suppers, plus the two additions to the north end of the sanctuary. Like today, parking was a problem and periodically discussed by session.

Jesus told the parable of a nobleman who entrusted a valuable gift to his servants telling them to “do business until I come back”. (Luke 19:11-27) Jesus has been generous in the gifts he has give to White Lick. Some gifts were invested wisely while at other times, the gifts seemed hidden within the church walls. The 1980s were a time when the gifts seemed sparse. These were some of the more difficult days of the church. The worshipping membership had dwindled to less than a dozen, but the faithfulness of those few saints really kept the doors open. Saints like Jerry Poole and Amy Chambliss understood that God had a purpose in White Lick being here.

And the church began to change. New families arrived. New ministries were started. New leadership came and stayed and left its mark: Rev. Don Boebinger, Rev. Joy B. Goehring, student pastors like Glenyce Grindstaff, Paula Mann and Aby and Melissa Bauzo; and, then Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann. White Lick Presbyterian began to mirror some of the changes that were happening in the community around it.

Through much prayer and discernment, the congregation took a major leap of faith and built the current education wing in 2004. The church grew not only in numbers but with members whose spiritual gifts strengthened our ability to Worship—Grow—Serve. We became an equipping church to Prepare and Send Spirit-filled disciples who walked with Christ into the world to glorify God. Like many small churches, especially those with a rural history, relationships are the core of keeping the church healthy and active.

With more space and steady leadership, many of the leaders today arrived after the construction in 2004. They were drawn to the Church in the Wildwood by faithful leaders of that time. Leaders like Jerry and Martha Poole, Sam and June Thompson, Bill and Rhea Fischer, Carol McGowan, Austin and Eileen Williamson, Edie Goad and Linda Nicely, the Comptons, the Kirbys, the Botzums, the Krohnes, the Harmons, the Foudrays, the Freemans, the Henrys, the Rodgers, and so many more.

Those that came were often asked how they found White Lick as we are not located on a main road. Many said they got lost trying to find another church or just drove past one day and found the church to be “calling to them.” So the joke became “God called us to White Lick because you couldn’t find the place any other way.” A recent visitor indicated she found the church by following the signs for the chili supper! Although Jesus went to the big city of Jerusalem, his ministry was centered off the main roads and paths where the people lived. Our sacred space is similarly located where the people live.

White Lick has been impacted by many of the same issues that affect all congregations:

Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

- Children and youth have grown up; graduated; and are slow to be replaced by a new generation. Once three Sunday School classes divided by grade levels are down to one multi-age class, yet we have seen a recent increase in young families who appreciate the small church environment.

- Membership has decreased due to deaths; families transferring to larger churches with active youth programs; and normal attrition as individuals and families move out of the area.
- The mortgage on the addition will end mid-2022 thus freeing funds for other mission initiatives. We continue to break even or have slight surpluses and keep a full-time pastor, but the numbers continue to be tight every year.
- Thriving adult Bible studies and Sunday morning discussions have been reduced to one group that meets at a retirement center in Avon. Various efforts have produced little interest in adult Christian education.
- Active ministry teams that did the work of the church have dwindled down to a few members who keep the various groups functional but not always effective.
- Like many small churches, programs and projects are dependent upon the availability of leadership. To implement this plan, some less productive programs will need to be evaluated and/or dropped.
- Recruitment of new elders, deacons, and other church leaders is resulting in *recycling* leaders who have been in the same position for many years or leaving some positions vacant.

Although internally, White Lick has struggled, its outreach has grown significantly.

- Parents of Addicted Loved Ones meets every Thursday evening. Organized initially as the first group outside of the state of Arizona, Indiana now has a dozen groups and PAL has expanded into twenty-three states thanks to the discipleship of two White Lick women.
- The congregation is very generous in supporting special projects such as contributing food for children during school breaks; annual Christmas giving tree; providing school supplies for local school children and the Dorcas basket project which supplies Vacation Bible School materials in the Dominican Republic.
- Supporting Sheltering Wings, a domestic abuse residential center in Hendricks County, with financial support, food and hygiene items and gift bags for women for Mother's Day.
- Monthly visits to Good New Mission to serve a meal and to Indy Love Train, a consortium of churches serving the homeless in Indianapolis with food and clothing;
- Increasing involvement in local events: Brownsburg Christmas and Fourth of July parades, Halloween Trail and Treat at a Brownsburg Park, and National Night Out in Avon.
- The annual Summer dessert fest and Fall chili supper which is supported by the surrounding area who love any chance to eat out at a local church or fire department fund raiser.

