



- STAYING CONNECTED -

United Methodist Church
Marion, Virginia

June 2023

THANK YOU FIRST UMC FAMILY!

Together, we went above the goal of **50 school kits for children in Liberia.**

THEN First Friends & Seekers Sunday School Class collected almost half of the **snacks and supplies needed for Camp in the Community** at Camp Ahistadi in just a few days!

PLUS, we have had wonderful donations for the **Food Pantry Yard Sale.** Keep them coming please. Some items are listed on FaceBook Marketplace.

That's not all folks..... AND, we had a fabulous **VBS** with the help of several folks!



But WAIT....there's more!

GO BIG RED!

Did you all know that three teams in from MSHS - baseball, track and girls tennis - have qualified for the state tournaments?! So many awesome and talented young people in our area. Some of them are a part of our First Youth.

First youth wanted to encourage and support them as they represent our area and travel to tournaments. The First Youth made **55 treat bags** for every athlete, coach and bus driver to let them know that we are praying for and encouraging them!

It's the first of June, we have the rest of the summer to do even more!!!

First Family you rock!

2023 Emphasis CARE CONNECT CLAIM



Care.....

- * about your relationship with God
- * about yourself, your physical & mental health.
- * about your relationships with family & friends
- * about your church family.
- * About people who don't know Christ.

Connect.....

- * with God by praying, reading the Bible, worship
- * with yourself, take care of you.
- * with family & friends.
- * with your church family.
- * with people who don't know Christ.

Claim.....

- * the fact that God loves you today, now, just the way you are. No clean-up necessary.
- * the fact that God will always love you.
- * the fact that you are God's child.
- * the fact that God's promises never change or are deleted.
- * joy and peace, even when things are hard.
- * that you show everyone you meet what Jesus is to you just by being you.
- * Jesus's love and go tell others.

WITH BOBBY AND HEATHER CONWAY

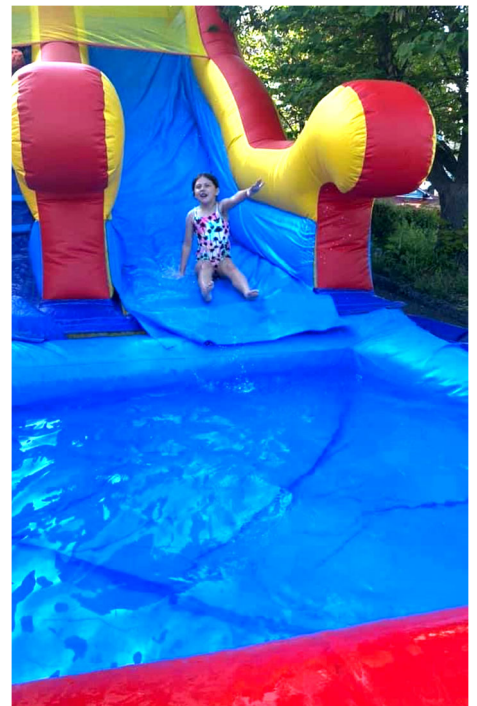
CRASH COURSE ON MENTAL HEALTH

A 5 Week Video Course beginning July 10
Mondays at 7pm in the Wesleyan Room
marionfumc.org/health for more info.





Just in case you missed VBS 2023, these pictures say it all!



Carefully read these definitions. We think we know the meanings of words we use daily, but do we?

food *noun*

any nourishing substance that is eaten, drunk, or otherwise taken into the body to sustain life, provide energy, promote growth, etc.

fellowship *noun*

friendly relationship; companionship, community of interest, feeling, etc

Food - that's easy. We all eat food daily and plan grocery trips, events, family gatherings and even celebrations around food. But look at the last few words of the definition....promote growth. Physical growth? Of course. But what about spiritual growth?

Fellowship - this word can seem old fashioned? Is it accurate? Absolutely.

Food and Fellowship has been a constant in our community since its inception in 1994. It is a weekly meal that is served by smiling faces to anyone who attends. Every Thursday the doors usually open around 11am. Folks are usually waiting at the doors of the Fellowship Hall (there is that old fashioned word). A short, but meaningful, service begins at 11:30am. Songs are sung and prayer requests are shared. Then around 11:45am the meal is served.

