

# *Dillsboro United Methodist Church*



[dillsboro.mttabor.umc@outlook.com](mailto:dillsboro.mttabor.umc@outlook.com)

Office (812) 432.5748

August 2025

## *Notes From The Pastor*

In about a year I am going to be drastically downsizing...and after looking at all the 'stuff' I have, I have decided I need to begin that process NOW! Hopefully, I can have it done by next summer! While going through some papers I had packed in a trunk, I found an article by Jacob C. Williams Sr. I have no idea what paper this is from or the date it was published. From the looks of the yellowed paper, however, I have had it for some time.

I thought about making a copy of it and putting that in the newsletter, but it is so yellowed, I was afraid it would be impossible to read. So, I decided to type it. What follows is the context of the article.



### ***The Color of Brotherhood** by: Jacob C. Williams, Sr.*

There we stood, facing each other. It had been more than three decades since I had vowed to kill him on sight. He was my childhood tormentor. I, a black boy of ten years of age and he, a caucasian young man of twenty-two or more years of age. I could never forget his racial gibes and taunts and humiliating sneers. He had performed his executions before laughing crowds, while I carried water for the local baseball games at the Mills Field in my hometown in Martin's Ferry, Ohio.

My family consisted of five brothers, one sister, and our widowed mother who had fled to this Ohio River industrial city to escape the experience of losing our father who was slain by unknown whites in a little turpentine camp town in the state of Alabama.

(Cont. on page 2)



(Notes from the Pastor cont.)

A year or so later, her father – our grandfather- was shot down in the rural grocery store while purchasing 10 cents' worth of black-eyed peas.

Hurt, lonely and poverties beyond description, I cringed with a strange, agonizing, helpless fury. I went home which was located on the edge of the Mill Field baseball diamond. I met our mamma who was standing at the back door wondering why I was returning home before the game had ended. I'd had a job of carrying water for the baseball players for 40 cents a game. I cried out to her with a terrible rage.

“Mamma, I swear to God, as soon as I get a chance, I swear that I’m going to kill that dirty rotten honky for hurting me so bad every time that I carry water.”

Now middle-aged and living far away, my childhood antagonist learned the tragic death of my nephew who had drowned in the waters of the Ohio River, where earlier we had also lost our only sister. She and my older brother had been trying to cross the river to the West Virginia side to pick black berries.

I was overwhelmingly disturbed during the day of my nephew’s funeral. My antagonist and I stared at one another in the middle of the church where the body of the 13-year old boy lay in state. My oppressor was here once more! My twin brother’s son, Esau, now counted among the members of our family who tragically met death in their pain-filled lives.

Without fear, the son of Hungarian immigrants and I, the offspring of my father, met in the middle of the church where the body of my nephew lay. The divine power of God took the play. Both of us had experienced the power of God’s emancipating love during the years of absence from one another. Tears sprung to the eyes of both of us as we remembered our youthful past. We grasped one another’s hands. Words were not needed. We fell upon one another’s shoulders and sobbed without shame. The White man sought and found forgiveness. The Black man sought and found reconciliation. I was now the pastor of the Saulters United Methodist Church in Terre Haute, Indiana, and my new friend was a member of a church in Cleveland, Ohio

The Rev. Jacob C. Williams, Sr. is a retired elder and member of the North Indiana Annual Conference now living in Forest Park, Ohio

And that, my friend, is love, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

THAT IS GOD IN ACTION!!

*Love,*

*Pastor Deb*



Purple Heart Day — August 7, 2025





I love my church family!



WoW!!! What are they doing??????

Connect with your friends at the church and see what is happening in their lives. Send in some of your Happenings. We would love some news about you!



Got any pictures of you and your grandchildren? We would love to see them. Please email or drop off a picture, we will get it in next month's newsletter.

Grateful for Grandparents



*If we could be proud, without being prideful  
If we could be reverent, without being pompous  
If we could be bright, without being snobbish  
If we could be serious, without being sad  
If we could be concerned, without being a crackpot  
If we could be committed, without being close-minded  
If we could be pure, without being prudish  
If we could be good, without being "holier-than-thou  
Then our souls could be whole and healthy and vibrant.*



I talk a lot about prayer. It is mentioned in many of my messages on Sunday mornings. I ask for prayer concerns each week. I ask that whatever we do, to make sure that it is all undergirded in prayer.

In Scripture we read about prayer. Paul tells us to pray continuously. What he is saying, to live your life in a way that no matter what you are doing, who you are with, or where you are, lead your life in a way that it brings glory to God...live your life as a prayer. We also read in the Bible about Jesus going alone to have a time of talking with his heavenly Father....to pray to God. In Luke 11, Jesus even teaches us how to pray by using the Lord's prayer.

Prayer is important. It is communicating with our Lord and through that communication, building a stronger relationship.

I have a paper that I have carried in my wallet for many years. On one side is the text I put above this...instructions on how to live. On the other side, I have copied Psalms 25:1-10 from the Living Bible. I find that this is a good prayer to have handy to pray on those times I am feeling empty...as though I just don't know what to pray! I think we have all had those days! When I read this passage several years ago, it clicked, this is what I can use when I just don't know what to pray during those times of drought I sometimes (but not often) experience in my spiritual life. I want to share it with you. I liked the wording of the Living Bible, but check it out in another version (or two), maybe there is another phrasing that speaks to your heart.

Psalm 25: 1-10

To you, O Lord, I pray. Don't fail me, Lord, for I am trusting you. Don't let my enemies succeed. Don't give them victory over me. None who have faith in God will ever be disgraced for trusting Him. But all who harm the innocent shall be defeated.

Show me the path where I should go, O Lord, point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me; teach me; for You are the God who gives me salvation. I have no hope except in You. Overlook my youthful sins, O Lord! Look at me instead through the eyes of mercy and forgiveness, through the eyes of everlasting love and kindness.

The Lord is good and glad to teach the proper path to all who go astray. He will teach the ways that are right and best to those who humbly turn to Him. And when we obey Him, every path he guides us on is fragrant with His loving kindness and His truth.

May you find reassurance and hope in these words. May they fill you in times of drought the way they have filled me.

GOD IS GOOD...ALL THE TIME!!!!

*Love*

*Pastor Deb*





## Captivity transformed

In Jesus' first sermon in Nazareth, he read from Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to bring good news to the poor ... to proclaim release to the captives" (Luke 4:18, NRSV). Then he declared this Scripture fulfilled — in him. Ever since, in countless ways, Jesus has transformed captivity and dead ends into freedom and new beginnings.

A modern instance is a lovely new apartment complex built out of Lorton (Virginia) Reformatory, a prison that operated from 1910 to 2001. The beautifully renovated apartments — fittingly named Liberty Crest — opened in 2017. This project demonstrates wise stewardship by channeling new life into an old space, and care for people in need by reserving more than 25% of the units for low-income renters. Whether this project's developers are disciples of Jesus or not, the divine power of resurrection has been at work through them.

We're all held captive by something: illness, debt, oppression, violence, our own sin or another sort of dead end. But Jesus brings liberty where only prison was known. He transforms death into life, despair into hope, endings into bright new beginnings. May we who follow him do the same.

## Lifelong learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

## A walking contradiction

A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passes knowledge.

The [person] who has met God is not looking for anything; he has found it. He is not searching for light, for upon him the light has already shined. ... He is not a copy, not a facsimile. He is an original from the hand of the Holy Spirit.

—A.W. Tozer



## Bible Quiz

For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.

Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-7; 21:7.)

