



The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

August/September 2025



Blessing For A Purpose

By Pastor Daryl

I was in the sixth grade when I first entered into fine theatre, taking a role in a play called, "The Capricious Pearls." I'm sure you've seen it, or at least heard of it on Broadway. It was a mystery/detective production, but since I had no idea what the word, "capricious" meant, I really didn't understand the play. It was actually many years later when I found out that "capricious" means whimsical, changeable, unpredictable, out of the blue, and impulsive.

Do you know someone who is capricious? I confess that, at times in my life, I've thought God was rather capricious, especially in the way He answers prayers, and not just my prayers, but the prayers of my friends and family...and prayers for healing especially.

I've wondered why God seems to quickly answer some prayers for healing, but then doesn't seem to ever answer others. Why does God allow hard or painful things in some peoples' lives, and then seem to protect other people from much of anything that is difficult? Even when Jesus was among us, He healed some people, but as He went to the cross, the earth was filled with other people who still needed healing.

Is that God's capriciousness?

Is God capricious?

Of course, physical healing was not Jesus' central purpose in coming to earth. His purpose in coming was to seek and save the lost. Jesus came to restore our possibility of relationship with God...to redeem the earth and to give humanity the possibility of eternal life with Him. Jesus' central message was a call to repent. Jesus did heal, but the purpose of those healings, though certainly beneficial to those involved, was always to display His power and compassion, to prove His deity...His divine authority, and to reveal God's unlimited ability to free anyone who would repent, from the bondage, the penalty, and the consequences of sin.

In that way, Jesus' healing ministry illustrated His central purpose: to provide redemption and ultimate healing for all who believe. What that means is, both in Jesus' day and in our day, God's healing is not capricious. Whether or not we may see or understand it at the moment, there is always a bigger gospel purpose to all that God does, including God's healing. In those times when we wonder what He's doing or not doing, it's good to remember – God's not capricious. There's always a purpose for what He does, and does not, do. Certainly, we are welcomed...encouraged even...to ask Him to heal. God, Himself, invites us to ask...and in faith. But our faith is not so much that He'll do what we want, but that He'll do what is truly best...that He'll do the thing that will most powerfully advance His greater purpose in our world...bringing redemption and ultimately healing to all who will believe. And we have to trust that God knows what best fulfills that purpose. Like missionary Jim Elliott wrote, "God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with him." God heals for a greater purpose.

Well, just as God heals for a purpose, God also blesses for a purpose. That's the message of Psalm 67: God blesses for a purpose. The psalmist says in verse one: *"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us."* Why? He gives the reason in verse two: *"so that God's ways may be known on earth and God's salvation may be known among all nations."*

You see, God has always wanted salvation for people. The Psalmist understood that 1,000 years before Jesus was born. God's goal of redemption for the world didn't start with Jesus; it ended with Him. But even in the Psalmist's day, God had tools to reveal Himself to the unbelieving world, and one of God's tools was to bless those who knew Him, so they could then give Him the glory for His blessing, and in doing that, introduce unbelieving peoples – nations – the Gentiles – to the one true God.

Just as God's healing is never capricious, neither are God's blessings. They're not just based on His own thoughtless whim or random luck. God doesn't bless some because He likes them better, or because they've done nice things for Him, or because they've prayed in a certain way...you know, using certain words. God's blessings are not His random value judgements. God blesses people so that somehow... and we may not see exactly how...His greater purpose of redemption is pushed forward. And the Psalmist lines out God's greater purpose as the Psalm unfolds.

Verse one: *"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us...so that..."*

Verse two: *"God's ways may be known on earth and God's salvation may be known among all nations."*

Verse three: *"So that all the peoples will praise God."* Verse four: *"So the nations can be glad and sing for joy."*

Verse seven: *"So that all the end of the earth will fear him."*

You see, the Psalmist isn't really praying for God's blessing upon him and his people for their own sake. He's saying, *"May God bless us so His greater purposes would be fulfilled."* So the world will come to know who God is. Actually, that sort of prayer essentially takes ourselves out of the equation, doesn't it?

That's the sort of prayer that wants God's will and purposes more than anything else...more than even our own healing or blessing...and that trusts God to work out the details. I think that's what Jim Elliott was talking about in saying, "God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with him." So...do we ask God for things? Absolutely! He wants us...He asks us to ask Him. But is His purpose...is His best the true motivation for our asking? And in His answer, will we trust Him...are we content to believe that He'll give us His best if we leave the choice with Him?



SUPPORT GROUP

Announcing GriefShare Ministry At WFMC

GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Over 13 weeks, we'll find relief and comfort as we learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate the grief process.

Topics include: managing loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; coping with the changes in your life and relationships; recognizing normal in grief; and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

Each week, we'll view a video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion for sharing, support, and application.

Tuesday evenings, 6:00p – 8:00p – beginning August 12, 2025. Room B101

For more information, contact Don Butterworth or visit griefshare.org. To register for the group, visit <https://www.griefshare.org/findagroup>

“Getting to Know You” Don and Donna Nabors

By Sue Adkins

You may have noticed a new lady in our church with long blonde hair who always wears an outstanding, stunning hat. That is Donna Nabors! Donna says: “I don’t know when or why my penchant for hats began. During my 4 years working at Spindletop Hall (a historic Lexington mansion) where I was the first person someone saw when they walked through those massive doors, I was expected to dress appropriately. Perhaps I wore a hat for the events for which I was responsible – or perhaps I thought wearing a hat when I was showing horses in Country Pleasure driving classes was a good idea – which it wasn’t, as they tend to blow off if not secured well when the horse goes fast. Nonetheless, I discovered that eBay, Posh mark and Etsy had “church hats” and “Derby hats” and that’s all I needed!”

Donna and her husband, Don, moved to Nicholasville in 1999 from Oconomowoc, Wisconsin to fulfill a dream of being in the heart of the American Saddlebred horse community. They owned a stallion and quite a few broodmares they bred, which of course resulted in more horses. Donna also showed a select one or two. At one time their herd numbered 22, and some of the youngsters found new owners in Austria, Germany, Australia, The Philippines and China!

