

realize the
POTENTIAL
complete the Link

Generosity Report

As believers in Jesus Christ, we acknowledge that all we have comes from God. He owns everything. We manage the assets He has entrusted to us.

	Received YTD	Budget YTD	%+/-
Local Ministries	\$677,347	\$570,400	18.7%
Total Project Cost		\$2,336,792	
Imagine the Potential Given		<u>\$2,081,083</u>	
Complete the Link		\$245,909	



Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church
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Bruce Barlow

“Peace Promised”

December 15, 2019

Peace

Promised • Proclaimed • Provided

we worship
by how we live
and how we give

New to WL

Please stop by the Information Center for a free gift. For more information about getting connected at WL, visit our website at www.wlgbc.com or call Tim Wright, Discipleship and Adult Ministries Pastor, at 267-6623.

This Week @ WL

TODAY

Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowships meet at 10:00 a.m.

CareGivers Group meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Living Room meets each week at 11:15 at The Hub.

Christmas Choir rehearsal is at 4:00 p.m. in room 104.

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study is at 6:00 a.m. at American Table Restaurant.

ENL (English as a New Language) meets at the YMCA from 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Wednesday

Epic for students meets at 6:45 p.m.

SPLASH meets from 6:45-8:15 p.m. and is for kids in grades K-6th.

Parent Prayer is from 6:45-7:10 p.m. at The Link.

Midweek Prayer Group meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room.

Thursday

Global Prayer Group meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Saturday

The wedding of Sam Allbritten and Pam Miller is at 4:15 in the Worship Center. The church family is invited to attend. A private reception will follow the ceremony.

Candlelight and Carols: Peace is the theme of our annual Christmas Eve services at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on December 24. Scripture-reading, special music, and carol-singing will focus our hearts in worship as we remember God's greatest gift to us—His own Son, Jesus the Messiah, our Prince of Peace. Childcare for infants through 3-year-olds will be provided during the 4:00 service only. If you aren't in need of childcare, we encourage you to

consider attending the 6:00 service. This is a great event and the right time of year for inviting friends, neighbors, or family to join you.

WL Ministries

Courtyard Christmas Trees—Engage with Our Community: Each tree is identified by one of the community organizations listed below. The WL family is encouraged to “branch out” and engage with these groups as together we help to showcase God's love to our community. Cards are provided at each tree with listing several ways you can connect with a community group.

Live/Indoor Christmas Eve Nativity: We're looking to provide a live nativity in the courtyard for 30-minute segments before/after both the 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services. Individuals can be different for each service or help at both. Contact Pastor Dave for more details at drank@wlgbc.com. Sign up at www.wlgbc.com/live-nativity.html

On Sunday, December 29, there will be two worship services at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. No ABFs or Sunday school that morning. Regular service schedule next Sunday, December 22, and on January 5.

Women's Ministries

All ladies, save the date for the evening of Friday, January 17, for “Living Out Titus 2.” This will be an evening of fellowship with ladies of all ages as we come together to put into practice the lessons we learned from the Titus 2 sermon series. If you are interested in being mentored, mentoring, or learning more of what that means, please plan to come. More details will be coming. Questions? Contact Rhonda Raber at the church office at 267-6623 or rraber@wlgbc.com

WL Kids

Sunday school is at 10:00. Nursery/early childhood classes are available during both worship services; K-6th grade students sit with their parents in the service and are dismissed to Kids Worship part-way through the service.

WL Young Adults

Young Adult ABF meets every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the main building.

WL Students

Sunday School is at 10:00 a.m. each week at The Hub.

Epic Wednesday meets at 6:45 p.m.

Stay connected @WLStudents on Facebook, Instagram or WL Parents on Facebook, or contact Cindy at cyocum@wlgbc.com.

WL Reach Our World

Our Global Teammates of the Week are Philip and Beth Bryant, serving in Surrey, British Columbia, as church-planting teammates in Canada with Assist Church Expansion. Philip also serves as Director of Grace Fellowship Canada which includes the discipleship, mentoring, and training of leaders and future church-planters. The Bryants have five children: Lydia, Anastasia, Alissa, Elijah, and Josiah.

