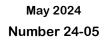


"Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'" —Jeremiah 23:5-6 (ESV)





Vox audita perit, littera scripta manet: The heard voice perishes, the written letter remains.





Good News is the monthly newsletter of the Attica-Williamsport EPC 300 East Main Street Attica, Indiana 47918

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Hope Springs Safe House was founded in 2015 to serve as a beacon of light to families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Hope Springs is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, with a Christ-centered philosophy. It is their intent to build stable, independent lives.

Located at 500 S. Perry Street, their 14-bed shelter facility provides safe emergency housing for adults and children suffering from any form of domestic abuse. Depending on circumstances and need, longer-term residency and additional services can be provided. Their primary ministry is to women and

dependent children, but men who suffer similar hazards can— and do— seek shelter also.

Like any not-for-profit organization, funding is always a concern. Making the best of limited resources depends greatly on the availability of volunteer help, so Hope Springs is always on the lookout for volunteers. There are no limits to the ways volunteers can help a vital ministry like Hope Springs, but as blank-slate request for help is likely to go unanswered because people who hear the call don't know what the needs are. As a result, they assume they don't have the skills, means, or energy to provide [*anything undefined*].

What follows is an abbreviated list of volunteer needs at Hope Springs. Check the list— virtually everybody can find something they CAN do. If you

can, you should. Contact Teresa James or Lee Bauerband for more information. Phone numbers are in the church directory.



VOLUNTEER CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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The Stated Meeting of Session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 18, 2024, by Moderator Kelly Kurth, in the church basement.

The meeting was opened with devotions from Psalm 130 and prayer by Kelly Kurth and the ruling elders present.

Members present: Moderator, Kelly Kurth; Ruling Elders: George Ellsworth, Howard Crawford, Jim Ely, and Jerry Watson Jr. constituting a quorum.

Mark Mason was present as clerk of session.

On motion approved removing, at their written request, Allen, Elaine, and Michael Baird, and Lisa Wilson from the church roll.

The 182nd Stated Meeting of the Midwest Presbytery will be held May 10 and 11 at Oakhill Evangelical Presbyterian church in Grand Rapids, MI.

The next prayer meeting will be May 5, following a noon luncheon.

Prayer leaders after worship service for May:

- May 5 Mark Mason and Jo Ann Koekenberg
- May 12 Howard and Sallie Crawford
- May 19 Jim and Barb Ely
- May 26 Mark Mason and Jo Ann Koekenberg

Several members are meeting in the church basement for prayer from 7:00 to 8:00 on Wednesday evenings with elder, George Ellsworth.

There were 36 communicants at the April 7 worship service and an average attendance in worship of 35 the last four weeks.

Pulpit Supply for May:

- May 5 Jerry Miller
- May 12 Jim Ely
- May 19 Richard Hammer
- May 26 Mark Mason

The Adult class has completed the Three Circles Method of sharing the gospel. Beginning April 21, the Sunday school class hour will be used for a new member class training with Jim Ely and Mark Mason leading.

The Junior High class will be joining the New Members Class for the next few weeks.

Members enjoyed a 9:00 a.m. Easter morning breakfast in the church basement on March 31^{st} with 28 in attendance.

The monthly fellowship lunch was enjoyed by members on Sunday, April 7.

On motion received Summary Financial Reports from treasurer, Rick Ely and financial secretary, George Ellsworth.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on

May 5 to be served by Mark Mason and Howard Crawford.



On motion approved a fiber arts workshop to be led by Barb Ely and daughters.

On motion approved moving Anita Harris from the active roll to the inactive roll due to inactivity.

On motion approved moving the May session meeting from May 16 to May 23.

The next Regular Meeting of Session will be May 23, 7:00 PM.

On motion the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

markufnason

Mark W. Mason, Clerk

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VOLUNTEER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ways You Can Volunteer

Driving

Errands Clients to appointments Taking our bills to Covington each week Delivering brochures or flyers to local businesses

Outreach to churches or groups

Speaking about Hope Springs

Working a booth at one of their events

Join one of these committees

Childcare Coalition

Fundraisers

Event planning

Holidays

Work in the office when we have staffing issues

Shelter work

File Organize

Clean

Visit with clients

Make a meal for current families

Plan a work day for things needing some updates

Help Lisa with childcare at one of our groups





Hello friends at Attica-Williamsport EPC,

What a joy it was to see the wonderful pictures from your special Palm Sunday service in your last newsletter. I'm grateful that George Ellsworth shares your newsletters with me so I can keep up to date.

