In 2000, Joseph D’Agnese wrote an article “What you’ll need to know in 2020 that you don’t know now” that had some interesting predictions. A few of the bullet points he raises are as follows (with my comments in italics). In 2020 you will need to be able to:

1. Talk to your house. In 2020, a home is filled with many appliances that work independently to keep your home comfortable. The prediction is that in 2020 everything will work together in your home and you can literally control everything from one device. For some, this is getting very close to reality.

2. You will need to learn to drive a more automated car. The prediction was that your car will be able to avoid fender benders by braking before you see danger coming. The vehicle will be tailored to your settings and even have mapping systems that can take you where you want to go. Many of the predicted systems and much more are already in a lot of currently available models.

3. Entrance to most of the places you go, from concerts to boarding an aircraft, will be done by an iris scan. Indeed, some high security facilities in Marion and Cedar Rapids use this technology but admission to a Little Big Town concert or a local sports event are not quite there yet. Seems like this one is getting closer, but cost is likely slowing it down.

4. You will need to find a way to determine whether the “facts” you have found in research are facts. With so many sources doling out information, you will need to find out if this fact is an opinion, an advertisement or simply a fabrication for someone’s amusement. Seems like we have already obtained this prediction. The statement: “It’s on the internet, so it must be true” is ALWAYS said in jest, not as a matter of fact.

5. You will need to know enough to advocate for your own health and make more complicated medical choices. Science is developing quickly, faster at times than your physician and/or hospital has ability to know or afford your best solution. Further, nurses will become more and more of a rare commodity: “Knowing” about your own conditions will become very necessary. The sentence, “Advocate your own care” has likely arisen from this growing reality.

6. There will be a huge technological divide in the world. As the internet grows and more people have access to information, we still will live in a world where nearly half the world does not have access to a telephone. So, while more and more people have access to knowledge, one thing we will need to process is that the generation emerging in 2020 in the third world will lack education, food and aid. Many will need to find ways to live while a billion people starve.

7. You will be forced to take on moral questions that no human has faced before. As everything speeds up, everything is connected, and little time is left for reflection, how will you manage complex questions?

From the church office.

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iTunes Podcast - Sermon Audio
www.apple.com/us/podcast/marion-methodist/id562893153

Upcoming Sermons
January 12 - What is Faith? - Galatians 3
January 19 - Seriously, It's Free? - Ephesians 1&2

Marion First United Methodist Church
5050 REC Drive
Sunday Morning Worship
8:15 AM
Spirited Traditional - Sanctuary
Pathfinders Outreach - Room E60
9:15 AM
Fellowship - The Center
Children's Fellowship and Adult Classes
10:15 AM
Contemporary Praise - Sanctuary
Children's Sunday School

Marion First United Methodist Church
1298 7th Avenue
Marion, IA 52302
Return Address
Service Requested
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 request link in the weekly email, are two that are used most often.

Prayers for a wonderful and blessed New Year. Please keep those in prayer who are in need of a warm place to stay and enough food and clothing to stay well.

TV Broadcast
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.

Summer Games University is a Christian Summer Camp for students who have completed 6-12 grades. This one-week camp is an experiential, relationship-focused camp where students will have the opportunity to learn more about who Jesus is and build relationships with other Christian students.

July 13-17, 2020 at Grinnell College
Register at www.sgu.camp

Marion Methodist is Praying for:

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Prayers for a wonderful and blessed New Year. Please keep those in prayer who are in need of a warm place to stay and enough food and clothing to stay well.

Ministry Fair

The offering taken last Christmas Eve 2018 for the Friendship Fund has been distributed during this past year on your behalf to help many people in the church and the community. These funds provide for many basic needs in a meaningful and generous way. Your offerings have helped buy groceries, pay utility bills and rent, buy work clothing, provide a night's lodging, provide transportation, and fill necessary prescriptions.

It is our Marion Methodist tradition to not use the Friendship Fund as a savings account but rather to bless people and ministries we support. This year by Christmas Eve morning the Friendship Fund was spent down to less than one thousand dollars in expectation of the evening offering replenishing the fund to bless those needing a helping hand in our community.

Those blessings were:

- $2500 to FLY (Feeding Lunches to Youth)
- $3000 each to:
  - Community Free Health Clinic
  - Marion Senior Living Community
  - Churches of Marion Food Pantry
- $5500 to Marion Cares

This December 2019, the Christmas Eve offerings for the Friendship Fund totaled $24,419. Because of your generosity, we will be able to continue assisting the people of this church and community in 2020.

