

Religion

Love in action: reaching out to God's people

The feeding of the five thousand with a few loaves and a fish was an amazing miracle, but it would be even more amazing if accomplished today. Can you imagine the concerns raised by the congregation? They might declare, “I can’t eat that, I’m a vegan,” or “Has that fish been tested for mercury?” or “Is that bread gluten-free? Is it organic? Non-GMO?” or “This is incredible, but can we get some tartar sauce?”

Jesus had just fed thousands with a few loaves and fish. The crowd was excited and wanted to make him king. But Jesus saw their hearts. He told them, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you” (John 6:26-27). The people were looking for what Jesus could do for them, not for Jesus himself. This is a danger we still face today. It is easy to seek God’s blessings while missing God’s heart for his people.

The Bible is clear that loving God and loving people are connected. Jesus said the greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39). Real love always reaches out.

It moves toward people rather than waiting for them to come to us.

One powerful picture of this kind of love is found in Exodus 33. Moses would pitch a tent outside the camp and call it the “Tent of Meeting.” Anyone who wanted to seek the Lord could go there. Whenever Moses entered the tent, the Pillar of Cloud would come down and the Lord would speak with

him face to face, as one speaks to a friend. The people stood at their tent doors and worshiped as they watched. That simple tent became a place where God met his people in the middle of ordinary life.

This same heart of love and outreach should mark the church today. Instead of waiting for people to come to us on Sunday mornings, we are called to go where people already are. Whether it is a community event, a neighborhood gathering, a park, or even a temporary tent set up at a local store, the goal is the same: create space for people to encounter the living God. When we love God’s people enough to reach out to them, we become part of his work of drawing hearts to himself.

For years, our congregation would run a fireworks tent to raise money for youth ministry and missions. We saw it as a chance to bring the Gospel to the Walmart parking lot. If customers expressed a need, we would

pray with them. We held worship in the tent the Sunday before the Fourth of July, and invited everyone to come join us.

Love that reaches out is often inconvenient. It requires time, energy and sometimes stepping outside our comfort zones. But it is worth it. When we pray for others, listen to their stories and show genuine care, we are living out the love of Christ. We do not need elaborate programs. We need willing hearts that say, “Here I am, Lord. Use me to love someone today.”

This week, look for opportunities to love God’s people and reach out to them. It might be inviting a neighbor for coffee, praying for a coworker, or simply smiling and striking up a conversation with someone who seems lonely. Small acts of love can open big doors for the Gospel. As we love others the way Jesus loved us, we become living invitations to experience the God who meets us in the middle of ordinary life.

Is there someone God is calling you to reach out to this week? What holds you back from loving people who are different from you? When have you seen a simple act of love open someone’s heart to God? How can you create your own “tent of meeting” that is a place where people can encounter God’s love through you?

The same Jesus who fed the multitudes and spoke with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4) still

wants to meet people today. He often does so through his followers, who are willing to go where people are and love

them right there. May we be those kinds of people, people who love God so much that we cannot help but love his

people and reach out to them. Al Earley is the pastor of La Grange Presbyterian Church.



AL EARLEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. B2026-09 FINAL ANNEXATION

A FINAL ANNEXATION ORDINANCE ANNEXING INTO THE CITY OF BARDSTOWN LAND LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WOODLAWN ROAD (KY 605), THE EAST SIDE OF SPENCER MATTINGLY LANE AND E JOHN ROWAN BOULEVARD (KY 245) AND WEST OF FILIATREAU LANE, CONTIGUOUS TO THE EXISTING CITY LIMITS OF BARDSTOWN, IN NELSON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted Intent to Annex Ordinance B2026-06 on second reading at its meeting on April 14, 2026 expressing its desire and intent to annex certain unincorporated territory located in Nelson County, Kentucky, herein called the “Annexation Area” into the City of Bardstown; and **WHEREAS**, no written objection to such Ordinance has been received by the Mayor of Bardstown or other City Officials since April 14, 2026 and no civil action has been filed in Nelson Circuit Court naming the City of Bardstown, its Mayor, or City Council as defendants to contest such Ordinance in such period; and **WHEREAS**, the City published notice of the opportunity to petition against the annexation reflected in the foregoing Intent to Annex Ordinance pursuant to KRS 81A.420 in The Kentucky Standard on April 22, 2026; and

