



## Sunday, June 28

We invite veterans to be honored and presented at our 8:30am worship service on Sunday, June 28, 2009. You will be introduced during the service. Please wear all or any part of your uniform that you feel comfortable wearing to designate you as a veteran. Please ask the ushers to seat you in the reserved section. Invite your veteran friends to attend this special worship service with you. If you have any questions, please call the church office, 377-4856.



## FLY News! Wonderful Volunteers. Wondrous Lunches.

In our first week, we served 850 Lunches. This is a 350% increase from last year. Please continue to share the blessings from the fellowship of making sandwiches and assisting with passing out sandwiches with your friends of neighboring churches. Packing begins at 10:30 Monday thru Friday. Delivery goes out at noon and is usually done by 1pm. Please help however you can, whether it is just one morning or every week. Our growth is great. Our growth needs you. fly@fumcmarion.org

The Church Office and Caring Corner Daycare will be closed on Friday, July 3, for the Independence Day holiday.

**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. 13

June 26, 2009



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

## Motown and the Methodists

It seems on some issues Motown and the Methodists agree.

The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley condemned all war as the prime example of human depravity.

Edwin Starr burst onto the Motown stage a few decades ago with the powerful song “War” that blast across the airwaves of AM radio the question: “War, huh Good God y’all What is it good for?” While the artist answers what he has posed rhetorically, it is a question that Christians have struggled with for years.

At the edge of Independence Day and during this time of contemplating “Hot Potatoes”, I pose to you the challenge to critically think of an issue regarding our faith: war.

The current United Methodist position regarding war is very broad. Within the church, you will find groups and individuals who advocate many positions on war and peace in general, as well as on certain wars in particular. These stances range from traditional just war theory to traditional pacifism, with many variations on both. As a denomination, we encourage everyone to engage in prayerful study and reflection before taking a stand on issues such as war and peace. Furthermore, we offer official support for individuals and congregations that make conscientious choices with regard to war, with an emphasis on the conscientiousness and not the resulting choices that differ from person to person. Officially, only the General Conference can speak for The United Methodist Church on social issues such as war and peace. Every four years, the United Methodist Social Principles are reviewed and revised, along with the rest of the *Book of Discipline*. Regarding war, the Social Principles of our church state:

*We believe war is incompatible with the teachings and example of Christ. We therefore reject war as an instrument of*

*national foreign policy. We oppose unilateral first/preemptive strike actions and strategies on the part of any government. As disciples of Christ, we are called to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.....*

I have come to know as their pastor, many faithful men and women who have served in our armed forces to preserve or protect our freedoms or the freedoms of others. Most (who are willing to discuss their experiences) at some point or other echo sentiments parallel to the words Franklin Roosevelt spoke in 1936:

*“I have seen war. I have seen war on land and sea. I have seen blood running from the wounded.....I have seen the dead in the mud. I have seen cities destroyed...I have seen children starving. I have seen the agony of mothers and wives. I hate war.”*

Those that have served and seen conflict see nothing romantic or nostalgic in it, only the tragic conflict of life and life. While most I have talked to felt compelled to serve, most

also would have preferred not to have needed to be at war at all. As I write this article we are planning to celebrate our nation’s Independence by singing patriotic hymns, having an avenue of flags in the sanctuary, commending and commemorating our veterans on Sunday the 28th. The historical cabinet in the main hallway has been transformed to a memorial for the men we have lost from FUMC in war.

We commend and commemorate and celebrate our Independence and those responsible for granting it not because we love war or desire to feel nostalgic about it, but rather as people of faith we recognize the tragedy of it. We recognize the difficult ugliness of it and the profound sacrifice of life and living war demands from human beings and we would be remiss if we did not take time to thank them and remember those lost on the battlefield.

Christians always desire a world where the principles of Jesus abound and peaceable means of resolving conflict can be found because God’s way is the best way.

It is good that we can think and talk about these things. – Rev. Mike

## Big Idea: Hot Potatoes Preachers fear Preaching

June 28

### Situational Ethics or Universal Truths?

Proverbs 3: 3-8  
8:30am Service - Celebration of our Independence/  
Veterans March/Boy Scout & Parade of Flags

July 5

### Who goes to heaven and who needs hell?

Ephesians 1:3-14, Luke 16:19-31  
Holy Communion



## Congratulations

### First United Methodist Church Received the Special Disaster Award Governor’s Volunteer Award

June 19, 2009

Thank you for all those who helped over the past 365 days in Flood Recovery. You are a leader in our community.

### First United Methodist Church Received the Community Service Partnership Award Habitat for Humanity

June 19, 2009

As we continue to support the community, we look forward to new partnerships in the future.

