

February | 2022

A monthly newsletter of Marion United Methodist Church encouraging faith, love, and action.



## Pastor's Pen

You may have heard about all of the "one anothers" in the Bible. There are supposedly 59 "one another" verses in the Scriptures. I haven't counted. A quick survey, though, yields phrases like "love one another," "honor one another," "accept one another," "teach one another," "serve one another," "forgive one another," "encourage one another." These are all phrases having to do with communal life.

I think such "one another" language is increasingly important in our society. We live in a culture that places a high value on concepts like independence and autonomy. Our thinking is more and more dominated by "me" and "I" thoughts and opinions. I don't know that we can really change that, but we can, at least, hold it in balance with what the Bible says. If we're going to do that, however, we have to adjust *how* we read the Bible.

You see, there's a problem when it comes to translating the Bible into modern English. We have no way of expressing the plural "you." (Okay ... in the south we have "y'all" but I can't see Bible translators using that any time soon). The King James Version had the advantage of using Thee/Thou/Thy/Thine for singular and Ye/You/Your/Yours for the plural. Modern English, however, has no such distinction.

As a result, when we read the Bible, we typically read all those "yous" as singular and think God is addressing us with personal individual instructions. Certainly our individual practices are important, but they are incomplete.

The Bible always assumes a communal context. We are designed to live in relationship with one another. We are supposed to consider one another.

If you think about the spiritual life in "one another" terms the whole thing becomes apparent. We are not self-sufficient creatures. Left to ourselves we grow weak. Left to our own opinions we get led astray. But if we are going to live in community we have to listen to one another and we can borrow strength from one another. So get out there and get to "one anothering" one another.





## Giving

Total financial gifts through January 23rd

**Budget (General)**  
\$29,861.50

**Cap. Improvement**  
\$17,497.00

**Children's Ministry**  
\$100.00

**Discretionary Fund**  
\$56.00

**Memorials**  
\$1,175.00

**Misc. Fund**  
\$3,450.00

Thank you for your generous support for the ministries of our church.

### *In Loving Memory of Joe Catt*

Tommie Stockley

### *In Loving Memory of James Sample*

Tommie Stockley

### *In Loving Memory of MaryAnn Scifres*

Rita & Roger Gilmore  
Sarah & John Traugh  
Brenda & Rod Alexander  
Frances & Allen King  
Vesta & Billy McNeely  
Marcia & Steve Sutton  
Caryl & G.W. Sorrells

Bart Turner  
Richard Howard  
Tommie Stockley  
Becky & Dentie Doyle  
Shannon Busby  
James G. Shannon  
Francis & David Wallace

### *In Loving Memory of Jane Williamson*

Baylus & Denny East  
Diane & Denny Barrett  
Judy & Dan Shepherd  
Sarah & John Traugh  
Brenda & Rod Alexander  
Frances & Allen King  
Rita & Roger Gilmore

Bart Turner  
Ann M. Morse  
Tommie Stockley  
Judy Crockrill  
Marcia & Steve Sutton  
Betty & Bob East  
Francis & David Wallace

## Serving in Worship This Month

### USHERS

Steve Ford	Luke Kennedy
Matt Hale	Danny Moore
Garrison Hardke	Wayne Nelson

### ACOLYTES

6th	Clayton McCollum
	Mollie Owen
12th	Lake Laughter
	Jackson Rawls
20th	Davis Fowler
	Addie Clair Schwartz
27th	Hadley Gill
	Katie Wynn Entrekin

### HOW MAY WE PRAY WITH YOU?

Submit your prayer  
request by texting  
"MUMCPRAYS"  
to 77411



**Sundays  
1-3 pm**

Please join us as we  
learn and play  
Pickleball.

Paddles and balls  
provided



## LOVING ONE ANOTHER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

RACHAEL VAUGHN

### How long have you been a member of MUMC?

Since 2012. Brother Tom Letchworth baptized our son, James Adland, in May of 2013.

### Tell us about your family.

My husband is Jeff Vaughn, and we have been married since June 13, 2008. He works for Nucor Business Technology. He is my rock, and he is an amazing father. (He is also a HUGE Alabama fan, bless his heart!) Our son, James Adland, is a high school senior at West Memphis Christian School. James is a gift. We are so proud of him. He will attend ASU in the fall, majoring in Digital Technology and Design. We also have a precious little dog, Kaiser.

### Tell us about your job.

I am a child welfare attorney, and I practice in nine counties. It is both a challenging and rewarding area of law. Until a few years ago, child welfare was not an area I aspired to practice in, but I have come to see this area of the law as my personal calling. I have also come to love and respect the army of people who work in this field who also see it as a personal calling. The needs of the families we work with are so overwhelming, I often see them as "the least of these" because there is so much brokenness and vulnerability. But we are grateful for each child, each parent, each family, that we can help.

