



# Marion First United Methodist Church

Issue No. 11

May 20, 2016

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

## GOOD NEWS IN A BAD NEWS WORLD: THE MINISTRY OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE



In this day and age, when there is so much negativity on the news, on the internet and in our everyday lives, it's hard not to become cynical and to develop an attitude of "looking out for #1". It becomes an accepted way of life to be self-protective and self-centered, focusing on personal wants and needs thus spending less time and effort attending to the needs of others. As disciples of Christ though, we have a higher calling, to rise above the standards of the world around us, and think less of ourselves as

we tend to the needs of those that Jesus has placed in our care. *"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."* Romans 12:10-13

Jesus exemplified this message of servanthood and caring when he knelt to wash his disciples' feet. (John 13:1-16) On his last night with his disciples, the Lord of the universe humbled himself, put aside his own concerns and cares, and served his friends by washing away the dirt and grime on their feet. In the process, he showed them exactly what he expected of them; to become true servants and continue this work in his name.

Just as the disciples were taught to serve others, we as Christ followers are also meant to reach out and care for those around us. In a world that seems so dark and uncaring, the church is to be that bright spot where people know they are loved and cared for because they are beloved children of God. James A. Harnisch writes in "A Disciple's Path": *"God continues to call the church to be the primary means by which God is at work to transform the kingdoms of this earth into the kingdom of God. To be more specific, God intends for the congregation of which you are a part to be the tangible expression of Christ's presence in your community"*

The work of the Caring Ministry of this church is continuing to grow and

evolve as we now have Marion Methodist Care Ministers who will be coming alongside to visit our members in their homes, in the care centers and in those times of their lives when they need the love and support of the church. Many of them will be reaching out to you when you are in a time of grieving, following the loss of loved one. Or perhaps you may be recuperating following surgery in your home or in a care center. A Marion Methodist Care Minister will be visiting with you, sending cards, perhaps calling or emailing during your recovery to extend the love of Jesus Christ through members of his church.

The Care Ministers have been through classes and training since last September and will continue to expand their understanding of a caring ministry as they serve the people of Marion Methodist. They will join many, many of our members who every day are sending cards, making phone calls, taking meals to one another, and helping out when times are hard. It is not the responsibility of one individual or a group of individuals, but the entire church to reach out and care for each other at all times.

In addition to all the physical ways in which we meet each other's needs, the most important is to be in prayer with and for each other. The strength of a church, of any community of people, is their reliance on prayer to guide and direct their every moment as followers of Jesus Christ. The Marion Methodist Care Ministers have been praying together since the classes began last fall, for concerns that have happened in their lives, but also for the concerns of our church and beyond. In their ministry to you, they will be your companion in prayer, to share those things that are on your hearts and lift them up in prayer. As our entire congregation continues to grow and reach out to each other, our community and beyond, to Haiti and the far reaches of the globe, may we ground everything we do in prayer, with a caring heart and the love of Jesus to guide us in all that we do.

*"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, and humility, gentleness and patience. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."* Colossians 3:12, 14.

Vicki Standley

### Visit Us Online

-  Website - Calendars, Church Info, and More  
[www.marionmethodist.org](http://www.marionmethodist.org)
-  Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/marionmethodistchurch](http://www.facebook.com/marionmethodistchurch)
-  Twitter  
[www.twitter.com/marionmethodist](http://www.twitter.com/marionmethodist)
-  Google+  
[plus.google.com/100713709205136037587](https://plus.google.com/100713709205136037587)
-  YouTube - Sermon Videos  
[www.youtube.com/marionmethodist](http://www.youtube.com/marionmethodist)
-  iTunes Podcast - Sermon Audio  
[itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/marion-methodist/id562893153](https://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](mailto: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

