



The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

April / May 2016



From the Pastor's Pen

By Pastor Daryl Diddle

The Day is Coming

There is coming a day when no heartache shall come; no more clouds in the sky, no more tears to dim the eye. All is peace forever more on that happy, golden shore. What a day...glorious day...that will be.

You might recognize that text from Jim Hill's gospel song, *What a Day That Will Be*. In my childhood, we sang that song in church quite a bit, I think because times were tough in my part of the country during my childhood. The crummy economy of the 1970's and early 1980's hit our part of Ohio pretty hard as we watched steel mills and factories...even whole towns...close their doors, so the promise of better days coming was soothing.

To a much greater degree, of course, that same hope of better days is what prompted the black gospel song-writers, and why songs of Heaven and better times to come make up the greater part of the African-American sacred music written during the days of legal slavery. Jesus' return to earth to liberate His own was their greatest hope...and in many ways, their only hope.

The fact is, we always appreciate Christ more and think more about Him and His coming Kingdom during our times of struggle. It's funny how hard we all try to avoid pain, yet it is pain and hardship that create the most substantial and profound beauty in our lives. Where we'll allow it, struggle always shapes us in Godward ways. Jim Hill understood this.

As a young man, Jim studied to be a professional singer, even auditioning for the Metropolitan Opera, but thankfully for the Kingdom of God he decided to dedicate his life to gospel music.

He wrote "What a Day That Will Be" in the early 1950's. The story goes that his mother-in-law became gravely ill. He was a new Christian at the time, and while he was driving home from work he asked God why this was happening to her. He then reports that words just came flooding to his head. When he got home he grabbed a

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World Mission Team (WMT) News

By Steve and Lorrie Liversedge, WMT Leaders

Did You Know? A Brief World Mission Quiz

Did you know...

...that our church family prays for and helps fund eleven missionaries/couples/families? Pick up a brochure about them all and what they do at the Welcome Center or click "Mission" on the church web site.

...that your offerings designated "Missions" are matched (\$.75 per dollar) by our operating budget? That means every dollar you designate to "Missions" gives \$1.75 to missions.

...that we support mission agencies from community centers to seminaries to evangelism ministries to pregnancy help centers to Christian high schools, both here in the US and around the world?

...that our Mission budget for 2016 is \$131,200.00, that we're a bit behind (so this is a great time to begin designating offerings beyond the tithe to Missions), and that we have a goal of giving the equivalent of half of the church operating budget to missions?

Continued from page 1 piece of cardboard and started writing down the words. How fitting it is that the first person to whom he sang the song was his mother-in-law.

Now, certainly, it's normal to seek to avoid pain. After all, we were never intended to know it or feel it in the first place, since it is a consequence of the fall. Sometimes, in the name of Christ, pain is incorrectly exalted. We dare not do that.

Just the same, God uses pain and transforms her into an unequalled teacher in the life of a willing pupil. If pain is our lot - if we find ourselves suffering grief, loss, physical or emotional distress, the very best thing we can do is turn our attention to Christ and His promises and His coming and reign. It's that eternal perspective alone that brings true comfort as it takes us deeper into the person of Jesus and our future with Him

Aside from the beauty of Christ Himself, suffering has been the most profound prompter of great Christian music. Consider:

Fanny Crosby (All the Way My Saviour Leads Me) was blind, as was George Matheson (O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go) and William Walford (Sweet Hour of Prayer), and Lelia Morris (Nearer, Still Nearer).

Annie Johnson Flint (He Giveth More Grace) was confined to her room with crippling arthritis most of her life, as was Lydia Baxter (Take the Name of Jesus with You).

Charlotte Elliot (Just As I Am) was a bedridden invalid, as was Catherine Hankey (I Love to Tell the Story), as was Eliza Hewitt (When We All Get to Heaven).

Frances Ridley Havergal (Take My Life and Let It Be) who died at age 43, was in poor health all her life, as was Thomas Chisholm (Great Is Thy Faithfulness).

Daniel Whittle (Showers of Blessing) was a Civil War amputee.

William Cowper (There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood) suffered from bouts of suicidal depression, as did Joseph Scriven (What a Friend We Have in Jesus).

George A. Young wrote "God Leads Us Along" as a declaration of faith after a time of great family tragedy.

Horatio Spafford wrote "It Is Well With My Soul" after his wife and three daughters drowned in a ship wreck.

Luther Bridgers wrote "He Keeps Me Singing" after the death of his wife and children in a fire.

Thomas Dorsey wrote "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" after his wife died giving birth to a son (who also died).

Wow. The moral? When suffering inevitably occurs in our lives, consider the song the Lord wants to create within us...a song that only we can sing, and then sing it for His glory. He offers to make beauty from ashes, and promises that a better day is coming; and we can rest assured that He always keeps His promises.

