Ponderings Ponderings

July 2024 ~ Marion Salem Church

1640 Salem Road, Caledonia 10 am Worship 9 am Sunday School

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

To the church of God as found at Marion Salem Church, called to be saints together with those in every place who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ: You are miracles of God's grace and mercy!

You would not have guessed it with how much I utilize Facebook for ministry now, however many years ago I greatly resisted joining Facebook. I honestly did not see the point of it 14 years ago. Yet, many of the students in my youth ministry at the time were begging for me to join and getting on Facebook enabled me to reach out to new students and opportunities. Since then, I have found Facebook to be a great way of networking with other pastors and ministry colleagues as well as keeping in touch with extended family.

Early on while starting to use Facebook I saw it as more of a ministry tool than as a personal outlet. So as friends started have birthdays and Facebook would remind me, I realized that it was an opportunity for ministry. Why just say "Happy Birthday!" when I could also share a Bible verse as well. Thus began a long tradition for me of sharing a verse on Facebook when I shared birthday greetings. The passage was an opportunity to encourage someone to open a Bible and read because I would only leave the reference. For years I shared the same verse, John 3:30. It was the theme verse for my youth group as a teenager. After starting seminary I realized that I should share other passages, so each year at my birthday I look for a new passage.

As time has gone on, I added to this by using a card ministry as well for members of the congregation I serve. This actually happened by accident. The congregation I served at the time was doing some cleaning and we found hundreds of old birthday and anniversary cards. Instead of letting them go to waste, I utilized the church database and started sending out cards—including the Bible verse. Why else would the church office need your birthdates and anniversary than to send you greetings? It's been a fruitful ministry as a means of touching base with members. I've seen "long lost members" return to worship. Who doesn't love to receive good mail?

So as we enter July it is time for a new Bible verse. As I was reading my devotions a few weeks ago, this passage came off the page: Philippians 3:13-14 (again I'll encourage you to look it up). This past year has been one of major accomplishment for me personally. I have finally been ordained as an Elder, something I have spent the last 16 years working towards. However, I do not consider this an arrival or destination. Far from it! I am working diligently in ministry just as much now as I did before. However, as the passage says "forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead" — that speaks to me! I hope it encourages everyone in this coming year too. Forget about the bumps and curves of our history, there is a prize before us in Christ that we get to keep working towards. No arriving in this life. That's not a bad thing-it's a purpose to live for until eternity.

Blessings ,

E-News Sign-up Join our weekly E-news to get the latest updates. Go to: marionsalemchurch.org/Enews





ICE CREAM SOCIAL UPDATES -

Mark your calendar for these 4 VERY IMPORTANT DATES....

Sunday, July 7 - We will be setting up for noodle making following church. The more people we have to help, the less time it will take. Please consider staying after church and helping.

Monday, July 8 - NOODLE MAKING. Please join us beginning at 3 pm to start the process of making the noodles. Following noodle making, we will have a potluck dinner. Ham sandwiches will be provided. Please bring a covered dish.

Tuesday, July 9 - We will be bagging noodles beginning at 9 am. Also, we will be setting up for the dinner at 6 pm TUESDAY NIGHT. Please consider helping us set up. This is a big job and we need as many helpers as we can get.

Wednesday, **July 10** - ICE CREAM SOCIAL. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, please visit the sign-up area in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please see Conni McChesney or Amy Springer.

MITES MESSAGE: Anyone interested in sharing with the children during worship for the mites' message should see Pastor Jason. Dates are available in August.





Will resume in September

New Membership Class

Will be gathering together in the evenings at Donna McKinnis' house. Dinner will be provided. This is a six-session study covering basic Christian doctrine, Wesleyan distinctives, and particulars about the Global Methodist Church and Salem Church.

Please be in prayer for these 7 disciples as they prepare for joining Marion Salem Church. Those who are interested in future opportunities to join should reach out to Pastor Jason.

Salem Strivers Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness

without which no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

Summer Activities: Please watch the e-news for upcoming summer activities for youth—that's students who are going into 6th Grade this Fall up to those who just graduated from 12th Grade this past Spring. One of the events will be in July and one will be in August.

