

September Volunteers

Greeters 7th Jim & Jo Vadas
14th Robin Lake & Kathy Brown
21st Robin Lake & Alane White
28th Robin Lake & Alane White

Lobby Watch 7th Jim Arthur
14th Ryan Arthur
21st Charlie Moore
28th Nis Lovstad

Nursery 7th Amy Daugherty & Kaylee
14th Janet Eitel & Lindsey Welsh
21st Adrienne & Evangeline Hutson
28th Erica & Caroline Crumrin

Liturgist Russ Ross

Ushers Molly Kendall
Ken & Nancy Claypool

Counters Bev Smith & Mike Sanders

We are doing pretty good on filling our volunteer slots for the rest of the year, but there ARE still a few dates that need to be scheduled. Specifically, we need someone to watch the Lobby for the rest of the year. We have a couple empty dates in November for Greeters, and we need Ushers the last week of November, and all of December.

Please sign up if you are available!

BABY COMFORT STATION

A tent will be set up on the northwest side of the courthouse during the Autumn Fest for parents who need a spot to change diapers, feed, or rock their babies. Water, wipes, rocking chairs, and privacy will be available. This ministry is provided by Marshall First United Methodist Church. Enjoy the Fest!



The Marshall Fall Festival is just around the corner! We are going to be providing the Baby Comfort Station again this year, and we need your help. A clipboard is in the Welcome Center for people to sign up to work in one-hour blocks throughout Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. It's a great time to visit with people, and it doesn't take much work! Just sit and welcome people in, maybe hand out some bottles of water, and make sure moms and their babies feel comfortable. Please sign up for as many slots as you can, so we can provide this ministry.



The choir is open to everyone who likes to sing! You don't even have to read music - we can help you find your notes! Our first few songs to work on will be pretty simple versions of some old hymns. As we all get back into the swing of things, we will start working on some special music for Advent and Christmas! We would love to have some extra voices with us. Come join us for practice on Wednesdays in the Chapel.

Becky

THE MESSENGER

MARSHALL FUMC
SEPTEMBER 2025



From the Pastor's Pen

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, who has called us into one body and one Spirit.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September is here, and with it comes a new season in the life of our church. The summer journeys are drawing to a close, the school year is beginning, and many of our ministries are starting up again. It is a time of gathering—a time when the body of Christ comes together again after a season of being scattered.

The early church devoted themselves **“to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42)**. Notice that fellowship was not an afterthought. It was central to who they were as God’s people. They weren’t just a group of individuals who believed the same things; they were a family who shared life together in Christ.

In our world today, where so much pushes us toward isolation or division, the church is called to be a different kind of community. We are called to be a fellowship of grace—where we bear one another’s burdens, celebrate each other’s joys, and walk together through the ordinary days of discipleship. In the family of God, no one stands alone.

This fall, I encourage you to lean into fellowship. Join a Sunday school class, a Bible study, a small group, or a ministry team. Share a meal with someone in the church you don’t know well. Pray with a brother or sister in Christ who may be struggling. Be intentional about building relationships that draw us closer to Christ and to one another.

As Paul reminds us, **“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27)**. Each of us is needed. Each of us has gifts to share. And when we come together in love and unity, Christ is glorified, and His Spirit moves powerfully among us.

Let us enter this new season with joy, ready to strengthen the bonds of fellowship and to live as the family of God. May our church be a place where people know they are welcomed, loved, and never alone.



With love in Christ,
Your brother and fellow servant,

Pastor Bill

Ryan Arthur	September 01	David Rardin	September 18
Summer Orman	September 01	Jerry Joab	September 19
Wesley Chilton	September 03	Logan Cannady	September 20
Adam Schneider	September 06	Emma Ramsey	September 20
Dustin Bishop	September 07	Richard Lewis	September 21
Alice Schroeder	September 07	Brady Bullock	September 25
Kimberly Macke	September 08	Sadie Claypool	September 25
Charles Moore	September 08	Jeanne Setzer	September 26
Cheryle Parker	September 09	Kenneth Claypool	September 27
Terry Welsh	September 09	Zaylee Macke	September 27
Erica Crumrin	September 11	Peggy Zoll	September 27
Hunter DeLisle	September 13	Anthony Graham	September 28
Richard Manuell	September 13	Terry Alvey	September 29
Emmy Maurer	September 15		
Timothy Bloodsworth	September 16		
Abby Brown	September 16		



Jarod & Jody Green	September 02
Bill & Nancy Rhoads	September 03
Mike & Becky Farrell	September 04
Jeff & Brooke Fattal	September 06
Larry & Jeanne Strohm	September 16
Steve & Angie Setzer	September 19
Derek & Jessica Eitel	September 24
Troy & Candace Sanzenbacker	September 24



What a summer we had here at FUMC! Our final activity was Camp Cornerstone at Mill Creek. 25 kids from kindergarten through 11th grade attended. It was a fun mixture of playing and praying, crafts, swimming, Bible skits and lessons, and lots of eating and laughing! There was also some much needed sleeping. Thanks to everyone who helped out. The next time you see Jenny Higginbotham or Larry Yargus, please thank them for sharing their cabin and pool with us.

