

Wilmore

united methodist church

Wilmore UMC
209 East Main Street
Wilmore, KY 40390
wilmoreumc.com
Spring 2022 Newsletter

Wilmore UMC welcomes everyone to worship God, invites every person to follow and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, and serves others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lent Prayer Guide

During Lent, we will be exploring prayer together. We invite you to read the scripture and engage in the prayer practice as laid out in the chart below. Each week, the weekly email will include a description of the type of prayer and an invitation for ways you can practice throughout the week. On Sunday mornings, our focus will be on prayer as a means of grace. During the week, Pastor Jess will host two Zoom conversations where we can gather and share our experiences as well as continuing to pray together. The Zooms will be Wednesdays at 8pm and Fridays at 9am.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday - April 10

9:45am Sunday School
11am Worship

Good Friday - April 15

11am-1pm Clark Chapel open for
come & go prayer & reflection

Easter Sunday - April 17

7am Community Easter Sunrise
Service
11am Easter Worship

	<i>Scripture</i> Reading	<i>Prayer</i> Practice
March 6	Psalm 91, Luke 4:1-13	Simple Prayer
March 13	Psalm 27, Luke 13:31-35	Prayer of Examen
March 20	Psalm 63:1-8, Luke 13:1-9	Prayer of Tears (Confession)
March 27	Psalm 32, Luke 15:11b-32	Prayer of Rest
April 3	Psalm 126, John 12:1-8	Sacramental Prayer
April 10	Psalm 118, Luke 19:28-40	Praying the Ordinary

Be sure to subscribe to our email list for weekly suggestions on how you can practice each type of prayer throughout the week. There is a form at wilmoreumc.com to subscribe.



Children's Ministry

Kids4Mation

Our Sunday night children's ministry for ages 4 – 5th grade, Kids4Mation, has hit the road running! We have had approximately 25 children attend each week during the month of February so far, with 10 new kids attending for the first time.

In our **Justice Journey** this spring, we are focusing on what Jesus said and did to serve the least of us. In a world where we are encouraged to always be “the best,” we are learning what it means not to seek our own glory, but God's glory.

Join the Children's Choir!

We are working on songs to sing in worship during the Lenten season and are learning some solos! New children are welcome to join us any time.

Sunday Night Dinners

For the spring, Jenny Dickens and Kim Sayre are organizing our dinners on Sunday nights! This is a huge blessing. If you would be willing to provide part of a meal for our children and youth group, please contact one of these ladies.

Sunday Morning Programming

Children's Worship is offered for all ages following the children's sermon on the 2nd – 5th Sundays of each month. On the first Sunday, the children remain in the sanctuary with their families, and join in the sacrament of communion as part of the family of God.

The nursery is available for young children during the worship service each week.

Sunday Night Schedule

4:15 - Drop off for Children's Choir begins

4:30 - Children's Choir

5:15 - Drop off for Kids4Mation, Free time in the Fellowship Hall

5:30 - Dinner

6:00 - Kids4Mation

7:00 - Pick Up

Children's Ministry contact:

Esther Felt

esther.felt@asburyseminary.edu

Thank you to our fabulous Kids4Mation Staff!

4 years old - 1st grade - Jolene Foy Cahn, Anpa Christian & Connie Hadley

2nd grade - Emily Buonocore & Canaan Berg

3rd - 5th grade - Abe & Bea Ruffcorn

Substitute Leader - Bethany Macejewski

Youth Group



During the month of February, the youth group has been learning through readings of the lectionary and studying 1 Corinthians 13 in depth together as well as playing some fun games. On February 6 we hosted a Wacky Winter Olympics night in which we played games based on classic Winter Olympic sports but with a twist. First, the youth performed rehearsed figure skating routines in our Iceless Ice Skating event, then battled it out on the "ice" by playing Nerf Hockey, and finally went head to head in human curling. It was a fun night for both teams and they all came away with some candy medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in all the events.



Confirmation Class

Our 8th and 9th graders will also be starting confirmation classes on February 20 at 4:00pm and will be meeting for eight weeks. We will be studying *The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith* by Phil Tallon together, and we can't wait to learn more through our study about God, the Trinity, and the sacraments (among other topics) through our discussions from the book and video series.



