John Wesley, founding father of Methodism, was caught in a house fire as a young child. The thatched roof house burned fast. A nanny got baby Charles and most of the other young children outside safely. She told 5-year-old John (nicknamed Jacky) to follow her and was outside before realizing he had turned back. The fire was too intense when dad Samuel tried to reach the stairs. Two quick thinking villagers created a human ladder on the outside, with one standing on the other’s shoulders. They reached the boy and pulled him out of the window just as the roof collapsed. It made an impression on his parents who remembered Zechariah 3:2: “He was a brand plucked from the burning.” They were sure he had been saved for a purpose, and I guess history would agree.

What I think had a bigger impression on John Wesley was not the fire itself, but what happened after the fire. John’s father, Samuel Wesley caught a little bit of “house fever” when it came time to build a new home for his large family. He replaced the simple wooden house with a stately brick building. Unfortunately, it was a house that he could not afford. He couldn’t service the debt, let alone pay the principle on the loan. Now, it is a beautiful home, and survives for tourists to visit. But Samuel Wesley’s grand plans to cultivate a lucrative patronage never materialized, and the family did not financially recover until after Samuel died. In our world, people declare bankruptcy. In the early part of the 1600s, debtors were sent to debtors’ jail. John Wesley had the humiliating experience of having his father carried off to jail, more than once. He also watched most of his seven sisters enter bad marriages - due largely to the poor state of the family finances. (The romantic mis-adventures of John Wesley’s sisters reads like a Bronte novel.) His siblings and even his mother had to turn to a maternal uncle for help, and his older brother had to spend much of his salary as a school teacher supporting the rest of the family.

It is no surprise to me that built into the DNA of the Wesleyan Methodist are John Wesley’s instructions: “Earn all you can, Save all you can, Give all you can.” Teaching people how to handle money was important to him. He knew first hand what crippling debt can do. He also knew that when people manage their money well, they can be more generous. Wesley himself was quite radically generous. By the end of his life, he was earning a very large amount of money from publishing pamphlets and books, but kept his personal and household expenses at a very modest level and gave the rest away. In fact, he lived on 3% of his income and gave away 97%.

We know Wesley as a great evangelist and founder of the Methodist movement. In his lifetime, he was also very famous for his financial advice. He was kind of like a Dave Ramsey or Clark Howard of his day, offering really practical ideas about how to be frugal, how to stretch your food dollar, how to pay for a house, and how to avoid extravagance in furnishings, clothing and jewelry. We probably don’t hear enough about how the Methodists helped invent Britain’s middle class.

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During graduate school, I lived in the house John Wesley built for himself in London while I was an intern at Wesley’s Chapel. I was often asked by tourists about what looked like windows that were bricked in along the side of the house. It was built that way. In Wesley’s time, your “property tax” was based on the number of windows on your house. Wesley believed in paying taxes, but not more than he had to. When he said, “Save all you can,” he meant we should live as frugally as we can, so that we will be able to give more. Early Methodists were renowned for their generosity, but their lives also witnessed to the Biblical truth that God blesses the generous. Because they managed God’s money well, they were able both to give more away and to provide better lives for their families. That’s an important lesson to remember when we make financial commitments to the church. You aren’t choosing the church OR your family. When we are generous, we are choosing for the church AND our family.

God Bless, Pastor Howard
In Church This Week

Sept. 26 to Oct. 10

1. **Tuesday**
   - 8:30 Men’s Group, Heritage Room
   - 9:00 Daniel Plan, Room 403
   - 10:15 Golden Yoga, Room 404 *

2. **Wednesday**
   - 8:30 Let’s Walk Campus Lake, Becker Pavilion
   - 9:00-3 Healing Touch (by appointment), Room 403
   - 4:45 Handbells
   - 6:00 Grateful Hearts, Room 308
   - 6-7:00 Youth Group, Youth Room

3. **Thursday**
   - 1:00 Priscilla Circle, Heritage Room
   - 4:00 Chimes
   - 5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga
   - 6:00 Education Committee
   - 7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

4. **Friday**
   - 9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404 *

5. **Saturday**
   - 5:30 Saturday Night Live, Hosts: Doug & Barb Bedient and Sharon & Larry Meyer, Location: Hunan

6. **Sunday**
   - 8:15 Worship Service
   - 9:30 Sunday School
   - 10:45 Worship Service
   - 12:30-3:30 Families In Progress Picnic, Little Grassy
   - 5:30-7 Scouts Girl Troop 66, Room 410

7. **Monday**
   - 6:00 Grateful Hearts, Room 308
   - 6-7:00 Youth Group, Youth Room

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Sue Smysor Bryant & family on the death of her brother, Larry Smysor, who passed away on September 12, 2019, in Fairfield, IL

Volunteer Opportunity: A volunteer is needed to coordinate the Coffee Hosts for 10:45 a.m. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested.

2020 Flower Chart: is ready for sign ups. It is in the same location—on the wall at the incline, leading to the church office. Thank you.

