

## Committees at a Glance

**April 11**  
7:00pm  
Daycare Board, Room 106

### WORSHIP IN APRIL:

## Opposition & Opportunity

**April 3** Luke 20:20-26  
Holy Communion

**April 10** Luke 20:27-40



## Spring Flowers for Easter

Adorn our church this Easter with beautiful Tulips & Lilies! You can purchase a potted flower for \$15.00 in honor or memory of someone special.

Flowers will be delivered and displayed in the church on Easter Sunday. (They may be picked up following the 11am Easter worship service)

All proceeds from the sale will go to our new Children's Library.

Orders must be placed by Friday April 8. Fill out the form in the church bulletin or contact the church office. Questions? Contact Val at 651-6595 or val@fumcmarion.org.



## Join us for a Palm Parade Sunday, April 17

8:30 am and 11:00 am  
worship services

The children will meet in the Children's Library 10 minutes before the service begins to line up.  
(Children of all ages are welcome!)

Our parade will be at the beginning of the service and the children can join you in worship immediately following.

### First United Methodist Church of Marion

12th Street & 8th Avenue

Sunday Worship –

**7:45am**

Early Worship – Chapel

**8:30am**

Spirited Traditional – Sanctuary

**9:45am**

Two Songs & A Sermon – Sanctuary  
Church School for children and adults

**11:00am**

Blended Praise – Sanctuary

Tuesday Morning  
Prayer Service –

**7:00-7:30am**

in the Chapel



# The Marion Methodist

Issue No. 7

April 1, 2011



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

## About the Doors

The “finger thing” was never really easy for me. Most of the kids could do it pretty easily but not me. Even so, the message was always clear:

*“The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!”*

*All who follow Jesus all around the world!  
Yes, we’re the church together!”*

While the message rings clear – most of us inadvertently incorporate people and building as “church”. This is understandable because it is often in the building we call “the church” that the two are joined in activities that express the mission of the “church.”

In the next few years we will be building a new facility for the ministry of FUMC and we are very excited about that vision and dream. In those facilities and these hearts the words above will continue to resound – because the people are the only reason to have any buildings.

Stephen Anderson writes in his book *Preparing a Build*: “Building a building is NOT building a church. Building a church is building PEOPLE for Jesus Christ. There is no building of people IF there are no people in the BUILDING.” When I first read those words it sounded a bit like a haiku, but if you reflect on it for a moment, the meaning is clear: no matter the building, our attention needs to be on welcoming and growing people for Jesus Christ at First United Methodist Church.

The voice in *Field of Dreams* that whispers “if you build it...” has some validity in church growth – buildings are important and it is true in our area, that new church buildings do attract some new people. That said, even more important is that a shiny new place is the spirit of the people behind the bricks and mortar. At First UMC we have a role in the building here and now, long before a spade is turned at REC Drive. Right now, we embrace in new and fresh terms the idea of building people for Jesus Christ.

Recently a group of us took time to consider the gateways – the doors of our church and how inviting and hospitable they are or are not. We began with a simple image – *you can do this at home* – put yourself in your mind’s eye right inside the door you enter when you come to worship. What do *you* see?

Members of the church, picturing this expressed that they saw familiar sites, comforting environments, friends and had feelings of “holy” and “home” as they entered their church building. Then, they were asked to physically go to that door and look at it with the eyes of a stranger to the church and consider “what do they see?” Check out the physical approach and lighting, is it was easy to figure out how to get to classes, worship or the dining room from that point of entry?

The discussion changed considerably. “Omigosh, do you realize it takes 8 turns to get from the Handicap door to the sanctuary?” , “I didn’t realize when we came in the steeple door you come into such a dark space, have to go up steps again immediately and have to open another set of double doors – even though I do it every week.” There was much more discussion, the obvious end point being: we the people of the church need to make our doors more hospitable by having a greater welcoming presence near these doors to greet and guide newcomers.

The Old TV show “Let’s Make a Deal” was based around mysteries placed behind door number 1, 2 or 3. The participant or television viewer never knew what was behind the door until they opened it. Sometimes the door was opened to wonderful surprises (“a new car!”) and other times to great disappointment (“three boxes of Horehound Candy”), but it was never the door’s fault. What would happen to the guest when a particular door was opened was prepared long before it was opened.

