



March 28, 2025

GROWING IN CHRIST TO SERVE THE WORLD COME AND SEE



Have you ever said, “I’ll believe it when I see it”? I know I have—especially when my kids claim their room is clean. Or when someone who’s always late insists they’ll be early. Sometimes, seeing something unexpected is the only way we can believe it’s possible.

That’s exactly what happened on the first Easter morning. Imagine being one of the disciples—seeing the empty tomb with your own eyes. The shock, the questions, the hope. Jesus had told them He would rise again, but seeing it for themselves changed everything.

We won’t get to stand at the tomb like they did, but through the eyewitness testimony of John, Mary Magdalene, and the other disciples, we can see through their eyes. John 20 gives us a glimpse of that moment—an event so unexpected it still transforms lives today.

As we move toward Easter, I invite you to come and see the resurrection with fresh eyes. Picture the scene. Feel the emotions. Ask yourself: If the resurrection is real, what other miracles are possible? Could God really change you? Could new life really begin in your story?

This Easter season, we have several ways to encounter the risen Jesus together:

- **Palm Sunday, April 13** – Wave palm branches as we celebrate Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem. He was welcomed as a king, yet soon arrested as a criminal. We will also have a Camp Breakfast where our youth will raise funds to attend Summer Games.
- **Lenten Moments** – Each weekday during Holy Week, hear video testimonies from members

of our church, sharing what God is doing in their lives. Broadcasting online daily at 7:00 AM at MarionMethodist.org/Watch-Live or on Marion Methodist’s Facebook or YouTube pages.

- **Good Friday Service, April 18 @ 6:30pm** – Join us for a meaningful and immersive Good Friday service. This unique worship experience invites you to engage through music, visuals, scripture readings, and moments of reflection, deepening your understanding of the significance of Good Friday this upcoming Holy Week.
- **Easter Sunday, April 20** – The tomb is empty! Celebrate the greatest truth of our faith at 8:15am or 10:15am. Come and see—Jesus is bringing new life!

The resurrection is more than an event in history—it’s proof of God’s love, forgiveness, and power to transform lives. May you see His love more clearly this Easter, and may that love overflow into the world around you.

In CHRIST,
Pastor James



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Camp Sunday

Sunday, April 13
7:30 AM to 10:30 AM



ENJOY BREAKFAST PREPARED AND SERVED BY THE CONFIRMATION CLASS
FREE WILL DONATION GOES TOWARDS CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS



Online Directory Photos


• The Center •
March 30 & April 6
7:30 to 11:30 AM

Members and friends wishing to be added to the Online Marion Methodist Directory come to have your individual and/or family photos taken during these times



PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13
8:15 AM AND 10:15 AM

HEBREWS PART III: A PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY

Starting Wednesday April 2nd at 6:30PM in Room W10
Register today on the church app or online at www.MarionMethodist.org

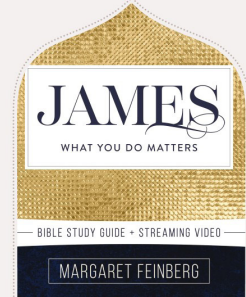
MARION METHODIST GARDEN SPRING GARDENING DAY!

March 31 | 9 AM to Noon



You are needed:
It's spring gardening day!
Drop in anytime between 9 and noon
Everyone is welcome—including kids out of school that day
Help get the garden ready for the growing season
Gloves and snacks will be available

Marion Methodist
More info at: MarionMethodist.org/News/Garden or contact Gwyn Erb at Gwyn.Erb@gmail.com



NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING ON SUNDAY APRIL 6TH AT 9:20 AM IN ROOM W50

REGISTER TODAY ON THE CHURCH APP
OR ONLINE AT
WWW.MARIONMETHODIST.ORG

Joys and Concerns

DEATHS:
March 4: Gage Eggiman, grandson of Jim and Sylvia Grant
April Food Pantry Item - Macaroni & Cheese




Churches of Marion Food Pantry

Monthly Food Drive

**APRIL COLLECTION ITEM BOXED
MACARONI & CHEESE**

Bring collection item to the Mission Depot in The Center

*New collection item each month!


