Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke

We all know how important a movement's founder is. For Lutherans, Martin Luther is the most notable name. For United Methodists (and other Wesleyan denominations), John Wesley is of course the most recognizable name. As important as the founders of any movement are, movements often fail or succeed based upon the actions of those who are the immediate successors of those founders. For the Wesleyans, there were plenty of people who kept the revival movement going, but two names you should know about are Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke. These men were the first Methodist Bishops and were extremely important in the continuation of the Methodist Movement.

In 2010 Emory University held an exhibit on these two men. What follows is a brief description taken from the school's website:

"Thomas Coke arrived in the United States in November, 1784, with instructions from John Wesley to ordain and consecrate ministers in the new country. He eventually made nine ocean voyages to North America to exercise his episcopal office. At that time, Francis Asbury had been serving on this continent for thirteen years as Wesley's "son in the gospel." Before his death in 1816, he rode approximately 270,000 miles from Maine to Georgia and from the Atlantic to the western frontier visiting societies, supervising preachers, and presiding at conferences. These two early Methodist leaders are a study in contrasts, united by a common mission "to reform the continent, and to spread scriptural holiness over these lands."

Some interesting information I learned about these men was that Francis Asbury first began preaching at the age of 18. He was a metal worker by trade but started traveling as one of Wesley's itinerant worker preachers while he was in his early twenties. In 1771, he accepted the invitation by Wesley to travel to America to care for the movement and had begun holding open air services. This was not approved by his superior and he was dismissed from his job on Easter Sunday in 1777. He returned in 1807 and preached to a crowd of 2000.

After a long and fruitful ministry in America, he "preached his last Sermon in Richmond, Virginia" on March 24, "and died at the home of George Arnold near Fredericksburg" on March 31 1816. One of our most prominent United Methodist Seminaries is named after him.

Thomas Coke was actually the first Methodist Bishop and is known as the "Father of Methodist Missions". Before that, Coke was an ordained priest in the Church of England. He had already been influenced by the Methodists and had begun holding open air services. This was not approved by his authority and he was dismissed from his job on Easter Sunday in 1777. He returned in 1807 and preached to a crowd of 2000.

He met John Wesley in August 1776, becoming one of his closest assistants. Wesley called Coke "the flea" because he seemed always to be hopping around on his missions.

Coke died at sea on his way to Sri Lanka on May 2, 1814. He suffered a stroke and was laid to rest in the Indian Sea.

Asbury described Coke as "a gentleman, a scholar, a bishop to us; and as a minister of Christ, in zeal, in labours, in services, the greatest man in the last century."

As influential and important as John Wesley was to the Methodist movement, the significance of men like Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke cannot be understated. Without their work and dedication, it is anybody's guess if Wesleyan movements would have survived. Because of their efforts the gospel has been preached to many.

Pastor Keith
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 member of the Trustees Committee in your prayers:

Chairperson – Christa Martin
Vice Chair – Diane Bys
Claire Atwood
Ron Boss
Lee Coppock
Guy Trimble

Dear Marion Methodist Friends,

Looking back on the first half of this year, I am reminded of your generous financial support. It is because of faithful allies like you that the children and families at Azure Apartments, Marion Village mobile home community, and now, Squaw Creek mobile home community can take advantage of FREE summer programming!

Your selfless contribution has provided books for kids to take home, weekly Sports Camp, swimming lessons, field trip transportation, and so much more. We are so very thankful for you and your heart for your community!

The kids and families of these neighborhoods THANK YOU for your generosity!

Yours in Christ,
Laura Campbell
Marion Cares Executive Director

Pastoral Search Underway

By now you are aware that Pastor Keith Nester is leaving Marion Methodist to pursue the next stage in his faith development. Hopefully, you have read the letters sent to you by him and the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) describing the transition.

Keith’s tenure with us concludes August 31 and we will celebrate his ministry on August 27 so please plan to come and celebrate that day. Concurrent to planning that event, the SPRC is on an aggressive search for the right man or woman to come alongside our Staff Team and help us embody our church mission statement.

