



The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

June/July 2024



Unsettled

By Daryl Diddle

The word came to me as I watched the news the other night. First was the story about the potential cease fire between Hamas and Israel, with pictures of those in Gaza – and particularly in Rafah – still with painfully anxious looks on their faces. Unsettled.

The next story was of Columbia University cancelling their normal graduation ceremonies due to student protests over the Israel – Hamas war. The names of schools in similar situations and the numbers of students (and others) arrested scrolled on the screen, while other students – and especially Jewish ones – were...unsettled.

The threat of severe weather across the plains was the next highlight, punctuated by the National Weather Services' issuance of a rare "High" risk warning of severe weather from Wichita to Oklahoma City. Interviews with resident emergency management persons and first responders revealed the tension about what was to come. Unsettled.

The fourth story was about former president Trump and the court case he's in the middle of in these days. Simply seeing a former president sit as a defendant, and then reading and hearing his vengeful comments...both are unsettling.

The fifth story was about the attempted shooting of a pastor while he spoke to his congregation. The image of a young man nonchalantly walking to the front of the sanctuary, calmly pulling his pistol and firing was, especially for me, unsettling. It describes much of our world today – the word "unsettled."

In ways that many of us find surprising, nearly everywhere we turn...from wars to weather, from poultry to the presidency, from finances to factories to farms, there is this broadening sense of unsettledness...this sense that there is something going very wrong in our culture. We Americans are not really used to this; we're not accustomed to feeling so unsettled. By and large, we're used to things being pretty predictable, to conventional wisdom winning the day and to a quick return to order and calm.

Of course, we've had blips of craziness pass across our national screen from time to time, but they've always gone away. They've always resolved into tranquility and orderliness. But this feels differently, doesn't it? We're not quite so certain things will return to what we've known as normal, which makes some of us pretty angry. We are tempted either to withdraw from society, or to yell and shout; to in some way demand that things go back to the "good old days," however we may define them. We miss the peace and the predictability that overshadowed our nation for a long time and we want it back. We demand, in fact, for it to come back, because the unsettledness of our culture has unsettled us as well.

But we'll never be able to demand that it return.

Americans alive today are experiencing a remarkable (and sad) cultural transition. The unsettledness we feel is real, but it won't be resolved by political means, or by angrily demanding anything. As a nation, we are beginning to experience the reality of how a people who have rejected God and his morals and values act and engage with one another. We are reaping the consequences of our post-Christian culture.

All these sorts of news stories – the cancel culture, the amorality of people, the easy lies widely told, the simmering rage, the senseless violence, the hatred and hopelessness that lurk below the surface of so many...it's all indicative of a culture that's lost its moral bearing because it's rejected its theological mooring. We are reaping, at a national level, the consequence of the world view suggested by Satan himself back in Eden: "I'm going to do what I want to do, and nobody – no God or church or other person – is going to tell me differently."

We've believed that in that ethos is freedom, and so we've grown into the rebellious people the sinful nature has longed to see, but the problem is, in rebelling against God, we're rebelling against our only source of calm, peace and order. Slowly but surely, our culture is being plunged into the reality that naturally comes from the absence of reverence for the Judeo-Christian God, and the mercy of Jesus.

That is unsettledness.

Now, all of this is new ground for most of us who have grown up in the USA, so it takes a bit to grasp it. But understand it we must, if we are to survive with faith in Christ intact. More on that in a minute.

Our friends from other nations understand unsettledness very well, because they're used to it. They've lived their lives, many from birth, in unsettled places...places where you can trust neither business nor government, places where violence and rage are common, persecution is expected, racism and tribalism is rampant, finances are unstable, utilities are unpredictable and laws mean little.

Because of their experience, we can learn a lot from our brothers and sisters from places like the Middle East, most African nations, India and many South American countries about how to handle unsettledness; and friends, we must learn how to handle it if we are to keep our faith in, and witness for, Jesus in a good and healthy place...because the last thing an unsettled culture needs to see are unsettled Christians.

Conversely, the best thing a Christ-follower can show an unsettled world is a settled spirit. Our brothers and sisters from non-Christian nations don't celebrate the situations in their native lands, just as we don't celebrate the increasing unsettledness we are experiencing here. Just the same, they realize, and we must come to realize, that any meaningful change will only come from divine transformation, which flows directly from strong, personal faith in Jesus.

