

THE *Marion* CHRISTIAN

A MOVEMENT FOR WHOLENESS IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD



Marion

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

MARION
CHRISTIAN
STAFF

Carrie Hendricks
DIRECTOR OF
FAMILY MINISTRIES
carrie@marionchristian.com

Celeste Downs
OFFICE MANAGER
377-7329
office@marionchristian.com

Benjamin Laur
CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ben@marionchristian.com

**Allison WT
Everman**
ORGANIST

Phil Hendricks
CONTRACT MEDIA
TECHNICIAN
phil@marionchristian.com

FIND US ONLINE!

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youtube.com/Marion Christian Church

MARION CHRISTIAN CHURCH VOTED
OVERWHELMINGLY

JANUARY 22ND TO MAKE A PUBLIC WITNESS THAT WE ARE AN

**"OPEN AND AFFIRMING"
CONGREGATION**

IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST).

**ALL ARE WELCOME
ALL ARE LOVED
ALL BELONG!**



JOIN US IN
Worship

SERVICE 10AM

CHILDRENS CHURCH

AFTER CHILDREN'S MOMENT



Marion

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

What's happening!

JUST SCAN THIS CODE TO GO RIGHT TO THE GIVELIFY APP!



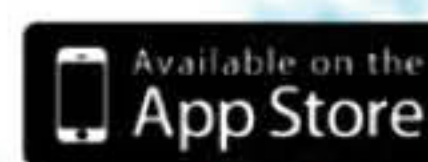
GIVING

just got easier



FIND THE GIVELIFY APP IN THE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS ONE AT A TIME OR TO ESTABLISH REGULAR WEEKLY OR MONTHLY GIVING.

Givelify



FIND MARION CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON THE MAP & YOU ARE READY TO GIVE!

Anyone interested in going on the next Guatemala mission trip, want to support MCC efforts, or learning more about this global mission attend the meeting **MARCH 29** at 7:30 pm after Oasis.

Churches of Marion Pantry - Volunteer Needed - Food Pickup

In order to provide food to 80+ families per week, volunteers must haul vehicle-loads of food to the pantry every week. One of our largest pick-ups is from Marion Hy-Vee on Monday morning. We currently are filling at least two SUVs completely full of food. Volunteers are responsible for loading the food at the store in their personal vehicle, driving from the store to the pantry, and unloading the food at the pantry, which requires lifting up to 25-30 lbs at a time, totaling hundreds of pounds. We are hoping to have enough people to help so that we can make the task more manageable for all of our volunteers.

The pick-up can happen on Monday mornings, any time between 7 am - 10:00 am.

If you are able to help, please contact cari@LCRMarion.org.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

TECH HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for anyone who is willing to help stream our live service to Facebook. If you are interested in running sound, monitoring cameras, or have any questions please, contact Phil Hendricks at phil@marionchristian.com Any and all help is appreciated!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

10AM WORSHIP SERVICE

AFTER CHILDREN'S TIME SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR K-5

WED., MARCH 1

6PM THE OASIS

SUN., MARCH 5

9AM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

WED., MARCH 8

6PM THE OASIS

SUN., MARCH 12

9AM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

WED., MARCH 15

6PM THE OASIS

SUN., MARCH 19

9AM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

WED., MARCH 22

6PM THE OASIS

SUN., MARCH 26

9AM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

WED., MARCH 22

6PM THE OASIS

Upcoming Events

BAPTISM

MCC BAPTISM CLASSES

The Lenten Season is traditionally a time for Christians to examine closely their lives of faith. It is also a time when many individuals explore making their confession of faith in Jesus Christ culminating in public baptism on Easter Sunday.

Marion Christian Church will again this year offer classes led by Gary Sneller and Tammy Buseman for children and youth who wish to consider making their confession of faith and being baptized.

Dates and times for the classes will be announced once we know who might be interested.

