

May | 2022

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

# hands heart & feet



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 **MUMC**  
Marion United Methodist Church

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNION AND DINNER

Our last Wednesday Night Communion and Dinner for summer break will be on May 4th.

We will resume once school starts back in session.

The menu for May 4th is:

Pulled pork, beans, slaw, potato salad, fries and dessert.

Please join us for Senior Sunday on May 22nd at 10:45 am

## GRADUATES

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on reaching your goal at this point in your life. There are so many more goals and opportunities ahead, and faith, determination, and skill will take you far. Whether or not you plan to go on to pursue more formal education, just remember that life never stops teaching.

Your formal education so far has equipped you with lots of knowledge and theories and skills that are vital to your success in the world. But life is not lived in theory. Life is lived with purpose.

Whatever your career or station in life, your purpose is to always be a follower of Jesus Christ. Jesus summed up what is most

“Let the love of God always be your guide. Love will never fail. Love is the one thing you can always be proud of.”

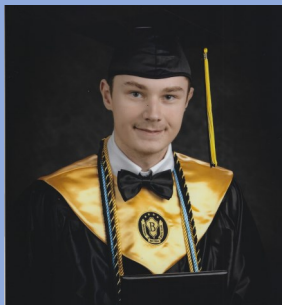
important in life in this way: “Love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy, and .. Love others as well as you love yourself” (Mark 12:30-31, *The Message*). Love reminds us that life is about more than just self. Love leads us to live for a bigger purpose that is beyond our own self concern. So, let the love of God always be your guide and you’ll never go wrong. Love will never fail. Love is the one thing you can always be proud of.

Do not be afraid of the best that is in you. All that you are is a gift of God and it is meant to be shared with the world. A life lived in love with and for others will never disappoint.

Blessings to you!

Pastor Bill

### James Curtis Adland



**Parents:** Rachael and Jeff Vaughn

**High School:** West Memphis Christian School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta

**Plans after graduation?** James plans to attend ASU to major in Digital Technology and Design

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Hullabaloo is always fun.

**What are your summer plans?** Get a job

**What is your favorite snack food?** Popcorn

**What is your dream vacation?** A trip to Nepal

**What career do you feel called to?** Computer Technology

### Elliot Dean Allen

**Parents:** Scotta and Paul Allen

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Interact, Mu Alpha Theta, work full time at Shake Shack

**Plans after graduation?** Elliot plans to attend Hendrix College

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Youth trip to Canada

**What are your summer plans?** Trips to the beach with friends, 4th of July in NYC and work

**What is your favorite snack food?** Popcorn

**What is your dream vacation?** My dream vacation was Hawaii and we went during Spring Break! Now, I want to go somewhere in Europe

**What career do you feel called to?** I feel like I will end up in software engineering, but I’m also interest in philosophy and psychology.



### Donovan Michael Doyle

**Parents:** Kristi and Brian Doyle

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?**

National Honor Society, MUMC Youth Group and Soccer

**Plans after graduation?** Attending A-State in Jonesboro and studying to get a degree in biological sciences

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Every year shopping for the kids’ presents for Hope For The Holidays.

**What are your summer plans?** Working and getting to go back to Scotland and Ireland for my senior trip.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Doritos

**What is your dream vacation?** Ireland

**What career do you feel called to?** Something that involves science and/or animals.



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## Pastor's Pen

May is certainly a month of celebration for our church and our community. We celebrate mothers and mother figures, confirmands making their first public profession of faith, graduates, and we observe our national Memorial Day. Also, don't tell the kids but the end of school is just around the corner. And that means we are also entering vacation season.

Much of our celebration and observance will center around family and friends. As we gather around our bbq grills and ice chests, let's remember to take a beat and give thanks for those who mean so much to us and enrich our lives by their presence.

I'm reminded of how Jesus told his disciples, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). What a marvelous and powerful relational image that is! Jesus reminds us



that our lives are intertwined with his and that it is his grace that flows through our lives, nourishing us and causing growth. The same image applies to our human relationships as well. We are grafted to one another in mutual relationships of love and support.

Several years ago, the pasta sauce company Prego released a series of heartstring tugging commercials with an overly-sweet invitation to "bring something nice to the table ... your family." In the original version, the tagline was followed by still shots of beautifully perfect children.

The revised ad was a bit more real. The photos were swapped out for a video of a toddler seated in a high chair blissfully slurping down pasta, then dumping the bowl on his head.

In the third variation, Prego finally got it right. The invitation to bring your family to the table was followed by a mad free-for-all. Siblings, parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts are all gathered at a long table, shouting for pasta and salad as bread flies through the air. Some of the food even manages to make it onto the plates! It's a wild, chaotic scene and completely believable.