God's settledness in us bringing a settled spirit to those around us is the only hope of restoring settledness to our nation. But you know...even if it does not...even if more and more around us continue to reject God and Jesus, our own eternal destiny depends on our choosing Christ and living calm, confident, winsome, settled lives in the midst of chaos...just as our friends from other nations have learned to do. In the end, we do not bear the responsibility for saving our culture, but we do bear the responsibility for saving our souls and those around us, which will not happen if we give in to the anger and fear and rage...the overwhelming unsettledness that prevails today.

In the days ahead, our sense of security and of settled calm cannot come from our culture; it must, rather, come from Jesus in spite of our society's unsettledness. That's how faith will remain intact for Christ followers in our day, and that's how others will see Him in us...as a calming light shining in unsettled darkness.

VBS 2024

By Cheryl Schell

Ahoy!

Grab your binoculars and don your life vest! We are off on



When: June 3-7 * 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

How: Register now at wilmorefmc.myanswers.com

Travel with us through the 7 C's of History. The ports are called Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross and Consummation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins and dart frogs, we hope to help answer questions like: Did God create everything? Was Noah's Ark real? Why do I need to be saved? Can I trust the Bible? We need lots of Guides and River Guides to travel with the children from port to port. Registration for our little travelers is open. We hope you can join us on this epic journey!

Bible Quizzing Update

By Keith Madill

Bible quizzing at Wilmore Free Methodist Church this year for more than 30 teenagers and 7 adult coaches and regular parent volunteers has involved daily study, weekly practices, and monthly competitions since August. This year, we have traveled to the states of Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan in addition to a Bible quiz meet that was hosted here in Wilmore. Our focus for the year has been the second half of Matthew along with 1st and 2nd Thessalonians. While the quizzers studied all of this material, over 40 of the verses also required memorization. We are so appreciative of the prayer and financial support that is provided by individuals and the church as a whole.

Our last monthly Bible quiz meet was held in Indianapolis on May 11th. At that meet, our Mixed Rookie teams received 2nd and 3rd, our Young Teen Veteran teams received 1st and 3rd,

and our Senior Teen Veteran teams received 1st and 2nd overall. Many of our individual quizzers also placed in the top 6 of their division and two were first overall. In addition, almost all of our Wilmore Bible quizzers received the Quote the Word plaque for reciting all of the year's more than 40 memory verses word for word with no mistakes, all in one sitting. All that remains for this year is the Bible Quiz National Tournament which will be hosted at Waynesburg University in Pennsylvania the week of June 24-28. Please continue to pray for all of our quizzers as they study and memorize this material, and that they would apply it to their hearts, minds and lives.



“Getting to Know You”

Ron and Julie Dobie

By Sue Adkins

Ron and Julie Dobie met when their families lived next door to each other near Madison, Wisconsin. Ron was the third in his family of six siblings, raised in a blue-collar Lutheran home. He dropped out of church after confirmation. After high school graduation he joined the Air Force and became a hospital corpsman. He was stationed in Alaska, Wyoming, Texas, and finally Japan, where he helped bring wounded out of Vietnam and back to the States. After his discharge, he pursued a nursing degree until a life-changing event happened—being born again! A few months after that experience, he bought a van and set off on a road trip. While in Spokane, Washington he received an invitation to go to Hawaii to study the Bible. After spending 14 months in Honolulu, Ron returned to Madison. He contacted a friend who invited him to Madison Gospel Tabernacle (MGT) where, lo and behold, his old neighbor (Julie) was playing the piano! Julie grew up the youngest of four children. Each member of her family was involved in MGT’s music ministry and Julie played piano for all the church services by the time she was 14 years old. After graduating from high school, she started working as a secretary while staying very involved at the church. Ron started attending MGT in January 1976, and eventually asked Julie out. Their first date was on July 4, 1976, and six weeks later they were engaged! They were married at MGT on April 30, 1977. A few months later they moved to Portland, Oregon so Ron could attend Portland Bible College. Julie found employment as a legal secretary and Ron worked at a Portland hospital. In 1981, just after Ron’s graduation, their daughter Allison was born, and a few weeks later they



