

Committees at a Glance

July 28

3:30pm

UMW Executive Board

3:30pm, Adult Library

New Member Classes in August

Please join us for our New Member Classes. If you would like to become a member of our church or would just like to learn more about being a United Methodist and get acquainted with the FUMC family, you are invited to our next series of classes:

Thursday, Aug 6 – 6:30-8:30pm

Thursday, Aug 13 – 6:30-8:30pm

Thursday, Aug 20 – 6:30-8:30pm

Sunday, Aug 23 – Membership Service

All classes are in the Upper Level of the Carnegie Center.

Daycare will be provided.

To register or for more information, contact Karen Schmitz at 377-4856 or Karen@fumcmarion.org.

Attention all friendly, happy, helpful people:

We are looking for individuals, couples or families to help usher, especially for the 9:45 service. If this is something you would love to do at our 8:30, 9:45 or 11:00 services, please talk to Karen email Karen@fumcmarion.org or call 377-4856.

Call for Painters and Gardeners

- After August 16th, rooms 105, 106 and 107 will be converted from sleeping rooms back to small group bible study rooms. These rooms will need to be painted on August 17, 18 & 19th.
- The lower level of the 766 side of the rental building needs to be painted after August 1 to accommodate new tenants.

These would be great family or small group projects. If interested, contact Craig at the church office, 377-4856 or craig@fumcmarion.org.

- The church also has a need for mid summer bush trimming and flower garden weeding. Contact Craig if you are willing and able.

First United Methodist Church of Marion

12th Street & 8th Avenue

Sunday Worship –

7:45am

Early Worship – Chapel

8:30am

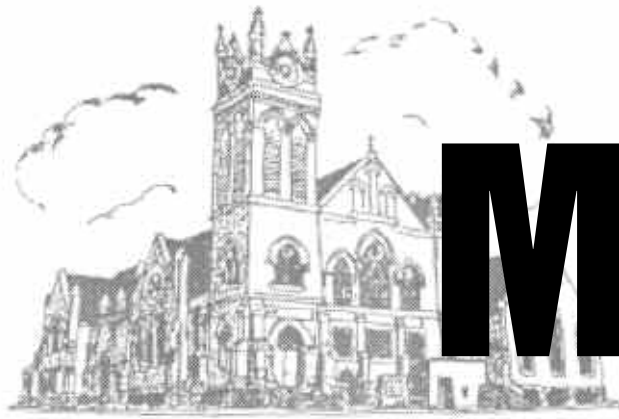
Spirited Traditional – Sanctuary

9:45am

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

11:00am

Blended Praise – Sanctuary



The Marion Methodist

Issue No. 15

July 24, 2009



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

Stories to Tell

“If we have any future as a church, if we are going to be useful to God, every United Methodist must become like SAM I AM!” bellowed the workshop leader.

We looked at each other, two hundred pastors from America’s largest United Methodist parishes and here was an “expert” proclaiming a battle plan laid out by a children’s book. I noted as many pastors quickly checked out mentally, but, she had me, and she did not hesitate.

“Most of the world is like the hairy top hat wearing character who says ‘I do not like them, Sam I am. I do not like green eggs and ham.’” The two themes in Dr. Seuss’ novel Green Eggs and Ham are ones Christians must know.

1. Most people are reluctant to try new things
2. Persistence in offering that new thing is necessary.

Sam I am loved green eggs and ham and simply wanted everyone to have a taste.

So passionate was he about the tasty dish he offered extreme hospitality. That is, if you are willing to try them he’d serve them to you wherever it would make you comfortable (on a boat, with a goat, in the rain on a train, in a house with a mouse, etc.). No matter your reluctance, Sam is offering you green eggs and ham and, apparently even if you choose to NEVER try them, he will continue extending the invitation to you. If the day comes when you do give it a shot – wow! What a party.

The parallel was too easy for me, I thought, wow, this woman is brilliant. Anyone taking time to read an article in a church newsletter likely has a relationship with Jesus that makes their life better than if they were without that relationship. This relationship is attrac-

tive to us and in our heart of hearts we really do wish everyone else could experience it. Thus, the call to be as Sam I am.