I thought this month I'd share a little bit about my life here in Cary, North Carolina, outside of my activities with TWR.

Once a month, I participate in a Raleigh-based ministry called With Love From lesus (https:// www.withlovefromjesus.org/). They provide food, clothing, household items and even furniture for all who come, no questions asked. All of the honored gueststheir term— hear a presentation of the gospel, and they have the opportunity to receive prayer.

When I'm there, they usually put me in the prayer room, which I'm delighted to do. But there is a concern. Well

over half of the honored guests speak Spanish as their heart language, and some speak no English at all. Therefore, my prayer for With Love From Jesus is always that there will be Spanish speakers among the volunteers.

When I was there in March, that prayer was answered with Dolores, a Mexican woman who speaks Spanish as well as English fluently. A Spanish-speaking man named Gabriel came to the prayer room in hopes of getting a sofa. I got him together with Dolores, they talked for quite a while, then Dolores turned to me and said, "He wants to give his heart to Jesus!"

What?! I thought they were talking about sofas!

To the best of my knowledge, Gabriel crossed from death to life that morning.

In April, Dolores was with me in the prayer room again, and I watched her lead FIVE Spanish-speaking people to a relationship with Jesus. Talk about answered prayer!

Meanwhile, the community group I'm involved with in my church seems to attract mission-minded people. That includes Rob and Nancy, longtime medical missionaries to Africa. Although now their home is in North Carolina,

Matthew Klinge: Indiana's Best **High School Swimmer 2024**

Harrison High School senior Matthew Klinge was named the Indiana High School Sports Awards Male Swimmer of the Year, after another season of accomplishments. Now he wears the official honor of being the best swimmer in Indiana.

Matthew is the son of John and Chris Klinge, and the grandson of Charles and Janet Anderson. He has an older brother, Jack— a Junior at Purdue— and a younger sister, Madison— a 7th Grader in West Lafayette.

Water sports run in Matthew's family. His father qualified for the 1992 U.S. Olympic Trials in the backstroke after being an All-American as a Boilermaker and is currently the Purdue women's swimming and diving head coach. His mother also competed at Purdue. His sister has reportedly decided to forego other sports to concentrate on swimming.

Matthew finished his high school career as the 3-time defending state champion in the 50-yard freestyle and 2time defending state winner in the 100-yard butterfly.

SWIM CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

they frequently return to serve in Africa. This April,

Nancy was home, but Rob was in South Sudan filling in at a clinic serving a refugee camp that houses more than 50,000 people. While Rob was there, one of the two chaplains unexpectedly died overnight.

Nancy shared with us a video Rob had made in the morning. On it, you hear African birdsong and in the background, the sound of wailing as people in the camp lament the loss of life.

It brings to my mind Jeremiah 31:15b:

Rachel is weeping for her children; She refuses to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more.

It certainly keeps my First World problems in perspective.

Speaking of Africa, my invitation to the June conference in Malawi has been confirmed. I'm not certain, yet, whether I'll be going on from there to Uganda. Under the mercy,

> John Lundy 218.260.07241 jlundy@twr.org 105 Walshingham Lane, Apt 1B Cary, NC 27513

But death is a reality there. The other night,

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If you received notice of the Good News via email, the video should be attached to the message. If you're reading a paper

copy, that won't Contact the editor for a copy.

Mother's Day 2024

Mother's Day 2024 is May 12. Mark it down, tag your calendar, or put a red-flag reminder in your phone (preferably a day or two before the 12th, lest you find yourself half-dressed making a flying Sunday morning trip to Wal-Mart in the hopes of finding a still-viable bouquet in the produce section). Of course, I cannot vouch for ALL mothers, but I suspect that most derive greater pleasure from the fact that you *did* remember than *how* you remembered.

In many families, it is customary for the kids to fix Mom breakfast in bed. Mom will dutifully 'oohh' and 'ahhh' over their efforts and try not to notice the crisp eggs and runny bacon, the breadcrumbs in the bed, the spilled coffee, or even the disaster that used to be her kitchen.

Planning a 'nice' dinner out is another tradition that's intended to give Mom a day off from the kitchen. Properly executed, this can actually work— if you can live with the three-plus hour wait for a table— because everybody else had the same idea, and they all wanted to choose the 'nice' restaurant, too.

I would like to tell you of a Mother's Day celebration that was none of the above. It involved a pizza parlor instead of a fancy restaurant, it had paper plates and disposable cups, and Mom loved it. It was a Mother's Day I will never forget, though it was 41 years ago this month.

