

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!

I am in my office on Tuesday the 24th of June. I have been out of routine for the entire month of June, first from vacation and then Annual Conference. So I sit here in a moment of thought just taking in the last month. It has flown by and there is so much that has occurred. It was a great trip out west and I look forward to visiting some of those places for longer periods again. I will certainly share nuggets from this trip for a very long time. Yet what comes to my mind right now that I want to share is something that came up at conference more than once. To start it's an application of a passage of Scripture. From Isaiah 2:4:

“they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.”

This passage is about the return of Christ and the state of the world - that state of peace that world events leaves us longing for. The end of the passage says “nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” Yet the personal application of the passage struck home as Bishop Greenway spoke on it. I'll do my best to paraphrase it. He spoke about how for the past 30 years of his life, he and many others in the room were used to wielding ecclesiastical (church) weapons in the fight for scriptural holiness and Biblical orthodoxy. Yet, the time had come for us to turn away from the fight that marked much of our previous connection's life and turn our swords into plowshares— “It's time to start planting.”

For the better part of the last decade, we've been in an internal war that has taken much of our drive and energy. Those battles are over. We are now a part of a movement of God that focuses on Scripture, seeks after Christ, and... what? You see the point of disaffiliation was not to get out of the United Methodist Church. That was a small thing and first step. Now we're turning to the main thing. What is that? Our mission| The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe. The theme of annual conference was Start Planting... which is where Isaiah 2:4 comes in. All that energy and resources, the drive and passion, the focus and attention that was placed on disaffiliation needs to be put into actual ministry. It is time to beat the swords into plowshares and disciple people. What does that mean?

We need to be hyper focused on reaching the lost and growing as disciples.

We need to read Scripture like we're drinking water in this heatwave.

We need to be connected with other Christians that support our discipleship growth through small groups.

We need to support the establishment of new congregations that will reach people we cannot.

One of the things that keeps popping up on my Facebook feed lately is the phrase “Church should be your excuse for missing everything else.” Whatever it is that is holding you back or away, it isn't more important. It's time to start doing the work of ministry again. It is time to start planting.

Blessings 🙌,



July Sermon Series: Understanding the Holy Spirit

You asked for it, a sermon series on the Holy Spirit.

July 6— “That They All Would...” Numbers 11:4-30

July 13— “Holy Spirit: Resume Part I” John 16:7-11

July 20— “Holy Spirit: Resume Part II” John 16:12-15





There wasn't that much in terms of legislation at this year's annual conference. But there was a lot of worship and teaching. If you'd like to catch some of that in the replay, go to the conference website <https://alleghenywestgmc.org/startplanting/> and click on any of the videos.

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 Studies:

- 2nd: study continues
- 9th: Social, no study
- 16th: study continues
- 23rd: VBS week, no study
- 30th: study continues

Food Pantry

Hours: Monday 10-noon



MITES MESSAGE: Anyone interested in sharing with the children during worship for the mites' message should see Pastor Jason. Available dates: 7/6, & 7/13. In August: 3, 10, 24, and 31.

Columbus East Circuit Newsletter

Our circuit (the new district) has a semi-monthly newsletter that introduces the various congregations from southeastern Franklin county all the way to Marion county. If you would like to receive it, scan the QR code to sign-up.



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.

Bishop's Video Study Mondays 4pm

In July and August we will take on a short term study from our GMC Bishops: *Lessons in Scriptural Holiness*. The trailer video for this 8-part study is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JA0tGicW698> you can scan the following QR code.

No Study July 7th for noodle day or 21st for VBS.

Rhema Academy Update

The latest update regarding Rhema Academy is that the board is committed to opening this fall. There are currently 14 students who are enrolled with another 9 that are a strong possibility. There will be 3 teachers and the classes will be split as follows:

K- 2 Will meet in the Primary classroom

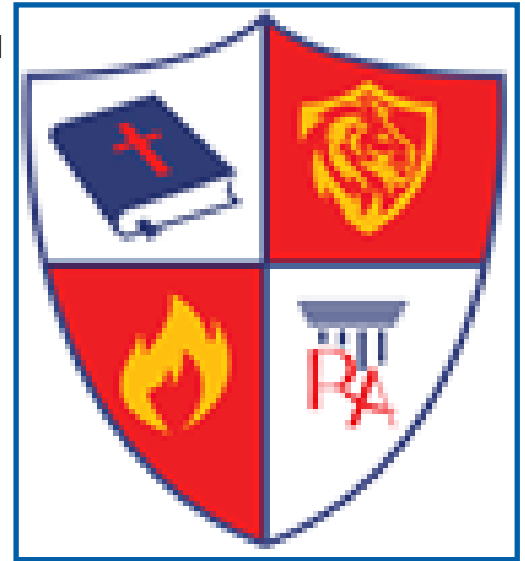
3 - 6 Will meet in the Crusaders classroom

7-10 Will meet in the Joy/Ren classroom

The choir room will also be used for music.

If you would like to help, charitable donations are always welcome. Please call Brian Sparling with any questions at 740-244-8155 (no texts to this number).

Thank you for opening your hearts to this opportunity!



What is vision and mission?

When it comes to statements that organizations like congregations make about themselves, vision and mission are hot topics. Both of them help focus your work, point you to the goal. Vision is your goal, what you want to see happen. Mission are the things you do to accomplish your vision. During our redesign of common spaces in the education wing, a wall was recently emblazed with the definition of Salem, in the root Hebrew that it originates. Salem means the whole and complete peace of God. It's derived from Shalom. I like to think that Salem is Providentially named. I believe that our goal, our vision, is to somehow realize the meaning of our name. The main thing is discipleship, yes— yet the result of that discipleship is peace in ourselves, our homes, our schools, our workplace, our neighborhoods, and our community. The whole and complete peace of God.

If we were to define our goal in that manner, what steps would you create to walk someone from the chaos of the world into the peace of God? I'm talking broad brushstroke steps, with many actions and opportunities categorized underneath. What 3-5 things would you repeatedly do to realize the vision?

Jason

Blessings 🙌,



Registration for VBS!!

July 20-22

6-8:15 pm

All ages welcome

Registered adult must be present with all children

Dinner included at 6 pm

Sign up sheet on the information table in the back of the sanctuary

Register by July 6 to get a tee shirt!

Bible story, imagination station, music, games



On summer break



All Hands on Deck!!

7/9 Ice Cream Social

7/7 Noodle Making 3 pm

You will be asked to work and to provide food. See the attached worker list for your assignment. If you don't see your name or don't receive a call, please call Conni and she will help find a job for you! It's busy but very fun so don't miss it!

Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, July 9th

Good Food and Good Ice Cream Served!

Wednesday, July 9th, 2025 5-7 pm

Social Committee: Conni McChesney, Janet Strine, Jennifer Alwood, Annette VanVoorhis, Charisse Smith, Karla Sharp, Jason Sharp

We will be making noodles at the church on Monday, July 7th starting at 3:00 pm. Egg cracking will begin at 1:00. We need everyone's help. Age is no factor. Supper: Bring a salad or dessert. Sandwiches and drinks will be furnished. We will eat around 6 pm.

Table Set-up for Noodle Making: Sunday, July 6th after church.

The following underlined names are the chairpersons of the committees. Please contact each committee member (phone number are on the attached list) and assign working times.

Please have one worker come at 4:15 pm on Wednesday, July 9, so we can be ready to open 1 serving line at 4:30.

Line 1: 1st shift 4:30 to 5:30
2nd shift 5:30 – 7:00

Line 2: 1st shift 5:00 – 6:00
2nd shift 6:00 – 7:00.

Chairs from RV: Curt Galloway (please contact Curt if you are able to help)

Set-Up for Social: (Tuesday, 7 pm) Genesis Class & Upper Room Class

Chicken Cooking (Wednesday 1:30pm) – Conni McChesney, Cheryl Slack

Noodle cooking: Annett Van Voorhis, Deb Croft, Cindy Fuller, Chuck VanVoorhis

Baked Beans Cooking and Ham: Janet Strine, Conni McChesney

Cole Slaw Mixing/Hot Dogs: Conni McChesney

Chicken Serving: Cheryl Slack, Tierney Bender, Cheryl Doezema, Ronita Case, Jana Bauer, Karla Sharp, Penny Rose

Hot Dogs/Ham: Susan Rockwell, Jennifer Alwood, Valorie Schrote, Deb Mahler, Kathy Fisher, Angie Bennett

Noodle Serving: Amy McGuire, Jerry Barbarich, Marilyn Shroyer, Caitlin Smith, Jesseca Wagner

Baked Bean Serving: Marcia Burden, Jennifer Crosky, Kim Lemmon, Avy Bauer, Lee Saiter, Nancy Jackson

Salad Serving: Robin Schelb, Joan Crock, Ed Crawford, Susie Williams, Lynn Baer, Cindy Fuller, Martha Crabtree, Barb Dendinger

Pie and Cake Cutting and Serving: Amy Springer, Megan Pollock, Jenny Bayles, Amanda Loyer, Marissa Loyer, Ellen Messenger, Connie Norwood, Sharon Murray, Carrie Hutchman, Ruth Lutz

Ice Cream Only Table: Austin Wagner, Dave Monroe, Jesse Bauer, Steve Crock, Paul Messenger

Ice Cream Carry out: Scott Kimes, Mark Schrote, Phillip Shroyer, Norm Titus, Mike Doezema

