



# The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

October / November 2011

## *From the Pastor's Pen*

*by Daryl Diddle*

### **Godly Decision Making**

In an effort to speak to the renewal of our culture's fascination with tattoos in these days, on Sunday evening, September 11<sup>th</sup>, we looked at a couple scriptural texts which are often used to declare tattoos wrong or sinful. After considering the context of Leviticus 19:28, 1 Timothy 2:8-10, and 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, we concluded tattoos to fall into the broad category of disputable matters. This means that the real question a follower of Jesus should ask when considering getting a tattoo is not, "Is it OK for Christians, generally, to do this?" but rather, "Is it OK for me to do this? Are my motives for wanting a tattoo godly?"

I then offered ten considerations a person contemplating a tattoo may want to think through before going ahead with their thinking. These are listed below. These considerations/questions are not, however, unique to the person wondering about a tattoo. Most of these apply to most major and/or permanent decisions we make in life.

1. Ask this question first and foremost: "How does my heart and my conscience honestly convict me about this? Do I have a clear conscience before God to move ahead?" No matter how you answer any other question or issue that's raised here; listen carefully to God. In this, and in all things, move ahead only in His peace.
2. Are you considering doing what you're doing because you're jealous of what someone else has? It's never godly to operate out of jealousy. We can't base our decisions, and what we believe God is telling us, upon the actions of others. Be honest with your own heart to discern if there is jealousy or covetousness as the source of your decision and turn away from wrong motivations.
3. Ask yourself this question: "Am I absolutely sure I'll want this tattoo (or car or wife or house or whatever) 2 or 5 or 10 years from now?" Priorities change as the years go by. What's critically important at 18 is almost always nearly meaningless at 24, and many things very important to us at 24 are equally meaningless at 34.
4. Consider if this is really a wise use of money. Just like our bodies are not our own, neither is our money. We are caretakers of the finances of God, and He is interested in how we invest it. Pray a prayer something like, "Jesus, would you use money like this?"
5. This is a particularly important issue for young people, but not exclusively. We should seriously consider the questions, "How does this affect my relationship with my parents? Is there potential hurt that would be given? Can we discuss this openly? Are there issues raised by my family by my desire for a tattoo that need to be addressed? If any of these are true, consider the relationship implications of going ahead with the decision.
6. Another question we should consider, particularly with tattoos, is, "Would my future spouse want me to have this?"
7. As followers of Jesus, we must consider the question, "In my doing this, will I cause a weaker brother or sister to stumble in his or her faith?" Though we are free, we are called also to take responsibility for one another in this way and avoid doing what will truly cause spiritual hurt to someone else.
8. We need to consider the professional ramifications of our actions. "Will making this change impact getting the job I'm called to do?" Now, I'm not saying this is right, but the fact is, in many places in our culture, tattoos are still perceived to be the expression of a rebellious heart and spirit, and many employers - professional and otherwise - will not employ people who, to them, or to their clientele, look untrustworthy.
9. Another question we should evaluate is, "Is the tattoo I'm considering, itself, honoring to God?" We don't want to permanently mark our bodies, which are the temples of the Holy Spirit, with a mark that dishonors our Creator and owner. Always remember, we are supposed to be in the world and not of the world. While many tattoos are beautiful, they tend to honor the world rather than God. We are to honor God in everything we do.
10. Finally, find out if you have medical issues that would be affected by tattoos. Diabetes and the inclination toward diabetes, hepatitis and some medications don't play well with tattooing...and tattoo removal.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Godly Decision Making *(continued from page 1)*

In the end, when you're speaking of disputable matters such as tattoos, one verse that is helpful is Paul's conclusion to dealing with disputable matters in Romans 14, where he says, "...**everything that does not come from faith is sin.**" Is my decision about any disputable thing based on faith and will the result be glorifying to God? If so, then OK. If not... if this, or any other decision, is not made with an honestly clear conscience, then it's sin, according to Paul.

Another good thing to remember is the way Paul dealt with the Corinthians and their own disputable matters. He agreed with them in their freedom, that, "Everything is permissible," but also warned them, "Not everything is beneficial." What is permissible is not always beneficial or wise.

We should always remember, too, that our culture tends to make big things out of little things and little things out of big things. To get a tattoo - or to do anything that is permanent - is a significant life choice and should be entered into with a great deal of forethought and prayer.

In the end, in whatever you believe about this issue, we're called to leave gracious space for others who might feel differently so that in all our actions and attitudes we may bring Glory to Christ. There is nearly always more sin in division over disputable matters than in the stuff itself, and we don't want to be part of that.



## Fall Missions Conference - October 23 – 30

Our annual mission conference is scheduled for October 23 - 30. Jack Munos, Free Methodist missionary to Haiti, will be speaking Sunday, October 23. Jack and his wife, Jeanne, were appointed as career missionaries in March 2004. They worked alongside the national church to develop and strengthen the conference, working with pastors, church leaders and members. Jeanne tragically lost her life in the January 2010 Haiti earthquake. Jack returned to Haiti in February of this year to serve its people—fulfilling the calling to which he and Jeanne committed themselves. Jack works in cooperation with the Haitian International Child Care Ministries (ICCM) staff. He coordinates special ICCM projects, including water filters, solar-oven distribution, and education, along with other ICCM outreach initiatives.

