

Wildfire Information

This packet contains detailed information for Wildfire including leader and student rules/expectations and policies surrounding the ministry. A parental permission release form is also included in this packet.

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Leader information

Youth Pastor & Wife

Jonah & Kristen McWilliams

Email: JonahJMcWilliams@gmail.com

Email: KristenEMcWilliams@gmail.com

Jonah Cell: 717-885-3993

Kristen Cell: 717-825-1562

Other Wildfire Leaders

Samuel Miles

Cell: 717-870-0892

Nick McCoy

Cell: 717-542-2130

Kellie Knisely

Cell: 717-870-9347

Ryan Knisely

Cell: 717-654-2032

Nathaniel Miles

Cell: 717-870-1406

Daniel Parrish

Cell: 717-449-4764

Joel Miles

Cell: 717-870-8311

Wildfire basic information

Wildfire Schedule and Information

The best place to find Wildfire information and up-to-date schedules is the Wildfire website at <http://youth.pvcob.com> or <http://wildfire.pvcob.com>. We work to keep the site up to date with the latest information.

Wildfire also uses a tool called Remind 101. You can subscribe to Wildfire by texting “@wildfirey” to 81010 and you will receive notifications regarding Wildfire such as important dates, times and event information.

Cancelations

Wildfire cancelations will be posted on Wildfire’s webpage (<http://wildfire.pvcob.com>) and also sent out through Remind 101. When Pleasant View cancels morning services Wildfire usually cancels its evening service/event.

Purpose Statement

Invite, ignite, and involve the Youth of this community with the love of Christ.

Invite: Invite the Youth into a welcoming, fun, non-threatening environment

Ignite: Ignite the Youth on fire for Christ by sharing Christ’s love for them, and by establishing meaningful relationships

Involve: Involve the Youth in a deeper relationship with God through discipling them.

Core Values

Worship God in every aspect of our lives (Psalm 95:6)

Integrity is what our lives will represent; we are who we say we are (Proverbs 10:9)

Lift each other up with our words and actions (Ephesians 4:29)

Disciple students to be in the likeness of Christ (Matthew 28:19)

Find a need and fill it, humbling ourselves to serve others (Matthew 20:28)

In prayer, constantly seek God’s direction (Ephesians 6:18)

Reach out into the World to make an impact (Luke 10:2)

Establish relationships with the students that are Godly and supportive (Proverbs 13:20)

Biblical Guidelines and Expectations for Leaders

Guidelines and expectations are for leaders serving in Wildfire

The following Guidelines and Expectations apply to every volunteer or leader serving in any capacity in the Wildfire High School Ministry at Pleasant View Church. All volunteers and leaders must understand, agree to, and be willing to be held accountable to these guidelines. Leaders will be held accountable by their superiors in the established chain of command and ultimately the senior pastor.

Appearance

“People look on the outward appearance but God looks on the heart.”

The first phrase is not the heart of the verse, but it’s the truth. Student and adults will base their impression of our ministry on their impression of us. For this reason, we wear appropriate clothing (1 Corinthians 9:19-23)

- The activity should dictate the type of clothing worn.
- All of our clothing should be clean, communicating personal discipline and recognition of self-worth, modest, protecting the reputation and image of the Holy Spirit (1 Timothy 2:9, 1 Corinthians 8, 1 Thessalonians 4:6a), and avoid masking our inner qualities (1 Peter 3:1-8)
- Primary examples of immodest dress:
 - Speedos, Bikinis or swimsuits that “show” a lot
 - Short shorts and/or skirts
- When in doubt, lean towards modesty

Student Relationships

Discretion in volunteer leader’s personal lives is fundamental to both spiritual integrity and to continuing to do spiritual ministry among students and their families (Ephesians 5:1-12, 15-16). To live wisely and without any hint of sexual misconduct, we keep the following standards:

- Any verbal or nonverbal sexual interaction with any student is inappropriate.
- Adult Volunteers/Leaders (18 years or older) are prohibited from dating or going out with any high school student, except when permission is granted by the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Discretion must be used in physical contact with any student. Innocent behavior can be misinterpreted. A hug around the shoulders is not sexual abuse, but a full body-to-body hug, stroking, massaging, or affectionate kissing raises questions. Any overt display of affection, appropriate hugging, for example, should be made in a public setting in front of other people.
- Certain activities/games may require some type of physical contact, in the case where an activity has physical contact please use discretion and make sure physical contact is appropriate. An example would be when students did a zip line at a previous retreat and leaders needed to make sure they had a harness on correctly and hooked up properly to the zip line. This required appropriate physical contact to ensure the students safety.
- Sexual gestures of overtures to a volunteer leader by a student should be reported to one of the Wildfire staff so that a discussion can be held with the student.
- One-on-one counseling with a student should always occur in a public place, never alone in a car or a private place. As a general rule when counseling a student of the other gender, invite a member of the same gender as the counselee to be an observer.
- When a situation arises where you are alone with a student of the other gender, quickly move that situation to a public setting. Make the meeting as brief as necessary to accomplish God’s purpose.

- Leaders driving alone with a student of the other gender is off limits.
- Any knowledge or suspicion of any Wildfire leader having an inappropriate relationship with a high school student must be reported promptly to the youth pastor or ministry director. If the person in question is the youth pastor or ministry director, the report should be made to the supervisor of that person.

Counseling

Bear in mind, Wildfire volunteers are not professional counselors.

Consequently this occasionally poses a significant boundary issue when working with young people. As they begin to trust the Wildfire Staff, they will begin to confide in them. Problems arise when a young person confides in a volunteer, expecting them to maintain confidentiality. Unfortunately, not all counseling issues can remain confidential.

Wildfire volunteers are required to report immediately to the Youth Pastor if:

- A young person is being abused sexually
- A young person is threatening to hurt him/herself (suicide, cutting, etc)
- A young person is threatening to hurt someone else (homicide, revenge, etc)
- A young person reveals a personal crisis/endangerment (pregnancy, drug abuse addictions, criminal activity, etc).

If any of these situations arise, the Youth Pastor will take the appropriate course of action, including the consulting of authorities and/or parents or pursuing professional counseling options. The Youth Pastor is available to give counsel and guidance on any issues or concerns that arise.

Because we are dealing with minors, we will use the utmost discretion as to who to involve in various issues. We desire to build trust with our young people, but not to the extent of keeping parents excluded from their child's life.

Leader's Dating Relationships

Acknowledging that one of the most fulfilling relationships in Scripture and life is the one that a man and woman share, we recognize that at times a Wildfire leader may establish a relationship with a leader of the other gender. We also recognize **the greatest visible destroyer of ministries is moral impurity.** The following policies should be understood in that light.

- Volunteer leaders involved in dating relationships should model appropriate behavior. Particularly during ministry functions, our focus is to be on the Lord as well as students.
- In the case of premarital sex, extramarital sex, or a homosexual incident, immediate suspension from ministry leadership will occur.
- Remember, as you date another member of the Wildfire leadership team or at Pleasant View that if the relationship ends that person will still be around to testify to your behavior and character.

Character Expectations

- **To keep our integrity:** the motives, attitude, and actions of leaders should be completely transparent to any observer. Our honesty should be testable by Luke 16:10-12.

1. Faithfulness in little things—being on time, keeping our word, filling requests on time, following through with students and other responsibilities.
2. Faithfulness in Money—turning in receipts being very cautious with event cash and petty cash, remembering people have sacrificially given that dollar.
3. Faithfulness in that which belongs to another—treating all the church equipment and property with utmost respect.

To be teachable: None of us must claim to have arrived at infallibility. We must continually attend sessions, conference, worship services, read, and observe with a teachable spirit, continually seeking to grow.

To be an appropriate role model: Wildfire volunteer and leadership responsibilities naturally require frequent interaction with students and their families, as well as the community. Volunteer leaders come into Christian ministry from a variety of backgrounds and beliefs—especially in the gray areas of Christianity. No matter what the background or belief of the volunteer we need to be a positive role model to the student doing nothing that could be considered a stumbling block.

To develop a servant’s heart: “Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus... who made Himself of no reputation and took upon Him the form of a servant... He humbled Himself, and became obedient... even the death of the cross.” (Phil. 2:3-8)

MOVIES:

Because leaders are examples and role models, they must use careful discretion when choosing movies, music, etc., for ministry/Small Group activities.

- Parental permission and Small Group coach permission must be obtained before using any R or PG-13 rated movies with students.
- In all cases, preview a movie that you’re considering showing to/watching with students. Seek to err on the conservative side. IF you have any doubt whatsoever, first check with parents, your coach or Wildfire Staff.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES:

Along with entertainment choices, substances used by leaders model behavior to students;

- Illegal drug use by leaders is prohibited / will result in suspension from the ministry.
- Since the number one substance abuse by teenagers is alcohol, leaders should use great caution with any use of alcoholic beverages and should avoid using them at all in the presence of students although abstinence is preferred. Drinking in front of students will result in suspension from the ministry.

INFRACTION REPORTING:

At any time when a leader witnesses an infraction or something that could be considered an infraction by another leader or a student, they need to report it to the Youth Pastor. When the Youth Pastor is absent they need to report it to the person left in charge and that person needs to report to the Youth Pastor after the event.

In the case if the Youth Pastor is the one that committed the infraction, the infraction should be reported to the Youth Pastor and the Youth Pastors superior which is currently the Pastor of Discipleship.

In the case where the infraction could have some legal obligations the person reporting needs to contact the appropriate authorities.

I have read, understand, and accept the guidelines, rules, and standards of conduct outlined in this document.

Signature

Date

Biblical Guidelines and Expectations for Students

Guidelines and expectations are for students attending Wildfire

The following Guidelines and Expectations apply to every student attending Wildfire. All students must understand, agree to, and be willing to be held accountable to these guidelines. Event rules may vary (example: Creation Music Festival has more detailed rules)

Appearance

The activity should dictate the type of clothing worn (rules may be given based on event on what is allowed and what is not).

All of our clothing should be modest, protecting the reputation and image of the Holy Spirit (1 Timothy 2:9, 1 Corinthians 8, 1 Thessalonians 4:6a).

Emergency/Release Forms

Students are required to fill out a parental permission and release form for each activity (where required) in order for the student to participate in Youth Ministry activity. Other liability forms may be required based on activity.

Youth Group Basic Rules

Rules for specific events will be defined and communicated before the event. These rules below are generic rules outside of the event specific rules that could be defined. These generic rules revolve around love and respect for each other and the properties we meet at. (Romans 12:1, John 13:34-35)

- Respect God
 - We welcome all students to Wildfire, whether you believe in God or not. We ask that even though you may not believe in God that you'll respect what Wildfire teaches and stands for. We encourage dialog about what you believe and what you don't believe when it comes to God and faith, we just ask you do it in a way that is respectful.
- Respect others, including the leaders
 - Respect and love each other despite any differences or disagreements. Also respect the leaders and be considerate of the time and effort they invest into the Wildfire ministry. Students in relationships with other students should respect the leaders by conducting themselves in a way that honors God.
- Respect the property
 - No matter where we are meeting we must respect the property and treat it as if it was our own. Cleaning up after we are done and making sure things are left better then way they were before we were there is a must.

Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior

Disruptive or unsafe behavior will not be tolerated. Disruptive and unsafe behavior includes any violation of the Wildfire rules as well as specific rules imposed for that trip. The final authority determining what is and is not considered disruptive and unsafe behavior will be the Wildfire leader(s).

Consequences will be progressive:

First Offense: Student will be explained why their behavior is unacceptable and must be stopped by a Wildfire leader.

Second Offense: Student will contact his or her parent(s) to explain the problem. A Wildfire leader will then speak to the parent in order to ensure that the parent understands the situation. Appropriate consequences will be enforced as decided by the Wildfire leader(s).

Third Offense: Student will be sent home at his or her own expense. The student will contact his or her parent(s) to explain the problem and arrange for transportation home. A Wildfire leader will then speak to the parent in order to ensure that the parent understands the situation. Additional consequences will be enforced as decided by the Wildfire leader(s).

Offenses will be documented and saved to keep record of offenses and how each was handled.

Hand-held device policy for Leaders

Technology is of benefit to us all, and we encourage its use; however, we also encourage the responsible use of technology. Therefore, the following policy is for the safety of the employees, volunteers, members, and others in the community.

- A. Never use a hand-held device, including but not limited to a cell phone, while operating a vehicle. Examples of conduct prohibited under this policy include, but are not limited to, dialing of cell phones, reading or sending emails or messages appearing on such devices, and holding or handling cell phones or similar devices at any time while operating a motor vehicle.
- B. In the event an employee, volunteer, or other person acting on behalf of the church, must use a hand-held device, including but not limited to a cell phone, while in a motor vehicle, he must bring his vehicle to a complete stop by pulling into a parking lot or other lawfully designated parking area.
- C. This policy does not prohibit the use of hands-free devices so long as the user can operate the device without the need to touch, hold, or look at the device. Touching a blue-tooth or similar ear piece for cell phone use is permissible under this policy, so long as the driver does not have to take his eyes off the road to do so.
- D. For employees of the Church, this policy applies during and after work hours to the extent an employee uses such device for church-related activity, whether the device is owned by the church, the employee, or someone else.
- E. This policy naturally requires that hand-held devices not be used while operating motor vehicles in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and ALL other states, and laws of various locales including, but not limited to, York, Lancaster, Dauphin, and surrounding counties.
- F. The users of such devices agree to be bound by this policy to the extent they are conducting Church-related business and activity regardless of whether the phone/device is owned by the Church, themselves, or someone else.

HAND-HELD DEVICE POLICY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of Pleasant View Church's HAND-HELD DEVICE POLICY. I have read and understood it and agree to abide by it at all times.

Date: _____

(User's Signature)

Volunteer Driver Policy for Leaders

Because of the nature of our many programs, activities, and outreach ministries, transportation is a frequent and necessary part of our Church operations. We intend to engage in any such transportation in a responsible, safe, and legal manner. Therefore, everyone who drives vehicles, regardless of whether the vehicles are owned by the Church or not, shall be required to abide by this Policy and to do the following:

1. Maintain vehicle insurance on each vehicle they own as required by law;
2. Provide proof of proper vehicle insurance and registration to *Pleasant View Church* as and when requested;
3. Maintain a valid driver's license which classifications correspond with the vehicle being or intended to be operated;
4. If driving activities occur over any period of time, the driver shall immediately inform *Pleasant View Church* if they become uninsurable, lose their driver's license privileges, or lose their personal automobile insurance;
5. Operate only vehicles that have a current inspection and registration;
6. If arrested or convicted of speeding, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol (DUI), reckless or careless driving, or any other moving violation, the driver shall immediately notify *Pleasant View Church*;
7. Complete a Volunteer Driver Registration Form upon request;
8. Meet any and all other requirements of *Pleasant View Church*, the Church's vehicle insurance carrier, or by law.

Pleasant View Church reserves the right to deny anyone the privilege of driving on and for Church-related activities for any reason at any time.

