

Committees at a Glance

October 12
6:15pm Daycare Board
Room 306



New Member Classes

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:

Monday, October 26 – 6:30-8:30pm
Monday, November 2 – 6:30-8:30pm
Monday, November 9 – 6:30-8:30pm
Sunday, November 15 – Membership Service

First class will begin in the Upper Level of the Carnegie Center.

To register or for more information, contact Karen Schmitz at 377-4856 or Karen@fumcmarion.org. Please let us know if you will need child care.

→
On September 13th, Dr. Steve McSwain presented the results of the Feasibility Study that was performed by Cargill Associates, to determine if there is sufficient support to move forward with a capital campaign. During the study, data was collected from 42 leadership interview participants and 428 questionnaire respondents along with membership, attendance, and giving trends over the past 3-5 years. The observations and recommendations from the report are printed at right:
→

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. 20

October 2, 2009



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

The Multilingual God

On the Mount of Olives directly across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem stands the “Church of the Lord’s Prayer.” The church itself is not particularly remarkable but the courtyard and garden is very interesting.

The garden and courtyard are walled in by a 12 foot high wall that every few feet has a 3 by 6 foot mosaic of the Lord’s Prayer. Each of the 104 mosaic is in a different language, none repeats. It was there one February morning that I had an epiphany regarding a fact that had always been clearly stated to me – but I had an “ah ha” moment just the same.

The epiphany was that God understands us. God understands your language. He is a multilingual God that understands every word and thought uttered across the globe. Many of you might be saying – we know, Pastor, tell us something new, offer a new insight. Not today, the insight is that God understands your language – speak to the Lord.

God understands the rejoicing of a new parent who has been blessed with a healthy baby. God understands the teenager who is exuberant that they have just received their salvation. God understands the grandparent who is so proud of their grandchildren and God understand the happiness of newlyweds on their honeymoon.

God also understands the language of the recently divorced person whose heart is lonely, the teenager fighting anorexia, the father wrestling with a gambling addiction, the mother whose day is dark with depression. God understands the spouse who daily prays for his spouse with dementia, the parents who wait for their children to come to Christ and the one who battles daily physical issues.

Speak, God hears your prayers. Speak. God will come to your assistance.

For the last couple of years, our 8:30 service has begun with the chorus:

Lord, Listen to your children prayin’

*Lord send your Spirit in this place,
Lord listen to your children prayin’
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

These lines remind us that God listens and hears our prayers and in our conversations with the Lord we are to depend on Him and he will give us what we need for the day. God desires simple obedience and Faith. We are to exercise faith that moves mountains but know that it is still God who moves them.

Speak, your God hears your prayers. Speak from your heart, speak from your soul, speak from your mind. Speak with certainty that the Lord knows your language and is able, willing and ready to bless you with what you need. Speak to God, he knows your language and desires to hear from you – everyday.

Peace, Love, Joy,
Mike

Pre-Campaign Feasibility Study Results

Observations

Programs and Ministries

- Seventy-seven percent (77%) of respondents indicated feelings of moderately high to very high enthusiasm about the work and programs of First United Methodist Church.
- Ninety-seven percent (97%) of respondents indicated the church communicates well to very well with the congregation involving events, plans, and programs.
- Church Staff, Worship and Music Ministry and Missions and Outreach Programs were ranked by respondents as the church’s greatest strengths.
- Interviewees indicated Building and Facilities, Adult Education Programs and Leadership Training and Development as areas in most need of improvement and/or expansion, and questionnaire respondents indicated Building and Facilities, Leadership Training and Development and Evangelism Programs as areas in most need of improvement and/or expansion.

