



THE FOCUS

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

A Quick Check-Up

In our current time, there seems to be a check-up for everything. We see doctors for our general health, our teeth, and our eyes. We have specific things we do to check the well being of our houses, our finances, and even our cars. Our pets even see doctors regularly to make sure that everything is okay.

With all of these check-ups that we do, it seems odd that many of us Christians do not take the same care of our souls. As Methodists, it is even more surprising that we fail to examine ourselves in this way, as John Wesley built the Methodist movement on regular small group meetings that focused on these examinations. In the Old and New Testaments, there are different ways to examine your actions and whether they follow God or not. The Old Testament gives us the Law and the Prophets, and in the New Testament Paul gave several lists of sins and virtues.

As we enter the summer months, I would like for us, both individually and collectively as a church, to examine ourselves. There are several ways to do this. One is to go through John Wesley's class questions (they are easy to find online). Or, you could ask if you follow Wesley's Three Simple Rules: Do No Harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God. One final way to do it would be to look at the steps we have given for discipleship, and ask how you are doing with them. Are you regularly meeting with God? Are you eating with others and growing in your relationship with them? Are you washing people's feet by serving them?

Pastor Jason Stanley

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Help us 'clip' our church on Pentecost! Clipping the church is an old tradition. Red cloth or ribbon is used to circle a church building to show that it is loved and cared for. We're going to celebrate this old tradition this year, but we're going to put a distinctly First Church spin on it. Today on a table in Fellowship Hall you'll find a basket full of red strips of paper and some Sharpies. Please take a moment to write a brief prayer on one of the slips and leave that slip on the table. You might pray for our own church, individuals in our church, our town, our neighborhood or whatever you would like. And be sure to attend worship on Pentecost Sunday where you'll see our red chain circling our church like a hug from all of us!

Church Spending Plan as of 2019

Monthly	April	Year to Date	
Income	\$16,067.40	Income	\$56,182.65
Expense	\$14,384.76	Expense	\$57,307.20



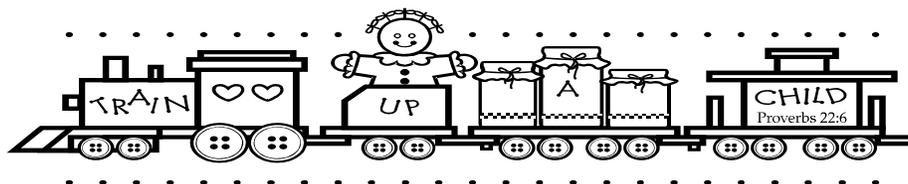
2019

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE DONUTS

June — J.O.Y. Class
July — Koinonia Class

THANK YOU! Dear Members of First United Methodist Church, thank you so much for your cards, prayers and lovely shawl to help me during my illness. You are in my thoughts and prayers.
Sincerely, Carolyn James

THANK YOU! Dear First United Methodist Church, Thank you so much for all that was done for our family since and prior to dad's (Dick Knost) passing. It was a beautiful service, lovely music, the dinner was fantastic and all the love and support shown to us all was heartwarming! Love, *Cathy Lane*



Preschool Postings

We had a very nice turn out for our end of the year program and graduation. There were about 30 attending, not a bad audience for 6 children. We are looking into making some changes with our schedule for next year. We hope this will help us improve enrollment. Please keep us in your prayers as we investigate improving our preschool.

One day Miss Arrington was working with the children on writing their names. She was using my table that lets the children write in colors with a stylus or their finger. Arrington was using the stylus to erase and I told her if she used her finger it would erase faster. Ameliah was sitting there watching her and asked how she did that, so Arrington showed her how to use her finger. Ameliah wrote with her finger and then looked at it. Then wrote some more and looked at her finger trying to figure out how the ink got in her finger, I think. Arrington and I enjoyed the look on her face and had a good laugh.

Rob and I made a covered wagon (like the pioneers used) with a little red wagon, for the kids to play with the last week of school. I parked it beside the bookshelf to read in so they wouldn't run over fingers and toes then we took it into the playroom so they could take turns riding in it. We finally had to set the timer because they all wanted to read in the wagon. They had a great time pulling each other around the playroom with it. We had a hard time getting Philip to understand the concept of pushing. He got upset when there was 2 people pulling and no room for him so we told him he could push. He just didn't get it until we showed him. Then everything was good. They even asked me to leave it for the rest of the week.

Thank you for your support of our preschool. Please continue to pray for us as we start preparing for the new year.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3	Dillon Hamilton	13	Mike Worthy
3	Jim Harris	16	Carolyn Baldwin
6	Amanda Varner	18	Anne Gottschalk
6	Chuck McNeely	20	Harrison Varner
7	Gene McNeely	21	Susan Morrow
10	Bonnie Lou Gamson	22	Susan Seacott
12	June Meyer	25	Carolyn James



We are having an outside work day this Saturday, June 8 from 9 AM to 12 Noon. Please bring tools such as saws, weed eater, clippers, trash bags, etc. Don't forget to dress appropriately (long sleeve and gloves).

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

18	Frank & Cheryl Gulley
21	Bill & Sally Varner
22	Matt & Jennifer Varner
23	Chuck & Gene McNeely
26	Bob & Cathy Swathwood
30	Ron & Rita Forsythe



OPEN HOUSE - Come help us celebrate Lauren Morrow's graduation! Saturday, June 8th from 2-5 PM at the First United Methodist Church.



UMW NOODLES

We have noodles for sale!
Just stop by the church office.
They are \$3.50 a bag.



First United Methodist Church
624 S. Adams St.
Marion, IN 46953

June 2019

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

***Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the
world.***

THE NEXT FOCUS DEADLINE
June 19, 2019

H O P E

*Discovering it
Living it
Sharing it*

PASTOR—Jason Stanley
503 E Stephenson St.
Marion, IN 46952
(765) 438-8107

Email address: jason.stanley@inumc.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT— Rita Forsythe

ORGANIST— Susan Seacott

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR— Donna Wiley

CHURCH PHONE — 765-664-5177

Email: info@marionumc.org

www.marionumc.org

SERVICE TIMES

MORNING WORSHIP— 9:15 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL— 10:30 A.M.

YOUTH GROUP—6:00 P.M.