moved back to Madison. Ron became an associate pastor at MGT and Julie worked part-time in the church office. In November 1983 they welcomed their son, Michael. In 1984 God spoke a clear word to Ron: “Get ready to go.” They moved to Albert Lea, Minnesota, where they pastored for four years. In 1988 their third child, Bethany, was born. A few months later, Mike was struck by a car, resulting in a broken femur, two weeks in the hospital in traction and then several weeks in a spica cast. During Mike’s hospital stay, Ron was asked to resign as the church’s pastor, so once again they moved—this time to Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Ron announced to God that he was done with ministry! And he was, until the Lord brought him to his knees during a worship service. That fresh call brought them back to the Madison area to start a branch church of MGT in Stoughton. Julie found employment at a law firm in Madison. They continued to pastor in Stoughton until Ron retired in December 2016. Julie worked in the law office until her retirement at the end of 2020. Retirement and their “golden years” abruptly changed on August 1, 2023 when Mike called to say that his wife Abby had been killed in a car accident. After several trips to Wilmore, Mike asked his parents to move here to help him with the kids. Ron and Julie suggested a six-month trial period and they rented a house and moved down last November. They’ve recently decided to sell their house in Wisconsin and live here permanently. They say: “We have been very impressed with WFMC! The people here have been so helpful to Mike and his family and have welcomed us warmly. Thank you!”

Music Ministries

By Rose Evans

Take "Note"

*A Word of Thanks...

...to all of the volunteers who have participated in music programs at WFMC throughout the past spring and fall. Each week, you sacrifice your time to be a part of this important ministry to our church. We greatly appreciate your willingness to use your gifts as a sweet offering to the Lord and could not minister without you.

...to the wonderful congregation for your support of the music ministry at WFMC and for the vibrant singing that you continually offer on a weekly basis. You are the most important choir of the church, and we are blessed, thank you.

As you are relaxing and enjoying your "Summer Vacation," please keep in mind that beginning in September our music ensembles will once again be rehearsing on a weekly basis. Below is a general list of all ensembles that will be offered this coming fall. Please check future Plumblines articles for specific details regarding these groups:

CHILDREN'S VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Young Musicians (age 4 by October 1st)
 Friendship Company (Kindergarten-1st Grade)
 Heaven's Harmony (Grades 2-5)
 Chimes of Joy (Grades 2-5)

YOUTH AND ADULT VOCAL ENSEMBLES

Youth Choir (Grades 6-12)
 Sanctuary Choir (Post-High School and above)
 Senior Adult Ensemble - Rehearses as needed; sings one to two times annually (Ages 60 or better)

YOUTH AND ADULT INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Tintinnabulation - Youth Handbell Choir (Grades 6-12)
 We Believe - Beginner/Intermediate Adult Handbell Choir (Post-high school and above)
 Blessings - Intermediate/Advanced Adult Handbell Choir (Post-high school and above)
 Silver Bells Handbell Choir (Senior Adult)

Do you play a musical instrument or enjoy singing? If so, we would love to have you minister with us by joining one of our music teams for morning worship, or by playing your instrument/singing a solo for music ministry. For more information regarding ensembles, as well as Sunday morning and evening music ministries, small groups, and instrumental opportunities, please contact Mark Schell or Rose Evans.

Common Threads Prayer Shawls

By Pat Gilmore

The Common Threads ministry has been working hard over the winter producing prayer shawls (which include encouragement notes and promises of prayer) for you to give away to your friends, neighbors and family members of all ages who need encouragement and healing. They are located to the left of the Welcome Center in the main foyer. Note the check out process/notebook...so the ministry team can pray for the recipient.

