



Marion First United Methodist Church

Issue No. 7

March 25, 2016

The **mission** of the Church is to make Disciples of **Jesus Christ** for the **transformation** of the world.

THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE – A GUIDE FOR A WORLDWIDE CHURCH



Last June the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church elected 6 clergy persons, 6 lay persons and two alternates to attend General Conference, the top legislative body of The United Methodist Church. General Conference will meet May 10-20, 2016, at the Oregon Convention Center

in Portland. 864 delegates, elected from around the world, will gather to set policy and direction for the church, as well as handle other important business. General Conference meets every four years and is the only entity that speaks for the denomination. *The United Methodist Book of Discipline*, updated every four years, incorporates changes made by General Conference.

The next several issues of the *Marion Methodist* will be led by a presentation of issues to come before the Conference.

In its prologue the 2012 *Book of Discipline* states: “The Discipline is the product of over 200 years of General Conferences of the denominations that now form the United Methodist Church....It is the most current statement of how United Methodists agree to live their lives together. It reflects our understanding of the church and articulates the mission of the United Methodist Church. The Discipline defines what is expected of its laity and clergy as they seek to be effective witnesses in the world as a part of the whole body of Christ.”

United Methodism began with the fire of the Wesley brothers and the disciplined principles of growth of Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke sending Circuit Riders to the American Frontier. Eventually that movement transformed into a church with missionary zeal. Methodist preachers and missionaries were sent beyond the borders of the United States to Africa, the Philippines, Korea, Sri Lanka and many other places to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Those missions grew disciples first by the few, then the hundreds, thousands and now millions. Today, we are truly a global church, but as you might guess, the bulk of the money and power base is in the hands of the US church. Much of the Discipline leans towards the US church and to be truly global adjustments need to be made, so in May, great conversation will be held around the topic of “MAKING THE *DISCIPLINE* TRULY GLOBAL.”

In 2012, the General Conference assigned a Standing Committee to assist in developing a truly global Book of Discipline. Unlike U.S. jurisdictions, conferences outside of the United States have authority under the United Methodist Constitution to make “such changes and adaptations” to the *Discipline* as missional needs and differing legal contexts require. The standing committee must recommend to General Conference which portions of the *Discipline* are not subject to adaptation.

Committee members express hope that the 2020 General Conference would approve a “General Discipline” with a worldwide outlook and possibly fewer paragraphs. The committee will make available to 2016 delegates a draft of a shorter version and receive feedback. The only legislative proposal asks for an extension through 2020 to continue its work.

After the 2016 General Conference, the committee plans to ask each annual conference to respond to the proposal using specific questions. General Conference has determined the following parts of the *Book of Discipline* should apply to all United Methodists and are not subject to local adaptation. To change any of the following would require General Conference action:

- The Constitution
- Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task
- The Ministry of All Christians
- The Social Principles.

Concurrent with the work of the standing committee, the General Board of Church and Society has held global consultations on the Social Principles. These principles are not church law, rather, “prayerful and thoughtful ... to speak to the human issues in the contemporary world.” The consultations are a first step in developing more global Social Principles, a process that will last at least through 2020.

This is a summary of many, many pages and studies around this one issue and while maybe a bit perplexing, it is very important. The real question at hand is whether the United Methodist philosophy of being one church in the world will be clung to and if so will our guidelines be abided by? This is a significant challenge for our United Methodist Church, so pray for this.

Next issues:

- How to Structure a Worldwide Church
- Homosexuality and the ministry of the Church
- The Connectional Table and a way forward

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- Website - Calendars, Church Info, and More
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www.youtube.com/marionmethodist
- iTunes Podcast - Sermon Audio
itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/marion-methodist/id562893153

Each week on Tuesday, the church sends out an email detailing the events taking place in the next seven days, and devoting some space to explain a little more about one of the multitude of ministries and missions in which we participate. To sign up to receive this email each week, please contact the church office at (319) 377-4856 or by email at info@marionmethodist.org.

