

August 2023

Our 100th
Year
Here

FOCUS



*First United Methodist Church is a caring place in a diverse urban community for all people.
624 S Adams St., Marion IN 46953 - 765.664.5177 - info@marionumc.org
9:15 Sunday Worship, 10:30 Sunday School for all ages.*

Thank You For The Nurturing



Sidenia Stace volunteers for so many things here at the church. A few years back, she invited me to be part of the church council with a voice message on my phone that started “this is your favorite English teacher.” I keep contact with David Byrum, Betsy Doepken and Carolyn Ellis through Facebook. I was fortunate to be present at a retirement celebration for Dave a couple years ago. I had a really good visit with Carolyn before she relocated to Kentucky. Betsy recently moved to Michigan and I really hope our paths cross in the near future. And, Mrs. Dougherty, I can still hear you counting along while the hymns are being played during Sunday services. Thank you all so much for the time you have given me. My education, my growth and my memories are all because of the nurturing you gave.



-Kraig Piper

With nurturing being the theme for the August FOCUS; my thoughts turned to those who have helped me develop not only as a Christian but as an individual. I remember those who helped me conquer my fears, those who taught me appreciation of music and expanded my education, those who put up with my childish behavior (even when I was not a child anymore) and those who helped me learn how to accept others and myself despite our shortcomings. The following are just a few of the names of people in the church who helped me grow over of the years.

Dee Aguilar helped me with my coordination and my fear of heights by walking with me as I crossed a small balance beam. I remember Martha Dougherty playing the piano and counting out the beat so we could sing along and know when the proper time was to breathe between notes. I remember Barb Salveter telling us that her auto mechanic could not understand how the horn in her VW Bug wore out so fast. (It may have had something to do with some rowdy passengers in the vehicle thinking they had to beep at every single car we passed on our way to and from a church function.) I remember Sidenia Stace as my English teacher when I was a young teenager and how she made the subject fun. I remember how David Byrum taught me to be sensitive of other people’s needs. I remember Betsy Doepken and Carolyn Ellis as parental figures as well as senior high Sunday school teachers.

These people, along with many others, have left lasting impressions on me. Outside of Martha Dougherty, who sadly passed some time ago, I still have communication with these fine people to this day. Dee Aguilar may have moved to Indianapolis, but she made it to my brother’s funeral two years ago and that helped me with another difficult time in my life. Barb Salveter continues to give her time and service to the church but she no longer has the VW and probably does not chauffeur rowdy preteens anymore.

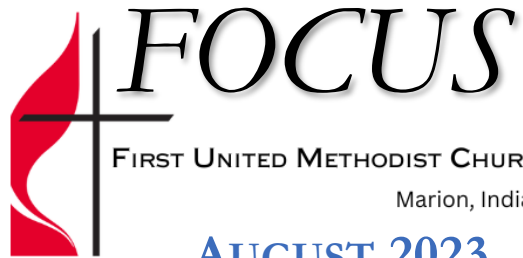
Front Cover Photo

Our church secretary, Mary made this quilt “Dr. Stripes’ Bookshelf” for her dear friend, Denise Stripes.

From Denise: I am a wife, mother, cat lover, and scholar. My friend, Mary Malone, has walked with me from when I was a young Army wife and stay-at-home mom who hated cooking and couldn’t keep a plant alive, but loved reading and watching nerdy TV shows like Dr. Who.

After raising my children, my husband Virgil, supported me as I went to school and earned a doctorate in literature. I now teach composition and English as a second language at Spokane Community College. When I graduated with my PhD, Mary made this lovely bookshelf quilt for me that is an artist’s rendering of my life, and that even provided me with a plant that I can’t kill (look at the top left corner!). The book titles are classic literature titles that she printed onto fabric, but replaced one word from the title with the words Stripe, Striped, or Stripes; i.e. “Uncle Stripes’ Cabin,” “Moby Stripes” and “Stripes and Prejudice.” It is the most beautiful gift I have ever received!