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Ellie Bryant, Colleen Weaver,
Wayne & Joan Johnson, Charlie & Kaye Payne
- 2 Joanna Crabtree, Larkin Dietrich,
- 3 June Lintemuth, David Van Horn, Eric Walsh,
Jim & Joan Lee, Burnie & Machel Reynolds
- 4 Mia Campbell, Melissa Johnston, Joan Lee,
- 6 Wes Eisemann
- 7 Jim Lee, Lyn Neyman, *Del & Lyn Searls,*
- 8 Nathan Diddle, *Sam & Pat Gilmore*
- 9 Amy Kinnell, *Paul & Sue Hamann,*
Dexter & Dickie Lee Porter
- 10 Chloee Adams, Mark Schell, *David & Carol*
Coulliette, Colin & Jamie McGlothlin
- 11 Bob Erny, Joy Ireland, Bonnie Lashbrook,
Emma Padgett, Colin Winter,
Mark & Carol Killam
- 12 Kenny Isaac Proctor IV,
Bruce & Laura Branan, Don & Devon Roxberry
- 13 Phil Halley
- 14 Violet Madill
- 15 Beth Boisvert, Art Brown, Arvid Metcalf,
Eileen Wright
- 16 Amy Cannon, Jake Dunn, Nellie Kester,
Joe & Virginia Valentino
- 17 *Kris & Merianne Dietrich*
- 18 Lily Kate Atkinson, Violet Atkinson,
Burnie Reynolds, *Don & Patti Butterworth*
- 19 James Demaray, *Ed & Sharon Bryson,*
Michael & Carole Dickie,
Raj Mariyanandam & Hepziba Arputharaj,
Lee & Noel Taylor
- 20 David McPeake, Jeremy Wheelock,
Vanessa Wagler, *Skip & Darlene Elliott,*
- 21 John Oswalt, *Joe & Barb Crouse*
- 22 *Ron & Bonnie Koteskey*
- 23 Paul Kellogg, Ben Shafer, *Ralph & Nellie Kester*
- 24 Jan Coleman, Rose Evans, Maura Todd,
Charlie II & Hilary Fiskeaux
- 25 *Paul & Miriam Langford*
- 27 Sharon Bryson, *Royce & Susie Bourne*
- 29 Amanda Bailey, *Thad & Ruth Gouge,*
Curt & Timberly Kidwell,
Bob & Mary Ann Wiley
- 30 *Sam & Rachel Powdrill,*
Brent & Colleen Weaver

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Chase Bricken
- 2 Lane Stidom
- 3 Bill Descoteaux
Jeremy & Beth Wheelock
- 4 Tony Headley
- 5 *Ben & Nichole Shafer,* Caelan Dietrich,
Cathi Blankenship, *Ricardo & Beth Gomez*
- 6 *Ben & Renee Riffell,*
Ethan & Charlotte Adams
- 7 *Curt & Pat Caldwell,* Lydia Evans,
Wesley Cannon
- 8 Bob Cassidy, Don Koehn, Dorothy Thompson
- 9 Evie Barnard, Jody Brock, LeAnn Roberge
- 10 Dale Hale
- 11 Carole Dickie, *Scott & Eileen Wright*
- 12 Dick Crane, *Harold & Caroline Schmul*
- 13 Caroline Timmerman, Dalton Cannon,
Gerry & Judy Graham
- 14 Brian Bowers, *Curtis & Arlene Allen,*
Joel & Genia Schumacher, Letha Jones,
Rick Maynard
- 15 *Gil & Cheryl Waterman,* Jana Johnston,
John & Marilyn Swaim, Luke Johnston
- 16 Micah Foster, *Phil & Lee Anna Halley,*
Susan Folsom
- 17 *Bob & Faye Neal,* Kennedy Roberge,
Mark & Rose Evans
- 18 *Bob & Teresa Cassidy,* Don Zent,
Doug & Carol McGlothlin,
Golf & Bethany Tonglamun, Machel
Reynolds
- 19 *Andy & Hannah Miller,* Ariel Miller,
Emily Walsh
- 20 Caitlin Gothay, *Timothy & Joyce Thomas,*
Warren & Marguerite Brude
- 21 Gretchen Stidom, Priscilla Probst, Skip Elliott
- 24 Journey Tackett, Kristi McConnell
- 25 Randy Richardson, Ryan Padgett
- 26 Caspian Fiskeaux, Don Sweigard,
James Walsh, Sadie Upton
- 27 Will Montoya
- 28 *Major & Missy Upton*
- 29 Gerry Graham, Vera Steury
- 30 Cathy Thompson, *Earle & Dottie Bowen,*
Eleanor Tonglamun, Parker Weinberger,
Stan Wiggam

All-Church Social News and Notes

By Marilyn Swain

If you haven't participated in the Church Socials, or if it has been a while, you are missing out. It is a great time to fellowship and deepen relationships in our church family. Invite someone new to join you! There are monthly opportunities.

