

# Marion Methodist Church

P.O. Box 389

Marion AR, 72364

November 5, 2023

Re: Vote reminder and update on voting rules and other church activity.

Dear Members and Potential Members;

Our vote on the Governing Principles and the initial Board of Managers is scheduled for next Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. We will meet immediately following services on Sunday morning for any discussion on the items up for vote and a brief introduction of those who have been nominated to be a Manager.

There are two items on the ballot:

1. Approval of our Governing Principles, which are the basic operating rules of the Church. A copy of the proposed Governing Principles are attached to this email for your review. If you have any questions, contact any member of the Management Committee.
2. Selection of the initial nine members of the Board of Managers.

As we have discussed previously, since we are no longer a part of the United Methodist Conference, each member who wants to belong to the independent Marion Methodist Church must withdraw from the United Methodist Conference and join the Marion Methodist Church. We have membership cards that take care of both steps. We can also email membership forms to anyone who can't physically make it to the church. Please call the office at (870) 739-3434 or email [office@marionmethodist.church](mailto:office@marionmethodist.church) and request an electronic membership card.

If you do not elect to withdraw from the United Methodist Church, your name will be moved to the UMC roll held at the conference office until you select a new UMC Church.

The member vote will be conducted via an electronic voting platform. This will allow members to vote electronically from their phone, computer or tablet. This gives us the ability to accept votes from members who are not physically present for the vote. Once the office receives your membership form, you will be added to the eligible voter list and be able to participate in the November 12<sup>th</sup> vote. We will have people at the meeting available to assist anyone who needs help registering their vote. We anticipate having the ballot posted sometime Friday afternoon. All those who are eligible to vote will get an email when the ballot opens.

Nominations for the Board of Managers are already open. Any member who has signed a membership card may nominate up to nine directors. You can call the office at (870) 739-3434 or email your nominations to [office@marionmethodist.church](mailto:office@marionmethodist.church).

We are pleased to announce that we have contracted with Hunter Bailey, who is a long-time pastor and now church startup/restart consultant. Hunter will help us refine our mission, vision and values and our path forward including assisting in the search for a full-time pastor.

Thanks to all those who participated in our cleanup day yesterday. We had a great turnout and made great progress on some of the Church's lingering projects. Take a look at the pictures on the Marion Methodist Church facebook page.

A special thanks to all who attended our Chili and Conversation event and signed up to be a volunteer. There are still plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved. We have identified nine areas that we see as opportunities for service to our church:

- Doctrine and Worship
- Music
- Ministry Projects
- Outreach and Communications
- General and Administrative Functions
- Facility operations and maintenance
- Youth Programming
- Children's Programming
- Adult Programming

Please contact the office if you would like to be added to any of these groups. If you see a need that we haven't addressed, please call to add that area to our list.

We look forward to seeing everyone next Sunday for our member vote.

In Christian Love,

MMC Management Committee

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