



The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

August/September 2026



REMEMBERING WHERE WE'VE COME FROM

By Pastor Daryl Diddle

In general, I remember quite a lot about my grade school years, but one year that really stands out was my first grade year, ending in 1976—the year of our nation's bicentennial. Mrs. Tice was my teacher at Calcutta Elementary (in Ohio, not India) and nearly everything we did in school that year was tied, if possible, to our nation's 200th birthday.

Of course, Social Studies (that's education-speak for "history") was especially covered in red, white, and blue that year. I recall learning about people like Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Johnny Appleseed, Mark Twain, Thomas Paine, Harriet Tubman, George Washington Carver, Ben Franklin, Dolly Madison, and Betsy Ross, as well as influential presidents, governors, and military leaders.

If you attended our church's Independence Day First Sunday Fellowship on July 5, you'll recall that I displayed, but did not model, the very jacket I wore in our Calcutta Elementary School

Bicentennial Parade, part of my Davy Crockett costume (see photo).

I also clearly remember how big of a deal the bicentennial was in our greater culture. Every holiday parade that year included something about it. Most television commercials referenced it. Many, many stores and restaurants sold or gave away "Spirit of '76" merchandise. We bought and used, for years, commemorative "Spirit of '76" drinking glasses from Burger Chef—a fast food chain store near our home. The slogan of Chevrolet, the most popular car brand in America at that time, was, "Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie, and Chevrolet."

All was not peaches and cream in our nation in 1976 though. The country struggled with high gas prices; high interest, inflation, and unemployment rates; lingering fallout from the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal; and ongoing racial tensions. There were very real disagreements about many very important things.

Just the same, our culture as a whole managed to take a moment and celebrate the good that our nation is and has done in



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our world. Even people who thought very differently from one another seemed to be able to come together under the flag of the United States with pride. No one claimed we were perfect in any way, but we managed to see and celebrate the good—and there was much good to celebrate.

And friends, there is still much good to celebrate here at our 250th anniversary. The Good News Network published a list of 250 reasons to love the United States, which is well worth perusing.¹ Also, as the Philanthropy Foundation declares, “From its founding, the United States has been the most religious modern nation on earth, and that devotion has fueled many successes in character development, mutual aid, social reform, and national productivity.”² Our nation gives—and gives a lot—to very real human needs.

Giving USA reports that U.S. charitable giving involving individuals, bequests, foundations and corporations rose to \$617.2 billion in 2025, surpassing the \$600 billion mark for the first time. Especially interesting is that, by far, the largest portion of that giving, just under \$400 billion, comes from individuals. We are a giving people, and much of our giving is grounded in our faith.

Beyond this, historically, the United States has been the world’s largest donor country for Official Development Assistance (ODA) in terms of pure dollars, providing roughly \$62–\$64 billion annually to global needs.³

Beyond just our generosity, other reasons to celebrate our nation include:

Freedom: American citizens hold the rights to free speech, freedom of religion, and the choice to live, work, and vote as we choose. These sorts of freedoms are unimaginable to most people of our world. This is, in all likelihood, the biggest reason that people from all over the world want to come here to live, and they often risk life and limb to do so.

Cultural Diversity: Our nation brings together people from all over the world, which then contributes to innovation, art, creativity, and vibrant ethnic and mixed communities.

Equal Opportunity: In conjunction with basic human freedom, the U.S. has been historically built on a framework that allows for equal opportunity for all. Even the poorest, the least of caste, the minority of color or faith, or the most socially challenged can all rise to the level of their ability and giftedness without threat of oppression from the government. In fact, the government is charged with making sure that all citizens enjoy not necessarily equality of result, but equality of opportunity.

Admittedly this has not always been done entirely effectively, but the desire to always improve has been part of our ethos since the unalienable rights of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” were written into our Declaration of Independence. The United States was founded by persons who saw the weaknesses in most of these areas in Europe, and wanted something better for themselves and their offspring. They did not achieve it perfectly, but we all enjoy their efforts today, which is another reason to appreciate not only our nation but also those who have sacrificed to create and refine it.

We stand on the shoulders of very brave, giving, creative, faith-filled, and principled persons, and we need to remember this as we consider how we live, both privately and in community. Forgetting those who came before us makes us selfish and entitled. Remembering from where we’ve come reminds us that it’s really not about us, and so makes us more grateful people. Recalling the past also helps us make wiser decisions; we’re less likely to do something dumb when we can recall the poor results of days past.