Our Local Outreach Partner of the Week is the Kosciusko County Jail Ministry. WL's Peggy Owens serves as assistant chaplain, leading women's Bible studies, helping with music for worship services, and talking with inmates. The Jail Ministry is not only for those who are incarcerated in the county jail but also includes those who have spent time at Kosciusko County Work Release. Peggy also helps with a weekly Friday night Bible study for those who are in the County Work Release program—as well as previously incarcerated men and women who now have found success in life after leaving jail. For more information, contact Peggy at munkao10o@gmail.com

Want to be a blessing to some kids this Christmas? One of our community partners, Combined Community Services, has nine families left to be adopted in their Adopt-a-Family program (buying Christmas gifts for the kids). A list is provided of ages and suggested gifts. Donor may deliver gifts to the home or make arrangements with CCS. Come to the church office to check out the applications or contact John Parker at jparker@combinedcommunityservices.org or call 574-269-6019, ext. 222.

All Things New—December project: All Things New exists to provide hope, a fresh start, and freedom for women struggling with various addictions by providing a safe environment and life skills necessary to destroy old habits, while fostering dependency on Jesus Christ who makes “all things new.” You are encouraged to review a donation/wish list of items to furnish the rehab house for these ladies. The list can be found at either the courtyard tree designated for All Things News or on the church website at www.wlgbc.com. Please wait until Monday, December 29-Sunday, January 5, to bring those items (from home or purchased) to a drop-off location at the church.

New Year's Eve Fellowship Missions homeless shelter event: WL is hosting an evening of food, games, and inspirational testimonies from 9:30 p.m.-12:20 a.m. at the homeless shelter. This is a great opportunity for individuals/families, Life Groups, or ABFs to connect with the residents. If you are interested, please contact Judy Yeager at jayeager@earthlink.net or Pastor Dave at drank@wlgbc.com.

Big Night Out: Sunday, January 5, at 5:30 p.m. The second bi-monthly evening of worship and stories from three community-impact ministries—*Combined Community Services* (Randy Polston), *Kosciusko County Jail Ministry* (Peggy Owens), and *All Things New* (Bill Fawley)—and prayer for the continued impact of these ministries in our community. It starts at 5:30 p.m. in The Hub, followed at 6:45 with a variety of options to connect in a greater way with the WL family while enjoying refreshments and numerous games/activities for the entire family.

Room at the Table: Thanks to all who donated to our foster care closet this month. Eleven families came to the closet this past Thursday and received a copy of the book, *The Connected Child*, and a plate of Christmas cookies. To restock our closet, we're in need of *diapers* (sizes 2, 4, and 5); *wipes*; *socks* (any size but especially size 2-9); and *kids clothes* sizes 5-12 (also 24-month/2T boys).



“Peace Promised”

Isaiah 9:1-7

Bruce Barlow

December 15, 2019

Shalom at Christmas . . .

Full of _____ & _____

Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 9:1-7

Isaiah 11:6-11

1) Predicted _____

11:6-11

2) Predicted _____

9:6

3) Promised _____

9:7

4) Promised Peace _____

“Waging Peace”

Peace with _____

Peace with _____

Peace with _____

Questions to consider, then discuss with your prayer partner, spouse, or Life Group:

Peace/shalom is harmony and life as it was originally, in Eden, at creation. If Isaiah 9 is promising peace at the birth of Jesus and Jesus has come, why are we still not yet experiencing shalom restored?

There is much talk about peace in the Christmas season. Why? What does that say about the human heart?

Read and discuss Isaiah 26:3-4. What habits help develop a “steadfast mind”?

Discuss the comment from this week’s sermon blog, “Peace, like war, must be waged.” How does one “wage peace” in relationships? With a spouse? With a neighbor? Look at Romans 12:17-21 and consider how it advises us to “wage peace.”

Reading Guide: “Peace: Promised, Proclaimed, Provided”

December 16-20: “Peace Proclaimed”

Verse of the Week: “*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests*” (Luke 2:14).

Monday, December 16	Luke 1:1-26
Tuesday, December 17	Luke 1:26-56
Wednesday, December 18	Luke 1:57-80
Thursday, December 19	Luke 2:1-20
Friday, December 20	Luke 2:21-40

Check out the *Live It!* blog with daily entries for these passages. You can find the blog at www.liveitblog.wordpress.com If you don’t use a computer, a hard-copy booklet of these blog entries will be available at the Info Center in the Welcome Area. These booklets are also for Life Group leaders and Adult Bible Fellowship leaders to use as resources for discussion.

Church Center App: We’re using a new church management software (Planning Center), and one of the tools it provides is **Church Center** which is an app (available on the app store) or a web application located at <https://wlgbc.churchcenter.com/home> where you can connect with your ABF or Life Group, register for church events, or check in your kids.