



# Staying Connected

Newsletter

## November 2021

First Marion family,



In the coming weeks, we will explore our **WHY** as a church family.

Knowing our **WHY** empowers us to understand who we are, what are doing and why we are doing it.

Knowing our **WHY** helps to be better followers of Jesus

Knowing our **WHY** motivates us to serve and to give.

Knowing our **WHY** is about living into a faithful forward as a family of God so as to be blessed and to bless others.

As a family of God we seek to be good stewards of all that God has given us and all that God has called us to. It is in our giving and serving that we are using God-given resources for the accomplishment of God-given goals.

2021 has been a challenging year and we enter 2022 with challenges continuing. But I believe at our core, that all we do, all we give, all the ways we serve are bringing people closer to Christ...bringing you and me closer to Christ.

Giving is not about a budget. Giving is about ministry. It is about the spiritual need we have to give. Serving is not checking tasks off list but rather it is about being involved with that which is bigger than ourselves.

Peace, James



### Cookie Project for SCCH



Our Friends at First United Methodist Church, thank you for the delicious cookies you provided to our team members! We are truly grateful for community partnerships like this during these stressful times. These gestures mean so much to our team members and add a bright spot to their day!

We appreciate you thinking of us and providing us with cookies!

Thank you again!  
Smyth County Community Hospital



# First Youth

Laura Robinson  
Director

Open to all youth  
grades 6 - 12

## Weekly Bible Study

Sunday 6:00 - 7:30 pm, includes supper

## Breakfast Club

Thursdays - 7:15 am @ McDonald's

# First KIDS

Ginger Moore  
Director

Open to all kids  
grades preK - 5

## First Kids Fun

Sundays: 6:00 - 7:30 pm, includes supper

# First Music

Jim Regin - Director

## Hand Bells

rehearsal is Mondays at 5:00 pm.

## Praise Band

rehearsal is Thursdays, at 6:30pm.

# FOOD PANTRY

Thursday, November 16  
1 - 4 pm

AMERICAN RED CROSS



**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

Friday - November 19 2 - 6 pm  
First UMC Fellowship Hall

**WE'RE  
HIRING!**

• FULL-TIME  
**DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES**

This position is a vocational calling to serve God and serve others.

The FUMC Director of Ministries must have a bachelor's degree, preferably in ministry, religion, education, or a closely related field.

Required work skills include excellent oral and written communication skills, ability to relate well with people of all ages, and excellent organizational and time management skills, given the variety of his/her responsibilities. The Director must have working knowledge of general audio and video production systems and working knowledge of internet and social media platforms, publishing, and editing proficiency. Must have the ability to balance doing visitation along with equipping lay volunteers to do visitations as well.

For a detailed job description please go to [www.marionfumc.org](http://www.marionfumc.org)



It is almost the most wonderful time of the year!!! It is time for our Santa's Elves Christmas Project. This project always stretches our wallets, faith, joy and patience yet expands our love as we put in many hours to make sure

**40 children in  
Smyth County**

have a wonderful Christmas.

Please consider supporting this project through your financial gifts. We could never take on this project without your financial support and prayers.

Supporting this project is easy:

- Place your contribution in the offering plate
- Bring your contribution by the church office
- Mail your contribution to the church.

Also, please note on your check "Christmas Project".  
Thank you

## Christmas Gifts for Prisoners at MCTC

The Chaplains at Marion Correctional Treatment Center in Marion are asking for the following items to place in Christmas gift bags for their residents:

- |            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Toothpaste | Toothbrush               |
| Comb       | Bar of Soap              |
| Pencils    | Note pad-small legal pad |

Deadline: Sunday, November 28, drop off at the church.

Chaplains are spiritual care providers helping people awaken their spiritual self. They help people find hope for the future, purpose and meaning in life and connection to one who is outside of themselves and greater than themselves.