KFC Kick-off Carnival is Saturday, Sept. 27 from 3:00-5:00. We will use our playground, play games, and offer snacks. Registration forms for KFC will be available. KFC will then begin after school on Wednesday, Oct. 1. We are planning KFC/ church family dinners once a month, beginning on Oct. 22. If you would like to help with KFC in ANY way, please contact me and I will find a much needed way for you to help!

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens." Fall presents us with a great time for reaching our kids-please join me to make this school year a memorable and uplifting season for the kids in Marshall.



September 4th UWF Board Meeting 4:00 PM
September 11th Esther Circle 7:00 PM
September 15th Susannah Wesley Circle 11:30 AM Pot Luck
in the Fellowship Hall

September 25th Sisters in Faith Circle 6:00 PM in the Chapel

We are still collecting items for Student Kits to take to the Midwest Mission. Our UWF District gathering is September 20th, and we will be assembling the kits there. If you can donate supplies, it would be very much appreciated! There is a collection box in the hallway outside the office for you to leave your donations.

In addition to the school supplies for Midwest Mission, Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House is requesting dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent and toilet paper for the annual meeting September 20. Thank you in advance for helping with much needed supplies.



Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday.
All are welcome to join! Here's where you'll find us:

2nd - Marshall Family Restaurant 9AM
9th - Holly Brook 2PM
16th - Gypsy Queen 9AM
23rd - Gypsy Queen 9AM
30th - Potential lunch outing – watch the bulletin for more information.



Prayer List



Joys And Concerns: Diana Bailey, Aaron Brown, Dave Culbertson, Rev. John Davis, Mike Delp, Gail Glick, Darrell Kirby, Molly Macke, Tiffany Macke, Tony & Shauna Neaville, Candy Painter, Sarah & Mike Shultz, Joyce Smithson, Sharon Welliver, Karen Wheat

Our Church and her leaders:

Marshall First UMC Pastor Bill 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 Sharon Miller



August 2025 Stewardship Report

At Marshall First, we believe in clear communication and faithful stewardship. That's why the Unified Leadership Council shares a monthly giving report—to help you see how your generosity supports the life and mission of our church. In addition to funding our local ministries, we are asked each year to contribute \$31,956 to the

broader work of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. These apportioned gifts, given only through designated giving, help support leadership and ministry across our region. **It's important to note that your regular, undesignated tithes and offerings are what keep our local ministry moving—from worship and children's programs to pastoral care, outreach, and daily operations.** Right now, we're facing a shortfall in our general fund, and your consistent, prayerful support is more vital now than ever. Let's continue working together to fuel the mission God has given Marshall First.

*Note: YTD and August giving is through August 24th ONLY. August 31st will be included next month

	2025 Local Church Budget	Conference Apportionments	Faith Promise & Missons
Budget	\$344,662.00	\$31,956.00	Faith Promise, Missions, Scholarships & Memorial are supported by designated giving.
Needed Monthly	\$28,721.84	\$2,663.00	
Needed Weekly	\$6,628.12	\$614.54	
Given Year to Date*	\$154,053.82	\$12,905.57	\$8,260.00
Given thru Aug 2025*	\$9,618.85	\$525.00	\$450.00



Online Giving

We have two ways that you can give online. You can go to our website and give online, or you can log in into Breeze. If you login into Breeze, you can track your giving and adjust what has been scheduled. If you would like to get a login for Breeze, please speak with the office.

[illegible]

September Mission of the Month: Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House

Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House is a Methodist founded social services provider that serves hundreds of residents in the impoverished area of East St. Louis. Its outreach begins with baby and child care for working mothers and continues to provide aid for all ages that including seniors, through feeding programs for elderly, parenting and job training for young adults and after school care for children, to name just a few. It also provides work experiences for older teens. With the help of these teens, daily meals are offered at a nominal fee for seniors on a limited income. Recently, Federal help for these and many more outreach services for all ages has been threatened. We ask you to help Lessie Bates in its time of need so that it can continue its over 100 year outreach into this underserved and largely ignored community.