- Upcoming socials include Potluck Breakfast on May 26 during the Sunday School hour.
- July 7 will be the Independence Day Celebration at 6:00 p.m.
- The Annual Promotion Potluck Breakfast will be on August 11 during the Sunday School hour.
- The ever-popular Salad Social is September 1, in the evening.

Check the bulletin closer to the dates for ideas of what to bring.

- Sidewalk Socials are scheduled for June 2, June 16, July 21, August 4 and August 18. Light refreshments are provided near the playground after Sunday night service.

As you are doing spring cleaning at your house, please look for items that you have been meaning to return to the church kitchen. We are always wondering where the spatulas, pitchers, towels, tongs, large covered soup pot, etc. are residing. We offer complete amnesty.

We are currently looking for additional hands to serve on the Social Team. We always have a great time. On the job training is provided and both men and women welcome. Let the church office know, or simply approach the kitchen at the next social to get signed up.

Youth Update

By Caitlin Gohay

This semester we have studied the Sermon on the Mount. One of our 10th grade boys James Evans wrote a piece about his experience in youth group this semester. He says, "This semester in Youth Group, we've continued our journey through the Sermon on the Mount. I've enjoyed getting to spend time with my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, sharing meals, playing games, and simply just talking with them. One part of Jesus' message that stuck out to me was Matthew 7 where He talks about not judging others. I'll admit, I often struggle with comparing myself to those around me. Most days, I either get caught up in either thinking I'm not as good as someone, or looking down on others because I think I'm better than them. Both sides of this spectrum can be dangerous, and I find it helpful to remember that it is not my job to judge others, but to love them. I have to remind myself that in God's eyes, I am just as imperfect as they are, giving me no room to

judge them. Jesus worded it perfectly when He said, "First take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:5). In the end, God is the only one whose judgment matters. All He asks is that we seek first His kingdom and righteousness (Matthew 6:33), and leave the rest up to Him."

Thank you church for praying for our youth. Keep us in your prayers as we embark on another summer of challenges, growth, and fun!



Prayer

By Ruth Hersey

I've read a lot about prayer, mostly because I'm not very good at it. I don't think reading about it has made me much better either. I remember hearing at Mrs. Kinlaw's funeral about how much she used to pray for people. The speaker said that someone was going to have to pick up that mantle to take up the prayer responsibilities of Mrs. Kinlaw and of so many of her generation that are now being promoted to Heaven. Who will pray as they did?

I have tried, but I know for a fact I am far, far away from the Mrs. Kinlaw level. I don't understand how prayer works, and what I read and hear is often contradictory. For example, recently I heard on a podcast that many of us are very lazy in the way we pray. We pray generally, for something like "justice," without doing the work to figure out in our own minds what that would look like. Then I read this line in a novel, "A Morbid Taste for Bones" by Ellis Peters, talking about a 12th century Welsh monk, Brother Cadfael: "He prayed as he breathed, forming no words and making no specific requests, only holding in his heart, like broken birds in cupped hands, all those people who were in stress or grief." I find myself more in sympathy with Brother Cadfael than with a philosophy that gives me the responsibility for prescribing how God should fix the world. Probably the main reason I've read so much about prayer is that it is sometimes easier to read about it than to do it. In Letters to Malcolm, C.S. Lewis' book about prayer which takes the form of a fictitious correspondence between two academics, the wife of one of the men comments that they've left out the most salient point on the topic: that prayer is hard to do. There are many reasons we

find prayer a difficult chore, and these change through our lives. Do we see God as eager to scold us for praying incorrectly? Does the act of rehearsing our concerns in prayer make us feel more anxious rather than less so? Do we fall asleep immediately after beginning to pray? Do we worry that our prayers are self-serving and not high-minded enough? Have we prayed so long and so hard for the same thing, seemingly getting nothing but silence from God? All of these have been true of me at various times.

