

All Together Day will be October 26

Our every other year tradition of having one service where we can be "all together" continues this fall. A seventy five minute worship service is planned on **Sunday, October 26th at 9:30 AM** in the gymnasium at Marion High School. All of our services at the church will be set aside that day and we will leave our campus to worship all together. **Put this date (October 26th at 9:30) on your calendar now!**

You can still register for Camp!

Summer Games University a camp for middle school and high school aged students, will meet this year at Grinnell College in Grinnell.. Sign up at the church office or online at www.summergamesuniversity.org. Join Pastor Mike and other pastors for a time of fun and spiritual growth.

Pictured Rocks Methodist Camp at Monticello has a variety of camps for all ages of children and adults. Pastor Dave Bracht-Wagner is the director. Learn more about a camp for your family at www.picturedrocks.org or ask Pastor Melisa Bracht-Wagner.

Information is also available at the Welcome Center in the entry and the church office. For a listing of other United Methodist Camps in Iowa, go to www.iaumc.org/camps.

All camps are centered on having fun and growing in faith. FUMC will pay \$100 or up to half of the cost of the camp registrations.



FUMC Blood Drive

Monday, June 30 at 4pm - 7pm
Carnegie Youth Room

To donate call the church office at 377-4856. 16 & 17 year olds can donate with parental consent. *Save a Life, donate blood!*

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 and a Sermon – Chapel
Church School for children and adults

11:00am

Blended Praise – Sanctuary

Wednesday Worship –

6:30 pm

Weeknight Church - Chapel



The Marion Methodist

Issue No. 13

June 27, 2008



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

Teeth in the Cog of a Big Wheel

One of the three missions of our church is fellowship which is fleshed out to mean that we will "uplift the community, offering support at all times." There is no lack of clarity as to what this means in regards to holy scripture and this time in the life of our metro area. Given the massive flood and issues it has brought our community, we have adopted Romans 12 as part of our communal mantra. Paul writes: "Love must be sincere... Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves... Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

As I shared in worship on June 15th the Pastors and Staff have engaged a skeletal plan for our involvement in the recovery effort that comes to life at the end of your investment. It has five pieces:

- 1) Be constant in **Prayer**. God has chosen to allow our prayers to influence him, so pray Christians pray! Pray for the peace of mind and heart and spirit our community needs to endure that which is before us.
- 2) Be **teammates**. No one person or church can express love to the whole community. We are teeth in the cog of a big wheel of recovery. Team with other organizations, companies, churches to make this happen. Involve your friends and keep the church aware of opportunities to help.
- 3) Be **preparing** in terms of 18-24 months. The American Red Cross rates disasters from 1-6 with Katrina and 9/11 being a 6. Eastern Iowa has been rated a 5 with our floods and tornado damage, so we must prepare our minds, souls, hearts and church

BIG IDEA FOR JULY:

A Mind for God

July 6	The nature of our theological task – to have a mind for God Communion	Romans 12:1-2
July 13	Scripture	II Timothy 3:16-17, Ephesians 6:17
July 20	Tradition	II Thessalonians 2:13-17
July 27	Reason	
August 3	Experience Communion	I John 1:1-4, Hebrews 11:1-13

for a long term recovery. Having been in the affected neighborhoods many times now, the recovery will have Katrina like issues with much colder weather. Thus, because of our assets and abilities as a church we have taken lessons from FUMC of Biloxi, MS and prepared to be a hosting site for mission groups coming to help work (like our groups have gone elsewhere on mission). We will be arranging the following for groups coming in:

- Lodging
- Showers
- Food Service
- Logistical support
- Preparations
- Spiritual Guidance

This of course is a giant undertaking (already 18 groups are scheduled from four states between now and March 2009) and will need the full support of our congregation to put our community back on her feet.

4) Be **present** for people and **LISTENING**. Many of our

co-workers and friends have lost homes, work, and businesses. Everyone has a story and they need listeners. Put yourself in position to listen, counsel and pray with folks. Do not try to top their stories – just listen and empathize.

5) **Be the Church**. The ministry of First United Methodist Church will and must go on to provide the stability a community needs at a time like this. Worship, weddings, funerals, church school and many of the things we call the life of the church will go on for the sake of our spiritual health and to beckon to a broken community that even in this affliction, the God of hope is providing.

I could not be prouder of a group of people than I have been of this congregation and her leaders in our initial response. Let us carry on the banner of Christ as his workers in this endeavor in the many months to come.

Peace, Joy, Love,
Rev. Mike

First UMC Marion prepares to host out of state teams here beginning on June 25 for the next several months. Please know there will be many ways to assist from actual field house cleanup/repair to rebuilding to cooking for teams to organizing to leading worship. I encourage you to check out the website for the most accurate information. <http://www.fumcmarion.org/Flood/floodhome.html>



The Church Office and Caring Corner Daycare will be closed on Friday, July 4.



Honoring Veterans at Marion's FUMC Worship Service

We invite veterans to be honored and presented at our 8:30am worship service on Sunday, June 29, 2008. 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. Church members, invite your veteran friends to this special worship service. If you have any questions, please call the church office, 377-4856.

Get Connected Powerhouse

Our Wednesday Evening Fellowship Meal and Children's activities will resume in the Fall.

Youth and Adult activities continue. Check their schedules.

Wednesday Night Worship continues at 6:30pm.

Youth Ministries:

- **Junior High Youth** 6:15 – 7:30 (Office Bldg – Lower Level Youth Room)
- **Senior High Youth** 7:30 – 9:00 (Office Bldg – Lower Level Youth Room)

Adult Ministries: 6:30 – 7:30

- Check the published schedule for current classes and location.

Music:

- **Praise Team** 5:00 – 6:00 (Sanctuary)
- **Chancel Choir** 6:30 – 8:00 (Choir Room) when scheduled

Worship:

- **Wednesday Worship in the Chapel** 6:30-7:30pm (Sermon will repeat from previous Sunday)

Caregiver Support Groups

Caregiver Support Groups are open to anyone who is a Caregiver or soon to become a caregiver.

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 Marj Reth at 373-4544.

Televised Services

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

The Helping Hands Storeroom

The Helping Hands Storeroom located at the Marion Food Pantry, north of the First Presbyterian Church on 12th Street in Marion, is in need of bedding: sheets, blankets, and quilts, especially queen and king size sheets. If you have extra bedding you can donate, please take it to the Food Pantry on Tuesday or Thursday between 1 and 3pm or to the Presbyterian Church (use the door in the alley) at other times.



FLY Needs Your Help This Summer (Feeding Lunch to Youth)

We will be feeding children every day this summer so many volunteers are needed. You may choose a day, a week, one day each week, etc to help with this local ministry.

4 types of volunteers are needed:

1) **10:30am -12:00p.** Prepare the hot meal for Azure AND the sack lunches for our mobile sites. Preparation will be at the church kitchen.

2) **12:05-1:00pm** Table Mentors and servers at Azure.

This site will need table mentors as we strive to model discipleship and teach biblical lessons from 12:05 to 1:00pm. A table mentor eats with the students to promote positive conversations and helps complete the activity of the day.

3) **12:00-1:00pm Mobile Site Volunteers (we deploy 2 volunteers to a site, one drives)** New this summer will be our mobile feeding sites. We will load up a vehicle with lunches and at least 2 volunteers. Throughout the city, we plan to park in high need areas. We will set up our sign, lunches, and smiles. At 12:15 pm, we will pass out the sack lunches to whoever comes by. This is our attempt to get the food to the hungry people. We need volunteers from 12:00-1:15, one must be a driver.

2 volunteers needed at each of these mobile sites.

- Sack Lunch Eagle Ridge Complex (Behind Culver Restaurant) Playground 12:15
- Sack Lunch Squaw Creek Complex Playground (Corner 151 and Hwy 13) 12:15
- Sack Lunch Marion Village Complex Clubhouse (Behind Fire Station) 12:15
- Two Additional Sites still awaiting details.
- Family Style Lunch Azure Apartment Building 690 Apartment 9,10 12:15. We will have activities before and after lunch at this location.
- Sack Lunch Mondays POWER at St Mark's Lutheran Church 12:30
- Sack Lunch Tuesdays Camp-read-a-lot at Success Center 12:15 - Transportation Volunteer Secured

4) **1:15-1:45pm** Cleanup at FUMC.

