

The WORD

April 2026

Volume 57 Issue 4



Westville United Methodist Church

**Communion
April 5, 2026**

**“Reach up, Reach in, Reach out
Reach up to God, Reach in to know
God, Reach out in Love”**

Sunday Morning Schedule:

Sunday School 9:15 am –

Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15am

Drive In Service Radio Station 91.3



Community Meal

Free Community Meal April 15th

Hosted by Olga’s Catering—

Pasta Night

5-6:30pm,

Good Friday Service Apr 3 ,7pm

Easter Breakfast 8 am

SS and Egg Hunt 9 am

Worship 10:15 am



JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!!!

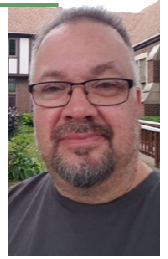
THE WORD is a publication of Westville United Methodist Church at 154 Main St.,
P.O. Box 619; Westville, IN 46391 (219) 785-2314

******CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9-noon /Tues.—Thurs. am**

Our Web Address is www.westvilleumc.org

In order to go green The Word will be e-mailed to you. Be sure to e-mail your address to Jane at secretarywumc@csinet.net

Printed copies will continue to be available at the church for those who do not have e-mail.



.From the Pastor's Desk — April Newsletter

Westville United Methodist Church

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in this beautiful month of April! Spring is upon us, and with it comes that glorious celebration at the heart of our faith: **Easter**. The season always reminds me that, just as the world begins to shake off winter's chill, our souls are invited to shake off anything that has dimmed our hope, weighed down our spirits, or clouded our vision of God's goodness.

We Are Easter People

One of my favorite descriptions of the Church is this: "**We are an Easter people, and *hallelujah* is our song.**" Being Easter people means that the resurrection of Jesus Christ isn't just an event we remember—it's the foundation of who we are.

Everything hinges on it.

If Christ had only lived a good life, taught inspiring lessons, or performed miraculous acts, our faith might still be admirable—but it wouldn't be transformative. What changes everything is that the *crucified* Jesus did not remain in the tomb. Death could not hold Him. Hope could not be buried. Love could not be sealed behind a stone.

The resurrection is God's ultimate declaration that sin does not have the final say, brokenness does not have the last word, and darkness does not get to keep the light out.

So when we say we're Easter people, we are proclaiming:

- We live as people who believe God brings life from death.
- We trust that no situation is beyond His redeeming power.

We walk with resurrection hope—steady, joyful, unshakeable.

A Lighthearted Easter Tale

Now, because even holy seasons need a little humor, let me share a brief Easter story:

A Sunday school teacher once asked a group of children, "What do you think Jesus said when He came out of the tomb on Easter morning?"

One child's hand shot up. Without hesitation, he exclaimed, "*Ta-da!!!*"

Now... I'm not sure that's recorded in any of the Gospels—but I must say, it *does* capture the triumphant joy of the moment! After all, Easter *is* God's great "ta-da!"—His dramatic unveiling of victory over death.

Cont.

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A Challenge for April

As we journey through this month of resurrection hope, I'd like to challenge each of us to live Easter out loud. Look for one way each week to embody resurrection life:

- Offer forgiveness where it's overdue.
- Speak hope into someone's discouragement.
- Practice generosity in a way that stretches you.

Pray boldly for God's renewing work in your life.
Let's be Easter people not only in celebration but in daily practice.

A Prayer for the Easter Season

**Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with the joy of Your resurrection.
Renew our hope where it has grown tired,
restore our faith where it has been shaken,
and revive our love where it has faded.
Make us true Easter people—
people who shine with Your light,
live with Your courage,
and carry Your grace into the world.
In Your victorious name we pray. Amen.**

Blessings and peace to you all this month.

Pastor Toby



Join us in local missions!

Items needed for the Food Pantry:



- 4/5 Paper Products: toilet paper, tissue, foil & etc.
- 4/12 Canned meats, tuna, chicken...
- 4/19 Canned Fruits, & Vegetables, Soups
- 4/26 Condiments: Ketchup, mustard, relish, mayo, dressings

TIME & LOCATION

Food Pantry Information:

The American Legion is now working in cooperation with the WMC Food Pantry ministry. Please drop off donations of the above mentioned items at the Legion. **For those receiving donations, items may be picked up at the American Legion on Thursdays from 4:30—5:30.**



IMPORTANT REMINDER

INFORMATION FOR THE WORD IS DUE BY Apr 22nd IN ORDER TO BE READY FOR PUBLICATION BY April 23rd AT THE LATEST. CAN BE EMAILED TO secretarywumc@csinet.net

**Family Life Center is available for rental for parties and celebrations.
Contact the church office at 219-785-2314 for more information.**

Save your pop cans and bring them to the church. The money earned from the can collection supports the Heifer Project.



BLESSINGS FROM GOD

WELCOME !!

Our church family warmly welcomes new members Dave and Tina Dickinson who reside in Walkerton. They have three children – Ben, Hannah, and Eliza. Dave was employed for 30 years at Carter Lumber. Tina is a systems analyst.