Billy and JoAnna Coppedge, World Gospel Mission missionaries to Uganda, will be with us the following weekend, October 29 - 30. Jesus has called Billy and JoAnna to walk with Him in northern Uganda. From there He has opened doors in southern Sudan and northeast Congo. In their ministry, Billy and JoAnna use the tool of Bible storytelling to share the Word of God with those who might not ever be able to read it and with others who just enjoy the oral method of learning. Their focus and vision is to build relationships with church leaders and to set up strategically-located learning centers where pastors and other leaders of Africa Gospel Church can be discipled and trained for effective ministry.

We will hear further reports from God's work around the world at the Men's Breakfast and Ladies' Mug 'n Muffin on Saturday the 29th, and missions seminars during the Sunday School hour on the 30th. The annual international pot-luck will cap off Missions Conference. Come ready to encourage our missionaries and to find out how God would have each of us get more involved in carrying out the Great Commission.

Please pray for the missionaries as they plan for this conference and pray that God would use this conference to strengthen our resolve to support the mission outreach of Wilmore Free Methodist Church.



## SENIOR ADULTS

The prime Timer Senior Adults had a real "hot" time at our picnic on September 2! I do believe it was the hottest day of the year! But Cecil's barbecue was still delicious and the fellowship wonderful!

Our October meeting on Friday, October 7, will be held in the Christian Ministry Center at 12:00 noon. We will have a baked spaghetti dinner and a speaker that will catch us up to date on Medicare laws. Come with your questions and enjoy time to make new friends!

If you are interested in going along on our luncheon river cruise on October 21, give Patti Fiskeaux a call at 885-6660. The cost for the cruise is \$30.

# Ministry Memos...

## WILMORE FMC OUTREACH EVENTS

### Monday, October 31st

Pumpkin Spice Candle Give-Away

2 Locations:

Treats-On-Main

Wilmore, 6—7:30 pm

Spooky-Time-On-Main

Nicholasville, 6—8 pm

### Wednesday, November 23rd

Glow Sticks Give-Away

Thanksgiving

## FALL 2011 EVANGELISM SEMINAR

*The Lost Art of TRUTH-Telling:  
Bringing Jesus into Everyday Conversations*

“In a world of confusing messages, only the TRUTH can set us free ... John 8:32; 14:6”

Jesus teaches us a lot about TRUTH-Telling ...  
Let's Learn From Him Together!!

Session 1: *What is TRUTH?*

Session 2: *Bringing the TRUTH to People we know*

Session 3: *Bringing the TRUTH to People we don't know*

Where: the Sanctuary Overflow Area

When: Sunday November 27, December 4 & 11  
9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

## CLOTHING DRIVE

We will have our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual clothing drive on October 9 at the all-Church hayride. Please bring gently-used blankets and winter wear items, (gloves, hats, scarves, wool socks, jackets, etc.) for distribution to the Salvation Army (for women), The Hope Center (for men), All Gods' Children (young mothers and infants), and the Wilmore—High Bridge Community Center. Last year, we doubled the previous year, collecting 24 boxes! Again, Bibles are also welcome as donations.

Thank you, in advance, for your generous gifts to those who are having a hard go of it!

## Overseas Fellowship

The Overseas Fellowship will be meeting on Friday, October 7, at 6 p.m. at the church. It will be potluck and open to anyone who has had any extended cross-cultural experience.

## Parish Nurse Nook

As the fall season is quickly approaching, we welcome a change of season—cool mornings and milder afternoons, fall colors and the shedding of the foliage that surrounds us. Unfortunately, we also welcome cold and flu season. Some tips for avoiding illness this fall:

- Carry and use hand sanitizer often. Using proper hand hygiene is one of the most effective ways of preventing illness.
- Cover your cough with your elbow.
- If you or your child is sick, stay home.
- And, finally, get a flu shot. The flu shot is 50-70% effective in preventing the flu virus.

WFMC will be hosting a flu shot clinic in conjunction with the Jessamine County Health Department in early October. Watch the bulletin for details.

Did you know the Parish Nursing Ministry has medical equipment for loan?

Wheelchair - Cane - Walker - Potty/Shower Chair

We also have some items for donation:

Waffle/ Seat cushions - Mattress cushion - Exercise bike - Grabber - Potty Chair

If you or someone you know is in need of any of these items, please contact Renee Riffell 858-9419 or Pastor Reed.