White Lick is also active in the more global ministry of PCUSA. White Lick participates in the four special offerings each year and pays its annual per capita. The church is active in Whitewater Valley Presbytery with both its pastors and elders serving on committees and in leadership positions including commissioners to General Assembly. The pastor and elders attend the

quarterly presbytery meetings. One ruling elder is very active in the presbytery's Hispanic Ministries; while another Presbyterian spends more Sundays in missions abroad than in her home church.

Perhaps one of the main unifying factors of the congregation is summarized in the Halverson Benediction which is recited at the end of each worship service. More than any other part of worship this benediction affirms our discipleship responsibilities:

You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is sending you. Wherever you are, God has put you there. God has a purpose in your being there. Christ who indwells you has something He wants to do through you, where you are. Believe this and go in His Spirit's grace and love and power.

We give thanks that many loving, faithful servants invested their gifts in our church. We are here today because of those investments.



Photo credit: Deanna Ruppel

Ministers: All the People of the Congregation

Pastors:

Rev. B. F. Cole	1851-1857	Rev. Bruce Brown	1966-1986
Rev. Henry L. Dickerson Pastor Emeritus	1857-1898	Rev. Larimore Wickett	1987-1989
Brother Black	1900-1905	Rev. Dr. J. Donald Boebinger Pastor Emeritus	1990-1997
Brother Harris	1905-1910	Rev. Dr. Rebecca Pritchard Interim Pastor	1997-1999
Rev. Jabush	1910-1911	Rev. James Snyder Interim Pastor	1999
Rev. Fowlers, Rev. Beasons,		Rev. Joy Bilger Goehring	2000- 2010
Rev. Mullin, Rev. Blair, Rev. Duncan		Rev. Kimberly Olson Interim Pastor	2010-2012
Rev. Davis	1911-1947	Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann	2012-2019
Rev. Ira Stock	1947-1961	Rev. David Choate Interim Pastor	2020
Rev. Black	1962-1963	Pastor	2021
Rev. Parlett	1963-1965		
Ronnie Mitchell	1965-1966		



New Beginnings with a New Vision

During 2018 and 2019, Whitewater Valley Presbytery intentionally focused its meeting learning sessions on building congregational vitality which is also one link of PCUSA's Matthew 25 Initiative. Churches were invited to deepen their exploration with financial support to employ a consultant. The consultant would come to the participating local churches to provide a demographic analysis of both the church and the surrounding community. The session at White Lick decided to participate.

Process:

- A consultant from Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation met with the session in February 2019; toured the local area; and collected information on our church.
- An appreciative inquiry session followed with elders, deacons, and other leaders.
- In the Spring and Summer, small focus group meetings were held during Sunday lunch. Led by session elders, targeted questions dug deeper into who we are as a church and the vision for whom we should become.
- Throughout this period, the session dedicated half of each monthly meeting to continued discussion as all the collected data and information was sifted through and winnowed down to five primary focus themes.
- At the October 2019 session meeting, the new vision statement *Living into Christ's call for us and our neighbors* was drafted and subsequently approved in November.
- A leadership meeting on November 2 refined the focus areas for 2020.
- Throughout the Fall, Pastor Daren preached from selected texts from the Book of Jeremiah culminating in the New Covenant sermon given on November 3.
- Thus, this document is the result of a collective effort of the entire congregation through months of discernment guided by the Holy Spirit.

The consultant's report optimistically describes the potential of White Lick Presbyterian Church: White Lick Presbyterian Church is in most ways an ideal model of a thriving small, rural church. With a delightful, picturesque and well-maintained building in a beautiful location, this church compels the heart to sing, "Come, come, come to the church in the wildwood..."

This congregation is currently in a promising place in their life-cycle, with some recent growth, and in recent years supporting the budget entirely on congregational giving. Recent upgrades to flooring and fresh paint speak of a church positive about its current situation and its future. The Appreciative Inquiry session also revealed a church filled with positive, appreciative, close-knit members with plenty of enthusiasm and hope.

The church sits between Brownsburg and Avon on a country road. Although not on a main thoroughfare, it is passed constantly by residents of the surrounding subdivisions. Both Brownsburg and Avon have experienced massive growth over the last fifteen years with more growth predicted. The schools are exploding and continually building.

