



The Pilgrim

WWW.WILSONSMILLSCC.ORG

November 2009

A Message from the Minister

Through the fall, a study group met to study the Disciples of Christ. Out of this group came many moments when we gained a new understanding of our faith.

Our group knew that the Lord's Supper was important to Disciples, but through study, we learned just how important it is. It is why we come to church. We believe that Christ meets us at the Table and that he unites us in fellowship with him and with one another. The Lord's Supper is the living covenant which Christ makes to hold Christians together and to form them into his church.

We are united not just as the group at the corner of Powhatan and Fire Department roads. We are united with Christians all over the world, with Christians from the past, and Christians who

will be in the future. That is the eternal power of God's love for us.

That is also why, when we gather for the Lord's Supper on Sundays, you will usually hear me say, "All are invited to God's table this morning." According to Colbert Cartwright's "People of the Chalice," there is one piece of furniture no Disciples congregation owns: the Lord's Table. This table is a reminder that no congregation is autonomous. A church may not do anything it pleases. "Standing at the center of our existence as church is the Christ of God who presides over our life." Christ unites us and presides over us in all times and places.

This year, as you prepare for your Thanksgiving dinner and as you unite with family and friends, let your celebrations

be a reminder of the power of the Table. As you prepare your dinner for your table, let your tasks be a reminder to prepare your hearts to receive Christ at his Table. As you give thanks for your turkey and dressing, let that call you to give thanks for the saving power of God. As you break bread with your family and share stories, let that challenge you to remember the living story that is still being *written on our hearts*.

The Lord's Supper is not just any meal, but one that is hosted by Christ to be shared with his disciples. It is one way in which the Christ who unites us all fulfills his promise, "Lo, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20). Thanks be to God!

Lea can be contacted via email: wmcc@dockpoint.net

Community Thanksgiving Service



The Wilson's Mills Community Thanksgiving service will be held at Union Hill A.M.E. Church on

Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to join us!

Worship Attendance

October 4 —90
October 11—46
October 18 — 61
October 25— TBA

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9:45 A.M. Coffee
10:00 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship

Consecration Sunday

In November, WMCC will celebrate its fourth Consecration Sunday. Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

The Stewardship Focus Group (Janet Stephenson, T.J. Parrish, Sarah Barnhart, Leanne Bronson and Eileen Penny) will be implementing the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year. New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's ministries in this community and around the world.

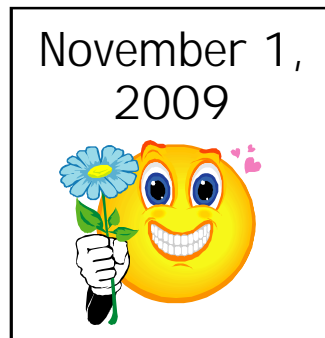
Every attendee and member who com-

pletes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Stewardship Focus Group, the elders, and the deacons. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation.

—Whitley Stephenson, WMCC Board Chairperson



Prayer Concerns

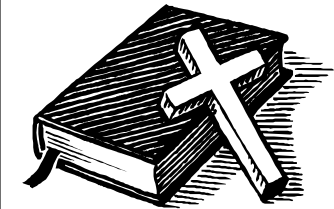
1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without Ceasing."

Ina Mae Lee Blake McCain	Donald Coates Cathy New	Ione Gainey Billy Blackmon
Elaine Long Donita Byrd Jones	Jeff Trask Michelle Stephens	Jody Wiley Cheryl Bryant
Frank Yansom Family of Mickey Yansom	Peggy Norris Betty Parrish	Tyler Dunn Annette Cobb Joan Hunt

Thank You!

Thanks to all my church friends who supported me during The Selma Railroad Day's Parade. Being The Grand Marshall was so exciting. The driver of the car said it was the first time he had ever seen the Grand Marshall with her own cheering team. I will always remember your friendship. It made my day. Love,
Ms. Zip

Men's Bible Study



Men's Bible Study now meets on the third Monday of the month following the regularly scheduled CMF meeting. Rev. Jerry Burton leads this study. The next meeting will be on November 16th.

CALLING ALL WMCC WOMEN!



Our monthly Ladies Night Out efforts have been so successful that we are extending our dinner gatherings to two nights away! If you would be interested in heading up to Christmount after our congregational meeting on Sunday, December 13, touring the Biltmore house on December 14, and returning on Tuesday, December 15, please let Rose Thompson know. We will plan to do a little shopping and a lot of eating! We will close each day with a devotion—so if you are interested in a little Advent getaway, let us know! We are working through Christmount to get discount tickets for Biltmore.

The Hymn of Praise

Did you know that J.S. Bach sets a great example as a religious composer? In all of Bach's work—even his secular compositions—music, theology, and worship are all intertwined. On many of his compositions he inscribed the letters I.N.J. or S.D.G, which stand for “in the name of Jesus” and “Soli Deo Gloria.” All music is “for the glory of God alone,” according to Bach. That describes the spirit which should be alive and well in the music of worship, particularly with the Hymn of Praise.