One thing that comforts me is that many people in the Bible prayed inappropriately, not in the measured, disciplined way to which I aspire. David asked God to smash skulls against the rocks. Hannah was in such a frenzy as she begged for a child that the priest Eli thought she was drunk. Elijah pleaded for death. In Jesus' parable about prayer where a woman keeps pestering a judge until he does what she wants just to get rid of her, He seems to be suggesting that being irritating is the way to go. So the less than eloquent "Please please please" which I often pray is maybe not so bad. After all, we're told to throw our troubles on Him, to communicate in groans too deep for words, to be, in short, who we truly are. After all, the God of the Universe invites us to talk to Him, to ask Him for what we want. He says not to be a hypocrite about it; I can only conclude He wants to hear what is really in our hearts, however unpresentable that may be. He knows it anyway, so we might as well. Let's lift our cupped hands full of broken birds to Him like Brother Cadfael, even when we're choking on our tears and dizzy with confusion. Let's trust God to receive us with His infinite love.

Library News

By Bonnie Koteskey

New Children's Books (Loan Period: 3 Weeks)

- ◆ I'd Be Your Princess: A Royal Tale of Godly Character
- ◆ Bugs
- ◆ Barnyard Prayers
- ◆ Walt Whitman Words for America
- ◆ Mama, Do You Love Me?

New Adult Books (Loan Period: 3 Weeks)

- ◆ To Whisper Her Name by Tamera Alexander
- ◆ From the Claws of the Dragon by Carroll Hunt
- ◆ A House Divided by Michael R. Phillips
- ◆ Travail and Triumph by Michael R. Phillips
- ◆ Heirs of the Motherland by Michael R. Phillips
- ◆ The Downing of Deliverance by Michael R. Phillips

Please Renew Items Promptly

If you need to renew any items, please check with the librarian, Bonnie Koteskey, at (859-858-3436), or leave a note on the library bulletin board. It is important to return the materials when they are due so that others can check them out.

Book Review

To Whisper Her Name by Tamera Alexander

Olivia Aberdeen, destitute widow of a man shot as a traitor to the South, is shunned by proper society and gratefully accepts an invitation from her deceased mother's best friend, her "aunt" Elizabeth Harding, mistress of Belle Meade Plantation to live there. Not finding the safe haven she expects, Olivia is caught off guard by her feelings for Ridley Adam Cooper, a Southern son who chose to fight for the Union and is fearful of being branded a traitor if his benefactor, General William Giles Harding, master at Belle Meade Plantation finds out. He has come to learn from former slave Robert Green, the head hostler at the Belle Meade Plantation, how to train thoroughbred stallions before he leaves the East and heads west to settle in Colorado away from the North/South conflicts that still remain after the war. Real historical characters and events are woven into the fiction making this novel rich in period and geographical truth as the reader enjoys a romance and the story of Nashville, Tennessee's horse industry during the 1800s.

Women's Jail Ministry

By Carolyn Hale

On May 2 the Women's Jail Ministry team had the privilege of meeting with ladies in the JDC. We discussed the ways that we can know how God wants us to live and think in a world whose values seem to be upside down. By following God's Word and by making time for God and reading Scripture every day, spending time in prayer throughout the day, and taking time to be with God's people. Do you realize there are devout, praying Christian women, even in the jail, that women can turn to for support? Do you know how much they appreciate our prayers for them and, especially, the families they cannot be with? They also appreciate the devotionals you share and the soft-bound Bibles you donate. They love the pink ones! We closed by singing Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet and a Light Unto My Path.

Food for Schools

By Jessica Bowers

The School Outreach team thanks you for your continued support of the Food for Kids ministry through your monetary donations to the Food for Kids home ministry account or through the food collected in our basket in the lobby year round. This past school year, we provided more support for our schools than ever before. We partnered with 6 Jessamine County schools, supplying the Family Resource Centers with 80 food bags for children to take home over the weekend or food for monthly food boxes. The Family Resource coordinators gave an update on how your weekly support affected their students and families, along with their gratitude for your continued partnership. Here are their reports:

East Jessamine Middle School (Food Provided for Monthly Boxes)

Lynn Byers, Coordinator

I am pleased to tell you that we give 15 boxes of food every month to families. Two families are considered homeless and have five children in our school. Three families are grandparents raising grandchildren with a total of seven students in our school and some younger children as well. Two families are migrants with three students in our school and multiple younger siblings. Two families are single parents with one child each. One family has a foster child, and all the of the boxes go to families who qualify for free lunch. What you all bring for our students is a solid meal for a family and that is what I really appreciate. Thank you for all you've done, it does make a big difference.