# Library News and Reviews

## New Books for the Library

### **For Preschoolers:**

Joseph Had a Little Overcoat  
God's Wisdom for Little Boys  
A is for Appalachia  
The House in the Night

### **For Beginning Readers: (I Can Read Series):**

Daniel, God's Faithful Follower  
Biscuit Goes to School  
Daniel and the Tattletales  
Row the Boat

### **For Grades 1 - 5:**

Happy Thanksgiving: Things to Make and Do  
Mandie and the Unwanted Gift  
Skylark

### **For Youth:**

A Girl After God's Own Heart

### **For Adults:**

Plugged in Parenting  
unPlanned  
First We Have Coffee  
Gianna: aborted... and live to tell about it  
Sarah's Garden  
The Gathering Storm  
Legends of the West  
Stories for a Faithful Heart  
Tread Upon the Lion

## New DVDs for the Library

*Adventures in Odyssey: The Last Days of Eugen Meltsner*  
*Adventures in Odyssey: Escape from the Forbidden Matrix*  
*Adventures in Odyssey: The Caves of Qumran*  
*Adventures in Odyssey: Race to Freedom*  
*Veggie Tales: The Wonderful Wizard of Ha's*

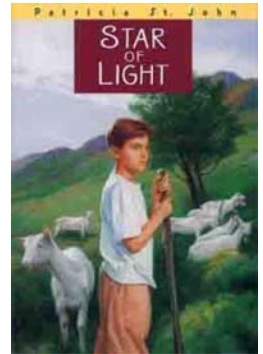
## Book Reviews

### **Star of Light**

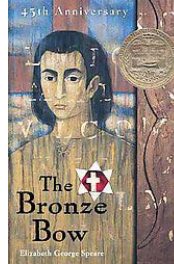
By: Patricia St. John

Hamid was having a horrible life. He had to do all the work for his stepfather (such as looking after the goats), and if he does one thing wrong, he gets a beating. One day, Hamid was called by his sister Rahma to go to their mother.

When he gets there, his mother tells him something special about his little sister Kinza. She is blind! Then the story skips ahead to when Kinza is two. This is when an old beggar offers to buy Kinza and Hamid's stepfather agrees. To escape, Hamid embarks on a dangerous journey to take his sister to the nurse in a large city. Find out how they get to the city and what happens when they arrive.



Aubri Skaggs - age 11



### **The Bronze Bow**

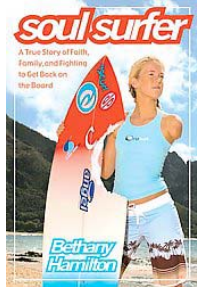
By: Elizabeth George Spear

This compelling book received the Newbery Medal in 1962. The story is set in Jerusalem and Capernaum at the time of Christ. The detailed descriptions of landscapes, towns, streets and homes create a vivid picture of life on different levels at that time. In this setting a young man, Daniel, has run to the hills to escape the abuses of a cruel master whom he served as an apprentice blacksmith. However, the worst oppressors of the time are the Romans. They destroyed Daniel's family. His heart is filled with anger and hatred toward the Romans. **The Bronze Bow** tells of Daniel's personal journey through a frightening time. He hears much about Jesus who is preaching in the area. Daniel is awed by the miracles of healing and the Good News that He tells. He comes to Christ and trades his hatred for love. As I read this book with my grandson Zeal, age 13, many questions were asked and answered, creating a wonderful time of sharing for us.

Marguerite Brude and Zeal Alexander - age 13

# Library News and Reviews

## Book Reviews (continued)



**Soul Surfer**  
by Bethany Hamilton

Oh my goodness! **Soul Surfer** is the best book in the world! Hello, I'm Victoria Kusche, and I would like to tell you about the so-called best book in the world.

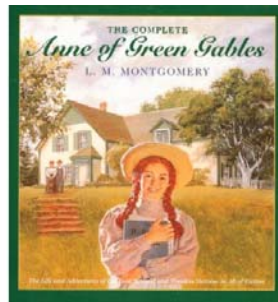
**Soul Surfer** is a book about a girl named Bethany Hamilton who gets her arm bit off by a shark. Bethany Hamilton is a well-known surfer throughout Hawaii. But, when she is surfing with her friend Alana, she gets attacked by a Tiger Shark. Bethany was not scared to get back in the water because she asked the doctor, "When can I surf again?"

It took Bethany a lot of hard work and training, but she could do it. I think you should read **Soul Surfer** too. You might think it is the best book in the world just like me!

Victoria Kusche - Age 9

**Anne of Green Gables**  
By: L. M. Montgomery

**Anne of Green Gables** is about a girl named Anne who is an orphan. She is raised by the Cuthberts who are brother and sister. It takes place on Prince Edward Island in Canada in the early 1900's. My Nana recommended it to me one or two years ago. I have listened to it on CD a couple times since. I have also read it.



I like it because Anne and I both have wild adventures. My favorite part is when Anne cracked her slate on Gilbert's head. I would recommend it to others because it lets them know what went on in that time period. But don't take my word for it; read it for yourself and have some wild adventures with Anne!!!

Katie Cook - age 10



CLCers - Join us  
for our  
Harvest Festival  
October 26, 7:00 p.m.