## 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

Wednesday Youth Ministry will take a break from after June 3 till July 26th. Special event status will be emailed. If you do not receive the bi-monthly emails, please email Pastor Melisa to be placed on the list.  
melisa@fumcmarion.org

**SGU09**  
SUMMER GAMES UNIVERSITY

**For grades 6-12  
at the Grinnell College  
campus on July 20-24**

Go to  
[www.summergamesuniversity.org](http://www.summergamesuniversity.org)

for Summer Games University Information, cool promo videos and registration.



**“Tuesdays at 2”  
needs 1000 cookies  
on Tuesday, July 14.**

That is 84 dozen! We will have 350 or more flood recovery volunteers working here that day. If you would like to donate a few dozen cookies, call the Flood Office, 377-5344, or Sarah Morgan, 721-3688, to help provide a sweet snack in appreciation to the volunteers.

## FEATURE EDITION:

# Administrative Committees and the Status of Our Church

Greetings from your **Finance and Stewardship Committee,**

We would like to start off by thanking each of you for your continued gifts. Even though we are inundated with bad news about our economy, giving has remained consistent with 2008. Your generosity is appreciated.

We are also grateful for the stewardship displayed by our pastors, staff, and other administrative committees. It is easy for us to put a budget in place, but the challenge is for everyone to remain within its boundaries. Not only did everyone accept a severely reduced budget, but we are currently operating well within the 2009 plan. (Note that we are currently paying only 80% of our apportionments.)

As for our committee activities, our focus is still monitoring the current financial situation, but we have begun to think about 2010 budgeting. We are also helping to look at capital campaigns for the building fund and will soon be working on a pledge drive.

At the end of the first quarter, you may have noticed that you didn't receive a giving statement. As a cost savings, we have decided to send statements semi-annually, rather than quarterly. If you need a statement in the interim, please contact the church office and one will be provided.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about our Church finances, please contact any of our committee members: Ryan Colerick, Gene Gerber, Lauren Noble, Chris Donohue, Ken Jolliffe, Bill Haesy, Eric Dalton, Echo Wecker, Jen McDonald.

**The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)** is defined and charted by the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. This committee has the primary responsibility to the church staff for encouragement, support, performance evaluation, professional development, spiritual renewal and their effectiveness in promoting the mission and ministry of First United Methodist Church.

This committee is consistent with many at FUMC with a three year rotating class style commitment of its members. SPRC has 10 members, 3 per class and a youth representative. The committee is further defined by three sub-committees: Personnel, Staff Development, and Communication and Recruitment.

SPRC meets monthly and the Pastors are invited and expected to attend. They provide the committee with their unique insight and perspective on the direction and effectiveness of the ministry at FUMC. These insights and the ever changing needs of our congregation often lead the SPRC to reevaluate the staffing needs of FUMC and propose, define and fill new staff positions to more closely align with the needs and direction of our mission in ministry. This year the SPRC has reviewed and approved updates to the Personnel Policy and Job Description of several staff positions.

January of this year the personnel sub-committee of SPRC and the Pastoral staff attended a district wide Development Seminar at St. Paul's Methodist Church. The seminar was commissioned by the district superintendent to help train, educate and encourage staff parish relation committees in concepts and philosophies of staff support and evaluation techniques.

SPRC has recently hired Matt German as our summer Ministry Intern. In this role Matt will shadow Pastor Mike on many different aspects of his role as Senior Pastor to experience first hand the realities and responsibilities of his day to day duties. Matt will enroll in seminary in the fall.



### SPRC Committee members:

Front Row l to r: Matt Wildman, Connie Miller, John Terry, Middle Row: Lee Dwyer, Linda Liston, Linda Henecke. Back Row: Stacey Twedt, Mark Seckman, Kathy Dvorak (Missing: Bob Shireman)

**The Board of Trustees** is made up of nine dedicated men and women charged with the responsibility to care and maintain all the physical property that makes up Marion FUMC. This includes three buildings (approx. 80,000 sq ft), all of the building contents and the grounds.

Like any aging building, there is always something that needs attention and the Trustees have been very intentional over the past couple of years to implement preventative maintenance programs to maintain the

mechanical systems in each of our buildings. Many energy saving steps have also been taken to decrease our utility costs, which makes up 49% of the Trustee budget.

The Trustees are very grateful for all those who answer the call to volunteer for the cleanup days, special projects, and landscape upkeep. We take financial stewardship very seriously, so utilizing in-house skills and talents is critical. We are also very grateful to the families that have made memorial donations to improve our church; this year donations have included art work, a bicycle rack and the new marquee sign on 12th Avenue. Thank you and God Bless.