The rub comes, of course, because most people respond to anything they are not doing or involved in negatively. This did not even phase Sam I am, but it most often derails us. If we muster up the courage to invite a friend to worship, bible study, small group or even just to look at the church website and are greeted with that expected and typical initial negative response, most generally say to themselves “ok, I asked” and never ask that cousin, friend, associate or neighbor again.

The truth, as simple as a children’s book, is that God loves you, your friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors and desires each of you to experience peace and life in abundant and eternal ways. Jesus says in John 10:10; “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” Yet many people do not have this peace and abundant life that God planned because they have become separated from it during the course of their lives.

Paul wrote “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” and John wrote “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these

things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” This is good news! Clearly Christ is the bridge that spans the gap between God and humanity and the bridge is for all.

The good news comes with a challenge. Christians are to persistently invite everyone we know to cross the bridge. I know this is hard – if it was easy it would probably be done by now.

So often we say, knowing Christ is a personal thing, and indeed it is, that also should make it easy to share. Who could you possibly know more about than yourself and if sharing Christ is truly sharing the relationship you have, it would seem you are already well equipped for the task.

Earlier this week a friend told me “Our faith is in neutral until we express it to another.” I love that. Each of us has a faith story to tell, each of us has an experience or batch of experiences that need to be served up as invitations to those we know and love. The invitation to receive the life God desires is ours to give and we need to pray for faith, courage and persistence to tell it to all anywhere (on a boat, with a goat, in the rain on a train, in a house with a mouse ?). Otherwise our future and usefulness to God seems very bleak.

Big Idea: Five Stories Jesus told that you need to know and why

July 26 The Laborers in the Vineyard (astonished by grace)
Matthew 20:1-16

August 2 The Marriage Feast (urgency of making a choice)
Matthew 22:1-14
Holy Communion

Feasibility Study for Capital Campaign Coming to You!

Dr. Steve McSwain, our Cargill Associates campaign director, will be leading us in a feasibility study regarding our capital campaign. During the first week of August you will receive a questionnaire regarding the campaign. PLEASE fill yours out and return it to Cargill Associates in Fort Worth (they will provide the envelope/address). They will put the results together for us and present them in September. PLEASE plan to respond to the questionnaire because your thoughts are most valuable to us in this matter.

SERVING CHILDREN, SERVING GOD!

Caring Corner and FUMC have a wonderful job opportunity for someone to be able to serve children and serve God. We are seeking a person to fulfill the Food Service Manager position.

- full-time position
- Monday through Friday
- 8:30-4:00 with some flexibility

Anyone with a general knowledge of cooking and preparing food can fulfill this position.

Some of the duties include:

- preparing snacks
- preparing lunch
- shopping for food
- some paperwork
- working with a lot of really wonderful people

Please call Caring Corner at 377-8490 and talk to Dawn if interested in the position or have any questions.

Televised Services

Mediacom is televising our church services on Monday evenings at 7:00pm on Mediacom Channel 18.

Caregiving Group

The Thursday Caregivers Support Group Meetings will be held on the **first and third Thursdays at 1:30pm** at Summit Pointe Senior Living, just off of 29th Avenue in Marion. The group will meet in their private dining room. Meetings begin at 1:30 and end at 3:00pm. Respite care will be offering for loved ones.

Join us for support, prayer, information, and free respite. If you have a question, call Vicki Standley at the church office, 377-4856.



Youth News

Dave and Terry's Small Group will be holding a baby shower for Terry Stockert on August 5th at 7:30 pm. The location will be at Dave's house, 135 29th St Court, Marion.

Wednesday Night Youth Ministry has resumed. New Freshmen are to join the High School from 7:30-9:00 pm. New 6th Graders will join the group on August 19.

Youth Ministry is in need of Basketballs (large and small), 16 oz. cups, duct tape, and food volunteers. Please drop Pastor Melisa a line if you can assist. melisa@fumcmarion.org

Upcoming Sessions of GriefShare to begin

GriefShare sessions will start soon, so be ready to mark your calendars. GriefShare is a video-based study/support group for those who have lost a loved one. It is a faith-based program and has proven to be a significant part of the journey of healing for those who are grieving.

If you would like to get more information about GriefShare or would like to participate in an upcoming session, please contact Vicki Standley, Director of Pastoral Care, by emailing vicki@fumcmarion.org or calling the church office at 377-4856. Please indicate whether you would prefer to attend a daytime or evening session. GriefShare sessions will be scheduled based on the responses that are received.



