During the last few decades people have become more and more separate than people. Control how much they have) as in many cases things become more important the consumer mindset (because of course, by and large, youth don't actually teenager owned less than twenty items of clothing (not counting delicates and home during the course of a week. Families, blended families and families in which children live in more than one that has many configurations. These include nuclear families, single parent based extended family concept to a nuclear family and now a redesigned family of attached garages rose, the American family was moving from the agrarian to isolation. Coupled with that truth, during the same period of time the number under cover from car to kitchen. Opens, our vehicle disappears from any neighbor's sight and we walk directly the house. Today, we roll up to our garage, radio on and push a button, the door dismounted from their automobile, opened their garage door and walked into the house. Today, we roll up to our garage, radio on and push a button, the door opens, our vehicle disappears from any neighbor's sight and we walk directly under cover from car to kitchen. The outcome is that many of us simply don't know our neighbors and that leads to isolation. Coupled with that truth, during the same period of time the number of attached garages rose, the American family was moving from the agrarian based extended family concept to a nuclear family and now a redesigned family that has many configurations. These include nuclear families, single parent families, blended families and families in which children live in more than one home during the course of a week. Parallel to that, consumerism exploded. In the 1970's the average American teenager owned less than twenty items of clothing (not counting delicates and socks). In 2015 that number had risen to over sixty. This is an easy example of the consumer mindset (because of course, by and large, youth don't actually control how much they have) as in many cases things become more important than people. During the last few decades people have become more and more separate because of specialization. This includes ways of thinking, economics, opportunity, religion, race and several others. Simply put, while there are more human beings today than ever before in world history, the average person actually relates to fewer people than his predecessors. Simply put – we are more and more alone. Many people, maybe you, have come to Marion Methodist searching for a group to belong to. Everyone wants to know we are not alone and we want to know that someone cares about us – notices when things are not great with us and celebrates with us in our high moments. The church of Jesus must meet the basic need of support that we all have. God has designed the church to be an inclusive family. Paul writes "So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family." (Ephesians 2:19) This means that as members of the church, we are part of the infinite family of Christ and are to step into each other's lives and offer the basic life need of loving support. Bill Withers, one of my favorite singers, sang a song that many youth groups turned into a 'praise song' in the 1980's. You probably know the lyrics: Lean on me, when you're not strong And I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on For it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need Somebody to lean on I always told my "kids" in ministry and today I tell you that one of the most precious things we can do as a believer is offer support to another of God's children. The church can have a jillion classes, the best music program, fantastic buildings, but if we are not offering support to one another we are missing a basic function of why the church exists. We also miss the purpose of the church if we attend, coming and going anonymously or choosing not to make ourselves available to missions, ministries or groups where we might receive support all the while aching for it. Friends, we worship a God that is community (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). If we are made in the image of God, we too are built to be in community for mutual support. This is a need of every person everywhere and it is one of the purposes for which Jesus birthed the church. Pastor Mike Want to know what the other three basic needs we need our church to meet are? Find them here in future issues.
Marion Methodist worship services are typically rebroadcast on Mediacom or ImOn Channel 4 at 7:00 PM on Monday evenings. There is a multiweek delay between when a sermon is preached and when it airs on TV.

Meal Schedule:
- **9/25**: Firehouse Subs
- **10/2**: Tomaso's Pizza

**Wednesday Night**

**Pathfinders Worship & Outreach (Preschool - 5th Grade):** Focuses on praise and worship for kids. Children will also learn how they can make a difference for the people in our community.