Please contact the church office to indicate interest in attending these classes.
office@marionchristian.com

Tammy and Gary would also be available to visit with any adult who might like to make their public confession of faith and be baptized on Easter Sunday.

LUNCH & LEARN

Sunday March 26th 2023
lunch starts at 12:30pm

Where at?

Marion Christian Church
1050 McGowan Blvd,
Marion, IA 52302



Topic of Discussion:

Human trafficking is the second largest and fastest growing organized crime in the United States. And, it's happening right here!



Chains Interrupted fights human trafficking through Awareness, Prevention and Advocacy. Our hope is to prevent this from happening to one more of our precious youth who are incredibly vulnerable.

This presentation will give you the tools you need:

- To recognize trafficking
- To empower our children to see the predator's game
- To build your own response to the human trafficking epidemic

Guest Speaker:

Tish Young with Chains Interrupted, will share what trafficking is, what it looks like here and the most common methods traffickers are using to lure their victims; our children and grandchildren.

Let's arm our community with the knowledge to help keep it safe!

All are welcome.
Appropriate for ages 12 and up.

Reserve your spot for lunch!
Let us know how many will be joining your group.

Contact the church office by phone at
319-377-7329

OR

email office@marionchristian.com

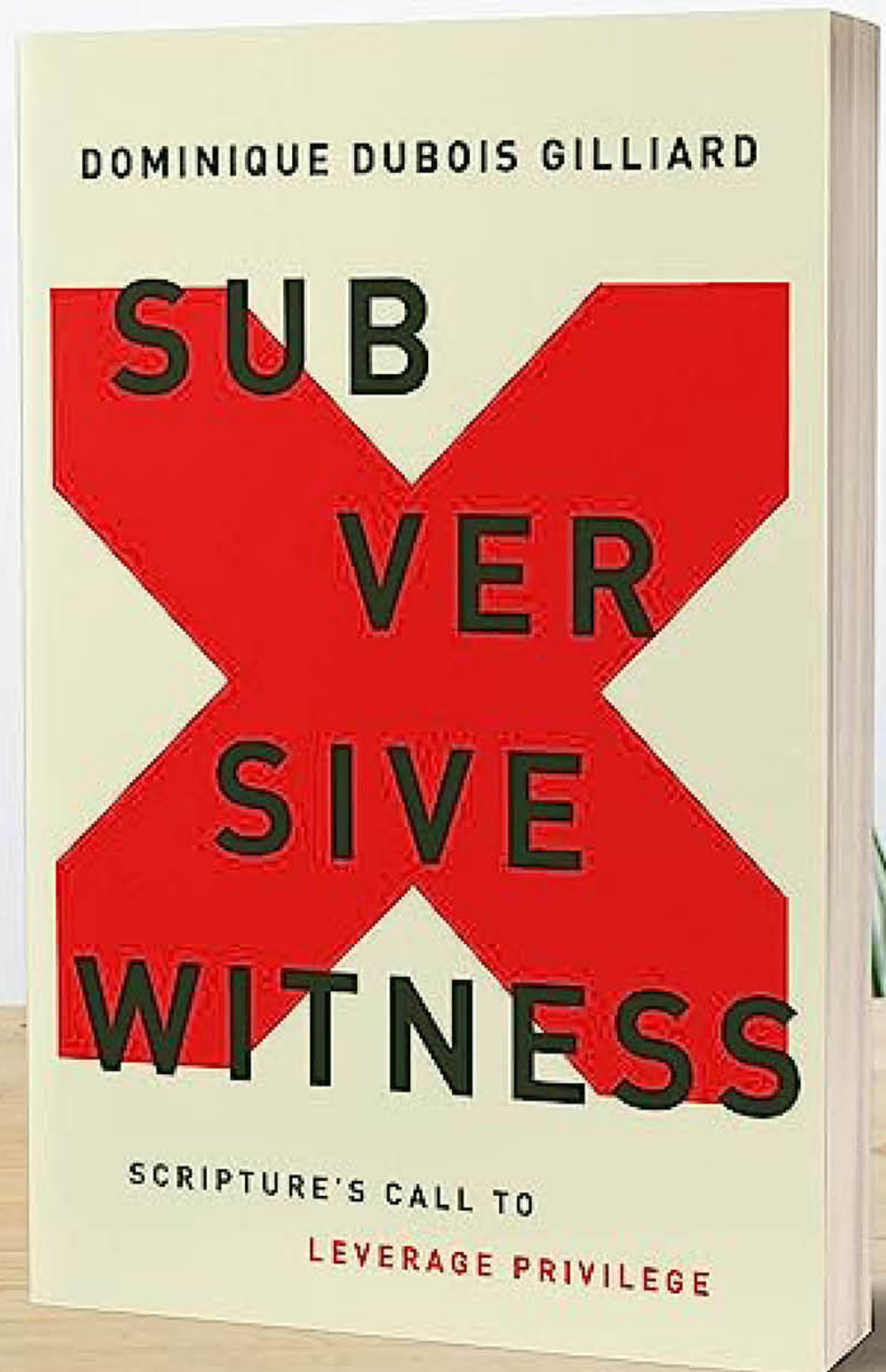
*A Taco Potato Bar Lunch and Refreshments will be provided at no charge, but a Free Will offering is welcome.