Dave and Tina are not strangers to our congregation– They were married here by Pastor Chuck Adkins, September 25th 1993. Dave grew up in Westville, a neighbor to Jane Bachman. He attended youth group here all the way thru. The youth group leaders at that time were Colleen Parker and Cindy Gilbert. Dave’s parents also attended our church.

Dave’s affiliation with the Westville Lion’s Club also brought him to our church through the dinners they hosted at the Family Life Center. We not only welcome them, we need to keep them in our prayers. Tina is a cancer survivor and Dave survived a debilitating stroke.



“There’s a blessing in every moment.”

Trustee/Church Council March 9, 2026

Present: Jane, Sandi, Kay, Richard, Evert, Alan, Kathie, Cathy JO, Jan, Pastor Toby, Mark

Trustee Meeting opened with prayer

Jane stated that all the fire extinguishers have been updated. We have an estimate from last fall from JB West to cover and repair the fascia and soffit on the church. We did a walk around and discussed the repair. There may be extra charges from the bid for wood repair. The estimate is \$6,687.

The pretty lights will have to come down and they will not put them back up. We will have to incur that cost. Jan B. made a motion to accept the bid and Kay 2nd. The motion passed. We will contact the company in Wanatah to put the lights back up.

We talked about adding shades for the sanctuary windows. There is a glare on the TV screens. Pastor will send Jane some information.

We did apply for an AED through the LaPorte County Health Department. We have not heard yet.

Mark reported on the information for a new Blessing Box. He looked into shed type builindings. Discussion was help and thought we would prefer to enlarge the box that is there. Someone will talk to Rob.

Church Council Devotions by Kay and the minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Education: Amanda was not present but sent a report of working on many Easter presentations and Egg My Yard. We discussed getting the nursery up and running. We have several new families and we need to be preparing for babies and younger kids church during the message in the sanctuary.

Worship: Easter and Good Friday preparation is happening. Pastor will be absent on April 12th and we will need pulpit coverage.

Outreach: Approximately 15 different families are enjoying the meals from Care & Share Plus. 44 Friday snack bags are going to kids each Friday.

Resale Shop: Winter coats are free and winter clothing is half off. Spring is just around the corner

Women of Faith: Jane reported a conversation with the Northern Lakes District about the Women of Faith organization in our church. Jane will share information about WOF to the ladies of our church to see if we want to become active.

Finance: Reports were shared. We discussed being more transparent with finance reports or making them available to anyone who would like to see them.

NB: We agreed to host a water booth at the Pumpkin Festival again this year on Oct. 3rd. We also agreed to become a sponsor for the Pumpkin Festival at the silver level for \$250.00. Jane made the motion and Sandi 2nd the motion and the motion passed. Community Cleanup day will be April 18th, using the basement for a meeting place. May 30th there will be a craft show in the FLC. Sandi and Cathy Jo will be the contact people. The fee collected from the table rented will go to the Benevolence Fund. We will also bring back the Cookie Walk and Craft Fair to the FLC on Dec. 5th. Cathy Jo is working on new paraments for the sanctuary. Community meals: April – Olga, May- Tri Kappa, June – Amanda. Pastor will be preparing a summer weekly bible study and also maybe a game night.

Cont.

Cont

March 11, 2026

There were some changes to the estimate from JB West for the fascia and soffit bid. We do have to replace the gutters. The estimate is 8.676 including the 6 inch gutters. Via email Kay made a motion to accept the bid and Kathie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Easter Activities

Egg My Yard – See Amanda for signup (219-229-2765)

(This fundraiser supports our youth programs)

Wrapped Easter candy is needed for
Egg My Yard and kids Easter Egg Hunt

April 3rd – Good Friday Worship 7 pm

April 5th – Easter Breakfast 8am (provided by the men's group)

April 5th – Kids Sunday School and Easter Egg Hunt 9am

April 5th – Easter Worship 10:15am



Easter Blessings

Care & Concern

Health and Healing

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Kelly Murphy | Kristi – Health Journey |
| Pete Buckmaster | Jerry Adrian |
| Sheryl Elliott | Rita White |
| Nash & Family | Bob & Sheila McCaughey |
| Richard Lee | Donna Bunch |
| Tina Dickinson | Diane Toomire |
| Colleen Parker | Jerry McCall |
| Kerry Cole | Christopher Watson |
| Frank Bagwell | Butch Weston |
| Scott Piotrowicz | Warren Howard |
| Pam McKee | Pastor Toby |
| Mike Stephens | Amir DuPuis |
| Aline DuPuis | Heather DuPuis |
| Ben | Amanda |
| Frank Lyle | Sandy L |
| Brett | Joe Gurkin |
| Jackie | David |
| Ron Warnke | |

***Those suffering with addiction, poverty, &/or depression**
*Unspoken Prayers **Families **Youth **First Responders
**Law Enforcement

