



- STAYING CONNECTED -

United Methodist Church
Marion, Virginia

February 2026



If your heart is drawn to missions but your schedule or season of life makes travel difficult, this is your invitation.

Join Jen Feliciano on a **Virtual Mission Trip to Indonesia** from February 17–March 5 and experience how God is moving on the other side of the globe - all from the comfort of your home.

During this time, Jen will actually be traveling to Indonesia, returning to a place where she and her family served for seven years. You'll be getting a front-row seat to real people, real ministries, and real needs - shared directly from the ground by someone who knows and loves this community deeply.

Each day, you'll be welcomed into the culture, stories, and real-life ministries God is using to bring hope. Through daily cultural insights, prayer points, and hands-on opportunities to give, you'll discover how your participation can make a tangible difference. Together, we'll invest in children at a local orphanage and support college students who are living far from home as they pursue education and a better future.

Here's how you can be part of the impact:

Feed the Flock

College students often travel far from home to study and struggle to afford basic necessities. A \$20 essentials bag can feed and support one student for an entire month.



Can we support 20 students together? Group Goal: \$400

Unlock a Smile

Provide a dental hygiene experience for a child from a local orphanage - helping them stay healthy and smiling all year long.

Can we support these children together?
Goal: \$25 per child



Declare Victory.



Stand in Authority.



Worship the King.

First United Methodist Church
115 South Church Street | Marion
Sunday, Feb. 15 | 6pm

Fund a Future

Help two young women pursue higher education and break cycles of poverty.

Goal: \$4,500 to completely fund their 4 yr degrees



Arda is beginning her studies in Public Administration



Gea is in her 2nd year of a Bachelor's degree in Accounting.

To Give... go to marionfumc.org and choose the project you would like to support.

(Indonesia con't next page)

Our youth are making real sacrifices to take part in this mission - and we invite you to join them in that spirit.

Consider how small, intentional choices can lead to big change. Some examples are....

- ✓ Eat at home instead of dining out and donate what you save.
- ✓ Sell items you no longer need and give the proceeds.
- ✓ Invite friends to join you and collect funds together.

Register to receive access to daily updates, prayer guides, and opportunities to be part of God's work in Indonesia. Register at:

marionfumc.org

OR register on the Virtual Mission Trip registration sheets outside the sanctuary and in the Welcome Center.

Come along - and let God use YOU to change lives.



Servant: a person who performs duties for others. A devoted and helpful follower or supporter. "a tireless servant of God".

Church Office

Answer phones and office door, help staff where needed.

Weekly - Thursday
9:30am - 1:00pm

Contact: Teri McCall
276-783-5194 or
teri@marionfumc.org

The Table Mentor

A community supper mentorship program. Teach your cooking and kitchen skills to community members wanting to improve their lives. Share the love and kindness of Jesus.

Wednesdays, 3-7pm

Contact: Jen Feliciano 585-200-0380 or
jen@marionfumc.org

Church Office

Help fold, label and stamp monthly newsletters.

The last week of each month.

Contact: Teri McCall
276-783-5194
or teri@marionfumc.org

GriefShare facilitators: Organize, lead, advertise, and more. Training & mentoring will be available.

For more info contact Allen Johnsey at 276-783-5194 or allen@marionfumc.org

grades K - 5

Ginger Moore - First Kids Director
ginger@marionfumc.org

First Kids

First Kids after school fun!

Wednesdays at 3:30pm

Ms Ginger and the First Kids volunteers are excited to welcome the kids to After School Fun. Each Wednesday, kids, grades K-5, are invited to come to First UMC to have a lot of fun learning about Jesus, playing games, watching videos, playing outside and so much more. Snacks are provided.

Parent Pick-Up at 5:15pm at church office doors

Parents:

please send a note to your student's teacher giving permission for your student to ride one of these buses. Oak Point Elem - First UMC bus Marion Elem - school bus #241B



BASKETBALL & CHEER

Let's Show Up AND Support Our Kids!

Our Upward Basketball and Cheer season is tipping off soon, and we are excited to see how God will work through this important ministry! Upward is more than just a game—it is our church's sports ministry, designed to share Christ's love while building confidence, character, and community in our children.

Game Days: Sundays

Beginning: Sunday, February 8

Game Times: 1:30 & 2:30pm

Location: Oak Point Elementary School

As a church family, we have a wonderful opportunity to support this ministry.

One of the simplest and most meaningful ways to do that is to

show up, sit in the stands, cheer loudly

AND

take time to get to know the families & children involved.



Your presence speaks volumes. It tells our kids and their families that they are seen, valued, and supported.

Let's rally together, fill the stands with encouragement, and be the hands and feet of Jesus through Upward Basketball and Cheer this season. We can't wait to see you there!



Begins on
Tuesday, February 3
two opportunities to attend
at 10am and 5:30pm

GriefShare is a vital part of how our church walks with people through loss. For the past couple of years, this ministry has continued because staff stepped in temporarily when our longtime facilitator retired.

This upcoming session will be the **final GriefShare cycle unless new lay facilitators emerge.** GriefShare is designed to be a congregation-led ministry, and this cycle will intentionally serve as both care for those grieving **and discernment for those who may be called to help lead it in the future.**

First Youth



grades 6-12

Jen Feliciano - First Youth Director
jen@marionufmc.org

- WALK** Life skills
- WORSHIP** Live music & connection
- WORD** Bible truths that stick

A weekly experience that....
connects your faith to your future. **Feb 4 & 11**
Feb 18 thru March 4 **Virtual Mission Trip**
Wednesdays beginning at 5:45 pm

Each week builds spiritual depth, meaningful relationships, and practical skills that help you live a holistic life.

5:45 pm WALK - Wesleyan Room

February - Cleaning

With expertise by Busy Izzy's Cleaning Service.

6:15pm WORSHIP - Chapel

We start in the Chapel with Abby Johnsey leading in meaningful worship songs. Together we learn what it means to worship our loving God.

6:30pm WORD - Parlor

February 4 - February 11 Study: Spiritual Goals

Christian Youth Who **CHANGED** **THEIR** **WORLD**

Being a follower of Jesus can feel isolating and is challenging. We will be highlighting young historic figures in our Christian faith who acted with courage and stood for Jesus through their lives. Let's get inspired together!
Just Jen, First Youth Director

Jim Elliot (1927-1956)

As a young man, Jim Elliot gave up a comfortable life to become a missionary to an unreached people group in Ecuador. He was killed at age 28 while trying to share Jesus.

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

- Jim Elliot (1927-1956)



Scripture tie-in: Matthew 16:25

“For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”

Reflection Questions:

What does Jim's quote mean to you personally?

How can we live with eternity in mind instead of just living for today?



January 23-25

~~Pigeon Forge, TN~~

Marion, VA

Rez Weekend: A Powerful Time of Fun, Faith and Life Change.

This weekend's Rez event was an incredible success and a meaningful experience for everyone who participated!

Our youth enjoyed high-energy laser tag, connected through livestreamed sessions and shared in delicious meals loving prepared by Alfredo that kept everyone fueled and feeling cared for.

We are so grateful for the leaders, volunteers, and families who helped make this weekend possible. Rez reminded us that when we create space for connection, joy and the presence of God, lives are truly impacted. We can't wait to see how the seeds planted this weekend continue to grow.