Although Don and Donna went to the same high school, they didn’t actually meet until they were working at the same company in Birmingham, Alabama. After marrying in 1982 they moved to Marietta, Georgia and then to Wisconsin before making Kentucky home. With Donna’s extensive experience in the architectural and HVAC industry and Don’s career as a mechanical engineer, they decided to purchase a commercial glass business in Lexington and worked together for 10 years before selling it. Retirement didn’t last too long before

Don started another glass business, and Donna filled her time as a receptionist at places like an insurance company, funeral home and her final job at Spindletop Hall.

When Don was laid off from his job in Marietta, GA with a German water treatment design and manufacturing firm, they were given the opportunity to either move to Germany (which was a near impossibility since they had 9 horses at the time), take a job in Sturbridge, MA or move to Waukesha, Wisconsin, and since that area was second to KY in the number of Saddlebred horses, that seemed the obvious choice – but it wasn’t without its challenges. Donna says: “I often wondered why God planted me in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin and expected me to blossom – until I



met some of the best friends a person could ask for and became the “different one” because of my Southern accent!”

Since moving to Kentucky, Donna has again become involved in showing horses, plus working with a dog fostering program called “Paws4TheCause”. She has discovered pickleball and is also a member of the “Common Threads” group at WPMC.

Don’s form of “horsepower” involves gasoline, tires and periodic trips to the Bowling Green Corvette Museum (Don and Donna own the gold Corvette with the license plate that reads, “OH WOW” which you may have seen in the WPMC parking lot from time to time.)

Donna decided to visit WPMC a couple of years ago, mainly to find a church that followed the teachings of the Bible rather than what society promoted. She knew she had found her home when she arrived here and she has since made numerous friends.

We are happy to welcome Don and Donna Nabors to our WPMC church family!

Tech Talk—Pay The Bill? *By Dan Dotterweich*

You have probably gotten a similar bill in your email:



Of course I did not order this. Therefore, if it were legitimate, I should call the phone number. If you do an internet search on the phone number, Norton will not show up. Also, if you click the v arrow to the left of the name, you will see it is coming from a random gmail address (statustasty068@gmail.com). Norton would not have such an email address. As always, whenever you receive a request for money via email, text or a phone call, don't respond to the message, but if you are concerned, contact the party directly through the same way you contacted them initially. Of course, if you don't have an account with them, you can assume it is a scam and ignore it. Happy computing!

Overseas Fellowship *By Carol McGlothlin*

The Overseas Fellowship serves to expand interest, understanding, and exposure to missions and life in foreign countries. It also seeks to encourage those with a common interest in missions and overseas careers. Though the focus is on missions, any overseas experience (education, business, or periods of military service) contributes to our discussions on culture and promoting the Gospel to the world. A team of experienced missionaries leads the fellowship which meets in the fall, winter, and spring. The evening begins with dinner followed by a program featuring active or retired missionaries, lively discussions of life overseas, or other foreign service related topics.

The next meeting of the Overseas Fellowship will be in September of this year. Watch the Sunday Worship Folder for an announcement of the date and program topic. Everyone is welcome as we provide fellowship for the curious as well as the "old-timers" in our church family. See you there!



DANCE
Messianic Circle

Art and Carol Miller have enjoyed worshipping the LORD through Messianic Circle Dancing. They dance in their home and would invite anyone who might be interested to contact them. Carol: 859-684-5149 Art: 859-576-0997 carolkmiller@gmail.com

Children's Ministry

By Cheryl Schell

Is children's ministry too scary for you? We have holes to fill in Sunday School, Children's Worship, Children's Worship, Jr., Christian Life Club and the Nursery. If the children of our church are important to us, than we need YOU to help love, nurture and educate them. Please contact Cheryl Schell (cschell@wfmcc.net) to find out where you can start being used by God! Look at what God did with these people. If He could use them, He can use you!

Abraham— Was old	Elijah – Was suicidal	Joseph – Was abused
Job – Went bankrupt	Moses – Had a speech problem	Gideon – Was afraid
Samson – Was a womanizer	Rahab – Was a prostitute	Samaritan Woman – divorced
Noah – Was a drunk	Jeremiah – Was young	Jacob – Was a cheater
David – Was a murderer	Jonah – Ran from God	Naomi – Was a widow
Martha – Worried excessively	Peter – Denied Jesus three times	The Disciples – Fell asleep praying
Paul – Persecuted Christians before becoming one		

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”—Romans 8:28

We have several teacher and assistant positions available in Sunday School beginning this month:

- Ages 4-5 kindergarten (two adults)
 - 1st-2nd grades (assistant)
 - 3rd grade (teacher)
 - 4th grade (two adults)

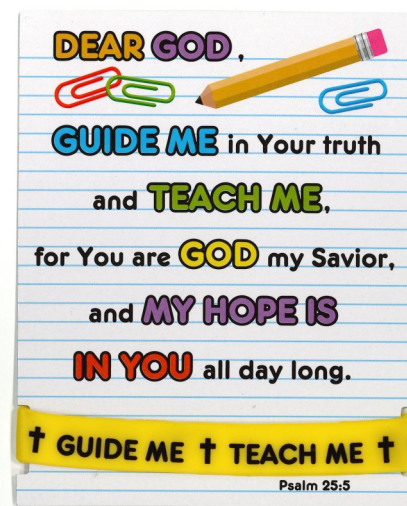
Each class has 5-10 students, 1 adult teacher, and 1 assistant.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to help young people walk with Jesus.

Back to School Outreach

Beginning Sunday, August 3rd, be sure to pick up the back to school outreach items in the foyer—bracelet and a prayer card like this——> to give to all the children you know who are returning to school this semester. Take as many as you can give away.

Let's give them our prayer and this word of hope in Jesus!



