There are times in life when "EXCITED" is not a big enough word. Maybe the biggest cause to be EXCITED is the faithfulness of the people of Marion Methodist. There were many among us that had to warm up to the new building idea (including the pastor) and many for several years did not love the idea – but – most loved the idea of this family of faith, and in that love, we have faithfully moved forward together.

Together, we paid off the large dormant debt of the 1995 addition. Then in succession we embraced the three largest capital campaigns in the history of the church. The "Believe" campaign was based on an idea that we needed to buy a field so the church could have space (something we had not had for more than a century). The "Build" campaign was based on raising the money so we could borrow enough to construct a building that would focus on worship, fellowship and discipleship. The "Transform" campaign has allowed us to build that building and complete the project with a debt that our congregation can manage. Through it all, and the talk of a new building, more have come to join us in our mission.

Today, I am EXCITED! I know that is not nearly a big enough word. This week the first worship services will be held at 5050 REC Dr. – that is exciting! The opportunity that lies in front of the people of God known as Marion Methodist is unlimited.

On June 17th we may experience the greatest achievement of our earthly lives. The outcome of our prayers, the benefit of our physical presence, the work of our service, the words of our witness and the generosity of our gifts is a powerful witness to the living God in a Post-Christian age. And when all we are doing is folly! Everything about this edifice a couple hundred yards from where thousands of cars pass by daily says the opposite! The very structure and our willingness to build it says we believe that God is alive and a great movement is possible here and now!

When I look at the cross that towers above the prairie all I see is great hope and faith. I see a people that believes if we execute our mission, if we stay on task, if we are faithful, that great day prophesied by all who have preceded us will come when "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." To be part of a mission that is celebrating a huge milestone along the way, I am not sure EXCITED is a big enough word. BUT – since it is the best I can come up with, I am EXCITED that this day has come!

See you in worship at 5050 REC Dr. Glory to God!

Pastor Mike

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**Visit Us Online**

Website - Calendars, Church Info, and More  
www.marionmethodist.org

Facebook  
www.facebook.com/marionmethodistchurch

Twitter  
www.twitter.com/marionmethodist

Google+  
plus.google.com/110713709205136037587

YouTube - Sermon Videos  
www.youtube.com/marionmethodist

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

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**Upcoming Sermons**

June 17 - Praise and Joy - Psalm 100

June 24 - Salvation - 1 Peter 1:3-12, John 5:24-27

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**For any information needing to be published in the Marion Methodist newsletter, please contact the church office.**  
(info@marionmethodist.org)
**Conversational Bible Study of The Book of Ruth**
Guided by Jim Sommerville
Sundays at 9:30AM  “Starting June 17” in Room W10

The book of Ruth is the most beautiful love story in the Bible—but unlike all other love stories, it is the story of astonishing love of a daughter-in-law for her mother-in-law. It is also the story of how a young widow, from a nation despised and excluded by the Israelites, plays a major role in Israel’s history by becoming the great-grandmother of King David—and finally an ancestor of Jesus.

Each of the main characters in the story—Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz—exemplify the great Old Testament virtue of Hesed—which includes loyalty, kindness, love, and mercy. It is a story that begins with disaster and ends with joy.

In our study of the four chapters of this little book we will consider its lessons for us.

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

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**Three Admonishments as we Move**

Every one of us reading this is a part of this wonderful family called Marion Methodist. We are excited to move into our new location THIS WEEK! We are excited and great opportunity is in front of us, so, as Pastor, I offer three Admonishments for those of us who are “moving”, not starting at Marion Methodist brand new.

**Welcome Exuberantly those who come to 5050 REC Dr.** If your experience since all the “We Are on the Move” signs started popping up is anything like mine, we are going to see new folks at Marion Methodist. Neighbors, friends and a guy at Dick’s that saw my shirt have told me, “When you open we are going to try your church.” Not only that, every single one of us will be going to worship in a new building at a new time, so “new” will be all around us. In the first few months, welcome people – say “I’m glad you are here” “I am happy to worship with you” “I love this church” and things like that. We sometimes want to know – are you new? How long have you gone here? Etc. These questions aren’t the leaders of our conversation – start with the truth – we are GLAD they and you are here. Welcome everyone, exuberantly; the rest will flesh out as you become friends.