Relationships don't always look picture perfect and photograph ready.

Relationships are messy and untameable things. And don't you just love it!

The thing that keeps us together doesn't come in a jar. Life isn't really about the quest for the perfectly cooked burger from the grill. What keeps family and friends coming back to the table time and again is love. One beloved hymn of the church puts it so well:

*Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above*

*We share our mutual woes;  
Our mutual burdens bear.  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.*

"Remain in me," Jesus tells us, "and you will bear much fruit." This is the season for enjoying the rich, ripe fruit of our relational ties. But it is also the season for planting and rooting new relationships in anticipation of the next round of fruitfulness. How are you growing and thriving in this season? In this month of celebration, remember to keep nourishing those relationships that give you life.



## Happy Birthday

**5/1** Kristin Bolten, Robin Phillips, Ben Sutton, James Williams **5/2** Isabella Harlow **5/4** Davis Fowler, Will Moore, Landon Miller **5/5** Trey Robbins **5/8** Steven Bius, Mike Walker **5/9** Brittany Carey, Julia Hale **5/10** Jan Webb **5/11** Caroline Johnston, Erin McKewen, Jett Sutton **5/12** Hanna Betts, Dawn Brenner, Harris Hale, Syndi Landry, Dawson Whittington **5/13** Dennis Burns, Farrah McFarland, Nick Sutton **5/14** Lance Scarbrough **5/15** AbiGail Harlow **5/19** Jennifer Fogleman **5/21** Piper McFarland, Woody Trimbelle, Frances Wallace **5/22** Olivia Brick, Joseph Laughter, Amy Peyton **5/23** Claire Catt, Cross Fogleman, Mason Hardke **5/24** Luke Kennedy, Jack Phillips, Abbie Rawls, Amy Simmons **5/26** Abby Hale, Jack Lane, Cheryl Robbins **5/28** Landon Scarbrough **5/29** Janice Bellis, Ella Kennedy, Orlando Rosado **5/30** Sam Gerrard **5/31** Maddie Maranto, Rieves Wallace





## Giving

### Total financial gifts for April

<b>Budget (General)</b> \$44,081.34	<b>Cap. Improvement</b> \$9,327.00
<b>Children's Ministry</b> \$120.00	<b>Joyful Noise</b> \$250.00
<b>Memorials</b> \$500.00	<b>Misc. Fund</b> \$7,904.00
<b>Missions</b> \$1,379.00	<b>Youth</b> \$100.00
<b>UMCOR</b> \$620.00	

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

### Serving in Worship This Month

#### USHERS

David Brick	Tony Gardner
Donovan Doyle	Jeff Schwartz
Denny East	Jeff Vaughn

#### ACOLYTES

1st	Hadley Gill
	Addie Claire Schwartz
8th	Mason Hardke
	Clayton McCollum
15th	Troy Cole
	Davis Fowler
22nd	Katie Wynn Entrekin
	Lexi Claire Laughter
29th	AJ Knych
	Colin Knych

## Senior Spotlight Con't.

### Anna Caroline Fesmire

**Parents:** Robin and Lee Fesmire  
**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** I was a part of the Marion High School Volleyball team, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Art Club and Delta Beta Sigma.

**Plans after graduation?** I will be attending the University of Central Missouri and will be majoring in Aviation.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** My favorite memories from MUMC come from Hope for the Holidays. I have always loved shopping for the families, packing the boxes during youth and getting to deliver the gifts with my family every year.

**What are your summer plans?** I will be continuing my flight lessons, going to the lake with my friends and family, and I will be going to Mexico for my senior trip.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Red Doritos

**What is your dream vacation?** My dream vacation is going to Bora Bora and staying in one of the overwater bungalows.

**What career do you feel called to?** I have fallen in love with flying, so I feel called to pursue a career in Aviation and become a Commercial Pilot.



### Benjamin Gerrard

**Parents:** Mary Alice Gerrard and Thomas Gerrard

**High School:** Ben is graduating from Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?**

Football and baseball

**Plans after graduation?** Ben plans to attend college at the University of Arkansas.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Youth trip to Gatlinburg.

**What are your summer plans?** Spend time with friends.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Pork rinds.

**What is your dream vacation?** A trip to Cabo San Lucas

**What career do you feel called to?** Finance



### Harris Hale

**Parents:** Dickie Hale and Jay Hale

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and tennis

**Plans after graduation?** Get my basics at ASU Mid-South then transfer to Memphis.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** The youth trip when we went to Canada and Veritas!

**What are your summer plans?** They will mostly be spent hanging out at my grandma's pool and working.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Any sour candy and dots pretzels.

**What is your dream vacation?** Italy or Amsterdam

**What career do you feel called to?** Cosmetology

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## Sunrise Service

Our sunrise service was moved from the Crittenden Memorial Park to our sanctuary due to the weather. Afterwards everyone enjoyed a full breakfast prepared by our Men's Group: Rich Busby, Tony Gardner, Danny Moore, Bartt Vaughn and Blake Vaughn.



## Easter Service

Christ is risen! And the Church is alive! Over 500 people gathered for worship at our 10:45 am service. Our total attendance for the day was 545. Thanks to all (sound techs, singers, musicians, ushers and acolytes as well as our church staff) who made this incredible day happen.





## YOUTH MINISTRIES

We are headed into our final month of the backpack program for this school year. Thank you to our youth for packing 150 bags for our backpack program. Over the summer months, the backpack program will continue to assist families in need.



Our youth had a great time testing the new griddle oven as they prepared a full breakfast menu for our Wednesday Night Dinner on April 20th. Thank you to all those who participated and those who came out and supported our youth!!



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Although the weather did not cooperate, it didn't put a damper on the excitement as our little ones hunted eggs throughout the church. It was so amazing to see so many children participating at our egg hunt! Thank you so much to our youth members who came to help make this event a success!



Our VBS party is rolling in June 12th,-16th. From 5:00-7:30 pm, we will learn how God provides for us through lessons, games, science experiments, songs and crafts. Please register online to volunteer or to attend at <https://marion-united-methodist-church.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



WWF:

Straley Owen and Michelle Swartz come up with some fun ways to teach our children about God.

Sometimes the Armor of God helps us demonstrate our faith! ...

And sometimes that armor helps us have faith we can defeat the other team in a relay race!



# MUIMC PRESCHOOL

4-yr old preschool—Shepherds

3-yr old preschool—Sheep



Last month was such a hit, we have continued to have career professionals come visit the children. Below is Dr. Lance Scarbrough, but the preschoolers decided to call him Mr. Pam after his wife who teaches our precious parent's day out program.



Thanks Dr. Keaton for letting us practice being a veterinarian.



Farmer Chase told all about being a farmer and even helped the kids plant their own seeds.



When a preschool graduate needs some service hours just in time to be the Easter Bunny. Thanks Grey!



Preschool celebrated Easter with lots of fun. A visit and story from the Easter bunny, yummy snacks, an egg hunt, and hearing the true meaning of Easter.

Waiting for the motorcade escort of "The Wall that Heals" to come by the church.

Love seeing our kids honor our veterans and celebrate our great nation.



MUMC Preschool supports our mission project the "Backpack Program" by bringing breakfast items to help fill the backpacks supplied for different boys and girls in the Marion

school district that may have a difficult time getting the nutrition they need.



## Senior Spotlight Con't.

### Laura Johnston

**Parents:** Jennifer and Jeff Johnston

**High School:** St. Agnes Academy

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Christian Brothers Varsity Cheer team, Co-president of Ducks Unlimited all girls varsity chapter, Magna Cum Laude, Forever Friends club working with children with disabilities and Key club earning over 30 hours of community service each year of school.

**Plans after graduation?** I plan to attend Mississippi State University in the fall and major in public relations.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Being involved in Vacation Bible School as a child and now helping out at VBS in the summer.

**What are your summer plans?** To continue my 3rd summer as a lifeguard and continuing to nanny for children, and vacation with friends and family.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Dots pretzels.

**What is your dream vacation?** Anywhere tropical with a beach, preferably Bora Bora.

**What career do you feel called to?** I would like to become an event planner for corporate companies.



### Luke Kennedy

**My parents** are George and Misty Kennedy.

**High School:** Marion High School.

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Varsity Marion Soccer Team, Mu Alpha Theta club, National Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society. I am an active member of the MUMC Youth Group.

**Plans after graduation?** I plan to attend Delta State University where I will major in flight operations.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** My favorite memory when we went to Niagara Falls for a youth trip. We also went to the Creation Museum as well as Ceder Point Amusement Park.

**What are your summer plans?** My summer plans are to work to make as much money as I can before college.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Trail mix.

**What is your dream vacation?** Belize to snorkel.

**What career do you feel called to?** I feel called to the career of aviation.



### Dawson Whittington

**Parents:** Ellen and John Whittington

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Interact Club, French Club, Mu Alpha Theta

**Plans after graduation?** Attend Mississippi State University

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** WWF and Youth trip to Canada

**What are your summer plans?** Travel, enjoy my break before college.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Sweet tart ropes.

**What is your dream vacation?** Tour of Europe

**What career do you feel called to?** Not sure what career but I'm looking into Computer Science and History.



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**Joanna Chafin and Jennifer Morgan, Preschool Teachers**

**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)

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