Dr. Lynn L'Abbe, Board of Trustees – Chair

Committee Members: Lynn L'Abbe, Ron Boss, Bill Werner, Sue Atwater, Tom Ridge, Don Wolmutt, Gary Braksiek, Mike Cady, Linda Toms.

## Building Committee Update...

**At All Together Day you heard and saw the vision, now....**



We are excited to announce that we have hired a professional consulting firm to help lead us in our Capital Campaign. Dr. Steve McSwain of Cargill associates will be supporting us. Many of you may remember Steve from prior campaigns here at FUMC, he is thrilled to be back with us, as you are an awesome congregation to work with and he remembers many of us with great fondness.

We looked at several firms and had two come in to present to us personally. After reviewing, we felt that Cargill was best in line with our vision and culture here at FUMC. Cargill is a long established firm serving thousands of churches nation wide. They are firmly based on a Christian foundation and bring tremendous experience to the table. Steve will get started as soon as next week, meeting with Staff and committees to do all the needed planning. We can look forward to some fun events, planning and study and expect the campaign to be in full force this fall in conjunction with our annual giving campaign.

Current Building Fund Balance: \$101,372.90. Thank you for your continued support of this vision, even before the formal campaign has kicked off!!

Watch for more to come!!!

Visit our website at [www.fumcmarion.org](http://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](mailto:norma@fumcmarion.org).





# Stewardship Corner

## June 28

**Greeters:** 8:30 8th Ave Roger & Diana Baldwin  
12th St James & Rosalyn Clauson  
11:00 8th Ave Wanda Campbell  
12th St Walt & Shelby Roth

**Ushers:** 8:30 Ron & Ruth Jahnke, Mona Morgan, Annette Zink  
9:45 to be assigned  
11:00 Laura & Steve Hamilton, Eric and Casey Brown

**Acolytes:** 8:30 Beth Knapp, Daniel Tribble  
11:00 Jenae Pederson, Lindsay Brown

## July 5

**Greeters:** 8:30 8th Mona Morgan, Marj Reynolds  
12th St John & Louise Nieland  
11:00 8th Janeen Fink  
12th St Chris & Mary Blanchard

**Ushers:** 8:30 Roger Tope, Irwin Renfer  
9:45 to be assigned  
11:00 Kirk & Brett McNeil, Atwater family

**Acolytes:** 8:30 Dalton Whitcher-Underwood, Nick Rude  
11:00 Wendy Hamer, Mikalah Applegate



## UMM Annual UMM All Church

### Baseball Outing

**Sunday, July 26 at 2:00**  
CR Kernels vs. South Bend  
Tailgate party before the game  
Enjoy world famous UMM  
grilled burgers/dogs  
Free Christian concert after the  
game. Tickets are \$8 each. To  
reserve your tickets, call Kirk  
McNeil at 447-1284, or the  
church office. Come out to the  
ballpark and enjoy some good  
Food, Fellowship, and Fun!



## UMW Circles

### July 1 Rebekah

11:00am Mystery Trip  
Meet at Eula Woods,  
1000 12th St, 377-1073

### July 2

**The Bookends**  
7:00pm at Java Creek Café

### July 8

**Mary**  
Lunch – Check with circle  
chair for details

### July 9

**Needle Designers**  
9:30am, LLCC

### Wesleyan

9:30am, Adult Library

### Joyful Cooks

6:30pm, Marilyn Sandoval's,  
7300 Hampshire DR NE,  
Cedar Rapids 373-2897

## 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  
More Information to Follow

## SCHOOL'S OUT Kids Are Enjoying Summer!

### It's time for FUMC to prepare for the 2009-2010 school year!

We have committed to fill **100 Back-Packs** for children at Marion and Linn Mar Schools. WE NEED 100 FILLED BACK-PACKS! Please be watching for "that good buy". Grade Supply School Lists of supplies needed will be passed out on July 12. Back-Packs and the stuff to fill them must be at the church by August 5, so we can get them together and they can be blessed at Worship on August 9. As soon as possible, we will make need lists for each grade available to you. In the meantime, be watching for the Back to School sales. Filled Backpacks can be delivered to the Church Office or contact Elaine Coppock---395-9532 or Lois Novak---377-2092 and let them know.

### Thanksgiving Ingathering School Kits

Sewers have been making school bags for Ingathering all winter and spring. Over 1200 so far!! More will be finished at the Women's Sewing Day, Friday, July 31, in Fellowship Hall. We have covenanted with Pastor Melissa to fill **750** of them with the needed school supplies.

### Thanksgiving Ingathering School kits will be filled with the following items:

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.



## Sewing Day is Friday, July 31

Many FUMC women make Sewing Day an annual mission "trip". We travel to Fellowship Hall (our own church basement) to sew school bags. The handsome handmade bags are sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief depot where they are filled with basic educational tools such as paper, pencil, and rulers. Then away they go to hundreds of children worldwide who have no school supplies at all. How thrilled they must be to not only get the tools, but a sturdy, useful bag, too.