Marion First United Methodist Church

Corner of 12th Street & 8th Avenue

Sunday Morning Worship

7:45 AM

Early Worship - Chapel

8:30 AM

Spirited Traditional - Sanctuary

9:45 AM

Contemporary Praise - Sanctuary
Church School for children and adults

11:00 AM

Contemporary Praise - Sanctuary
Kids' View - Room 350

Upcoming Sermons

March 27 - *Gospel of John* - John 21:15-25

April 3 - *2 Peter* 1:4



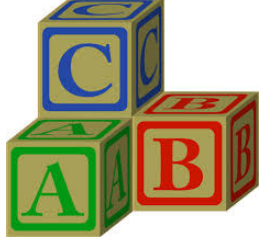
 Marion First United Methodist Church
1298 7th Avenue
Marion, IA 52302
Return Address
Service Requested

For any information needing to be published in the Marion Methodist newsletter, please contact the church office.
(info@marionmethodist.org)

LABEL HERE

Nursery Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy cuddling infants and playing with toddlers? Join us as a nursery volunteer! One Sunday, Wednesday, or Thursday a month spend an hour with the littlest members of our church family. Any age from 7th grade to great-grandparents are welcome.



Below are the times available throughout the week.

Sunday:

8:15 to 9:30 AM
9:30 to 10:45 AM
10:45 to 12:10 PM
1:15 to 3:15 PM

Wednesday:

6:30 to 7:45 PM
7:45 to 9:00 PM

Thursday:

6:00 to 8:15 PM

If you are interested in joining our nursery team email Amelia Echols at aechols@marionmethodist.org or call the church office and leave a message at 319-377-4856.

Marion Methodist is Praying for:

Prayer is the very heart of how we connect with God; the powerful way we express our love for him and his people. We have many avenues of prayer here at Marion Methodist - personal prayer time with God, the prayer cards that are filled out by many people on Sundays, and our Marion Methodist Prayer Wall.

On the homepage of our Marion Methodist website, near the top, you will see a link for "Prayer Request". When you click on that, you will be led to a virtual prayer wall, where you have the opportunity to pray for requests that have already been submitted, or to submit a prayer request yourself. You can also indicate that you have prayed specifically for any of the prayer requests by clicking on the "I Prayed for This" link, which is very affirming for those who have submitted requests.

Please take a look at this new avenue of prayer and try it out. Check it frequently on your home computer or other electronic devices, and share your love for God and his people through the power of prayer.

Prayer Focus:

The work being done by our Building Committee and its members:

Chuck Alexander	Pastor Mike Morgan
Dan Cudworth	Matt Wildman
Gene Gerber	Val Lawrence
Dennis Goemaat	Brenda Hollinger
Tom Padley	Dana Mortensen
Linda Peyton	Sean Poston
Connie Miller	Brad Schuver



March 27—Easter Sunday Services

7:45am in the Chapel

8:30am, 9:45am, 11:00am in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!

UMW Fun and Fellowship Day

Come and join the entertainment and opportunity at the "UMW Fun and Fellowship Day" planned for Saturday, April 23, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The featured speaker will be Marion author, Robert Buckley. He has written four books, "Two Miles an Hour", "Slave Tag", "Ophelia's Brooch", and "The Denarius". Mr. Buckley will have his books for sale and one lucky person will win an autographed copy. We will also hear from Eden Youngberg from Matthew 25, sharing about the "Book Buddies" program and how we can get involved in their year around program, reading to children.



Admission to this event will be the donation of one or more new or gently used books for children pre-K through 2nd Grade. These books will go to Matthew 25. As time goes on we hope to find other places to share our ministry. This program is tied in with our UMC Bishop's initiative to "Change a Child's Story", by giving books and time to read to children. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to Lorie Bramley at 550-8844 or bramley62@hotmail.com. Come for the fun, food, and fellowship of mind and body. Perhaps the Lord will guide you to a new way of ministering to others.

This event hosted by the Page Turners and Bookends Circles is open to everyone, but please RSVP so we can plan for you.



**Fill Your Body • Fill Your Heart
• Fill Your Head**

Powerhouse 
get connected

Meal Schedule:

3/30 Roast Beef, Potatoes, Green Beans
4/6 Pizza Hut
4/13 Taco Bell

Powerhouse meets every Wednesday. From 5:45 PM - 6:15 PM we have a Family Meal (Free Will Offering) and from 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM we have activities for all ages

Preschoolers: Kids may forget what you say - but they remember what they discover on their own. Get them "Hands On" with God's Word. (Room 205)

KDG - 5th Grade: Meet a Jesus that is real and relevant in your everyday life! Discover Jesus in you. (Room 303/305)

4:12 Youth Group: Junior High 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM, High School 7:15 PM - 9:00 PM

Adult Classes: Come for a midweek boost. Check out classes at www.marionmethodist.org

Nursery: Offered in the Nursery room located near the elevators.