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Marion, Indiana

AUGUST 2023

		INSIDE FRONT FEATURE
<i>Kraig Piper</i> <i>Mary Malone/Denise Stripes</i>	1	Thank You for the Nurturing Front Cover Photo Story
		GOINGS ON ABOUT FUMC
	3	Prayer Concerns Birthdays & Anniversaries
		WELCOMING NEIGHBORS TO OUR SPACE
<i>Mary Malone</i>		Quilter's Hall of Fame "Celebration 2023"
		MISSIONS AND OUTREACH
<i>Cathy Lane</i> <i>Wes Rediger</i>	4	Block Party! August Themes & Scriptures Who We Are at FUMC
		CENTER SPREAD
<i>Kraig Piper</i>	5-6	Rob's Kitchen Food Truck
		EDUCATION/WORSHIP
<i>Sarah Dougherty Evans</i> <i>Wes Rediger</i>	7	Nurturing as a Way of Building Legacy Worship In The Park Block Map/Who Is My Neighbor?
		TRUSTEES
<i>Rex Lane</i>	8	Trustee Updates and Maintenance
		ETCETERA
<i>Wes Rediger</i>	9	August Coin Offering Meals on Wheels Drivers Thumbs Up Award Escher Cartoon Upcoming Event Announcements Online Giving Option
		THE CALENDAR
<i>Mary Malone</i>	10	August 2023 Announcements Future Events at FUMC
		BACK PAGE SPOTLIGHT
<i>Wes Rediger</i>	11	Pat Christ, Pennsylvania German Stumpwork Embroidery
		COVER PHOTO
<i>Barry Malone</i>		"Dr. Stripes' Bookshelf"

Publisher: Pastor Wes Rediger

*Editor: Mary Malone; Photographers: Barry Malone, Cathy Lane, Kraig Piper, Mary Malone, Wes Rediger,
Design and Layout: Mary Malone, Kraig Piper, and Pastor Rediger*

*Contact the church office to obtain more copies and be added to the current mailing list.
765-664-5177 or info@marionumc.org*

Prayer Concerns

Please call the office at
(765) 664-5177

Cheryl Philbert
 Louise Webb
 Chuck McNeely
 Jack Stace's grandson, Brandon Stace
 Barbara Piper
 Bob Salveter
 Carolyn James
 Jane Hiatt Weesner
 Betty & Jim Fletcher
 Willard and Ruth Ann Rust
 Linda Simpson's granddaughter, Lucia Tomlinson
 Diane Fry, back injury
 Jim Fletcher
 Willard and Ruth Ann Rust
 Friends living in Health Care Facilities
 Government: national, state, and local elected officials and employees
 Victims of disasters and relief workers
 Unspoken concerns of relatives and friends
 Other churches in Marion/Grant County

August & September Birthdays

Amelia Stanley	08/01
Carroll DeVries	08/06
Dick Gongwer	08/10
Ed McIlwain	08/11
Donna Worthy	08/11
Heidi Harshman	08/12
Cheryl Philbert	08/12
Viola Curtis	08/16
Jim Fletcher	08/16
Betty Fletcher	08/18
Jason Stanley	08/29
Cecilia Stanley	08/31

Charles Herriman	09/15
Pat Wickham	09/15
Debbie Ivey	09/16
Christine Stanley	09/18
Manuel Aguilar	09/20
Mary Malone	09/20
Willard Rust	09/20
Joan Brown	09/23
Tom Roop	09/26
John Wood	09/26

Anniversaries

Leland & Bonnie Gamson	08/24	38 yrs.
Charles & Johnny Herriman	08/31	60 yrs.
Jim & Betty Fletcher	09/25	68 yrs.

Quilters Utilize Our Facility

The Quilter's Hall of Fame here in Marion, Indiana held its annual "Celebration" in July. The mission of the QHOF is to celebrate quilting as an art form, by honoring the lives and accomplishments of those people who have made outstanding contributions to the world of quilting. First United Methodist Church opened its doors to the quilters to show off their beautiful quilts and hold classes. The three day event drew many new faces to our door and we were able to share our lovely building with them.



Block Party!

On July 22nd, we closed the streets and invited our neighbors to join us for a Block Party in conjunction with Discover Marion Downtown. There were many events to attend, Friday night there was a Cruise In with some amazing restored and new cars. The Block Party on the church grounds was a great family event with miniature golf, face painting, corn hole games and amazing food! Rob's Kitchen served our guests with some delicious barbecue, and our church ladies made some flavorful snow cones to help cool us all off while we enjoyed the 80's sounds of The Checkered Vans!



August Themes & Scriptures

August 6, 2023
 "Posture Matters"
 Matthew 5:14-16

August 13, 2023
 "Open Doors"
 Matthew 17:1-9

August 20, 2023
 "A United Front"
 Romans 12:14-21

August 27, 2023
 "Equality of Women"
 Luke 8:1-3



Who We Are:

Our predecessor, First Methodist Episcopal Church, was founded in Marion in 1832 and by the 1920s had become The Methodist Church. In 1969, the Methodist denomination merged with the Evangelical United Brethren denomination and became the United Methodist Church. "First Methodist Church" is carved in stone over the Adams Street entrance above the canopy. Today, First United Methodist Church of Marion is an affiliate of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.