Dress in fun or silly costumes  
(nothing scary!)  
and enjoy a night of games.

## What Does Christmas Mean?

The meanings of the various decorations will be woven into a worship event in our *Hanging of the Greens* service on the evening of November 27th. Join our church family in decorating the sanctuary and learning more about the Advent Wreath, the Evergreens, the Christmas Tree and much more. Enjoy the music of the season and see our beautiful sanctuary transformed for the coming Savior.




### Campbell's Soup Labels for Oakdale Christian Academy




THE FUNDS RAISED  
ARE OF GREAT HELP!

Please bring your  
Campbell's Soup Labels to the Library

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Wilmore Free Methodist Church 1200 Lexington Road Wilmore, KY 40390</p>						
<p>2 B—Jesse Jones</p>	<p>3 B—Denise Adams Duane Mathias Gordon Thompson Marna Wiggam A—Dwight &amp; Kelly Winter</p>	<p>4 B—Luke Hsieh Ed Kusche A—Dennis &amp; Denise Adams Pat &amp; Tracey Tillson</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 B—Josiah Crow; Jen Hundley A—Dale &amp; Myrna Hale <b>12 Noon Senior Adult Lunch—CMC</b> <b>6 pm Overseas Ministering the Men lowship Men's Retreat at Eagle Ridge</b></p>	<p>7 B—Brady Swaim Hannah Weigle David Wilkerson Katie Winter</p>
<p>9 B—Isaac Maynard <b>Annual Hayride / Bonfire Social (following evening service)</b> <b>Annual Clothing Drive</b></p>	<p>10 B—Steve Schmidt</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 B—Timothy Thomas</p>	<p>13 B—Lynne Fuller Lisa Kellogg Samuel Maynard</p>	<p>14 A—Rick &amp; Jodi Boyd Lyle &amp; Marilyn VanHorn</p>	<p>15 B—Ruth Cook Michael Halcomb Andrea Tinsley Gregory Weinberger</p>
<p>16 B—Craig Saunders A—Todd &amp; Krista Padgett</p>	<p>17 B—Anna Blankenship Stuart Thompson</p>	<p>18 B—Ruth Weinberger Jerry Diddle A—Gary &amp; Rachel Weinberger</p>	<p>19 B—Ruth VanGilder Matt Eckhardt</p>	<p>20 B—Anna Dickie A—John &amp; Joy Ireland <b>Ladies' Night Out</b></p>	<p>21 B—Gracie Proctor Mark Wiggam</p>	<p>22 B—Michael Hamley Mark Landerholm Tracey Tillson Ashley Cook Harold Brabon</p>
<p>23 <b>World Missions with Jack Munos</b> 30 <b>World Missions with Billy &amp; JoAnna Coppedge</b> 6 pm <b>Closing Dinner</b></p>	<p>24 B—K Madison, D Muñoz, A Sweigard, J Lovell, Bev Underwood A—Jerry &amp; Debby Marchál 31 B—J Savage, N Long Spooky Time on Main—Nich Treats on Main- Wilmore</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 B—Laura Branan Jessie Thompson <b>CLC Fall Festival</b></p>	<p>27 B—Tyler Thompson Shannon Long Dean Weigle</p>	<p>28 A—Gordon &amp; Dorothy Thompson</p>	<p>29 B—M Dargan <b>World Mission Weekend Events</b> <b>8a Men's Breakfast 10:30a Women's Mug 'n Muffin</b></p>

# November, 2011

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 B—Dick Barker Hayden Bryson	2 B—Evelyn Madill	3 B—Phoebe Boileau	4 <b>12 Noon Senior Adult Lunch—CMC</b>	5 B—Virginia Bru- baker Patti Fiskeaux	
6	B—Mike Montgomery	7 B—Lee Taylor Benjamin Diddle Karen Koehn Anne Wilbanks A—Bill & Beverly Underwood	8 B—Amy Cooper, Sam Powdrill	9 B—Annette Wittenberg	10 B—Chris Muller A—Eric & Kelly Zabilka	11 B—Christina Sutherland	12 <b>New South Conf Ladies' Retreat November 4-6 Eagle Ridge</b>	
	<b>Conference Ladies' Retreat—Eagle Ridge</b>							
13	B—Earle Bowen Aurora Wang <b>6 pm Community Thanksgiving Worship Service</b>	14 B—Beth Ury	15 B—Carrie Hamley	16	17 B—Jerry Faber	18 B—John Crow Josie Disponette Jack Shoemaker	19 B—Sebastian Hersey Rita Schreiner <b>Men's Breakfast Membership Saturday Seminar</b>	
20		21 B—Ruby Branan Dale Kierstead Erin McLaughlin	22 B—Robbie Joy	23 No Wednesday Church Activities <b>Pumpkin Spice Candle Give-Away</b> <b>Church Office closes at noon</b>	24B—Byron Skaggs Laura Ury <b>THANKSGIVING</b> <b>Church Offices closed</b>	25 <b>Church Offices closed</b>	26 B—Steve Hersey Christine Smith A—Jon & Amanda Reifsnyder	
<b>6 pm Thanksgiving Din- ner</b>								
27 B—Rachel Weinberger A—Paul & Lisa Kellogg <b>6 pm Hanging of the Greens</b>	28 B—Danny Hood Charles Kierstead Rochelle Sherry Chadwick Spencer	29 B—Lucy George Lenore Sweigard A—Glen & Donna Flanigan	30 B—Joe Crouse Mark Evans David Martin Kelly Winter	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wilmore Free Methodist Church</b> 1200 Lexington Road Wilmore, KY 40390</p>				