BUILDING CHALLENGE

Give \$4,500 to cover half a month of the extra needed to pay off the mortgage

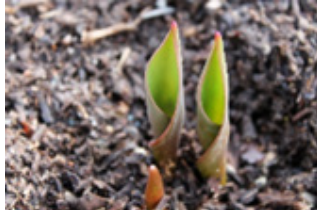
Visit WWW.MARIONMETHODIST.ORG/GIVE and give to the Building Fund

Building Challenge

A challenge has been put out there to pay \$4,500 to pay for 1/2 an extra mortgage payment to pay the mortgage off early. *9 people have already accepted the challenge, will you?* Visit MarionMethodist.org/Give and give to the "Building Fund".

Pastoral Care Message – Wondrous Love

Last week was the official start of spring, however, gardening supplies like seeds, flowerpots and soil have been in the stores for quite a while now. At one local store, the tent has been set up for the garden center, readying the space for all the plants and trees that will soon arrive. I've also been relatively certain that with the warmer weather we've had lately that trees would bud out early and things would start popping out of the ground. Sure enough, I found tulips coming up in one of my flower beds just the other day. Before we know it, we'll be full swing into gardening season once again.



But this is also the season of Lent in the church, a time of reflection, repentance and preparation for the holy celebration of Easter. As I think about this season and all that it encompasses, several familiar, treasured hymns come to mind, one of which declares, *“What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?”* Love is a word we use a lot, we love our families, our friends; love is a concept that has many nuances and applications in our everyday language.



The love which I have for my adult children is without bounds and I've always tried to do whatever I could for each of them as they grew up and then left home to begin their adult lives. My grandchildren are beyond precious to me and again, I would put anything on the line for them, to love and protect them in any way necessary. Yet as much as I love all of them, and how full my heart is with gratitude for each one, my love pales in comparison to the way we're loved and treasured by God.

What wondrous love is this *O my soul, O my soul?* Not only does God provide for our needs, protect us, give us guidance and direction, holding us up in the worst of times and celebrating with us in the best, he's given us a gift far beyond what we deserve or could ever earn. The weeks during Lent followed by Easter Sunday are that magnificent reminder of the *“wondrous love of God”* sung about in the hymn. God loved each and every one of us so much that he *“gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life”* and *“to save the world through him.”* (John 3:16-17)

Jesus was the gift of wondrous love from the Father to his creation, the Son who saves us all from our sins and welcomes us into eternal relationship with him. It wasn't because of anything we did or could do, but God's love personified in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. *“What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul”*. Thank you, God for the season of Lent to reflect on all that Jesus has done for us on the cross, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday.



God's blessings to you,
Vicki

LENTEN MOMENTS

BROADCASTING LIVE AT 7:00 AM
APRIL 14-18

ONLINE AT WWW.MARIONMETHODIST.ORG/WATCH-LIVE,
OR MARION METHODIST'S FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE PAGES.

GOOD FRIDAY

IT IS FINISHED

APRIL 18 AT 6:30 PM
MARION METHODIST SANCTUARY

MARION METHODIST MERCHANDISE SHOP ONLINE



thechurch.shop/shop/marionmethodistchurch/



You Are Invited

X, Y, Zers

(eXtra Years with Zest)
55+ Years

Thursday, April 10 at 5:30PM

“Around the World Flight to End Polio”
Peter Teahen and John Ockenfels

Serving: Soup and Wrap Buffet



5050 REC Drive
Marion, IA 52302

MarionMethodist.org/Events

Please RSVP by Sunday, April 6 to reserve your meal.
Register (\$15) on the Church App.

X, Y, Zers Upcoming Speakers:

May 8 ~ Ashley Grimm with Caring Transitions

June 12 ~ Details coming soon!

July 10 ~ Jamie Henley from Giving Tree Theatre

August 14 ~ Game night ~ Bring a favorite game to share

September 11 ~ Chris Smaby, Cedar Rapids Police Dept.

PATHfinders

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

All kids are welcome on Sundays during the 8:15 or 10:15 AM Service and/or Wednesdays for the 5:45 PM Meal with Activities following at 6:30 PM.