Birthdays / Anniversaries

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Tonya Bryant, Daryl Diddle, Jeff Hiatt,
Julia McGlothlin, Andy Miller,
Aaron & Amie Hall, Darin & Jill Land
- 3 Elyssa Maynard, *Sean & Catherine Gaffney*
- 4 Sharon McConnell, Mary Sutherland,
Sophia Van Horn, *Chuck & Jody Brock*
- 5 *Brian & Jessica Bowers*
- 6 David Brabon, Lily Wittenberg,
Mark & Cheryl Schell
- 7 Rosie Cooper, Edan Dietrich, Paul Stackhouse
- 8 Marguerite Brude
- 9 Jake Bowers, TR Miller, Christina Proctor
- 10 Gladys Suffridge, *Andy & Lizet Bowen,*
Bill & Bonnie Descoteaux
- 11 Pati Brabon, *Paul & Betty Johnston,*
John & Karen Oswalt
- 12 Lynn Ramos, *Jerry & Jan Coleman,*
Steve & Ruth Hersey, Keith & Sharon Madison
- 13 Alayna Crabtree, David Tullar, *Ted & Sandy Hall,*
Craig & Rebekah Saunders
- 14 Rebecca Wood
- 16 Sandy Hall, Beth Wheelock
- 17 Kevin Crabtree, Debby Marchal, Del Searls,
Mike & Vickie Reynen
- 18 *Gary & Jane Moegerle, Howard & Jan Snyder*
- 19 *Don & Lenore Sweigard,*
Ken & Renae Thompson
- 20 Caiden Johnson, Mary Ellen Martin,
Paul & Heidi Stackhouse, Ted & Gladys Suffridge
- 22 *Ron & Nadara Welling, Stan & Marna Wiggam*
- 23 Irene Raymond, *Steve & Lorrie Liversedge*
- 24 *Roy & Sue Lauter, Mark & Anna Van Horn*
- 25 Nathan Saunders
- 26 David Bauer, Bob Wiley
- 27 Ed Bryson, Faye Neal, *Bryan &*
Carol Blankenship
- 28 Curt Kidwell, Paul Robert Stackhouse
- 29 Travis Dobie, Cheryl Waterman,
Philip & Maura Todd
- 30 Charlie Payne
- 31 Doug McGlothlin

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Lucia Grammel, Alex Van Horn,
David & Pati Brabon, Wes & June Eisemann,
Thane & Laura Ury
- 2 Jamie McGlothlin, Jackie Moon,
RoseMary Nowitzki
- 4 Pauline Blanka, Clive Campbell, Noah Riffell,
Lyn Searls
- 5 Jerry Coleman, Brian Nowitzki
- 6 Seth Elam, Daniel Oliver
- 7 Darlene Elliott, Eddie Miller, Christa Stackhouse
- 8 *Seth Elam & Sandy Miller,*
Carolyn Haikal Pauley, Nick Riffell
- 9 Eden Ireland, Zoe Ireland, Melanie Kinnell
- 10 Ronnie Gouge, Timberly Kidwell, Hannah Miller
- 11 Ginny Proctor, *Don & Karen Koehn*
- 12 Stephen Anstett, Carol Blankenship,
Sarah Joiner, Joyce Thomas
- 13 Kai Baldwin, Wyndham Cannon, Hope Owsley,
Faith Ury
- 14 Michael Dickie, Judy Metcalf, Allie Miller
- 15 Linda Cook, Devon Roxberry,
Ken & Ginny Proctor
- 16 Jama Martin, *Alan & Vanessa Wagler*
- 17 Anna Bryson-Dunn, *Victor & Shirley Hamilton*
- 18 Busaba Tonglamun
- 19 Betsy Behm, Noah Lim, Christine Maynard,
Vic Reasoner, Ben Riffell
- 20 Ted Hall, Colin McGlothlin
- 21 Matt Kinnell, Patti McPeake,
Rick & Christine Maynard
- 22 Theo Raymond
- 24 Kyler Montgomery, *John & Kimberly Ostroske*
- 25 Sarah Kusche, *Daryl & Annette Diddle*
- 26 Victor Hamilton
- 27 Abbey Hall
- 28 Anna Van Horn
- 29 Eloise Cannon, Lynn Piatt, Marilyn Swaim
- 30 Ralph Yoder

Library News

By Bonnie Koteskey

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

- ◆ *Heart of the Wilderness*
- ◆ *A Gown of Spanish Lace*
- ◆ *The Christmas Story for Children*
- ◆ *When God Makes Scribbles Beautiful*

New Adult Books: (Loan Period: 3 Weeks)

- ◆ *Decision Points* by George W. Bush
- ◆ *Letters from Ruth's Attic* by Ruth Bell Graham
- ◆ *A Haven for Her Heart* by Susan Anne Mason
- ◆ *Redemption Light to Find Her Place* by Susan Anne Mason
- ◆ *A Lady Unrivaled* by Roseanna M. White
- ◆ *The Lost Heiress* by Roseanna M. White
- ◆ *The Reluctant Duchess* by Roseanna M. White
- ◆ *Five Traits of a Healthy Family* by Gary Chapman

Please Renew Items Promptly

If you need to renew items, please check with the librarian, Bonnie Koteskey at 859-859-3436 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.

Ladies Night Out

By Ginny Proctor

All ladies are welcome to join us on the first Monday evening of each month*, at 6:00p, for Ladies Night Out. Given the unpredictable winter weather, we're excited to announce that the group has decided to shift the LNO calendar, which means our season five will be June through November of this year! We will take a hiatus December through February, beginning our sixth LNO season in March 2026.

*If the first Monday is a holiday, LNO will take place on the second Monday, e.g. September

Please add the following dates to your calendar. We look forward to having you with us! Questions? Call or text Ginny Proctor at 859-553-9784

August 4 (6:00p): Smashing Tomato, 3801 Mall Rd., #195, Lexington (next door to Old Navy)

September 8 (6:00p): Culver's, 961 N. Main St., Nicholasville

October 6 (6:00p): Sonny's BBQ, 109 N. Plaza Dr., Nicholasville

November 3 (6:00p): Chicken Salad Chick, 254 E. Brannon Rd., Nicholasville

Take Note

By Rose Evans

MUSIC ENSEMBLE OPPORTUNITIES FALL 2025—SPRING, 2026

If you enjoy making music and having genuine fellowship with other believers, then perhaps one of these music ensembles at WPMC is just the opportunity for you! In September, our music ensembles will begin rehearsing weekly. Groups range from pre-Kindergarten to adult and from hand chimes to adult choir. Please do not miss this opportunity to further develop your musical gifts, grow spiritually, and connect with others in our church with similar interests. Listed below you will find general information regarding available ensembles. Please feel free to contact any of these directors with more specific questions or concerns.

