2020 Prayer **Eternal God, pour your Holy** Spirit upon Marion United Methodist Church, the Marion community, and its people. Help us to see where you are leading. Help us to share in your vision for our congregation and community. Help us to be part of the making of disciples. Lead us in being your hands and feet in our community. In the name of Jesus, the holy one of God, we pray. Amen.



Pastor's Pen Lighter Than Reality

One of the few unbroken things in my life from before Covid-19 is my love and appreciation for Professional Wrestling. A few times a year a few friends come over and we watch some of the big shows, WrestleMania, Summer Slam, and others. It is generally a good time and a great way to just relax and have some fun. While we have not had the same gatherings due to the pandemic, I keep watching and enjoying the athleticism and the storylines. And yes, before any of you rush to tell me, I know it is fake.

My love of wrestling has begun to extend to my children and David has watched shows with me and has even developed his own favorite wrestlers and characters. There is the occasional wrestling match in our home, which mostly consists of me tossing my children onto one of their beds with them endeavoring to tackle me as well. When we go to the pool, however, things change. While in the water, David can pick me up and push me under water. This is something that is not possible normally, but due to the buoyance of the water, David has an increase of strength, making bigger things possible.

In some respects, I feel like the Holy Spirit serves as our buoyancy. There are many times that the difficulties of life and the constant strain of day to day activities can be overwhelming. Yet God promises to share the burden with us and to help us, providing an advocate. The Holy Spirit is that important presence and it eases the burden. It makes it lighter, easier to bear. This does not mean the burden is removed. Nor does it mean that there is never any weight upon us. Rather, the Holy Spirit serves are our companion, helping to share and lighten the load. In doing so, things we thought were impossible or improbable become possible.

Trust in the Spirit, my friends. It can help lighten the load as we continue in this time of diaspora and distance. Know that you are in my prayers, and I hope I am in yours.

Sermon Series for August

Stories of Faith: Bible Stories in Times of Doubt

Aug. 2:

"The Fiery Furnace" Sermon: "Can you stand the heat?" Daniel 3 (selections)

Aug. 9:

"The Lion's Den" Sermon: "Alone with the Animals" Daniel 6:10-24

Aug. 16:

"The City on the Hill" Sermon: "Something's Coming..." Jonah 3

Aug. 23:

"The Storm on the Sea" Sermon: "Sit Down! You're Rockin' the Boat" Matthew 8:23-27

Aug. 30:

"The Garden of Gethsemane" Sermon: "Please Don't Make Me Do It" Mark 14:32-42

Andrew

Happy Birthday

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		Hardley Gill		Joshua Coopwood
		Laura Johnston	1	Jane McNeely
		Patrick Robbins		Christine Preslar
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		Rick Gill	8/18	Bren Sutton
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	8/13	Marci Altemus	8/27	Emily Letner
		Eric Chrisman	0,	Linny Letiter
	and	Matt Hale	8/28	Max Chrisman
-		Amanda Harlow	0/20	Widx Christian
		Jane Ashley Stuckey	8/29	Carol Johnston
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12	8/14	Ethan Hinze		Connie Marrs
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			8/30	Adam Cole
		Cynthia Trimbell		Abbigale Simmons
				Patrick Simmons
	8/15	Charles Horton		
BE	then a		8/31	Sarah Higginbothan
	8/16	Rex Rogers		Avery Gill
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Memorials for Wilkes D. East

John & Char Griffee John & Lisa Heath Todd & Lynn Allen Frank & Gail Fogleman Frank & Debbie Wallace Roger & Rita Gilmore Jack & Lynda Avery **Rebecca Ruth Circle** Bart Turner Lannie & Holly Lancaster Dr. Jim & Carol Johnston David & Frances Wallace **Cindy Gunther** Ann Babcock Senator Keith Ingram Kent Ingram Julianne Portis Phyllis W. Thorpe Lynn & Paul Pirani **Mid-South Sales** Cecil & Kathy Alexander Judge John & Nancy Fogleman Scott & Ann Carpenter Nick & Beth Sutton Ted & Beth Rice Alica Maxine Whavne Lee Truck Broker, Inc. Marilyn Allen Syndi Landry Sam & Jane Lauderdale Scott & Terri Seller Alex & Joann Lieblong Allen & Laura Helmes Mike & Melissa Graham Mike & Brenda Catlett Jerry & Gloria Buckaloo Don & Judy Shepherd Mike & Anita McCarty Bob & Sharon Lane Mark & Susan Baioni William B. Benton, Sr. Mark & Alisa Criner Greg & Stephanie Fair Christopher & Rebecca Long Tommy & Ann Holcomb Tommy & Marcia Malone Mr. & Mrs. Murray Benton, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Bill Benton, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. David L. Rains. Ir. Mr. & Mrs. Leven Williams The Hollywood Club (Max & Kara Clegg) Red Apple Inn and Country Club Henry Clay Bradford, III & Family Hatchie Coon Hunting & Fishing Club Jackie & Jane Fires & The Entire Fires Family

Member Spotlight: Abbigale Simmons

How long have you been a member of MUMC?

I started attending MUMC in 2012 when my family moved to Marion from Helena. We formally joined the church in 2014. I have currently been going through confirmation with Pastor Andrew this past year during WWF.

Tell us about your family.

My parents are Amy & Patrick Simmons. My mom is a librarian at MJHS and my dad is in Chemical Sales for Helena Chemical. I am an only child unless you count our dog Oakley (14) and our cat Bailey Bug (2). I am pretty sure that Oakley is my mom's favorite child.

Tell us about you.

Hi, my name is Abbigale Marie Simmons. I just finished the 6th grade at Herbert Carter Global Community. I am looking forward to 7th grade at MJHS.

What are your hobbies?

My favorite thing to do is play volleyball. I love to hit the volleyball against the outside of our house. So far I have only broken one window. I have been playing for Mid-South Volleyball the last 3 years but I recently made the team for MJHS. I will be playing for the school team in the fall. I am also running Cross Country.

What are you involved in at MUMC?

I have been attending WWF since Kindergarten. I have participated in VBS and many of the summer camps they have offered over the years. I have also been a faithful member of the Children's Choir and Acolyte frequently.

What is your favorite thing about our church?

One of my favorite things about church is watching the preschool kids sing and the praise band. I also enjoy hearing the church bells play throughout the day. My house is close enough to church that we can hear the bells chime during the day when I am outside.

What is your favorite Bible Verse?

My favorite bible verse is Isaiah 40:29, He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.







What is your favorite Worship Song?

One of my favorite christian singers is Riley Clemons. I love her song Fighting for Me. I was able to attend Winter Jam this past year and hear her preform, I loved every minute of it. I also like Crowder and his song Red Letters.

Prayer List

Cheryl Allen **Bill Barnett Brittany Bius** Vince Callahan Scott Carpenter Marty Catt Patsy Catt **Riley Clark** Mason Fowler Leigh Garrett Brenda Hale-Armstrong **Debbie Hale** Pat Jacobs Leonard Kramer Wayne Marconi **Roy Miller** Jeff Page James Sample Lynn Stanfield Mart Thaxton Martha Ann Weaver **Jane Williamson Tim Williamson** All Hospital Personnel Teachers, Staff and Students First Responders (Covid19 Pandemic) Nursing Home Residents & Staff

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. Drive-In Worship Service

10: 45 a.m. Online Worship Service YouTube and FB



Marion United Methodist Church



Marion UMC

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