Giving

- Sixty-five percent (65%) of participating households give less than \$1,000 annually. This is a spiritual issue that needs to be addressed. Stewardship education is needed.
- The average annual gift per contributing household of First United Methodist Church is \$1,218. This needs to be enhanced. A \$1,800 average annual gift would be in line for a church your size.
- Sixty-one percent (61%) of those interviewed indicated their giving decisions are based on 10% or more of household income. The largest percentage (45%) of questionnaire respondents indicated their giving decisions are based on a dollar amount. This is another indicator

that stewardship education is needed. “What is affordable” is not a Biblical stewardship principle.

- Forty-seven percent (47%) of respondents indicated First United Methodist Church meets its current financial obligations very well and 37% indicated with occasional difficulty. Enhanced levels of annual giving will solve this perception.
- Sixty-six percent (66%) of respondents indicated adequate information is available about the handling and allocation of church funds.

Relocation

- Fifty-seven percent (57%) of respondents indicated the church needs to proceed at this time with plans as outlined in the Vision Statement, and 20% of questionnaire respondents indicated they are undecided at this time.
- Based on the present size, attendance and giving levels of First United Methodist Church, the \$2,600,000 project for land acquisition is too large and needs to be scaled back.
- The cost of land should not exceed the receipts from the first three-year capital campaign.

Capital Stewardship Program

- Thirty-six percent (36%) of respondents considered \$1,000,000 to \$1,300,000 to be attainable in a three-year Capital Stewardship Program.
- Ninety-one percent (91%) of those interviewed and 41% of the questionnaire respondents will consider a personal gift to support a three-year commitment above their regular giving to the annual budget. Thirty-five percent (35%) of questionnaire respondents indicated they are undecided at this time.
- Cargill Associates’ experience with relocation indicates at least three, three-

year capital campaigns will be needed to relocate the church. Some churches have conducted three consecutive three-year capital campaigns and others have phased the three capital campaigns over a period of years.

- Church leaders need to create a debt service line item in the 2010 annual operating budget and then grow this line item over the next nine years to manage debt from the relocation.
- Self-perceived gifts totaling \$752,700 were discovered from 128 households, representing approximately 21% of the 606 households that presently participate in annual giving.

Recommendations

- A. In light of the Pre-Campaign Feasibility Study, Cargill Associates recommends that First United Methodist Church proceed with plans for a Capital Stewardship Program. The schedule should be **September 2009 to January 2010**.
- B. Church leadership will need to continue developing a comprehensive information flow to members.
- C. We recommend that First United Methodist Church make giving envelopes available on a monthly or bimonthly basis. Currently, they are distributed annually. Such a service can increase the giving level for all causes dramatically.
- D. First United Methodist Church needs to passionately promote stewardship among all members, especially for those not regularly supporting the church.
- E. During the capital giving period, a consistent, solid program of budget growth is essential.

If you wish to read the complete report, you may check out a copy at the Church Office, or view online at <http://www.fumcmarion.org/pdfs/FUMC-M%20REP.pdf>

POWER UP!!

Praise Our Wonderful and Everlasting Redeemer

Where are you getting connected???

We fellowship through games and activities
We grow as we dig into God's Word
We connect with one another and with God!!

Powerhouse

get connected

Wednesdays

Elementary kids:

6:15 – 7:30pm Room 303/305

Preschool kids:

6:30 – 7:30pm Room 206

JOIN US FOR POWERHOUSE IN OCTOBER

October 7

It's Glow in the Dark Night

(come ready to shine for Jesus)

October 14

Baseball Night

(support your favorite team)

October 21

Orange Night

(how much orange can you wear??)

October 28

Join us for Trick or Trunk with you family



Calling all Kindergarten - Fifth Graders!

Choir is back in session

Bring your voices, smiles, and friends to a rehearsal time near you!

K- 2 graders: Sunday mornings
9:45-10:00 – 3rd Floor

3- 5 graders: Wednesdays
6:00-6:30 – Choir Room

Any questions, contact Angie Moss at 651-4882 or amoss@fumcmarion.org



3rd, 4th & 5th Graders....

It's An October

JAM Session!!