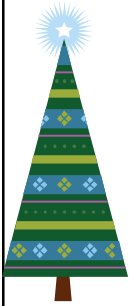
The Hymn of Praise is almost self-explanatory. It is meant to praise God. In

this hymn, you will not find many “I” statements, but you will find “God” statements. *To God be the Glory. Praise to the Lord the Almighty. A Mighty Fortress is our God. Alleluia, What a Savior. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty.*

The hymn of praise should direct our attention to God and should praise God because God is worthy of all the praise we can muster. This hymn's purpose is “for the glory of God alone.” Let us bring that spirit to life as we sing God's praises.



Unplugging the Christmas Machine!



Christmas sometimes comes and goes in a blur before we know it. Do you ever find yourself asking questions like “How can I reduce the stress of preparing for Christmas? How can I make our celebration more spiritual and less materialistic? How can I help my children see that Christmas is more than just presents? How can I simplify?”

Jo Robinson and Jean Staeheli have written a wonderful book called “Unplug the Christmas Machine.” Lea will lead a workshop at WMCC on Saturday, November 7 based upon this book (you do not need to purchase the book to participate in the workshop). This workshop will be about making simple changes to reduce the stress of the season and enjoy it more. Participants will be given the chance to examine their current practices and define their values and combine their insights into a plan for this holiday season.

Please plan to attend. The workshop will start at 10 AM, and lunch will be provided. We will have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall—please sign up so that we can feed you! More details to follow.

Congratulations to James Proctor—the 2009 Wilson's Mills Distinguished Citizen



At the Pumpkin Festival on October 10, Mayor Peter Wilson presented the Distinguished Citizen Award to Mr. James Proctor. That calls for a celebration of coconut cake, don't you think, Mrs. Proctor? **Congratulations!**

Congratulations Ms. Zip—Grand Marshal for Railroad Days 2009!



November Worship Service

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Church Appointments	Paula Bennett Shirley Betti Hannah Youngblood	Paula Bennett Shirley Betti Hannah Youngblood	Paula Bennett Shirley Betti Hannah Youngblood	Paula Bennett Shirley Betti Hannah Youngblood	Paula Bennett Shirley Betti Hannah Youngblood
Elder	Kevin Daughtry	Ginger Lee	Dawn Hodge	Janet Stephenson	Alex Wilson
Deacons	Carrie Ragland Armando Mejia	Armando Mejia Carrie Ragland	Linda Ramsey Glen Barrow	Carrie Ragland Joe Slaton	TBA
Worship	Travis Stephenson	Paula Bennett	Trey Ragland	Jason Lawhorn	Gene Foxworth
Nursery	Lynn & Callie Stephenson	Eileen Penny & Sheree Murray	Lauren & Tho- mas Trogdon	Carole & Morgan Eatmon	Crystal Barrow & Rachel Konneker
Acolytes	Nora McCarthy	Oscar Mejia	Emily Dumon- ceaux	Angel Sauls	Patrick McCarthy
Paraments	Green	Green	Green	Green	Blue

Birthdays

Nov. 2	Matthew Jones	Nov. 8	Kenli Esau	Nov. 20	Jessica Lee
Nov. 3	John Twisdale	Nov. 9	Sherri Yaroch	Nov. 21	Chris Murray
Nov. 4	Keith Carter	Nov. 9	Betsy Meldau	Nov. 23	April Ryan
Nov. 4	Donna Harless	Nov.11	Jeff Hodge	Nov. 25	Anna Rustin
Nov. 4	Deborah Butt	Nov. 14	Virginia Batten	Nov. 27	Sheree Murray
Nov. 7	Jessica Byrd	Nov. 17	Pete Yauch	Nov. 28	Mary Ann Yansom
Nov. 7	Morgan Eatmon	Nov. 18	Hanna Youngblood	Nov. 29	Sandra Sauls
Nov. 7	Jim Uzzle	Nov..20	Rose Thompson	Nov. 30	Cody Schneider

2009 Tithes and Offerings

	Pledged	Pledges Rec.	Difference	Donations
September	\$9,678	\$4,307	(\$5,371)	\$9,264
Year to Date	\$87,102	\$75,427	(\$11,675)	\$9,264

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November 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Consecra- tion Sun- day	2	3	4 Handbells 6:00PM	5 LOGOS 5:30 PM (World Se- ries)	6	7 Unplug the Christmas Machine Workshop 10AM
8 Board Meeting Noon	9	10	11 Handbells 6:00PM	12 LOGOS 5:30 PM (Veteran's Day)	13	14
15	16 CMF 6:30 PM	17	18 Handbells 6:00 PM	19 LOGOS 5:30 PM (World Hun- ger)	20	21
22 Baby Shower for Ashley Reffit noon	23	24	25 Community Thanksgiving Service 7PM	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 Hanging of the Greens 7PM	30					

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