Several folks depend on this time not only for the food but also for the service and the fellowship (friendly relationship; companionship). Most important, it truly is a time of Christian fellowship and a time to worship. Several of our regulars consider First UMC to their church because they come every Thursday.

Food AND Fellowship is more than a meal and a devotional. It is a ministry at First UMC and it is a ministry that involves several other churches and groups as well as First UMC. Currently several local churches partner with us in this ministry: Royal Oak Presbyterian, Marion Baptist, Laurel Springs & Mountain View UMC. Deborah and Faith Circles from First UMC serve regularly, as well as other classes, groups and families within our church. This ministry could not continue without the faithfulness of all these groups! An exciting development has been that the Recovery Court group the First UMC hosts weekly has begun attending and even volunteering to serve during this time.

As it did with everything, Covid dealt a major blow to this ministry, but our numbers are back up and steady at around 30 folks every week. God is moving and growing this amazing outreach of our church, even some 30 years after it began.

There are always open dates and opportunities to serve in this ministry. Please consider cooking and serving a meal. You can contact Allen Johnsey, Director of Ministries at: allen@marionfumc.org or call 276-783-5194

NEW Weekly Online
Devotional from First UMC!
Encouraging
WORD 
Wednesday
Find us on  & @ marionfumc.org



YARD-SALE
FRIDAY JUNE 16 & SATURDAY JUNE 17
FOOD PANTRY BUILDING - SNIDER STREET
BEHIND E&H SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

First Youth

Several youth are attending Assembly at E&H College June 26-June 30 Throughout the week youth will worship, meet in family groups, play, participate in interest groups and much more! Please

keep them in your prayers as they grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Wednesday, June 14 6-8pm

Let's continue our VBS theme of Pet's Unleashed by learning about animals in the Bible!

We'll have pizza, fun crafts and more!

First KIDS

Leave these dates open this summer:

June 21 - July 12 - July 19

More fun is planned. Details soon.

We're Hiring

Full-Time

**PRESCHOOL
TEACHER'S
ASSISTANT**



Send your resume to:

FirstUMCPreschool@marionfumc.org

For more info call Kim Austin at 276-393-5903

Camp Ahistadi Fund Raiser

Funds raised will support their summer children's camp program

Saturday, June 24 starting at 4pm
BBQ meal with all the trimmings
Meal location is in Damascus, VA

Tickets - \$15 Tickets are available at the church office.

The JOY Group from First UMC plans to take a bus.



*4th Tuesday monthly
*Nov & Dec 3rd Tuesday

Next Food Panty
Tuesday | June 27
1-4pm

2023 Year to Date Giving & Expense Report

2023 General Budget:	\$ 485,088.00
Giving Needed Each Month	\$ 40,424.00
Giving - Year to Date - May	\$ 178,298.60
Expenses - Year to Date - May	\$ 219,934.89
Balance Year to Date	\$ (41,636.29)

Copies of the First UMC Budget are available outside the church office.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 9:00 am **CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**
& Children's Church
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am **TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

Mon 6:30 pm Making God's House a Home

Tues 7:00 pm Scouts

Wed 8:30 am Prayer Breakfast @ Atkins Tank

Thur 11:30 pm Food & Fellowship

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Deborah Circle - 1st Thursday monthly
Thursday, June 1 at 6pm

Faith Circle - 1st Wednesday monthly
Wednesday, June 7 at 10am

Small Group Bible Study - 2nd Thurs monthly
Thursday, June 8 at 10:30am

First Kids - Pet's Unleashed Continues
Wednesday, June 14 from 6pm - 8pm

First Food Pantry YARD SALE
Thursday, June 16 & Friday, June 17

First Youth @ Assembly at E&H College
June 26 - June 30

Camp Ahistadi Fund Raiser Meal
Saturday, June 24 beginning at 4:00pm

First Food Pantry
Tuesday, June 27 at 1:00 pm

COMMITTEE & MINISTRY MEETINGS

Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, June 5 at 5:00

Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30pm

SPR Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 15 at 6:30pm

James Bennington - Senior Pastor
jljb@marionfumc.org

Laura Robinson - First Youth Director
laura@marionfumc.org

Teri McCall - Administrative Assistant
teri@marionfumc.org

Bryan Underwood -
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