Rob's Kitchen Food Truck fed our neighbors well at the event. The burgers were hefty and fantastic! The desserts were decadent.



the Block Party in the parking lot on July 22nd.
tender and refreshing! Give them a call at (765) 603-9680.

Nurturing as a Way of Building a Legacy

Kraig Piper wrote a lovely article on page 2 of this issue of the FOCUS remembering the individuals who helped to shape him as a person and in his faith.

As I have thought about what Kraig shared, it occurred to me that Dee Aguilar may not have any memory of walking back and forth with a little boy afraid of falling off of that beam. But the patient and loving time spent with little Kraig is embedded in his memory as an act of nurturing.

For all of those other important people that he remembered, I'm sure they did not do what they did thinking that decades later, Kraig would lift them up as important to his development as a person and integral to his faith.

We have the opportunity every day of our lives to make a difference to someone



– to nurture them. Some of us have leadership positions in worship, in church school or in committees. But where the real nurture happens is when we make that phone call, drop in for a visit, send a card, sit and listen to another person's story or heartache.

We can nurture by offering our time, our voice, our shoulder to cry on. And when we do, we have no idea the legacy we create – the difference that a small or great gesture can make. And our legacy is complete when a person, like Kraig, passes that nurturing on to another.

-Sarah Evans



Worship In The Park

Plan on attending worship on Sunday, August 13, at 10 am at Matter Park in the Meadow Pavilion. Put this on your calendar, you don't want to miss this lovely morning of worship! We will follow worship that morning with a picnic.



<p>1) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>	<p>2) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>	<p>3) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>
<p>8) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>	<p>My Home Address Who Are My Neighbors? How can we become friends?</p>	<p>4) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>
<p>7) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>	<p>6) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>	<p>5) Neighbor's Names Information Hopes and Motivations</p>

Perhaps some commandments are more important than others because when asked, Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love all one knows of God with all one knows of self, and to do that by loving neighbors as one loves self. Loving neighbors turns the noun, "neighbor" into the verb, "neighboring." Jesus says it's the greatest commandment because it's the active way to love God that moves us beyond talk, words, theories, and concepts all the way to face to face action. Jesus says all the law and the prophets are summed up by neighboring. When we venture out and engage our actual neighbors, we find divinity in the neighborhood.

-Pastor Wes

Trustee Updates to our Grand Building

The following is a list of the maintenance provided by both volunteers & paid professionals over the last 3.5 years.

- Cleaned all items in the kitchen: every dish, glass, utensil and all cupboards wiped out and reorganized. Bonnie Lou Gamson, Linda & Joe Simpson.
- Cleaned everything in Nursery 2: Rex & Cathy Lane, Terry & Debbie Ivey.
- Resurfaced floor in Nursery 1: Rex, Cathy, Jack & Sidenia Stace, Nancy Worthy.
- Replaced 44 window screens on the west side of the church damaged by hail: Rex & Nancy.
- Removed handicapped ramp awning to prevent vagrancy: Rex, Rob & Donna Wiley.
- Took down, repaired and put back the awning on Adams Street entrance: Terry, Debbie, Rex, Kraig Piper & Tom Holloway Sr.
- Applied Old English to sanctuary floor to remove scuff marks: Wes Rediger, Nancy, Rex, Cathy.
- Added new insulation to closets on 4th floor where needed: Rex & Ray Lane.
- Cleaned out all 4th floor closets: Rex Lane.
- Christmas items sorted and cleaned out: Rex, Cathy, Joe, Linda, Denise Harshman, Barb Pack.
- Disposed of 13 outdated TVs, 6 air conditioners: Rex.
- Cleaned out sacristy behind the sanctuary: Rex, Cathy, Joe, Linda, Sarah & Glenn Evans.
- Cleaned out 2 rooms on the 3rd floor for Alanon & Alateen to meet on Wednesdays: Rex, Cathy & Barb.
- Cleaned all hallway lights, replaced with LED bulbs: Rex, Linda.
- Replaced damaged ceiling tiles: 4th floor: Rex, Tom Holloway Jr.
- Cleaned out Koinonia classroom: Rex, Cathy, Bonnie.
- Sealed & locked all 90 church windows to lower heating bill: Rex, Terry, Debbie, Kraig.
- Moved all furniture & cleaned all light fixtures in parlor: Rex, Cathy, Bonnie, Linda.
- Cleaned library: Linda.