Upcoming Events

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

OBEY SCRIPTURE'S
SUBVERSIVE CALL
TO LEVERAGE
YOUR PRIVILEGE

SUNDAYS 9AM
FEBRUARY 28-APRIL 2
IN THE MEETING ROOM BEHIND THE SANCTUARY



SPRING WORKDAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

The Guardianship Ministry would like to announce that the Spring Workday will be April 1st, and we're not fooling! Lunch will be provided! If weather doesn't cooperate, our makeup date will be the weekend following Easter. More details to be released soon. Watch for announcements during services and in weekly bulletins.



Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

EASTER STORY AND EGG HUNT AT 11 A.M.

Group 1 -Toddlers through age 3

Group 2 - ages 4-7

Group 3 - ages 7-10

The Easter eggs are empty,
but all children leave with a bag of candy.

Remember to bring your Easter Basket!

All parents and grandparents are welcome

MARION CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1050 MCGOWAN BLVD, MARION, IOWA



Building Update

February 2023 MCC Building Recovery Update

We have updated our contracts that will finish the remodeling and recovery tasks but we have to wait until the loan board signs off before we can sign the contracts and begin work again. The contracts were adjusted to reflect the work that we have completed ourselves.

We expect loan sign off the week of Feb. 20. The loan company did require us to have the contractors sign a new version of the lien waivers that gives the loan company first rights of getting paid back. It's always something.

Things final contracts will complete:

- Repair and repainting of stucco on the fellowship hall
- New gutters for the portico
- New siding for ed wing and portico
- Finish electrical work: outlets, new light fixtures
- Install ceilings and finish HVAC work
- New carpet tile flooring
- Complete bathrooms : ADA compliant, two new floors, partitions and grab rails

While we wait for the money, a team is actively reviewing what we are going to put in each of the ed wing rooms. We have roughly \$27K to spend on replacing lost contents and the playground. We are not just buying to replace what was lost but looking forward to best equip us for the future ministry. Any questions or comments, please let us know.

Darrell Boatwright, Dee Tjaden, John McIntosh

SNACKS FOR WILKINS SCHOOL

Please sign up at Information Central to provide 25 prepackaged snacks for Wilkins Elementary Students
Or go to sign up genius and use the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4fafa92dabffc34-wilkins1>
We need 4 people each week to sign up!



MCC Council Meeting

Marion Christian Church Council Hybrid Meeting Sunday, February 19, 2023 1:30pm

Present: Tom Fuller, Cathy Fuller, Erin Wittkowski, Kari Wilcox, Ryan Wilcox, Marilyn Rambo, Justin Lightfoot, Jill Law, Sue Thompson, Joe Hamilton, Krystal Monawar, Joyce Talley, Cathy Fuller, Sue Boatwright, Carrie Hendricks, April Evers, Deanna Long, Gloria Waltke, Gary Sneller, Sharon McIntosh, Laura Brade
Vice-Chair Justin Lightfoot opened the meeting with prayer in the absence of Chair Becky Clemens.

STANDING BUSINESS:

Erin Wittkowski moved and Krystal Monawar seconded to approve an amended agenda deleting the approval of the October 2022 Council Meeting minutes, as they were approved in December. Passed.

Jill Law moved and Joe Hamilton seconded to approve the November financials. Passed.

January 2023 Financial Report:

Total pledge/offering for January is \$28,086.19 (budgeted \$21,333.33) and our total cash inflow for the month is \$79,851.74 (includes pledges/offering, capital improvement, and funds for encumbered accounts). Total actual operating expenses for January were \$14,293.50 (budgeted \$28,086.19) leaving a net gain of \$13,792.69 for the month and YTD.

Although we are in a good spot as of end of January, some things to keep in mind:

- We will need Patty's input on January giving – there may be some full year contributions paid in January
- Two vendors (disposal and snow removal) were behind in sending bills, and these will be paid in February
- With Bryce's departure, payroll costs are under budgeted amounts for January. This will continue until interim/settled pastor is hired.

Total Encumbered funds expenses for January were \$510.06.

Capital Improvement Campaign income was \$51,626.55 (this amount includes \$2,285.00 in Memorial gifts intended for Capital Improvement Fund).

Checking account balance as of 1/31 is \$188,056.98. Budgets for each ministry team have restarted for the year and exclude any planned expenses that can come from encumbered funds. Erin sent out the budget and voucher to the council in early February.

Jill Law moved and Joyce Talley seconded to approved the January Council minutes and financials. Passed.

UPREACH: Worship, Music/Arts & Media – Kari & Ryan Wilcox, Elders; Sue Thompson & Joyce Talley, Deacons

We are currently seeking volunteers to be in a rotation for the media technician role during services. Please reach out to a worship team member if you are interested. Sue Boatwright created a document of directions for anyone who is preparing communion, serving as a Deacon, or Elder. This was emailed out earlier this week. Thanks, Sue! Changes to the children's area in the back of the sanctuary have been brought to the worship team's attention due to the concern that it is too noisy for members, specifically those with hearing aids. This area is used by multiple families during service so the decision has been made to remove some of the noisy items (large blocks) and potentially replace them with quiet toys. As we transition into the Lenten season, the decorations in the sanctuary will

be changing prior to Ash Wednesday's service (February 22nd).

UPREACH: Spiritual Growth & Formation – Laura Brade, Elder; Tim Feldmann & Jenna Holmes, Deacons

Carrie Hendricks reported upcoming events as the April 8th Easter Egg Hunt at 11 am, and the MCC Kids' Weekend July 21st and 22nd. The Oasis's last day will be April 26th.

INREACH: Congregational Care & Evangelism – Sharon McIntosh, Elder; April Ever & Jill Law, Deacons - No report.

INREACH: Congregational Guardianship – Tom Fuller & Mike Kibler, Elders; Joe Hamilton & Dean Decious, Deacons Tom Fuller announced a congregational work day April 1st. Anyone wishing something to be put on the list of tasks to do should email them to office@marionchristian.com. Stu Cole has again volunteered to do mowing this season.

OUTREACH: World & Local Missions – Cathy Fuller & Sue Boatwright, Elders; Gloria Waltke, Deacon

1. We determined our budget for 2023 based on projected income. 2. We assisted Patty Wise in her collection of items for her Tanzania mission trip. 3. Some furniture was donated to a refugee family. 4. Some of the furniture donated for the rummage sale has been determined to be useful for the classrooms - once we can get back in. They will be redirected to that purpose and not sold. 5. We continue to presale some of the larger items donated for the rummage sale. We have generated another \$700 to be directed to the capital campaign.