Recalling the past also helps us keep a more measured perspective. Human nature seems to drift to extremes. We can too easily think, “These



¹ <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/250-reasons-to-love-america-on-her-250th-birthday/>

² <https://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/magazine/less-god-less-giving/>

³ <https://www.norad.no/en/news/news/2025/the-usa-as-an-aid-donor--facts-and-figures/>

days are the best!” or, “These days are the worst!” The truth is, there have been both good and difficult times before.

Remembering from where we’ve come also tends to make us healthier and happier.

And last but not least, recalling the past tends to push us to the Lord, especially as Americans, because all of the good of our nation arises from the Lord in one way or another.

So in this 250th birthday year, let’s not just sit and complain about what is today.

Instead, let’s take the time to learn how we got here and who deserves our gratitude for that. Let’s also appreciate where we’ve been, where we are, and then find out what the Lord is calling us to do to be a better, more godly people and nation before him.

ARE YOU THE MISSING PIECE?

By Cheryl Schell

I have enjoyed putting lots of puzzles together in my lifetime. Isn’t it frustrating when a piece is missing? You look under the table, behind the chair, and under the rug, but it seems to have sprouted legs and walked away.

This is how it often feels when recruiting for Children’s Ministries. Each ministry seems to have a piece or pieces missing. This fall we need Sunday School and CLC teachers, assistants, and substitutes. We need Story Tellers and Greeters for Children’s Worship. And our younger children need adults and teens to love them, play with them, and teach them that God loves them.

Maybe you are the missing piece to our Children’s Ministry puzzle. An hour a week or even an hour a month—do you think you could give that to teach and love the little ones in our congregation? Please don’t wait to be called or maybe reconsider your answer if you have been contacted. You can contact me at cschell@wfmcc.net, and I will gladly help you figure out which puzzle you fit into.



THE USHER MADE THE DIFFERENCE

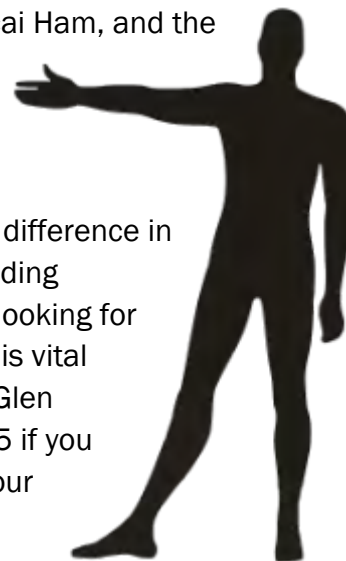
By Glen Ellwood

The story is told of two teenage boys in 1934 who were walking across a field in North Carolina when they heard singing from a large tent. Their curiosity got the better of them, and so they decided to investigate. As they approached the tent, they noticed it was packed and it looked like there were no seats. They had turned to leave when an usher stopped them, motioned them into the tent, and helped them to find a couple seats.

The two young men watched the crowd and listened intently to the preacher. One of those young men came under conviction and at the end of the service went forward to give his life to the Lord. And as they say, the rest is history!

The usher made the difference. The preacher was Dr. Mordecai Ham, and the teen who gave his life to Jesus in that tent that day was Billy Graham.

An usher can make a difference in the life of someone attending church. Ours do! We are looking for a few more to assist in this vital ministry. Please contact Glen Ellwood at 859.559.6445 if you are interested in joining our team.



LADIES NIGHT OUT

By Ginny Proctor and Rachael Proctor

All ladies are welcome to join us on the first Monday evening of each month* at 6:00 p.m. for Ladies Night Out (LNO). Our season will go through November, as noted on the calendar below, so there's still plenty of time to join us. If you've never been to Ladies Night Out, now's the time to do it. We really do have a great time together. Please add the following dates to your calendar:

August 3

Chili's

108 Marketplace Dr, Lexington

(turn left onto Man-O-War, then take the first right)

September 14*

BJ's Restaurant

3297 Nicholasville Rd, Lexington

(at the far north end of Fayette Mall's parking lot)

October 12*

Sonny's BBQ

109 N Plaza Dr, Nicholasville

November 2

Culver's

961 N Main St, Nicholasville

**If the first Monday is a holiday, LNO will take place on the second Monday (e.g. September). We look forward to having you with us! Questions? Call or text Ginny Proctor at 859-553-9784.*

Ocean View Restaurant

*A funny story DickieLee Porter read at our last gathering.
We filled the restaurant with laughter.*

A group of 40-year-old girls discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally, they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the waiters are cute.