Service Project: We're planning an afternoon mission project, followed with a pizza dinner.

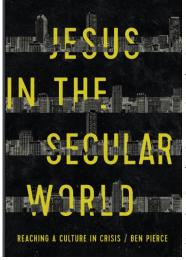
Date/time: TBA

Pool Party: Date/time: TBA



During July and August, RightNow Media's Youth Roadmap recommends *Jesus In the Secular World*. Check out this series and the emphasis on reaching those who do not know Christ.

https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/444818



INTRODUCTION If you're anything like me, you're probably noticing that people are increasingly apathetic if not hostile to the things of God. Today, so many people view Christianity as a relic of the past, a beautiful cathedral that's empty on Sundays. But this isn't some vague cultural issue—this is deeply personal. These are our friends and our family members. These are the people we're working with. And while this mass exodus from the church is tragic, there is hope. 2 Chronicles 16:9 says, "For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (NIV). Consider the power of those words. The omnipotent Creator of the universe is actively looking for men and women who will give him their whole hearts so he can strengthen them as they step out. The purpose of this video series is to draw your heart closer to God, so you can experience his amazing power as you take risks to reach the secular world for Jesus!

The Gospel LIVE! Mondays 4pm

Discover the Gospel of Matthew in a whole new way with the Visual Bible. This portrayal of Scripture is taken directly from the 1984 New International Version, word for word. Every line of dialogue spoken is either by the narrator (Matthew) or the individuals in Scripture, the screenplay follows the Gospel as closely as possible. We'll work slowly through the Gospel, comparing to the other Gospel texts and the rest of Scripture. We will also explore the historical and cultural elements that the Visual Bible highlights as we dive into Scripture together.

No study on 7/8, Noodle Making Day No study on 7/22, Vacation Bible School

Pastor's Small Group Class Basic Christian Faith Wednesdays 7pm

Join Pastor Jason for an engaging time of discussion as we explore basic teachings of Christian Faith. This is a paced study and you can drop in anytime.

July Schedule:

July 3rd: No Study, Family Holiday July 10th: No Study, Ice Cream Social

July 17th: Session 14 July 24th: Session 15

We need DIAPERS!



Please consider purchasing packs of diapers for our VBS mission project. All diapers will go through Aspire ministries for a local diaper ministry in Marion for those in need.



Outreach News

The Outreach team is looking for more members to help discern and follow where God is leading the various outreach ministries at Marion Salem. If you are interested in joining, please see Kelly Wagner or let her know, either via email (wagner8889@yahoo.com) or phone call/text (740-225-3867). We only meet quarterly or so and can do a lot of communicating via email.

So far in the 2024 calendar year, we have participated in the Baby Shower for Heartbeat of Morrow County, we have raised significant funds for three Haiti ministries, and given to the Kenyan GMC church (proceeds of the church auction). We financially support Heartbeat, Voice of Hope and Leapin' Ministries each month and help with the peanut butter and jelly sandwich making as needed. We will be cheerleading and championing the diaper drive for Aspire Ministries as our mission project for VBS.

Please think about how God wants to use you as part of the church body to reach the least and the lost.



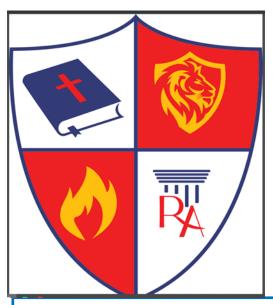


Missed a Sunday or really want to catch a replay? Have you been to our Facebook page... it's all there **facebook.com/MarionSalemChurch**. You don't have to have a Facebook account to watch, it's livestreamed each week and the replays can be found there immediately.

We are starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry

We need lots of crafters to provide us with hand made prayer shawls. These can be shawls, lap blankets or blankets. They can be any size, shape or color. These can be knitted, crocheted, quilted, or fleece tied. When your item is completed, bring to the church and place it in the large blue tub in the back of the sanctuary. When we have a good supply of these, we will then begin our ministry. Any church member will be able to request a prayer shawl to give someone in need of prayer. The prayer shawl will remind each person God loves them, God is always with them and our church members are praying for them. For questions please contact Carol Crawford or Susan Rockwell.





