

January
2024

FOR WE WALK BY
FAITH
NOT BY SIGHT



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MMC

Marion Methodist Church



Giving

Total financial gifts for December

Budget (General)
\$100,261.00

Cap. Improvement
\$32,702.44

Backpack Prog.
\$3,990.00

Hope for the Holidays
\$4,873.00

Memorials
\$710.00

Misc
\$800.00

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

Prayer Concerns:

Laurie Adams; Rod Alexander; Sue Bonds; Ann Carpenter; Scott Clairday; Stan Duckworth (hospice); Mayson Hall; Bill Hartley; Dee Helton; Cindy Hudson; The Family of Willie Rogers; Mike Rowland; Bartt Vaughn; Billie Williams; and Our Church Family.

Year End Statements

Contributions statements will be mailed to the last known address of all congregation members. If you have moved this past year, please contact Cyndi James in the church office to update your address.

Potluck DINNER

January 21st following Sunday Worship Service

Bring your favourite dish!

MMC will provide fried chicken and mashed potatoes .

Bible Study Fellowship

The ladies Bible Study Fellowship will start back January 9th at 6:20 pm upstairs in the education building. Please enter the church through the doors under the portico on the parking lot off of Hwy. 77.

New TO OUR FAMILY



Nellie Starkey

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We welcome Nellie Starkey to our family as she was Baptised on October 15, 2023. She is the daughter of Clay and Taylor Starkey and sister to Lyle Starkey.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The youth will meet for pizza and volleyball Sunday, January 7th from 5-6:30 pm. in the gym.

Hope For The Holidays

Hope for the Holidays was once again a success due to the outpouring of support from our congregation. This mission embodies the spirit of the giving season. The Marion School counselors provided us with 52 families in need this season. The families ranged from one to eight children, giving us a total of 168 children. Thank you, congregation, for adopting ALL families this year either through shopping on your own or providing funds to shop for particular families.

We raised \$1,500 towards Hope for the Holidays hosting our annual parade concessions. The outpouring of support from our congregation is the reason for our success. Thank you for over 30 gallons of chili being donated along with 140 cinnamon rolls, drinks, condiments, hot dogs, buns, and chips. A special thank you to Jody and Tammy Catt for the extra time and work put into making the Parade a success. All the individuals who came hours early to help set up, warm the chili, cool the drinks, serve the food, and stayed to clean up are a testament to the commitment to this mission.

The volume of food needed for the food boxes provided to the adopted families is astronomical. The Marion School District's HCGC campus once again collected over 3000 canned food items. This donation allowed us to focus the donated funds on peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, and the perishable items included in the food boxes. We also appreciate the donation of rice and the boxes that were received. The youth continued the tradition of packing the boxes together. It was wonderful to see over twenty youth members work together to pack the boxes for our adopted families. The youth also helped label the health kits that were assembled by our adult Sunday School class. We were able to assemble enough health kits to provide one for two additional family members in the home.

The delivery process was seamless, with most families delivering their items. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship prior to delivery. Thank you to everyone who continues to show their support for this mission! It is because of you that this mission continues to thrive. Please remember your adopted family in prayer as we move through 2024. A special thanks to Allison Wehrum, Michelle Schwartz, David Fogleman, Blake Hart and Franklin Fogleman for leading this mission for 2023.



Sunday Service

Our Sundays have been filled with some new faces in the pulpit. We were pleased to have those guests help lead us during this time. Moving forward we will have a regular rotation of pastors weekly as we continue our search for our new Pastor. We want to thank all of those who have stepped out of their comfort zone to help lead areas during our worship. While these pictures do not display everyone who has helped, please know that you are appreciated. Again, we thank you for all your help.



Children's Play

The MMC children put on a play "Just a Little Christmas" on Christmas Eve morning. Thank you to our narrators, Rachel Coe, Bren Sutton and Anna Wehrum as they told the story as the children acted out the scenes. A special thank you to Elizabeth Hardke, Laura Rikard and Michelle Schwartz for working with the children to bring this presentation to MMC.



Preparing for Advent



November 19th was a day for decorating our church in anticipation of the approaching holidays. Those pictured (left photo) around the tree are some of those who helped with the decorating.

There were many others who, unfortunately, were in other areas and didn't make the photo.



We were so blessed to have an abundance of people step up to help decorate. Adults and children got involved in bringing all the decorations downstairs. While the adults worked hard putting up multiple trees, garland and other decorations, the children took advantage of getting some energy out as they played in the gym. As things were winding down, the children took time to learn how to read and play the bells (pictured above). Great job Addi Clare at leading this young group!

Pictured to the right, you'll see an addition to the manger scene, compliments of Steve Sutton. Thank you for building the addition to help protect the animals. This makes our manger scene complete.



Adult Sunday School

The Grace and Peace adult Sunday school class meets at 9:45 on Sunday mornings on the second floor of the education bldg. This class is led by David Fogleman. This past month, the group took time out to put together health kits for the Hope for the Holidays mission outreach. Please feel free to join us each Sunday as we navigate and discuss books of the Bible.