March 30/April 2

David Celebrates
(2 Samuel 6)

Kids can request and be assigned a solo for the song, "Always Remember"

Link is below

<https://youtu.be/kBkQnlnSK9I?si=ooAMGVaMcLj7bhwT>

April 6 & 19

David is kind
(2 Samuel 9)

Sunday, April 13

10:00 AM: Kids in Room 100 will practice the song and be ready to wave Palm Branches at the beginning of the 10:15 AM service. Invite friends and family for the church-wide breakfast and worship.

April 13 & 16

Jesus's Triumphant Entrance
(John 12:12-16)

Wednesday, April 16

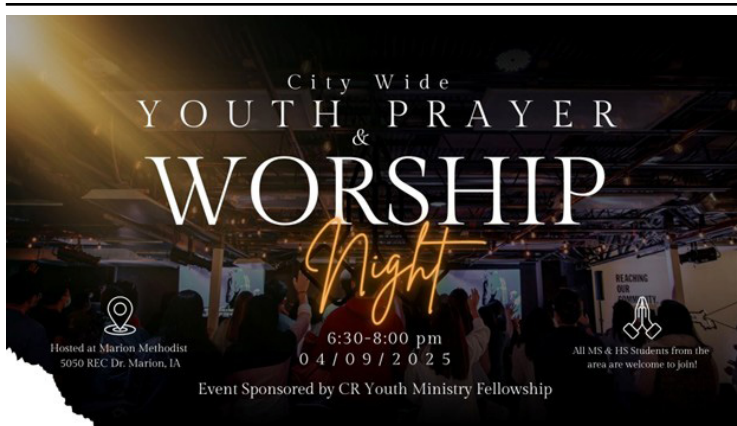
Easter Egg Hunt at the end of Pathfinders

April 20 & 23

Jesus has Victory over Death
(John 19:16-20:18)

April 27 & 30

God Provides for Elijah
(I Kings 17:1-6)



City Wide
YOUTH & PRAYER
&
WORSHIP
Night

Hosted at Marion Methodist
5050 REC Dr. Marion, IA

6:30-8:00 pm
04/09/2025

All MS & HS Students from the area are welcome to join!

Event Sponsored by CR Youth Ministry Fellowship



Marion Methodist

MARION METHODIST MEN
DONATION DRIVE
SUNDAY, MARCH 30
BENEFITING THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION

REQUESTED DONATIONS:

- CANNED SOUPS & STEWS
- CANNED PASTA
- TISSUE (KLEENEX)
- DISH & LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- CONDIMENTS (KETCHUP, MUSTARD, MAYONNAISE)
- BREAD
- CEREAL
- CANNED MEAT
- INSTANT & CANNED POTATOES
- MEN'S TOILETRY ITEMS

FOOD DONATION



Marion Methodist

Join the Marion Methodist Holy Heat
Softball Team

- Tate Cummings field
- Games every Monday night
- May thru August season
- Must be 16+
- Coed league

To get involved contact Cassie Parcher
at cparcher23@gmail.com.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN

SUMMER GAMES UNIVERSITY

JULY 7-11 / 2025

DISCOUNT CODE: MARIONMETHODIST25

4:12

QR CODE

Summer Games is Open for Registrations!

Get ready for the **best, most unforgettable week of your child's summer!** If you have a 6th-12th grader, this is the camp experience they won't want to miss. **Summer Games is packed with fun, friendships, and faith-filled moments** that will leave a lasting impact.

Why Summer Games?

Marion Methodist has been sending students to this incredible camp for years because we believe it plays a powerful role in shaping the spiritual lives of teens and preteens. This is a week of growth, adventure, and life-changing experiences!

Huge Discount Alert!

Marion Methodist is once again making it even easier for your student to attend by covering \$300 of the camp tuition! That means instead of \$449, your cost is just \$149!

Don't Wait—Spots Fill Fast!

If you have any questions, reach out to Gonzo at gsantillan@marionmethodist.org.

Tell a friend, spread the word, and register your child for the best week of the summer!