Call for Volunteers: We need volunteers to be Usher Captains for May/November 2019. Regular Ushers needed at 8:15 a.m. for August and June/December. Please call the Church Office to volunteer.

FUMCNext-Carbondale (formerly Open Heart, Minds, Doors) will meet on September 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room. The group changed its name to be more consistent with the national movement in Methodist churches to express their inclusiveness. Come join us.

Pastor Howard White and Leah Farrar-White will lead a study of the book:

**Searching for Happiness: How Generosity, Faith and Other Spiritual Habits Can Lead to a Full Life** by Martin Thielen.

Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Continuing until Nov. 10th in Rm. 308

For more information contact:
Leah Farrar-White at (309) 318-9372 or Lfarrarwhite@hotmail.com
### Disciples for Sunday, September 29, 2019, Fifth Sunday Loose Change

Altar flowers are given by Mike & Emma Jean Durr in loving memory of Virginia Durr.

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<tr>
<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Coffee Hosts</th>
<th>Outside Greeters</th>
<th>Welcome Center</th>
<th>Sound System Operators</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lexi Frick, Logan Frick</td>
<td>8:15 Carol &amp; Gordon White</td>
<td>Kathy Hollister</td>
<td>8:15 Jan Verduin</td>
<td>8:15: Scott Wright</td>
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<td>Indoor Greeters</td>
<td>10:45 Dan Anderson, Ill</td>
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<td>10:45 Terri Glasser</td>
<td>10:45: Keven Mitchell</td>
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<td>Jim &amp; Mari Ann Oberg</td>
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<td>8:15: Carol White</td>
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<td>Ron Diehl, Sue Stucky, Captains; 8:15 Ron Diehl, Sue Stucky, and Jean Hoagland 10:45 Dan Kimmel</td>
<td>8:15: Ted Pilger; 10:45: Michael Koch</td>
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<td>September Nametags</td>
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<td>Sally Washburn</td>
<td>Ron Diehl, Sue Stucky, Captains; 8:15 Ron Diehl, Sue Stucky, and Jean Hoagland 10:45 Dan Kimmel</td>
<td>8:15: Ted Pilger; 10:45: Michael Koch</td>
<td>8:15 Jan Verduin 10:45 Terri Glasser</td>
<td>8:15: Scott Wright; 10:45: Keven Mitchell</td>
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### Disciples for Sunday, October 6, 2019, World Communion Sunday

Altar flowers are given by Julie Beck and Carol Mocaby in memory of Linda Walker.

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<td>Olivia Bishop, Madison Voss</td>
<td>8:15 Jean &amp; Don Boehne 10:45 Donna &amp; Don Bryant</td>
<td>Mike &amp; Joyce Vancil</td>
<td>8:15 Jan Verduin 10:45 Terri Glasser</td>
<td>8:15: Scott Wright; 10:45: Keven Mitchell</td>
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<td>Indoor Greeters</td>
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<td>Sue Peterman, Anna Marie Smith</td>
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<td>Liturgists</td>
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<td>10:45: Ron Browning</td>
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<td>John Williams, Captain; 8:15 Kathy Hollister, John Phelps, Joe Swindell, Dick Verduin, Ed Trennak, Krishna Balasubramanian, Mythali Rundblad, Bruce Wallace</td>
<td>8:15: Ted Pilger; 10:45: Michael Koch</td>
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### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Oct. 3** Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m., Heritage Room
- **Oct. 15** Morning Circle, 10:00 a.m.

### Check it out...in the Children’s Library

**When a Pet Dies** By Fred Rogers

“Filled with warmth and reassurance...When a Pet Dies assures youngsters that no matter how badly they feel when they lose a pet, in time their hurt will ease, and they will be able to remember with fondness the happiness they shared.”

### Mark Your Calendars: Oct. 20, 10:00 a.m. worship

The children will be singing the anthem with the choir

Rehearsals during Children’s Church each Sunday and at 9:30 a.m.

Pick up a practice CD in the atrium or at the Children’s Church desk

### ON SALE!!!!

**CHURCH T-SHIRTS**

- Get yours for our fall activities.
- **Children sizes**-$5.00
- **Adult sizes**-$7.00

- **XS, SM, Med, LG**
- **SM, LG, XL, XXL**
First United Methodist Church is fortunate to have not one, but several Parish or Faith Community Health Nurses as members. They are the ones who are taking your blood pressure after services on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. You may know them – they are Sharon Meyer, Lianne Watson, Dana Oberg, Carol White, Donna Bryant and Betty Graig.

The nurses’ office was near the Sanctuary, but was moved to make room for the new women’s bathroom. The nurses’ office is now located in the room next to the Chapel on level 4. Come take a look. Healing Touch is also provided there on Wednesdays (by appointment).