We live in one of Iowa’s fastest growing communities and literally every week a new person or group of new people, with great courage (we know how hard facing the “new” is) pulls on one of the handles of the doors to our First UMC facility knowing not whether they will be blessed or disappointed by what they find behind it. In the name of Jesus and on behalf of your Church Council, I admonish you, to think about this. Then, do all you can to guide these new sojourners in our “church” with pleasant smiles, welcoming words, the gift of hospitable actions, and expressions of the Christ in your heart because they are new – just like you once were and they DO NOT yet see what you see in this building or body of Christ. Help our doors be a source of blessing.

Peace – Love – Joy,  
Rev. Mike

## Good Friday Prayer Vigil

My name is Scott Mortensen. Last year I participated in the prayer vigil with my family. It meant a lot to me because I talked to God in complete silence and was also able to listen to Him. I felt like God was really there and listening to me. During this time of prayer I asked for forgiveness, prayed for others, and prayed for myself.

My name is Kyle Mortensen. I have participated in two prayer vigils. During the prayer vigil we prayed over cards that people wrote concerns on. As I prayed over them, I felt God’s power going through me and helping the people in need. It was a great experience for me and helped me and many others.

We invite you to participate in this year’s prayer vigil. **It will be from noon on Friday, April 22 to noon on Saturday, April 23.** Look for sign-up sheets to come later in April.

**April 17**  
Palm Sunday

*Whispers of the Passion*  
Cantata – 8:30 & 11 am

**April 18-22**

*Lenten Moments*  
7-7:25am – Chapel  
Breakfast provided by the  
Labs & Moss Families

**April 21**

*Maundy Thursday*  
Communion service presented  
by the United Methodist  
Women – 1pm – Chapel  
Communion Service –  
Sanctuary – 7pm



**April 22**

*Good Friday*  
7pm service – Sanctuary  
*Whispers of the Passion*  
Cantata at Living Waters UMC –  
7pm

**April 24**

*Easter Sunday*  
Sunrise Service – 7am – REC  
Drive (New Church Property)  
Sanctuary Services –  
9am & 11am  
No Church School

# Powerhouse

*get connected* 

## POWERING UP WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

Join us on Wednesday Nights for Faith, Fellowship, Friends, Food & FUN!

## Powerhouse Family Meal Wednesday Evenings

### APRIL MENU:

**April 6:** Chicken strips, Macaroni & Cheese & salad

**April 13:** Chinese – Sesame Chicken or Beef with broccoli, fried rice & egg rolls

**April 20:** Barbecue Chicken, potato salad & fresh veggies

**April 27:** Hamburgers, baked beans, apple crisp & rolls

*(This will be our last week of the school year!)*

5:30 – 5:45 Lemonade & Fellowship

5:45 – 6:15 FUMC Family Meal

\$6.00 adults / \$3.00 kids

Family Maximum \$20



## 2 years - 5th Graders Sunday School at 9:45am

Preschool: Room 205  
Kdg - 5th grade: 3rd floor

## Wednesdays at FUMC Marion Youth

**Jr. High** 6-8pm  
6-6:30pm Hang out/Games  
6:30-7ish Music/ Story of God  
7ish-8pm Life Group

**High School** 7-9pm  
7-7:30pm Hang out/Games  
7:30-8ish Music/Story of God  
8ish-9pm Life Group

# 4:12

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MARION



Our Preschool class is singing April 10, and the Children's Sunday School choir (with A Joyful Noise and Youth Ensemble) is singing May 22.



## Come "Check Out" our new CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

- Awesome books for kids of all ages
- Computer software to check out
- Big screen TV
- A warm comfortable environment to hang out with your kids!

## Sermon Series Book Orders



This May through July, our Pastors will be preaching two consecutive sermon series that have companion books that are beneficial to building up the body of Christ. One book is a classic of the Christian faith and the other is a contemporary best seller. Orders will be taken for those who desire to purchase the books at reduced prices.



- Our contemporary best seller will be **Jesus Manifesto: Restoring the Supremacy and Sovereignty of Jesus Christ** by Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola.
- Our Christian Classic will be **Mere Christianity** by C. S. Lewis

Orders for the books, along with payment, will be taken on Sunday mornings at the Welcome Center now thru Sunday, April 17.

Mere Christianity - \$5.00

Jesus Manifesto - \$10.00

Both books - \$15.00

Checks can be made out to FUMC, please note "Sermon Series Books" in the memo.

