

April | 2023

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



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Our Seniors

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Photo Above: Men's Ministry Breakfast

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meeting and information

## Senior Spotlight Con't.

### Madelyn "Mady" Williams

**Parents:** Leigh Warren and Matt Williams



**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Golf, soccer, Delta Beta Sigma, Kappa Rho Sorority (vice president of

sisterhood), FBLA, St. Jude Leadership Society  
**Plans after graduation?** Attending the University of Arkansas to major in Broadcast Journalism.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** All of the life long friendships I made, and of course, preschool with Mrs. Teresa.

**What are your summer plans?** To serve at Brookhill Ranch Camp and get ready for college.

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

**What is your dream vacation?** Greece

**What career do you feel called to?** I want to be able to work in sports broadcasting once I graduate from college.



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**Pam Scarbrough, PDO Director/Teacher**

**Kristie Stotts, PDO Director/Teacher**

**Marcia Sutton, Pianist**

#### Church Office Hours

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

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Marion United Methodist Church



Marion UMC



Marion Methodist Church

## YOUTH MINISTRIES



Our youth traveled to Rogers, Arkansas, on Friday, March 3rd, for a weekend of worship. The group attended sessions with renowned speakers, bands and specialized artists. Saturday afternoon, our youth took advantage of a break to have some fun at Topgolf and a little shopping at the mall. Saturday night, they continued with a tradition of having Krispy Kreme Donuts and pizza. A big thank you to

Beverly Vaughn and Misty Kennedy for helping Kolby Jones with this trip and making memories to last a lifetime.





## Senior Spotlight Con't.

### Slade Inman



**Parents:** Mary and Hugh Inman

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Baseball, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society

**Plans after graduation?** Go to college and play baseball

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Attending Veritas

**What are your summer plans?** Not sure yet.

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

**What is your dream vacation?** Going to National Parks like Yosemite.

### Jett Sutton



**Parents:** Beth and Nick Sutton

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during school?** Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Spanish Club, Goldsby Scholar, All-Conference Baseball, Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Honor Society, Academic Honor Roll, National Junior Honor Society and Brookhill Camp Jr. Counselor.

**Plans after Graduation:** To attend the University of Arkansas or Arkansas State University and obtain a degree in business.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Summer youth trips and Veritas.

**What are your summer plans?** To work and save up money for college.

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

**What is your dream vacation?** To hunt and fish my way around the world.

**What career do you feel called to?** Something in the business field.

### Blake Vaughn



**Parents:** Bartt and Beverly Vaughn

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** I was on the Baseball team until 10th grade. I was on the

Golf team from 9th through 12th grade. I was a member of National Honor Society, Spanish Club, and Art Club.

**Plans after graduation?** I plan to attend the University of Memphis and major in Restaurant Management with an emphasis in Culinary Arts.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** I have many great memories from MUMC. I have always helped my parents in the kitchen and Veritas was always fun. Hope for the Holidays is another special event. But, my favorite memories are from all of the years of helping during Hullabaloo. It was always the best time during the "meat rubbin" and during the late nights of staying up while the meat was cooking.

**What are your summer plans?** This summer I am taking a few trips. I am looking forward to my senior trip with friends. I am also looking forward to the youth mission trip and a trip with my family.

**What is your favorite snack food?** My favorite snack food is any kind of sour candy or gummy type candy.

**What is your dream vacation?** Alaska.

**What career do you feel called to?** I feel called to be a chef and to one day own a restaurant.



Senior Spotlight Con't pg 8

## Happy Birthday

(2) Andy Rawls, Courtney Rawls (4) Jim Bagwell, Annalee Parker (5) Cooper Gill, Neal Williams (6) Charlene Kelley (8) Eddy Cates, Myles Holt, Owen Preslar, (9) Missy Bius, Stan Price, Emma Stokes (10) Ellen Whittington (11) Lillian Fogleman, Riley Tittle, (13) Harper Doyle (14) Sara Betts, Laura Charlton, Brandon Gill, Fletcher Smith, Hawkins Smith (15) Gray Patterson, Hayden Roeder, Anna Wehrum (16) Baylus East (17) Sandy Bagwell (18) Brian Kremer (19) Ben Barber, Amy Holt, Robyn Price, Joel Sargent (21) Robin Coe, Allen King (22) Grey Collard, Glenys Moore, TJ Stotts (24) Taylor Roeder (25) Bree Rikard, Kristie Stotts, Jane Ellen Whittington (26) Blake Hart (27) Nancy Baratti (28) Kody Stokes (29) Ella Grace Maranto