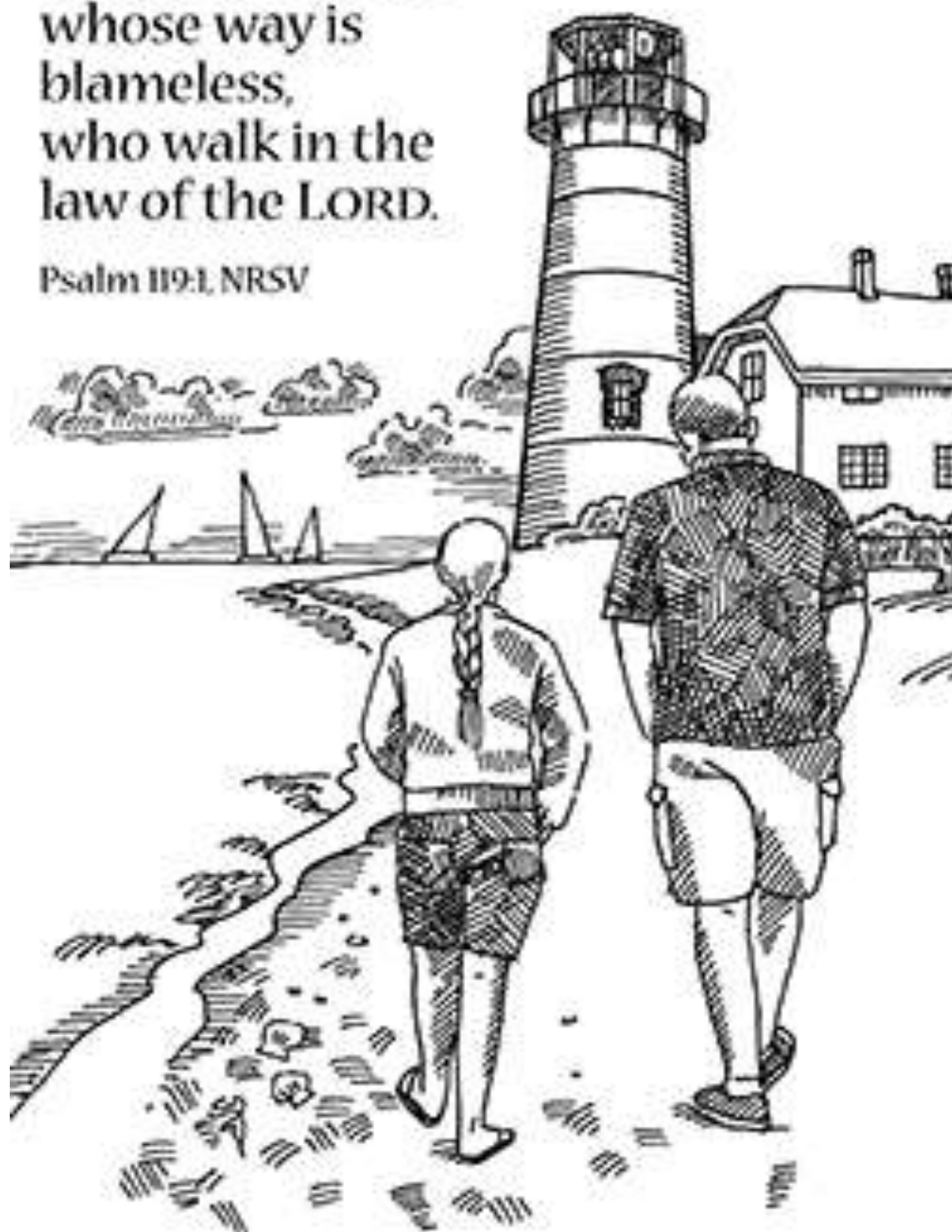






Happy are those  
whose way is  
blameless,  
who walk in the  
law of the LORD.

Psalms 119:1 NRSV







4- Josh & Amber Veid  
13- Ron & Andrea Nappier  
31- Chris & Rose (Peterson) Jones



## August

1- Chloe Veid  
3- Phoenix Taylor  
5- Pamela Robertson  
8- Amelia Veid  
8- Jeff Taylor  
12- Tegan Burk  
14- Becky Heller  
14- Joshua Hunt  
18- Ginny Huber  
18- JoAnna Hughes  
18- Tim Hughes  
20- Pamela Eichel  
21- Becky Chipman  
21- Micah McLain  
31- Hallie Shorten



Make sure one of the paths in your life  
Leads to the beach, the forest, and on  
some days a table full of cake and  
chocolate.  
Walk barefoot wherever and whenever  
you can.  
Learn to love your alone time.  
Always let your heart hope and dream  
and love.  
Be honest with yourself.  
Turn the page you are stuck on.  
Expand the story. Make enjoyment  
important in your life.  
See your age as a gift, not a curse.



Justin Schaefer  
Ted Thurber  
Joe Ryan  
Jaime Maltbie  
Baby Hudson  
Marty and Vickie Hon  
Ray Kuebel  
Josh Vaisman  
Pam Eichel  
Jewell Walston  
Amanda Van

Unspoken Requests, All Military & First  
Responders, Our Nation & its leaders

*To have a name added, deleted or updated to prayer  
list, please fill out a prayer request card and leave  
on podium. The cards are in the entry hall and the  
Narthex.*

