



# Staying Connected

Newsletter

## October 2021

### “Love one another”

These are stressful and worrisome days. Our lives are different and if we are honest, they will never be the same again. We have adapted and changed so much. It has to feel like we can't let our guard down even a little bit. We seek to remain diligent and observant for the sake of ourselves and others. All of this is due to Covid 19 that has forever affected our country and our world.

Practicing our faith can be a challenge during this time. Though it seems that when times are at their hardest, our faith is the strongest. Here are wise words for living during these days from scripture.

“Love one another” John 13:34  
“Love one another” John 13:35  
“Love one another” John 15:12  
“Love one another” John 15:17  
“Love one another” Rom 12:10  
“Love one another” I Thess. 3:12  
“Love one another” I Peter 1:22  
“Love one another” I John 3:11  
“Love one another” I John 3:23  
“Love one another” I John 4:7  
“Love one another” I John 4:11  
“Love one another” I John 4:12  
“Love one another” 2 John 5  
[www.google.com](http://www.google.com); “love one another.

Sorry it is repetitive. When something is this good and solid it is worth saying over and over and over again.

Let us love one another the best we can and in all the ways we can.

Peace, James

## 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)



### Fire Safety Day At First Preschool

**Thank you Marion  
Fire Department for  
spending time with our  
kids and teachers.**



# First Youth

Laura Robinson  
Director

Open to all youth  
grades 6 - 12

## Weekly Bible Study

"Believing Jesus"

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

## Upward Soccer & Cheer Games

Saturdays at 9:30am & 11:00am

# 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, October 28

1 - 4 pm

The rising numbers of Covid 19 in Smyth County has caused us to close the Clothing Closet for a while. We do this to keep the community and our staff safe.

GIVING BACK  
CLOTHING  
CLOSET  
**CLOSED**

While the Clothing Closet is closed we need help. Several bags of donations need to be sorted and summer clothing needs to be replaced with winter clothing.

If you have time to help,  
please come by  
Monday through Thursday,  
9:00am - 4:00pm.



Laura Robinson - First Youth Director  
**TOGETHER AGAIN!!!**

I am so excited to announce that it is time to start planning for Resurrection 2022! It is coming up **January 21-23 in Pigeon Forge** AND we will plan to attend in person!!!

**To hold your spot please pay \$50 deposit by October 14**

I will make room reservations and food dining reservations after we see how large our group will be.

To keep us all safe you will need to:

- provide either proof of vaccination
- or provide a negative Covid test within 48 hours of us departing for Pigeon Forge.
- Masks are required inside LeConte Center
- we will sit with our group but be distanced from other groups
- All worship will take place from the seats (no rushing to the front this year).

Please let me know if you have any questions! So excited!!!!



## Stephen Leader Continuing Education

Stephen Ministries is pleased to offer an all-new, free continuing education opportunity for the Stephen Ministry Team:

"Best Practices for Finding Stephen Ministry Care Receivers—Now and into the Future."

During this two-hour interactive session, held live over Zoom, you'll learn practices drawn from hundreds of Stephen Ministry congregations and our in-depth research over the years will help ensure a steady flow of care receivers for your Stephen Ministers. Each group is lead by an experienced Coach and Assistant Coach. You'll pick up key information and practical ideas you can apply right away and continue to draw on long after the pandemic has subsided.

Two different time slots for this event are available:

Tuesday Morning, October 19, 9 - 11 am

\*Wednesday Evening, October 27, 5 - 7 pm

\*This session will also be available to watch as a group in the Fellowship Hall. A light snack will be included. For more information or questions please talk to James McNeil or Denton Staley

## Cookie Project for SCCH

Goal: 1,000 cookies  
by Sun, 10-10-21

Please call or email to let us know how many cookies you are bringing. Thank you!



# October 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 Activities

- 6:00 pm First Youth Bible Study
- 6:00 pm First Kids Fun

### 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:

- Oct 26 1:00 pm First Food Pantry

### Committee & Ministry Meetings

Board of Trustees -  
Monday, Oct 11 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Finance Committee  
Tuesday, Oct 12 at 6:30 pm in the Parlor

Administrative Board Meeting  
Tuesday, Oct 19 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Staff Parrish Relations Comm.  
Thursday, Oct 28 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



Mr. Albano took the First Youth Sunday School class to breakfast at McDonald's. Thank you Mr. Albano!



**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. Specific requests include First Preschool is back after being closed a week for Covid cases. Also the media team is struggling with technical issues. Thank you for your prayers.

## Our Giving 2021

### General Budget:

Giving Needed Each Month	\$ 43,195.67
YTD Giving as of 08/31/2021	\$ 351,106.03
YTD Expenses as of 08/31/2021	\$ 333,140.32
YTD Surplus as of 08/31/2021	\$ 17,965.71

YTD Surplus as of 08/31/2021	\$ 17,965.71
YTD Tithe due as of 08/31/2021	\$ 19,373.22
<b>Actual YTD Deficit as of 08/31/2021</b>	<b>\$ (1,407.51)</b>

**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 Lead Teacher

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

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

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