Just what is JAM????

Food – we have a kid friendly meal (i.e. hamburgers, pizza, walking tacos)

Fun – We play games and just get crazy.

Fellowship – We get to know each other and do some service projects along the way!

To celebrate a fun time or dress up – come as your favorite sports personality or at least in your favorite teams colors

(The most committed fan may receive a prize!)

Sunday, October 25th 5:30-7:00
We'll meet in room 303/305

Join us for food, fun, & fellowship!! Friends are always welcome! Please RSVP to Val so we know how much food to have!! 373-8623 or val@fumcmarion.org



Moms, Dads, Grandmas & Grandpas

Our FUMC kids will be exploring the JOY of giving during October in Sunday School and they will be making JOY banks.

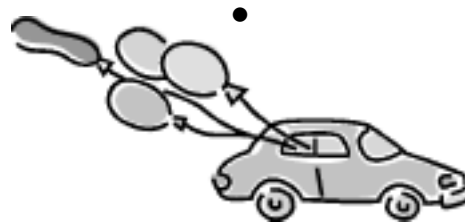
Jesus
Others
You

Help your child to fill their JOY banks by earning offering money, completing service projects for the church and community. This is an opportunity to learn to give as a family and grow closer to our precious, Lord Jesus.

They will be presenting their JOY banks to the church on **Sunday, November 1.**

HAVE FUN!!! And find the JOY of giving together!

Questions? Contact Val at 373-8623 or val@fumcmarion.org



It's October and time for....

TRICK OR TRUNKING!!

October 28 from 6:00 – 7:30

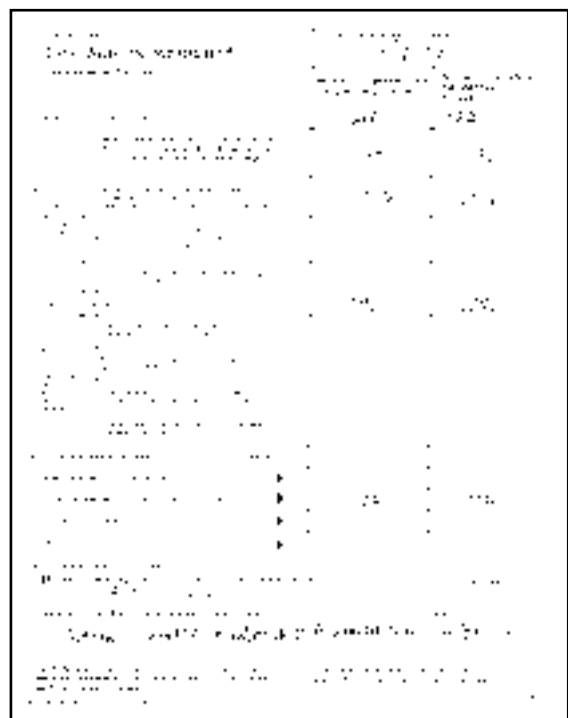
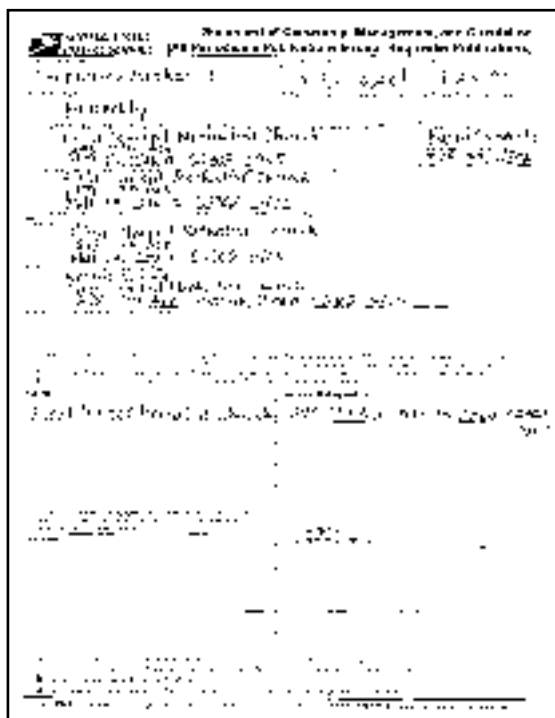
Kids: Come with your WILDEST HAIR or Craziest hat