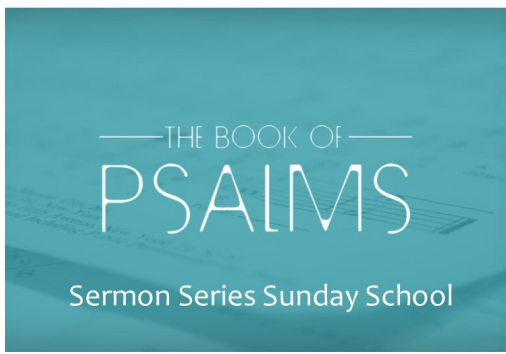
May 22 - Psalm 14 -  
*Godliness in a Godless Generation*

May 29 - Psalm 23 - Home

 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](mailto:info@marionmethodist.org))

LABEL HERE



Sunday School is not just for the kids. Join us for our Sermon Series Sunday School for adults. Each week we will focus on the sermon our Pastors give us as they walk us through the book of Psalms. During these Bible Studies you will find ways to connect on a deeper level, enjoy group discussion, and connect with your fellow church family. Whether you have already heard the sermon at an earlier service or plan to attend later that morning, please join us at 9:45AM in Room 104 on Sunday mornings and dig deeper into the scripture. We know summer is a busy time, but please know the door is always open. Preregistration is not required, so stop in as often as you can.

### Memorial Sunday

The Memorials Committee again this year is continuing a tradition on Memorial Sunday to honor and remember all those who have been welcomed into the Kingdom of Heaven, this year or in years past, as a member or non-member of Marion Methodist. If you have a memorial/tribute candle for your loved one, we would like to display it on Memorial Sunday. Please feel free to drop off or ship the candle to the church office or bring to the sanctuary before the 8:30am service on Sunday May 29th. You can then pick up the candle after the conclusion of the 8:30am service. If you wish, we would even store the candle to be displayed each year. If you have any questions, please contact the church office, 377-4856.



### Marion Methodist is Praying for:

Each week, many prayer cards are filled out and placed in the offering plates, with concerns for members, families and friends, and praises for prayers answered. On Monday those prayer cards are gathered and copies made so that your church staff can be praying for these concerns, and the pastoral staff can be praying and know of upcoming surgeries or procedures. We also have individuals who have committed to pray for the prayer cards and take turns each month of the year to receive them and add them to their prayer time.

There is always a need for more people to be part of this vital prayer ministry. If you would like to take a month to receive the prayer cards, or if you would like to form a prayer team to pray weekly or monthly, please get in touch. Prayer is the foundation of everything we do and all that we are at Marion Methodist. Please contact Vicki Standley at [vstandley@marionmethodist.org](mailto:vstandley@marionmethodist.org) or call the church office to be a part of the prayer ministry. You can also go to our prayer wall at [www.marionmethodist.org](http://www.marionmethodist.org) at any time to submit a prayer for pray for the many prayers listed there.

Please lift up in prayer the FLY Board as they prepare for summer:

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Pastor Keith Nester | Joan Padley     |
| Beth Hilkerbaumer   | Denise Harriman |
| Sue Flater          | Melissa Walker  |
| Carolyn Munson      | Donna Wolmutt   |
| Jill Hansen         | Jan Dickinson   |
| Susan Knight        | Lisa Winkie     |
| Ryan Phillips       | Amy Keating     |

## Seven of John Wesley's Practices Can Change Hearts Today

by Roger Ross

As a priest in the Church of England, John Wesley was distraught by the powerlessness of the church to reach the vast majority of British people. God's spirit created such a holy discontent in Wesley's heart that he abandoned conventional modes of ministry and experimented with several innovative approaches. To everyone's surprise, spiritual revival broke out in England and beyond. If you're like me, you may wonder, "If God could do that then, why not now?"