The pastors and church leaders praise God for your generous giving to these people and these ministries!
**John: Jesus—the Word, the Messiah, the Son of God**

Sundays at 9:20AM in Room W50—Starting January 5

Led by Gregg and Becky Tallman

The Gospel of John is filled with profound truths and rich spiritual stories. Stories of Christ’s miracles that inspire His followers; stories of a death that redeems the lost; and stories of a resurrection that provides us with hope for eternal glory. Every miracle, teaching, and action of Jesus that John captures in his Gospel has one clear purpose: to prove that Jesus is the Word, the Messiah, and the Son of God. The dramatic milestones of Christ’s ministry, as portrayed by John, have invited millions of believers throughout the ages into a saving faith with Jesus Christ, and will lead you into a deeper understanding of the ultimate story of Jesus, the Son of God.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**Old Testament History**

Sundays at 9:20AM in Room W10—Starting January 5

Led by Virginia Jensen

We will be continuing our study of the Prophets of Israel and Judah. After completing our discussions on the Prophet Jonah we will begin our study of Amos.

The goal of this class is to read every verse of scripture in the Old Testament, and then, as a World History Class, discuss the events of their known world that shaped and influenced their lives at their particular time in history.

This class is opened to everyone regardless of age or personal knowledge of the Old Testament.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**Freedom: Financial Peace University**

Sunday Mornings at 8:30AM—Starting January 5

Sunday evenings at 6:00PM—Starting January 5

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30PM—Starting January 8 in Room W20

Financial Peace University is a nine-lesson course, taught by America’s most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey, and his team of financial experts, Rachel Cruze and Chris Hogan. Financial Peace University provides practical instruction on budgeting, saving for emergencies, retiring with dignity, and giving generously. In addition to the nine-lesson course, Financial Peace University includes a library of additional tools and courses, plus access to a vibrant and growing community of like-minded people who want to never worry about money again.

We will begin this study the week of January 5th with an orientation. This will allow you to pick up your Financial Peace University kit and ask questions as we prepare to begin this journey of Financial Freedom.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship Pathway.

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**Basic Bible**

Wednesdays at 6:30PM in Room W50—Starting January 8

Led by Pastor Mike Morgan

*Designed for beginners to the Bible, who have likely never taken a Bible study.*

This January we will be studying Matthew. You are invited to get on and stay on for the whole ride, join at any time and/or move to a class at the next level at any time. Please join Pastor Mike for this study in room W50.

This will be a wonderful place to begin for those on the Discipleship Pathway in the Engaging category.

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**Bible Study**

**Johannesburg**

Sundays at 9:20 AM in Room W50—Starting January 5

Led by Pastor Mike Morgan

*Designed for beginners to the Bible, who have likely never taken a Bible study.*

This January we will be studying Matthew. You are invited to get on and stay on for the whole ride, join at any time and/or move to a class at the next level at any time. Please join Pastor Mike for this study in room W50.

This will be a wonderful place to begin for those on the Discipleship Pathway in the Engaging category.

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**LEGACY JOURNEY**

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in room W30—Starting January 8

Led by Jay and Carolyn Quimby

Dave Ramsey shares Biblical wisdom on the legacy we build with our wealth.

What does the Bible really say about money? About wealth? How much does God expect you to give to others? How does wealth affect your friendships, marriage, and children? How much is “enough”?

There’s a lot of bad information in our culture today about wealth - and the wealthy. Worse, there’s a growing backlash in America against our most successful neighbors, but why? To many, wealth is seen as the natural result of hard work and wise money management. To others, wealth is viewed as the ultimate, inexcusable sin. This has left a lot of godly men and women honestly confused about what to do with the resources God’s put in their hands. God’s ways of handling money caused them to build wealth, but then they’re left feeling guilty about it. Is this what God had in mind?