**4:12 Youth Group:**
- **Junior High Worship:** 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (Sanctuary)
- **High School Worship:** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (Sanctuary)

**Adult Classes:** Come for a midweek boost. Check out classes at www.marionmethodist.org

**Nursery:** Offered in the Nursery

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**Landscape – Phase 3.0**

- **Phase 1.0**: Perimeter planting of 91 trees and 60 bushes. Completed July 2018
- **Phase 2.0**: Decorative plantings 14 trees and 216 plants. Completed June of 2019
- **Phase 3.0**: Northwest project - Grill/Patio/Great Oval. Scheduled for October 1, 2019
- **Phase 4.0**: Windbreak on north and west property lines. Scheduled for Spring 2020
- **Phase 5.0**: Prairie Grass Project. Scheduled for Spring 2020

These projects have been coordinated and led by a group of volunteers that are passionate about the environment, the beauty of our property, and the benefits that landscaping can add to our ministries. As you see listed above in Phases 1.0 – 5.0, the landscape of our property at 5050 REC Drive is being thoughtfully planned in multiple steps, which will complement our surroundings and allow us to grow into our ability to properly manage and take care of almost 30 acres of landscape.

In a few weeks, construction will begin on the 3rd of 5 landscape projects on our new property. This phase will include a gas grill, almost 1,500 sq. ft. of patio space, 2 large sail shades, over 7,500 sq. ft. of green space in the giant oval, and easy access for all ages. The pathway leading to the center of the oval is poured concrete, providing an unencumbered path all the way from the Sanctuary to this large gathering space. The plantings have been selected to blend with the rest of the landscape design on our property. Seasonal color, easy maintenance, and hardy plant variations for our climate, remained a focus.

This space has been especially designed to host large group events, whether it be grilling and eating, socializing after services, or youth groups during our Wednesday Night activities. Once the landscape matures a bit, this space is also designed to host outdoor weddings and gatherings in the giant oval.

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**Harvest Market**

- **Coffee Shop**: 8:30am – 10:00am
  - Homemade rolls
- **Lunch**: 11:00am – 1:00pm
  - Ham loaf, Sandwiches, Salads, Soups, Desserts
- **Shopping**: 8:30am – 2:00pm
  - SWEET BUY & BUY: Candies and Baked Goods
  - ABUNDANT CREATIONS: Handcrafted Gifts
  - THE BOOKSHELF: Previously enjoyed children's books
  - THE CARPENTER'S CRAFTS: Handcrafted wooden items
  - FAIR TRADE: Gifts and unique items
  - WESLEY'S GENERAL STORE: Jams, Jellies, Nuts, Garden Produce, etc.

All proceeds given to missions.

**Saturday, October 26, 2019**

**8:30am – 2:00pm**

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**School Kits**

Thank you to all who have donated supplies for the school kits and hygiene kits this year. We've collected 100 hygiene kits and about 150 school kits. They will be taken to Ingathering in Cedar Falls the first Saturday in November. If you missed donating, never fear. We will gladly accept any and all items for either kit. Marion Methodist truly is a generous church!

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**Hurricane Relief Through the United Methodist Church**

The United Methodist Church in the Bahamas is working closely with the United Methodist Commission on Relief (UMCOR) to assist victims of Hurricane Dorian. If you desire to make a financial contribution to the relief and recovery effort there through the church, simply write a check to Marion Methodist and in the memo write “Hurricane Relief” or do the same on an offering envelope. Our Stewardship team will direct our giving to UMCOR as we receive the funds.

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**Wednesday Night at Marion Methodist**

Marion Methodist worship services are typically rebroadcast on Mediacom or ImOn Channel 4 at 7:00 PM on Monday evenings. There is a multweek delay between when a sermon is preached and when it airs on TV.
Marion Methodist feasts on Scripture

Beginning in August 2018 our leadership has encouraged us to memorize scripture. Each month a memory verse has been presented to us to learn. Recently, our leaders took four weeks to “review” what we have learned. One of those exercises had a scripture verse printed on a card and the beginning of the sentence “this verse is important to know because…” Nearly 500 of you returned cards – all of which had wonderful responses to the phrase.

The following are a few that are representative of your responses for 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

We need to know that God gives us a way back from our sinful life.

We must be repentent. He knows our sins, but we must acknowledge them to be forgiven.

Reminds us that the FIRST step is ours - Confess

God only gives us commands because he knows it will help us. He already knows our sins. He wants us to confess our sins so that we may purge them from our souls and to remind us to repent of that sin. Once I learned that confessing my sins was for my benefit is when my faith increased.