Work in progress

- Cleaning out resource room: Barb Pack and Barb Salveter.
- Planted flowers in 14 planters and cleaned up garden beds outside: Rex, Cathy, Jack, Sidenia, Denise, Terry, Glenn
- Found 12 new blinds in 4th floor closet and installed them in 12 parlor windows: Rex, Linda.
- Replaced all exit sign lights: Rex.
- Cleaned out shed in parking lot: Rex.
- Repaired sign in front of church: Rex, Rob Wiley.
- Dust Bunnies crew has dusted the whole church: Sidenia, Jack, Sue Bratton, Dennis, Becky, Rita, Kathy, Joyce.
- Volunteers in office almost every Friday: Rita, Cathy.



- Weeded all gravel beds both sides of 7th street block: Rex & Ray Lane.

- Nancy Worthy has shampooed ALL church carpets.

Work done by paid professionals

- Landscaping on 7th street from Adams to Washington St.: M & J Landscaping
- Plastering on all four floors and basement: Ron Banter
- Changed all kitchen lights to LED plus other lights throughout the church as needed: Bournique
- Replaced buss fuses in basement to circuit breakers: Bournique
- Fixed crumbling cement on the north side of church: Lemons Construction
- Roof repairs to fix water leaks: Lemons Construction
- Had all brick tuck-pointed: Lemons Construction
- New doors and new front windows on Annex building: Crystal Glass
- Repairs to parsonage: some siding, window repair, new basement windows, trees trimmed in backyard over electrical lines: Mick Everling.
- All 90 church windows re-caulked: Josh Martin
- Refinished 3 office floors: Keeley Flooring
- Organ chamber repaired: Reynolds Organ.

- New stove in parsonage: Ace Appliance
- New First-Aid kits and defibrillators: Wildman
- New phone system at lower cost: Taylored Systems
- New key card system for front door and front office: Seacott Lock and Key

Donations of Time, Talents and Money

- Fixed both convection and double oven.
- Fellowship hall repainted.
- Donation for the 44 window screens.
- Donation of computer in front office.

Financial Overhauling:

- Cost of new roof on annex added to church mortgage.
- Refinanced mortgage, and lowered interest rate from 5.5% to 4.15% so that adding new roof cost per month is less than before additional cost of roof.
- Met with insurance co. to get lower yearly payment.

Future Projects:

- Fix potholes & reseal parking lot.
- Replace tile floor in Nursery 2.
- Ceiling fans for fellowship hall.
- Finish cleaning out the safe.
- Cleaning out resource room.
- New blinds for classrooms.
- Painting restrooms.
- Paint sacristy behind sanctuary.
- Fix drainage issue at parsonage.
- Install bat houses.
- Add light to bell tower.

August Special Offerings

1st Sunday Coin Collection, August 6th, will go to Habitat for Humanity of Grant County. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. "We believe affordable housing plays a critical role in strong and stable communities." For more information go to: www.granthabitat.com



Thumbs Up! Award

Debbie Ivey passed the Thumbs Up award to Cathy Lane at the Council meeting on July 10th for her commitment to her overall missions of the church. She has planned, coordinated and executed some fantastic events for our members and neighbors.

Do you know someone who needs an encouraging Thumbs Up? Let Barb Pack know or send a note to the office. We will make sure this person is recognized.



GRANT CO. MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Monday through Friday
1 to 1 1/2 hours a day
Deliver meals to your
homebound neighbors.
Call or text Joe Haynes
765-660-3280

Lunch in the Garden

Thursday, August 3rd at noon, we will have Lunch in the Garden. Please join us and bring your lunch, a chair and enjoy visiting with your neighbors in our garden area across from the Library on Boots Street.



Summertime fellowship!

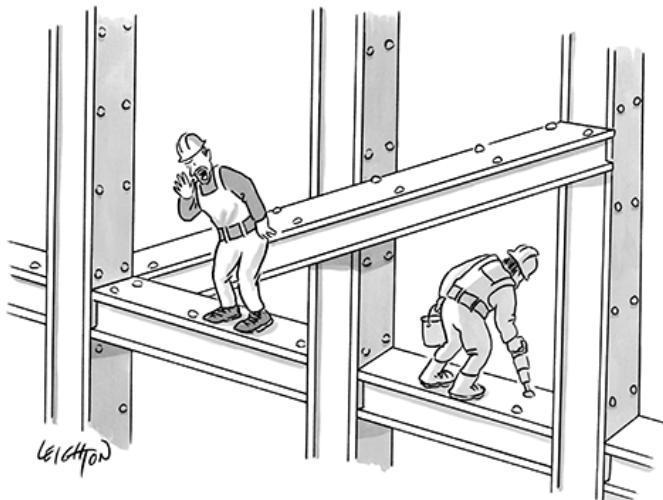
Rummage Sale

We will be holding a Rummage Sale in the Annex on Saturday, September 16th from 8 am to 2 pm. We will begin collecting donations from your closets, garages and storage buildings! Contact Nancy Worthy or drop off at the church during business hours. All proceeds will go toward our building's outdated boiler.

