

MAY | 2023

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



## PASTOR'S PEN

Page 2

## MONTHLY

- Calendar
- Giving
- Ushers
- Acolytes

Page 3

## MISSIONS

- Wynne
- Haiti

Pages 4 & 5

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- Summer Camps
- Second Sunday
- VBS

Page 7

## YOUTH MINISTRY

- Mission Trip
- Monthly Outing

Page 8

## Pastor's Pen

"I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all." (Ephesians 4:1-3, NKJV)

I've always loved the words above from Paul to the church in Ephesus. His emphasis on the theological oneness of the church is inspiring "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." The apostle's repetition is like a Holy Ghost hammer on the soul of the church. You are all one in Christ Jesus!

It's fairly easy to agree that where a group of people is *united*, they are probably going to experience a lot less friction than if they were *divided*. Part of the problem is that it's also easy to slip into some misunderstandings about what it means to be united. We sometimes confuse unity with uniformity or homogeneity.

Unity – at least Christian unity – is not the same as either uniformity or homogeneity. In other words, unity is not every person agreeing with every other person about everything. Unfortunately, we live in a culture that tries to stress such uniformity of thought and opinion.

Christians, however, are not necessarily united by a common ideology, but by our relationships. We have a common relationship with God our Father. We share a

common relationship with Christ as our Savior. We are all baptized into a common family called the church. We work toward a common mission of reaching out to others who feel far from the love of God and drawing them near to Christ. Faith in Jesus Christ is what unites us.

What makes for a united congregation? It is our family bonds, our relational bonds that make us one. This kind of unity is not a result of any cultural, political, or worldly opinion. Our unity is created by the Holy Spirit.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.



## 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 Trimbell, 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

**Budget (General) Cap. Improvement**  
\$50,806.38      \$11,217.00

**Children's Ministry**      **Discretionary Fund**  
\$ -0-      \$446.00

**Hope for the Holidays**      **Joyful Noise**  
\$ -0-      No Joyful Noise in April

**Memorials**      **Misc. Fund**  
\$2,805.00      \$6,189.13

**Missions**      **Youth**  
\$3,408.00      \$1,200.00

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

## Serving in Worship This Month

### USHERS

**Ted Archer**  
**Rich Busby**  
**Les Callan**

**Frank Fogleman**  
**Jeremy McFarland**  
**Andy Rawls**

### ACOLYTES

**7th**      **Sam Owen**  
         **Levi Rikard**

**14th**      **AJ Kynch**  
         **Colin Kynch**

**21st**      **Mason Hardke**  
         **Lexi Laughter**

**28th**      **Katie Wynn Entrekin**  
         **Jackson Rawls**

## CHURCH EVENTS:

### TUESDAYS:

- May 2      **Bible Study Fellowship** / 6:20 pm  
Education Building - Upstairs  
BSF will resume in September

### WEDNESDAYS

- May 3 & 10      **WWF**  
3:15 pm / Children's Area

There are no dinners or Wed. Night Communion during May

### THURSDAYS:

- May 4, 11, 18 & 25      **Bible Study with our Pastor**  
**Genesis Classroom in FLC / 10:00 am**

### MAY

- May 9      Men's Ministry & Breakfast  
6:30am in the MUMC gym
- May 14      Second Sunday for 5th & 6th Graders  
Lunch & Bible Study
- May 14      Breakfast for Confirmands
- May 14      Confirmation Sunday
- May 17      Preschool Graduation
- May 17      3rd Listening Session @ 6pm  
In the Sanctuary
- May 18      Last Day of Preschool & PDO
- May 21      Senior Sunday  
Senior Luncheon (following Service)
- May 29      Memorial Day / Office Closed

### JUNE

- June 12—16      Youth Mission Project—Wynne
- June 18—22      VBS / 5pm—7:30pm
- June 27 & 28      Summer Camp / Game Day  
10am-2pm

### JULY

- July 11      Summer Camp / Cooking Camp  
10am—2pm
- July 18 & 19      Summer Camp / Bike Day  
10am-2pm



Cooking for and feeding those in Wynne.



Love and Faith in action. MUMC immediately pulled together to cook and provide a meal to the community in Wynne within 48 hours of the destruction from an E5 tornado on March 31st. Our church also collected a long list of items such as hygiene products, air mattresses, clothing items, school supplies, batteries, etc., filling a 14 foot trailer within a week of the disaster. Our church family spent Holy Thursday cooking BBQ for sandwiches, then on Good Friday a large group of our MUMC family, loaded with supplies and another meal, headed to Wynne and spent the afternoon serving those in Ward 4 of Wynne, the area hit hardest by the tornado. Thank you to everyone who cooked, shopped for the items needed, helped load, drove to Wynne to serve meals and those to made financial contributions to help make this possible.



PRAY FOR WYNNE





**MISSION OF HOPE—Feeding Children of Haiti**

Our churchwide mission project to package 20,000 meals sprung into action Sunday, April 23rd following Worship Service. We had over 100 volunteers participate in this project. The volunteers ate pizza and cookies before taking on the task of packaging the meals. Thank you to all who helped make this a success. A special thank you goes out to Beverly Vaughn for all that she does, including phone calls and organizing all our mission projects.



The Mission of Hope program currently feeds over 125,000 kids every day through about 500 partner schools around the country of Haiti. These meals have the ability to bring kids from level 3 starvation into full health.



This program has over 70,000 kids on a waiting list for the nutrition program. Mission of Hope has names, vetted schools, and plans in place to make this happen, but currently they do not have enough meals to fulfill the waiting list. The good news is that our project will help to get some of the children off the waiting list. Way to go MUMC!!!!!!



# HE IS RISEN *Easter Sunday*

Easter morning started with a beautiful sunrise service at Crittenden Memorial Park followed by our annual Easter breakfast fellowship in our gym.

Our 10:45 service had over 500 in attendance. Bro. Bill delivered a message "Seeing and Believing". It was a day of celebrating and rejoicing. Our sanctuary was filled with Easter Lilies in memory and in honor of loved ones. Our choir and praise band filled and warmed the hearts of everyone in attendance with musical selections "How Great Is Our God", "Power of The Cross", "My Jesus" and ended with "Rejoice". This was truly a day of Praise.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## SUMMER CAMPS

**ALL CAMPS WILL BE from 10am—2pm.**

All campers must be pre-registered to attend camps. Registration forms can be picked up in the narthex or children's area.

### Game Day!!!! June 27 & 28

- Campers will have fun playing old backyard games from Red Rover to Four Square.
- Children will need to bring a sack lunch and a water bottle
- Cost \$5

### Cooking Camp — July 11 & 12

- Some of MUMC's best chefs will be in the kitchen to teach the campers how to prepare a yummy meal.
- Bring a water bottle
- Cost \$10

### Bike Day / Beginning July 18 & 19

Tuesdays — Campers entering grades kindergarten through 3rd.

Thursdays— Campers entering grades 4th through 6th.

- Campers will learn bike safety, have races, and peddle through the neighborhood.
- Bring a sack lunch and a water bottle, bike and helmet
- Cost \$5

## WWF



The WWF children were excited to deliver Easter Lilies to residents at Willowbend on Wednesday, April 12th.

## SECOND SUNDAY

### Super Summer Service Project

During the month of May, the Second Sunday kids will be collecting food items that our church will deliver to families throughout the summer. Below is a list of items you can bring to help them out.

1) Canned vegetables and misc. canned items 2) boxed mac 'n cheese 3) big boxes of cereal 4) peanut butter 5) jelly 6) ramen noodles 7) bag of dried beans 8) box of crackers 8) canned tuna or chicken 9) pudding or fruit cups

On the 21st of May they will help serve at the Senior Luncheon. Afterwards they will work to gather and sort the food items that have been donated.

The Second Sunday kids have been meeting monthly. During this time they have done several service projects, from organizing within the church to raising over \$1000 for Heifer International. They have also spent time exploring and growing their faith. This will be their last time together until the fall when our current 4th graders join and our 6th graders move on to Youth.

## VBS

Vacation Bible School will kick off June 18 and conclude 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.

**5 pm—7:30 pm**



Please contact Michelle Schwartz to help with this exciting event.

# YOUTH MINISTRIES



Left: Our youth had a blast at one of the escape rooms during youth. They managed to escape with 19 minutes left on the clock. Afterwards, they enjoyed a meal at Central BBQ.

Right: The youth spent a youth night shopping for items needed to help those in need after the tornado.



## MISSION TRIP

Our youth chose a mission trip earlier this year and it just so happens that they picked the perfect location: Wynne, Arkansas. The trip is scheduled for June 12th through June 16th. This is a great opportunity to show our neighbors how much we care after many areas of their town were destroyed by a tornado in March. We encourage all youth to get involved with the mission. Volunteers and youth wanting to help with this mission should contact our youth director, Kolby Jones at 901-493-0682.



**Rev. Dr. William Cato, Pastor**  
william.cato@marion-umc.com

**Cyndi James, Business Administrator**  
cjames@marion-umc.com

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

**Kolby Jones, Director of Student Ministries**  
kjones@marion-umc.com

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

**Debbie Wallace, Organist**

**Teresa Gardner, Director of Children's Ministries**  
tgardner@marion-umc.com

**Michelle Schwartz, Director of Children's Ministries**  
mschwartz@marion-umc.com

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

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

**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)

81 East Military Rd, Marion, AR 72364 • 870.739.3434 • marionmethodistchurch.com



Marion United Methodist Church



Marion UMC



Marion Methodist Church