Contact Pastor Melisa to coordinate your time of volunteering.

FLY partners with HACAP

HACAP (Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc) located in Hiawatha has formed a partnership with FLY to feed the hungry in this area. To prepare for the summer, FLY purchased needed food for Azure, sack lunches, and Friday Take Home Bags. Due to our partnership with HACAP we saved \$2047.36, proving once again of our desire to be good stewards of your financial gifts. A special thanks to Ron and Ruth Jahnke who helped transport the food.

Personal finances -or- Hey Rocky! Watch me pull a rabbit out of my hat!

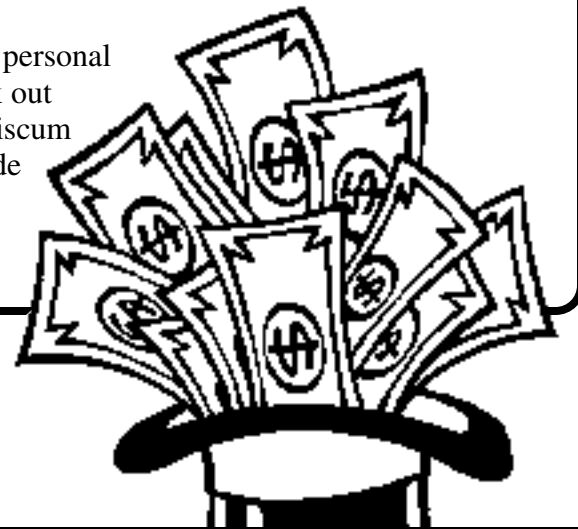
When you think about your personal finances do you feel like our old friend Bullwinkle trying to pull a rabbit out of his hat? If you do, you are not alone. I recently read an article titled "Smoke, Mirrors and Money" by Steve Diggs, author of the book No Debt, No Sweat! (For the full article go to: http://www.nodebtносweat.com/smoke_mirrors_and_money.htm) In his article Steve talks about how churches are openly dealing with most life issues but that money problems are still being ignored by most churches and worshipping congregations. We all go around acting like we have things under control when in reality many of us are staggering under the debt load we are trying to carry.

Some of the numbers he quotes make it clear that money problems are common across all walks of life and affect those within the church as well as those in the secular world. He stated that the average American today is spending 20% of their income paying off short-term debt and that 70% of us experience living paycheck-to-paycheck. He goes further, stating that college kids have learned a lot from their parents as the average student is carrying about \$3,000 of credit card debt at graduation. (This is on top of any student loan balances.)

Steve and his contemporaries remind us that part of being good stewards of God's gifts is being financially responsible. A recent article in the Cedar Rapids Gazette reported that many churches are beginning to respond to this need by offering financial planning classes alongside the more traditional adult studies and classes. One of the programs they mentioned was Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey. Several groups have completed the Financial Peace University course here at FUMC and have reported positive results in terms of getting control of their family finances. Unlike the get rich quick seminars you hear about, the goal is not the accumulation of wealth but the management of what you have and the elimination of short term debt.

If you are ready to take positive steps to get control of your personal finances, consider taking Financial Peace University or seek out similar classes. If you'd like to know more, contact Craig Liscum in the church office (craig@fumcmarion.org). He can provide information on the class and on future sessions.

Respectfully, the Committee on Finance and Stewardship





Stewardship Corner

June 29

Greeters: 8:30 8th Ave Winifred Canady, Hannah Keller
12th St Darrel & Eloise Larsen
11:00 8th Ave Karen Ultis
12th St Jack & Shirley Cromer

Ushers: 8:30 Roger Flint, Roger Tope, Ken & Nancy Joliffe
11:00 Chad Walker, Warren & Luann Byerly, Larry & Nate Witzel

Acolytes: 8:30 Leah Kremer, Blake Donohue
11:00 Catherine Cooper, Brianna Alt

July 6

Greeters: 8:30 8th Ave Glen & Virginia Goehring
12th St Charles & Pat Kress
11:00 8th Ave Wanda Campbell
12th St Melissa Nissen, Janeen Fink

Ushers: 8:30 Neil & Eula Wood, Charlie & Pat Kress
11:00 Kirk McNeil, Dave & Jacob Pederson, Doug & Grant Martin

Acolytes: 8:30 Preston Folkestad, Taylor Barr
11:00 Rylan MacVey, Michael Ebeling



Whether you donated, decorated, taught, led or simply prayed we offer you a

Cosmic Thank You!!

