In the United States we will celebrate Thanksgiving in a just a few days. President Lincoln, as part of a declaration to a war torn and divided, nation in 1863 wrote the following:

I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamenable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

The proclamation to give thanks in the midst of difficult times, and the plea for God to heal a divided nation and bless those the scriptures call “the least of God’s children,” raises a question in the hearts of the faithful. In theface of a litany of the ills of 150 years ago and the broken nature of our world today, one might ask for what are we thankful?

The answer is twofold. Salvation and opportunity.

God looks upon each and every creature of creation in love and desire.

God loves us so deeply that even when we fill our lives with sinful thoughts and behavior, his desire to have us with Him forever outweighs the rightful condemnation. God's grace overflows on to the heart of any who are truly sorry and humbly repent of their sins. Simply put in a paraphrase of Paul "we were doomed to eternal destruction, but God in His mercy saved us." For this we give thanks.

Salvation changes the way a person looks at the world. The person who receives their salvation from God understands that the world is war torn, broken and filled with injustices and the opportunity of the Christian is to work and speak into this. John Wesley and the early Methodists expressed their opposition to societal ills such as slavery, smuggling, inhumane prison conditions, alcohol abuse, and child labor. The United Methodist Christian today, empowered by their salvation and the gospel of Christ, is to take the opportunity to transform the world to be “on earth as it is in heaven.”

Our United Methodist Book of Discipline summarizes it this way: “We believe that salvation entails renewal of both individuals and the world. Our faithful response to God’s saving grace has both a personal and social dimension as we grow in “holiness of heart and life.” By practicing spiritual disciplines — “works of piety” such as prayer, Bible study, participation in corporate worship and communion — we grow and mature in our love for God. By engaging in acts of compassion and justice — “works of mercy” such as visiting the sick and those in prison, feeding the hungry, advocating for the poor and marginalized — we live out our love for God through service to our neighbor. “Our love of God is always linked with love of our neighbor, a passion for justice and renewal in the life of the world.”

For what are we thankful? Salvation and opportunity.

Pastor Mike Morgan
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.

Please keep the Haiti team in prayer as they return home and give thanks for the many wonderful ways that lives were touched while they were there. Thank God for our many blessings – for our wonderful church building, for our church family and the many, many things that are done by so many to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Christmas at Marion Methodist

We know your family is already planning for the holidays. Make a Christmas Eve service part of your holiday plan. This year we will be worshiping God four times on Christmas Eve.

2:00 PM service of Carols, Candlelight and Communion

4:00 and 6:00 PM service of Carols and Candlelight

8:00 PM service of Carols and Candlelight with the 4:12 band

Welcome New Members!

October 28, 2018

Pastor Mike, Linda Talcott, Susan Koch, and Lu Yang

A NOTE TO OUR YOUNG PIANO STUDENTS

Starting Sunday, December 9, we invite our youth who take piano lessons to share a Christmas carol during the offertory at our church services. It does not have to be memorized. You will be playing the beautiful Steinway piano on the chancel. Diane and Simon will be on the chancel to assist as needed.

Service Times Available:

Sunday, December 9th, Older Youth: 10:15
(younger youth are in Sunday School program)
Sunday, December 16th, 8:15 & 10:15 services
Sunday, December 23rd, 8:15 & 10:15 services
Sunday, December 30th, 8:15 & 10:15 services

If you wish to participate and/or you have questions, please contact Diane Beach at auntyd88@aol.com

Marion Methodist is Praying for:

A musical re-telling of the Christmas story with several styles of music and narration

AN EVENING IN DECEMBER
Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 16
8:15 AM and 10:15 AM

THE LIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 9
10:15 AM

Joy to the World

A handbell celebration of Christmas

Sunday, December 2 at 4:00
Marion Methodist Church
5050 REC Drive, Marion

No Admission charged
Bring a canned food item to benefit the Marion Food Pantry
Soup Supper immediately following
what is a pledge and why does it matter?
you may already have received in the mail a letter that came with a “pledge card.” some of you have been pledging to support the ministries of the church for years and you expected it, are glad for it and probably are ready to mail or bring it to church. we do hope that on thanksgiving sunday, november 25th you bring your pledge to worship and offer it to god.

some of you might be perplexed and are wondering what a pledge is and why you are being asked to pledge. simply, a pledge is what you promise to give to the church in 2019 to financially support the ministry and mission of marion methodist. please pray and consider giving and how you can give gifts that represent yourself and your gratitude to god through marion methodist.

meal schedule:
11/21 - no powerhouse
11/28 - dairy queen

powerhouse meets every wednesday. from 5:45 pm to 6:15 pm we have a family meal (free will offering) and from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm we have activities for all ages.

preschoolers:

kindergarten - 5th grade:
meet a jesus that is real and relevant in your everyday life! discover jesus in you. (room e10 & e60)

4:12 youth group:
junior high worship 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (sanctuary). high school worship 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (sanctuary).

adult classes:
come for a midweek boost. check out classes at www.marionmethodist.org

nursery:
offered in the nursery

job opening
marion methodist is seeking a part-time nursery coordinator. this position is responsible for providing leadership and recruiting volunteers for the church nursery. the nursery is a vital component of our hospitality ministry.

key duties include recruiting, training, and overseeing a team of qualified volunteers to staff the church nursery. also, ensuring the nursery is clean and organized to accept children.

a complete job description can be found at marionmethodist.org/available-positions-jobs.

interested applicants should email a letter of intent and resume to kelsie de reus at kdereus@marionmethodist.org.

remembering our children
a candlelight memorial vigil

december 9 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

no matter the age or cause, losing a child is a life altering experience. we hope you will join us at this hour-long memorial service where each family will have an opportunity to light a candle in honor of the memory of their beloved child.

if you wish, you can display a photo of your child on the memory table. please place it on the table by 6:45 p.m. you can also bring an angel ornament to hang on the tree during the service. if you would like to have a photo of your child displayed on the overhead screen while his or her name is announced, please submit a picture and brief message by sunday, november 25 to amy or heidi:
amy tersinar – kamktersinar@gmail.com,
heidi benson – hbenson@cedarmemorial.com

tv broadcast
marion methodist worship services are typically rebroadcasted 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.
The Marion Methodist newsletter deadline schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Arrived in Mail</th>
<th>Date Articles Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/30</td>
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Baptisms:
November 11: Paislei Rae Zimmerman, daughter of Jordan Zimmerman

Weddings:

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.

November: Cake Mix
December: Pudding and Gelatin Mixes
January: Macaroni & Cheese
February: Canned Fruit
March: Peanut Butter
April: Macaroni & Cheese

Stewardship & Finance
6:30pm - 7:30pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Today’s headlines include: WEDDINGS: BIRTHS: DEATHS: Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

DEATHS:
October 29: Ned Albert
November 2: Wayne Lucas, husband of Noma Lucas

BAPTISMS:
November 11: Paislei Rae Zimmerman, daughter of Jordan Zimmerman

BIRTHS:
November 11: Paislei Rae Zimmerman, daughter of Jordan Zimmerman

Birthday:
November 2: Wayne Lucas, husband of Noma Lucas