CHILDREN'S VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Young Musicians (age 4 by August 1st)

Leader-Rose Evans

Begins Wednesday, September 17th

6:15-6:45p

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

Limit of 10 children, parent must attend

Friendship Company (Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Director-Cheryl Schell

Begins Wednesday, September 17th

6:15-6:45p

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

Heaven's Harmony (Grades 2-5)

Director-Cheryl Schell

Begins Sunday, September 7th

4:45-5:50p

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

Chimes of Joy (Grades 2-5)

Directors-Hannah Miller; Jamie McGlothlin

Begins Sunday, September 7th

3:30-4:40p

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

YOUTH AND ADULT VOCAL ENSEMBLES

Youth Choir (Grades 6-12)

Director-Mark Schell

Begins Sunday, September 7th

4:45-5:45p

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

Sanctuary Choir (Post-High School and above)

Director-Rose Evans

Begins Sunday, September 7th

4:45-5:45p

YOUTH AND ADULT INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Tintinnabulation Handbell Choir (Grades 6-12)

Director-Amanda Bailey

Begins Sunday, September 7th

3:30-4:30p

All levels

Sign-up at Music Central, located at top of staircase in Building B

***WeBellieve Handbell Choir** (Post-High School and above)

Director-Katie Diddle

Begins Tuesday, September 9th

6:15-7:15p

Beginning/Intermediate level

***Blessings Handbell Choir** (Post-High School and above)

Director-Katie Diddle

Begins Tuesday, September 9th

7:30-8:30p

Advanced level



*If you are planning and/or are interested in joining one of the adult handbell choirs for the first time, please contact Katie Diddle prior to the beginning of September.

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 using your gifts to sing or play an instrument as a soloist or in a small ensemble for music ministry. For more information regarding ensembles, Sunday morning and evening music ministries, small groups, and instrumental opportunities, please contact Mark Schell or Rose Evans. We want to hear from you.

Look for these events to happen in the coming year:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| •November 30th | 6:00p | Hanging of the Greens |
| •December 7th | 8:30a & 11:00a | Musical Celebration of Christmas |
| •December 14th | 6:00p | Christmas Caroling |
| •March 29th | 6:00p | Youth Choir Musical |
| •April 20th | 7:00p | Spring Ring (Monday evening) |
| •April 26th | 6:00p | Heaven's Harmony Musical |
| •May 3rd | 8:30a & 11:00a | Singing Celebration |

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

The Sanctuary Choir will begin rehearsing for the ***Musical Celebration of Christmas*** in early October. If you enjoy singing and ministering through song, and would like to make a short-term commitment to the "Christmas Choir" you are welcome to join us for rehearsals beginning early October. Watch the bulletin and listen for further announcements for more information and rehearsal schedules, or contact Rose Evans.

Walk With The Holy Spirit

By Charlie Fiskeaux

A Transparent Walk With the Holy Spirit

However long we have walked with the Lord in our spiritual journey, it seems that there is always more to be learned: the Lord is always taking us “further in and deeper down” in developing our spiritual character. In my own experience, the Lord has been working with me in recent years to be more sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s directions and fully transparent in my relationship with Him. A summary would be “a transparent walk with the Holy Spirit.”

First, consider what it means to “walk with God.” According to Google, “In a biblical sense, ‘walking with God’ means living a life that is pleasing to Him, characterized by obedience, faith, and a close relationship with Him. It involves seeking His guidance, acknowledging His presence, and living in accordance with His will in all aspects of life.” Further, Dr. Kinlaw states, “the biblical term for the Christian life is ‘walk.’” (This Day With The Master (TDWTM), by Dennis Kinlaw, June 11)

Then take this thought one step further by considering what it means to be a transparent person. Again, according to Google, “A transparent person is open, honest, and forthright in their actions and communication. They willingly share their thoughts, feelings, and motivations, without hiding any information or trying to deceive others. Essentially, what you see is what you get – they are authentic and genuine.” So let me make application of the concept of a transparent walk in my own experience. In recent decades, I have reflected on spiritual growth – or the lack there of – in myself and other persons. One aspect that I came to see is that of “blind spots” in my own spiritual life. The prophet Jeremiah tells us that “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9) So as I reflected on this matter, I came to understand that even a saved and sanctified heart may still need a fuller and deeper cleansing by having areas brought to light by the illumination of the Holy Spirit. Subsequently, as I reflected on the application of these concepts in my own life, I concluded that it is not sufficient just to “be obedient to the Holy Spirit,” as worthy as that is. I need to intentionally ask the Holy Spirit to search my life, experiences, actions, and thoughts and reveal anything that is not pleasing to Him and needs attention. I find myself praying with David in Psalm 139:23-24 “Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

In my experience with this endeavor, I have found that I needed to reconsider how I understand and act on thoughts or impressions about something in my life or some past action. In the more distant past, I would often just reflect on such impressions or thoughts without drawing much conclusion, considering that, since my past is under the Blood of Christ, it is past and does not need further consideration. But in more recent times, as I have endeavored to be fully transparent with the Holy Spirit, I have learned to pay more attention to such thoughts and impressions. Most of the time, these thoughts and impressions come to my mind “out of the blue;” that is, not related to any other present thought. Sometimes I find myself fully awake in the early hours of the morning with a thought clearly in my mind. So, now I consider such thoughts and impressions with the analysis, “is there any reason that I should not follow up and act on this thought, rather than just dismiss it as an overactive mind?” Summarily, my present position is, since I have asked the Holy Spirit to bring to my attention anything about my life that I have overlooked or failed to address, then I should immediately follow up on the impression or thought.

Let me share a recent example. One night I awakened with the memory of an experience in my early teen years, before I was saved. On one occasion in the fall of the year around the time of the first frost, I was at a nearby friend’s home. Adjacent to his home was a field of green bell peppers. Since the weather

had frosted, my friend said, “they can’t sell these peppers since they have been frosted. They will all go to waste.” Therefore, without asking for permission, I took an armful of the peppers home – and thought no more about it – until the Holy Spirit recently brought the incident to mind. So then as I considered the matter, I concluded that I need to make restitution for my theft so long ago. But I do not know the owner and likely they are no longer living. So that is where my pastor comes into play. I confessed the incident to Pastor Diddle and gave him an appropriate sum of money to more than pay for the peppers. By addressing this incident, I continue to walk transparently with the Holy Spirit.

In closing, I share two insightful statements by Dennis Kinlaw about walking with the Holy Spirit: “In a sense, it is easier to be filled with the Holy Spirit than it is to walk in the Holy Spirit.” (TDWTM, Apr 12) “Are you walking closely enough to the Spirit of Jesus that He is free to speak to you about your attitude, your words, your books, your thought life, your friendships, your finances, your entertainment? When He asks you to change your behavior, do you listen? If you do, you will enjoy a remarkable inner freedom that releases you to be more creative.” (TDWTM, Mar 24)

Joyfully Prepared

By Diane Munoz

“Can we actually know heaven is for real? Can we, with intellectual integrity, affirm a future place we have not been to and only have read or heard secondhand accounts?” I get questions like these on occasion and have had my own wonders. What is astounding to me, 20 years out as a hospice chaplain, is how strong my *knowing* has become. In reflection, I am quite aware how “stuck” my knowing was in cognitive, cerebral, and theological knowledge 25 years ago. But it is very different now – what has changed?

First, the unexpected cancer diagnosis of my otherwise healthy 46-year-old sister in 1998. She was quite the athlete in good physical condition. For her to call us the day of her 47th birthday and tell us her doctor said she had aggressive cancer, with no biopsies, was shocking. Here my collision with head and heart began. Kathie Lynn was diagnosed with an unknown primary cancer (about 6-10 percent of all cancers) that grew at a stunning rate. She had been playing soccer, golf and running a month previous making this all the more difficult to comprehend. She also was experiencing a spiritual transformation that was equally stunning thanks to some Dominican sisters on Long Island and her experience and encounter of the living Christ.

To this day, I still process the wonders and mysteries of a blunt 40-day journey from diagnosis to death. There was so much grace and heart ache. So many “angels” of compassion. So much of not knowing what to do next. Her nurse and Dominican friends showed us the way to guide Kathie, my sister Nancy and myself. She laid down her life with grace and courage and breath-taking peace. She died in late September and my broken heart was in awe. Six months later, as we celebrated Easter, I could not stop crying tears of joy. I knew that I knew that I knew she was alive in the presence of a living Savior. My belief started the journey from head to heart.

To this account I can add hundreds more. Patients and/or family members who have had a personal encounter with Christ in near-death situations and the absence of fear as they embraced the reality of their deaths. The many accounts of family members, and myself, hearing patients talking to deceased loved ones as if they were in the room moments before death and their faces aglow with seeing something we were not.

Of course, all of this is an affirmation of Scripture! He has prepared a place for us, a house not built by human hands. A place that no eye has seen, no ear has heard or mind could ever imagine. That’s a scripture worthy of our frequent meditation. We ARE surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses and, sometimes, the veil between the two worlds is translucent...and holy, sacred ground.

Youth Leader Spotlight: Renee Riffell

By Pastor Caitlin

A little about me:

My husband, Ben, and I began attending WPMC when we were engaged and we have raised our family in this church. We have three boys, Nathan who recently married Camille, Nicholas who is getting ready to begin his sophomore year at Asbury University and Noah who will be a sophomore at West High this fall. I work part time as a registered nurse at Baptist Health Lexington in a cardiothoracic ICU (we primarily recover patients who have had heart bypass surgery). We both graduated from Asbury University and UK. We have lived in Wilmore since we were married and we have loved raising our family here. We feel we have deep roots at WPMC and we are so grateful for the blessings the Lord has given us through our church family.



When did you start working with WPMYouth?

I began working with the youth group about 10 years ago. I served with the quiz team for several years as the primary quiz coach. I have led small groups on Wednesday nights, attended retreats and camps as well as other youth events.

What makes you want to continue working with youth?

I enjoy being around the youth group kids because they are so full of life! Teens experience so many challenges and I'm grateful to be someone they can count on. I ask the Lord regularly to allow me to minister and disciple them as he will allow, and to give me discernment in leading and guiding them. I love being a part of their church family, to lead them, listen to them, console them, cheer them on and watch them grow spiritually.

What are your favorite things to do with the youth?

I love going to camp and retreats. I also love serving meals on Wednesday nights and leading a small group.

What is your favorite memory from working with the youth?

Some of my favorite memories are from helping with the quiz team. It brings me such joy to see the teens seeking the Lord with an earnest heart. So while the teens who are on the quiz team study the Word in a unique way, many of the teens (not necessarily involved with quizzing) are hiding God's word in their hearts and following Jesus. Having a front row seat to the spiritual growth of our young ones is a privilege. It's these memories that I cherish.

Psalm 139 is a passage of scripture that I would recommend to every teen...praying they know, deep in their hearts, how much God loves them as they seek to live out who they are in Christ.

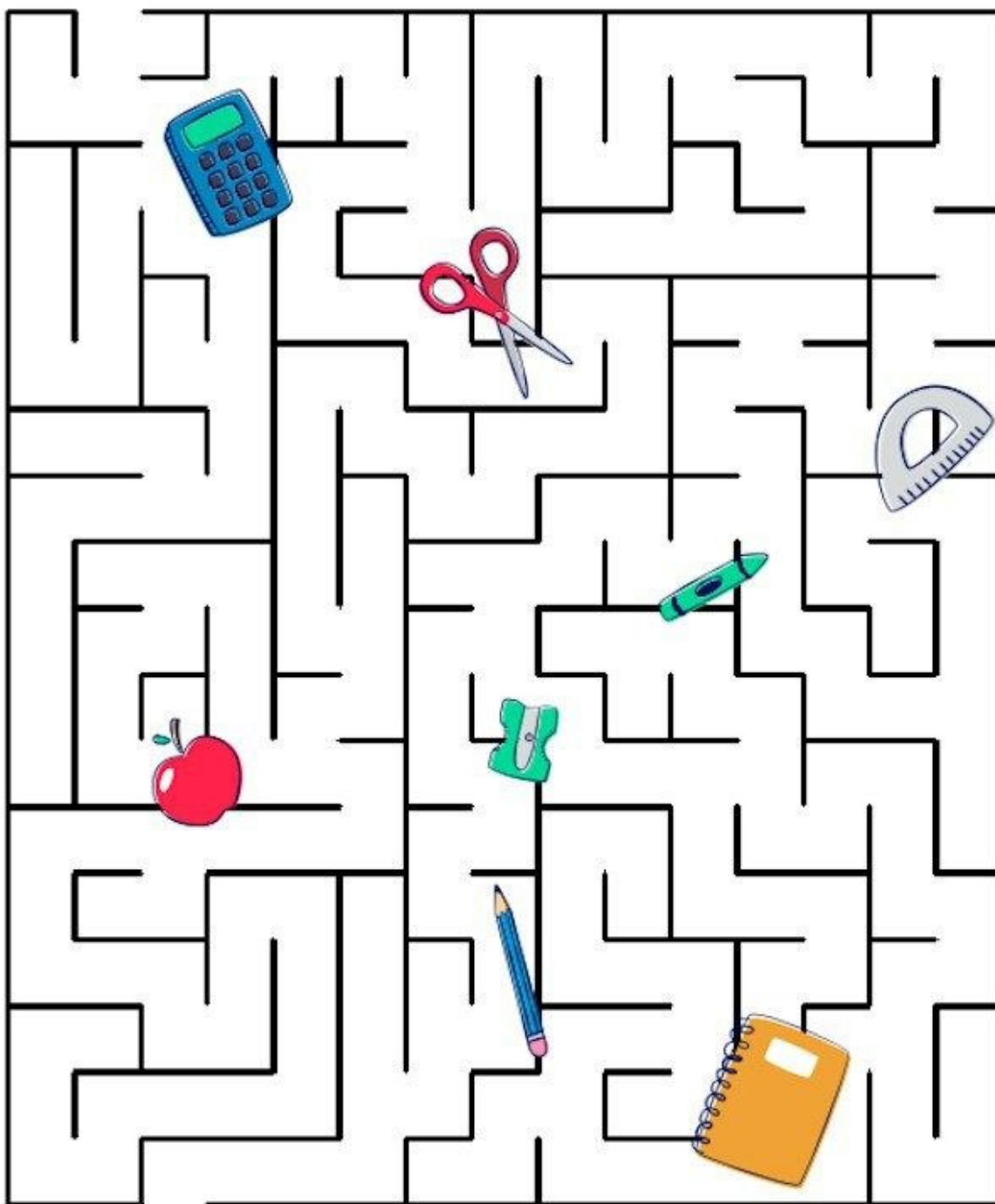
-Renee Riffell

I (Pastor Caitlin) am so thankful for volunteers like Renee who bring so many things to the youth ministry team at WPMC! Pray for the upcoming school semester and all of those who lead and serve the youth of WPMC and our community!

Kids Corner

Back-to-School Maze

What 5 school supplies to you pass to get out of the maze?



Bible Quizzing

By Brittany Wagler

Our 2024-25 quiz season has officially ended with our week-long national competition in Seattle, Washington. We came home with many memories, trophies, and most of all, Scripture written on our hearts. We enjoyed a day of sightseeing in Seattle and four days of quizzing.

Our Senior Teen, Veteran (STV) team, Jean, Grace, and Caspian, was declared our national champions and received the Alpha Omega trophy! Another of our STV teams, James, Violet, and Nick, received 3rd place in the nation.

In the Young Teen, Veteran (YTV) division, our team of Elisa, Ben, and Charlee, receive 1st and brought home the Benson Box trophy!

WPMC's rookie team, Ephraim, Ellie, and Sofia brought home 3rd place; and our other rookie team, Noah, Daisy, and Miguel, received 2nd place.

In individual quizzing—in the STV division, Violet got 6th, Grace got 4th, Jean got 2nd, and James was declared the champion—1st in the nation! In the YTV division, Elisa got 6th and Ben got 5th place. In our rookie division, Miguel got 3rd and Noah got 2nd place. Miguel, Caspian and Elisa also placed in our accuracy rounds, called "Kahoot."

Violet Madill was given the Dave Markell Excellence in Attitude award, given to a senior who exemplifies a servant heart and who actively lives out Christ in their life.

We also celebrated our seven graduating seniors, most of whom have been quizzing for at least six years.

We are so proud of how well these quizzers did this year and at nationals! We have witnessed their faith grow over the past year and it has been an honor to watch them live out their faith.

We also want to take the time again to express our gratitude to everyone who has prayed for our team throughout the year. This ministry wouldn't be possible without the support and prayer of our church family.

Finally, special thanks to Jenny Madill...our head coach for the past 11 years. She has coached and influenced so many, and it has been an honor to coaching alongside her and Keith. We wish them many blessings as they follow God's call in the next chapter of their lives.

We now look to next season where we will be quizzing over Acts 1-14, Galatians, Colossians, and Philemon. Nationals next summer (2026) will be hosted by Spring Arbor University in Michigan. If you are a 6-12th grader or know of someone who is interested in joining our team, watch for information soon about our quizzer/parent meeting and practices that start in late August / early September.



Author's Corner

Our church is a remarkable group, made up of people with all sorts of talents and skills. Several among us are authors, and here are just a few recent works WFMC writers have published.

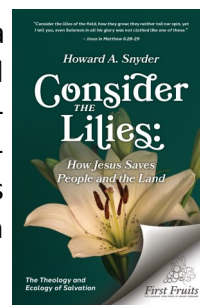
Meta Story: What Marvel & the Messiah Can Teach Us About Great Storytelling, by Sean Gaffney

This fun-to-read, insightful book will enlighten audiences hoping to expand their view of Story, as well as instruct those learning the art of scriptwriting. Designed for anyone of faith who likes movies, TV shows, or theatre, this book explores the hardwired universal patterns in Story and the effect those elements have on our souls. Locals can avoid shipping by requesting a copy from gaffneycreativeservices@gmail.com; otherwise copies can be ordered from www.gaffneyinkwell.com, or at Amazon and anywhere else books are sold!



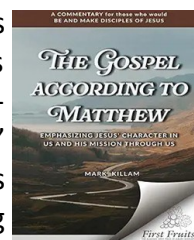
Consider the Lilies: How Jesus Saves People and the Land, by Howard Snyder

The book focuses on Jesus Christ and on salvation through him. Each chapter deals with a basic question, such as "Who is Jesus?" (chapter 1), "Why did Jesus die?" (chapter 5) and "Will Jesus bring peace on Earth?" (chapter 11), answering these questions based on Scripture and in light of God's "everlasting covenant" with the Earth (Genesis 9). It engages various areas of culture, such as the arts, government, and science, and also ultimate questions of heaven, hell, and New Creation. Available (free) from First Fruits Press and on Amazon in print or e-book.



The Gospel According to Matthew, by Mark Killam

This is a commentary for those who would desire to be, and make, disciples of Jesus. It's emphasis is on Jesus' character in us and on His mission through us. For many, church life is like a rip current pulling into an ocean of numbers, quick fixes, and programs over relationships. The book invites readers to escape the undertow via a fresh engagement with Jesus' strategy and methods as seen in the gospel according to Matthew. The commentary's focus is on both Bible content and on life transformation—including "A Disciple's Choice" springing from each segment of Bible reading. Available (free download) from First Fruits Press and Amazon.