Date: _____

(Signed) _____

Print Name: _____

Parental Permission and Release Form

Pleasant View Church

Event/Activity: _____

Date: _____

Participant's Name

1. _____

Medical Issues/Allergies: _____

2. _____

Medical Issues/Allergies: _____

3. _____

Medical Issues/Allergies: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: _____

- **I give permission for my child(ren) to participate in the above mentioned event/activity, and I voluntarily waive and release Pleasant View Church of the Brethren, 10384 Winterstown Road, Red Lion, PA, its leaders and its members from any claim due to personal injury or damage during any time associated with this event/activity.**
- **I give permission for my child(ren) to be transported to and from this event/activity, if necessary, and release Pleasant View Church of the Brethren from responsibility and liability for any injury or illness that my child(ren) may sustain during transportation.**
- **I give permission for my child(ren) to receive emergency medical treatment, if necessary.**

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

General Student Information Form

Pleasant View Church

Date _____
 Participant's Name _____

Allergies or Reactions	Treatment/Notes

Medications	Dose	Frequency	Notes

Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Adults NOT authorized to take participant to and from Events

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Notes/Comments

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Meet the Wildfire Leaders

Joel Miles



My name is Joel Miles. I have three brothers and one sister, and my mother home schooled all five of us. I've gone to Pleasant View with my family for my whole life. When I was seven, I accepted Jesus as my savior.

Wildfire and the friends I made there really helped me through high school, and when I graduated, I decided to stay and become a leader. As a leader I help with supervising the students.

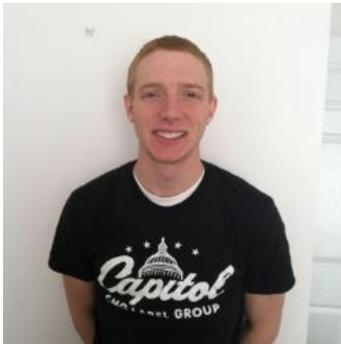
I am currently working for my father in construction with no plans yet for college.

Kellie Knisely



My name is Kellie Knisely. I grew up in Pleasant View. I accepted Jesus into my heart when I was young and got baptized into the church my freshman year of high school. I live to serve. I am currently a leader at Wildfire and Ignite, serve on the video team, and I am also in the nursery at Pleasant View. I also serve as a mentor at 18 south youth center in Red Lion. I love your kids.

Ryan Knisely



Hi my name is Ryan Knisely and I have been attending Pleasant View my whole life. I've attended Wildfire as a student and I am now a leader. As a leader I assist Jonah and Kay with event planning, setting up and cleaning of any event and/ or normal Sunday night. I help out as much as I can and try to attend every event and Sunday youth group. I am also available to the students if they are looking for help or someone just to talk to. I love helping out with Wildfire because I know how difficult it can be for the students. To be able to be here for the students, if they need us or not, and to be a light for them in their world.

Daniel Parrish



My name is Daniel Parrish. I am currently employed by Kinsley Construction. I was a boy scout for six years, and achieved the rank of life scout, which is the second highest rank. I love outdoor sports and activities and spend many weekends out of the year snowboarding and kayaking, though I can't claim to be an expert at either. I've been with Wildfire for five years now, and hope to be able to continue to help for many more years.

Samuel Miles



My name is Sam Miles. I am currently a leader and speaker for Wildfire as well as Jonah's right hand man. At least that's how I like to think of it.

I started in this ministry as a student leader when it was first created by my cousin, Keith Runkle, and my best friend, Adam McWilliams. I was 16 at the time and split my time between playing guitar for the worship band and sharing lessons on alternate weeks with Keith. At that time Wildfire was completely student run as our adult youth leaders had recently decided to step down. A short while later Jonah McWilliams, then a strapping young man of some 20 odd years, joined as a leader and speaker, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Professionally I work in Law Enforcement. I was a Police Officer with the Ocean City Police Department and then the York Area Regional Police Department for almost 5 years. In 2015 I left York Regional and joined York County's Probation Department as a Juvenile Probation Officer. The move to York County had several benefits. First, it allowed more time at home with my wife Megan as well as more time to spend with the youth and other ministries at Pleasant View. Aside from Wildfire I am in the leadership for ManCard, our church's men's ministry. I also help out in KidZone, the children's ministry, that my wife is the Director of, which takes place every Sunday morning during both services.