Please join us for Senior Sunday on May 21st 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. 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 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*

### Avery Elisabeth Boney



**Parents:** Shanna and Jamey Boney

**High School:** Marion High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** National Honor Society, Interact Club, Educators Rising and MHS Tennis Team

**Plans after graduation?** I plan to attend the University of Arkansas.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?** Attending veritas, going on youth trips and working with the children of MUMC.

**What are your summer plans?** Working at

Brookhill and babysitting.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Chips and Salsa

**What is your dream vacation?** Greece

**What career do you feel called to?** I plan to be an Elementary Education teacher.

### Whit Collard



**Parents:** Natalie and Jason Collard

**High School:** Christian Brothers High School

**What activities did you participate during high school?** Student Government Executive member, Student Ambassador Leadership Board, Student Ministry Retreat Leader, Football Team Captain, 2x State Champion Track Team Captain, and National Honor Society.

**Plans after graduation?** Attend Ole Miss majoring in Accounting.

**What is your favorite memory from MUMC?**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**What are your summer plans?** Prepare for the start of college and spend time with family.

**What is your favorite snack food?** Pancho's Cheese Dip

**What is your dream vacation?** A week in Baha Mar in the Bahamas

**What career do you feel called to?** Corporate Law



Christ is risen!

## Pastor's Pen

We've once again experienced all that the holiest of weeks in the Christian year has to offer our souls. We waved our palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" We sat with Jesus and the disciples in the Upper Room where we broke bread together. We followed him to Golgotha's hill and wept with Mary as he died. But then our hearts rejoiced as we found the stone rolled away from the tomb and heard an angel announce "He is not here! He is risen!"

Okay ... so Easter is over ... Now what? What comes next?

It's interesting to read about what the disciples did after Easter morning. Some of them went fishing. Two of them decided to take a walk together. Thomas decided to take a nap or something. In other words, they went back to life as usual.

Or, at least they tried.

What the disciples discovered when they went back to life as usual was that everything had changed. The normal wasn't so normal anymore because Jesus kept showing up! When they went fishing they met him on the beach cooking breakfast. As they walked along the road together Jesus suddenly appeared next to them and enlightened their conversation. All that ordinary, mundane activity was transformed by the presence of the risen One.

Our Easter celebration is over — but guess what? Jesus can and will continue to show up in your life every day. He can transform something as ordinary as a Monday's family dinner time into a revelatory moment where we see the image of God in one another. He can change your morning commute into an opportunity to show kindness to another person. Jesus can even show up and change your next text message into a word of encouragement.

Easter isn't really over. Not until Jesus changes everything. Christ is risen! And what comes next is his transforming presence in every moment of your life and mine.

## Prayer Stations

Our youth are preparing Prayer Stations for Holy Week. They will be located in the Matt Sample Youth Building. Stations will include:

- ♦ "Wide Awake" Scrabble—There will be letters spelling Wide Awake and you are asked to add words you feel need praying over, whether that is a person, feeling, animal, etc.
- ♦ Yarn Wooden Cross— Multiple yarn colors will be provided to put on a wooden cross; each color represents a different thing to focus on and pray over.
- ♦ Sticky Note Prayers—Sticky notes will be provided for you to write anything or anyone you want to pray for or just something that is on your mind.
- ♦ Prayer Link/Chain—There will be slips of paper at this station for you to write something you want to pray for, so you can staple it to the ring left before you (Making a chain).
- ♦ Chalk and Zen Boards—We will have Zen and chalkboards for you to write things on your mind and give yourself the chance to let them go.
- ♦ Labyrinth—Labyrinths are a great method of praying and letting things go. We have placed a life-size labyrinth at this station.
- ♦ Name Tree—We have leaves laid out and a canvas with a stump on it. At this station you will be given the opportunity to pray for others.

Everyone is encouraged to drop by following services during Holy Week and participate in this event put together by our youth.

*(Amen)*

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

- Palm Sunday (4/2) – 10:45 am
- Holy Thursday (4/6) – 6:00 pm
- Good Friday (4/7) – 6:00 pm
- Easter Sunrise (4/9) – 6:30 am  
Sunrise Service will be held at 6:30am  
at Crittenden Memorial Park
- Easter Day (4/9) – 10:45 am

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## PDO

MUMC Parent's Day Out program will be accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year on Wednesday, April 19th, from 11:00 a.m. until noon. Children must be at least one year in age or walking. PDO will enroll students in the following order:

1. Members of MUMC & returning PDO students.
2. Siblings of those who have attended MUMC PDO and/or Preschool.
3. All others.

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$75.00 per child, due at the time of registration. Monthly cost for the PDO program is \$195.00 for 2 days per week (Mondays and Thursdays) or \$100.00 for 1 day per week.

## SECOND SUNDAY

After a great lunch, provided by Lake's dad Joey Laughter, the second Sunday kids voted on how to spend the money they raised for Heifer international. They were able to purchase 2 wells( each with provide a family with a water supply), 2 goats, 1 sheep, and three flocks of chickens.

To test their Bible knowledge the kids played a game of pie-in-your-eye Bible trivia.



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES**  
BEGINNING SUNDAY  
APRIL 2ND  
STARTS AT 9:45 AM

May 14th marks a very special day in the life of our church and community as our confirmands will be publicly professing their faith for the first time. This is not just an important day, but is a life-changing one. If you have a child in the sixth grade, please contact Teresa Gardner to get him/her signed up for our confirmation classes. Classes will begin Sunday, April 2 at 9:45 am in the Matt Sample Youth Building. The children will go through six weeks of classes with Bro. Bill.

PLEASE BRING PEANUT FREE FILLED EGGS TO THE CHILDREN'S AREA BY APRIL 2ND

**Easter**

APRIL 9TH | 9:45 AM

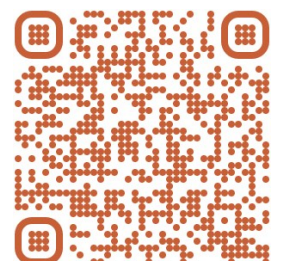
**EGG HUNT**

DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE CHILDREN'S AREA

## VBS

Vacation Bible School will kick off Monday, June 18, and conclude Thursday, June 22. We cannot wait to call all our little superheroes into action for our fun-filled week.

The QR code to register your child or children is below in Red. The Blue QR Code is an Amazon wish list of items needed this year for those who would like to contribute. Volunteer forms to come soon!



HERO HOTLINE  
CALLING ALL LITTLE SUPERHEROES  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
JUNE 18-22



## April 23rd

Our churchwide mission project is set for Sunday, April 23rd, immediately following a short worship service. Please join us as we package meals for the Mission of Hope program.



**Feeding... Sharing... Loving...**  
**Feeding the hungry, Sharing the "Good News"**  
**Loving People.**

We are so excited to bring this project back to help fight world hunger. Please mark your calendars.

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Joe and Patsy Catt Family Scholarship Endowment will award its first scholarship for a graduating senior from the Class of 2023. This recipient will have participated in the youth program at Marion FUMC and will be attending an accredited college or university. The selection committee will choose based on financial need, community leadership and potential to succeed in college. The application process will begin soon and the recipient will be announced at our Senior Sunday program, May 21, 2023. For more information please contact, Patsy's sister, Stacey Haral at [spharal@gmail.com](mailto:spharal@gmail.com) or 870-761-4248.

### SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED BY OUR PRESCHOOL

Each year MUMC preschool offers a college scholarship to a preschool graduate. To qualify, the graduating senior must have attended MUMC preschool two years, be graduating from Marion High School, and be a member of MUMC. Scholarship forms will be available in the preschool area beginning April 3rd. All applications should be returned in by May 8th. The Scholarship will be awarded at the senior luncheon.

## Denomination Update:

Resources about discernment and disaffiliation can be found on the conference website at [ARUMC.ORG](http://ARUMC.ORG)

Schedule for listening sessions:

**Wednesday April 12, 2023 6pm** MUMC Sanctuary

Rev. Roy Smith, Pastor Trinity UMC-Little Rock &  
Brian Swain, Laity Staff Central UMC-Fayetteville

**Wednesday May 17, 2023 6pm** MUMC Sanctuary

Further discussion and straw poll

Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early to register your attendance. Also, please send any advance questions for the presenters to the Church Office.

# Let's munch

**April 5th** - Breakfast Bar

Hosted by youth group to raise money for the mission trip/project in June

**April 12**

No dinner due to listening session

**April 19**

Chicken enchiladas  
Chips/dip  
Mexican salad  
Beans

**April 26**

Pasta bar  
Salad  
Dessert

+

## MEN'S MINISTRY

BREAKFAST

**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 11th**  
**6:30 am**  
**In the Gym**

We will discuss future meeting times at this meeting. Please join us as we continue to relaunch this exciting ministry for our church.





## Giving

Total financial gifts for March: \$38,246.85

<b>Budget (General)</b> \$50,100.41	<b>Cap. Improvement</b> \$29,372.00
<b>Children's Ministry</b> \$1,667.02	<b>Discretion Fund</b> \$253.00
<b>Joyful Noise</b> \$159.50	<b>Kitchen Fund</b> \$-0-
<b>Memorials</b> \$50.00	<b>Misc. Fund</b> \$4,059.00
<b>Missions</b> \$3,741.99	<b>Youth</b> \$1,816.66
<b>Yoga</b> \$-0-	

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

## Serving in Worship This Month

### USHERS

<b>David Brick</b>	<b>Jeff Schwartz</b>
<b>Steve Ford</b>	<b>Tracey Stokes</b>
<b>Garrison Hardke</b>	<b>Wayne Tabor</b>

### ACOLYTES

<b>2nd</b>	<b>Katie Wynn Entrekin</b>
	<b>Davis Fowler</b>
<b>9th</b>	<b>Lake Laughter</b>
	<b>Levi Rikard</b>
<b>16th</b>	<b>Troy Cole</b>
	<b>Addi Clare Schwartz</b>
<b>23rd</b>	<b>Hadley Gill</b>
	<b>Mollie Owen</b>
<b>30th</b>	<b>Lexi Laughter</b>
	<b>Clayton McCullum</b>

## CHURCH EVENTS:

### TUESDAYS:

- Apr. 4, 11, 18 & 25 **Bible Study Fellowship** / 6:20 pm  
Education Building - Upstairs

### WEDNESDAYS:

- Apr. 5, 12, 19 & 26 **WWF**  
3:15 pm / Children's Area
- Apr. 19 & 26 **Wednesday Night Communion**  
5:30 pm / Sanctuary  
No Wednesday Night Communion  
On the 5th (communion will be on  
Holy Thursday the 6th)  
And on the 12th due to listening  
Session
- Apr. 5, 19 & 26 **Wednesday Night Dinner**  
6:00 pm / Gym

### THURSDAYS:

- Apr. 6, 13 & 27 **Bible Study** with our Pastor  
Genesis Classroom in FLC / 10:00 am
- Apr. 2 Confirmation Classes begin at 9:45 am  
In the Matt Sample Youth Building
- Apr. 2 Palm Sunday Service / 10:45 am
- Apr. 6 Holy Thursday Service / 6 pm
- Apr. 7 Good Friday Service / 6 pm
- Apr. 9 Easter Egg Hunt / 9:45 am  
Easter Worship Service / 10:45 am
- Apr. 11 Men's Ministry Breakfast / 6:30 am
- Apr. 12 Listening Session / 6 pm  
Rev. Roy Smith & Bill Swain
- Apr. 19 PDO Application Process from  
11:00-Noon in the children's area
- April 23 Mission of Hope immediately  
Following service in gym
- May 14 Confirmation Sunday
- May 10 Last WWF day
- May 17 Listening Session / 6 pm  
Further discussion and straw poll
- May 21 Senior Recognition & Luncheon