In May 1983, Jane and I were just beginning to understand that we had something very special in progress. We agreed that it was time for her to meet some of my family, and vice versa. We thought it wise to set up the meeting on neutral turf, in a location accessible to my family as well as us. Indianapolis wasn't exactly a half-way point between Attica and Louisville, but it would do. My folks, and my sister and her family, met us on the east side of Indy, at a marvelous place called the Paramount Music Palace. Their menu was essentially pizza and pasta. But their claim to fame was the mighty Wurlitzer Theater Organ. At heart, it was a

SWIM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Bound for Ohio State in the fall, Matthew is now concentrating on preparations for the U.S. Olympic Trials being held from June 15-23 at Lucas Oil Stadium. He hopes to qualify before joining the Buckeye swim team in Columbus.

Best Wishes, Matthew. May your past be prologue to the Olympic Trials and your swimming career at Ohio State.



On April 17, 1952, Congress passed a bill initiated by Conrad Hilton (of Hilton Hotels) and Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas and it became Public Law 82-324, Sec. 119.

The President shall set aside and proclaim a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals.

Twenty-seven years later, the National Prayer Committee was officially formed. In 1983, the first National Day of Prayer observance was organized by the NPC.

On May 5, 1988, the first Thursday in May was established as the National Day of Prayer when Ronald Reagan signed Public Law 100-307.

The 2024 National Day of Prayer is Thursday May 2. This year's theme is, "Lift Up the Word, Light Up the World." There will be a special NDP Observance Program at 8:00 PM EDT. The program will be streamed online live at https://nrbtv.org/live/. You may also find it streamed on YouTube.

pipe organ with over 4,000 pipes, but that was just the tip of the iceberg. There was a full percussion section, a piano, a marimba, a celesta, a glockenspiel, and a set of brass trumpets that brought William Tell to galloping life (On Silver, of course).



And more sound and visual effects than I can remember. If you were fortunate enough to have experienced the Paramount Music Palace, you'll never forget it either. But I digress.

In the big city, almost nobody thought of taking Mom to a pizza place for Mother's Day, opting instead for the 'nice' restaurants (3 hour wait and all!). As a result, the ten of us had the whole Palace almost to ourselves. The organist played everything any of us (including Katherine's kids!) could think of to request. We stayed the afternoon, enjoyed the show, and had time during the breaks to get acquainted.

Mom had a memorable Mother's Day (as did we all), Jane received whole-hearted parental and sibling approval, and we are now well into our 41^{st} year. \clubsuit



It may have escaped your attention, but America's favorite dessert will be celebrated on May 13th.

⊃ That's

Pie Day, and it's observed annually on that date. Note that *National Apple Pie Day* must not to be confused with *National Pi Day* on March 14— that's a whole other celebration, for an entirely different reason. And π Day has no restrictions regarding variety or flavor.

The first apple pie recipe ever printed was in 1381 England. The ingredients included good apples, good spices, figs, raisins, pears, saffron, and cofyn (whatever that is). It is therefore certain that Apple Pie long

predated the arrival of pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, so when we wax poetic about "American as Apple Pie," our poetic license spreads a layer of that wax over the facts.

In celebration of the *National Apple Pie Day* this month, we

have a recipe for Brown Butter Apple Pie, a very special variety of apple pie that falls somewhere (way) north of the ingredient count and difficulty level of our normal offerings. Full disclosure: as noted in this space on previous occasions, your food editor's expertise in the culinary arts tends to fall more in the area of consumption rather than production— so this pie is not listed as one of my pastry creations.

Brown Butter Apple Pie

Ingredients

For the brown butter:

11/2 c. (3 sticks) unsalted butter

For the crust:

⅔ above recipe Brown Butter

23/3 c. all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled

1¼ tsp. kosher salt

1 tsp. granulated sugar

½ c. ice water

For the filling and assembly:

3 lb. mixed apples (such as Granny Smith, Honeycrisp, and Braeburn), peeled and cut into ½ inch-thick slices

⅓ above recipe Brown Butter

1¼ c. light brown sugar, packed

1/3 c. all-purpose flour, plus more for work surface

- 1½ tbsp. fresh lemon juice
 ¾ tsp. kosher salt
 ¼ tsp. ground cinnamon
 ¼ tsp. ground nutmeg
 ¹/8 tsp. ground cloves
 ¹/8 tsp. ground cardamom
 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp. turbinado sugar

Directions

Make the brown butter: Melt butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Cook 9 to 10 minutes, swirling occasionally. The butter should be golden brown with a nutty aroma. Divide the butter: $\frac{1}{3}$ to one bowl and $\frac{1}{3}$ to another. Scrape the brown bits from the bottom of the pan. Cover and refrigerate until cold and firm.