OUTREACH: Community Growth & Formation – Gary Sneller & Kiley Harris, Elders; Deanna Long & Krystal Monawar, Deacons

1) "Open and Affirming" Celebration, Feb. 19 • Invitations have been extended to the community; a welcome video from the General Church Alliance Q ministry will be shown in worship; a reception with cupcakes will take place following worship; we plan for decorations around the church building and "Open and Affirming" information at Central Station (also on our church website). Deanna has been point-person on this process. **2)** Lenten book study, Feb. 26th - Apr. 2nd • We are offering a congregational book reading/discussion group during the 6 weeks of Lent, Subversive Witness—Scripture's Call to Leverage Privilege, by Dominique Dubois Gilliard (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021). A book discussion group, led by Gary, will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the room behind the sanctuary. **3)** Chains Interrupted (human trafficking) presentation, March 26 • This lunch and learn event is open to church members and the public; potato bar lunch at 12:30 with an hour presentation (plus Q & A) starting at about 12:50 (as soon as people get their food). We will extend community invitations and plan for about 50 people (asking for RSVP and possibly free-will offering for the meal). Krystal will continue to coordinate.

4) Easter Egg Hunt (with Spiritual Growth and Formation Ministry Team), Apr. 8 • Event will be at 11:00 am this year; gathering in the Fellowship Hall. We will help collect candy during Lent, do publicity, and help supervise the event. We discussed community flyers and publicity in the

Penny Saver. Gary will coordinate with Carrie and the Spiritual Growth and Formation Ministry Team. **5)** 2023 Racial Reconciliation Peace Camp for Children, early August • Last year, the first Peace Camp for Children was held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. This year an additional site in Marion is being explored. Perhaps MCC could help sponsor this event along with other Marion congregations.

Ryan Wilcox moved and Cathy Fuller seconded to approve the Ministry Team reports. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Inclusivity Team update – Cathy Fuller reported on the Open and Affirming Celebration held in the morning after Worship. KCRG recorded a report with two members. A sticker with a new logo is on the portico window, and stickers/pins will be at Information Central. She thanked all those helping in the process of being Open and Affirming. She also reported that Amy Mueggenberg has joined the team, the team will be ongoing, and that Vanessa Renaud and she will co-chair.

Building Update – Sue Boatwright reported for Darrell that the loan process for the third phase is almost complete and that the contractor will be ready to begin the end of February into early March. The painting done by church members saved the church around \$30,000. The third phase includes lowering the ceiling, finishing HVAC, electrical and lighting, and laying carpet.

Communications Team – Krystal Monawar is cleaning up the website home page and will continue improving the website with graphics and an updated calendar, etc. At present social media access is with Phil and Carrie Hendricks and Celeste Downs. Celeste has access to the calendar, which needs to be extended to those doing Social Media.

NEW BUSINESS:

Praises/Concerns – Joyce Talley reported that the upbeat music in worship was mentioned. Comments have also been made by members hoping the keyboard could be used more.

Search Committee Update – Deanna Long, Chair, announced that the team has met and that the focus is on an Interim search. They are working on a church information form to present to the congregation's members as they compile an up-to-date church profile.

Media Technician – Ryan and Kari reported that Phil Hendricks is stepping back from his role as media technician. Becky Clemens is working on a job description so a search for a replacement can continue. In the meantime, Worship is asking for volunteers to rotate until someone is hired.

Closed Session – Justin explained that a closed session is required to provide clarity in the Senior Pastor's absence as it relates to supervising employees. He moved and Ryan Wilcox seconded to go into closed session. Passed. Ryan Wilcox moved and Krystal Monawar seconded to close the closed session and adjourn the meeting. Passed. Justin closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Rambo, Church Clerk