# Wilmore Free Methodist Youth



## Senior Camp-Out at Fall Creek Falls State Park in Pikeville, Tennessee:

"I found it was the most fun event I've ever done with the youth group. We all learned things about ourselves...and that Andrea makes hilarious faces when she eats sour patch kids candy" Luke Hiatt

"I really enjoyed being with just the seniors. I'm friends with all of them individually, but I don't think I had ever hung out with just them before. It was a different group to me in an entirely different setting, a beautiful setting at that, and I keep thinking "I wish that weekend would happen a second time." Patrick Tillson

"Most definitely my favorite event I've gone on with the youth group. It was so much fun, and I'm not sure I've ever laughed so much in one weekend. So many great memories were made and friendships were strengthened" Lydia Sweetser

On the recommendation of friends who had visited the church, Josh and Valerie Ratliff began attending WFMC in October 2010 soon after moving to Wilmore. “Besides,” adds Josh, “you can’t miss it and the beautiful grounds when you drive into town. It’s the best located church in Wilmore.”

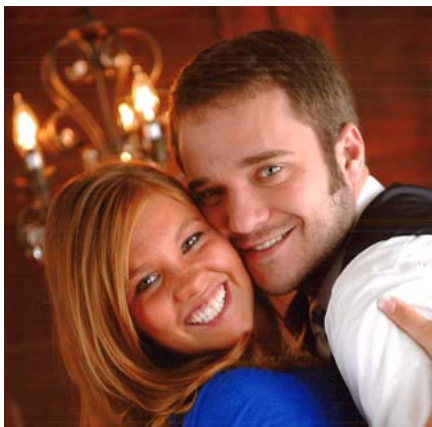
The Ratliffs moved to Wilmore from Richlands, Virginia, where Josh grew up with two younger brothers in a devout Christian family. Valerie grew up in Petersburg, West Virginia, with an older brother and a younger sister, also in a strong Christian family. Josh committed his life to Jesus at age twelve and Valerie at age nine. They met as students at Free Gospel Bible Institute in Export, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh.

Josh is pursuing a master’s degree in Biblical Studies (MABS) at Asbury Theological Seminary, with the goal of being ordained and serving as a pastor in the Wesleyan Church. Down the road, further academics and possibly teaching could also be in his future. He has a great interest in apologetics and evangelism, and enjoys dialoguing with atheists and agnostics. At WFMC, Josh and Valerie are co-leaders, with Sean and Heather Allen, of the Young Marrieds Adult Bible Fellowship.

Josh’s favorite outdoor activity is skiing, which he doesn’t often get to do here. He is also an avid reader, especially of theology. Valerie is also a “book fanatic,” especially Christian romance novels. She has a passion for children and hopes eventually to complete a degree in early childhood education, but that’s on hold for now. She works at a home décor store in Lexington.

Currently, the Ratliffs are busy furnishing a nursery in preparation for the birth of their first child, a girl they are naming Macie Jane, who is due on October 18.

When asked, “If you could start your life over, is there anything you would do differently?” Josh had a ready response. “Yes,” he said. “I wish that I had completely given my life—everything—to Christ earlier in my life.”



Josh and Valerie Ratliff



Ryan and Ashley Cook  
Eden (5) and Levi (2)

Ryan and Ashley Cook began attending WFMC when they first came to Wilmore two years ago. This was the first church they tried, and they looked no further.

Before their move, Ryan pastored a church for 4 ½ years in Ludington, Michigan, on the shores of Lake Michigan. He credits Vic and Shirley Hamilton, who spent summers in Ludington, with influencing him to pursue a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies at Asbury Seminary. After seminary he hopes to

*Getting to Know You*  
By Shirley McMillan

teach in a Bible college.

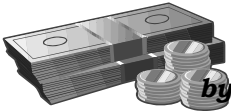
Ryan grew up in Petoskey, Michigan and Ashley on a farm in Yorkville, Illinois, both in Christian families. Ryan’s parents became believers the year he was born, and Ashley remembers the day her dad was baptized. Faith and church were such an integral part of their lives, they say, it’s hard to pinpoint an exact moment of decision or remember a time when they didn’t believe. “If the church doors were open, we were there.”

During high school Ryan’s father gave him two books: *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis and *The Knowledge of the Holy* by A. W. Tozer. Those books helped to cement both his commitment to follow Christ and his call to Christian ministry.