New to Marion Methodist? The BUILD campaign explained

Twelve years ago, as a congregation we began visioning and dreaming regarding what our ministry in Marion could be in the new millennium – we were still *very, very* far from the BUILD campaign. The congregation did see with clarity that our facilities, while useful for ministry had some concerns and needed thorough study.

A facilities committee was put together that studied what we have and what growing and emerging congregations had for facilities. After many months of deliberations, it became clear, and a charge conference approved at an **89% affirmative vote**, that it was time to BUILD a new facility on a new location to the glory of God and to serve the men and women of Marion. The Charge Conference deployed an **exploration Committee** to explore what we should do if we were to BUILD and where. We were still far from the BUILD CAMPAIGN.

About then, our Stewardship and Finance Committee acknowledged that we could not move forward with this project while nearly \$700,000 of debt was hanging on from a 13 year old loan for the annex/elevator/chapel project. So they, *knowing the generosity of this congregation*, aggressively and successfully led us through a campaign that retired that debt.

At the same time, the **exploration Committee** worked for over a year and moved at a Charge Conference that we should deploy a **BUILDING** committee who would hire a design BUILD firm to lead us through the process. This received a 92% affirmation. Things were moving but, still, we were years away from the BUILD campaign.

The **BUILDing** committee began meeting – the same summer we launched FLY and were serving as the epicenter of the UMCOR Flood recovery effort, some weeks hosting over 4000 flood volunteers at 2 camps and 42 churches, including our own facility. The committee met several dozen times and finally found *in the city of Marion* the property – the farm field we felt compelled to purchase and upon which we felt the Lord was calling us to BUILD.

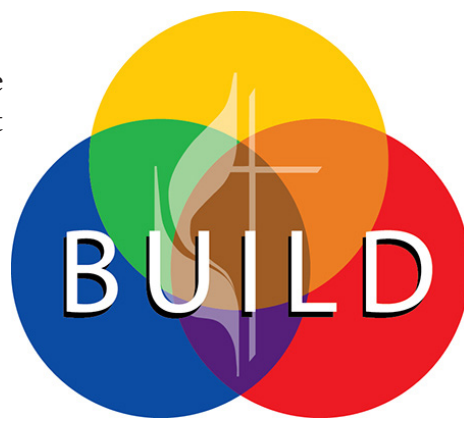
The Believe Campaign began to raise the \$1.4 Million we thought we would need to secure the land. However, the committee and our realtor, through patient deliberations, secured the land for nearly a million less than originally priced and on December 30, 2010, we bought for \$800,000 the property on which we could BUILD. The BELIEVE campaign was successful, the land is ours and the committee brought to us and Charge Conference approved, again by 92% - the Master Plan for our new facilities.

Time had now come to begin raising the funds for our new facilities. So, the BUILD campaign was conceived and kicked off. Now, you know, this is a task and opportunity that befits our faith and our God. So, we began with a huge goal and we are aspiring towards it. Over 360 of you have become donors to date and I know many more of you will follow. We have raised over \$2,000,000 as of the 2/3 mark in the campaign which indicates that by the end of our three-year campaign on March 9, 2017 we will likely hit or exceed our goal of \$3,000,000. So thank you!

We BUILD not because we can but because for our God we feel we should.

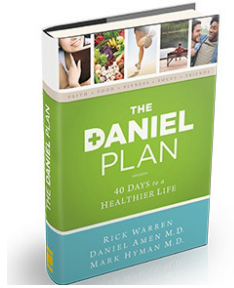
We BUILD because we know that God has great plans for our city and we know, Marion First United Methodist Church is to be at the epicenter of that plan – so glory halleluia, praise the Lord and thank you for your sacrificial generosity!!!!

The Building Committee is currently working with Rinderknecht Builders, Solum-Lang Architects, Hall and Hall Engineering on the design and plans necessary for our new facility. Soon (we hope late Spring) to present the plan to the congregation for final approval.