What is F.L.Y.?

Over a year ago, area teachers gathered their passion to create F.L.Y. (Feeding Lunches to Youth and their families). This program makes lunches and delivers them to families at multiple locations in the Marion area when school is not in session due to extended breaks.

Who does F.L.Y. serve?

We serve children of Marion. Lunches are distributed to these sites:

- Azure Apartments Marion Cares Ministry
- King of Kings Lutheran Church Marion Cares Ministry
- Eagle Ridge Mobile Home Community
- Chapel Ridge Apartments
- Marion Village
- Squaw Creek Village
- Power on Monday for Novak School
- Camp Read-a-lot on Tuesday for Wilson School

What is the last day for F.L.Y.?

The last day for the summer is August 17. However, we are in discernment on what extended breaks to serve Christmas/Spring Break.

How much does a day of F.L.Y. cost?

One lunch costs about \$1.00. We average 300-350 lunches a day. FLY is a donation and grant sponsored ministry. We thank Donna Wolmatt for all her hours writing grants to support FLY. As this community ministry grows, we do seek additional sources of funding. If you know of any company or individual who is passionate about feeding the hungry, please let the office know.

A testimony from one of our FLY Interns:

Praise God for another awesome week at F.L.Y. We gave out well over 1300 lunches this week, and I continue to see Christ working all over this awesome ministry. I can't say thank you enough to all the volunteers we had this week. Every day they come in wanting to be here and excited to serve these kids and their families in the name of Jesus.



Something awesome happened on a Thursday that was completely of God and got me even more excited about F.L.Y. I went with a couple volunteers to Squaw Creek, one of our busiest sites, to hand out lunches. We had a large crowd of very thankful youth and adults as we gave away all 90 lunches that we had brought. As we were getting ready to head back to the church, a middle aged guy walked over and said that he didn't need lunch but he wanted to know what church we were with. He said that he was in a very rough time in his life and he needed a home church, and based on what he saw from F.L.Y he wanted that church to be FUMC, Marion. A volunteer and I were able to talk with him and direct him to Pastor Mike; please pray for this un-named guy and his family.

I've realized this summer that I don't have to cross an ocean to be a missionary. I've seen literally hundreds of people in this congregation become the hands and feet of Christ by making sandwiches and lunch bags and handing them out to high need families.

God is using you whether you've helped once or a dozen times with FLY and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I'm stoked to see what else incredible things God is going to do in the next few weeks of F.L.Y.

And the Lord will say unto them, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did unto me." – Matthew 25:40

Thank you and I look forward to the rest of the summer.

– Josh Chovan, FLY Co- Intern

Flood Recovery



July was an exciting month of 31 teams serving in eight cities. God has been moving. A team from Ohio was staining a homeowner's deck. This staining job was supposed to be completed 2 weeks prior, but due to rain we finally returned. On that day, a day we didn't expect to be there, the team was staining her deck. The homeowner mysteriously appeared stating she had been laid off that day. God's timing may not be our own, but it is loving. The Ohio team did many extra tasks to shower love on their homeowner. Our ministry is not about fixing homes, but about healing homeowners.

The United Methodist Church has partnered with Matthew 25 and Affordable Housing to create the Block by Block Program. This program will focus on restoring one block and all the homes on it. This will bring about neighborhoods instead of just houses. We are excited for this new opportunity and look forward to opening service opportunities to you.

At FUMC, we have a team of "Flood Tour Guides." This comes to us from Lois Novak: "We met a group of volunteers from Ohio at their work site. As we waited for all to put away their tools and gather, 2 women crossed the street. It was obvious they had been across before and had been asked to return when the Pastor was present. One stepped forward and explained their situations—single moms, several children of their own, also doing some day care. She explained that life was piling up on them, no respect from the kids, too much to do with too little to do it with, flood, the lure of alcohol, etc. All they asked for was PRAYER! When they finished their story, the pastor asked all to gather around and asked one layman to pray—and he would follow up. What followed during the next 10 minutes were 3 very moving and heartfelt prayers—the layman—one of the women and the pastor—then lengthy hugs, tears and quiet sharing with other members of the work team. God was in the middle of the circle. We all felt Him there—even though I was aware there was no traffic going by and no kids hollering while we prayed. Wow!"