Cosmic City VBS was an awesome success due to the support and assistance of so many at FUMC!

We are already looking forward to next year!



The United Methodist Men meet on the second Saturday of the month from September – May, at 8:00am for breakfast and meeting. All men are invited to attend. Look for Special Event announcements this Summer.



UMM Baseball Outing with the Kernels

Sunday, July 20 • Game time is 2:00

Tailgate before the game at 12:30
United Methodist Men will provide hot dogs, burgers, chips, and drinks.

All members and families are welcome
A great opportunity for fun, fellowship, and baseball.

To reserve your ticket, please call Kirk McNeil at 447-1284 or visit the church office. Price is \$7 per person. Limited number of tickets available



UMW Circles

July 2

Rebekah Mystery Trip -

Members will be contacted with details

July 3

The Bookends 7:00pm. Check with Diane Taylor on location 393-2991

July 10

Needle Designers 9:30am, LLCC. Guest speaker Rita Urbanek will demonstrate how to make mittens with the Knifty Knitter. Visitors and new members welcome. For further information, call Eleanor Rowen 377-8171 or meleanor@wmconnect.com

Joyful Cooks 6:30pm at Suzanne Pollard's 2900 28th Ave, 377-2083

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.

Thank You

I want to thank the many friends at FUMC who participated in the surprise card shower for my birthday. It was definitely a surprise and was so much fun. Jip and I really appreciate all the love and concern shown to us since my cancer was diagnosed. We've received food, phone calls, prayers and many offers to help in any way. We want to report that we are sure the prayers are helping as the latest scan showed that my cancer has "stabilized". I am feeling so much better and I am able to get out and about. Thanks to everyone for the prayers and all the birthday cards. Praise the Lord! – *Etta and Jip Fleming*

Thank you for thinking of me with prayers, thoughts, and calls during my surgery and recuperation at home, also a special thank you to Kathy Goemaat for the delicious meals. – *Susan Feickert*

CBA Corner

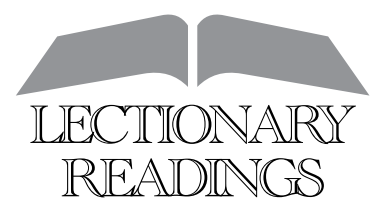
(a.k.a. 7th Ave View)

Dave Ramsey, developer of the Financial Peace University programs, keeps a stack of random coins on his desk. This stack represents that change is always occurring. First Marion is proof of this as we are a dynamic congregation that is always doing something to develop and move forward Methodism. About a month and a half ago we made a big leap in the history of the congregation by paying off a \$1.25 million loan four years early. Since then, the congregation has brought in more than \$22,000 towards the capital fund that will benefit the future of the church. These funds are even making money as your Finance and Stewardship committee has placed these funds and future contributions into a higher interest fund.

In the last issue of the *Marion Methodist*, you read a plea for volunteers to assist in readying the 776 unit of the 13th Street rental office building for occupation by FUMC Adult Ministries. We are a growing congregation, with the desire to learn more about their faith. This space will be used for adult small groups, mission project storage, along with office space for Pastor Melisa and the ministry interns that assist her and the various ministries she leads. This will open up areas of the church to be used as they originally were used. There are also plans to create room 104 into an "adult lounge" for more intimate programs such as DivorceCare and Grief Share.