Ryan and Ashley met in the dining hall at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago when he was a junior and she was a sophomore. Mutual attraction blossomed into friendship and then courtship. They married in May 2002.

Ryan taught high school Bible in Grand Rapids while earning his M.A. in Old Testament Studies at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. He recently began driving a school bus part-time for Jessamine County schools, and Ashley works part-time at ATS. In their free time they enjoy going for walks, running, and playing board games. Scrabble is a favorite.

Ashley helps in the church nursery, serves as a Children’s Worship Greeter, and helps with worship for two-year-olds. Ryan substitutes as an adult Bible teacher and preached on a recent Sunday night in Pastor Daryl’s absence.



# PERSONAL FINANCE

by Don Butterworth, *Financial Peace University (FPU) Coordinator*

For the equivalent of a Masters Degree in personal finance, without the tuition, read Proverbs. Here are some to get you started.

**Proverbs 3: 27-28 (NLV)**

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.  
If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you."

*Take-away:*

You are your brother's keeper. Be generous now.

**Proverbs 22: 7 (NIV)**

The rich rule over the poor  
And the borrower is slave to the lender

*Take-away:*

If you are in debt to the credit card company, you have become its slave. If you loan money to a family member, you make him/her your slave.

**Proverbs 13: 11 (NLV)**

Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

*Take-away:*

Consistently putting away a little bit at a time leads to wealth.

**Proverbs 6: 9-11 (The Message)**

So how long are you going to laze around doing nothing? How long before you get out of bed? A nap here, a nap there, a day off here, a day off there, sit back, take it easy—do you know what comes next? Just this: You can look forward to a dirt-poor life, poverty your permanent houseguest!

*Take-away:*

Laziness leads to poverty. You must be a hard worker to prosper.

**Proverbs 6: 1-5 (NLV)**

My child, if you have put up security for a friend's debt or agreed to guarantee the debt of a stranger— if you have trapped yourself by your agreement and are caught by what you said—follow my advice and save yourself, for you have placed yourself at your friend's mercy. Now swallow your pride; go and beg to have your name erased. Don't put it off; do it now! Don't rest until you do. Save yourself like a gazelle escaping from a hunter, like a bird fleeing from a net.

*Take-away:*

Run away from debt as if someone was chasing you with a loaded gun!

## *Discipleship: Being and Making Disciples*

*by Linda Henson, Pastor of Discipleship*

I love the song: "We Have a Mission" from the Alexandria Sanctuary Choir's recording of *Send It On Down!* (Praise Gathering Music Group). The song reminds us: "We have a message of hope and real peace, and all the world needs to know. We have a mission to carry the gospel to every lamb that is lost. We have a mission of love and compassion no matter what the cost. Piercing the night with the light of truth, pointing the way to the cross."

As Christian disciples, Jesus' Great Commission calls us to a magnanimous mission: to MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations and people groups and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to be His witnesses "in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Those local Jews and Gentiles were discipled first, empowered by the Holy Spirit, with the church growing phenomenally, even now, to the ends of the earth. Yet many remain without Jesus in their lives and many have no one to *disciple* them once they begin the Christian walk.

As Christian disciples, we grow through edifying preaching, communion, Sunday school, classes, prayer, worship, music, praises and testimonials, encouraging notes, Bible studies, small groups, mentoring relationships, visits, phone conversations, meetings, shared prayers, and much more. Plus, today's many media sources provide great discipling opportunities through excellent books, Christian music, devotionals, magazines, television and radio ministries, CDs, DVDs, internet sites, conferences, live-streaming church services, iPod and MP3 downloads, blogs, as well as others. Still, many remain without Christ. However, many would-be disciples still need *our personal attention and prayers. They need someone to tell them, to care about them personally, to love them as Jesus loves.* And Christian disciples need more mature Christians to teach them about the Christian walk.

Many do not "get" Jesus. Some reject Him. And unfathomable numbers have not even heard of Him. Some disciples "fall away"—letting their Christian walk drift off course; some follow idols of self, others, addictions, and worldly stuff. We CAN reach non-Christians, the drifters, the worldly and others certainly *through* the church, and we can extend the disciple-making process *outside these walls.*

Many of you already disciple others by: mentoring those God has put in your life, teaching, evangelizing, praying, encouraging, writing and loving. People of the world and in your community are hungry for your participation in their lives. More and more are looking for answers to lives that don't work without Jesus. We have Jesus. How may we more effectively make disciples?

I'm looking for answers. Let's explore them together during a 4-week seminar series, meeting in Rooms 6/7 on Wednesday nights in October at 7 pm.

## *God DOES Answer Prayer*

Joe came right to the point: “Profits from sales do not provide a living wage. My marriage is breaking up.”

After he spelled out details, I suggested we pray with unequivocal belief.

“I pray all the time,” complained Joe, “but God doesn’t seem to hear my pleas.”

In a few days he made a discovery: “Obedience relates to answered prayer.” He fasted and came to grips with tithing.