Stewardship Corner

July 26

Greeters: 8:30 8th Ave Tom & Joan Padley
12th St Darrel & Eloise Larson
11:00 8th Ave Paula Fields
12th St Kurt & Terri Musser

Ushers: 8:30 Roger Tope, Irwin Renfer
9:45 A'Hearn family
11:00 Kirk & Brett McNeil, Atwater family

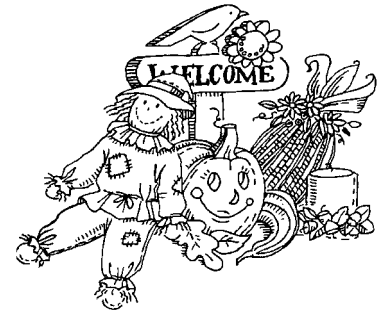
Acolytes: 8:30 Jakob Kehoe, Tristan Bennett
11:00 Daly Quinn, Crystal Zimmerman

August 2

Greeters: 8:30am 8th Ave Jean Tanner, 12th St Wilbur & Sherry Busch
12th St
11:00 8th Ave Pam Couser, 12th St Brad & Linda Peyton
12th St

Ushers: 8:30 Lee Coppock, Ralph & Josh Standley, Annette Zink
9:45
11:00 Bill & Billie Werner

Acolytes: 8:30 Natalie Peyton, Michael Moeller
11:00 Jacob Davila, Tommy Schmitt



Just
13
weeks
until the
Bazaar
on
Saturday,
October 24



UMM

The United Methodist Men meet on the second Saturday at 8am in Fellowship Hall from September to May. Breakfast is served before the meeting.



UMW

July 28
Executive Board
3:30pm, Adult Library

Circles

August 5

Sarah 9:15am, LLCC

Miriam 9:30am, Mr. Beans

Rebekah 1:15pm, LLCC

August 6

The Bookends

7:00pm, Java Creek Café

Women's

Friendship Group

The Women's Friendship Group meets on the third Monday of each month at the Pizza Ranch in Marion at 11:00am. All single women of FUMC who are interested in a time of good fellowship and good food are invited to attend at any time. Call Idella Hogan, 377-1382, for more information or with questions.

UMW

Mission Day

August 27, 2009 (Thursday)

9:45 AM to 2:30 PM

Brown Bag lunch

Subject: Giving Our Hearts Away—
Native American Survival

Bring a sack lunch, dessert and
beverage provided.

More Information to follow.

Relax With a Book!

A Thousand Splendid Sons

by Khaled Hosseini

This author also wrote *The Kite Runner*. The story takes place in Afghanistan over a period of 30 years. During this time, the country was taken over by the Soviets and the Taliban, followed by the post-Taliban years. The lives of two women, Mariam and Laila, are the main focus as they struggle to survive in a world dominated by men. Living in continual fear and violence, read how they raise a family and try to find happiness. This book is one of several on the UMW Reading List, available at the church library.



Sewing Day Mission Trip

Friday, July 31, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Many FUMC women and girls make Sewing Day an annual Mission "Trip". We travel to Fellowship Hall (our own church basement) to sew school bags. The bags will be filled with the school supplies our church is collecting and then sent to hundreds of children worldwide who have no school supplies at all.

If you can sew, iron, cut, or pin from 9:00 – 3:00 or any part of that time on Friday, July 31, please call Elaine Coppock, 395-9532 or Mona Morgan, 377-3433 so that we'll be sure to have a place for everyone. We work, talk, laugh, and eat snacks. At noon many of us walk to a downtown café for lunch, but you can choose to do that or not. We hope you'll join us on this Mission "Trip." You won't even need to pack a suitcase!

Help Prepare Kids for School

1. Buy and fill a backpack with supplies for a local child. A great project for families, Sunday school classes and small groups. Return by August 5.

2. Buy supplies for Ingathering School Kits distributed by United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), both in the U.S. and abroad.

The Ingathering kits should contain the following items and be placed in plastic bag:

3 notebooks, approx. 8 1/2 by 11 WIDE RULED, 210 to 250 sheets total, spiral or bound (3 of the 70page notebooks usually on sale are great.)