Our church family has always been generous in its financial mission support . Being aware of changing times and finding ways to help is part of that mission. You can contribute through the church and we will be sure your contribution goes where you want it to go. Together we, as representatives of Christ Jesus on earth, can make a difference in the lives of struggling families.

Dear Marshall First Church Family,

What an energizing visit I've had back in Marshall after 1 ½ years settling into my new UMC missionary placement in Southeast Asia. My one month vacation sure went quickly but it was so greatly needed. I truly feel rejuvenated and refreshed for the return to this blessed role of missionary service in which God has placed me. I especially have enjoyed being able to join you in worship and share how your support has led to such success in the language and vocational center I have been tasked to manage.

The Church Mission Moment Re-cap

I mentioned in my church mission moment, that when I arrived in December of 2023, the Suntu Souk Language and Vocational Center (SLVC) had only a few fee-paying students. There were only 3 teachers: myself, intern Shaloom from Pakistan and local national person Santi who doubled as office manager and teacher. Along with many other English language centers in the city, we advertised for after-school students to come to us for increased English language learning. (English class is mandatory in the public school system but teachers are poorly trained and educated. Most have no ability to speak or teach English). The building was in great disrepair with termite infestation, leaking roof, broken lights, plumbing issues and dangerous electrical wiring in the main hall. There were no classrooms set up, the office equipment was outdated, and I had no caretaker to deal with cleaning, security, child safety protocols or building maintenance. I reached out for help from all my supporting churches, Marshall First included, and the money started pouring in. Within 6 months, the Center became a well-equipped, stable, functioning vocational school, including live-in caretaker Suher who attends our local UMC and is a praise team member. Increased advertising, Facebook postings and my volunteer teaching stints at a nearby primary school raised our notoriety from a few students to 34 at our highest number.

A New Term Begins

Our new 3-month term begins September 7, with 4 different levels of language learners. As you read this, registration is going on and I am hoping for 40. In fact, even here in the States, I've been receiving many messages on my phone from parents and children alike. I think this is a good indication that, yes, we'll be meeting or surpassing that enrollment goal for 2025.

Thank you again for all your support, prayers and words of encouragement while I continue in this role as your UMC General Board of Global Ministries missionary. Together, we are bringing others an understanding of the Christian faith through English language teaching. Our students and parents know we are different. The seed is planted and grows from there.

Love and peace,
Connie Wieck in Southeast Asia

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00am Morning Worship Family Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School for all ages!	1. Exercise- 8:30am OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY Pickleball 6:00pm	2. Holy Grounds-9am @ Marshall Family Restaurant UWF Board 4:00m	3. Weave from 10am-Noon Power Lunch Choir 5:30pm	4. Pickleball 8:30am	5. Exercise- 8:30am	6.
7. Communion Sunday Youth Fellowship 5pm	8. Exercise- 8:30am Pickleball 6:00pm	9. Holy Grounds-2pm @ Holly Brook	10. Weave from 10am-Noon Power Lunch Choir 5:30pm	11. Nurture Committee 9am Esther Circle 7:00pm	12. Exercise- 8:30am	13.
14. Youth Fellowship 5pm	15. Exercise- 8:30 am Susannah Wesley Circle Pot luck 11:30am	16. Holy Grounds- 9am @ Gypsy Queen	17. Weave from 10am-Noon Power Lunch Choir 5:30pm	18.	19. Exercise- 8:30am Marshall Fall Festival Join us at the Mother/Baby Comfort Station	20. Come volunteer at the Thrift Shop from 8:30-12 Marshall Fall Festival Join us at the Mother/Baby Comfort Station
21. Marshall Fall Festival! Join us at the Mother/Baby Comfort Station Youth Fellowship 5pm	22. Exercise- 8:30am	23. Holy Grounds- 9am @ Gypsy Queen Come volunteer @ the Food Disbursement Center from 12-4:30pm Unified Leadership Team Meeting at 6pm	24. Weave from 10am-Noon Power Lunch Choir 5:30pm	25. Sisters in Faith 6:00pm	26. Exercise- 8:30am	27. KFC Kickoff Carnival 3:00-5:00pm Invite your family, friends, and neighbors with kids K-5 th grade!
28. Youth Fellowship 5pm	29. Exercise- 8:30 am	30. Holy Grounds- TBD	<p><u>There's going to be a party!</u></p> <p>In October, the Nurture Committee will be hosting a GIANT Church-Wide Birthday Party! Did you have a birthday already this year? Do you have one coming up?? Then you're invited! Mark your calendars now for Saturday, October 18 from 7-9pm. We'll have a special cake for each and every month, so we need you to come eat a slice!! Watch for more information in next month's Newsletter and bulletins.</p> 			