Meet in your Powerhouse classroom or join us at Farmers State Bank
We'll have the FUMC youth praise band, carnival games, and...
WALKING TACOS!!!!



ADULTS: Back into a spot at Farmers State Bank
Decorate your trunk (not required) ...Break out the candy
Please let Val know if you are able to attend so we know how big our candy bags should be!! val@fumcmarion.org or 373-8623

Postal Requirements





Stewardship Corner

October 4

Greeters: 8:30 8th Ave Bob & Sherry Murray
12th St Dean & Norma Baughman
11:00 8th Ave Debbie Hahn
12th St McNeil Family

Ushers: 8:30 Ned & Connie Albert, Ron & Ruth Jahnke
9:45 Kay McGuire, Tim & Ronda Moody.
11:00 Kim Tchon, Anita Wilkinson, Larry & Nate Witzel

Acolytes: 8:30 Nathan Baldwin, Zach Frantz
11:00 Monica Richmann, Logan Vance

October 11

Greeters: 8:30 8th Deb Charlier
12th St Neil & Kay Turner
11:00 8th Paula Fields
12th St Kurt & Terri Musser

Ushers: 8:30 Ned & Connie Albert, Ron & Ruth Jahnke
9:45 Kay McGuire
11:00 Kim Tchon, Eric Brown, Larry & Nate Witzel

Acolytes: 8:30 Nathan Baldwin, Zach Frantz
11:00 Monica Richmann, Logan Vance

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



UMM

**October 10 8:00am
Breakfast and Meeting,**

Fellowship Hall. All men are welcome.



UMW

**October 16-18
Mission Education
Event**

Marshalltown, Iowa

Circles

October 7

Sarah 9:15am, LLCC

Miriam 12:00 Noon Potluck
Moundview Manor meeting room
(Note change of time from regular meeting time)

October 8

Needle Designers 9:30am, LLCC
Wesleyan 9:30am, Adult Library
Rebekah 1:15pm, Fellowship Hall
(Note change of date from regular meeting time)

October 12

Faith 7:00pm, 3rd Base

October 14

Susanna 9:30am, LLCC

Mary/Agape 1:00pm, Esther Lees
865 30th St, 377-8030

October 15

The Page Turners
1:30pm, Adult Library
Book Selection: *The Secret*
(Seasons of Grace series) by
Beverly Lewis

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.

Televised Services

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

How to be a healthier You!

If you have a chronic illness, or are caring for someone who does, this is an opportunity you don't want to miss. Beginning **Wednesday October 14**, FUMC will be hosting a *Healthy Living with a Chronic Condition Self-Management* program. The program will meet every Wednesday afternoon from **1:00 to 3:30 pm in Room 106** and will run for 6 weeks. The class will be led by trained volunteers from St. Luke's hospital.

The goal of the program is to achieve the greatest possible physical capability and pleasure from life. You will learn to successfully:

- Manage your symptoms
- Fight fatigue – making your daily tasks easier
- Breathe better
- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Take back control of your condition
- Communicate better with your healthcare team

Registrations are requested, so call Vicki at 377-4856, or email Vicki@fumcmarion.org for more information. There is a \$20 fee for the class which covers materials, but can be waived if necessary.

UMW Bazaar is Saturday, October 24, 2009

It's hard to believe that fall is here and with it our annual Bazaar. In case you are wondering how you can donate, we have a few more suggestions:

The Candy Shoppe is always popular with the shoppers and needs to be filled with many yummys. They can use divinity, peanut brittle, fudge, caramel corn, toffee and taffy candies, mints, chocolate peanut clusters and any other 'delights' you enjoy stirring up.