**Welcome and invite “new” folks to your established groups.** There will be many new folks looking for community, after all it is why many of you love Marion Methodist. Offer them yours. Two adults this week (one in Fareway, one as I mowed my grass) asked “Does your church have adult Bible Studies or small groups?” That question is asked by the one who craves an opportunity to feast at the table of fellowship your group has. Make sure – make a HUGE EFFORT to open the door, throw out the welcome mat, and as the scriptures say, “outdo each other with zeal” in welcoming today’s strangers to your beloved group.

**Hold your building concerns for the appropriate ears.** If you are reading this, it is likely you have contributed in prayers, finances and effort to the building project. Your eyes will not lie to you, as we begin our time out there, there will be loose ends to tie up, things not quite done and a few imperfections. ASSUME THEY BUILDING COMMITTEE DOES NOT SEE WHAT YOU SEE and send them an email JTerry@marionmethodist.org or call the church to make sure we “see” it too. ASSUME THAT NEW FOLKS WILL BE PUT OFF BY complaints DRIVE PEOPLE AWAY. The building committee has worked 8 years on this project; ASSUME THEY WANT THE BEST BUILDING POSSIBLE and help, not hurt the mission with your words.

There is excitement all around and I pray these “admonishments” will grow yours.

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**Vacation Bible School**
June 25 to June 29
Register, volunteer, or donate www.MarionMethodist.org/VBS2018

**Celebration of Independence**
On July 1, at the 8:15 Celebration of Independence service, we will be honoring all veterans and active duty service personnel. Each veteran in attendance will be introduced by Pastor Mike.

At this service, your picture will be displayed on the screens at the front of the sanctuary as you are introduced. If you plan to attend, please get the following information to the church office by June 22:

- A service photo
- Your branch of service and rank at discharge
- Years served
- Location of service

Your pictures will be scanned and returned to you. We already have scanned photos of many veterans that we saved from last year. If we don’t have yours, please make sure that we do!

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**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 be in prayer for all our graduates, high school, college, technical schools and others. May it be a time of great celebration with family and friends, as they look towards their future plans of college, the military, careers – wherever God is leading them.

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**Children’s Discipleship**

8:15 AM Service - Kid’s View - Children go to Worship until after songs and then are dismissed to Room W20
9:15 AM SMASH Time - Children’s Worship in Room 100
10:15 AM Service - Summer Sunday School - Children go to Worship until after songs and then are dismissed to Preschool in room E60 and Elementary in Room W20

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New Yard Signs Available!!
New yard signs with a new community message are available to put in your yard. Invite the community to Marion Methodist at 5050 REC Drive.
**MOVING IN WITH A FEW THINGS “NOT QUITE DONE”**

Congregation members, as we begin our use of the new facility at 5050 REC and our ministry there, you will notice a few things that are “not quite done.” While this list is not fully inclusive and may diminish day by day, at the deadline of this issue of the Marion Methodist it seemed likely the following might not be complete by June 17th.

1. Installation of the stained-glass windows (see location of them below)
2. The Monument sign (Hwy 13) and entrance signs
3. Landscaping close to the building
4. Grass growing in the areas designated for grass and Prairie Grass on outlying areas not yet planted

Further, the building committee has selected several things to not do at this time until we use the building a while to see if they are necessary. These are budgeted in the project, and seeking to only build what we need, we will evaluate whether they are needed.

1. Window treatments in the center
2. More lighting on the lane that leads to REC Drive
3. Additional storage units in closets (until we “see” everything here)

**Check-In Procedures**

We invite you to join us for our children’s and adult discipleship opportunities. There are a few important things you need to know as you get started.

Our classroom space is shared with both our children’s and adult ministries. For this reason, we have a check-in process for everyone that will be in that area of the church. Our Safety Team and staff have worked together to develop the safest and easiest way to check in and out of the classroom area. Let me walk you through that now.

For your first time visiting in the classroom area of our church, you will meet with one of our electronic check-in volunteers. They will help you get registered and provide you with an easy check-in barcode key tag or ID card. Once that process is complete your check in will be simplified for your future visits to the classroom area.