Reframing Your Ministry: Biblical and Theological Foundations for Self Care, by Tony Headley

This is a revised and expanded edition of the 2007 book, thoroughly updated with two new chapters, one of which presents a biblical and theological model for self-care that is grounded in a regulated love of self that leads to self-awareness and self-compassion and eventuates in appropriate self-care as one serves in ministry. The overall message of the book is that ministry involves care of others but also includes a place for care of the minister's own life as well as that of the minister's family. Available at Amazon and also at Glossa-house.com.



If you have published a book recently and you'd like to let your church family know, please submit a short description and a picture of the cover to Pastor Daryl. We'd be happy to include it in the next issue of the Plumblin.

Prison Ministry

By Ted Moon

Jail ministry brings encouragement and hope to men and women who seek a new direction. While imprisonment is an extreme hardship, it forces inmates to reflect on the past and ponder the future. Each month when the WPMC men and women's teams visit, we are able to bring the Good News of Jesus into focus. Some inmates have Christian roots, and during their darkest hours these roots are remembered. Jail life leads individuals to look to the spiritual realm for solutions to their problems. They come to know the claims of, and we are glad to say, some embrace the promises of Jesus Christ.

Personal guilt and adverse environment make spiritual advancements difficult. Within the body of Christ, however, hope for these problems exists. Not only can inmates find relief from their agonizing guilt, but they discover that Christ promises to provide the sustaining grace they desperately need.

As we go to minister, we offer the grace of encouragement and support and a feeling of self-worth and belonging that can come by belonging to God's family. As a result, personal transformation and an outreach to other inmates begins in prison. The Bibles and devotional materials we offer help inmates reach other inmates.



Regardless of how we perceive jail ministry or the validity of inmate responses to the call to follow Christ, Jesus serves as a continuing source of grace and hope for those who truly desire to change their lives. Even when prisoners refuse to respond, the message of Jesus remains a positive influence and a call to every inmate. Why? Because it offers forgiveness and a new life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks to all who faithfully pray as we go each month to minister in Jesus name.

~ Charlie Payne, Craig Saunders, Hugh Sims, Ted Moon, Kaye Payne, Carolyn Hale and Pauline Blanka



Our annual baptism service at Jessamine Creek is scheduled for Sunday, August 24. If you have received Christ and would like to be baptized, please indicate that on your welcome card by writing "baptism", or contact the church office and you will be contacted by one of the pastors.

The Good Side of “Legalism”

By Kimberly Ostroske

Reducing Uncertainty

“For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive.” ~ Hebrews 9:16-17

This concept was written in the book of Hebrews many years ago and is still applicable now. When you write a will, it does not go into force until you die. You can change your will and add instructions or take them away throughout your life but once you die, then your instructions are set. If you choose not to create a will, then the assets and debts that you leave behind are going to be dealt with in accordance with state law. However, with no instructions left by you, there may be confusion and strife within the family as they deal with the grief of losing you and also being disorganized and working without any clear instructions. Do not fear putting your current wishes down on paper in a legal manner. As life changes, your wishes may change and, in most cases, you can change estate planning. Not planning at all leave a huge mess for your loved ones to untangle later.

Kentucky law states that if a person does not have a will then the estate will be divided in the manner set out by statute. A simplified reading of the statutes has the estate divided with one half going to the surviving spouse and the other half being divided between the children. However, it is usually more complex than that depending upon multiple variables. Other states may give everything to the surviving spouse, but not Kentucky. I have seen the lack of a will cause a lot of headaches for the surviving spouse, especially when the children are not focused on ensuring the needs of the surviving spouse are taken care of first.

There are many ways in which to organize your assets to make giving gifts to your family and friends as smooth as possible. You may have it covered in your Last Will and Testament, you can have your bank accounts set as “Pay on Death” or “Transfer on Death”, you can have a contractual agreement with your investment company or insurance company to give the funds to your beneficiary directly, or you can own assets jointly with right of survivorship. Trusts are also an option, but make sure you understand the nature of the trust and how it works. Do you know how your assets are titled and how they will be managed and divided after you no longer need them on this earth?

In Kentucky, a document written wholly in your handwriting, signed and dated by you stating what you want to happen after your death can be enforced by the court. But just like a typed, signed, witnessed and notarized will, it does not actually have any authority until the district judge approves it and appoints someone to follow the instructions. This process is called probate. Your estate, whether with a will (testate) or without a will (intestate) will have to go through the court probate process unless you take measures to avoid it. That takes planning and action on your part to make it happen. It has been my experience that worries lessen and stress is reduced once you get things organized and settled, and if we are less stressed, we sleep better and live longer, which means the document will not go into effect for many years.

Financial Peace or Financial Worries?

Which describes your current experience? Learn what God's Word says about money and how to find financial peace. We are preparing to offer a nine-week Financial Peace University class this Fall. If interested, or for more information, write "FPU" on your Sunday Welcome Card or email Bryan Blankenship at cfobryan@gmail.com.



Kenya & Rwanda Report

By Jerry Coleman

"I'm going home tomorrow morning." "I haven't been home in three years. I'm going home tomorrow to reconcile with my daughter, my mother, my family." I tried to absorb the significance of these statements and promises that were made by two changed women in front of over 400 people on the streets of a small town in Kenya. These are just two examples of times my heart was touched and moved by the work of God during my three-weeks in Kenya and Rwanda. My heart continues to cry out for these and so many others who are lost and broken, enticed away from their families and a faithful God. We went, we shared, and many responded. I continue to pray that these two prodigals will find welcome and restoration in their family homes and in their relationship with God, their Loving and Forgiving Father.

I joined forces with more than 300 Africa Gospel Church (AGC) Evangelists from across Kenya for a one-week conference in Tenwek, preaching daily to this receptive group of 300 dedicated men and women. We worshipped, prayed, shared new methods of evangelism, spoke together of the realities of ministry in the digital age, and brought forth practical ideas about how an Evangelist can feed his/her family while doing itinerate work. One evangelist testified that she prayed about whether to pay her rent or pay the \$20 conference fee. With tears she gave thanks to God for encouraging her to attend the conference leaving her rent to be paid by faith. She had just received notice that her rent was paid in full. Praise the Lord!