Two weeks later, Joe took me aside: “My sales are up three times over. My wife is happy.”

Victory! Not every prayer answer comes so directly and quickly, but this did. God calls us to adventurous faith. Rugged and undoubting. Paul addresses the Colossians in terms of “the firmness of your faith in Christ” (2:5 NRSV).

Listen to Eugene Peterson’s rendering of Matthew 21:21-22: “But Jesus was matter-of-fact: ‘Yes—and if you embrace this kingdom life and don’t doubt God, you’ll not only do minor feats like I did to the fig tree, but also triumph over huge obstacles. This mountain, for instance, you’ll tell: “Go jump in the lake,” and it will jump. Absolutely everything, ranging from small to large, as you make it a part of your believing prayer, gets included as you lay hold of God.’”

The faith passages in the New Testament call for rough-and-tumble belief. This explains the victorious life of true believers who face life’s battles head on, secure as the Rock of Gibraltar.

Donald E. Demaray

## Grandparents Who Pray

What has “Grandparents Who Pray” Meant to You??



“Grandparents Who Pray” has been a great group for us to be a part of since we moved here seven years ago. As prayer requests and praises are shared at each meeting we feel such a bond with other grandparents. Then as we break into small groups, it means so much to hear each of our grandchildren prayed for as well as having the opportunity to pray for other’s grandchildren. We very often tell our grandchildren how they are being prayed for by our group. As the grandparents have been faithful to pray, God has been faithful to answer so many of our prayers, which is a great encouragement to all.

Now, as we’re moving back to Indiana to be near our children and grandchildren, we want to continue to feel a part of “Grandparents Who Pray” here at WFMC through email. We hope to carry this ministry to the church we will attend there. We encourage all grandparents to be a part of this group.

Allen and Grace Holmes

## SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIPS

In this digital media age, would you like to share your spiritual journey in a face-to-face spiritual friendship? Does your heart hunger for spiritual direction, a mentoring relationship, or a sacred companion to walk with, toward knowing God more personally and more deeply?

I’d like to suggest one possibility to help bring this about. If you have observed another believer in this WFMC community who you would like to know better (either a younger sister/brother you would like to come alongside of, a more mature believer you would like to learn from, or someone to be a friend and equal along the way), I would be interested in serving as a liaison to facilitate a deepening, committed friendship.

Contact me to discuss exploring the possibility of making that specific connection. Let me know the person you would like to get to know better in a spiritual relationship, and I will talk with him/her to find if they have the availability to begin a journey of companionship with a fellow believer here. If that is the case, I’ll let them know who you are, and be glad to facilitate an introduction or initial connection.

Contact Karen Koehn at: Phone: 858-0163 / Mailing address: 122 Hinkle #1, Wilmore, KY 40390 / Email: [karen-koehn@windstream.net](mailto:karen-koehn@windstream.net)

# Foundation, Faith, Future

Pastor Daryl Diddle

## A Review Concerning Why We Need to Go the Second Mile

For many years, our church has had a prominent role in reaching out, not only to our local community, but to our nation and world. We have a heart for the lost and hurting around the world, but we recognize that our ministry begins at home, with our neighbors.

Here at home, we are involved in neighborhood evangelism, nursing home ministries, Christian education and leadership training, helping those in financial need, supporting and influencing our schools, and many other efforts to touch our communities for Christ. We are also attracting new families all the time. These things are marks of a healthy church.

For years we have struggled with space issues of all kinds. We have tried to be creative in our space usage in order to avoid another building project; however, we now simply must add some space if we expect high-quality ministry and growth to continue.

In June 2007, our church commissioned a Building Team to study our space needs—current and future—and bring a recommendation to the church family. After 19 months, a building expansion concept was presented, and in January 2008, it won overwhelming approval.

The needs that this expansion will meet include:

- The addition of 130+ seats in the sanctuary
- A foyer that is five times larger than current.
- Adequate office and work space for our staff.
- A dedicated and much-enlarged nursery and preschool complex.
- Six new adult classrooms, an enlarged Prayer Meeting room and chapel, and a dedicated children's ministry wing, which includes two Children's Worship rooms.
- Two music/rehearsal rooms
- The connection of all campus buildings by covered, climate-controlled corridors
- Improved interior traffic flow
- Additional rest rooms
- Elevator access to lower floors, which makes the facility completely handicap-accessible.
- Increased storage, including dedicated Audio/Visual equipment room, sanctuary décor space and music storage.

A Capital Campaign team, the *Foundation, Faith, Future (FFF)* team, has been working since March 2008 to help raise the funds for this building expansion. The cost is just under \$3.4 million.

Now, we all know that \$3.4 is a lot of money. The truth is, considering the size and composition of our church family, this project can only be completed with the Lord's help.

And He has already helped us tremendously! With His help, the *FFF* campaign has raised just under \$1.5 million—far more than we've ever raised in the past.

But in order to move forward, there's more to be done.