Rhema Academy July 2024

Rhema Academy is a Christian School that will open in the Fall of 2025 at the Marion Salem Global Methodist Church. Rhema has, for the past decade, been the vision of several area educators who desired to establish a Christian alternative for families seeking a biblical option for their children's schooling.

Rhema will be a Christian Classical School, following the curriculum and guidelines established by Hillsdale College. This is a more "traditional" approach to education, where the fundamentals and basics are emphasized. This approach also includes instruction in basic Christian values, as well as a more traditional and patriotic approach to our country's history.

Rhema Academy will be chartered by the Ohio Department of Education. This means that students who attend Rhema are eligible for the Ohio Ed Choice Grants, which could, depending on a family's income, pay most (if not all) of the tuition costs. Rhema is also a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Ohio Christian Educators Network (OCEN).

The Rhema Board looks forward to working with the Salem Community and welcomes their questions, prayers and support. For more information, please contact Brian Sparling at brians@rhemaacademyk12.education or visit the Rhema website at www.rhemaacademyk12.education.



Food Pantry Hours

Mon 10-12

Fri 10-12

Next peanut butter sandwich making
July 28th



July 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bible Study 4 pm	2	3 Bible study 7 pm	4 Happy 4th!!	5	6
8 Noodle making	9	10 Ice Cream Social	11	12	13
15 Bible Study 4 pm	16	17 Bible study 7 pm	18	19	20
22 VBS - 5:30-8 pm	23	24 Bible study 7 pm	25	26	27 Di 020
29 Bible Study 4 pm Fin/Ad C 6:30/7	30	31 Bible study 7 pm	A NINIIVEDS	ADIES	Please Pray for
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1st Sunday every month in the Family Center at 8:30 AM.

July - Crusaders Class

August - Upper Room Class



7/10 Dale & Kelly Wagner 7/16 Tim & Leslie Jordan 7/21 Ed & Carol Crawford



Birthdays

7/7 Tracy Weisbrodt & Robbi Smart 7/14 Amanda & Marissa Loyer

7/21 Avy Bauer & Jesseca Wagner

7/28 Karen Marquis & Susan Rockwell

Children's Church

Nursery Schedule

7/7 No Children's Church 7/14 Cheryl Slack & Jana Bauer 7/21 Mary & Bobbi Galloway 7/28 Cheryl Slack & Jana Bauer 7/13 Audrey Bayles 7/15 Terry Fisher 7/17 Paul Messenger 7/18 Mary Wickersham 7/24 Dustin Bayles

7/28 Marilyn Lawerence

7/30 Kerr Murray

7/11 Jason Sharp

GREETERS

7/7 Steve & Joan Crock 7/14 Cindy Fuller & Jenny Bayles 7/21 Bruce & Conni McChesney 7/28 Tierney Bender & Marcia Burden

Pray for

Karen Link Ron VonAlmen Janet Schelb Dave Monroe Jude Stitzel

Rodney Weisbrodt family **Sheryl Campbell**

Donna McKinnis

Vicki Adams

Israel

Judi Myers

Rick Hicks

Tom Seitter family

Haiti

Mike Dilsaver

Mike Doezema

Lee Saiter

Steve Crock

Paul Messenger

Fisher family

Deb Mahler

Betty Woodruff

Nancy Jackson



Support the Marion Salem Church Food Pantry:

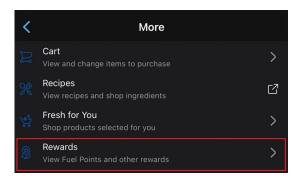
You must have a Kroger Card, online account, and download the Kroger app to your smart device (the Kroger website does

not list Marion Salem):

Tap the **Menu**:

Tap **Rewards** (then **Community Rewards** on the next screen):

Marion Salem Global
Methodist Church should
be listed, if not change
organization and look for
us by name.



Q Search or Scan Items

Past Purchases

📠 In-Store at Marion-Waldo 🗸

S Kroger Pay

