

August Volunteers

Greeters August 2nd through August 30th:

Danielle Cline & Deb Miller (Aug 2 & 9),

Diane Lindgren & Keith Lindgren (Aug 16 , 23, 30)

Counters: Bev Smith and Evadene Crumrin

Ushers for August: Ken Macke, Terry Welsh,
Jill Strohm

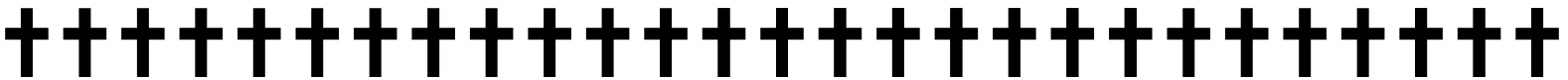
Liturgist:

Lobby Watch: 2nd Ryan Arthur
9th Brian Macke
16th Jim Arthur
23rd Rick Manuell
30th Ryan Arthur

We still have volunteer positions to fill for the rest of the year!

Please check the sing-up sheets in the Welcome Center to find ways you can serve.

Nursery: 2nd Adrienne & Evangelin Hutson
9th Erica & Caroline Crumrin
16th Amy Cannady & Nancy Crumrin
23rd Danielle & Liberty Cline
30th Lidsay Welsh



Prayer List

Kathy Brown, Gordon & Carolyn Clark,

Dave Culbertson, Rev. John Davis, Mike Delp, Gail Glick, Phil James, Heather Kelly

Darrell Kirby, Molly Macke, JR Newton, Jennie O'Rourke, Candy Painter,

Donna Sens, Joyce Smithson, Karen & Clyde Wheat

Our Church and her leaders:

Marshall First UMC

Pastor Jon

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

Bishop David A Bard

Our District Superintendent, Sarah Isbell

Connie Wieck and other Missionaries

Our Military Personnel:

Chris Bradford John Flowers Daniel Gard Michael Holmes John Kuhn Shelby Sanborn

Lewis Sanborn Jake Hoalt Chaplain Jonathon Maloney

Our Nation, Our Nation's Leaders, and our Armed Forces

Our Homebound & Health Care Facility Residents

Phyllis Boatright Gordon & Carolyn Clark Violet Cook

Dan Flowers

If you know of any changes in the status of these individuals, or have more who should be added to our Military Personnel or the Homebound/Healthcare Facility lists, please contact the office. Thank you.



Dear Church Family,

August is here, and with it comes that familiar shift. Backpacks are being packed, school supplies are being bought, and the calendar is filling up with practices, games, meetings, and back-to-school nights. The rhythm of fall is fast approaching, and for many of us, it feels as though we are moving from the slower days of summer directly into high gear.

During this busy season, I want to offer a simple but powerful reminder: do not forget to rest. Scripture repeatedly reminds us that rest is not a sign of weakness or a lack of faith. Sometimes, rest is precisely what faith requires.

In 1 Kings 19, the prophet Elijah is running for his life. He is exhausted, afraid, and overwhelmed. Elijah has reached the point where he feels that he cannot continue. Yet God does not begin by giving Elijah another assignment or telling him to work harder. Instead, God allows Elijah to sleep and provides him with food and water. Only after Elijah has rested and been nourished is he ready to continue the journey. There are times when the most faithful thing we can do is sleep, eat, breathe, and allow God to care for us.

Jesus also understood the need to step away. The Gospels tell us that Jesus regularly withdrew from the crowds to quiet places where he could pray. In Mark 6:31, after the disciples had been surrounded by people and had not even had an opportunity to eat, Jesus told them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest” (NIV).

Jesus knew that constant activity, even activity done for good and faithful reasons, could leave people depleted. Stepping away from the crowd was not abandoning the work. It was part of what made the work sustainable.

The Sabbath is one of God’s most gracious gifts to us. It is not about checking out, falling behind, or ignoring our responsibilities. Sabbath is about realigning our hearts. It is the pause that reminds us that our worth does not come from how much we accomplish, but from the God who created us and calls us beloved.

Between homework and football games, practices and back to school nights, it can feel as though there is no room for Sabbath, but rest does not always mean doing nothing for an entire day, although that can be wonderful. It might look like turning off the screens and taking a walk. It might mean sharing a quiet meal as a family, worshipping without rushing to the next thing, sitting on the porch, or taking a few moments to breathe.