The Care Corner

- Adele Lundahl
- All Military Personnel
- All Victims of War

Guidance & Protection

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Quinn Bacon | Preston Wilson |
| Aaron Hale | Dylan Hale |



**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

*HE
cares for you*

PRAYER CHAIN

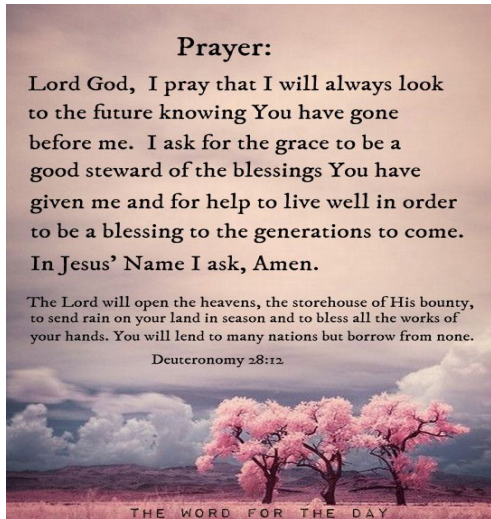
If you have a special need for prayer, the prayer chain can be activated by calling church Secretary Jane Bachman (785-2314)

Prayer:

Lord God, I pray that I will always look to the future knowing You have gone before me. I ask for the grace to be a good steward of the blessings You have given me and for help to live well in order to be a blessing to the generations to come. In Jesus' Name I ask, Amen.

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the works of your hands. You will lend to many nations but borrow from none.

Deuteronomy 28:12



THE WORD FOR THE DAY

Pastor Toby Guill maybe reached @ 219-850-3768

Or email at toby.guill@inumc.org

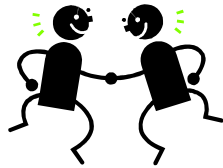
******* Church Office Hours *******

Monday 9am—noon, Tues-Thurs am

My hours vary, please call 219-898-3077

Apr. Dates of Joining

4/5/2015	Nicholas Allen
4/5/2015	Leah Nittner
4/5/2015	Colin Nittner
4/5/2015	Troy Pluimer
4/5/2015	Joseph Stark
4/5/2015	Sara Jerde
4/5/2015	Michael Jerde
4/5/2015	Denim Bennett
4/12/2015	Phillip Koss
4/12/2015	Janell Koss
4/26/2015	Lavina Moore
4/24/2011	Karen Jerde
4/24/2011	Stephan Jerde
4/23/2000	Cathy Jo Grostefon
4/23/2000	Duane Grostefon
4/20/2003	Mary Lambert
4/20/2003	Richard Lambert
4/7/1985	Kathie Long
4/20/2003	Jacque Pitrowski



Apr. Birthdays

Kay Tetzloff	3-Apr
Terry Ream	4-Apr
Del Hutchison	5-Apr
Eddie Kaczmarek	5-Apr
Cami Newenhouse	7-Apr
Marc Klein	10-Apr
Patricia Newenhouse	10-Apr
Jerry Elkins	11-Apr
Fred Rager	11-Apr
Charlie Herrold	12-Apr
Steve Bachman (50 Yrs)	15-Apr
Leslie Daugherty	19-Apr
Sheryl Elliott	23-Apr
Cindy Gilbert	24-Apr
Jennifer Dobos	25-Apr
Nick Hill	26-Apr
Jake Bachman	27-Apr
Logan Salyer	29-Apr
James Zimmerle	29-Apr

Apr. Wedding Anniversary's

Kim & Janice Buchanan	1-Apr
Ramey & Shantrece Salyer	10-Apr

WELCOME STATEMENT

“With open hearts, open minds and open doors; we welcome people of all races, nationalities theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect”.



Westville United Methodist Church

Give as the Lord calls you to give:
be as generous to God as God has been to you!

Thank you for being Faithful Givers

Mar. Giving

Date	Worship	SS	Giving
3/1/2026	60	22	\$3,022.00
3/8/2026	64	26	\$3,713.00
3/15/2026	62	25	\$1,480.97
3/22/2026	72	30	\$1,673.53

Your tithes and offerings maybe mailed to :

WUMC P O Box 619, Westville, In 46391

QR Code for giving...





April 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Lions Club 4-9pm Resale shop 1-4pm	3 Good Friday Service 7pm	4 Resale Shop 9-12
5 FLC Rented	6	7 Resale Shop 9-12	8	9	10	11 Resale Shop 9-12
12	13 6pm 	14 Tri Kappa FLC/Sanctuary Resale Shop 9-12	15 Community Meal 5 -6:30pm FLC	16 Resale Shop 1-4 pm	17	18 Community Clean up Day Kairos Ministry 8-1pm Resale Shop 9-12
19	20	21 Resale Shop 9-12	22	23 Resale Shop 1-4pm	24	25 Resale Shop 9-noon
26	27	28 Resale Shop 9-12	29	30 Kairos Resale shop 1-4pm	May 1 Kairos	2 FLC Rented Kairos Resale Shop 9- noon