WHEREAS, no timely and/or adequate Petition addressed to the Mayor of the City of Bardstown pursuant to KRS 81A.420 requesting to place the annexation on the ballot for vote has been received; and **WHEREAS**, a map of such Annexation Area as prepared by a Kentucky-licensed surveyor is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit A (the “Annexation Map”); and **WHEREAS**, the Annexation Map and the metes and bounds description set forth herein both indicate the Annexation Area is adjacent and/or contiguous to the preexisting municipal boundary of the of the City of Bardstown as indicated by one or more ordinances referenced on the Annexation Map; and **WHEREAS**, it is deemed beneficial and necessary to the welfare of the City of Bardstown, for its orderly growth and economic development, to annex the property described below into the City; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council finds such annexation to be consistent with the Goals and Objectives of the applicable Comprehensive Plan (titled “Nelson County 2035”) as readopted Sept. 26, 2023 by the City; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that no part of the area to be annexed shall be included in the boundary of another city; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council is aware of no evidence to indicate utility infrastructure owned by another city is in the Annexation Area; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council, based on the Annexation Map and other information of record, finds no part of the territory being annexed to be in an Agricultural District as the term is used in KRS 262.850; and **WHEREAS**, as evidenced by the Annexation Map, the Annexation Area has multiple access points from public roads; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council is acting in reliance upon the published Opinion of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in Jewell v. City of Bardstown, 260 S.W.3d 348 (Ky. Ct. App. 2008) which recognizes that a consent to annexation in a chain of title binds subsequent owners of such real property to such consent; and **WHEREAS**, through one or more previously signed consents to annexation which are of record before the City Council, more than 55 percent of the property owners have, pursuant to KRS 81A.412, agreed to annexation by the City; and **WHEREAS**, such consents to annexation include, but are not limited to, an instrument titled “Water and Sewer Service Agreement and Consent to Annexation” and recorded in the Office of the Nelson County, Kentucky Clerk in Book 565, Page 365; Book 540, Page 717; Book 544, Page 567; Book 608, Page 538; Book 580, Page 564; Book 596, Page 177; and **WHEREAS**, the annexation which is the subject of this ordinance is undertaken pursuant to KRS 81A.412 for those properties whose owners have consented in writing to this annexation and undertaken pursuant to KRS 81A.410 for property owners who have not consented in writing; and **WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the City Council that properties in the Annexation Area shall maintain each of their same zoning district classifications as presently exists, unless and until further proceedings, if any, in compliance with KRS Chapter 100 and the City’s zoning ordinance take place, whether by property owner application or otherwise pursuant to applicable law; and **WHEREAS**, the territory annexed (i.e. the Annexation Areas), approximately 343.363+/- acres of combined land, located on the South side of KY-605 Woodlawn Rd, East of Spencer Mattingly Ln and KY-245 (East John Rowan Blvd) and West of Filiatreau Ln, is by reason of population density, commercial, industrial, institutional, or governmental use of land or subdivision of land, is urban in character or suitable for development for urban purposes without unreasonable delay; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council further finds that all the foregoing adjudicative facts and other evidence of record before the City Council as of the vote on this Final Annexation Ordinance, which is incorporated herein by reference, support annexation of the Annexation Area as being in compliance with KRS Chapter 81A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bardstown, Kentucky that the City Council hereby ratifies the Mayor’s signature upon and approves any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this ordinance including, but not limited to the Consents to Annexation and, further, the City hereby annexes the following described unincorporated area and makes it a part of the City of Bardstown, Kentucky:

THE PROPERTY TO BE ANNEXED IS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

I. The territory described below, a map of which is attached to this ordinance as Exhibit A and is fully incorporated into this ordinance, is hereby annexed into the City of Bardstown:

CITY ANNEXATION AREAS - "A"

This is a description for the City of Bardstown, of a City Annexation Area located south of Woodlawn Road (Kentucky Highway 605) and in between existing city limit line established in Ordinance Number 794 and Ordinance Number 813 which is further described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of Bardstown City limits per Ordinance Number 8236 and the north line per Ordinance Number 813; thence with the north lines of said Ordinance Number 813 **North 76°28'09" West 144.17 feet; thence North 19°42'32" East 98.87 feet; thence North 71°02'37" West 437.16 feet; thence North 54°57'22" West 372.47 feet; thence North 38°20'48" West 625.84 feet; thence South 24°16'20" West 1679.87 feet; thence North 67°17'11" West 572.80 feet; thence North 22°03'48" East 503.03 feet; thence North 25°54'38" East 525.62 feet; thence North 23°39'31" East 459.97 feet; thence North 19°45'40" East 300.86 feet; thence North 18°08'03" East 133.98 feet; thence North 58°32'58" West 57.67 feet; thence North 39°28'44" East 2.91 feet to a northeast corner of said existing Bardstown City Limits per said Ordinance Number 813, and being the southeast corner of said city limits per Ordinance Number B2011-21; thence with said Ordinance Number B2011-21 line **North 52°09'57" East 1.29 feet; thence North 52°10'11" East 166.43 feet; thence North 25°36'16" East 100.01 feet; thence North 06°18'51" East 211.92 feet; thence North 41°54'53" East 101.99 feet; thence North 25°36'17" East 400.03 feet; thence North 39°55'12" East 157.78 feet; thence North 28°27'54" East 187.94 feet; thence North 05°22'50" East 362.34 feet; thence North 02°46'29" East 51.74 feet to the southeast corner of the existing Bardstown City limits per Ordinance Number 794; thence with said Ordinance Number 794; thence **South 89°30'58" East 58.46 feet; thence South 89°30'59" East 253.85 feet; thence North 84°19'07" East 253.00 feet; thence along a curve to the left with a radius of 590.03 feet and with a chord of North 58°05'39" East 504.62 feet; thence North 31°52'17" East 207.37 feet; thence North 27°09'33" East 379.25 feet; thence North 25°17'37" East 569.49 feet; thence North 18°09'03" East 442.69 feet; thence North 18°09'02" East 929.12 feet; thence North 17°00'49" East 411.77 feet; thence South 72°58'00" East 742.03 feet; thence North 17°00'04" East 826.53 feet; thence South 77°57'45" West 802.47 feet; thence North 17°53'27" East 1303.37 feet to the northeast corner of said existing Bardstown City limits per Ordinance Number 794; thence with a new City Limit Line **North 17°53'21" East 55.28 feet** a point on the southwest right-of-way of Woodlawn Road; thence with said right-of-way for the next three (3) calls: (1) South 73°21'40" East 2372.93 feet; thence (2) along a curve to the right with a radius of 380.28 feet and with a chord of **South 