Psalms 46:10 says, “Be still, and know that I am God” (NIV). Being still is not always easy. Stillness requires us to release the illusion that everything depends upon us. It invites us to remember that God continues to be God even when we stop moving.

As your family enters this full and vibrant season, I encourage you to build in sacred pauses. Rest is not weakness; it is trust. It is trusting that God is still at work even when we stop. It is trusting that our souls need tending, not only our schedules. It is trusting that Sabbath is not one more obligation to add to our to-do lists, but an invitation to be renewed.

May you find space to rest, to eat, to pray, and to breathe. And in the stillness, may you remember that you are not alone and that God is near.

With grace and peace,
Pastor Jon

A Publication of Marshall First United Methodist Church
702 Plum St, Marshall, IL 62441

Rev. Jon Brashear - Directing Pastor

Kelly Lindley - Director of Children and Youth Ministry



July was great! We enjoyed a picnic, getting to know Pastor Jon and his family, Summer KFC, and a pool party! It doesn't get much better for kids than that. So, let's move on to August.

Camp Cornerstone is scheduled for Aug. 10-12. Kids from kindergarten through high school are invited to attend. We will meet at Jenny and Larry's cabin near Mill Creek at 5:00 on Monday evening and stay there until 9:00 Wednesday morning. The kids can leave for appointments or practices at any time and come back when they are done. There will be games, Bible lessons, crafts, and swimming. Please call or stop by the church office to sign-up. I will need a number of those planning to come by Tuesday, Aug. 4 so that I have time to order T shirts for everyone. Parents are welcome to come anytime and even stay all night. It's lots of fun!

Power Lunch will begin on Wednesday, Aug 26. Get ready Power Lunch Bunch (and anyone else who would like to help.)

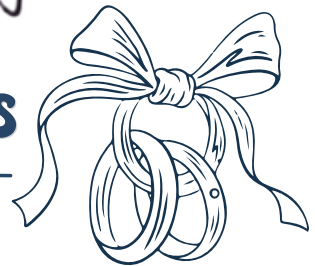
The KFC kick-off picnic and carnival is scheduled for Sunday evening Aug. 30. All church members are invited. Our new picnic tables will be here by then. Watch for more information to come.

Doesn't it seem like we were just planning summer?

Kelly

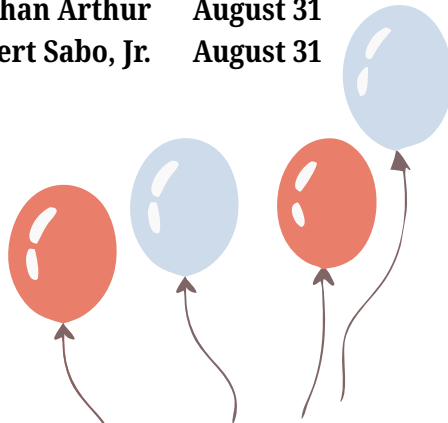


Birthdays & Anniversaries



Cassie Gard	August 2	Abbie Boesiger	August 22
Cris Fitzjarrald	August 6	Kei Kendall	August 22
Shelby Sanderfer	August 6	Karyn Paulsen	August 22
Evangeline Hutson	August 7	Jill Strohm	August 22
Jeff Kinyon	August 7	David Macke	August 23
Kevin Ross	August 7	Ken Macke	August 29
Kathryn Paulsen	August 8	Cody Welsh	August 29
Abigail Adamski	August 9	Meghan Arthur	August 31
Kara Macke	August 11	Robert Sabo, Jr.	August 31
Cooper Morey	August 11		
Sam Walker	August 16		
Debra Harper	August 18		
Colby Claypool	August 20		
Van Welsh	August 20		
Jed Hutson	August 21		

Ryan & Megan Arthur	August 6
Alex & Malerie Mason	August 9
Brandon & Amy Daugherty	August 14
Russ & Paula Ross	August 16
Charlie & Diane Moore	August 18
Alan & Marcia Reed	August 29
Tyler & Tara Claypool	August 29
Dave & Darlene McKimmy	August 31
Dustin & Jennifer Bishop	August 31



Financial Report

Our income so far this year is \$125,990, while expenses totaled \$147,678. These amounts exclude Apportionments, Faith Promise, Memorial, and Scholarship. Looking ahead, we need approximately \$22,000 monthly in order to meet all local church expenses. We are grateful for your continued faithfulness and partnership in the work God is doing through our church. Please prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you give this month toward our local church general fund. Any undesignated giving will go to cover our monthly local church expenses and ministry activities. Separate donations to cover Conference Apportionments are also still being collected regularly. To date, we have received \$7,940 of the \$29,580 the Conference asks us to send throughout the year.