# November Calendar

## Weekly Schedule

### SUNDAY: Worship

- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship with Children's Church

### Morning Classes

- 10:00 am Adult Seekers Class - Fellowship Hall  
Teacher - Tony Graham
- 10:00 am First Youth - grades 6-12  
Teacher - Mike Albano
- 10:00 am First Kids - grades K-5  
Teacher - Ginger Moore
- 10:00 am Pre-K I Wonder Class  
Teacher - Amy Martin

### Evening

- 6:00 pm First Youth Bible Study including supper

### Activities

- 6:00 pm First Kids Fun including supper

### MONDAY:

- 5:00 pm Hand Bell Practice

### THURSDAY:

- 7:15 am First Youth Breakfast Club
- 10:00 am **Prayer In Action**  
**Time to pray for First UMC and each other**
- 11:30 pm Food & Fellowship
- 6:30 pm Band Practice

### Events & Activities:

- Nov 16 1:00 pm First Food Pantry
- Nov 19 2:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive

### Committee & Ministry Meetings

#### Finance Committee

Tuesday, Nov 9 at 6:30 pm in the Parlor

#### Permanent Endowment Committee

Tuesday, Nov 11 at 12:00pm in the Conference Room

#### Board of Trustees -

Monday, Nov 15 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

#### Staff Parrish Relations Comm.

Thursday, Nov 18 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**James Bennington** - Pastor  
jlb@marionfumc.org

**Denton Staley** - Program Dir.  
denton@marionfumc.org

**Jim Regan** - Director of Music & Worship Arts  
jim@marionfumc.org

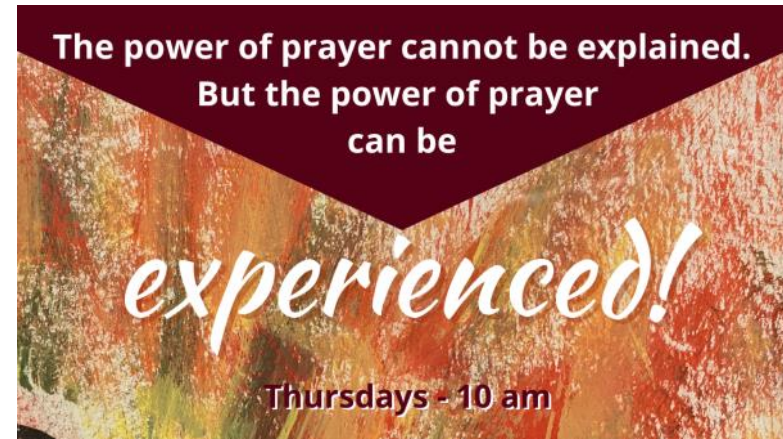
**Laura Robinson** - First Youth Dir  
laura@marionfumc.org

**Ginger Moore** - Director  
ginger@marionfumc.org

**Alicia Martin** - First Preschool Teacher

**Lisa Moore** - Business Admin.  
lisa@marionfumc.org

**Teri McCall** - Admin. Asst.  
teri@marionfumc.org



**Thursdays at 10am or anytime during the day, let's pray together.** As a church family let's pray for the staff, ministries and programs at First UMC. We need God's guidance in these challenging times. Thank you for your prayers.



In observance of Thanksgiving the church office will be closed

Thursday, November 25  
and  
Friday, November 26

Our Giving 2021	
<b>General Budget:</b>	
Giving Needed Each Month	\$ 43,195.67
YTD Giving as of 09/30/2021	\$ 372,767.41
YTD Expenses as of 09/30/2021	\$ 378,798.07
YTD Deficit as of 09/30/2021	\$ (6,030.66)
YTD Deficit as of 09/30/2021	\$ (6,030.66)
YTD Tithe due as of 09/30/2021	\$ 19,373.22
<b>Actual YTD Deficit as of 09/30/2021</b>	<b>\$ (25,403.88)</b>

**3rd Quarter Contribution Statements** will be emailed the in November.

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Web: [www.marionfumc.org](http://www.marionfumc.org)

Email: [info@marionfumc.org](mailto:info@marionfumc.org)

Office Phone: 276.783.5194

**First United Methodist Church**  
115 S. Church St.  
Marion, VA 24354