Wilmore Elementary School (20 Bags Per Week)

Mandy Hobgood, Coordinator

Your generosity allowed 20 Wilmore Elementary students to go home with a weekend worth of snacks each and every week school is in session. All of the families that benefit from your giving truly need this program because food is sometimes scarce for them. Here is a little information on the students you support:

One family is a family of 4 with the father raising 3 kids on his own.

4 students are being raised by grandparents

11 students live in a home where English isn't their first language

11 students are being raised by a single mom

12 students receive special education services of some type.

100% of staff surveyed earlier this year listed food insecurity as an issue with some of their students and agreed that weekend food bags helped them worry less because they knew they had something to take home for the days they aren't here.

The Providence School (15 Bags Per Week)

Jennifer David, Coordinator

I want to thank the congregation so much for your help in providing weekly food to our students. This means so much to our school as well as the families you are helping to support. Students and their families have expressed so much appreciation for the help.

I personally take bags every week to multiple houses which has in turn helped me with connecting more with the family as well as have a bigger bond with the student at school. Students feel they can now come to me at a school to have a safe place to talk and express their needs. More students are expressing how just providing weekend food has lessened the stress of trying to find food. Thank you again for all your support and help.

Head Start (5 Bags Per Week)

Georgia Sutton, Coordinator

All (100%) of the children you provide food for is in a single family home and one is a special education student. All the children are so excited when they receive their food bag. Sometimes they ask ahead of time if it is food day. The families have told me that the food bags are a huge help for them and greatly appreciate them. Thank you, so very much.

Jessamine Early Learning Village (25 Bags Per Week)
Debbie Cumbie & Lori Barkley, Coordinators

15 students were signed up for food bags through the Migrant program or our Ukrainian liaison due to language barriers in the home. One student was added due to sudden job loss for mom, then removed (by her request) several months later when they had recovered financially. 17 participating students have received services from our district homeless liaison during this school year. We cannot thank you all enough for partnering with us in this way for our students. We served around 120 students weekly for most of the school year, and could not do it without you.

We also delivered 15 bags per week to West Jessamine Middle School. Please continue to pray for

these Jessamine County families, as they provide for their children during the summer. The School Outreach team would also like to thank the teens and adults who faithfully serve on Wednesday nights, coming early to pack the 80 bags of food. Your help is so appreciated; you make serving together fun.

Our Food for Kids ministry will be starting up again once school is back in session (although we will still happily collect and store any food donations given during the summer months). We look forward to partnering with you in the fall as we love our neighbors in this very tangible way.

WILMORE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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Children's Sunday School *By Anna Van Horn*

Thank you to all those who have helped with children's Sunday school these past two years. I have had the opportunity to work with our great WFMC volunteers: Patti Butterworth, Sue Adkins, Faye Henning, Kennedy Roberge, Charlie Kierstead, LeAnn Roberge, Annette Diddle, Roberta Zent, Rick and Christine Maynard, Susan Folsom, Hope Branan, Breanna Bowers, Ruby Branan, Jennie Lovell, Grace McGlothlin, Kevin Crabtree, Hepziba Mariyanandam, Erik and Cheryl Johnson, Victoria Hall, Rosie Cooper, Jessica Bowers, Ben McLaughlin, Aaron and Danielle Raymond, Glen and Donna Flanigan, Carolyn Rumble, Virginia Valentino, Mark and Anna Van Horn.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to teach/assist children's Sunday School classes 1st through 4th grades starting in August. We are looking to have two volunteers per grade.

If interested please contact Cheryl Schell or Anna Van Horn.

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WILMORE, KY 40390

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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.




The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

June/July 2024

Summer Fun



Summer will be here soon and the kids will be ready to play. At 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings we will have our "Summer Fun" program for children. This program is for children whose parents are in prayer meeting or working in the children and youth areas. There will be some lesson time and when the weather permits, a play time outside. Come join us on June 12 at 7:00 p.m. If you would be interested in teaching a class, see Cheryl Schell soon.



FUN IN THE SON!