### What are your hobbies

I write books. I have self-published four faith-based legal thrillers, and I am working on a fifth book. I have like five fans!!! LOL! I enjoy walking and playing ball with our dog, Kaiser. I enjoy playing piano. I love to travel, but the pandemic has put a lot of trips on hold. Hopefully that will change soon.

### What are you involved in at MUMC?

My family and I just try to help wherever we can. I have rotated as a Sunday School teacher for several years in Friends and Fellowship. Our Sunday School class has been active with 8th Street Mission and other local ministries, and we enjoy participating in all of those activities. I always help out with Hullabaloo. We volunteer in the Backpack Program occasionally. I have served on some committees at church.

### What is your favorite thing about our church?

I LOVE the people of this church. I LOVE the hearts they have for serving our community. I LOVE the genuine way they love God and love others. You know, it is always easier to judge than to care. That is human nature. But Marion UMC is full of people who choose to love first. I am incredibly grateful for our church family.

### What is your favorite Bible Verse? Micah 6:8b

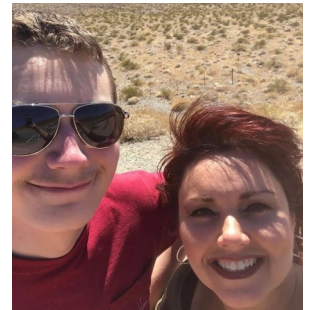
"And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly[a] with your God."

### What is your favorite worship song? "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" by Chris Tomlin

I cannot say enough about God's amazing love, mercy and grace.

I truly want every human being to experience God the way I have.



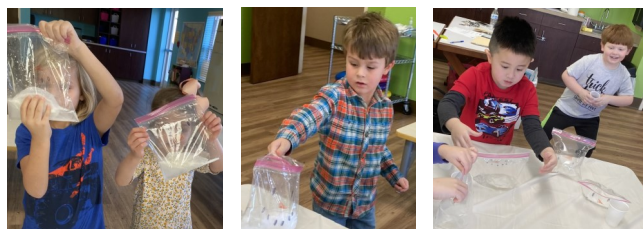
## Happy Birthday

(1) Foster Hart, Cori McCleskey, Max Stover (2) Sheryl Benson, Buster Benton, Reed Elizabeth Rikard, Wayne Tabor (3) Olivia Bailey (4) William Carter (6) David Fogleman, Patrick O'Sullivan (7) Jerri Crase (8) Debbie Wallace, Mason Shidler, Amelia Phillips (9) Lynlee Morris, Talyn Pirani, Jordan Tabor (11) Natalie Collard (13) James G Hart II, Jon Johnston (14) Connor McFarland (15) Wesley Elizabeth Coe, Brad Jonas (16) Whit Collard, Michael East (17) Dorothy Sample (18) Kim Bellis, Slade Inman (21) Dale Henderson (23) Frank Wallace (25) John Heath, Brenda Williams (25) Frances King, Stephen Knych, Wesley Price (28) Katie Gray, Billie Williams

# PRESCHOOL

MUMC preschool will begin accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year February 15th. To enroll in the 3K program a child must be three by August 1st and to enroll in the 4K program a child should be four by the same date.

Applications will be available in the church office, the preschool area, and on the church website.



During the cold cold weather, preschool had fun learning what happens when you mix baking soda and vinegar..... You get an exploding snowman!!



**Rev. Dr. William Cato, Pastor**  
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**Cyndi James, Business Administrator**  
cjames@marion-umc.com

**Sheila Henderson, Administrative Assistant**  
marionunitedmethodist@gmail.com

**Kolby Jones, Director of Student Ministries**  
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**Blake Owen, Director of Music Ministries**  
bwowen@marion-umc.com

**Gary Wehrum, Director of Recreation**  
gwehrum@gmail.com

**Straley Owen, Director of Children's Ministries**  
sowen@marion-umc.com

**Michelle Schwartz, Co-Director of Children's Ministries**

**Teresa Gardner, Preschool Director/Teacher**  
preschool@marion-umc.com

**Tori Fraley, Preschool Teacher**

**Pam Scarbrough, PDO Director/Teacher**

**Kristi Stotts, PDO Director/Teacher**

**Debbie Wallace, Organist**

**Marcia Sutton, Pianist**

## Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday (9:00-3:00); Friday (9:00-12:00)

# Let's munch

## Wednesday Night Dinners

6:00 p.m.

### Feb. 2nd

Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls and dessert

### Feb. 9th

Pork chops, white beans, cornbread, greens, carrots and dessert

### Feb. 16th

Pasta bar, choice of meat sauce or alfredo sauce meatballs or chicken, salad, bread and dessert

### Feb. 23rd

King ranch chicken, chips/salsa, Mexican salad and dessert