44°33'46" East 366.38 feet; thence (3) South 15°45'52" East 203.31 feet; thence leaving said Woodlawn Road North 67°44'59" West 8.48 feet** to the northwest corner of the existing Bardstown City Limits per said Ordinance Number 813; thence with the existing city limits line **North 68°43'45" West 234.27 feet; thence South 56°38'13" West 205.67 feet; thence South 14°25'07" West 440.84 feet; thence South 68°14'12" East 245.80 feet; thence South 68°14'13" East 49.68 feet; thence South 29°12'29" West 54.46 feet; thence South 29°12'30" West 246.10 feet; thence South 29°15'27" East 43.45 feet; thence South 26°56'47" West 40.91 feet; thence South 26°56'48" West 306.90 feet; thence South 36°55'06" West 246.63 feet; thence South 56°52'58" East 30.85 feet; thence South 56°52'58" East 532.66 feet; thence North 24°52'15" East 273.65 feet; thence North 65°07'45" West 136.07 feet; thence North 65°07'47" West 18.93 feet; thence North 24°52'15" East 358.70 feet; thence South 67°58'55" East 155.19 feet; thence South 24°52'15" West 185.83 feet; thence South 66°03'45" East 18.08 feet; thence South 66°03'44" East 46.21 feet; thence South 66°03'45" East 351.80 feet; thence South 23°06'13" West 204.60 feet; thence South 23°06'14" West 1219.80 feet; thence South 63°33'14" West 249.87 feet; thence South 54°06'44" West 280.82 feet; thence South 54°06'45" West 80.40 feet; thence South 44°36'15" West 218.16 feet; thence North 67°50'51" West 1445.84 feet; thence North 67°50'52" West 209.69 feet; thence South 41°46'31" West 810.89 feet; thence South 67°11'00" East 98.46 feet; thence South 22°09'19" West 293.79 feet; thence South 77°43'32" West 398.51 feet; thence South 71°23'33" West 237.15 feet; thence South 75°08'32" West 437.09 feet; thence South 82°23'33" West 299.29 feet; thence North 13°26'01" East 8.15 feet to the northwest corner of the existing Bardstown City Limits per Ordinance Number B20116; thence with the perimeter of said Ordinance Number B2016-16 lines **South 89°23'16" West 878.45 feet; thence South 05°22'49" West 203.35 feet; thence South 28°27'55" West 203.18 feet to a point; thence South 39°55'12" West 156.32 feet; thence South 25°36'17" West 400.92 feet; thence South 41°54'52" West 93.10 feet; thence South 06°18'51" West 204.36 feet; thence South 25°36'15" West 12.02 feet; thence South 44°08'39" East 531.11 feet; thence South 30°48'49" East 531.26 feet; thence South 43°05'48" East 94.67 feet; thence South 43°05'47" East 153.86 feet; thence South 66°13'59" East 333.77 feet; thence South 71°46'04" East 166.31 feet; thence North 29°36'34" East 336.76 feet; thence North 22°53'15" East 1414.40 feet to a point on the south line of said existing Bardstown City limits per said Ordinance Number 813; thence with the perimeter said Ordinance Number 813 **South 50°24'32" East 369.58 feet; thence South 22°50'47" West 1316.06 feet; thence South 69°26'15" East 188.32 feet; thence South 44°36'59" West 517.16 feet; thence South 44°27'11" West 165.97 feet** to the point of beginning containing 342.395 acres per survey by Frank L Sellinger, II with FStan Land Surveyors dated March 03, 2026.**********