Make the crust: Chop the ³/₄ portion of brown butter into pieces. Whisk together flour, salt, and granulated sugar in a bowl. Cut butter into flour using two forks or a pastry blender until it resembles coarse meal with several pea-size pieces remaining. Add ice water, 1 tablespoon at a time, using a fork to pull dough together into a crumbly pile (add up to an additional 2 tablespoons of water if needed). Divide into two piles; wrap each in plastic wrap and flatten into discs. Refrigerate until firm, at least 2 hours or up to overnight.

Make the filling: Cook apples and remaining ¹/₃ portion of brown butter in a large skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until crisp-tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Add brown sugar, flour, lemon juice, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and cardamom. Cook, stirring, until combined and thickened, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Transfer to a rimmed baking sheet to cool, about 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 425° F with rack in the bottom position. Line a rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil. On a lightly floured work surface, roll one disc of crust dough into a 12-inch circle. Fit into the bottom and up the sides of a 9-inch pie plate. Add the apple filling. On a lightly floured work surface, roll the remaining crust dough into a 12-inch circle. Place on top of filling. Trim both layers of dough to a 1-inch overhang, fold under, and crimp. Freeze 20 minutes.

Whisk the egg and 1 teaspoon water in a bowl. Brush on pie, then sprinkle with turbinado sugar. Cut 3 or 4 slits in the top crust. Bake on the prepared baking sheet 15 minutes. Reduce oven to 350° F and bake until crust is golden brown, and filling is bubbly, 45 to 50 minutes. Cool on a wire rack for **at least** 4 hours before serving.



JEWISH AND ARAB SOCCER PROGRAM THRIVING IN THE WAKE OF WAR



Fifteen years ago, an organization known as **The Equalizer** was founded on the premise that Arab and Jewish kids could build a better future together. It works to offer a sense of unity and purpose to boys and girls on Israel's social or geographic periphery.

The equalizing agent for the program is the ubiquitous game of soccer— the game that everybody outside the USA calls football. Soccer levels the playing field (figuratively as well as literally) because its appeal transcends politics, nationality, ethnicity, language, and religion. The *Federation Internationale de Football Association* (FIFA) was founded in 1904, and it serves as the international governing body of the sport. Consequently, 240 million FIFA registered players worldwide (and the unknown millions of amateurs and school children) all play by the same rules, regardless of geography. And soccer *fans* are estimated to include upwards of half the world population.

So, when war broke out in Israel, *The Equalizer* stepped in to help, determined that nothing would undo fifteen years of progress.

Within days of the October 7th tragedy, youngsters were attending virtual (Zoom) training sessions (originally produced by *The Equalizer* during the COVID-19

lockdown) and within weeks they were being coached on fields close to bomb shelters. Just four months after October 7th, Arab youngsters from East Jerusalem took on Jewish teams in a soccer tournament.

The Equalizer was founded in 2009 by Liran Gerassi, then aged 24, after he decided he had something to offer the kids. Part of his original attraction (bait?) for the children was his (somewhat embellished) claim as a soccer coach. But he promised for every hour of on-field training, he'd give them one hour of help with their homework. By 2019, there were 3,000 youngsters in the program, training with an actual professional coach. Last year, the count was over 10,000.

The Equalizer isn't just for boys— there are now 100 girls' teams. Most of the girls had never played soccer before, and many had never even seen the game played. No matter. They're learning valuable life lessons while having a lot of fun. And now, it isn't just soccer. Josh Harris, owner of the Philadelphia 76ers basketball team, is a supporting sponsor of boys and girls basketball programs.

The Equalizer brings a glimmer of hope to a very dark time. If you want to help, go to:

https://www.jgive.com/new/en/usd/donation-targets/112921 🕈



Current events provide a glimpse of where America is headed:

- The 2024 "Celebrating National Guard Families" • art contest, which is part of the White House Easter Egg Roll, asks children of servicemembers to submit designs for Easter eggs, but forbids any designs that highlight the *actual content* of Easter. The contest's flyer instructs children they "must not include any questionable content, religious symbols, overtly religious themes, or partisan political statements." The administration banned religious imagery equating it with "bigotry, racism, hatred or harm against any group or individual or promot[ing] discrimination based on race, gender, religion, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or age."
- Sometime around Maundy Thursday, the current administration redesignated *Easter Sunday* as the "Transgender Day of Visibility."
- A presidential campaign issue is a promised federal law that will 'restore Roe v. Wade,' reviving a nationwide 'right' to kill unborn babies.
- So-called 'transgenderism' and other perversions are being forced on us top-down, even into the lower elementary grades.

I make no claims as a prophet. I cannot say, "The word of the LORD came to me..." Fortunately, I don't have to. Jeremiah said it 2600 years ago, and then he wrote down what the Lord said. And we get to read it. The names of God's tools for judgment are different today, but the message, and the need for it, have not changed.

Thus says the LORD, "Go, buy a potter's earthenware flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests, and go out to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom at the entry of the Potsherd Gate, and proclaim there the words that I tell you.

You shall say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I am bringing such disaster upon this place that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle. Because the people have forsaken me and have profaned this place by making offerings in it to other gods whom neither they nor their fathers nor the kings of Judah have known; and because they have filled this place with the blood of innocents, and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or decree, nor did it come into my mind— therefore, behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when this place shall no more be called Topheth, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter. -Jeremiah 19:1-6 (ESV)

The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the

son of Josiah, king of Judah (that was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem:

"For twenty-three years, from the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, to this day, the word of the LORD has come to me, and I have spoken persistently to you, but you have not listened. You have neither listened nor inclined your ears to hear, although the LORD persistently sent to you all his servants the prophets, saying, "Turn now, every one of you, from his evil way and evil deeds, and dwell upon the land that the LORD has given to you and your fathers from of old and forever. Do not go after other gods to serve and worship them, or provoke me to anger with the work of your hands. Then I will do you no harm.'

Yet you have not listened to me, declares the LORD, that you might provoke me to anger with the work of your hands to your own harm. "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: Because you have not obeyed my words, behold, I will send for all the tribes of the north, declares the LORD, and for Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants, and against all these surrounding nations. I will devote them to destruction, and make them a horror, a hissing, and an everlasting desolation. Moreover, I will banish from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the grinding of the millstones and the light of the lamp. This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. —Jeremiah 25:1-11 (ESV)

Should we be exempt when our sins mirror those of Judah and Jerusalem? If God could not spare even His Chosen People when their persistent sin incurred His wrath, what class of fools are we to say, "God won't let that happen to us!" False prophets 2600 years ago were voicing exactly that message to Jerimiah's constituents.

Perhaps the scariest words in Jeremiah's prophecy are where he reports that God's judgment has been spoken, and it's too late; turning back is no longer an option:

"As for you, do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer for them, and do not intercede with me, for I will not hear you. —Jeremiah 7:16 (ESV)

"Therefore do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer on their behalf, for I will not listen when they call to me in the time of their trouble. —Jeremiah 11:14 (ESV)

The LORD said to me: "Do not pray for the welfare of this people. Though they fast, I will not hear their cry, and though they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them. But I will consume them by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence." —Jeremiah 14:11-12 (ESV) Then the LORD said to me, "Though Moses and Samuel

stood before me, yet my heart would not turn toward this people. Send them out of my sight, and let them go! —Jeremiah 15:1 (ESV)

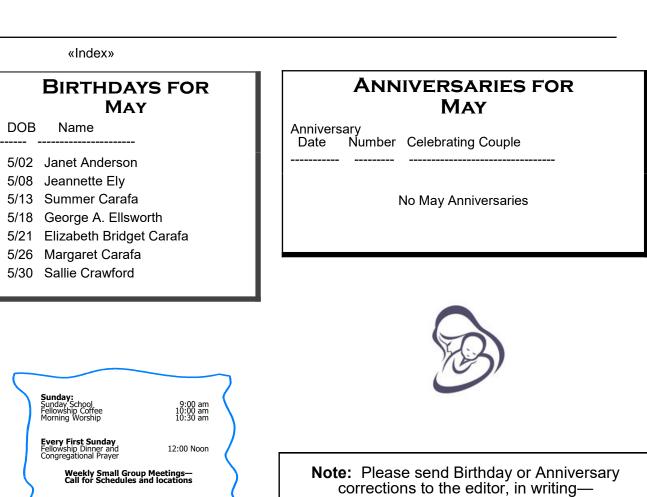
I honestly don't know where we are as a nation today. I have no indication that we have reached that critical point of no return, but I can read the handwriting on the wall. I'm sure we're getting close, but it isn't time yet to stop praying. Attica~ Williamsport Evangelical Dresbyterian Church 300 East Main Street Attica, Indiana 47918

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ANYONE WHO CAN MAKE YOU BELIEVE ABSURDITIES CAN MAKE YOU COMMIT ATROCITIES. +VOLTIARE



by e-mail if possible.