In May 2011, the church membership approved one extension of the *FFF* capital campaign as a *Second Mile* effort in order to secure a stronger level of advance funding for the project. This extension begins January 1, 2012, after all current *FFF* pledges have been fulfilled, and lasts for two years, giving everyone an opportunity to pledge again at whatever level they consider appropriate.

The goal of *Second Mile* is to raise enough additional cash and pledges to take us over the \$2 million mark. If we can achieve that, based on what we know today, we will be positioned to begin construction in 2012. Of course, as we have stated from the very beginning, our strong preference is to do the entire project debt-free, and we still believe that is possible.

We are on track to collect over 90% of the original pledges to the *FFF* campaign...an amazing accomplishment that gives us great confidence in being able to rely on commitments from a *Second Mile* campaign and to move forward on the strength of those pledges.

(Continued on next page)


**A Review Concerning Why We Need to Go the Second Mile (continued)**

The Second Mile phase will work like this:

- \* **September 11** – Pledging introduction and kickoff of the *Second Mile* campaign in the morning worship services.
- \* **September 25** – First of two dinners following morning worship, sponsored by the *FFF/Second Mile* team. The purpose here is to present the need and outline the pledging process to all who would like to come, but particularly to those who were not part of our church family at the beginning of the *FFF* campaign.
- \* **October 2** – Brief re-cap of the information presented on September 11 during morning worship.
- \* **October 5** – All church members and regular attendees will receive a letter describing the pledging process in detail.
- \* **October 16** – Second dinner/informational presentation following morning worship services.
- \* **October 17** – Pledge cards will be mailed to all church members and regular attendees.
- \* **October 18 – November 21** – The confidential pledges will be turned in to the church office. A running tally of the pledge total will be posted on the screen in the foyer.
- \* **November 27** – Pledging total will be announced.

Please be praying for us to have the wisdom of God in all these decisions. In all we do, we want to please Him.





*Laura Busch and Wesley Blankenship  
 invite you to share in the  
 joy of their wedding day on  
 December 17, 2011,  
 at 2:00 p.m.  
 at Wilmore Free Methodist Church.  
 A cake and punch reception  
 will follow in the Christian Ministry Center.*



<p><b>WFMC Staff</b></p> <p>Dr. Daryl Diddle <i>Senior Pastor</i> ddiddle@wfmc.net</p> <p>Mrs. Rose Evans <i>Asst. Minister of Music</i> revans@wfmc.net</p> <p>Mrs. Patti Fiskeaux <i>Staff Assistant</i> pfiskeaux@wfmc.net</p> <p>Mr. Bob Moody <i>Facilities Care</i> bmoody@wfmc.net</p>	<p>Mrs. Mandi Lane <i>Nursery Director</i> mlane@wfmc.net</p> <p>Mrs. Cheryl Schell <i>Minister of Children</i> cschell@wfmc.net</p> <p>Dr. Mark Schell <i>Minister of Music</i> mschell@wfmc.net</p> <p>Ms. Andrea Tinsley <i>Minister of Youth</i> atinsley@wfmc.net</p>	<p>Rev. Reed Wilbanks <i>Associate Pastor</i> rwilbanks@wfmc.net</p> <p>Rev. Dwight Winter <i>Senior Associate Pastor</i> dwinter@wfmc.net</p>	<p><b>WILMORE</b> FREE METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p>1200 LEXINGTON RD. WILMORE, KY 40390 PHONE 859-858-3521 FAX 859-858-8047 WWW.WFMC.NET INFO@WFMC.NET</p>	<p><b>Conference Appointed Volunteer Staff</b></p> <p>Dr. Linda Hensen <i>Pastor of Discipleship</i> info@wfmc.net</p> <p>Rev. Brian Nowitzki <i>e-Pastor</i> info@wfmc.net</p> <p>Rev. Craig Saunders <i>Pastor of Outreach</i> info@wfmc.net</p> <p>Rev. Chris Wittenberg <i>Pastor of Rest Homes</i> info@wfmc.net</p>
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## Wilmore Free Methodist Church

### Vision Statement

A Community Reflecting the Vision  
and Values of Jesus

### Mission Statement

Wilmore Free Methodist Church  
will faithfully offer  
members and neighbors,  
near and far,  
the written Word of God,  
the overcoming love of the Father,  
the saving grace of Jesus,  
and the transforming power  
of the Holy Spirit.



# The Plumbline

Newsletter of the Wilmore Free Methodist Church

October / November 2011

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## *WFMC Music Ministries: Take "Note"*

### **CHRISTMAS CHOIR**

The Sanctuary Choir will begin rehearsing in October for the Musical Celebration of Christmas. 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 in early October. Watch the bulletin and listen for further announcements for more information and rehearsal schedules, or contact Rose Evans.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
November 27, 6:00 pm - Hanging of the Greens

*For more information regarding ensembles, as well as Sunday morning and evening music ministries, small groups, and instrumental opportunities, please see the music brochure at the Welcome Center in the main foyer of the church, or contact Mark Schell or Rose Evans. We want to hear from you!*