If you can sew, iron, cut, or pin, please join us on this mission trip. Call Elaine Coppock, 395-9532 or Mona Morgan, 377-3433 to let us know you are coming. You can work from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM or any part of that time. We need to know how many are coming so we have a place for everyone. Talking and laughing are definitely permitted.

**SEWING DAY MISSION "TRIP"— FRIDAY, July 31, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**



### 3rd – 5th Grade

## H . I . S . CAMP

Hands In Service!

It's a NEW camping opportunity  
designed with you in mind.

July 26 – 28

Meet Sunday, July 26 at 3:00 pm New Horizon's Methodist Church in Coralville.

This is a camp tailored to our kids for a fraction of normal camp costs...

Parents return at 6:30 Tuesday, July 28 for pizza, fellowship and a look at our time playing and working.

What exactly will you do?

Wake up to devotions & breakfast • Join together to serve in the community • Eat lunch and fellowship • Gather for dinner & some Bible Study • Wrap up the day with fun activities and fellowship (Sleep will be part of the deal at night!)

Check out the website, the welcome center in the Narthex or office for registration information. Questions? Contact Val at val@fumcmarion.org or 373-8623

## THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



Camp E.D.G.E. couldn't have been such an AWESOME success without the help of SO many here at FUMC. Thank you for your donations, your time, your prayers, etc. Because of your support, kids were able to see that we can  
**Experience & Discover God Everywhere!!! AMEN!**

## Thank You

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make the Celebration Brunch a huge success!!

Thank you to my church family for remembering me on my 80th birthday. Your cards and phone calls were much appreciated and made my day special.  
– Anita Schons



## Sweet Treats and Ice Cream

An ice cream social sponsored by the United Methodist Women of FUMC.

**TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009**  
from 5:45-7:00 pm

In Fellowship Hall  
Free will donation to benefit the mission trips and other mission projects.

### FEATURING MESSAGES FROM NICARAGUA

BY SARAH MORGAN  
7:00 pm

Sarah spent the last school year doing missionary work in Nicaragua.

Come and hear about her experiences when serving our Lord in a very needy country.



## Just 17 weeks until the Bazaar on Saturday, October 24.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

**June 28, 2009**

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

**July 5, 2009**

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

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

**DEATH:** Anna Quist, Spencer, IA, mother of Mike Quist (Linda Wiles). Services were held on June 12.

June 20, Laverne "Vernie" Dvorak, Lone Tree, IA, mother of John (Kathy) Dvorak, grandmother of Jennifer (Sean) Dunn.

**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 **TUESDAY, JUNE 30 by 5:00pm**. This issue will cover from July 12 through July 25, 2009. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to [norma@fumcmarion.org](mailto:norma@fumcmarion.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      **Caring Corner**  
**Office** 377-4856      377-8490

## Staff

- Pastor Mike Morgan**  
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- Pastor Melisa Bracht-Wagner**  
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[mikeransom@fumcmarion.org](mailto:mikeransom@fumcmarion.org)
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[marylee@fumcmarion.org](mailto:marylee@fumcmarion.org)
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[matt@fumcmarion.org](mailto:matt@fumcmarion.org)
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[dawn@fumcmarion.org](mailto:dawn@fumcmarion.org)
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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>June 28</b> 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 Lois McCormack - 100th Birthday Party for Bernice Clark (Fellowship Hall)	<b>June 29</b> 7:00p Boy Scouts (3rd Floor Education Rooms & Black Light Room)	<b>June 30</b> 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL)	<b>July 1</b> 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:15a Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 6:30p Jan Fawcett's Small Group (Room 104) 6:30p Financial Peace (Parlor) 6:30p Financial Peace (Chapel) 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library)	<b>July 2</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 1:30p Caregivers @ Summit Pointe 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	<b>July 3</b> Church Office Closed	<b>July 4</b>
<b>July 5</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b> 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)	<b>July 6</b> 7:00p Boy Scouts (3rd Floor Education Rooms) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Black Light Room)	<b>July 7</b> 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL)	<b>July 8</b> 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:30a Susanna Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 6:30p Financial Peace (Parlor) 6:30p Financial Peace (Chapel) 6:30p Jan Fawcett's Small Group (Room 104) 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library)	<b>July 9</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a TMC (Adult Library) 9:15a Sowers Circle (Fellowship Hall) 9:30a Needle Designers Circle (Carnegie - LL) 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	<b>July 10</b>	<b>July 11</b> 7:00p FUMC 500 Card Club (Carnegie - LL)