Children's Ministry News

By Cheryl Schell, Minister of Children

We need Dive Leaders (adults) and Lifeguards (teens) to help lead all our Dive Clubs (children) as we dive into Noah's Flood. The sign up for helpers has begun, but we still need more help.



Don't miss this exciting week at

Ocean Commotion
Vacation Bible School
June 6 - 10

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Contact Cheryl (cschell@wfmc.net) or
the church office to volunteer.



Marriage Ministry Team News

By Glen and Nancy Ellwood, Marriage Team Leaders

The Marriage Ministry Team would like to express a sincere thanks to all those who worked to make the 2016 Valentine’s Dinner a huge success. The setting, the meal, the fellowship was perfect. Thank you!

- Arv & Judy Metcalf – hosts and chefs extraordinaire
- Daryl & Annette Diddle – kitchen assistants extraordinaire
- Adam Schell, Glen McGlothlin, Andrew Wittenberg and Matt Winters – entertainment extraordinaire
- Sarah Blankenship - photographer extraordinaire

We continue our Growing a Strong Marriage series on Wednesday nights. We are studying how to work together. Join us at 7:00pm in Room 6

Marriage Team Marriage Moment: The Best Spouse in the World

In a recent Focus on the Family article, this line struck a chord with me:

“I want to become the best husband in the world, and I’m asking you to teach me how. Once a week I want you to tell me one thing that would make me a better husband, and I will work on it.”

Is it really that simple? That doable? Really? Yes!



Hanging Fern Sale!

The WPMC Bible Quiz Team invites you to come out and purchase one or more beautiful hanging ferns for \$15.00, the proceeds of which benefit the Bible Quiz Team. The sale will be in the church parking lot, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, on Saturday, April 30, rain or shine.



Parent Prayer Group

The Parent Prayer Group gathers once a month to pray for the youth of our community. Each meeting begins with coffee and a short devotional, followed by a time of prayer.

Parents share praises and concerns for our youth, our youth leadership, and our various youth ministries. Requests are kept confidential within the group.

Occasionally God meets our concerns with the experience and wisdom of other parents. Always, we are met with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, "For where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20.

We welcome you to join us on the second Wednesday of each month from 7-8:00 p.m. in the CMC.

Questions? Contact Eileen Wright at eileenwright@yahoo.com or (859) 321-1169

Construction Planning Team (CPT) Update

By Stan Wiggam, Construction Planning Team Leader

Yes...the much anticipated date has arrived! By the time you read this, we will most like have been given approval to occupy our new building. The punch list (minor corrections necessary) has been completed and now we are well into phase two of our construction project.

Now comes the time for continued flexibility and patience...

All library materials have been packed for future renovation of the room. When completed, all will be moved back and the library will have an awesome new look. The nursery will move into the much needed additional space in new building. The installment of drainage pipes and excavation work has been completed behind building B. Excavation work has

begun in front of the building which includes partial removal of parking lot pavement. The two north-west classrooms in the CMC nearest the kitchen are being converted into one large room that replaces, functionally, the “Fellowship Room” (room 114) in the sanctuary building (building A). The present fellowship room and classrooms on the main floor will give way to the new foyer which will be five times larger than our present foyer. The library doors and glass panels are being relocated to the CMC connector which will serve as an attractive entrance to the newly constructed fellowship room. A door with a glass side panel is installed on the south wall in what will be our future fellowship room. This will allow easy access to the kitchen. The wall between the two classrooms has been removed. This will allow a larger area for the staff offices to be temporarily relocated. At the completion of phase two the staff will move into the new reception/offices area which is presently our nursery.

Now comes the time for continued patience and flexibility of our church family with the renovation and expansion of the sanctuary building. A temporary sidewalk is necessary for safe construction of the new entryway. Plastic will be draped at the rear of the sanctuary to provide our contractor full access to the rear of the building for demolition and renovation. During demolition and construction of the new reception and staff offices temporary partitions will be erected to allow safe passage to the restrooms and the new building connector. Yes...we will no longer need to exit outside to access the CMC building!



Continue to pray for our architect Royce Borne as he gives input and direction to this important next phase.

“Unless the Lord builds this house, its builders labor in vain” - Psalm 127:1

Library News

By Bonnie Koteskey, Church Librarian

The church library is now closed during the remaining stages of construction. It will re-open sometime in late summer or early fall. In the meantime, please return items that have been checked out so they can be packed up. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Also...please keep bringing your Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup labels to support our Free Methodist boarding school in Jackson, KY: Oakdale Christian Academy. With the closure of the library, the containers for these can be found at the Welcome Center.