For families with children you will bring your barcode key tag to an open kiosk at the check-in counter. Simply scan your barcode to bring up your family’s information. Select the family members that will be attending events in our classroom area of the church and indicate what activities they will be in. For adults attending Bible studies or other activities in the classroom area, you may check-in at this time as well. Next you will print nametags for your children. A parent/guardian tag will be printed as well. The parent/guardian tag is required for adults that will accompany the children for drop off and pick up in the classroom area. Once everyone is checked in and has their appropriate nametags printed, you may proceed to the East classroom entrance. There you will find a safety team member that will simply need to see the printed nametags as you enter. All children will need to be accompanied by an adult with the parent/guardian tags to enter and exit the classroom area.

For adults who are attending a Bible study, choir, or other activities in the classroom area of the church, each adult will be provided a barcode photo ID card. If you are not checking in children and have your barcode photo ID card, you do not need to go to the check-in kiosks to print a nametag. Simply bring your barcode photo ID to the safety team member at the East classroom entrance. They will scan your barcode for you there. Then you are ready to go to your activity.

We have designed our classroom area of the church so that everyone entering will go in through the East entrance. This is to ease the flow of traffic and to keep the area safe and secure. We ask that everyone leaving the classroom area exit through the West doorway. As you exit you will be asked to show your adult barcode photo ID, or the printed children and parent/guardian nametags. If you have the printed nametags, please hand those to the safety team member to verify and dispose of for you.

We invite you to bring friends, family and visitors to our Bible studies, classes, and events at the church. For their first visit we ask that you bring them to our check-in volunteer team member who will help get them registered and provide the appropriate materials needed.

Thank you for being a part of our children’s and adult discipleship ministries.

**CHURCH ITEMS FOR SALE JUNE 23**

In preparation of our move to the new building, the individual ministry areas have sorted their physical assets as to what will move versus what can be sold. Therefore, the Board of Trustees is sponsoring an all church sale for items that will not be moving to the new facility. Please join us for this ONE DAY SALE, JUNE 23, FROM 8AM TO 12PM to see if there are any church treasures that you would like to purchase. Prices will be marked on a majority of the items, and some of the more valuable items will be sold via silent auction. Cash and checks will be accepted. (Note: Intact church windows and intact pews will not be a part of this sale as we are still in the process of trying to sell the building.)

**COME JOIN US FOR THIS HISTORICAL OPPORTUNITY!**

Many folks have asked “What are we going to be selling at the sale?”

- Several short pews
- Several small stained glass windows that were removed 50 years ago
- Wooden Benches
- An electric piano
- Candelabras
- Many 1960’s era children’s Sunday school chairs and tables
- Sombreros
- Furniture from the Parlor
- Lots of miscellaneous things
- 66-Key Piano
- Foosball Table

**SEWING DAY CANCELLED**

Due to UMCOR informing churches that school bags will no longer be used for school supplies, our annual sewing day is no longer necessary, so we will NOT be sewing on July 27th as previously planned. I want to thank all the women who have given hours for this mission over the years. I will truly miss it. Thank you so much.

Jan Dickinson

**Looking for a Christian Education Director**

Marion Methodist is seeking someone who desires and dreams for the children and youth in our area to know Jesus Christ.

Requirements for this position include planning children's programming and recruiting volunteers. This position is part-time, approximately 20 hours per week.

Please submit a letter of intent and resume to jerry@marionmethodist.org

Complete job description can be found at www.marionmethodist.org.

**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

Articles for our Marion Methodist need to be submitted by the deadline at 12:00 PM. You may email them to: jwildman@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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Pantry Partners for Marion Food Pantry

We help folks in need by supplying items for the Marion Churches Food Pantry. You may bring any of the following items to church any time during each month. Please put your contributions in one of the grocery carts located in the Narthex or at the 8th Avenue glass doors, or in the Mission Depot in Fellowship Hall or the Church Office.

June: Soup
July: Macaroni and Cheese
August: Peanut Butter
September: Soup
October: Toilet Tissue
November: Cake Mix

Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

DEATHS:
May 31: Dale Mann, brother of Ila Mae Greer

BIRTHS:

WEDDINGS:

BAPTISMS:

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FIRST SERVICES AT 5050 REC DRIVE

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

8:15 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
9:15 AM SMASH TIME
10:15 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Decommissioning of 12th and 8th

Sunday, June 24
4:00 PM

Special presentation of “These Years at 12th and 8th” by Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir