Albert C. Outler was born on November 17, 1908, to a Methodist pastor and his wife. Growing up in the church, Outler grew an appreciation for the Bible and the theology that goes along with the Methodist belief system (Primarily shaped by John Wesley). While studying at Yale as a college student, Outler continued his knowledge and love for God as he earned his Ph.D. in patristics, which is the branch of Christian theology that deals with the lives, writings, and doctrines of the early Christian theologians, and the equivalent of an M.A. in psychotherapy, and social psychology.

After graduating, he pursued his ministry in the field of teaching at a professional level. Through his many years of being a professor, he had the privilege of teaching at Duke Divinity School, Yale Divinity School, and Perkins School of Theology being able to teach many students about Christology (the study of Christ), Pneumatology (the study of the Holy Spirit), pastoral counseling, and psychotherapy. While being a devout Christian on and off campus, he also served as a pastor during this time. Outler's personal faith and knowledge of God grew as he continued to pursue his career.

He had a reputation among other theologians, professors, students, friends, and members of his congregation, as a successful author and speaker, who wrote many books, articles, and many sermons. Sam Hodges, author of the article "Outler was a great Wesley Scholar – and a pack rat", mentioned in his article that Outler was a very popular speaker because of his mix of knowledge, love, and passion for God and others. He also spent much of his time editing the works of John Wesley and was the principal annotator of Wesley's sermons.

While studying the works of John Wesley, he was able to pick apart John Wesley's theology and create a four component formula of how Wesley believed Christians should live, now known as the "Wesleyan Quadrilateral" or "Methodist Quadrilateral". This Quadrilateral, based on the theology of John Wesley, states that Christians should have a reliance on Scripture, church tradition, reason, and personal experience. The purpose of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral is to bring the individual Christian to a mature and fulfilling understanding of the Christian faith and the required response of worship and service.

As you can imagine, during Outler's time as a professor, preacher, author, and pastor, he grew a large collection of his sermons and writings, as would anyone in his shoes. But Outler was known to be a bit of a pack rat, collecting a towering collection of sermons, articles, notes and syllabi for courses, and a variety of other objects such as plane tickets, gas cards, matches, sugar packets, and restaurant napkins. This collection was kept in 370 archival boxes. From 2010 to 2014 archivists at Perkins School of Theology spent over 6,000 hours organizing all his belongings into an archive that can now be accessed online and at the Bridwell Library on Perkins campus.

Within this collection, his sermon notes from the 1968 Uniteding Conference in Dallas can be found. On April 23, 1968 Outler had the opportunity to speak at the conference that officially started the United Methodist Church in which the 10.3 million member Methodist Church and the 750,000 member Evangelical United Brethren Church became one. Along with this impactful moment in his life and in the life of the United Methodist Church, he has also had the privilege of extending his influence further than just the UMC. He served as a representative at the World Methodist Council and the World Council of Churches, and as an official observer of the Second Vatican Council for multiple years. There is no surprise that he has received many awards from Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Jewish groups for all of his work.

"A lot of who we are is shaped by his work and his career", said Leicester Longden, associate professor emeritus and director of the United Methodist Studies Program at University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, in an interview with Sam Hodges. There is no doubt that Outler has had tremendous impact on the UMC and the church body as a whole. This impact is and will continue to be long lasting to the Body of Christ.

Dillon Fawcett
The next Remembrance Prayer Service will be a time of prayer, scripture and quiet reflection as you remember and honor the life of one you know and love. The Remembrance Prayer Service is held in the Chapel at 11am. Come for the first time in prayer to reflect on the loss of one dear to your heart. If so, the Remembrance Prayer service is for possible to attend a funeral, and oftentimes, there is no service held.

Maybe you were not able to attend a funeral for someone close to you, or it's the anniversary of the death of a loved one, or perhaps you would like to spend some time in prayer to reflect on the loss of one dear to your heart. If so, the Remembrance Prayer service is for you!

On the 3rd Sunday of each month a Remembrance Prayer Service is held in the Chapel at 11am. Come for a time of prayer, scripture and quiet reflection as you remember and honor the life of one you know and love.

The next Remembrance Prayer Service will be Sunday, August 20 at 11:00 am.

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 students, teachers, administrators and volunteers who will be going back to school soon. Pray for a safe, productive and fun school year.

Thank You

I cannot thank you enough for all your support prior to, during and after my surgery.

Your prayers, visits, prayer shawl, “senior-sitting” when I wasn’t to be alone, walking me around the block (again when I wasn’t to be alone), for the delicious meals brought to my home, (AND the McDonald’s breakfast burritos 😊), and for the lawn mowing / yard care. My heart was touched many times over! I can’t imagine my recovery without the support of my church family!

I am doing well and continue to heal. Thank you, again, for your kindness and generosity. God’s blessings to all.

Mary Lee Parks

REMEMBRANCE PRAYER SERVICE

As a Christian community, we have many opportunities to celebrate and worship together. One of the more poignant times is when we celebrate the life of someone near and dear to us at a funeral or memorial service. With friends and loved ones scattered throughout the country, though, it’s not always possible to attend a funeral, and oftentimes, there is no service held.

Maybe you were not able to attend a funeral for someone close to you, or it’s the anniversary of the death of a loved one, or perhaps you would like to spend some time in prayer to reflect on the loss of one dear to your heart. If so, the Remembrance Prayer service is for you!

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NEW DISCIPLES BIBLE STUDIES!

DISCIPLE Bible Studies are an incredible way to gain a better understanding of the Bible and experience tremendous spiritual growth. This fall we are offering multiple opportunities to join in.

Are you new to DISCIPLE? DISCIPLE I is the place for you to start.

DISCIPLE is a program of disciplined Bible study aimed at developing strong Christian leaders.

This study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. DISCIPLE draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion to aid understanding of the Bible.

The first study in the program is DISCIPLE: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY, a thirty-four week overview of the entire Bible.

DISCIPLE I will be offered on Sunday afternoons at 12:30PM.

If you have already completed DISCIPLE I, then you are ready for the next step. Please join us for DISCIPLE II. These studies do not need to be completed in numerical order, so please join us even if you have not taken DISCIPLE II.

DISCIPLE III Remember Who You Are is the third study in the four-phase DISCIPLE program. The driving idea in this study is the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. The word You in the title is meant to be heard both in its singular form (the individual) and its plural form (the community). We are a community of memory. Participants in this 32 week study will read the major and minor Old Testament prophets, with the exception of Daniel, and will read the thirteen Letters traditionally attributed to Paul. To establish the historical context in which the prophets spoke for God, daily reading assignments draw also on the books of Deuteronomy through Chronicles.

DISCIPLE III will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:45AM (two year study September-May) or Sunday afternoons at 12:30PM (32 week study September-May)

Save the Date! Sunday, August 27, we will host DISCIPLE Bible Study Orientations for all available classes. This will give you a chance to meet the class leaders and members, ask questions you may have about the study, and pick up your materials.

The first day of DISCIPLE Bible Study class will be September 10.

Register for classes online at www.MarionMethodist.org or by contacting Jen Digmann at jdigmann@MarionMethodist.org or (319) 329-9635

H9 Haiti Team Presentation
Sunday, August 13
6:00 PM
Sanctuary
“Therefore Go...” Matthew 28:19

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.
People have asked several questions about parking at our new church building. Will we have enough parking? How many spaces are there going to be? How did we decide on that number? How many designated disabled parking spaces will there be? How far from the building will these spaces be? What if we run out of parking spaces?

I think we will find parking much easier than we do today. There are 264 parking spaces in the current plan. That is over 240 more parking spaces than we have now! How did we come up with that number of spaces? The minimum number of parking spaces required is set by the Marion building code and is based on the seating capacity of the sanctuary. One parking space is required per four seats. Originally, our sanctuary was designed to seat 1,000, so the parking lot was designed for a minimum of 250 spaces. In order to accommodate some of the audio visual equipment and enlarge the chancel area for our many ministries, the seating capacity has been reduced to about 900, but we have retained 264 parking spaces.

The parking areas are designed to be on two sides of the church building, rather than just one side, so more parking spaces will be closer to the entrances. The parking lot on the northwest side of the building (back entrance) will have 126 spaces, and can be accessed directly from the driveway off 35th Avenue. The parking lot on the southeast side of the building (front entrance) will have 138 spaces, and can be accessed directly from the driveway off REC Drive. Regardless of which street you use, there will also be a driveway going around the south end of the building (by the education area) that connects both parking lots.

Included in these 264 spaces will be 16 designated disabled parking spaces located near the building entrances – 8 spaces near the back entrance and 8 spaces near the front entrance.

If we are blessed with so much increased attendance that we need more parking, we have enough property to enlarge our parking lots. What a wonderful problem that would be! In fact, two future additions to the parking areas have already been designed into the plan.

Volunteers Needed --- Minimal Time Commitment

The Sanctuary Subcommittee of the Building Committee is in the information gathering phase of planning for the future of the new sanctuary and we have a request.

Visit a local church, maybe during your lunch hour or on the way home, take a picture of the sanctuary chancel area and send the digital photo to this email address: build.fumc@gmail.com

If they have seating in the form of chairs (not pews) snap a photo of that as well. The deadline for this is August 20th.

COME JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR!

It's time for our fall choir activities to start and this is an invitation for you to join us this year! Do you love to sing? Do you enjoy having the choir as part of the worship service? Do you want a personal involvement with the music ministry at Marion Methodist? ……Then we urge you to give the Chancel Choir a try this year.

Benefits of being a member of the Chancel Choir are:

- A more personal and rewarding involvement in the worship service.
- A deeper spirituality and relationship with God through the music.
- Being a part of the group who helps set the tone for the worship service and enriches the service both through the music and the message of the lyrics of what they sing.
- Opportunity to praise God through songs of a variety of musical styles.
- Being a part of weekly rehearsals. What an enjoyable way to spend an evening with people who love to sing!

Come try out the Chancel Choir....you don't even have to audition! Chancel Choir (High school through Adults) rehearse Wednesday evenings during the school year starting on August 30, 6:30 to 8:00pm, and we lead the worship singing at the traditional music service at 8:30am on Sundays.

Our first event is a Choir Workshop on Saturday, August 26 (day with no home Hawkeye game) from 9:00am to noon in the choir room. We start at 8:30am with treats of yummy home-made sticky buns created by Mike Richmond and you won't want to miss them!

For more information contact any Chancel Choir member or Peggy Rosenkranz, Chancel Choir Director, at peggyr@fmi.com or 319-361-0441. We are looking forward to welcoming some of you to the Chancel Choir this fall.

GriefShare - Your Journey from Mourning to Joy

GriefShare is a video-based seminar/support group for anyone dealing with the loss of a loved one. Whether it's been months or years since your loved one's death, meeting with others who have walked the same path will bring healing to your journey.

Beginning August 23, GriefShare will be offered on Wednesdays, from 6:15-7:30 pm. We will meet in Room 104 in the main church building. Please register by calling the church office at 377-4856 or email vstandley@marionmethodist.org.

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 theft. 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

Hello my name is Newcomer

What did you do this summer? Have you traveled to a cool spot? Do you have a hobby you enjoy? Where did you go? Did you learn something new? What did you do differently? What did you like about it?

New to Marion Methodist?

Don't miss our next Newcomer Orientation when you can find out who we are, what we do, and how you can get connected!

August 20 at 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM in the Library & Hospitality Room

POWER HOUSE STARTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

TV Broadcast

Marion Methodist worship services are typically rebroadcasted on Mediaco and 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.
Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

DEATHS:

BIRTHS:

BAPTISMS:

WEDDINGS:

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

Bible Studies for our Preaching Series

For the five weeks beginning August 13th, we will be walking through a sermon series entitled “Prayer: How, What, Why?” To prepare you and to encourage the growth of your prayer life Pastor Mike encourages you (when you are done with your current study) to engage in these 5 studies one after another on your YouVersion App. If you don’t have YouVersion on your phone simply download the app and search for these studies and begin!

Two Fire Hydrants for One church?

Isn’t that excessive? Nope. Our church building is long enough (remember right now our square footage is stacked on three floors) that fire code requires TWO fire hydrants. Right now, they look very lonely standing in our field alone, but soon they will be in just the right spot at the edges of our building and parking lot ready to use if our wonderful emergency services need them. Let’s just hope they stand there for years yearning for a new coat of paint every 5 years and hope the dog walkers steer clear.

Stormwater drainage

In worship on 30 July, Pastor Mike mentioned that the fire hydrants had been plumbed in and the water had been run to them. One of the builders told us that the “holy water” had been installed. That is, the freshwater that we can use in our drinking fountains, the kitchen and of course anything else we need water for. Now, we work on getting rid of the water we don’t need.

The pictures you see today are of the earth moving preparations for the stormwater runoff. The concrete fixtures and piping all help the water that naturally runs through our land and comes with the rainfall that will drop on our building and parking lot. It needs to be sent to the Marion storm water system. Everything drains towards a large culvert near REC Dr.

Keep praying for the workers, the progress and the ministry to come!