Children's Sunday School

Our children's Sunday school meets in the children's area at 9:45. Our children's classes are broken into smaller groups by age. If you would like to assist with teaching our little ones, or help in the children's area, please contact the church office. Pictured below are our children celebrating Jesus' Birthday.



Lighting of the Advent Candles and Christmas Eve services



The Coe Family
Matt, Robin, Rachel, Mason
and Wesley



The Jonas Family
Brad, Colby, Vivian and Shepard



The Hart Family
Blake, Shea, Foster and James



The Sutton Family
Nick, Beth, Jett and Bren



The Hardke Family
Garrison, Elizabeth, Mason and William



Above: Communion
Below: The Coe family preparing for our communion



Thank you to everyone who participated in bringing music to life during December. We had special music from Miller Owen and Baylus East. Our dynamic duo, Debbie and Marcia filled the sanctuary each Sunday with the sounds of Christmas. Our choir moved closer to the congregation during our candlelight service. And of course this could not happen without our triple media team, Frank, Lannie and Vance.



Baking for Bartt:

As many of you know our dear friend, Bartt Vaughn, has endured health issues that culminated in him having a stroke in May, 2023. Recently he was accepted into an intensive rehabilitation outpatient program in Michigan for a two-week period. Upon learning of this opportunity, Bartt and Beverly decided to raise money to help pay for the program and other expenses. Once we at MMC learned of this endeavor, we offered our kitchen facility as the location to cook the food. Bartt's family, friends, and members at MMC all gathered on Friday and Saturday, December 1st & 2nd to prepare the food. There was a total of 8,400 raviolis made and 70 gallons of spaghetti gravy.

In addition, MMC took up a Love Offering, raising a total of \$2,170 to help offset some of the expenses incurred by the Vaughn family during travels to Michigan.

From the Vaughns:

We are SO very humbled by the outpouring of support for Bartt and his upcoming rehabilitation journey. We see and feel God's hand in all of this, and I know that this is His plan.

To those who made purchases, we are so honored to be able to share a small part of our lives with you by providing you with Bartt's mother's ravioli and spaghetti gravy. We hope that you will enjoy it as much as we do.

Again, we are so very grateful for all of the support from our family, friends, and community.
Much Love,
Bartt and Beverly



MISSIONS:

We have wrapped up the first semester for the MSD Backpack Program and are moving on to our next semester. Thank you to everyone who continues to step up by shopping, stocking, bagging and delivering. This program would not exist without all of you.



Currently we are providing 35 bags to MST, 28 bags to HCGC, 20 bags to VPA and 10 bags to the Jr. High, weekly. We stock the Senior High School with food, rather than bags for those in need. This program provides a much-needed outreach to the children in our community. If you would like to make a donation towards purchasing food items, please note so on your check, and the funds will go towards future purchases.



Pickleball

Our first open play free pickleball clinic was a success. The clinic brought in approximately 30 individuals wanting to learn the sport. We plan to continue this clinic every Sunday from 2-5 pm, unless otherwise notified.

For further information please contact Gary Wehrum at gwehrum@gmail.com.



Happy Birthday

(1) Kristen Bernard (2) John Fogleman, Heather Benson (3) Conner Catt (4) Anna Rawls (5) Spencer Morris, Dustin Smith, Heath Stuckey (6) Devon Doyle, Abi Grace King (7) Wayne Croom, Jonathan Gill (8) Linda Coale (9) John Traugh (11) Diana Lugar (12) Steve Ford, Ann Rogers, Chris Ward (13) Carson Smith Pam Betts, Cheryl Conrad, Pam Gray, Olivia Harvey (15) Catt Cole, Gerrye Martine, Debbie Reginelli (16) Paula Moore (17) Matthew Coe, John Wallace (18) Stacy Parker (19) Ryan Carey (20) Patricia Charlton, Troy Elizabeth Cole, Crystal Floyd, Jackson Lancaster (22) Tom Donaldson, MacKenzie Massey, Amelia Stuckey (23) Buster Benton, Jr., Steve Sutton (24) Jeff Johnston (25) Shanna Boney, Olivia Walker (26) Magnus Fowler, Terry Gibbs (27) Matt Moore (29) Joanna Chafin (30) Jaxson Hinze, Weston Hinze



Jubilation Jazz

On Saturday, December 9th, Jubilation Jazz performed at Marion Methodist Church. Their Christmas Show, "Joy", stirred in us a full range of emotions! Christmas music from many eras and genres filled the program. With their mission statement being Share the Gospel with Big Band Jazz, they certainly did! Shelly Hardin of Marion sang special arrangements of Mary Did You Know and Away in a Manger. The band, with members coming from all over the state, was excited to get to perform again in our beautiful church.



MMC

Cyndi James, Business Administrator

Marcia Sutton, Pianist

Debbie Wallace, Organist

Tracy McDonald, Custodian

Teresa Gardner, Preschool Director/Teacher

Joanna Chafin and Jennifer Morgan, Preschool Teachers

Pam Scarbrough, PDO Director/Teacher

Kristie Stotts, PDO Director/Teacher

Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday (8:30-3:00)