Feast on Something Bigger Than a Fad

The Daniel Plan: 40 Days to a Healthier Life by Rick Warren, Dr. Daniel Amen, and Dr. Mark Hyman is far more than a diet plan. It is an appetizing approach to achieving a healthy lifestyle where people are encouraged to get healthier together by optimizing the key five essentials of faith, food, fitness, focus, and friends. Unlike thousands of other books on the market, this book is not about a new diet fad, guilt-driven gym sessions, or shame-driven fasts. Nor is it a “do it all now” approach. The Daniel Plan shows you how focusing on the powerful combination of the key essentials can change your life forever...one choice at a time.



The concepts in the study will encourage you to deepen your relationship with God and develop a community of supportive friends who will encourage you to make healthy choices each and every day. The result for you: gradual changes that transform your life inside and out. This class is designed for someone who is **Deepening** on the Discipleship pathway.

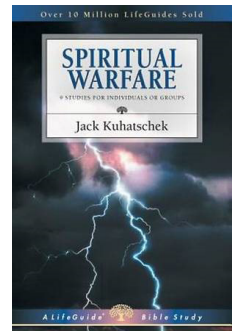
Join us on this journey starting on Sunday April 10th at 1:00PM in room 104. Please let us know if childcare is needed.

To guarantee materials are available for the first day of class please register by April 1st. Material costs are \$20 per family.

If you have any questions please contact Jen Digmann at jdigmann@marionmethodist.org or (319) 377-4856.

Spiritual Warfare

What is spiritual warfare?
How can I recognize it?
In what ways does it affect me? The Bible has much to say about the temptations and struggles you face day by day. These studies will deepen your understanding of spiritual warfare and direct you to God-given sources of power, assurance and hope. This class is designed for someone who is **Deepening** on the Discipleship pathway. Join us for this 9 week study starting on Sunday April 3rd at 9:45AM in room 106.



Hospitality Center

The Connections and Hospitality Team at Marion Methodist welcomes you to use the Hospitality Center. During normal weekday business hours the 8th Avenue (Overhang entrance) church doors are open. The Hospitality Center is located right inside the doors and has a Keurig individual serving hot drink machine and lots of “K-Cups” from which to select. You are invited to come into the church and:

Meet with friends in the hospitality or family room
Pray in the Prayer Room
Use the free WiFi to do your devotions or just have some quiet time

In addition, all of these things are available to you on Sunday afternoons while you wait for your child in bell choir or 19:14 puppets. Take advantage of your church facility as a welcoming place for your friends and family.

School Supplies for Haiti

We are collecting school supplies for children in Haiti. Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office.

Needed Items:

- Pencils
- Pens
- Plastic rulers
- Folders with prongs
- Black dry erase markers
- Clorox wipes

Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

DEATHS:

March 10 - Gary Booth, father of Shannon (Paul) Booth Biberdorf. Grandchildren: Brody and Blythe Biberdorf

March 14 - Lois Young

BIRTHS:

March 11 - Melaney Nicole TeBrink, daughter of Tim & Kristen TeBrink, granddaughter of Brian & Karen Schmitz

BAPTISMS:

March 13 - Charlie Benjamin Limbert, son of Daniel and Alison (Fowler) Limbert

WEDDINGS:

The Marion Methodist newsletter deadline schedule

Articles for our Marion Methodist need to be submitted by due date at 12:00 PM. You may email them to:

jwildman@marionmethodist.org with [newsletter] in the subject line. Please send any information or images as an attachment. If you do not have access to a computer, you may call or bring to the office items to be published. We ask that you honor the deadlines listed below:

Date Arrived in Mail	Date Articles Due
4/8	3/30
4/22	4/13
5/6	4/27
5/20	5/11
6/3	5/25

Church Information

Marion First United Methodist Church
 Corner of 12th Street and 8th Avenue
Church Office
 1298 7th Avenue
 Marion, IA 52302
 Office: (319) 377-4856
 Fax: (319) 377-5392