Shake up your summer plans and join us for



## Vacation Bible School June 13 – 17 9am – noon

EVERYONE IS INVITED...

- Kids – have mom and dad sign you up!

Registration forms online at [fumcmarion.org](http://fumcmarion.org), at the church office or at the Welcome Center in the Narthex

- Adults & Youth – we need everyone experienced or inexperienced to play a "roll"

- Join us as we create decorations to transform FUMC into our Café in room 302
  - o Wednesday mornings 9 am – 11am
  - o Thursdays 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm



Contact Val our "Café Boss"  
651-6595 or [val@fumcmarion.org](mailto:val@fumcmarion.org)

Beginning to gather our ingredients for "Shake it Up Café" Vacation Bible School!!!

Could you please begin to gather the following items and pass along to us instead of your recycling bin...

- Pringles Cans with lids
- Toilet Tissue tubes
- Empty Cereal Boxes (at least 9" x 7" in size)

At Camp Wesley Woods



## summer games junior

This summer let your 2nd – 5th grader experience camp "Summer Games" style.

**4 pm, Sunday, July 24 – 11 am, Wednesday, July 27**

Kids will enjoy Christian Fun and Fellowship while experiencing the POWER of a relationship with Jesus Christ!

Check it out....

Horseback riding Low Ropes Swimming  
Broken Arrow Pond AND MORE!!!

Small groups and Worships will be the heart of Summer Games Jr. as we allow the Holy Spirit to touch the lives of 3rd-6th graders!

<http://summernamesuniversity.org/jr.htm>



## Mommies....

Join us for Moms In Prayer

**Mondays 9:30am – 10:30am**  
**Beginning April 4 in room 106**

- Make new friends
- Join in a study for moms
- Give yourself an hour a week for you

Bring your kids – we're all mommies!!

Are you a "good girl" searching for more in your life??

## BECOMING MORE THAN A GOOD BIBLE STUDY GIRL

(Lisa TerKeurst)



Find a deeper connection between what you know in your head and everyday reality, explore the opportunity to personally experience God's presence.

**Fridays 9:30 am – 10:30 am**  
**Room 105**  
**Beginning April 8**

Contact Val Lawrence for more information, 651-6595

"Young at Harp" will be performing at First

Presbyterian Church in Marion at **2:30 on Sunday, April 10th.**

Proceeds will benefit the FLY program.

## American Cancer Society - I Can Cope

An educational program for cancer patients, their families and friends.

**Date: Thursday, April 7, 2011**

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Place: Iowa Blood & Cancer Care

855 A Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Nutrition During & After Treatment

Dr. Shah, BS, MD & Nancy Joliffe, RD LD

This program is open to everyone and is FREE of charge.

Pre-register by calling 319.861.7791 - refreshments served.

# Happy Monday!

We know not everyone has email, so we will be including the printed version of our new "Happy Monday" emails in every issue of the Marion Methodist. We hope you will enjoy these inspirational messages on Friday or Saturday, too. If you are not receiving these by email, but would like to be added to our list, please notify Craig Liscum at [craig@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:craig@fumcm Marion.org).

## Patience

"Be patient, be patient, don't be in such a hurry. When you get impatient, you only start to worry". These lyrics come from a song that was part of a musical program called "The Music Machine" which was performed by the children of this church back in the early 90's when my daughters were in 2nd or 3rd grade. It was sung by Herbert the Snail, who taught about patience, one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Then, as now, patience is something I often struggle with, and I am confident that many of you do as well. When situations arise, rather than ask for God's guidance and direction, it often seems so much more efficient to handle things ourselves and move on to the next thing. The danger in that though is that we frequently spend a lot of time stewing over what to do, how to do it and did we do the right thing or not. We tie ourselves up in knots second-guessing ourselves and so many times I've found that by rushing headlong into a situation, I've complicated things tremendously and would have

been much better off if I had been patient and waited for God's guidance.

In one particular instance however, when I was very impatient to hear the results of a decision which would greatly impact my future, I went to Scripture rather than be impulsive and try to hurry the process. There are many, many passages in the Bible which tell us to be patient and wait: "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord" - Psalm 27:14. "Blessed are all who wait for him" Isaiah 30:18 and "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope" Psalm 130:5. These words brought great calm to my spirit and I was able to wait patiently for the outcome knowing the decision was truly in God's hands. If we are patient and wait for the gift of patience from the Holy Spirit, we will be blessed many times over with peace, assurance and calm knowing that our lives are in His hands and that we have been obedient.