Mission Trip

This month, we also announced our summer mission trip which will take place July 25-30 in Kimball, West Virginia, with the organization Sharing with Appalachian People (SWAP). Sign ups for this trip go through February 27.

Upcoming Events

February 20 - April 10
Sundays at 4pm

8th & 9th Grade Confirmation Classes

March 2 - 6pm

Joint Ash Wednesday Service with Wilmore Anglican at McKenna Chapel

March 5 - 8:30am

United Methodist Men

March 6 - 11am Worship

Return Faith Promise Cards for Missions Giving

April 2 - 8:30am

United Methodist Men

April 24

Last Kid's Formation of the Spring

May 7 - 8:30am

United Methodist Men

Weekly Schedule

Sundays:

9:45am - Sunday School

11am - Worship

4:30pm - Children's Choir

5:30pm - Kid's Formation & Youth Group

Wednesdays:

9-12pm - Office Hours

12:15pm - Midweek Prayer via Zoom

Thursdays:

9-12pm - Office Hours

Fridays:

9-12pm - Office Hours

Trustees News

Next time you are at church, be sure to notice the new fascia/soffit on the GCF Sanctuary (see photos). At long last Randy Baker and his crew completed this overdue project. Besides looking great, the new coverings are maintenance free!

The Trustees and CLT have identified a number of wish-list projects that will maintain and improve the appearance of our property. In March, we will begin a much needed remodeling project on the Main Street entrance to Clark Chapel. This major effort will involve updating the flooring, painting, and repairing and updating the doors, so stay tuned for this project. And if you have decorating skills, we welcome ideas on how to make an old space inviting and presentable.



Besides the ongoing project to insulate heat pipes and update HVAC thermostats, in the near future we hope to clean and wax the tile floors, especially in the basement. This effort will benefit us and GCF in the spaces we share, and, besides improving the appearance, will make regular cleaning easier. Speaking of GCF, the Trustees are working with GCF to replace burned out light bulbs in their sanctuary. Replacing all bulbs with LED bulbs will result in better lighting, reduced electricity consumption, and lower maintenance.



It's nearly time for Spring cleaning at my home and at my church home! An exact date has not been picked yet, but a Saturday work morning will be planned to spruce up our property, inside and out, in the near future. Your involvement is needed and appreciated!

The Trustee team meets on the first Monday of each month at 7pm. Visitors and new members are welcome.

For more info on the Trustees contact:

John Popp

859.327.7567
johnt4516@yahoo.com

Care Team

Are you in need of care? If you are coping with an illness, recent surgery, a new baby, the death of a loved one, are homebound or have another concern, our church has a care team that would like to help. Please contact us if you're in need of a visit, a meal, or just want to let someone know to be praying. Our team is Ann Sutlive (chair), Janet Brumfield, David Kratzer, and Caroline Bailey.

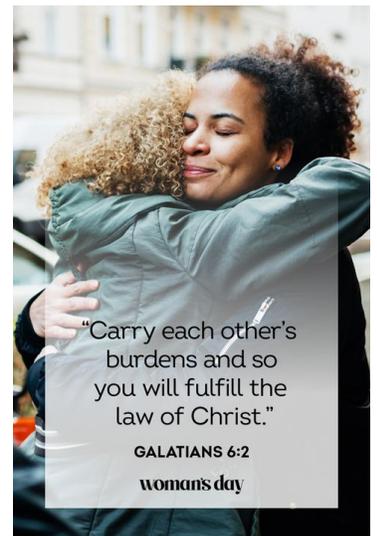
Care Team and Women's Ministry contact:

Ann Sutlive

704.756.8907
asutlive4@gmail.com

Volunteer for the Meals Ministry!

If you are interested in helping provide meals for people needing care in our church or have any questions, please contact Ann Sutlive.



Women's Ministry

The Women's Book Club will be starting a new book in March! Our next book selection is *Defiant Joy* by Stasi Eldredge. We meet once a month at 7pm on Zoom. Contact Ann Sutlive if you would like to join or if you would like to receive regular emails about the Women's Ministry.

A Note from Pastor D

An *Update* regarding the United Methodist Church

General Conference is the global body of United Methodist laity and clergy that meet every four years to make decisions for the UMC. The General Conference was scheduled to meet in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was postponed.