The Bakery Shop is a busy place. Bring in your fresh baked breads, small pies, brownies, cream puffs and sweet breads. They will all fly off the shelves.

The Country Store and Holiday Room welcome all your donations. You will find wonderful buys here!

Our Bazaar Luncheon is 11:00am to 1:00 pm. Homemade pies, a great variety of salads, soup and sandwich, and our famous ham loaf plate will satisfy your taste buds.

Mark your calendar.

Long Term Care Insurance Seminar on Saturday, October 24



Have you looked at your Long Term Care Insurance policy lately? A Complimentary "Question and Answer" review session will be held to discuss any concerns you or your family member may have with respect to your coverage, and to learn of some techniques I have developed to help you get the most out of the policy you purchased or may be considering purchasing, or simply to gain a better understanding and "peace of mind" regarding this type of insurance.

"I became an expert on these things through the "back door" when my mother needed to make a claim. I suspect others are as unformed as I was. Now, after months of research the pastor feels my expertise could be of great gain to you."

This is NOT a sales seminar, but rather an educational session to prepare for current or future long term care needs. I am also NOT promoting any specific insurance company or agent.

Please bring your Long Term Care Insurance policy with you to the seminar, if it is available.

The seminar will be held on Saturday, October 24, from 9:00-11:00 A.M. in Carnegie Center (Third floor).

Please contact the church office if you are interested in attending. Thank you for your interest in this class! – Cal Birkey

Thank You

POWERHOUSE THANKS YOU!

Thank you once again, FUMC family members. What a glorious day at the Swamp Fox Festival. The weather was gorgeous, the pie and ice cream plentiful, the volunteers a joy. Once again you came through, giving from your heart. Pie makers, you are the best! This was the most pies I had seen for this event and what delicious varieties! Volunteers, you are tremendous! Several worked double shifts to fill in the many gaps. There were many of you who came out to support us as well. With all your God given gifts, talents and time, we once again raised a significant amount for our Wednesday evening programs. THANK YOU everyone!

Parents Double Date Night

- Sponsored by The 20-some-things Small Group
- Friday, October 16th from 7:00 – 9:30 pm
- Enjoy a night out with another couple while we watch your children, ages 2 – 12.
- We encourage you to invite a couple from outside our church community.
- Sign up will start Sunday, Sept. 27th with limited space available.
- If you would like to volunteer to help with childcare, please contact Jon Moss.



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

October 4, 2009

Job 1:1, 2:1-10
Psalm 26 or Psalm 25
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Mark 10: 2-16

October 11, 2009

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

BAPTISM: Sept 20, **Carly Kathleen Manning**, daughter of Bryce & Jessica Manning

BIRTH: Sept 23, **Arabella Grace Bennett**, daughter of Tim & Sarah Bennett. Grandparents are Lyle & Margaret Hughes.

DEATHS: Sept 13, **Diane Evans**, family members include husband, Cliff, and daughter, Tracy (Michael) Pendegast.

Sept 29, **Lucille Tope**, West Union, mother of Roger (Margaret) Tope.

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, OCTOBER 7 by 5:00pm**. This issue will cover from Oct 18-Oct. 31, 2009. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to norma@fumcmarion.org

Church Information

First United Methodist Church
Corner of 12th Street and 8th Avenue
Church Office, 1298 7th Avenue
Marion, Iowa 52302
Office 377-4856

Fellowship Hall
377-4252

Caring Corner
377-8490

Staff

Pastor Mike Morgan
mike@fumcmarion.org

Director of Pastoral Care, Vicki Standley
vicki@fumcmarion.org

Business Administrator, Craig Liscum
craig@fumcmarion.org

Assimilation Coordinator, Karen Schmitz
karen@fumcmarion.org

Editor, Norma Swift
norma@fumcmarion.org

Director of Children's Christian Education & Discipleship, Val Lawrence
Val@fumcmarion.org