10 years later, at 50 years of age, the girls once again discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally, they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the food is very good and the wine selection is excellent.

10 years later, at 60 years of age, the girls once again discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they can eat there in peace and quiet and the restaurant has a beautiful view of the ocean.

10 years later, at 70 years of age, the girls once again discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the restaurant is wheelchair accessible and they even have an elevator.

10 years later, at 80 years of age, the girls once again discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they have never been there before.



LIBRARY NEWS

By Bonnie Koteskey

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

- *Barnyard Prayers* by Laura Goodwin
- *Mama, Do You Love Me?* by Barbara M. Joose
- *Masai and I* by Virginia L. Roll
- *Three Easter Journeys* by Ro Willoughby
- *A Little Princess* by Frances Burnett

New Adult Books: (Loan Period: 3 Weeks)

- *Boxes, Boxes Everywhere* by Crystal Bowman
- *Discovering the Bible* by Mary Wiley
- *I Prayed for You* by Jean Fischer
- *Hope in Times of Trouble* by Martin DeHaan
- *God's Love as a Consuming Fire* by Dean E. Cook
- *Designed With Love* by Tracie Peterson
- *The Light on Horn Island* by Valerie Fraser Lesse



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.

JAIL MINISTRY

By Ted Moon (with Hugh Sims, Craig Saunders, and Charlie Payne)

Generally speaking, inmates view the church as an element of stability in an unstable environment. When we have the privilege of ministering to the Nicholasville inmates, it is a source of encouragement, support, and hope for those in the adverse environment of jail.

On a recent Sunday, Hugh Sims and Craig Saunders had the opportunity to minister to ten inmates. Hugh shared a message based on Proverbs 3:5–10, entitled, “How to Be Successful.” The key points were that: (1) We must depend on the Lord, (2) we must have confidence in the Lord, and (3) we must be obedient to the Lord. He pointed out that God has promised direction in our lives and is able to clear obstacles that may hinder our successes.

Hugh emphasized the importance of following all the “all”s in the passage, “Trust in the Lord with *all* your heart... in *all* your ways acknowledge Him.” He closed with an invitation to receive Christ as Savior or to rededicate their lives to the Lord.

Craig Saunders then lead the inmates in communion. The inmates were also given *Daily Bread* devotionals and stamped envelopes with paper to write to their families or friends. They also received some treats that they greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your prayers for this very important ministry. The inmates always express appreciation for people taking the time to come share with them.



BIBLE QUIZZING: NATIONALS

By Brittany Wagler

We had an amazing last day of nationals. We're so proud of every quizzier and how well they have done. Most of all, we are proud of all the verses of Scripture they've hidden in their hearts. Thank you so much for praying for our team! The final results are listed below.

All of our quizzers learned their quotes, and some of them were recognized for memorizing the entire material. Even as we close this quiz season officially, we already look forward to next season, where we will quiz from Acts 15–26, Ephesians, and Philippians.

Team Results

Rookie

Kaitlyn Howard, Parker Rhodes, and Jason Budathoki—1st

Young Teen Veteran

Elisa Clark, Miguel Ramos, and Sofia Stark—1st, Benson box
Noah Segre-Lewis and Daisy Chen—3rd

Senior Teen Veteran

Grace* O'Neal, Jean Robershaw, and Edan Dietrich—1st, Alpha/Omega trophy
James Evans, Nick Howard, and Larkin Dietrich—5th

Individual Results

Rookie

Jason Budathoki—4th

Young Teen Veteran

Elisa Clark—1st

Senior Teen Veteran

James Evans—3rd
Perrin Fiskeaux—4th
Jean Robershaw—5th
Ben Howard—6th



*Grace received the *David Markel In Excellence Award* for demonstrating a Christ-like servant heart and attitude.

QR CODES ARE EVERYWHERE!

By Dan Dotterweich

I'm sure you have seen QR codes in many different places. You have seen them in the church bulletin and newsletter. You have seen them on banners, business cards and other printed media. You have even seen them on TV ads. The trouble is, you have no way of knowing if they are safe or not until after you have scanned them. By then it might be too late. For example, the QR code on this page contains 29 words. That is a lot more information than you could type on the space the QR code takes. But if you scan a code from an unreliable source, it could contain malware, take you to a malicious website or steal information from you. Trust, but verify the source of the sender.



WOMEN'S PRISON MINISTRY

By Pauline Blanka

The women's prison ministry met on July 2. Ten ladies were present plus three workers (myself, Carolyn Hale, and Carolyn's neighbor, Sharon). My devotional was a Declaration of Independence lesson. During the 2nd Continental Congress, John Hancock was president. That's why he signed first at the top in the middle. It has been said that he wrote it big so that King George III could read it without his spectacles.

There were 56 members of that Congress. Every one was a Christian. My goal was to point out that our nation was founded on Christian principles. We have a lot to be thankful for.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU: STEVE AND REGINA SANDBERG

By Sue Adkins

Steve Sandberg grew up south of Buffalo, New York, in a little town called Frewsburg, where he played baseball and basketball. He attended Bradenton Junior College prior to graduating from the University of Florida. With no real ties to Kentucky other than an aunt who lived in Lexington, Steve moved to Kentucky in August of 1984

when he was hired as the Wilmore Elementary School (WES) physical education teacher. Regina grew up in western Maryland and came to Wilmore in the fall of 1984 as a freshman at Asbury College. When she arrived in Wilmore, she thought she had moved to a “metropolis” because there were sidewalks and streetlights. They met in the fall of 1985 when Regina was a practicum student and Steve was in his second year of teaching at WES. They have been married for thirty-nine years.

Steve served as the physical education teacher at WES for forty years, retiring in 2024. Early in his teaching career, he was a coach for the Jessamine County girls softball and basketball teams. He proudly sponsored the Wilmore Jump Rope Club/Team that helped to raise over \$250,000 for the American Heart Association. Regina taught for thirty years at East Jessamine Middle School. Since retiring from the classroom in 2021, she is a Norwex Independent consultant and works as the Area Representative Coordinator/Office Supervisor for KAPE (Kentucky Association of Professional Educators), traveling extensively across the Commonwealth.

Steve enjoys sports—as one might imagine—and plays golf in a senior league two days a week. He also enjoys gardening and growing flowers from seeds. He continues to tend to the Memory Garden at WES and likes to create hanging flower baskets to display in front of the school. He continues to be involved with the WES Jump Rope Club/Team in the winter months as a volunteer and sponsor and in the summer participates in the VBS program at



WFMC, running the physical activity portion of the schedule for the week.

Regina volunteers with several organizations. She is in her third season as a volunteer with the Lexington Opera House. She also helps at the Jessamine County Public Library and is on the Board of Directors for the Nicholasville

Farmers' Market. She helps with the WFMC VBS program, most recently serving in the kitchen area, and is currently active with the WFMC Social Team. In a totally redneck activity, Regina likes to attend as many demolition derbies as possible when her brother enters his pro-stock cars in derbies where she grew up.

Together, Steve and Regina enjoy traveling and have recently discovered that taking a cruise in December is the perfect way to explore warmer climates.

Steve grew up in the Lutheran church, while Regina grew up in a home where the family “church hopped”—attending several different denominations over the years. When they first started dating, Steve and Regina attended the Wilmore United Methodist Church for several years before finding a church home at Southern Acres Christian Church, where they worshipped for a number of years before continuing to search for a church home that fit their combined church interests.

In the fall of 2022, Steve and Regina decided to “try out” WFMC. Steve had watched as the women of the church ministered to the faculty at WES by providing baked goods and continuous prayer. He was impressed with the witness of the church members whom he had gotten to know over the years. He was drawn most to the focus on prayer that is evident throughout the membership.

Welcome to WFMC, Steve and Regina Sandberg!

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Tonya Bryant, Daryl Diddle, Jeff Hiatt, Julia McGlothlin, Andy Miller, Aaron & Amie Hall, Darin & Jill Land
- 2 Ben & Megan Vagase
- 3 Elyssa Maynard, Sean & Catherine Gaffney
- 4 Sharon McConnell, Sophia Van Horn
- 5 Brian & Jessica Bowers
- 6 David Brabon, Lily Wittenberg, Mark & Cheryl Schell
- 7 Aaru Christian, Rosie Cooper, Edan Dietrich, Paul Stackhouse
- 8 Marguerite Brude
- 9 Jake Bowers, TR Miller
- 9 Christina Proctor
- 10 Gladys Suffridge, Andy & Lizet Bowen
- 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
- 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, Ken & Patty Pennington, Paul & Heidi Stackhouse
- 22 Stan & Marna Wiggam
- 23 Irene Raymond, Steve & Lorrie Liversedge
- 24 Patty Pennington, 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



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, Estella Lalhriatpuil, Brian Nowitzki
- 6 Seth Elam, Daniel Oliver
- 7 Darlene Elliott, Eddie Miller, Christa Stackhouse
- 8 Carolyn Pauley, Nick Riffell, Seth Elam & Sandy Miller
- 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
- 17 Anna Bryson-Dunn
- 19 Betsy Behm, Aamen Christian, Christine Maynard, Vic Reasoner, Ben Riffell
- 20 Ted Hall, Colin McGlothlin
- 21 Jonathan Gomez, Matt Kinnell, Patti McPeake, Rick & Christine Maynard
- 22 Lincoln Davis, 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



WFMC CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you Sue
Adkins, Daisy
Zhao, Clay Winter,
Meagan Winter,
Maura Todd, Anna



Van Horn, Sue Wiggam, Renae Thompson, Kim Ostroske, John Ostroske, Glen Flanagan, and Donna Flanagan for teaching WFMC children's Sunday School 2025–2026. You plan and prepare, create and pray for each Sunday to find ways to teach children about God's Word and to know him more. Thank you for setting an example of following Christ as you disciple the new generations in faith. Thank you for each week. We really appreciate you! We come to the end of one year and promote to a new year of Sunday school kiddos. God bless each one with the overflow of what God pours in and grant you new passion to experience God's power and love.

Would you like to join the team? Would you like to lead children to Jesus? Contact Anna Van Horn (annamuvh@hotmail.com or 859-457-3841) for more information.

THE GIFT OF BEAUTY

By Anonymous WFMC Member

It isn't easy to take that step to God, but it is necessary to see *real* beauty! From what I know of pain, it can be solved by seeing beauty. I see God in the impossible, and beauty is all around us. When you see something that you think, "That's impossible for a person to do or perform," think of God. When you see something so beautiful it is hard to describe, think of God. Beauty is all around. He is all around.



Yes, there is pain and loss, but it is not permanent. He is all around. Please just look and feel and excite with joy within for what you see. Do not waste a minute. He is the love, the company, the passion you are looking for. Embrace him with all your heart. He is the lover you are looking for. Don't turn away from him. Please, I beg you, don't turn away!

—Written one morning as God talked to me

AN INTRO TO A HISTORY OF THE CHINESE HOUSE CHURCHES

By Daisy Zhao

A 3-Week, Wednesday Night Elective Beginning Sept. 30, 7:00–8:00 p.m.

What does a house church look like in China? Why do Christians in China not just attend registered churches, also known as Three-Self churches? Is there a difference in their worship style and leadership structure? Or is there any fundamental conflict that compels Chinese Christians with a serious sense of conviction to leave the Three-Self churches and join a house/underground church? In this seminar series, we will explore the history of Chinese house churches to understand their co-existence with the Three-Self churches, as well as the reasons behind government persecution.



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/198466517@N05/53369140078/>

THE ABCs

By Carole Dickie

Several months ago I shared a testimony in Sunday evening church about writing alphabet prayers for a precious friend walking the journey of breast cancer. Little did I know how much my testimony would touch others. Of all who have been blessed by this style of prayer, I believe I received the greatest blessing as I communed with the Father while writing them for my friend. It was as if I were the child with an alphabet book and he was teaching me. I find these short, mostly one-liner prayers, prayed in alphabetical order, to be a convenient way to pray the names, attributes, and character of God.