Throughout my career I have had extensive training and am currently certified in CPR, and First Aid. I have also had over 40 hours of Active Shooter Training as well as training in Defensive Tactics, emergency immobilization, and several other areas.

My heart has always been with the youth and young people. I love their energy, their hopeful anticipation for the future, and their enthusiasm for life. I intend to continue in this ministry for as long as God calls me to be a part of their lives.

Jonah and Kristen McWilliams (Youth Pastor)



My name is Jonah McWilliams, the Youth Pastor at Pleasant View. My wife, Kristen, and I have been working with Wildfire for over twelve years now. Keith Runkle with some close friends started Wildfire and invited me to be a part of leadership. It started as speaking and teaching and soon Keith and I were co-leading the group. Keith accepted a position at a Church in Indiana and I was honored to lead the group after his departure. Years later I was offered the opportunity to receive classes from the Church and worked over a period of four years to become an ordained Youth

Pastor. Kristen and I both love working with the Youth. Our favorite part of working in Wildfire is the relationships we establish with your kids. We can honestly say that we feel your kids are an extension to our family and we love them like we love our own children. Our desire is to see them come to an understanding of what having a real relationship with Jesus is all about and committing to live that relationship out in their lives every day.

Kristen and I are blessed to have four boys, Luke is our oldest, and then Collin, Owen and our youngest son is Caleb. Kristen is a part owner in her business, Clarity Salon, where she works throughout the week doing hair. She also enjoys serving on Pleasant View's praise team as a singer and volunteers in the nursery every month. I work at Dentsply Sirona as a computer analyst where my primary role is to help manage the company's ecommerce website.

With four boys, a crazy work schedule and the Youth we don't get a ton of time for hobbies but when I do I enjoy hunting. Kristen loves to read and enjoys getting together with friends to go shopping or to enjoy coffee and un-interrupted adult conversation at Starbucks.

As I said above we love your kids and it is a great honor to us that you trust them to our care. We pray that God will continue to use us however He sees fit and that he will enable us to make an impact in your child's life. Please keep us and the rest of the Wildfire leaders in your prayers as we continue our work in Wildfire.

Nathaniel Miles



Hi, my name is Nathaniel Miles. I have been attending Pleasant View for my entire life, and I accepted Christ around the age of 8. I am currently involved in the video team ministry here as well as Wildfire. I have been involved with wildfire for approximately 7 years now, 4 of those as a student and the remaining 3 as a leader.

I have always loved Wildfire and I would say that I have a passion for it. I enjoy greatly getting to know the students and watching them grow in Christ and also grow into their individual personalities. As someone who just recently went through those transitions (and I know that many parents would still consider me a child) I have to say that I feel very blessed to know that in some small way I have

nudged them in the right direction.

My focus personally is on the young men of Wildfire, and in particular helping them in the struggle of purity. I have started a small group for them where they can come and openly share about the struggles that they are having, and to reassure them that they are not alone in this. I can say for myself that I was very blessed to be a part of a group like this years ago, and it really helped me to be able to control those thoughts and actions.

I look forward to getting to know all of the students better, and their parents as well.

Nick McCoy



My name is Nick McCoy. I have been going to Pleasant View church for over 10 years. I have been involved in the Wildfire leadership team for over 7 years helping with speaking, small groups, and activities. I am involved in the video team running the projector on Sunday morning, and I am a leader in Mancard men's ministry.

I have a passion for outreach, and discipleship. I enjoy forming new relationships, and helping students navigate through their teen years by listening and offering biblical advice. I am blessed to work with the youth during such an important time in their lives. I find it very rewarding to watch the youth grow in their relationships with Jesus.

I work as a Commercial Sales Specialist for a company called Batteries + Bulbs where I manage over 350 commercial business accounts. I have been married to my wonderful wife Rachel for 5 years. We just had our first child Eve in February of 2016. Being a new father is amazing! My daughter is the cutest baby in the entire world (that is a fact).