Director of Adult Christian Education & Discipleship, Jon Moss
jonmoss@fumcmarion.org

Director of Music, Mike Ransom
mikeransom@fumcmarion.org

Organist/Keyboardist, Diane Beach
diane@fumcmarion.org

Handbell Choir Directors, Mary Lee Parks and Angie Moss
marylee@fumcmarion.org

Children's Choir Director, Angie Moss

Youth Worship and Outreach Leader, Matt German
matt@fumcmarion.org

Caring Corner Daycare Director, Dawn Blair
dawn@fumcmarion.org

Custodian, Ardyce Port
ardyce@fumcmarion.org

Assistant Custodian, Alan Arduser
alan@fumcmarion.org

Maintenance, Leon Smock
lsmock@fumcmarion.org

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.

THE MARION METHODIST (USPS 877-620) is published bi-weekly by FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1298 7th Ave., Marion, IA 52302-3405. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, IA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1298 7th Ave., Marion, IA 52302-3405.



LABEL HERE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OCTOBER 4 Communion Sunday 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 Joyful Noise 3:00p Jubilation 4:00p Bell Canto 4:00p Girl Scouts (Room 303/305) 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - UL) 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL) 7:00p Generation Change (Rm 105)	OCTOBER 5 7:00p Boy Scouts (Black Light Room & 3rd Floor Education Rooms)	OCTOBER 6 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 1:30p Bible Study (Room 105) 7:00p Touch of Brass	OCTOBER 7 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 8:30a Caring Corner (Fellowship Hall) 9:15a Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Acolyte Training (Sanctuary) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (ULCC) 6:15p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p FPU (Chapel) 6:30p GriefShare (Flood Office Upper Level) 6:30p Powerhouse Classes 7:30p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:00p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	OCTOBER 8 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:30a Wesleyan Circle (Adult Library) 9:30a Needle Designers Circle (Carnegie - LL) 10:30a GriefShare (Flood Office Upper Level) 7:00p Leadership Team Meetings (Fellowship Hall) 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	OCTOBER 9 6:00a Men's Fraternity (Fellowship Hall) 5:00p Wedding Rehearsal - Cain/Neff (Sanctuary)	OCTOBER 10 8:00a UMM (Fellowship Hall) Wedding - Ashley Cain & Jake Neff (Sanctuary) 7:00p FUMC 500 Card Club (Carnegie - LL)
OCTOBER 11 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) 12:30p Praise One Practice (Sanctuary) 2:00p Joyful Noise 3:00p Jubilation 4:00p Bell Canto 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - UL) 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL) 7:00p Generation Change (Room 105)	OCTOBER 12 6:15p Daycare Board (Room 306) 7:00p Small Group - Labs (Room 105) 7:00p Boy Scouts (3rd Floor Education Rooms) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Black Light Room)	OCTOBER 13 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 1:30p Bible Study (Room 105) 6:00p Emmaus (Carnegie - UL) 6:00p Emmaus (Carnegie - LL) 7:00p Touch of Brass	OCTOBER 14 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:30a Susanna Circle (Carnegie - LL) 1:00p Healthy Living with Chronic Illness (Room 106) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 6:15p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Powerhouse Classes 6:30p FPU (Chapel) 6:30p GriefShare (Flood Office Upper Level) 7:30p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:00p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	OCTOBER 15 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a TMC (Adult Library) 10:30a GriefShare (Flood Office Upper Level) 1:30p Caregivers @ Summit Pointe 1:30p Page Turners Circle (Adult Library) 6:00p Girl Scouts (Room 104) 7:00p Building Committee (Adult Library)	OCTOBER 16 6:00a Men's Fraternity (Fellowship Hall)	OCTOBER 17