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY**

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in room W40—Starting January 8

Led by Vicki Standley

We have established a Care Ministry team to help serve our church and congregation. During this time, we have ongoing training for this ministry group. We are excited for this ministry to grow and you are welcome to join us at any time. Please contact Vicki Standley at (319) 377-4856 or by email at vstandley@MarionMethodist.org.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**THE COOKIES ON THE LOWER SHELF: PART III**

**Sundays at 9:00 AM**

**8:30-9:00 AM**

**Room W50**

**Starting Sunday January 9 OR Friday January 10**

Led by Tina Southard

Cookies on the Lower Shelf Part 3 is an independent study and does not require prior study of Parts 1 or 2. You can study the entire New Testament this winter! In Part 3, you will dive into the New Testament adventure using Matthew and Acts as a roadmap to the rest of the landscape. Tarry in Galilee and Jerusalem with Jesus. Sail the Mediterranean Sea with Paul and his companions. Worship with John on the isle of Patmos. Meet the Son of David prophesied in the Old Testament and finally see Him enshrined over all! This is the study where the hard stuff is made easy . . . where the cookies are on the lower shelf for everyone to enjoy including small groups, students and families.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**When God Says Go**

**Sundays at 6:30 PM**

**6:30-7:30 PM**

**Room W10**

**Starting January 8**

Led by Judy Schnittke

Go. One small word . . . so much power.

When God says, “Go,” we face one of life’s greatest decisions.

When God says, “Go,” we must face our fears . . . our excuses . . . and ourselves.

When God says, “Go,” it’s time to answer His call wherever it leads.

When God says, “Go,” what will you do?

Author Elizabeth Lang Thompson invites you to walk alongside people of the Bible who were called by God to fulfill His purposes. People like Moses, Esther, Abigail, Jeremiah, Mary, and others. These Bible heroes responded much like we do—with a jumbled-up inner storm of excitement and fear, insecurity and hope. Their stories and struggles will provide a roadmap to your own story, helping you face your very own doubts, regrets, and worries.

This Bible study is designed for someone who is anywhere between Engaging, Deepening, or Centered on the Discipleship pathway.

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**Register Online at www.MarionMethodist.org**

**Or by calling the Church Office at (319) 377-4856.**

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**Classes starting the week of January 5**

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**Designing the Church**

**Sundays at 9:20 AM**

**Room W50**

**Starting January 6**

Led by John MacArthur

*This class is designed to help the church leadership group play a greater role in and be better equipped to lead the church.*

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**Deepening**

**Engaging**

**Centered**

**Concorde**

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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.

January: Macaroni & Cheese
February: Canned Fruit
March: Peanut Butter
April: Macaroni and Cheese
May: Toilet Tissue
June: Soup

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: williammarionmethodist.org with newsletter in the subject line. Please send your contributions anytime.**

**Date Arrived in Mail** | **Date Articles Due**
--- | ---
1/24 | 1/15
2/7 | 2/29
3/6 | 3/11

WEDDINGS:

Justin, Jeremy, Jacquelyn, Catheryn, of Tammy (Randy) Danover, Terry
December 29:

ATTENDANCE

Hygiene

Food Pantry: 50 food items were taken to the Marion Food Pantry.

8 Ways to Stop Spending Money

1. Know What You're Spending Money On

Make a budget. Track your spending and save money for the future. This will help you to identify where your money goes and where you can cut back.

2. Make Your Budget Work for You

Make sure your budget is realistic and achievable. It's important to set a budget that is realistic and achievable. This will help you to stay on track.

3. Stop Spending Money at Restaurants

Try to eat at home as much as possible. This will help you to save money and also to eat healthier.

4. Stop Spending Money on Water Toys

Try to limit your spending on water toys. This will help you to save money and also to have more money for other things.

5. Resist Sales

If you're having trouble sticking to your new budget and shopping list, imagine how you'll be feeling when you're done. This will help you to stay on track.

6. Delay Gratification

If you're used to buying things on credit, it's important to learn how to delay gratification. This will help you to save money and also to have more money for other things.

7. Reduce Your Debt

If you're having trouble sticking to your new budget and shopping list, imagine how you'll be feeling when you're done. This will help you to save money and also to have more money for other things.

8. Challenge Yourself to Reach Your New Goals

Put your willpower to the test by buying just the basics for a month. You'll be amazed by how little you actually need. You'll also be able to identify the things you don't necessarily need, but simply like to have. Do you like using your gym membership because it helps you stay active? Keep it. Do you want to spend on clothes or other things that you don't really need? Then, you should think about how you can reduce your spending on these things.

BIRTHS:

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: williammarionmethodist.org with newsletter in the subject line. Please send your contributions anytime.