Overseas Fellowship News

By Doug & Carol McGlothlin, OF Team Leaders

On the evening of Friday, April 8, the Overseas Fellowship will meet for the second time this year. We will have the privilege to hear from Ted Moon. He and Jackie served for eight years in South Korea and ten years in Taiwan as missionary teachers affiliated with OMS. A covered-dish dinner will begin at 6 pm followed by the program at 7 pm. The room location is yet to be decided.

Ted has chosen as his topic: *Mentoring World Changers*. He will focus on their ministry with middle schoolers at Seoul Foreign School in South Korea and at Morrison Academy in Taiwan. His presentation will show how students participate in activities in and out of school to help them become “world Christians.”

We welcome all who have an interest in in serving the Lord in missions overseas.

<p style="text-align: center;">Senior Adult Ministries</p> <p>By Patti Fiskeaux, Seniors Team Leader</p>	<p>We finish our year of Senior Adult lunches and programs in May. All senior adults age 60 or better are invited to participate. Our April Senior Adult Lunch will be in building C on Friday, April 1, at 12:00 noon. Skip Elliott will be sharing about his mission work in Russia. His title is, <i>Russia: 25 Years in 25 Minutes!</i> Come and be blessed!</p> <p>Due to inadequate parking at the Gazebo downtown, our closing picnic is May 6 at Centennial Park in Wilmore (end of Kinlaw Dr.) We will grill hamburgers and hotdogs. Please prepare to bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to round out the meal. We will provide tea, water and lemonade to drink. Bring a friend and enjoy the time of fellowship and good food.</p>
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WFMC Music Ministries: Take Note!

By Rose Evans, Assistant Minister of Music

Three important upcoming events in the musical life of our church to “note:”

Spring Ring XIII

Monday, April 18th, 7:00 p.m. handbell and handchime Concert, featuring all the chime and bell ensembles of the church from elementary to senior adult.

Children-led Worship

Sunday, May 1st, 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Our corporate worship is led by the children’s Sunday school classes and music ensembles.

Singing Celebration

Sunday, May 8th, 6:00p.m. The Sanctuary and Youth Choirs unite again to lead us in celebrating God’s gift of song to His body.

Another important “note” for us all to consider:

Sometimes we get so familiar with the “way we do things” that we can forget that others, especially visitors, may not be so familiar with the way we sing, etc. As you notice folks around you who may not be familiar or used to using a hymnal or worship guide/insert, please help them out; show them the hymnal, the worship supplement, offer an encouraging word and a smile! We want everyone to feel free to participate in corporate worship...and especially to sing...no matter their background.

Please contact Mark Schell (Minister of Music) or Rose Evans if you have any questions regarding the music ministry at WFMC or if you are interested in being a soloist for music ministry, on a music team for worship services, or in a music ensemble. Let’s continue to “sing and make music to our Lord!”

Events Around Town

(or around our church, in this case)



The dedication shovel was recently mounted in a custom display case (crafted by Charlie Fiskeaux), and presented to the Construction Planning Team. From left: Stan Wiggam (CPT Leader), Royce Bourne (architect), Charlie Fiskeaux, Christine Smith, Don Sweigard, Pastor Daryl and Pastor Dwight.



Many thanks to Don Roxberry, who has been painting our new Children's Ministry areas.

Take a good look at this area in front of our buildings—it will soon look very, very different.



The church offices will be temporarily relocated to the CMC, then that space becomes a new fellowship room.

Our 60-member WFMC youth choir presents their homecoming concert to a full house on Sunday evening, February 28. What a terrific group of teens!



WFMC Anniversaries

April

- 4 Jesse & Letha Jones
- 16 Robert & Norma Jean Erny
- 20 Peter & Amy Cooper
- 24 Duane & Patty Brown, Ray & Nancy Fellows

May

- 1 Don & Rita Schreiner
- 3 Charlie & Patti Fiskeaux
- 6 Chuck & Lynne Fuller
- 7 Jeff & Pam Hiatt
- 8 Lyn & Lynne Neyman
- 9 Glen & Ruth Weinberger
- 19 Derik & Kim Heumann
Bill & Karen Jamison
Don & Roberta Zent
- 21 Jerry & Katie Diddle
Chris & Annette Wittenberg
- 23 Glenn & Lisa Sidler
- 25 Dick & Mary Ann Crane
- 26 Benjamin & Emily Randall
- 27 Dean & Ruth Cook
- 28 Tim & Cathy Bickert
- 29 Ken & Christina Proctor

Our perennially successful, tremendously competitive (actually they're feared by many), and yet inevitably kind and sportsmanlike Bible Quiz Team getting ready to go to the Greenville, Illinois quiz meet.

Thanks to all of you coaches (Jenny, Jeremy, Adam and Paul) who make this ministry possible.