CITY ANNEXATION AREAS - "B"

This is a description for the City of Bardstown, of a City Annexation Area located south of Woodlawn Road (Kentucky Highway 605), east of Early Times Boulevard, and in between existing city limit line established in Ordinance Number 813 which is further described as follows:

Beginning at a point near the southeast intersection of the right-of-way lines of Early Times Boulevard and Woodlawn Road on a corner of Bardstown City limits per Ordinance Number 813; thence along Woodlawn Road **South 46°19'48" East 56.73 feet** to a point on the corner of Bardstown City limits per Ordinance Number 813; thence leaving said Woodlawn Road with said city Limit line **South 20°11'00" West 295.29 feet; thence North 68°01'22" West 37.59 feet; thence North 68°01'23" West 46.57 feet; thence North 68°01'22" West 87.34 feet; thence North 24°52'15" East 157.99 feet** to a point; thence **North 54°39'33" East 143.26 feet; thence North 54°39'32" East 44.84 feet** to the point of beginning containing 0.968 acres per survey by Frank L Sellinger, II with FStan Land Surveyors dated March 03, 2026.

II. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and, if any section, phase or provision or portion of the contemplated annexation shall for any reason, be declared invalid, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

III. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to KRS 83A.060 and said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the signature, recordation, and publication in accordance with KRS 83A.060 and KRS Chapter 424.

CITY OF BARDSTOWN: /s/ Richard Heaton, Mayor

This advertisement was paid for by the City of Bardstown using taxpayer dollars in the amount of \$755.71

Forgetting the buttermilk

When the alarm went off on Sunday morning at 4 a.m., there was a lot to do. Coffee day for our jail Bible study meant brewing started early.

It was going to be a busy day. There was jail study at 6:45, Sunday School breakfast, then Sunday School, the 11 o'clock service, followed by a deacons and wives dinner. The evening would end with Bible study at a local rehab. I had promised to take banana bread to the employees at the rehab. A note in my phone and on a kitchen cabinet were reminders.

At 5 am, I realized there was one small window to bake the promised bread: it was before jail. If I mixed it up quickly, there would be just enough time for it to bake.

I hurried around the kitchen as the coffee brewed adding ingredients to a bowl. Filling the loaf pans, the batter didn’t seem exactly right. It felt thicker than usual.

When I put the banana bread in the oven, it looked ... off. Hadn’t I mixed everything as I always did? Hmmm.

I turned from the oven and saw the buttermilk on the counter. That was it. In my haste, I had forgotten to add the buttermilk. Buttermilk makes a big difference in banana bread.

Quickly donning oven mitts, I yanked the pans out of the oven, poured the batter in a bowl, then whisked in the forgotten white liquid. What a mess! New pans were filled and rushed back to the oven.

I always pray for my food to be a blessing to the receiver. This was gonna be a stretch. The odds were slim that it would turn out. Hoping for the best, I carried on with the prep for the morning.

Martha is a famous Bible example of having a lot to do. Told in Luke 10, her story is one we can sink our teeth into. Jesus was right there in her house, but she was too focused on other things to

spend time with Him. As we read, we might be tempted to think, “Silly, Martha,” but when we compare our routine to hers, it’s easy to see how it could happen.

These days, we can be super busy. Busy doing good things. As followers of Christ, that’s our goal: to do good works (Ephesians 2:10). But, in our busyness, it’s crucial to not leave Him out of the mix.

Just like buttermilk is vital to banana bread, Bible reading, prayer, and being a part of a church are vital to our wellbeing, our spiritual being. If we leave one of them out, our mix will be off. Without a big daily serving of Jesus, I’m undone.

The acid in buttermilk reacts with the baking soda to make the banana bread rise. It brings the change.

As summer brings opportunities for other things, let’s remember to keep Jesus the main, delicious thing. He brings the change in us!

The banana bread turned out fine after all. I’ll make sure not to leave it out again.

Email religion columnist Dawn Reed at preacherswife7@yahoo.com.



DAWN REED

COMEDIAN

FROM PAGE B3

hope, healing and making a difference,” Allen’s bio states. “Jeff’s mission statement is Tikkun Olam, a Hebrew phrase meaning Repairing the World. His goal is simple: ‘I want to make a difference that outlives the tour ... that outlives me.’”

Allen has performed for U.S. troops on aircraft carriers and ships in the Indian Ocean and he also has been part of three Presidential Inaugural Galas.

In addition to starring in the films, “Apostles of Comedy” and “My 7 Grandmas,” Allen has appeared on Comedy Central, Showtime, TBN, CBN, “America’s Got Talent” and Pureflix among other outlets including a growing audience on social media.

Jeff Allen, who is booked Saturday for a show in Murray and has three dates July 30-Aug. 1 in Lexington, will perform at 6 p.m. Sunday at the State Theater in Elizabethtown. Tickets range in price from \$37-\$57 and may be purchased online at thestate270.org.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Comedian Jeff Allen’s current First Final Farewell Tour includes a performance Sunday at the State Theater in downtown Elizabethtown.