United
Women
in Faith

We have two different women's circles who meet every month. All the ladies of the church are invited to join either circle at any time.

- Sisters in Faith Circle will meet on August 27 at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.
- The next UWF Book Club meeting will be on August 6th at 8:30 am in the chapel. Breakfast will be provided!
- No UMW & Susanna Wesley Meetings in August



Photos from the Sisters in Faith Circle Sewing Circle.



Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday! It is mostly Seniors, but you don't have to be over a certain age to join us! We even enjoy having others from our community join us. Invite a friend and pop in for coffee or breakfast and some good fellowship.

Here's where you'll find us in August:

4th 9am at Marshall Family Restaurant

11th 2pm at Holly Brook

18th 9am at Gypsy Queen

25th 9am at Latte Dough

August Mission News:

There are many organizations asking for help for their particular disaster relief efforts. It is impossible for us to donate to all of them and also to be sure the asking is legitimate. We all want to be able to feel confident that our donations are being used as we have designated. When you donate to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) or to one of our United Methodist institutions, you can be sure that your donation is used as you indicate and that no administrative costs are subtracted from it.

UMCOR usually partners with existing relief organizations in the area of the disaster; they know best what the needs are. Also, most UMCOR aid workers are volunteers, often from the local area. UMCOR does not just give aid and leave. UMCOR's presence remains until a project is finished. UMCOR workers are still remaining in Venezuela after the earthquake and in Michigan after the floods and tornados. Often grants are given to UM churches in a disaster area to help them distribute local aid or to rebuild their own churches. You can also contribute to UMCOR's most needed fund.

Ongoing mission funds are necessary for Midwest Mission to help it continue its aid in this country and abroad. Recent floods and tornados in the Midwest have depleted their emergency stockpile.

Locally, Marshall Food Bank and Thrift Shop welcomes contributions of any kind, food items or funds to help it continue its mission to our community

You can channel your giving through our church's weekly offertory or at the church office. Be sure to give a designation on your check.

Remember, we are instructed by our spiritual leader, John Wesley, to "do all the good, we can to all the people we can, for however long we can.

Priscilla Wieck



In other news!

Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai and David Bard, along with newly-ordained pastors in the IGRC, Iowa and Michigan conferences (including Pastor Jon) are inviting persons to join them on a Wesley Heritage Tour Nov. 11-19.

The Heritage Tour takes one where it all began with an exploration of sites important in the lives of the Wesleys and of the people called Methodists.

All-inclusive packages start at \$4,498 from Chicago, \$4,598 from St. Louis and and \$4,698 from Indianapolis.

To register, visit: www.EO.travel/mytrip Enter HE26 as the Tour number, Enter 111126 as date; Code G and ID of 61729.

For more information, contact Pastor Jon, Kristin Franklin, kfranklin@igrc.org or Rev. Dr. Charliam Renner, crenner@igrc.org

From Connie on her Summer Itineration Journeys

Happy August, My Marshall First UMC Family!

If you didn't know, every 3 years our General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) missionaries have itineration, which means visiting supporting churches in person to give presentations and give personal "thank you"s. This is my summer for itineration. I scheduled 2 months to travel about, which is including the states of South Carolina, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. So far, I have 22 presentations, including one with Bishop Hee-Soo Jung from the East and West Ohio Conferences and perhaps with our IGRC Bishop Bigham-Tsai and Bishop Bard.

I'll be coming and going about Marshall, including our church office to copy hand-outs and materials, before returning to Laos on September 9. Hopefully, I'll be in church those last 2 weeks as my visits wind down.

If you're curious about my travels, be sure to check out my Facebook page (Connie Wieck) for pictures and updates. Know how extremely grateful and blessed I am for my hometown church's continuous financial and prayerful support during my 31 years as a GBGM missionary. It is truly a precious gift to have you all on my team of Christian service from Day 1!

Love and Peace,

Connie Wieck, serving in Laos



Attending our IGRC UMF Mission-u in
Springfield, Illinois (July 20 - 23)



Parishioner member Cindy Dodd
accepting an altar cloth gift
at Mahomet UMC on July 12.