We hope your family can join us on Sunday, October 6th, 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. for our Families in Progress Fall Picnic Event! Dress casually for the church service and then meet at Little Grassy Camp afterwards for food, fun & fellowship. It will be a great opportunity for our young FUMC families to get acquainted! Come out and enjoy:

- Grilled Burgers & Dogs
- Face & Pumpkin Painting (some pumpkins to be delivered later in the week to our church shut-ins)
- Games for all ages
- C.J. Nelson, “The Balloon Guy” will also be there!

If anyone has a pickup truck & trailer and would like to volunteer to do a hayride, that would be awesome!

Also, if your kiddos would like a dress rehearsal for Halloween, feel free to have them wear their costumes.

The sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We also now have a group Facebook page. Just search FUMC Families in Progress to join!
Cache River District Lay Servant Ministries
BASIC COURSE

Time: 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Location: Marion Aldersgate UMC, 1201 N. Fair St., Marion, IL 62959
Cost: $35.00 make checks payable to IGRC
Instructors: Roberta DePuy and Wanda Brandon
Register: Roberta DePuy, 573-201-6650; happyfish27@hotmail.com;
PO Box 96, Marion, IL 62959 Register by Sept. 28. if you need childcare
Req. Text: Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course by Sandy Zeigler
Available through Upper Room, Amazon and Cokesbury.
Individuals are expected to purchase, read, and study this book prior to first class.
Bring: Bible, a sack lunch, and refillable hot/cold cup or refillable water bottle
Provided: Nutritional snacks and sweets
Lay Servant Ministries courses are open to ALL, whether or not an enrollee applies to serve as a Lay Servant.

Nut Sales Coming In November!
Our youth group’s annual nut fundraiser will begin Sunday
11/3. A great selection such as fancy mammoth pecan halves, deluxe mixed nuts, giant whole cashews, heart healthy nut mix, fruit & nut mix, dark chocolate almonds, dark chocolate cranberries…. All proceeds benefit the youth ASP trip in 2020. Thank you!
Let's Walk Campus Lake
• Be Social  • Connect  • Be Healthy

Who: All are welcome, invite friends—Just Show Up
What: Meet, greet, and gather for a brief scripture and prayer before we walk Campus Lake.
When: Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. for 6 weeks (9/11 to 10/16)  * Not meeting if it rains *
Where: Meet at the Becker Pavilion (SIU permit Required) nearby Visitor lot 37—pay $1 to park
Contact: Leah Farrar-White, (309) 318-9372 (call or text) or e-mail Lfarrarwhite@hotmail.com

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Children's Opportunities, Sundays

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School (K-5th grade) uses the Deep Blue from Cokesbury. Main Topic: “Communities Welcome” - Sept. 29 Sunday School—“Children Contribute” Main Topic: “Community Foundations” - Oct. 6 Sunday School—“Call to Freedom”

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children's Church (K-5th grade). All children are invited to Children's Church following the Children's Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Youth Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Junior/Senior High Class meets in Room 414 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today's youth.

Adult Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Searching for Happiness—How Generosity, Faith, and Other Spiritual Habits Can Lead to a Full Life by Martin Thielen. The class will be led by Pastor Howard White and Leah Farrar-White. Meeting Dates: Sept. 15 to Nov. 10, Room 308.

Renew Class - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection and prayer. New study started September 22: Holy Spirit Here and Now by Trevor Hudson. They meet in the Chapel. Women of all ages are welcome.

The Electives Class - Scripture studies following the lectionary led by Rev. John Sims. They meet in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Small Group Opportunities

FUMC Next-Carbondale meets in the Heritage Room. Help us explore ways we can share the love of Christ with all people? Come share your ideas. Looking forward to seeing you!

Gentle Toning, Stretch, and Yoga Techniques meets on Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Rm 404, the Chapel.

Golden Yoga meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and on Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Rm 404, the Chapel. A fee is charged for this class.

Grateful Hearts is a group of women who meet to strengthen their faith through Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. They began the study Mountaintop Moments by Ed Robb on Wednesday, September 18th at 6 p.m. in room 308. All women are welcome.

Men's Group All men of the church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.

The Daniel Plan Essentials meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. They are studying the series The Science of Natural Healing. Everyone welcome.

Youth Group meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Chapel. Time and location to be determined each week.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE
October 5, 2019
5:30 p.m. at Hunan Restaurant

Hosts: Barb & Doug Bedient  Sharon & Larry Meyer

Let's Walk Campus Lake

DRIVE THRU COAT DRIVE
Saturday, September 28 10:00-noon

Warm, gently used coats, winter hats & gloves.
Drive up to the atrium entrance with your donations on Sept. 28 and our kids will be at the door ready to collect them.

Contact Necia for more information or to volunteer to help.

All Church Family Fun Day at Bandy’s Pumpkin Patch
Sunday, Oct. 13, 12:00 noon

Come to worship dressed for a day on the farm (hint...church t-shirts would be very appropriate), then come out to Bandy’s for lunch and an entire afternoon of exploring the corn maze, playing in the kids barn, a hayride, and lots of fellowship. Want to just hang out by the fire? Bring your bag chair.

SIGN UP IN THE ATRIUM BY OCT. 7