UMM Missions

United Methodist Men worked to add a ramp to a member’s home to aid in her accessibility.

Marion Methodist is Praying for:

Prayer is a powerful way of caring for each other in our Marion Methodist family. There are several avenues open to everyone – the prayer cards on Sunday morning and the prayer wall which is available 24/7, are two that are used most often. You can have a more active part in entering into prayer for each other. Check out the prayer wall frequently as prayers are submitted there often. Each time you visit, and pray for one of the requests found there, click the “I Prayed For This” tab; more prayers are always better.

Be in prayer for everyone involved in Freedom through Financial Peace – those taking the classes, the leaders and everyone behind the scenes who are helping to make this a successful and beneficial program for everyone involved. Pray that as people take the classes and learn the principles, that some of the shackles of debt will begin to fall away and that freedom from debt will be much more of a reality.

FREEDOM

You Tell Your Money Where To Go

FREEDOM class members, it is time to start thinking about your first budget! Establishing your budget can be stressful. Finding the best way of budgeting for you is essential and we are ready to help!

Please join us for our first
FREEDOM Budget Expert Session
September 29, 2019 at 11:30 am
Room 100

We will review Dave Ramsey’s budgeting basics by showing you where to find the tools and resources available to you, as well as doing breakout sessions with some budget experts from fellow FPU members!

• Do you work best when it is all written down? Come for the Paper Budgeting session to find help with this method of budgeting. Bring your personal budgeting information and we will help to get your October budget started this way.

• Do you want to explore ways to use the EveryDollar App on your device? Dave Ramsey has a great app that can make budgeting even simpler for you. Join the App breakout session for this method of budgeting. Bring your device with the downloaded app for help on getting your October budget started.

• Do you prefer using a tool on your computer? We have the “NERDS” in that area to help you with a method of budgeting in Microsoft Excel. Come find out how to do your budget this way. Bring your computer and your budget information to start your October budget.

We take your personal information seriously, which is why we have a strict confidentiality agreement in place. Rest assured that any personal financial information shared will remain private. We hope you feel comfortable coming to us with your needs, and we are excited to provide any help you need to get October started right!

Please RSVP by visiting www.MarionFreedom.org/class-links to register for what session you are interested in so we can save you a seat!

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Nursery care available.

Christmas for Haiti

One gallon Ziplock bags along with the gift suggestion sheet will be available for pickup September 22 in The Center. All bags are due by October 6. Sheets will need to be marked with appropriate age and gender and be placed in the bag. There will be a list of suggested items on the sheet and will include items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, washcloth and bar of soap, travel size shampoo, school supplies, such as pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, crayons, etc. Small toys, socks, and many other items are also on the list and can be included in the bags. New this year, RTS is asking us to double bag the toiletries. A smaller bag will be included in the gallon bag for the toiletries.

These bags will go to the children of Haiti that many of our church members have met and worked with during our mission trips to Haiti.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Liscum at deb.liscum@gmail.com or 319-560-8667.
### Pantry Partners for Marion Food Pantry

We help folks in need by supplying items for the Marion Churches Food Pantry. You may bring the following items to church any time during each month. Please put your contributions in the Mission Depot in The Center or the Church Office.

- **September:** Soup
- **October:** Toilet Tissue
- **November:** Cake Mix
- **December:** Pudding and Gelatin Mixes
- **January:** Macaroni & Cheese
- **February:** Canned Fruit

### The Marion Methodist newsletter deadline schedule

Articles for our Marion Methodist need to be submitted by due date at 12:00 PM. You may email them to: widlman@marionmethodist.org with newsletter in the subject line. Please send any information or images as an attachment. If you do not have access to a computer, you may call or bring to the office items to be published. We ask that you honor the deadlines listed below:

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### SHE Seeks

**Saturday October 12, 2019**

**Tickets $65 ~ Register at www.SHEwomensConference.org**

8:45-9:30AM Registration and Refreshments
9:30AM-3:00PM Worship and Featured Speaker

**Catered Lunch ~ Gifts for Each Guest**

**Save your seat today!**