1-30 cm metric ruler 1-2 1/2" eraser

1 box of 24 crayons 1 blunt scissors

1 hand pencil sharpener 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers

Money is always appreciated for bulk buying, items may be left in the narthex, above or below the coat racks

Lists are also available at the Welcome Center and church office. Monetary donations are always needed to complete the projects.

Thank You

I wish to take this opportunity to thank my church family for all the phone calls and cards I received while in the hospital. I did have great care at the hospital in Nebraska City. Luckily, I have cousins and friends there. Special thanks to Mike, Vicki and Norma for phone calls. It is great to be home and I am anxious to be able to drive. – *Doris Hoth*

To all my friends at FUMC, a big "thank you" for cards, call and flowers that I received on my 85th birthday. It is much appreciated to have a caring church family. – *Vivian Barnes*

Members of FUMC, thank you for the blood drive you held recently. Seventeen units were collected at the drive, and because of your combined generosity, as many as 51 patients will benefit from lifesaving blood products. We never know who will need blood next, but we do know that our donors and sponsors are always there to meet our needs. What you do saves lives. Thank you for your partnership to make lifesaving possible. – *David Green, President/CEO, Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center*



Visit our website at www.fumcmarion.org for information about the church, current activities, organizations, newsletter, etc. Articles for the newsletter can be submitted by email to norma@fumcmarion.org

LECTIONARY READINGS

July 26, 2009

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

August 2, 2009

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalm 51:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

BAPTISM: July 19, **Jace Gordon March**, son of Matt & Kristi March

WEDDING: July 18, **Hailey Murdoch & Quinn Casey**.

DEATHS: April 26, **Rev. William (Bill) Anderson**, father of Irma (Don) Pearson, grand-father of Jessica (Dan) Barr and Brent Pearson. A celebration of Bill's life service was held on July 17 at South Sioux City, NE.

April 27, **Mike Bell**, Rodney, IA, brother-in-law of Don (Irma) Pearson. Services were held in Onawa, IA.

July 4, **Dick (Richard) Wiles**, father of Linda Wiles (Mike Quist). Maryville, MO. Services were held on July 7.

July 4, **Hazel Swedberg**, mother of Carl (Bobbie) Swedberg. Memorial services were held on July 11.

July 7, **Barbara Flint**, wife of Roger Flint. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Aug. 14, at FUMC.

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 Doris French 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, JULY 29 by 5:00pm**. This issue will cover from August 9-22, 2009. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to norma@fumcmarion.org

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LABEL HERE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 26 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 2:00p UMM - Kernels Baseball Game	July 27 7:00p Boy Scouts (Black Light Room) 7:00p Boy Scouts (3rd Floor Education Rooms)	July 28 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 3:30p UMW Executive Board (Adult Library) 6:30p Beth Moore Study (Flood Office Main Level)	July 29 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 6:15p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Jan Fawcett's Small Group (Room 104) 6:30p Financial Peace (Parlor) 6:30p Financial Peace (Chapel) 7:30p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library)	July 30 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) Noon Set-up for Sewing Day (Fellowship Hall) 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	July 31 8:00a Sewing Day (Fellowship Hall) 6:00p Wedding Rehearsal - Collins/McCusker 7:00p Rehearsal Dinner Collins/McCusker (Fellowship Hall)	August 1 Wedding Karen Collins/ Derek McCusker 7:00p Wedding Reception (Fellowship Hall)
August 2 Communion Sunday 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 4:00p Girl Scouts (Room 303)	August 3 7:00p Boy Scouts (Black Light Room) 7:00p Boy Scouts (3rd Floor Education Rooms)	August 4 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 6:30p Beth Moore Study (Flood Office Main Level)	August 5 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:15a Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 1:00p Rebekah (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 6:15p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Jan Fawcett's Small Group (Room 104) 7:00p Mission Control (Flood Office Main Level) 7:30p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library)	August 6 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a TMC (Adult Library) 1:30p Caregivers @ Summit Pointe 6:30p New Member Class (Carn-UL) 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	August 7 5:30p Wedding Rehearsal - Klopfenstein/ Allen (Sanctuary)	August 8 Wedding - Jaclyn Klopfenstein & Jeremy Allen (Sanctuary) 7:00p FUMC 500 Card Club (Carnegie - LL)