This faithful group of called ones then took it all to the streets over two afternoons of outdoor meetings in two different neighborhoods of Silibwet, a town outside of Tenwek. We saw over 100 people give their lives to Jesus. In the part of town of Silibwet where the selling of alcohol, drugs, and sex traffic flows, we Evangelists set up our speakers, mics, drums, keyboard, and guitars to "blast" the community with the Gospel. Timothy and I went out to invite people to the afternoon street meeting and walked over to where two young women slept right on the grass. We tried to wake them up but they wouldn't budge. "I believe they are demon possessed," Timothy told me. "And look. They're both pregnant." We encouraged them to wake up, and began to pray that they would want to turn from darkness to light. More Evangelists gathered to pray for them and call out the darkness – the demons – to leave them. In the end they awoke to the good news of freedom and knelt in the street to accept Jesus as their Savior. On Good Friday evening, I was asked by the AGC Director of Evangelists, Rev. Hillary Korir, to keep the worship and preaching service to one hour – from 7:30 to 8:30. He wanted to show the *Jesus* film afterwards. I finished preaching at 8:30 but the responses following the message lasted until they shut down the meeting at midnight. A wonderful season of prayer and confession broke out and there was such joy and freedom in the room! "I will never be the same," one shared publicly. "I was filled with the Holy Spirit!" another shared. The conference organizing team reported, "The Holy Spirit powerfully moved among us uniting, healing, and empowering us."

I had the opportunity to spend a long weekend in the village of Shanjetso, Kenya, where two years ago we took a WFMC team of 12 to support this local Free Methodist Church. More than 100 filled the church for the one-day holiness conference on Saturday and over 200 filled the church for worship on Sunday. A few years ago, Pastor Angeline and Hicks Savala called this a "church of two" which slowly grew to a "church of 12." Now, this church is weekly growing and has reached attendance beyond its physical capacities! We thank God for the vibrant spiritual life in this church! Rev. Hillary (AGC) and I flew on to Rwanda to teach in two Free Methodist conferences for Pastors and Evangelists in Kigali and Kibogora. I taught on "How to Preach and Teach" and Rev. Hillary taught on "Strategies for Evangelism." I continue to carry a burden for the church in Rwanda since the 1994 genocide which decimated most of the leaders of the church. The need is acute for discipleship, mentoring, and rebuilding of young leaders. "We now feel the gap," reported one of the organizers following our teaching. They feel hungry for more teaching and training. The move of the Holy Spirit was not as intense as we experienced in Kenya, but new ideas and hope and tools and energy emerged for these 160 Pastors and Evangelists.

Prayer

By Kate Madill

WILMORE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Office & Pastoral Staff

Mrs. Carol Blankenship
Nursery Coordinator
cblankenship@wfmc.net

Dr. Daryl Diddle
Senior Pastor
ddiddle@wfmc.net

Mrs. Rose Evans
Asst. Minister of Music
revans@wfmc.net

Mrs. Caitlin Gothay
Minister of Youth
cgothay@wfmc.net

Mr. William Howard
Mrs. Julie Howard
Facilities Care
whoward@wfmc.net
jhoward@wfmc.net

Mrs. Cheryl Schell
Minister of Children
cschell@wfmc.net

Dr. Mark Schell
Minister of Music
mschell@wfmc.net

Mrs. Renae Thompson
Office Manager
office@wfmc.net

Mr. Stan Wiggam
Project Assistant
swiggam@wfmc.net

Rev. Dwight Winter
Senior Associate Pastor
dwinter@wfmc.net

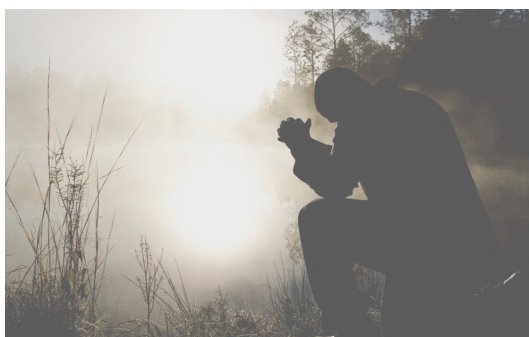
Prayer has the power to bring us into a conversation with the most Holy God. It allows our focus to shift from ourselves in this world, to our Father in heaven. God longs to be in communication with us, but most of this is our choice.

Now I'm not saying God doesn't also communicate through miracles, pastors, dreams, the Bible, music, or art, and God already knows our thoughts. But the choice we make to come to him in prayer allows us to go deeper.

If you look up the definition of abide on Merrimack Webster, it lists several different ones with multiple synonyms that reflect slightly different meanings. John 15:4 says *"Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."* When I think of The Lord abiding in me, my definition for abide is more similar to "bear patiently or tolerate" vs. when I think of me abiding in the Lord I think of the definition "to continue in a place or sojourn." I know the Lord will always wait patiently for me while I journey to learn more about Him and understand him more every day. Getting to abide with Christ in prayer is such a special thing!

I had a conversation with a teenager recently about feeling disconnected from God—she said she felt like she was calling out to him and he wasn't answering. I got to share with her about a time in my life when I didn't want to call out to God. A time when I was disconnected from Him, but didn't have the desire to reconnect. I prayed for that desire and hunger to come back to me, and God did not disappoint! He refueled my passion for Him and provided people in my life who were able to meet me where I was. I think that's when John 15:4 started to come true day-by-day in my life.

Without this conversation that I had with God, opening up about where I was and where I wanted to be, I wouldn't have been able to encourage this young lady. So I want to encourage you! Cry out to God, his heart yearns to hear from you and He will abide in you as you learn to bear His fruit.



Would you prefer to receive the Plumblane electronically instead of, or in addition to, the paper copy? If so, just let Pastor Daryl know via e-mail: ddiddle@wfmc.net, and we'll get you on the e-mail distribution list.

1200 LEXINGTON RD.
WILMORE, KY 40390

PHONE 859-858-3521
FAX 859-858-8047

WWW.WILMOREFMC.ORG

Wilmore Free Methodist Church
1200 Lexington Road
Wilmore, Kentucky 40390
www.wilmorefmc.org
859-858-3521

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Wilmore Free Methodist Church

Vision Statement

A Community that Reflects
Jesus' 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

August/September 2025



SAVE THE DATES!

Eagle Ridge Kids Retreat - Sept 5 & 6
Eagle Ridge Work Retreat - October 31 & Nov 1
Watch for more information soon!