To that end a “job posting” has been placed on several ministry search websites and our Pastor has met with our District Superintendent regarding the possibility of an appointed pastor who could fulfill the current and future duties. Today, they simply ask this of all congregation members:

Sincerely pray that the Lord will bring Marion Methodist the right person in this role.
Please continue to pray for the support of this capital campaign has made it possible to break ground and start constructing our new facility.

Our priority is first and foremost our congregation members, staff, visitors and making sure we know who is entering and exiting the building. Then we focused on the building: the zones, rooms and equipment within the building that needed to be locked. With those priorities in mind, we have decided to have locks in the following locations:

- There will be a "master key" that will work for both the exterior and interior doors that are locked.
- Church Entrance / Interior Security Locks
  - Each main entrance (east/west) shall have a lock on the outer door only – the inner door will not be locked.
  - There will be an Intercom/Video system at the East entrance to allow office personnel to let individual(s) enter the building when requested.
  - Cameras will also be positioned at each exterior entrance to allow oversite of who is entering and leaving the building. Cameras will also be placed within the narthex to help ensure overall security camera coverage for entrance/exit of a zoned area.
- Church Interior Security Locks
  - Sanctuary Main Entrance
  - Side doors to Sanctuary
  - Video/Audio Sound Room
  - Education Wing Main Entrance and Side Entrance. There will also be a check-in/check-out system for those dropping off and picking up our infants and youth.
  - Emergency exits to the outside to leave the education wing
  - Side door to the sanctuary platform
  - Church Office (General office / administrative space)
  - Computer Hub room / computer storage
  - Family restrooms
  - Mechanical Room

Because each zone will have the ability to be locked, further locking within the zone for each classroom and storage area was not believed to be required, although individual locked cabinets can be used as required (i.e. cleaning supplies, music…). This is a change from how our current building is secured. But we believe this is a balance of ensuring our members have accessibility to what they need when they need it within the building while also being safe and secure.

### Photographers Needed

The Church would like to have two or three of you make a photographic record of the historical building. In essence, the church leadership is hoping you will take a "church portrait" of the building; recording what our worship spaces, stained glass windows and various other spaces look like in our building’s last year of service. We believe this record will be very valuable (since we lack much record of our previous and even current building prior to 1963) to our congregation in the years to come.

The team would:
1. Meet and make their plan
2. Take many photos
3. Digitally construct the photo book

Please contact Pastor Mike Morgan directly at mmorgan@marionmethodist.org or 319-377-4856 if you have ability and deep passion for this ministry.

## SECURITY LOCKS FOR THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING

### TRANSFORM Campaign Continues

Our TRANSFORM Campaign is in full stride and at the same time our property is being transformed. The pledging phase of the TRANSFORM campaign provided the confidence and commitment that allowed us to break ground and start constructing our new facility.

Your continued support of this capital campaign has made it possible to recently add the 3rd piece to the TRANSFORM puzzle. We are closing in on the 4th piece which will be added sometime this fall.

Please continue to pray for the TRANSFORM campaign and the success of our building project.

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**What’s Next?**

**Security Locks For the New Church Building**

As we prepare to build and move into our new church building, the questions regarding security, what would and would not need to be locked, was a topic that needed to be addressed. Our committee first started off by capturing the security requirements for our building: what did and did not need to be protected and locked. We further distinguished that our structure will have three "zones": sanctuary, narthex, education wing.

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**SECURITY LOCKS FOR THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING**

### Church Interior Security Locks

- Sanctuary Main Entrance
- Side doors to Sanctuary
- Video/Audio Sound Room
- Education Wing Main Entrance and Side Entrance. There will also be a check-in/check-out system for those dropping off and picking up our infants and youth.
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**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR UMCOR**

### INGATHERING

It’s time for back-to-school sales to begin, and a good time to stock up on the school supplies needed to fill the school bags we send to UMCOR. Many school children around the world don’t have the funds to buy school supplies, so UMCOR provides them, and we provide them to UMCOR. The following is a list of required items for each school bag.