Hendricks County is one of the fastest growing counties in Indiana as the Indianapolis metro-area suburbs sprawl westward. School enrollment is seventh in the state. Median household income is around \$75,000. Almost 94% of the adults in the country have at least a high school degree with 35% having a bachelor's degree or higher. The demographics presented in the consultant report suggest that White Lick could double in size.

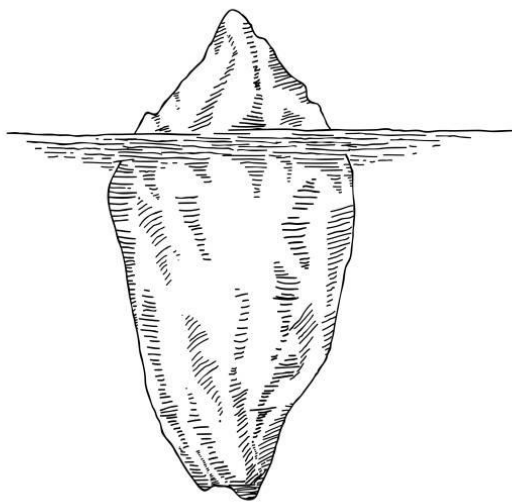
Result

From all the discussions and the information in the consultant's report, major themes surfaced as follows:

- School Children in Hendricks County food insecurity; especially Avon/Brownsburg
- Hospitality and Fellowship – Strengthening what we do best that can be converted to service)
- Families - Social events and outreach expansion
- Singles and Seniors – Support and care
- Focus and/or Expansion of current mission ministries (Deeper and Wider)
- Domestic Violence in Hendricks County (Sheltering Wings)
- Poverty/Homelessness/Jobs in Hendricks County (Family Promise)
- Addiction in Hendricks County (County Services/PAL)
- Current other mission efforts at White Lick: Good News Mission, Sheltering Wings, Get Real

Living into Christ's call 2020

At the November 2, 2019 Leader's meeting of deacons and session elders, the themes were narrowed to three with specific initiatives suggested for implementation. This mission plan is a long-term approach to going *Deep* within ourselves and with our neighbors. The analogy of an iceberg with more below the surface than above reinforces the extent to which each of these topics can be approached.



current initiatives, activities, events;
our current level of knowledge/
understanding;
current level of involvement by
congregation, leaders, ministries,
groups;

increased knowledge/understanding of
issues, problems, environment
surrounding the selected groups;
building relationships with members of selected
groups;
building relationships with
organizations that support selected groups in
Hendricks County;
understanding the root causes of the structural and
systemic problems impacting the selected
groups;
becoming an active voice for change within the
social/economic/political systems

1 Peter 4:10-11 (NRSV)

¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

It is affirmed that many of our members are actively involved; AND, have a passion for mission and ministries not listed in this plan. Their continued involvement and work are acknowledged and blessed. With the resources available at White Lick, our collective support for 2020 will be directed toward:

- Singles and Seniors
- Families
- School Children

Under the coordinated leadership of the session elders, each theme will be pursued over a trimester: Jan-April; May-August; September-December. Each functional unit: Worship, Christian Education, Mission, and Fellowship/Hospitality will jointly plan and implement

each theme. There are still decisions to be made regarding implementation which certainly will be adjusted as 2020 progresses. Listed below are the places our congregational discussions suggest our functional units can begin to explore and develop implementation strategies.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (The Message)

I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving.

This plan is ambitious and challenging. It will require a commitment from the entire congregation as well as its leadership to ensure implementation, not just in 2020 but in many years to come. This plan will be adjusted to meet changing conditions. Some ideas will be successful and be integrated into the life of White Lick. Some ideas will fail regardless of the amount of effort given. May we all dedicate our hearts to carry forth the love of Christ as we seek to serve all God's beloved children through this plan.

This Vision Plan was adopted by the Session of White Lick Presbyterian Church on November 19, 2019.

A description of each of the trimester themes follows with a brainstormed list of potential activities and events; studies, worship, and fellowship.

“Tend My Sheep” Singles and Seniors – Support and care January-April 2020

The first of every year not only brings New Year’s resolutions but putting life and family care systems in place like setting up the tax folders for the year, paying insurance premiums, etc. Taking advantage of the new year and winter months, Christian Education will present a series of workshops and informational events called *Life’s Seasons* that do not just explore elder care issues but issues of importance to all adults. Worship themes will reinforce the caring for adults with special needs; as well as integrating hospitality and mission.

Topics to increase our knowledge and understanding: (open to public)

- Attorney specializing in wills, trusts, guardianships for dependent children, POA, living wills, probate, health care rep. etc.
- Long term care insurance for long-term peace of mind;
- Funeral pre-planning, costs, burial expenses;
- Planning your church funeral; what your children and pastor need to know;
- Negotiating elder care needs and mental capacities; transitioning alternatives for care givers; Writing your legacy story;
- Electronic pitfalls—scams, phishing, security breaches directed at the elderly;
- Guarding your finances; monitoring your elderly parents/grandparents finances;
- Finding help—Senior Citizens Center, CICOA (Hendricks County churches; deacon training)
- Elder abuse—what it is; how to report.

Activities:

- Workshops on topics listed above
- Personal records list of family members, contacts, physicians and medical records, prescriptions, location of records like insurance policies, birth certificates, marriage license, etc.
- Meal Swaps
- Caregiver support group

Building Relationships

- Hendricks County Senior Services Center
- Increase our involvement with our members who are in nursing homes or homebound; be vigilant for signs of improper care and report
- Set up a system to connect with those living alone such as Constant Contact, an automated messaging system

“Tend My Sheep” Reaching Out to Families

Social events and outreach expansion

May-August 2020

Since many of our current ministries involve families, the leaders at the November 2 retreat moved Focus theme #5 here. **Focus and Expansion of current mission ministries** (Deeper and Wider)

- Domestic Violence in Hendricks County (Sheltering Wings)
- Poverty/Homelessness/Jobs in Hendricks County (Family Promise)
- Addiction in Hendricks County (County Services/PAL)
- Current other mission efforts at White Lick: Good News Mission, Sheltering Wings, Indy Love Train, Get Real

Topics to increase our knowledge and understanding:

- Education for our church members **about poverty in the affluent suburbs**. Suburban poverty is different than poverty in a poor community. Frequently hidden behind closed doors and embarrassed to admit how close to living on the edge, stressed families can easily move deeper into debt. How this stress contributes to domestic violence, homelessness, and drug addiction.
- Researching the structural and systemic impacts of poverty in Hendricks County both suburban and rural.

Activities

- Speakers and study groups on poverty issues.
- Speakers and study groups on structural racism as a contributing cause to systemic poverty.
- Expansion of our current family offerings to our neighbors through invitation and better communication. More activities such as a summer barbeque, ice cream social, games and movie nights.
- Mission Team make decisions on which existing mission ministries to expand or reduce participation to allow for new initiatives and expenditure of time and financial support.
- Looking at food deserts; gas stations that carry/serve food items.

Building Relationships through active engagement outside the church

- Pizza, games nights, BBQ picnic, movie, Indians baseball game
- Family Promise
- Sheltering Wings
- Hendricks County Health Partnership

**“Feed My Lambs”: Supporting School Children (Avon/Brownsburg);
Feeding families through our community schools
September-December 2020**

Fall is always a gear up time as school begins and is also the time of year when White Lick is most active in mission support of food pantries and providing Christmas gifts for families. For 2020 our efforts will be directed at building a better relationship to increase support to the Avon School District; and, as resources are available, expand into the Brownsburg School Corporation.

Building Relationships

- During the first part of 2020, connect with the appropriate persons within the designated school corporation(s) to determine their needs and how best to participate.
- As appropriate, build long-term relationships with families throughout the year, not just during the holidays. (If schools cannot provide family names, connect with Township Trustees for suggestions.)
- Hendricks County Health Partnership and associated support agencies/organizations.

Topics to increase our knowledge and understanding:

- Research summer lunch programs with possibility of participation with other partner churches. Providing transportation to lunch sites or delivery to neighborhoods for 2021?
- Better understanding of food issues faced by children.
- Impact on brain development and learning of children of families in crisis.

Activities

- Consolidate all White Lick food pantry collections and dedicate to school food pantries.
- Collect appropriate food items for Fall, Christmas, and Spring Breaks.
- Sew “food backpacks” for Brownsburg Schools for children to take home weekend food items.
- Collect school supplies during July.
- Take Sunday leftovers to families we are supporting long-term.
- Actively campaign for another grocery store in Brownsburg such as Aldi’s that offers quality but lower cost food.
- Pay off school cafeteria food debts for needy children.
- Tutoring, foster grandparents.
- Sponsor a writing contest with a prize on a topic like “being kind”.