General Conference is now scheduled to meet in August of 2022, but there are barriers which might postpone it once again. The two primary barriers are visas and vaccines. Many delegates are international and must be issued visas by the US Embassy in order to attend. The process for applying for a visa has greatly slowed during the pandemic and there is concern that they may not be issued in time. The second barrier is vaccine access. Again, many delegates are from countries that do not have easy access to the COVID-19 vaccine, and they will need to be vaccinated in order to be allowed in the United States.

The United Methodist Church is at a crossroads. For many years now, there has been intense debate about the level of inclusion for LGBTQ persons within the United Methodist Church. The United Methodist Church currently teaches that “every person is of sacred worth,” but also that “homosexual practice is incompatible with Christian teaching.” This means United Methodist pastors are not to perform same-sex weddings. It also means that members of the LGBTQ community who are in same-sex relationships cannot be ordained for ministry in the United Methodist Church.

Many are anxious for General Conference to convene because there is legislation proposed that would allow for an amicable separation of those who disagree on the level of inclusion for LGBTQ persons. An outcome of General Conference could be the adoption of this legislation followed by the launch of a new Methodist denomination. The Global Methodist Church is ready to convene and be the new traditional home for Methodists who believe in the traditional understandings of marriage and ordination requirements. Those who are affirming of LGBTQ inclusion or are not sure where they stand may stay United Methodist with the understanding that the United Methodist position will likely change after the separation.

What does this mean for *Wilmore UMC*?

Every United Methodist congregation will have the opportunity to decide if they wish to remain United Methodist or to join a new Methodist denomination. The Church Leadership Team of Wilmore UMC has been learning and talking over these matters for many months. They are preparing themselves to lead the church through the decision making process when the appropriate time comes.

Please note: THERE IS NO DECISION TO BE MADE YET. Only after General Conference meets and passes legislation for the separation of the denomination will local churches need to make a decision. In the meantime, we ask the members of Wilmore UMC to do the following:

Pray. Pray that as we wait for General Conference, there will be clear heads, calm hearts, and patient understanding of all involved.

Educate. Take time to understand what is happening. Ask Pastor D. or a member of the Church Leadership Team for reliable resources. Also feel free to ask questions about things you do not understand.

Discern. As you pray, please discern with us the best future for Wilmore UMC.

Resources

A helpful video detailing how we got here:

youtu.be/QOEG4LK-J5c

A helpful video about the separation legislation:

revtomberlin.com/talking-about-the-protocol

Website for the new traditional Methodist denomination:

globalmethodist.org

Church Contact Information

Church Office

wilmoreumc@gmail.com

859.858.3559

Rev. D Merricks, Pastor

dmerricks@wilmoreumc.com

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Rev. Jess Kennedy, Associate Pastor

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724.498.7289

Esther Felt, Children's Ministry Leader

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Victoria McClary, Youth Ministry Leader

vmccclary@outlook.com

270.606.0814

Connor Berg, Youth Ministry Leader

Cberg1324@yahoo.com

240.732.9380

Communications Update

If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care or a pastoral visit, please contact Jess at jesskennedy@spiritualmovementcenter.com or 724.498.7289. You can also call the church office at 859-858-3559.

You can also stop by the church office Tues-Fri from 9am-12pm to speak to Pastor D or Pastor Jess.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March Birthdays

4 - Annabelle Shunk

7 - Kristine Lyon

8 - David Baldwin

12 - Stephanie Zebosky

19 - Katie Garrett

22 - Matt Hadley

April Birthdays

3 - Benjamin Jording

5 - Harold Rainwater

6 - Burnette Fegan

7 - Dave Kratzer

8 - Joshua Garrett

16 - Sandy Wilmot

18 - Suzannah Jording

26 - Susan Brabon

28 - Corrie Merricks

May Birthdays

1 - Mike Zebosky

7 - Sophia Jording

7 - John Mark Brabon

18 - Margaret Webster

23 - Connor Hadley

23 - Ava Zebosky

24 - Jenny Dickens

24 - Janet Butler

May Anniversaries

17 - Matt and Connie Hadley

19 - Chris and Amy Davis

21 - Shawn and Esther Felt

25 - Dave and Michelle Kratzer