WFMC Birthdays

WILMORE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH

April

- 1 Cesario Elliott, BariKay McMillen
- 2 Donna Flanigan, Glen Flanigan,
Janis Riffell, Deano Sarantakos
- 4 Hannah Goshima, Darla Kidwell
- 5 Cheryl Schell, Ann Toadvine
- 6 Lora Prochina, Joshua Toso,
Joyce Underwood
- 7 Kim Barnard, Jonathan Goshima,
Mattie Stinnett
- 8 Charlie Denger, Bonnie Descoteaux,
Ricardo Gomez
- 9 Kyle Lovell, Kendra Spivey
- 11 Renee Riffell
- 12 Cindi Angelo, Dexter Cannon
- 13 Ron & Nancy Johns
- 15 Levi Branan, Jay Dargan,
Isaac Madill, Kyle Miller
- 16 Carol Cowart
- 17 Bettie Cook
- 18 Bee Chew
- 19 Neil Anderson, Sarah Blankenship
- 20 Warren Brude, Micah Kidwell,
- 21 Tim Bickert, Jed Chew
- 22 Andrew Wittenberg,
Melyssa Wittenberg,
Rachel Wittenberg, Grace Yoder
- 26 Stephen Wright
- 27 Keith Madill
- 28 Chase Padgett
- 30 Steve Liversedge

May

- 1 Cheryl Grammel, Joe Grammel,
Clay Winter
- 2 Kay Bickert, Bryan Blankenship,
Sharon Madison
- 3 Carson Roberge
- 4 Hope Branan
- 5 Evan Cook, Kimberly Thomas
Heidi Wheelock
- 7 Don Roxberry
- 8 Beth Gomez, Carolyn Hale,
Cindy Peterson, Amanda Warren
- 9 Beverly Bray
- 10 Cathy Bickert, Glenn McGlothlin,
Miriam Powdrill, Renae Thompson
Lucas Weinberger
- 11 Sylvia Brown
- 12 Pat Gilmore, Roberta Zent
- 15 Christy Liang, John Henry Schaefer
- 16 Bette Crouse, Tehya Sidler,
- 17 Wes Folsom, Elijah Rao
- 19 Benjamin Randall, Scott Wright
- 20 Arlene Allen, Jeri Roller
- 22 Caroline Swaim
- 23 Dillon Bickert, Chuck Brock,
Leonard Fitch, Reid Gouge,
Calvin Wright
- 24 Jan Snyder, Ron Welling,
Naomi Williamson, Grace Wilson
- 25 David Coulliette
- 26 Jonathan Kellogg,
Dickie Lee Porter, Jody Zweifel
- 27 June Eisemann, Cliff Swaim
- 28 Bruce Branan, Abbie McGimsey,
Josiah Saunders
- 30 McKayla Kidwell
- 31 Jemi Chew

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KAREN KOEHN, EDITOR

Moms Who Pray

Join this growing group of moms, committed to praying together for their children and community schools.

MWP meets monthly, every first and third Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m., at the home of Annette Diddle, 201 Asbury Drive, Wilmore. No reservation required, just show up. Welcome!

Interested in learning more about WFMC, and maybe the Free Methodist Church in general? Join the Membership Seminar, Saturday, April 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Contact the church office for more information.

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Wilmore Free Methodist Church

Vision Statement

A Community that Reflects
Jesus's Vision and Values

Mission Statement

Wilmore Free Methodist Church
will faithfully offer
members and neighbors
the Word of God,
the love of the Father,
the grace of Jesus,
and the power of the Holy Spirit.
We will be Christ's presence
in our world.



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Some Random C.S. Lewis

on the topic of suffering, from "The Problem of Pain"

"The human spirit will not begin to try to surrender self-will as long as all seems to be well with it. Now error and sin both have this property, that the deeper they are the less their victim suspects their existence; they are masked evil. Pain is unmasked, unmistakable evil; everyone knows that something is wrong when he is being hurt."

"The real problem is not why some pious, humble, believing people suffer, but why some do not."

"When pain is to be born, a little courage helps more than much knowledge, a little human sympathy more than much courage, and the least tincture of the love of God more than all."

"Our Father refreshes us on the journey with some pleasant inns, but will not encourage us to mistake them for home."

"Love, in its own nature, demands the perfecting of the beloved...Love may forgive all infirmities and love still in spite of them: but Love cannot cease to will their removal."

"The problem of reconciling human suffering with the existence of a God who loves, is only insoluble so long as we attach a trivial meaning to the word "love," and look on things as if man were the center of them. Man is not the center. God does not exist for the sake of man. Man does not exist for his own sake. We were made, not primarily that we may love God (though we were made for that too), but that God may love us; that we may become objects in which the divine love may rest 'well pleased'."