Have a Happy Monday! - Vicki Standley



## UMM

April 9 8am

Fellowship Hall for breakfast and meeting. All men are welcome to attend



## UMW Circles

April 5

Elizabeth 11:45am  
Mr. Beans. Contact

Deb Streff if you would like more information on attending this 'lunchtime' circle.

April 6

Sarah 9:15am, LLCC

Miriam 1:00pm, Perkins Restaurant

Rebekah 1:15pm, LLCC

April 7

The Bookends

7:00pm, Java Creek Café

April 13

Susanna 9:30am, LLCC

Mary 1:00pm, Barb Marcus',  
3025 Yorkshire Dr NE, Cedar Rapids, 364-5891

April 14

Needle Designers 9:30am, ULCC

Wesleyan 9:30am, Adult Library

Joyful Cooks 6:30pm, Mona Morgan's, 3365 Willowridge Rd, 377-3433

April 6

Church Women United  
Friendship Day

## Women's Friendship Group

Women's Friendship Group meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Pizza Ranch in Marion. Contact Idella Hogan, 377-1382, for more information.

## Jordan Tchon's Graduation Open House

Saturday, April 2, 2011 1-4pm  
Red Cedar Lodge  
Squaw Creek Park  
All are welcome to attend.

## Thank You

My sons and I deeply appreciate Vicki's visits and the support of the church community during my husband's illness. It was and is very comforting to have your support and prayers. - Judi Dirks and family

Thank you for your generous donation of \$300 to Mission of Hope in February. We are grateful for your gift. It is blessing the lives of many. Your partnership and support is vital as we offer physical, emotional and spiritual help to former offenders and others in need. - Tina Furman Herring, Executive Director, Mission of Hope

## MediaShout Volunteers Needed

First United Methodist Church of Marion is seeking volunteers to publish the weekly visual worship slides. Ideally, multiple volunteers would perform duties on a rotating monthly schedule. This will likely take about 2 hours per week on a day of your choosing between Thursday and Saturday night. Training on the MediaShout software will be provided. It would be great if we could train our new people before May 1st. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mike 377.4856 or [mike@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:mike@fumcm Marion.org)



VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

[www.JoyOfLivingChurch.org](http://www.JoyOfLivingChurch.org)

for information about the church, current activities, organizations, scripture and sermons and the Marion Methodist newsletter.

Delayed broadcast of church services is available on Mediacom 18 at 7 p.m. on Monday. Full service recordings of services are in the FUMC library on VHS and DVD.

Articles for the newsletter can be submitted by email to [norma@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:norma@fumcm Marion.org).

First United Methodist Church  
presents  
A Spring Handbell Concert  
Sunday, May 1 at 4:00pm  
Corner of 8th Ave. & 12th St.  
Marion, Iowa

Reception immediately following  
No Admission charged  
Bring a canned food item  
to benefit Mission of Hope

## Pantry Partners for Marion Food Pantry for 2011

We help folks in need by supplying items for the Marion Churches' Food Pantry. You may bring the following items to church any Sunday during each month. Please put your contribution in the grocery cart in the narthex or at the 8th Ave. door. THANK YOU!  
April Canned Fruit

## Caring Corner Kindergarten Readiness Program Registration Now Available for 2011-12

Our program helps to develop the skills and knowledge with your four or five year old child that promotes sharing, caring and respect within a safe, Christian environment, which lays a strong foundation for them to enter Kindergarten confident and enthusiastic for learning.

Classes will begin on August 29, 2011 and run through May 24, 2012 Monday through Friday 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Call Dawn Blair, Director, 377-8490, if you have any questions or to register. Please tell all your friends and family, who have a four year old child and are looking for a preschool, about our program.



The current loan payoff balance is

**PAID IN FULL!!!**

It took 3 months....  
And we paid only \$722 in interest. Thank you for your generosity.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

April 3, 2011

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

April 10, 2011

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

# Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

**BAPTISM:** Mar 20, **Chandler David Rose**, son of Eddie and Amanda Rose.

**DEATHS:** Mar 14, **Arlene Tharp**, daughter of Ruth Tharp.

Mar 17, **Gary Campbell**, Texas, brother of Maury (Barb) Campbell.