The alphabet is a basic part of almost every aspect of all our lives. As I was writing this article, I thought of the alphabet and some fond memories came to mind. I cherish the memory of holding a precious little hand in mine and helping it trace the letters in a board book: A is for apple, B is for ball, C is for cat, and so on. How special it was the first time that little one had the patience to make it all the way through the book and the 26 letters. After that came teaching the little one to spell his name using the alphabet magnets on the fridge. But my fondest alphabet memory is teaching the letters using alphabet pancakes. The child would wait with anticipation as I mixed the batter then carefully poured the letters. The child could see the steam rise as the letter fried and knew it would

soon be time to flip it. And before the child knew it, the letter was on the plate, all buttery and drizzly with hot maple syrup, ready to be eaten.

Just as earthly parents want to hear our children and just as we want to teach them so many things, our Heavenly Father wants to hear from us and he has many things to teach us individually. All prayers are not the same. This way of praying the alphabet has been meaningful to me and I am blessed to share it with you.

- A** ALMIGHTY Father, I pray your presence to be with _____ daily and specifically during any procedures.
- B** Lord God, place your BANNER over _____, cloaking her with your love.
- C** Mighty COUNSELOR, pour out your wisdom and guidance upon _____ for every decision she needs to make during this journey.
- D** Thank you for being the DOOR that allows _____ to come into your presence.
- E** You are _____'s EVERLASTING STRENGTH—lift her up in her time of need.
- F** FAITHFUL and TRUE, he has called you, _____, to be his.
- G** GOOD SHEPHERD, guide and carry _____, your precious lamb.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

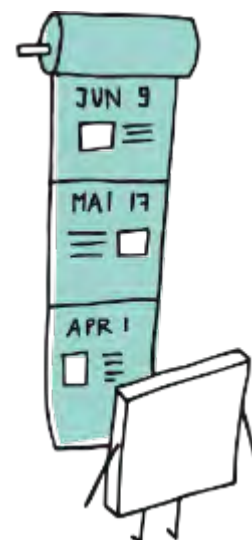
Plan to attend these events in the coming year.

2026

November 29	6:00 p.m.	Hanging of the Greens
December 6	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Musical Celebration of Christmas
December 6	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Caroling
December 13	6:00 p.m.	Heaven's Harmony Musical

2027

April 25	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Children-led Service
April 26	7:00 p.m.	Spring Ring (Monday evening)
May 2	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Singing Celebration



- H** The word says you are the HEALER; touch _____ with your healing hands.
- I** Our INTERCESSOR, the one who liveth, intercede before the throne on behalf of _____.
- J** JEHOVAH-JIREH, you are the one who provides. So I boldly ask you to provide for _____'s every need.
- K** _____'s KEEPER, Guard and Protector, may she trust you and feel your presence so near.
- L** As the true LIGHT, continue to illuminate _____'s path so she walks not in darkness, but in the LIGHT of LIFE.
- M** MERCIFUL ONE, turn unto _____, giving her your compassion and mercy.
- N** Lord, may _____ call upon the NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES. Thank you for being ever so close and hearing her cry.
- O** OMNIPRESENT God, because you are with _____, may she feel your continued presence with her each and every day during this journey.
- P** You are _____'s PEACE. May she feel your loving hands carefully cradling her in a supernatural, comforting way.

- Q** QUIET ONE, still _____'s spirit during this storm so she may hear your loving voice guiding her.
- R** Oh Lord, may _____ hear your voice calling her to come and take shelter in you, for you are her RESTING PLACE.
- S** Father, remind _____ that you are her SHELTER and STRONG TOWER that protests her during this storm.
- T** TRUE BREAD of HEAVEN, feed _____ daily with life giving food.
- U** UPHOLDER of ALL THINGS, I pray you daily uphold _____ as she walks this journey.
- V** _____ is one of your branches and you are the True VINE; nourish her daily.
- W** WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, may _____ daily lean upon you for direction, advice, and your perfect counsel.
- X** exALTED ONE, let _____ praise your name as she stays near to you.
- Y** You who rideth in the heavens, may _____ sing praises unto your name, YAHWEH, because she knows you are her only one true God.
- Z** Oh, One who is called the ZEAL OF THE LORD OF HOSTS, grant _____ your peace that has no end.

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, please join us for rehearsals beginning early October.



Watch the bulletin and listen for further announcements about rehearsal schedules and more information, or contact Rose Evans at revans@wfmc.net.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

The first senior luncheon of the Fall season will be Thursday, September 10, at 12:00 p.m. in Building C. Our own Ted Moon will be bringing his program. "Laughter, Joy and Hilarity." Humor has many benefits! You are

invited to come enjoy warm fellowship, a meal catered by our friends from Solomon's Porch, and a good time of humor that will benefit your health!



YOUTH MINISTRY

By Caitlin Gothay

The summer got off to a great start for the WFMYouth. The teens did an amazing job decorating for and leading at VBS.

The next week we went to Eagle Ridge Retreat Center. Our theme for this year was “Living Water,” and we focused on the story of the woman at the well.

The week at Teen Camp was beautiful both in the weather and the fellowship. A few teens helped with Kids Camp the next week and had a great time leading in that way.

The Bible quizzers spent the next week preparing for nationals, and then we took off for Spring Arbor, Michigan, on June 29. We had a great week at Spring Arbor University. The teens had great attitudes and enjoyed being with each other and the teens from the other churches. We had many favorable outcomes in the competition, but regardless of the win/loss record, the Lord was honored in the times of worship, testimony, healthy competition, and fellowship. I was blessed to be able to lead the testimony and communion service on the Thursday evening of nationals, and it was amazing to hear all the teens from the different churches give glory to God for how he has worked in their lives, especially through the Bible Quiz Ministry.

The rising ninth graders participated in a mini mission and adventure trip with Adventure Serve Ministries.

We went to SomerSplash Water Park on

July 31. Kings Island is scheduled for August 11. Scan the QR code for details and to sign up.

Thank you for praying for the youth ministry at WPMC. I am concluding my fifth year as the youth pastor. Looking back, I see countless ways the Lord has blessed me, our church, and our youth, and I look forward to what he has in store for the year to come!



Kings Island



TAKE NOTE

By Rose Evans



Music Ensemble Opportunities: Fall 2026–Spring 2027

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 is general information regarding available ensembles. Please feel free to contact any of these directors with more specific questions or concerns.

Sign up for all ensembles at Music Central,
located at top of the staircase in Building B.

Children's Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles

Young Musicians (age 4 by August 1)

Leader: Rose Evans

Begins Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Limit of 10 children; a parent must attend

Friendship Company (Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Director: Cheryl Schell

Begins Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Heaven's Harmony (Grades 2–5)

Director: Cheryl Schell

Begins Sunday, Sept. 13, 4:45–5:50 p.m.

Chimes of Joy (Grades 2–5)

Directors: Hannah Miller and Christi Burke

Begins Sunday, Sept. 13, 3:30–4:40 p.m.

Youth and Adult Vocal Ensembles

Youth Choir (Grades 6–12)

Director: Mark Schell

Begins Sunday, Sept. 13, 4:45–5:45 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir (Post-High School and above)

Director: Rose Evans

Begins Sunday, Sept. 13, 4:45–5:45 p.m.

Youth and Adult Instrumental Ensembles

Tintinnabulation Handbell Choir (Gr. 6–12)

Director: Amanda Bailey

Begins Sunday, Sept. 13, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

All levels

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

Director: Katie Diddle

Begins Tuesday, Sept. 8, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Beginning/Intermediate level

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

Director: Katie Diddle

Begins Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7:30–8:30 p.m.

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 (mschell@wPMC.net) or Rose Evans (revans@wPMC.net).

BECOMING THE CHURCH ON THE HILL

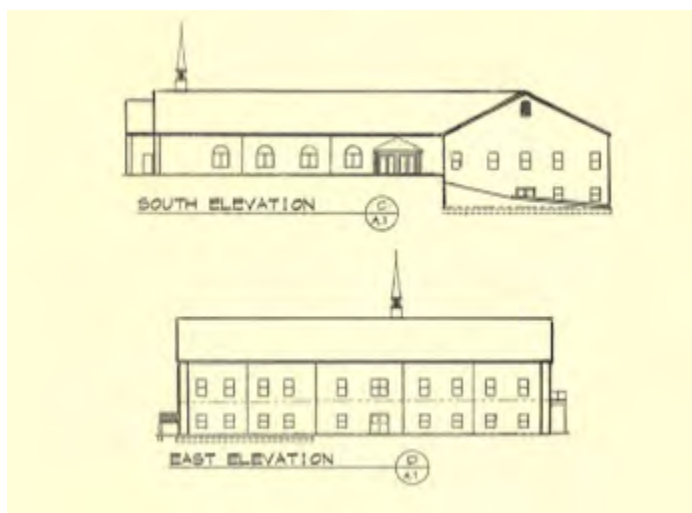
By Dean Cook

The story of how we got to this hill is an amazing story of faith, sacrifice, and miracles. This transition was far more than rearranging the church furniture. It was a letting-go of what we had, entering a period of limbo, and emerging to a whole new beginning. Those of us who were involved in this process were also changed physically, psychologically, and spiritually. This is one small glimpse of this amazing story:

1. After moving out of the church, there was no office, no phone, no place to meet during the week. At that time, my father-in-law, Ed Smiley, became aware that the Delta Gas office next door to him was moving to Nicholasville and the building was available for sale. We were able to purchase the building, which then provided office spaces for pastoral staff, a reception area for the secretary, and a conference meeting room. This central location was very accessible to the congregation.
2. The Seminary had given us a two-year rental contract. After that move, we experienced a significant growth in attendance.
3. The only land available for a church building at that time was either in an out-of-the-way location or too small. At that time Gene Lintemuth, a gifted visionary planner who worked with the development of Asbury Theological Seminary, began working with the Zorniger family about the historical estate they

owned on the north end of town. Wesley Village had begun developing next to it. The property across Lexington Avenue was also owned by the Zornigers, and they planned to put in housing there. Through Gene's influence, the Zornigers offered us 8 ½ acres as a building site for the church—the perfect spot on the hill.

4. We only needed funds, lots of funds! The first attempt to raise this through pledges by the congregation was not successful. However, as time passed, offerings flowed in, amazing those in charge. By the time of the dedication in October of 1996, it was announced that \$215,000 had been raised for the building fund alone, with no single major gifts and a combined total of building and budget, missions, etc., of \$625,000 from January 1, 1995, to the dedication date. In addition, representatives of First Southern National Bank called on us, saying they wanted to loan us the remaining funds needed. (That relationship also brought to us an outstanding family because one in this group was John Swaim, still a very important part of our church family today!)
5. We considered several companies when it was time to design and build the church. Messer Building Company expressed a strong interest in the project. Because Messer was a premier building company in the Lexington area, it was very unusual for such company of their size to be interested in our small project. After considering their proposal, we signed the contract, which called for them to design the facility and build it.



6. The worshipful design of the sanctuary was very important to us and led to much discussion in the Building Committee. One agreement was that the windows should be open to view God's creation. This led to the providential connection with a stained-glass designer in Lexington who created and formed the beautiful, unusual inset window treatments that so enhance our worshipful setting. We were also blessed to have on our building committee Rosie Cooper, who was an excellent artist and gifted in the use of colors. She was asked to choose the colors in the window inserts in addition to the décor throughout the church. The window above the platform was designed by Dr. Herbert Livingston (a founding member of the church and a very active member of the Building Committee) and provided by his family in honor of him and his wife.

7. At one of the first workdays scheduled to clear the brush and trees, a tree was cut with a chain saw. Blood appeared, more cutting was done, and a nest of snakes was exposed inside the hollow tree. This was taken by some of us as a sign

from God that he was pleased with this property—given to his church to destroy the works of Satan.

8. An overall miracle was the continual unity experienced by the Building Committee. Although this group had their own personal demanding work schedules, they cheerfully gave up to two hours at least every other week to meet and keep up with the demands of decision-making and leadership. As they began and ended each meeting with

prayer, disagreements always ended with genuine unity.

9. In the process of building the facility, not one workman experienced an accident or a work injury. This in itself was an exceptional miracle.

10. We marched out of the old building over to the Seminary on June 4, 1994, with a two-year rental agreement, and then we entered our new facility for its first service on June 30, 1996—perfectly keeping our two-year commitment!

This church on the hill is a powerful testimony to what God can do with ordinary people who choose faith over sight.



WILMORE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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If you prefer to receive *The Plumbl ine* electronically, email Pastor Daryl at ddiddle@wfmc.net, and you'll be added to the email distribution list.

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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 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2026

November 29	6:00 p.m.	Hanging of the Greens
December 6	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Musical Celebration of Christmas
December 6	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Caroling
December 13	6:00 p.m.	Heaven's Harmony Musical

2027

April 25	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Children-led Service
April 26	7:00 p.m.	Spring Ring (Monday evening)
May 2	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Singing Celebration