Seven practices emerged as characteristic of the early Methodist movement. (#6 and 7)

### 6. Give the Ministry to the Laity

A team member who rides the bench and a Christian who sits in a pew share an eerie similarity — they both watch other people play. Christianity was never designed to be a spectator sport. As the early Methodist movement grew rapidly, Wesley soon took his mother's advice and allowed laypersons, both men and women, to oversee classes (small groups) and preach in the society meetings (large groups). When he released the energies of the laity, the ministry multiplied even faster.

### 7. Use Mass Communication to Get the Word Out

In Wesley's day, the mass communication tool was the printing press. Wesley wrote numerous sermons, treatises, tracts, and books that were distributed to a wide audience to fuel the movement. Thousands of people who never heard him speak came to know Christ and grow in Christ through his writings. Of course, today the Internet and social media enable anyone with web access to have a personal platform previously unimaginable.

### Why Not Now?

The genius of the Wesleyan revival is found in the ways he engaged coldly indifferent people and turned them into warm-hearted disciples who changed the world. We can do that, too. We can recover the seven methods of the early Methodist movement that reached the unchurched masses of that day. If we will reshape these practices for a twenty-first century context and retool receptive individuals, groups, and churches to use them, a new wave of the spirit will be released

*Roger Ross is senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Springfield, Illinois. This article is adapted from his book Meet the Goodpeople: Wesley's 7 Ways to Share Faith (Abingdon Press, 2015) and used by permission. The book is available through Amazon or Cokesbury. Used by permission.*

## Shaking Up Summer Sunday School

This summer we will be having a children's church format during the 9:45 service, just like last year. All of our children will attend church with their family and then when it is time for the sermon, volunteers will take them to their classrooms. This will give the children a break from regular Sunday School while still getting the Christian message in an enjoyable way and also provide them with the opportunity to worship with their family. This will start on May 29, Memorial Day weekend and end on September 4, Labor Day weekend.



Parents will sign in their children before church in the hallway next to the restrooms and be given a colored name tag that will help the volunteers to know which rooms to take them.

Our preschoolers, 3 year olds to 5 year olds who have not completed kindergarten, will be taken to room 205 where they will share a Bible Story and then have time for some fun with their church peers. We will even go outside to the playground if it is nice weather.

Our elementary children, those who have completed Kindergarten – 4th grade, will be taken to 3rd floor, rooms 303/305 and the video room. They will have a short video lesson and then do activities such as games or crafts.

All children will be picked up after the service in the appropriate rooms. Of course, our nursery will still be available for preschool children for the full service.

### Can you help?

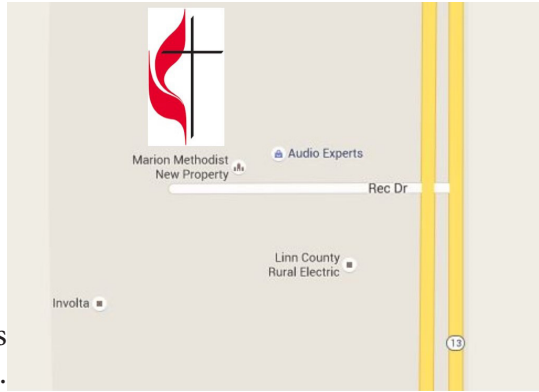
We will need lots of adult and youth volunteers to make this a success. Our regular Sunday School teachers take a well deserved break in the summer. If you would like to help with either the **pre-school or elementary children's church** send me an email a [lbyerly@marionmethodist.org](mailto:lbyerly@marionmethodist.org) or call my cell at 319-360-5033, It is a great way to show your children, grandchildren, or neighbors that you care about their life in the church. Couples can sign up together or perhaps you would like to sign up with an older child. It would be a fun experience.

We need **Nursery** Volunteers. If being with babies and toddlers is more to your liking, please consider volunteering in our nursery. Our nursery coordinator will be on maternity leave for July so we need extra hands. Send an email to [AEchols@marionmethodist.org](mailto:AEchols@marionmethodist.org) or call the church office at 377-4856.