Chicken Noodle Dinner

We will be holding a Chicken Noodle Dinner fundraiser on November 4th. Please mark your calendars.

We will also be making noodles to sell and all hands are appreciated! Noodle making dates will be: Aug. 10th and 11th for making and bagging, and then again on Aug 31st and Sep 1st for making the noodles and bagging them the next day.

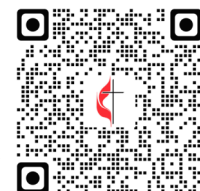


"Escher! Get up here."

Online Giving Option

We are pleased to announce that FUMC now provides online giving as an option – a convenient and secure way to make a one-time or recurring donation. When you choose to give online, your donation will transfer directly to our bank account. It also helps us as recurring donations provide consistency and efficiency, easing the work for our back office administration. You can use your debit or credit card or create an account and use your bank account's routing number and account number.

This online giving is handled through SubSplash, who complies with Payment Card Industry (PCI DSS) standards. Scan the QR code to get started.



AUGUST 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
Marion Public Library will be using our parking lot 8-1 thru 8-15 while their lot is getting refinished.		National Night Out, 5-8 pm, Matter Park	AA 6pm FH Al-Anon & Alateen 6pm 3rd Floor	Lunch in the Garden-Noon, Boots St. Garden Tech. Mtg. 1 pm, Parlor Historic NBHD Mtg. 4 pm, MPL		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship Svc. 9:15 am 1st Sun Coin Offering Habitat For Humanity AA-Women's Mtg. 5:30 Parlor		MOW Board Mtg. 12:30, Parlor	Finance Mtg. 6 pm Parlor AA 6pm FH Al-Anon & Alateen 6pm 3rd Floor	Noodle Making 1 pm, Kitchen, F.H.	Noodle Bagging 11 am Kitchen, F. H.	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship In The Park 10 am AA-Women's Mtg. 5:30 Parlor	Administrative Council Mtg 6pm Parlor		<i>September FOCUS Submissions Deadline</i>		Discover Marion Downtown	
			AA 6pm FH Al-Anon & Alateen 6pm 3rd Floor			Mary Malone Event, Noon, Parlor Cathy Lane Event F.H.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship Svc. 9:15 am AA-Women's Mtg. 5:30 Parlor	UWF 6 pm, F.H.	PEO Mtg. 5:30 - 8:30pm, F.H.	AA 6pm FH Al-Anon & Alateen 6pm 3rd Floor			
27	28	29	30	31		
Worship Svc. 9:15 am AA-Women's Mtg. 5:30 Parlor			Committee Chairs Noon Parlor	Noodle Making 1 pm, Kitchen, F.H.		
			AA 6pm FH Al-Anon & Alateen 6pm, 3rd Floor			

Future Events!

August 13th, Church in the Park @ Matter Park
September (Date TBD,) Mississinewa Valley Band
September 16th, Rummage Sale
November 4th, Chicken Noodle Dinner Fundraiser
Save the dates, more info coming!



The Marie Webster Quilt Guild utilized our facilities for their annual Quilt Celebration, July 20th through the 22nd. The event, which started on Thursday and extended through Saturday evening, was filled with classes on Featherweight sewing machines, Show and Tells from renowned quilters and classes on various techniques. One such class held in our parlor was Pat Christ's Stumpwork embroidery workshop. Pat Christ, nationally recognized quilt historian, along with her husband Arlan are pattern designers and authors focusing on the Pennsylvania German people. The Pennsylvania Germans were frugal but creative. Stumpwork is a technique they developed to use even the smallest of fabric scraps. This type of wool embroidery was generally done on closely woven fabrics that were being recycled from worn clothes or household items. Leftover yarn from other projects was used with a tin star pattern that was made by the local tinsmith. There was never any waste in the household of a Pennsylvania German.

During the event, our sanctuary was filled with masterful examples from talented quilters in Grant county and surrounding areas. See page 3 for more photos of this wonderful event.