Mar 20, **Wayne Bourne**, Prescott Valley, AZ, brother of Virginia (Glen) Goehring.

**You're invited to join us at "Carnegie Corner" any Tuesday morning from 9:00-11:00am.**

*We play cards & games:*  
500, Bridge (some weeks)  
Dominoes & Table Games

*Coffee Refreshments Devotions*

Contact Myrna Carter or Sherry Murray for more information.

*Using the Computer to search for:*

- Christian websites
- Hearing the Bible
- Reading Large print scriptures
- Finding & Playing hymns
- FUMC website
- How to use free clipart
- Making greeting cards
- And more!

While this group is geared toward our Senior Citizens, anyone is welcome to attend at anytime. We occasionally have potlucks and take short trips also.

## The Marion Methodist deadline schedule

Deadline dates for the next issue of the Marion Methodist is on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 by NOON**. This issue will cover from April 17-30, 2011. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to [norma@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:norma@fumcm Marion.org)

## Church Information

**First United Methodist Church**      **Fellowship Hall**  
Corner of 12th Street and 8th Avenue      377-4252  
Church Office, 1298 7th Avenue  
Marion, Iowa 52302  
**Office 377-4856**      **Caring Corner**  
377-8490

## Staff

**Pastor Mike Morgan**  
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[mikeransom@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:mikeransom@fumcm Marion.org)

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[diane@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:diane@fumcm Marion.org)

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[marylee@fumcm Marion.org](mailto:marylee@fumcm Marion.org)  
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**Children's Choir Director, Angie Moss**

**Caring Corner Daycare Director, Dawn Blair**  
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**Food Service Manager, Kathy Scritchfield**

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**Maintenance, Leon Smock**  
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This newsletter is made possible by the Grace of God and is intended to lift up the Interests and Ministries of First United Methodist Church of Marion that are dedicated to His Wonderful Name.

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LABEL HERE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>APRIL 3</b> Communion Sunday 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 2:00p A Joyful Noise 4:00p Bell Canto 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL, Carnegie - UL) 6:00p Disciple Classes (Room 104, Room 106, Room 107)	<b>APRIL 4</b> 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 9:30a Moms in Prayer (Room 106) 6:30p Staff Meeting (Room 106) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	<b>APRIL 5</b> 7:00a Prayer Service (Chapel) 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 6:45p A Touch of Brass	<b>APRIL 6</b> 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:15a Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 5:30p Powerhouse Meal - Food, Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:00p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Bible Study (Room 106) 6:30p Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room) 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study (Chapel) 7:00p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:10p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	<b>APRIL 7</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 8:00a Tax Preparation - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 5:30p Grief Share (Mission & Education - ULNorth)	<b>APRIL 8</b> 9:30a Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl (Room 105)	<b>APRIL 9</b> 8:00a UMM (Fellowship Hall) 8:00a Tax Preparation - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 7:00p FUMC 500 Card Club (Carnegie - LL)
<b>APRIL 10</b> 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 12:00p Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 2:00p A Joyful Noise 4:00p Bell Canto 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL & UL) 6:00p Disciple Classes (Room 104, Room 106, Room 107)	<b>APRIL 11</b> Handbells Set-up (Sanctuary) 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 9:30a Moms in Prayer (Room 106) 6:30p New Member Class (Rm 104) 7:00p Labs Small Group (Rm 105) 7:00p Daycare Board (Room 106) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	<b>APRIL 12</b> Handbells Set-up (Sanctuary) 7:00a Prayer Service (Chapel) 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 6:45p A Touch of Brass	<b>APRIL 13</b> 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:30a Susanna Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 5:30p Powerhouse Meal - Food, Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:00p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Bible Study (Room 106) 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study (Chapel) 6:30p Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room) 7:00p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:10p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	<b>APRIL 14</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 8:00a Tax Preparation - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 9:00a TMC (Adult Library) 9:30a Needle Designers Circle (Carnegie - UL) 9:30a Wesleyan Circle (Adult Library) 10a Mom's Club of Marion (Room 105, Rm 107) 5:30p Grief Share (Mission & Education - ULNorth)	<b>APRIL 15</b> Spring Clean-up Day Prep 8:00a Taxes - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 9:30a Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl (Room 105)	<b>APRIL 16</b> Spring Clean-up Day 