## What's Next?

### More than Just a Building

All of us enjoy watching a project get constructed. Driving by a construction site and watching things change from day to day brings us a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment. We guess at what the building will be and try to predict when the job will be completed. In the case of our new church building, we already know what it will be and we have a sense of when it will be completed. But we now have the opportunity to be involved in understanding all that goes into the planning and construction of our new church.

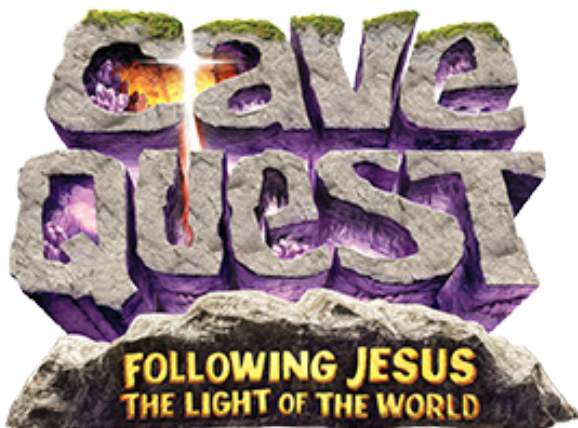


Long before the first load of concrete is poured, the first wall is constructed, or any of the lights are turned on, site infrastructure needs to be addressed. The building will need adequate infrastructure to be in place. This includes water, sewer, power, gas, storm sewer, fiber optic, phone lines, cable, and other services. We are responsible for constructing all of these utilities and extending them across our property to our new building. This makes sense to us as we will be the ones using these utilities. But what about site access? What about access for people and their vehicles? How will we get to the building and what is our financial responsibility?

The roadways and parking lots that will be on our property and utilized by the congregation will, of course, be our responsibility to pay for and construct. But, we also have a further responsibility, as do all developers in the City of Marion, to improve the streets and sidewalks adjacent to our property. In our case, this means REC Drive, 35th Ave. and Highway 13. We will be responsible to improve the north half of REC Drive, the south half of 35th Ave. and our engineer is currently conducting a traffic study to determine if a turning/deceleration lane will be necessary on Highway 13 on the east side of our property. We will also be financially responsible for an 8-foot wide concrete trail on the north side of the property. These are all requirements of the City of Marion and the Iowa Department of Transportation and we have accounted for the cost of all of these improvements in our building budget. We are still uncertain of the timing of these improvements, so our plan is to keep these in our budget until the time we are required to complete the improvements. Keep your eyes open as you drive by our new property and know that there will be a lot of underground work that will take place before the new church starts to take shape.

Matt Wildman, on behalf of the FUMC Building Committee

### Come Hang Out at VBS!



June 13 - 17, 2016  
3 years to 5th Grade  
Marion First United Methodist Church  
1277 8th Avenue, Marion IA 52302

There is an information table in Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am to 11:30 am each Sunday if you have any questions.

Register on our website:  
[www.marionmethodist.org](http://www.marionmethodist.org)  
If you have questions email [vbs@marionmethodist.org](mailto:vbs@marionmethodist.org) or call 319-377-4856

Many Volunteer Opportunities Available.

To volunteer visit our website:  
[www.marionmethodist.org](http://www.marionmethodist.org)

Fill Your Body • Fill Your Heart  
• Fill Your Head

**Powerhouse**  
get connected

Powerhouse will return in the fall.

### Celebrate Andrew Happ!

Marion Methodist member Andrew Happ graduate from the University of Dubuque theological seminary on Saturday, May 14. Further, after graduation Andrew has been appointed to the role of associate pastor at the Center Point United Methodist church beginning July 1.



To add even more excitement to his spring, Andrew will be joined with Amy Gingerich in Christian marriage in June. We are very proud of Andrew and excited for his new life and ministry. He is truly one of our own, and joins the ranks of Marion Methodist members who have risen from our pews to leave our congregation to lead another from the pulpit.