Food Carry out: Mary Galloway, Robbie Smart, Janet Strine, Charisse Smith, Kelly Wagner, Linda Seitter, Karen & Jerry Marquis, Lilly Wagner; Maggie Breeding

Coffee, Tea, Cold Drinks: Brian & Becky Oliver, Carol Crawford, Jack Sharp, Riggins Pollock, Mary & Bill Linn, Maria Barbarich, Natalie Wagner

Tray Carries & Table Clean Up: Leslie Jordan/Barnstormers; any youth available

Cashiers: Kerr Murray, Jim VanMeter, Dale Wagner, Dave Pinkerman, Scott Crosky

Line Counters: Dave Slack, Max Strine, Bill Crabtree

Dishwashers: Terry Fisher, Shad Pollock, Tim Jordan, Mike Springer

Clean up Gym after Social: Tony Smith, Hunter Smith, Steve Rockwell, Bruce McChesney, Brian Mahler, Kurt Galloway, Jayson Loyer, Mark Lemmon, Mike Rose

All Others---If we missed you, we're sorry.

Please call Conni McChesney at 419-210-0925.

We really need you and have a job for you.

Please let Conni know if you are able to float around and help in more than one area.

We appreciate as many people as possible; especially at clean up time after the social.

Noodle Day
Monday, July 7th
3:00 pm

Coming this summer!!

Join us for a break from the heat for an afternoon movie! Popcorn and Kool-Aid will be provided. Each movie will be followed by a brief talk about how parts of each movie relate to our faith and the Bible. These events are for all ages!

Our Saturday Afternoons Movie Breaks will be at 1:00pm on:

July 12

August 16

Movies TBA! We will post a poll on the church Facebook page with options to decide which movies will be shown.

Salem Strivers

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

Strivers do all they can to seek after the Lord. Part of that is sharing Christ with others. Remember to invite someone to youth.



The Strivers are still looking for a mature disciple of Christ who will help lead their meetings on a weekly basis. Please pray for and help us find this person by sharing it word of mouth.

Summer Possibilities:

During the summer the youth group will be on hiatus from their regular weekly meetings. If you are inspired to host the youth for a pool party, bowling event, mission experience, or any other activity, please see Pastor Jason.

YOUTH ARE STILL PRESENT! They need your commitment to continue growth as disciples of Jesus Christ.

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2B Bible study 7 pm	3	4 Happy 4th!! 	5
6 Communion	7 Noodlemaking 3 pm	8	9 Ice Cream Social 	10	11	12 Movie Break 1 pm
13	14 Video study 4 pm	15	16 Bible study 7 pm	17	18	19
20	VBS		23	24	25	26
27	28 Video study 4 pm	29	30 Bible study 7 pm	31		



1st Sunday every month in the Family Center at 8:30 AM.

July—Crusaders Class
August—Upper Room



- Birthdays**
- 7/5 Deb Mahler
 - 7/9 Jennifer Croskey
 - 7/11 Jason Sharp
 - 7/13 Audrey Bayles
 - 7/15 Terry Fisher
 - 7/17 Paul Messenger
 - 7/18 Mary Wickersham
 - 7/24 Dustin Bayles
 - 7/29 Mike Rose
 - 7/30 Kerr Murray

- Nursery Schedule**
- 7/6 Karla Sharp & Robbi Smart
 - 7/13 Amy McGuire & Robbi Smart
 - 7/20 Avy Bauer & Susan Rockwell
 - 7/27 Linda Seitter & Charisse Smith

- Children's Church**
- 7/6 No Children's Church
 - 7/13 Megan Pollock & Becky Oliver
 - 7/20 Cheryl Slack & Karen Marquis
 - 7/27 No Children's Church—VBS

- GREETERS**
- 7/6 Tony & Charisse, Cindy Fuller
 - 7/13 Galloways & Murrays
 - 7/20 Steve & Joan Crock
 - 7/27 Jana Bauer & Robbi Smart

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ANNIVERSARIES
- 7/10 Dale & Kelly Wagner
 - 7/13 Brian & Deb Mahler
 - 7/16 Tim & Leslie Jordan
 - 7/17 Ken & Tierney Bender
 - 7/21 Ed & Carol Crawford



- Pray for**
- Ron VonAlmen
 - Janet Schelb
 - Dave Monroe
 - Jude Stitzel
 - Sheryl Campbell
 - Donna McKinnis
 - Vicki Adams
 - Israel
 - Judi Myers
 - Rick Hicks
 - Haiti
 - Mike Dilsaver
 - Steve Crock
 - Paul Messenger
 - Betty Woodruff
 - Kelly Marsh
 - Cassidy Starkey
 - Jamie Marquis
 - Dave Gerfen
 - Inda Lama
 - Janie Wooten
 - Doug Burkhart
 - Mary Linn
 - Steve Shamhart
 - Peggy Smith
 - Steve Bayles family