Caring Corner Daycare
 Office: (319) 377-8490

Kitchen/Fellowship Hall
 Phone: (319) 377-4252

www.marionmethodist.org

Staff

- Lead Pastor, Mike Morgan**
mmorgan@marionmethodist.org
- Pastor of Youth and Mission, Keith Nester**
knester@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Pastoral Care, Vicki Standley**
vstandley@marionmethodist.org
- Church Business Administrator, John Terry**
jterry@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Hospitality and Membership Connections, Karen Schmitz**
kschmitz@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Worship and Technology, Simon Campbell**
scampbell@marionmethodist.org
- Caring Corner Daycare Director, Dawn Blair**
dblair@marionmethodist.org
- Communications Director, Jennie Wildman**
jwildman@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Children Christian Education & Discipleship, Luann Byerly**
lbyerly@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Adult Christian Education & Discipleship, Jen Digmann**
jdigmann@marionmethodist.org
- Director of Music, Jonathan Dyrland**
jdyrland@marionmethodist.org
- Organist/Keyboardist, Diane Beach**
dbeach@marionmethodist.org
- Handbell Choir Director, Mary Lee Parks**
mparks@marionmethodist.org
- Nursery Volunteer Coordinator, Amelia Echols**
aechols@marionmethodist.org
- Custodian, Alan Arduser**
- Maintenance, Leon Smock**
- Assistant/Evening Custodian, Gary Barr**

Pantry Partners for Marion Food Pantry

We help folks in need by supplying items for the Marion Churches Food Pantry. You may bring the following items to church any time during each month. Please put your contributions in one of the grocery carts located in the Narthex or at the 8th Avenue glass doors, or in the Mission Depot in Fellowship Hall dining room or the Church Office.

March: Peanut Butter

April: Macaroni and Cheese

May: Toilet Tissue

June: Soup

July: Macaroni and Cheese and Soup

August: Peanut Butter

March / April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Easter 7:45am Worship (Chapel) 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Sunday School for all ages 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 1:00pm Disciple 1 (Room 105) 1:00pm 19:14 Puppets (Room 350 (former Blacklight Room)) 2:15pm Joyful Noise Handbells (Choir Room) 3:00pm Jubilation Handbells (Handbell Room) 4:00pm Bell Canto Handbells (Handbell Room) 5:00pm Friendship Ministry (Fellowship Hall)	28 8:00am Tax Preparation (Carnegie - Youth) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	29 8:00am Tax Preparation (Carnegie - Youth) 9:00am Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 7:00pm Touch of Brass Handbells (Handbell Room)	30 8:00am Quilters (Room 104) 5:00pm Confirmation (Carnegie - Conference) 5:30pm Powerhouse Meal (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Powerhouse - 3yrs to 5th grade 6:30pm Basic Bible Class (Carnegie - UL) 6:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room) 6:30pm Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World (Room 107) 6:30pm 4:12 Junior High Youth Group (Sanctuary) 7:15pm 4:12 Senior High Youth Group (Sanctuary) 8:00pm AA Support Group (Chapel)	31 6:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Precept Bible Study (Room 107)	1 9:30am Precept Bible Study (Room 107)	2 8:00am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Communion 7:45am Worship (Chapel) 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Sunday School for all ages 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 1:00pm Disciple 1 (Room 105) 1:00pm 19:14 Puppets (Room 350 (former Blacklight Room)) 2:00pm Girl Scouts (Room 104) 2:15pm Joyful Noise Handbells (Choir Room) 3:00pm Jubilation Handbells (Handbell Room) 4:00pm Bell Canto Handbells (Handbell Room) 5:00pm Friendship Ministry (Fellowship Hall)	4 8:00am Tax Preparation (Carnegie - Youth) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	5 8:00am Tax Preparation (Carnegie - Youth) 9:00am Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 7:00pm Touch of Brass Handbells (Handbell Room)	6 8:00am Quilters (Room 104) 9:15am Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00pm Confirmation (Carnegie - Conference) 5:30pm Powerhouse Meal (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Powerhouse - 3yrs to 5th grade 6:30pm 4:12 Junior High Youth Group (Sanctuary) 6:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room) 6:30pm Basic Bible Class (Carnegie - UL) 6:30pm Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World (Room 107) 7:15pm 4:12 Senior High Youth Group (Sanctuary) 8:00pm AA Support Group (Chapel)	7 6:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Precept Bible Study (Room 107) 7:00pm UMW - Bookends (Library)	8 9:30am Precept Bible Study (Room 107) 6:00pm Set-up for VBS Funshop (Fellowship Hall, Room 104, Room 106, Room 105, Room 107)	9 8:00am Vacation Bible School Funshop (Fellowship Hall, Room 105, Room 107, Room 104, Room 106) 1:00pm 500 Card Club (Carnegie - LL)