### Change a Child's Story

Thank You Marion Methodist! You are faithfully supporting "CHANGE A CHILD'S STORY".

To date we have received 843 books for pre-school through 3rd Grade, and we only began on April 10!

Eight agencies, aiding low income children have already gratefully received these books.



Now it is time to sign up to READ TO CHILDREN. MARION CARES is going to have summer "READING BUDDIES", from noon to 12:30 pm at Azure Apartments, on Tues. and Thurs. starting on June 7th. They are also making plans for Marion Villages and Squaw Creek Mobile Home Park. Contact Rachel Morris, 319-202-8082 or [Rachel@marioncares.org](mailto:Rachel@marioncares.org). If you can only do one day a week, that is fine too.

"LUNCH & LITERACY" asks, "Do You have 30 minutes this summer to share a meal & read with a child at Hoover School? Wednesdays beginning June 15, for 7 weeks, from 11:45 am - 12:15 pm. (no specific length of commitment required). Contact Ally Huss 319-364-8909 or email her at [ahuss@youngparentsnetwork.org](mailto:ahuss@youngparentsnetwork.org).

Please continue to GIVE BOOKS, GIVE MONEY, and GIVE TIME to "Change a Child's Story". You and the children you serve will both be blest!

### Open House

**60<sup>th</sup>**  
**Anniversary**

Open house for Wes and Evelyn Follensbee's 60th Anniversary, in Fellowship Hall on June 4, 2016 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Come help celebrate this couple.

# Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

## DEATHS:

May 8 - Elaine Andre, wife of Darrel Andre. Family includes Renee (Ron) Valenta, Darin and Jeff Andre

May 9 - Doris Labs, mother of Marty (Kathy) Labs

## BIRTHS:

## BAPTISMS:

May 8 - Atticus Core Chittick, son of Teresa Carman

May 8 - Jace Daniel Hayes, son of Justin and Katie Hayes

## WEDDINGS:

May 7 - Alex Kron and Laura Feldman

# 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](mailto: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
6/3	5/25
6/17	6/8
7/1	6/22
7/15	7/6
7/29	7/20

# 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](http://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.

**May: Toilet Tissue**

**June: Soup**

**July: Macaroni and Cheese and Soup**

**August: Peanut Butter**

**September: Soup**

**October: Toilet Tissue**

May						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 Mission Breakfast 7:45am Worship (Chapel) 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45am Sunday School for all ages 11:00am Worship - Senior Recognition Service (Sanctuary) 1:00pm 19:14 Puppets (Room 350 (former Blacklight Room)) 1:00pm The Daniel Plan (Room 105) 5:00pm Friendship Ministry (Fellowship Hall)	23 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	24 9:00am Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 3:30pm UMW Executive Board (Room 106)	25 8:00am Quilters (Room 104) 6:00pm Confirmation Parents Meeting - Current Class (Chapel) 6:30pm KRP-S Graduation Program (Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary) 6:30pm Confirmation Parents Meeting - 6th Grade Class (Chapel) 6:30pm Choir Practice (Choir Room) 8:00pm AA Support Group (Chapel)	26 6:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm KRP-L Graduation Program (Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary)	27	28 9:00am Baby Shower (Carnegie - LL) 6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal - Tallman/Geick

May/June						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 7:45am Worship (Chapel) 8:30am Worship - Memorial Service (Sanctuary) 9:45am Sunday School for all ages 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 12:00pm Wedding - Ben Tallman & Taylor Geick 1:00pm 19:14 Puppets (Room 350 (former Blacklight Room)) 1:00pm The Daniel Plan (Room 105)	30 Memorial Day - Office Closed 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	31 9:00am Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL)	1 8:00am Quilters (Room 104) 9:15am Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 8:00pm AA Support Group (Chapel)	2 6:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm UMW - Bookends (Library)	3	4 12:00pm Follensbee 60th Anniversary Party - Fellowship Hall