- 1 pair blunt scissors (Rounded tip only)
- 3 pads of paper (70 page spiral bound on sale)
- 1 hand-held pencil sharpener
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 6 unsharpened pencils
- 1 2-inch or larger-size eraser
- 1 24-count box of crayons

Please bring your donations to Fellowship Hall and place in the cubby on the north wall, or bring them to the church office. Thank you for supporting this mission of Marion Methodist.

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**FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT**

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Con artists don’t care how hard you worked. They steal billions from Americans like you every year. AARP is fighting back with the AARP Fraud Watch Network. A trained speaker will discuss fraud and identity. We will learn how scammers think, how to safeguard against identity theft and fraud, about first-hand accounts from victims, and what to do if you or someone you know has been a victim.

Come and learn how to protect yourself and enjoy a cool beverage and dessert.

Call the church office (377-4856) by Monday, August 14, to reserve your spot.

Hosted by:
Page Turners Circle

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**Anniversary Celebration**

George and Paulette Follmer will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 5, 2017. They were united in marriage on August 5, 1967 at the United Methodist Church in Aurora, IA. They are the parents of Paula (Cory) Maddy of Marion, and Georgia (Tony) Tallman of Urbandale. Follmers are the grandparents of Rolin and Had Maddy, and Owen, Jackson, and Claire Tallman.

Anniversary Wishes may be sent to:
2965 16th Ave. Marion, Iowa 52302

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**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 due date at 12:00 PM. You may email them to: wildman@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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<th>Date Arrived in Mail</th>
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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 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.

- **August:** Peanut Butter
- **September:** Soup
- **October:** Toilet Tissue
- **November:** Cake Mix
- **December:** Pudding and Gelatin Mixes
- **January:** Macaroni and Cheese

**July / August**

**Sunday**
- 6:00am Communion
- 7:45am Worship (Chapel)
- 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:50am Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)
- 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary)

**Monday**
- 7:45am Worship (Chapel)
- 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 1:00pm Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)

**Tuesday**
- 7:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:30am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 9:45am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 11:00am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 1:00pm Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)

**Wednesday**
- 7:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:30am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 9:45am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 11:00am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 1:00pm Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)

**Thursday**
- 7:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:30am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 9:45am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 11:00am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 1:00pm Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)

**Friday**
- 7:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:30am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 9:45am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 11:00am Worship Services (Room 106)

**Saturday**
- 7:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:30am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 9:45am Worship Services (Room 106)
- 11:00am Worship Services (Room 106)

**August**

**Sunday**
- 6:00am Celebrating with Coffee
- 7:45am Worship (Chapel)
- 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:50am Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)
- 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary)

**Monday**
- 7:45am Worship (Chapel)
- 8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:45am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am Worship (Sanctuary)
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- 1:00pm Puppets - All Troups (Room 350)

**Calling all Leaders**

Explore leadership opportunities within the Church.

If you are interested in becoming a leader in one of our many ministries at Marion Methodist, we invite you to our first ever “Leadership Summit” on August 6th from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The event will begin with a brief explanation from Pastor Mike and Keith about the joys, commitments, opportunities and expectations of our leaders. Following their presentation, leaders from different ministries in the church will hold breakout sessions explaining the details of what leadership looks like for their particular ministry.

Our Discipleship Pathway helps guide us on our journey of following Christ. If you have engaged and are deepening your faith, you may be ready to move to the “Centered” spot on the pathway. This means leadership. You don’t have to be a biblical genius or have gone to the church for 10 years. If you have a love for God and others and believe in the mission of the church, you should come and explore leadership.

Leadership positions include:
- Sunday School
- Confirmation
- 4:12 Youth Ministry
- Small Groups
- Praise team
- Care Ministry
- Hospitality team
- Haiti team leader
- And many more!

Come and prepare yourself to take the next step in your discipleship. Childcare will be provided.