

MUMC *Message*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2018

Hullabaloo 2018

The annual Hullabaloo event, held on Saturday, September 22nd was a success as usual.

This could not have been possible without the many volunteers who continue to step up year after year. We may have had rain this year, but it didn't dampen our spirits. Due to the weather we were unable to get the petting zoo, but we had several games and activities such as face painting and pumpkin decorating for the children. We also had the annual silent auction, country store with many homemade goodies, a concession area and the meat sales. This year our Hullabaloo Bass Tournament will be held Saturday, November 17th. Please see Jeff Johnston for more information or to get signed up. The event has already financially exceeded prior years, and all profits will go towards the building debt. Thank you to all who took the time to make this event such a success.





Pastor's Pen

Surviving Grief and Loss

"I feel dead inside." These are the words of Federal Circuit Court Judge Joan Lefkow. Known for her strong sentencing of gang members, Lefkow and her family were targeted in a heinous act of retribution that resulted in the deaths of Lefkow's husband and mother. Lefkow herself was away from home at the time and returned to discover the crime. In the months that followed, Lefkow entered into a deep state of depression and guilt. Was it her fault? What if she had been there? Could something have been different? Was this all part of some divine will? Will things ever return to normal?

Over the next many months Lefkow sought out both professional counseling and religious guidance. Some years later, Lefkow remarked that while her life was not the same as it had been, she had begun to experience a powerful sense of resurrection. The love of friends, the solidarity with her daughters, years of counseling, and near constant prayer brought a sense of renewed purpose and self. The tragedy would not serve to end her life.

As a pastor, I am commonly asked several different questions regarding loss and grief:

- Is it God's will?
- What did I do to deserve this?
- Does God give us more than we can handle?
- Why did I survive and (someone) did not?
- Does everything happen for a reason?

These are not easy questions to answer. There are difficult implications to each of them. And to be quite honest, we in the church have not done a particularly good job of answering these questions. We have allowed clichés and platitudes to determine our response. Most worrisome, in place of honest reflection and prayer, we try to find easy answers and quick responses. We struggle to turn to scripture and feel as though we should not raise these questions. How do we find a different path?

Throughout October we will be engaging questions of grief and suffering head-on. Using the Book of Job as our guide, we will look at what it means to suffer loss, to wonder if God is listening, and so see what it means to start life anew. We can never live without loss and grief, but we can seek to better understand how we respond.

October 2018 Sermon Series:

Faith Through Trial: The Journey of Job

October 7 th :	Scripture:	Job 1:1, 2:1-10
	Sermon:	"When Your World Collapses..."
October 14 th :	Scripture:	Job 23:1-9, 16-17
	Sermon:	"When There Is No One Around..."
October 21 st :	Scripture:	Job 38:1-7, 34-41
	Sermon:	"When Reality Shows Its Face..."
October 28 th :	Scripture:	Job 42:1-7, 10-17
	Sermon:	"The Lord Still Reigns Over All!"

Backpack Program

MUMC's local mission project, the Marion School District Backpack Program is in full swing. We had our first distribution Friday, September 21st. We sent 94 backpacks filled with lunch, dinner, and snack items home with the children.

Through generous monetary donations, food donations, and volunteers who work to purchase, take inventory, stock and pack bags, we are able to continue this program helping school children in our district with a bag of food each Friday.

We will continue to have work days on Sundays which will consist of unpacking, sorting, boxing up food and clean up. If you would like to volunteer for a Sunday work day, please email: bvaughn5@comcast.net to sign up. Work dates are as follows:

September 30	December 9	February 3	April 14
October 14	December 23	February 17	April 28
October 28	January 6	March 3	May 12
November 11	January 20	March 17	

Thank you for your support in this very rewarding program, and please continue to assist with this project and ensure it's sustainability this school year as we move forward in the future. This could not be successful without the generosity and loving spirit that this church possesses.

Thank you to ALL.
In His Service,
MUMC Backpack Committee

October Dinner Menu

Oct. 10:	Chili, hotdogs, salad bar, desserts, tea and water
Oct. 17:	Port tenderloin, hashbrown casserole, vegetable, salad bar, desserts, tea and water
Oct. 24:	Chicken parmesan, potatoes, potatoes, Vegetable, salad bar, dessert, tea and Water
Oct. 31:	No Meal

New to Our Church Family



Kyle, Mary-Katherine,
Hollis and Livy Werner

Livy was baptized on
September 23, 2018



William and
Patricia Entrekin

Church Events

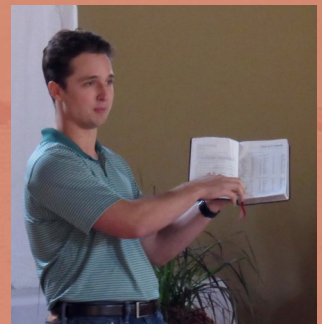
- Reoccurring Events:
- Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 / 6:45 p.m.
The Story of Mark
Led by Pastor Andrew
In the Crossroads Classroom
 - Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24 / WWF / 3:00 p.m.
 - Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 / Wed. Communion / 5:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24 / 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Dinner
NOTE: No Dinner Oct. 31
 - Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24 / Choir Practice / 6:45 p.m.
 - Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 / Bible Study Fellowship / 6:20 p.m.
Education Building / Upstairs
Enter through
-
- Oct. 1 / Martha-Mary Circle Meeting / 6:30 p.m.
For location of meeting, please contact the church office
 - Oct. 5 / Feed the MHS Football Team / Gym
 - Oct. 7 / Finance Meeting / 5:00 p.m.
In the Family Life Center
 - Oct. 9 / Rebecka-Ruth Circle / 7:00 p.m.
For location of meeting, please contact the church office
 - Oct. 12 / Feed the MHS Football Team / Gym
 - Oct. 28 / Trunk or Treat Tailgate / 5:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.

Honoring Youth Director, Tim Parker



The youth of MUMC want to thank Tim Parker for his 11 years of ministry. He was always glad to see each of us walk into the youth building. He made it a safe place to be, where we felt genuinely accepted and always encouraged. And we loved being there! We felt the love of Christ there. We laughed, cried, sang, praised, worked, played, ate, and prayed there. Mr. Tim helped keep us steady in our faith, grounding us in Jesus' love and in His word. He integrated us into the congregation by planning youth worship Sundays. He increased our confidence by pushing us out of our comfort zones: praying, speaking, and singing in front of the congregation, white water rafting, ropes courses, roller coasters, ferris wheels, building, witnessing. Mr. Tim taught us that the world does not revolve around us. We were blessed and lucky, so it was our christian duty to help others who were not so lucky. 100s of teenagers have learned to live lives of service through his mission trips, community service, Thanksgiving deliveries, and Hope for the Holidays. For many of us, Mr. Tim's influence stretches far beyond high school graduation. We remember his lessons and strive to channel his love of Christ, energy, passion, and humor into our studies, activities, jobs, and relationships. There are now countless Crittenden County junior high, high school, college students and young adults who are better people, better Christians because of Tim Parker's ministry. He has been our friend, our counselor, our mentor--and made it all so fun! The youth of MUMC thank Mr. Tim and Ms Stacy for their many hours, days, and years devoted to us. We love both of them and Annalee. We thank them for making us part of their family.

Laura Carpenter



There are only a couple of people who have personally shaped my understanding of what it means to be a leader in the church; Mr. Tim is one of them. When my friend Matt Moore invited me to Youth for the first time, I wanted to see what it was like. What I quickly found out was that Youth was not just another church group, but a family, the kind where you come in and belong. I think we can all agree that this is largely because of Mr. Tim and the love the Parkers have for the kids and for serving. It takes a lot of patience to deal with rowdy high school guys and girls and to organize trips with only the help of a couple of volunteers. It may be even harder to keep all of them included and engaged, but he's always been up to the task. He's even done his best to defend the Gamecocks so he deserves a little compassion too. In all seriousness, Mr. Tim has been a strong leader here. Anybody who has been around this church very long though knows that its not just Tim, but Tim and Stacy, and as is usually the case of a strong woman behind a strong man; Mrs. Stacy is as tough as they come. Together they have worked hard to serve and have made sacrifices along the way to do so.

When I was thinking back on the most important memories I have of Mr. Tim from my time here at Youth, the one that stands out is the Sunday morning that we celebrated our class's graduating seniors. That morning, as he handed each of us a Bible as a gift from the church and said goodbye to us as Youth members, he couldn't hold back his tears. It's one thing to work hard and to be faithful in a job like this, but to love students as your own children is a true sign that you have poured your life into showing the love of Jesus and helping them grow in life and faith. I've heard it said before that people won't always remember the things you say, or the things you do, but they will always remember the way you made them feel. Mr. Tim and Mrs. Stacy will be remembered for making so many young people feel like they matter.

Mr. Tim, I know you will be giving a lot of humble Thank You's today, maybe some tears too, but thank you for a job well done. Thank you both for pouring your hearts and marriage into this ministry and for giving us an example to follow.

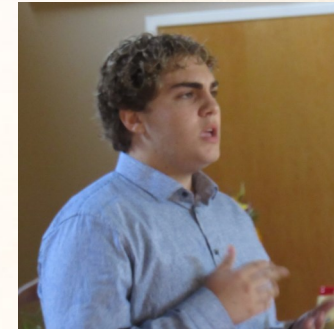
Christian Bloodworth

Mr. Tim has always been a great teacher and role model. He countlessly found ways to grow my faith even when I didn't expect him to. From his basketball stories to scriptures, he knew how to teach you something. I will forever be grateful for having Mr. Tim as my youth minister and will always remember the foundations he set for me as a Christian. I looked forward to youth whether it was a Sunday night or youth trips because I knew that we would be doing something that was greater than us. I will always be able to look back on the many trips we made and be proud of myself for the hard work I put in to try and make a difference. Without Mr. Tim, I do not think that my relationship With Jesus would be nearly as strong as it is. Thank you Mr. Tim for everything you have done for me.

Ben Vaughn

Thanks for your long talks, great mission trips that I will never forget, your constant encouragement, your hard work, and most of all your unending love and support for all your youth. I know this day will be bittersweet for you. We all know how much you loved this job and believe me you have made such a lasting impact on so many. Thank you Mr. Tim

Will Moore



Youth Fall Trip

The youth group had a great trip to Fayetteville. Upon arrival the group ate pizza and attended a devotion led by Tim Parker. They also attended the football game, visited Cross Community Church and had lunch before heading back to Marion.



Children's Ministry & Children's Choir

WWF

So many exciting things are happening with our kids in WWF! Our children sang Sunday, Sept. 16, and have been busy each Wednesday during their rotations of Bible devotionals, craft activities, recreation, and snacks. A heart-felt thank you to our awesome youth volunteers AND our great parents and grandparents who do not even have kiddos within our children's ministry any more who are volunteering and helping!

Don't forget to utilize the recycling bins located in the children's area, narthex or office. Our children help to maintain the bins each week. Recyclable goods: paper, plastic and aluminum.

Exciting upcoming events—we will NOT meet on Wednesday, October 31st, but we hope all families can come participate in our Trunk-or-Treat Tailgate event on Sunday, October 28th.

We could not have a successful WWF program weekly if not for our volunteers! Thank you!

Trunk-or-Treat Tailgate

It's that time again! Our church is looking to revamp our Trunk-or-Treat event by adding a fun Tailgate atmosphere! Not only do we want to have fun trunks and tailgate tents, we want to encourage your participation in three different cooking competitions! Look up your recipes for your best slow-cooked BBQ recipes, appetizers, and desserts. Get ready to be WOWED!

Sunday school classes, womens' circles, families, and individuals are encouraged to compete or set up a tent or trunk to represent your group!

The most hauntingly festive trunks will compete against one another as well.

This is an opportunity for our children to have a safe and secure fun experience, while coming together as a church family to welcome guests.

We will also be offering concessions. Our event will be from 5-7 in the church parking lot! Please see Straley Owen or the office for more information. A sign-up will be available soon!



PDO



Ms. Pam and Ms. Kristie were so excited to see all the new faces at PDO this year. The kiddos are learning about art and how to make snow angels.

Preschool

Ms. Diane Sharpe dropped by for a surprise visit with the preschool on September 16th. She had two alligator snapping turtles for the children to view as they crawled around the floor. Ms. Sharpe gave a little history on the turtles. What an exciting day it was for the 3 and 4 year old preschoolers. After visiting with Ms. Sharpe, our preschool donated the book "Three Little Gators" in honor of



Diane Sharpe and in memory of Bucky Sharpe to the Margaret



Woolfolk Library.



Member Spotlight: Cindy French

How long have you been a member of MUMC? We have visited MUMC when Bro. Wayne and Bro. Wingo were the pastors. When we heard Bro. Tom Letchworth was coming, we started coming to MUMC regularly and never looked back. We joined soon after Bro. Tom arrived. Best decision we have ever made.

Tell us about your family. Tom and I have been married 18 1/2 years. We have a blended family listing oldest to youngest. Leigh and Ronnie Hughes live in Atoka, TN and have a son, Harrison Hughes. Erin McKewen lives in Marion and has two sons, Hudson and Sullivan. Spencer and Cassie Morris live in Marion and have a daughter, Lynlee.

Tell us about your job. I am the owner of Scooples Jewelry. It started as a hobby but quickly became a business where I design and make jewelry. Tom is retired from Glaxo Smith Kline where he was the production manager for consumer care products. He now helps with my business and runs shuttle for our grand kids. He also volunteers with the WINGS program at the West Cancer Center..

What are your hobbies? Our hobbies would have to be spending time with our kids and grandkids having many meals, swimming and just hanging out. Tom is a duck hunter and a fly fisherman. I love working with my flowers, pool time and entertaining.

What are you involved in at MUMC? We have been on many trips with the youth over the years as extra chaperones to help Tim and Stacy Parker. The trips have been such a blessing to us. One of my favorite events is our Hope for the Holidays where the church comes together to reach out to our community. We are very involved and love every minute of it. We help with Hullabaloo and the Backpack program. The preparing and serving of Communion for our church is such an honor to both of us. Starting in 2019, I look forward to serving on the SPRC committee.



What is your favorite thing about our church? I love our pastor, his leadership and vision for our church. I am excited to see what is in store for our church in the future. I love how the members come together for all that we are involved in!! Hope for the Holidays, Backpack program, Turkey Dinner, Hullabaloo, Joyful Noise, our children's programs, Bible studies, the choir and praise team. Pretty much everything! Last but not least our church staff and what they do behind the scenes. Thank you to all of you!!

What is your favorite Bible verse? Philippians 4:6-7
Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

What is your favorite worship song? My Redeemer Lives and Ancient Words.

September Birthdays

10/2	Robert Allison Payne Bius Shannon Busby Kathy Fowler Cathy Horton	10/10	Colby Ramsey Fred Wesberry	10/15	Morgan Sain	10/25	Austin Rawls
10/3	Misty Kennedy	10/11	Karsen McCuiston Sandy Webb	10/16	Will Boon Witt Kennedy Jessica Shidler Croom	10/26	Rich Busby Katherine Carpenter Alex Webb Joel Hollis Werner
10/4	Iris Bird	10/12	Paul Allen Ginger Gibbs	10/18	Nicholas Beaman	10/27	Julie O'Quinn Blake Owen
10/5	Gail Harlow	10/13	Michael Charlton Wally Fowler	10/19	Billy McNeely	10/28	Linda Cosgrove Don Hanks Chloe Harrison Lake Laughter
10/7	Rachel Benson Averie Ward	10/14	Conner Allison Cooper Allison Erica Archer East Thomas Gerrard Mandy Hinze	10/21	Drew Landry Elizabeth Williams	10/29	Emma Kjorlaug
10/8	Jack Sain Ramer Sutton Debi Williams			10/22	Krisiti Doyle	10/30	Lynn Murray
				10/23	Shelbi Cole		
				10/24	Shelley Griffiee		

October Ushers

Ted Archer	Matt Hale
Denny East	Jeff Masengale
Frank Fogleman	Wayne Nelson

October Greeters

Seekers and Servers Sunday School Class

October Altar Flower Calendar

10/7	Bart & Donna Turner
10/14	OPEN
10/21	Sue Bonds
10/28	Butch & Sarah Higginbotham

Prayer List

Ernest Archer, May Ferguson, Mason Fowler, Dee Helton, Ashley Jenkins, Gary Kelley, John Traugh, Sam Watts & Tim Williamson.

VISION STATEMENT

*A church on fire for Jesus Christ,
setting the world on fire for
Jesus Christ.*

MISSION STATEMENT

Being disciples; Making disciples.

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 a.m.	Prayer Service
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
10:45 a.m.	Worship Service

WEDNESDAY EVENING

5:30 p.m.	Communion Service
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Marion United Methodist Church

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Marcia Sutton
Pianist

Debbie Wallace
Organist