The Board of Trustees is going to have an active summer. You will notice through the next months that the wooden doors on 12th street will be disappearing for a couple weeks at a time. This is to allow them to be refinished as the elements over time have worn on them. Over a decade of activity has created the need for new carpet on the main floor of the Carnegie building. The biggest project that will be occurring this summer is that of having the education wing roof recoated. The coating will provide for a 10 year extension on the life of it, it is also costing approximately 1/10th of what a complete removal and application would cost. This project will occur as the weather cooperates.

I can recall many a time in a movie, TV show, or even in dialogue with friends someone saying the phrase "I fear change." In a dynamic church change is needed to grow, and FUMC is all about the growth, and I hope that you don't fear it, but welcome it. As always, I enjoy a good cup of coffee and would love to sit and talk with you about the church. – Craig



June 29
Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
JUNE 30 11a Women's Psalms Study, LLCC 4p-7p Blood Drive, LLCC 7p Boy Scouts, FH	JULY 1 9a Carnegie Corner, LLCC	JULY 2 8a Quilters, 104 9:15a Sarah Circle, LLCC 5p Adult Praise Team Prac, Sanc 6:15p JR High Youth, YRCC 6:30p Worship Service, Chapel 7:30p SR High Youth, YRCC 8p AA, Support Group, Adult Lib	JULY 3 6a Men's Bible Study, FH 1:30p Caregivers @ Summit Pointe 6:30p Girl Scouts, FH 6:30p Patriarchs Women's Study, LLCC	JULY 4 Church Office and Daycare Closed	JULY 5 Adult Mission Trip 5:30p Parents Night Out	JULY 6 Communion Sunday Adult Mission Trip 7:45a Worship, Chapel 8:30a Worship, Sanctuary 9:45a Church School for all ages 9:45a Praise Team, Sanc 9:45a Worship, Chapel 11a Worship, Sanctuary
JULY 7 Adult Mission Trip 11a Women's Psalms Study, LLCC 7p Boy Scouts, FH 7p Fun & Fitness Circle, meet at Lowe Park, walking on trails	JULY 8 Adult Mission Trip 9a Carnegie Corner, LLCC	JULY 9 Adult Mission Trip 8a Quilters, 104 5p Adult Praise Team Prac, Sanc 6:15p JR High Youth, YRCC 6:30p Worship Service, Chapel 7:30p SR High Youth, YRCC 8p AA, Support Group, Adult Lib	JULY 110 Adult Mission Trip 6a Men's Bible Study, FH 9a TMC, Wes Lib 9:30a Needle Designers Circle, LLCC 6:30p Patriarchs Women's Study, LLCC	JULY 111 Adult Mission Trip 6p Wedding Rehearsal, Patten/Koepp	JULY 112 2:30p Wedding Justin Patten/Sarah Koepp 7p FUMC 500 Card Club, LLCC	JULY 13 7:45a Worship, Chapel 8:30a Worship, Sanctuary 9:45a Church School for all ages 9:45a Praise Team, Sanc 9:45a Worship, Chapel 11a Worship, Sanctuary

CC=Carnegie Corner;
YRCC=Youth Room
Carnegie Center

Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

BAPTISM: June 22, **Kayla Lynn Barske**, daughter of Steve & Stacie Barske

BIRTHS: June 6, **Dylan Joseph Moody**, son of Jerad and Alyssa Moody, Virginia Beach, VA. Grandparents are Tim and Ronda Moody.

WEDDINGS: June 14, **Stacey Dietsch and Ian Anderson** in Moline, IL. Stacey's parents are Ron & Jan Fawcett.

June 14, **David Grove and Sara Rouse** in Okoboji, IA. Parents are Barry and Deb Grove.

June 21, **Jordan Forkner and Jennifer Garman**.

DEATHS: June 5, **Marian "Jean" Galitz**, Columbus Junction, IA. Family members include daughter, Carolyn Whitcher, and granddaughter, Sheri Whitcher. Services were held on June 10.

June 14, **Ray Larson**, husband of Catherine Larson. Services were held on June 18.

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.

Church Information

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Fellowship Hall 377-4252
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The Marion Methodist

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.

The Marion Methodist deadline schedule

Deadline dates for the next issue of the Marion Methodist is on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 2 by 5:00pm**. This issue will cover from July 13-July 26. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to norma@fumcmarion.org